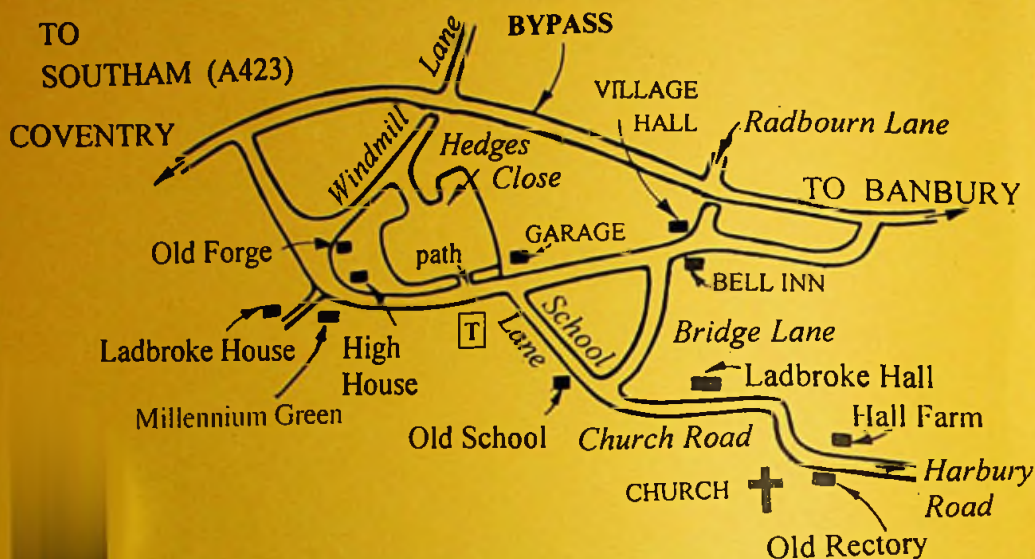




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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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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March 2002

No. 336

All subscribers to the Harbury & Ladbroke News will have received a copy of the Commemorative Edition of the magazine. This is a record of life in the villages over the last quarter of a century. This publication has been made possible with the assistance of a grant from 'Awards for All'.

The Commemorative Edition includes an article on the planting of the Silver Jubilee Tree on the Old New Inn green. Will a tree be planted in the village to celebrate the Golden Jubilee?

We have had a good response to the line drawing competition, particularly from Year 6 at Harbury Primary School. The pictures will be on display at our AGM, where judging will take place.

The AGM will be held at the Shakespeare Inn on Tuesday 19th March at 8.00pm. All are welcome to attend.

We are still looking forward to receiving recollections and photographs of 1952, the coronation year.

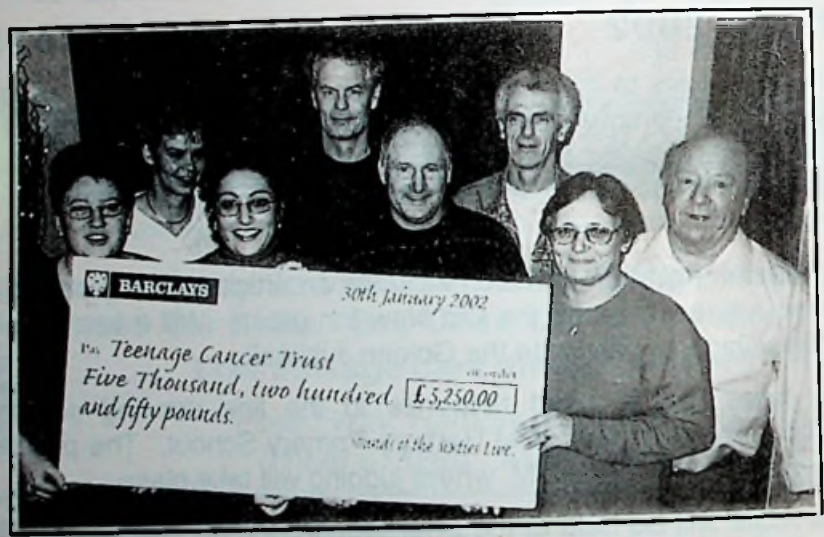
After 15 years as our village Librarian Sue Bell is retiring. All Library users will have been grateful for her cheerful and efficient service. We wish her well in her retirement.

A recurring issue in Harbury is the speed with which motorists drive through the village. As Mike Bloxham's photograph shows, we have



recently had a visit from the local police with a mobile speed detector.

An example of the generosity of our community is the amount raised of over £5,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Joe Griffin and the Committee members are pictured below.



Finally, we extend our sympathies to the families of Jack Barkaway, Ken Docherty, Barry Savage and Wendy Stubbs.

Harbury Diary

MARCH

- Sun** 3 **LENT 3** - Sung Eucharist 9am; Evening Worship 6pm
- Tues** 5 Horticultural Society Mrs. Rhodes on *Lord Leycester Hospital Gardens*, 8pm in Village Hall
Holy Communion 7.30pm and Lent address followed by Tea & Discussion in Tom Hauley Room
- Wed** 6 Holy Communion with Address 2pm
Talk it Through at 33, South Parade 8pm
- Thurs** 7 Holy Communion 9.45am
Storytelling in the Library 10am
Men's Society meeting, *Warwick Records* (History) by Trevor Rodgers in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
Youth Club 7-9pm
Folk Club in The Dog Inn 8.30pm
Myton Hospice Line Dancing at Harbury Village Club 8pm
- Fri** 8 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
Holy Communion 12noon; 12.30pm Lent Lunch in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat** 9 Toddler Group Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Rugby Firsts home to Warwick
Extras home to Daventry Thirds
Tennis Jumble Sale in Village Hall 10am
- Sun** 10 **MOTHERING SUNDAY**
Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues** 12 **CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL STARTS**
Toddlers' Service 2.15pm; Holy Communion and Lent address followed by Tea & Discussion in Tom Hauley Room
Village Hall Committee in Village Hall
- Wed** 13 Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
- Thurs** 14 Holy Communion 9.45am
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
Youth Club 7-9pm
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri** 15 Holy Communion 12 noon; 12.30pm Lent Lunch in Tom Hauley Room
ADVERTS to 31, Binswood End, Harbury, by 5.30pm
- Sat** 16 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am in Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning in aid of Tom Hauley Room funds
Harbury Rugby Extras home to Old Warwickians
- Sun** 17 **ST PATRICKS DAY - LENT V**
Holy communion 8am; Family Communion 10.30am; Evensong 6pm

- Tues 19 Holy Communion 7.30pm and Lent Address followed by Tea & Discussion in Tom Hauley Room
Harbury & Ladbroke News AGM 8pm in The Shakespeare Inn
Senior Citizens 8.30pm in Village hall
- Wed 20 Twinning Association AGM 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Tea in Tom Hauley Room 3-4pm
Talk it Through at 33, South Parade 8pm
- Thurs 21 Holy Communion 9.45am
Youth Club 7-9pm
Historical Nostalgia Evening in aid of Meningitis Research 7.30pm T.H. Room
- Fri 22 Holy Communion 12 noon; Lent Lunch 12.30 in Tom Hauley Room
RECYCLING COLLECTION
ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist, High Street, Harbury by 5.30pm
- Sat 23 Kids' Club (Mrs. S. Jackson) Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room
- Sun 24 **PALM SUNDAY** - Holy Week; Holy Communion 8am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am, proceeded by Procession of Witness from Harbury
Primary School at 10.15am
Annual Church and Vestry Meeting 11.45am
- Mon 25 Holy Communion 7.30pm followed by the Stations of the Cross
Harbury Society AGM & *Warwick Childhood* 7.30 for 8pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Tues 26 Holy Communion 7.30pm followed by the Stations of the Cross
- Wed 27 Tea & Companionship 2.30-4.30pm at 19, Farm Street
Holy Communion 7.30pm followed by the Stations of the Cross
Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
- Thurs 28 **MAUNDY THURSDAY** - Holy Communion 9.45am; Sung Eucharist 8pm followed by the Watch at the Altar of Repose until Midnight
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
Youth Club 7-9pm
Parish Council 7.30pm Village Hall
- Fri 29 **GOOD FRIDAY** - Children's Service 9.30am; Devotional Service 2-3pm
- Sat 30 **HOLY SATURDAY** - Easter Ceremonies 8pm
Men's Group Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Rugby Firsts home to Stratford Thirds
CLOCKS PUT FORWARD
- Sun 31 **EASTER SUNDAY** - Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am

From the Rector

At the end of our Lent Course, which is based on various characters involved in Christ's Passion, we will be looking at Thomas. He is so often referred to as 'doubting Thomas'.

He has rendered a great service to humanity; he has made doubting respectable. Doubts are, very often, necessary stages in our growing up in the faith. We receive faith as a gift from God, but it has to grow as we grow. Yet good people are sometimes alarmed by doubts and

feel that they are losing their faith when they appear. Such people would do well to remember Saint Thomas and recall how much the Lord loved him, doubts and all.

Living in faith does not mean that we are home and dry. When we believe, we do not have the kind of certainty that dispels doubt. None of the important things in life carry with them that kind of certainty. Love does not have a guarantee attached. We still have to trust the other person even in the most loving of relationships. Faith does not change our human ways. We have our fears, our worries, our questionings and we always will have them. To have the faith means that we remain attached to Jesus and his teaching in spite of our fears and worries. To keep the faith means that we try to grow closer to Christ in spite of our doubts. One lesson, which Saint Thomas teaches us above all others, is that the only person who can dispel our doubts is Christ himself. We have to take sensible care and we must try to support and strengthen our faith as far as we can. But in the end our faith rests on Christ.

Cardinal Newman once said that ten thousand difficulties do not make one doubt. We could say that ten thousand doubts do not necessarily make one difficulty provided we do not lose sight of the person Saint Thomas so wanted to see – Christ, the risen Lord.

Fr. Roy

From the Registers

Funerals at All Saints' Harbury

12 th February	- Ken Docherty, 92
26 th February	- Wendy Stubbs, 62
27 th February	- Barry Savage, 33
1 st March	- Jack Barkaway



From the Churchwardens

Now that we are in Lent, there are some extra events: on Tuesday evenings, the regular 7.30pm Communion service will include an address and be followed by discussion and tea in the Tom Hauley Room. On Fridays, there is a mid-day Communion service followed by the Lent Lunch, again in the T.H.R. As ever, all are welcome. On March 24th, Palm Sunday, at 11.45am, the Annual General Meeting of



the Parochial Church Council takes place (in the T.H.R.), at which the P.C. C. for the following 12 months is elected, together with the various officers. At the same gathering, the churchwardens will be elected. There are forms on the table at the back of the church for nominations for the P.C. C. and also for churchwarden (John will be standing down as churchwarden at this time) - please give it some thought.

The Celebration of Marriage service on December 16th was well attended and gave an opportunity to give thanks in a slightly more formal way, for this cornerstone of family life. Our photograph shows Lily Clarke at her admission to the Choir.

We mourn the death of Wendy Stubbs and our thought and prayers are with Tony and their family.

Felicity and John



Afternoon Meeting: Beryl Checkley spoke about her fascinating holiday to Japan and Australia last year. She visited the ancient capital city of Kyoto with its wonderful old buildings, castles, temples and shrines. We were given an insight into the Japanese way of life - from the shoe changing ritual, with different shoes for outside, inside, bedroom and bathroom to the intriguing tea ceremony, geisha girls and sushi, and the magical sight of paper lanterns lighting tree-lined streets at night. But the real highlight of the holiday for Beryl was visiting her daughter Louise in Australia - a totally different experience from Japan, and certainly action-packed. First stop was Sydney, then up to Adelaide - too many adventures to list here, except to say they included white water rafting - certainly a holiday to remember!

Evening Meeting: Bill Davies talked about his trip to Santiago de la Compostella, following in the footsteps of St. James - hardly a holiday, being 700 miles by bicycle - but definitely memorable. Bill spent 18 days 'in the saddle', crossing 4 mountains and 2 deserts on his trusty steed 'Copenhagen'. He encountered many other pilgrims along the

route, sharing accommodation and food, and tending their blisters. He described the fear of suddenly realising he was totally alone in the desert at one point, and how that fear was overcome by his strong faith. Arriving in Santiago, he was presented with a certificate to show he'd completed the pilgrimage, and that certificate together with the 'passport' stamped at various stops along the way, must be among his most treasured possessions.

March 21st to 25th marks the M.U. *Wave of Prayer*, when we remember the places and peoples we are linked with in the worldwide family of Mothers' Union. We pray for Antananariva, Central Zambia, Dutse and Toamasina, and ask God to bless those members whom we may never meet, but join with them to give praise and thanks for His many blessings.

Next Meetings: **Wed 6th March** 2pm Service & Lenten Address by Andrew de Smet, followed by cup of tea in the Tom Hauley Room

Tues 19th March 7.30pm Service & Lenten Address (No Meeting) followed by cup of tea in the Tom Hauley Room

Anne Moore

Toddlers' Service

Our February service was led by Mrs. Mary Catt with Mrs. Gill Guilford as our guest speaker.

Continuing our series 'people who help us', Mrs. Guilford told us about her job as a leader at a nursery school in Leamington Spa. She related the similarities, and differences, between her town nursery school and the pre-school groups in our village of Harbury.

Accompanied by Mr. Charles Catt on the clarinet, we sang *He's got the whole world in his hands*. We then had fun decorating biscuits using different colours of icing.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th March at 2.15pm in Church.

Lorna Bedford

Laugh Line

Wistful thinking: One holiday Sunday the vicar gazed wistfully at his tiny choir and depleted congregation and said with great feeling: *Our opening hymn will be "O for a thousand tongues to sing!"*

Ladbroke News

MARCH

Sun	3	Lent III – Family Communion 10.30am
Wed	6	Lent Lunch 12noon at The Bungalow, Windmill Lane
Sun	10	Mothering Sunday – Sung Communion 9am Mothering Sunday Service 3.30pm
Wed	13	Lent Lunch 12noon at 15, Ladbroke Hall; Holy Communion 2pm Women's Fellowship 2.45pm
Sat	16	Mods & Rocket Disco
Sun	17	Lent V – Sung Communion 9am
Wed	20	Lent Lunch 12noon at Home Farm
Sun	24	Palm Sunday – Sung Communion 9am
Thurs	28	Maundy Thursday; Holy Communion 7pm
Fri	29	Good Friday – Children's Service 10.30am Devotional Hour 12noon – 1pm Service of Music and Readings 7pm
Sun	31	Easter Sunday – Sung Communion 9am

Ladbroke Church News

Rehearsals start on Monday evenings at 7.00pm in Church for the Good Friday service. New recruits are welcomed.

Sopranos are urgently required – usually they are outnumbered by the Altos.

The Easter services will be in the Easter Card, which will be popping through your letterbox very soon.

Don't forget the Mothering Sunday service at 3.30pm on Sunday 10th March. There will be posies for all Mums and Grans, so please bring them along.

Betty Winkfield

Women's Fellowship

Our February meeting was a very enjoyable one as we were very lucky to have Linda Doyle as our speaker. She gave us a most informative talk on villages in our area.

Linda certainly has a great enthusiasm for her subjects and is well

versed in the local history that surrounds Ladbroke. She has written many books that cover the area – these are well worth purchasing at a small cost.

The members of the Fellowship are busy hosting the Lent Lunches on Wednesdays through Lent and we got off to a good start with the first one at the home of Catherine and Cyril Spence. Many thanks and thanks to all our other hosts and of course to the many supporters of these most enjoyable events.

Our next meeting will be at the home of Betty Winkfield on Wednesday 13th March where we will be sharing our favourite poems. This is a very informal afternoon and enjoyable, no doubt. All are welcome to come along and join us. For further information, ring Jo Sowerby on 811749.

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke Village Hall

I have the result of two Millennium Club Draws here, as I missed the December draw because I was on holiday.

The twelfth draw was held on January 7th at The Bell Inn. The winners were: Sheena Healey £80; B. Whitehouse £50; Maureen Wright £25; Joy Moore, Pam Collins, Cyril Spence, Shirley Reading and Lorne Carleton each won £10.

The first draw for 2002 was held on February 11th at The Bell Inn. The winners were: Mary Coley £80; Hazel Sharples £50; Jill Norgate £25; Carol Lane, 'Wild Indians', Shirley Reading, Rhian Kelsall and Chris Payne each won £10.

A number of members who had not paid their subscriptions before the draw had to be excluded from the January draw. If you wish to continue your membership, PLEASE PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION BEFORE March 4th. It is £30 for 6 month or £60 for 12 months.

Catherine Spence

Al Saints' Church Ladbroke – Development Plan

A big thanks to all who helped to make our Quiz evening on February 22nd a great success. Our great full thanks go to Peter Baker for organizing this event for us and to all those who came to take part – a

good time was had by all. An update on the amount raised for our worthy cause will follow later.

Our next fund raising event will be a *Pie and Pasta* evening on Friday 5th April at the home of Jean and Jim Clews, The Gove, Ladbroke and tickets will be £10 (to include a glass of wine and all food). There will be a Quiz, Raffle and Wine available. For tickets please contact Gwyn Badman on 812187 – all welcome.

Jo Sowerby

Ladbroke Parish Council Report - February

The Village Hall was well populated with 4 parish councillors, 2 county councillors, neighbourhood watch and footpath coordinators and one villager.

Chairman Jeff Todd was pleased to welcome Peter Cruden, solicitor, and Bernadette O'Hare, elections manager and deputy returning officer for Stratford District Council.

Congratulations were given to Alan and Carolyn Akeister on the birth of their son, Jack.

Structure of the village

At the last sighting, the bollards were in the erect position!

Police and Neighbourhood Watch

There was no reported crime in the village in February.

Janice Berry gave out copies of the Citizen magazine and will be distributing this to houses in the village. Other copies are available at Southam Police Station.

Financial matters

The triennial audit had been successfully completed.

Planning Matters

Having voiced our concerns, we were pleased to learn that the decision regarding the Warehouse in Southam has been deferred pending an investigation by the Highways authority.

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Footpath Report

A physical survey of the footpaths has revealed that not all farmers have reinstated footpaths across their land. The appropriate agencies have been informed.

Some of the way markers have been vandalised. Michael asks that ramblers noticing this should advise him (813066).

Signposting of E-roads is taking place throughout Warwickshire. Volunteers to carry paint pots and furniture will be most welcome.

Michael hopes to arrange guided walks to Gloucestershire to view the 'millions of daffodils' and to Sapperton to see wild anemones, lilies of the valley and wild garlic, at the appropriate season.

County and District Councillors' reports

The Local Plan is available on the Stratford District Council web site, in Southam Library, or Elsa has a copy. This should give local people more power to decide on changes according to local needs.

The old cement works are to be available for recreational or industrial use only.

It is proposed that the Police control moves to Stratford but a feasibility study into other options will be available by the end of May.

Code of Conduct for Parish councils

Peter Cruden reinforced our knowledge that all parish councils are to adopt a code of conduct and all councillors must sign acceptance of this by 5th May 2002. There followed a frank discussion during which the councillors present explained their reluctance to be forced to make such a declaration in their voluntary capacity with no decision-making powers. Bernadette explained the possible scenarios in these circumstances. The councillors agreed to continue in office through the March and April meetings.

Clerk to the Parish Council

Offers of interest are invited for this most important post, following Elsa's resignation. Elsa will be able to give details of remuneration and duties.

Carol Lane

Dear Editors

The people of Ladbroke are very sad to hear that Wendy Stubbs has lost her battle against cancer.

A much loved, quiet, genuine Christian lady.

We give our support to Tony and family as they come to terms with their loss.

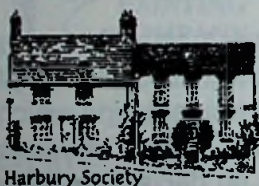
Betty Winkfield

Dear Editors

May I thank you for listing the Ladbroke Village Hall quiz and disco in your newsletter. However, I have made a mistake on the date for the MODS and ROCKET DISCO - I should have stated Saturday 16th March, and not 15th as I stated. I can only apologise for this error and ask you to adjust your records before the next edition.

Thank you one again for your kind assistance.

Peter Baker



Harbury Society

The Local Plan is now out for consultation. It sets out how much housing (sites for an additional 1380 dwellings to 2008) and employment development the District has to provide and has policies for how this can be achieved.

As a Main Rural Service Centre Harbury can expect to have some growth over the plan period but changes imposed by the government mean that over all in Stratford District Council 56% of development should take place on previously used land and 40% of housing provided must be affordable.

There are policies covering Village Design Statements and Parish Appraisals that allow local communities to argue for particular growth that is needed and wanted.

You can see a copy of the Local Plan at Harbury Library or view it on the website at www.stratford.gov.uk. Responses to the plan have to

be with the District Council by Thursday 14th March.

The Society AGM with a talk by Peggy Thornton on *A Warwick Childhood* takes place on Monday 25th March, 7.30 for 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room. All welcome.

Will members please contact the Secretary as soon as possible, if they want to join the guided tour of Lichfield Cathedral

Linda Ridgley

Planning –What's It All About

The cynics would say it's about keeping the target moving. Just as you think you are beginning to understand the system – the government changes it.

The Planning Green Paper has just been published and, along with some long needed changes to wipe out sharp practice by developers, there are radical policies which will leave the man in the street with even less say.

Parliament will decide whether, where, and when, large-scale development takes place. Public Inquiries will only deal with the details of the scheme, and a third party right to appeal is ruled out. This has the likes of the Council for the Protection of Rural England hopping up and down in fury.

County Structure Plans will go – to be replaced by "Regional Spatial Studies" drawn up by un-elected Regional Assemblies. Local Plans become continuously updated Local Development Frameworks, augmented by neighbourhood and village plans but there is no detail of how these top-down and bottom up elements meet!

There are some very worrying phrases used: "speed of decision-making", "efficiency and predictability", "delivery contracts"; which show the way big business and the developers have had a disproportionate influence on this Green Paper.

It holds out to us the carrot of having a say in very local matters, but one that is severely constrained by the Strategies imposed from the top.

The Green Paper is available by ringing Dtlr on 0870 1226 236 or you can view it on the website at www.planning.dtlr.gov.uk.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury's Women's Institute

Congratulations to Joan Lodge on her special birthday. So pleased to see her about after her recent illness.

The Darts team recently played a very close match, decided by the first to score a double. Unfortunately not 'our gels' – better luck next time.

Celia and Peggy have entered the John Innes Cup 2002 Indoor Bowls tournament to be played in April.

Mr. Millington came to speak on Coombe Abbey. He spoke of its beginning when built for the Cistercian monks in 1150 to Henry VIII when the monks had to go. Then to James 1st and his daughter Elizabeth and involvement in the Gunpowder Plot along the way. Neglect and rebuilding as a tryout in the style of the later built Buckingham Palace. To the Cravens when eventually Coombe Abbey had to be sold for death duties.

Auctioned and bought by Mr. Grey, a builder, for £27,000 in 1925, who could not really afford the property so he stripped and sold everything inside. The magnificent staircase found its way into Bing Crosby's possession in America. Offered back later, but Mr. Grey declined and proceeded to reproduce every feature. Coombe Abbey was eventually bought by Coventry Corporation then sold on and has been a thriving hotel for the past 6 years.

Coombe Abbey has been tastefully decorated. Some may say, not so, when viewing some of the bedrooms, which exotic décor could fill one's imagination (that is if you could afford to stay there).

Now, the grounds are something else. There are acres of interesting well-maintained land, and also 90 acres of water, which does not flood because of a weir. The heronry is reputed to be the biggest in the country.

There are walks through woods, meadows and by water where one can study animals, flora and fauna and birds, not forgetting the beautiful views. A Bristol sculptor has carved wooden figures, which are dotted in the woods.

There is a large area for games with forest walks and pond dipping parties for children, which would be super birthday experience.

How to we know how lovely all this is? Well, Mr. Millington is the most wonderful photographer whose slides of the estate and its inhabitants

were breathtaking. The patience and methods of getting his shots were ingenious and, fascinating. Members thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Hostesses for March: Barbara Ayers, Celia Barrett and Mae Watson

Jeanne Beaumont

Harbury Folk Club

The heat was on in February; or rather that was the evening's theme. In a feeble attempt at irony following a night in a rather chilly room in January, I decided to induce mass hysteria through autosuggestion. As it turned out, our thoughtful hosts at the Dog Inn provided sufficient mechanical warmth, and a legion of excellent artists added more of the physical variety. The Harvesters kicked off the night with a song featuring some flatfooting. Peter McDonald followed with a favourite song and then an excellent pastiche of Lord Franklin, accompanied by his new concertina. Brian offered two fiddle tunes and Rick took us on an Australian song tour to maintain the temperature of the theme. The young and highly talented Susie Bones tantalised us with a single offering, *The Brisk Young Sailor*, about a girl who dresses as a sailor and almost fools the men. To end the first section, Keith Donnelly offered a song he had not quite finished yet! Needless to say, he carried off the experiment faultlessly.

The second half brought John Black to the front with some fine fiddling and his ABBA-esque *Water, Water, Water*. Songlines were next, or more accurately seven of their normal forty-strong community choir, and they kept nicely to the theme with a Maori love song and then a South African song, which apparently is popular at funerals! Their participatory style is infectious and we hope to see them again, or at least as many as can be crammed into the room. Ron then exhorted us to *Bring us a Tea Um* and performed the ever-popular *Joan the Leather Queen*. A spot from guitarist and singer Peter included two excellent songs and he was followed by the powerful singing of Des, whose contribution to the theme was to recall Bonfire Night. Nice one. A shanty rounded off the half with gusto.

The third half was opened by Dick Dixon, who has only fleetingly visited the club before, and he gave an emotional rendition of *The Glenmore Hare*. His partner, Sue, followed with the lovely *Katie Shaw* and then the rousing *Sally Gee* from the North East. A melodeon tune from Peter McDonald, another song from The Harvesters, followed by

Ron and then Des and finally the manic *Green Banana Boat* from Keith brought a fine evening to a close. The raffle raised a creditable £37 for Myton Hospice.

The next Folk Club will be on Thursday 7th March, when Peter Bones will present a themeless night in a singaround format.

Ian Hartland



This half term we will be looking at the wide-ranging topic of 'Shapes' to stimulate the children's enthusiasm. As well as the mathematical learning it inspires, there are opportunities for exploring the environment and noticing the shapes that appear all around us.

Children learn through and with the people they love and the people who care for them. They need well-informed people to help them. This term Kate has been following her degree course on Child Development and researching how adults can enhance children's language development. Together with Tina, who has been on a 2-day training course on speech and language difficulties in Pre-School children, they have put together procedures for the early identification of speech and language problems. Activities in nursery aim to enhance language development through imaginary role play and drama, music making of all kind, puppets, drawing and painting, dough, water and sand, investigating outdoors, as well as sorting, grouping, sharing and counting everything. Above all language is developed through listening to children and sharing their interests and experiences.

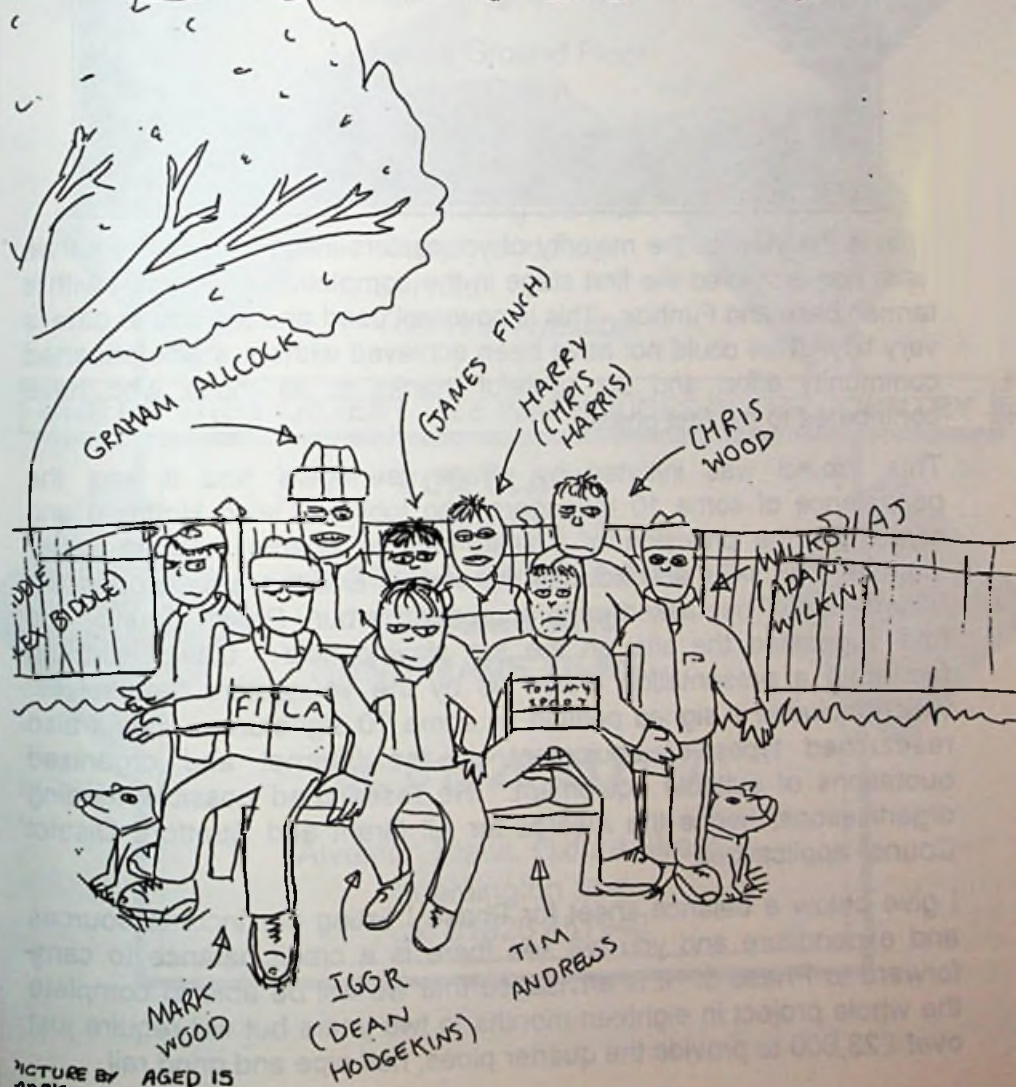
If you would like to find out more about the Nursery, its staff, policies and activities, there will be an OPEN MORNING on Saturday 2nd March, 10am – 12noon in the Nursery room at Harbury School. Kate has put together a portfolio on the Nursery that contains everything you could ever want to know which will be available for everyone to look at. If you cannot make the Open Morning and are interested in the nursery's activities and would like to see us on a normal day please do drop in or call Kate on 612656. We will be happy to see you and your child.

Alison Baldwin

Harbury Youth Project Group - Completion of Phase I

"HARBURY IS BORING"

HARBURY IS BORING



"HARBURY IS NOT SO BORING NOW"

That is the view of the majority of youngsters living in Harbury as we have now achieved the first stage in the completion of Phase I with a tarmac base and Funbox. This is now well used and the site to date is very tidy. This could not have been achieved without a wholehearted community effort and our grateful thanks to all those who have contributed to the first phase.

This Project was initiated by village teenagers and it was the persistence of some 10 teenagers who lobbied David Hoffman and myself for the provision of a skate-park to enable them to safely improve their skills and not use the streets and the area around the Village Hall. They asked us to approach Harbury Parish Council and had suggested the site on the top playing field. David Hoffman facilitated a presentation drawn up by the youngsters themselves, which included a signed petition by some 70 signatures. David also researched types of equipment on the Internet and organised quotations of suitable equipment. He researched possible funding organisations, hence the Awards for All Grant and Stratford District Council applications.

I give below a balance sheet for Phase I listing our income sources and expenditure and you will see there is a credit balance to carry forward to Phase II. It is envisaged that we will be able to complete the whole project in eighteen months to two years but will require just over £23,000 to provide the quarter pipes, half pipe and grind rail.

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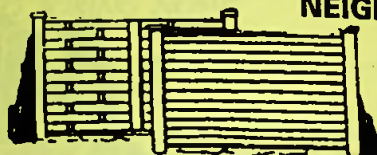
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INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
June '00 Carnival Stall	£150.00	Nov. '01 Tarmac Inv. J.P. Collins	£7,078.50
Aug. '00 BBQ, Shakespeare	£301.00	Jan. '02 Funbox Equip. Inv. Eibe	£5,725.00
Nov. '00 Victorian St. Fayre	£74.30		
Jan. '01 Coffee Morning	£40.00		
May '01 Awards for All Grant	£5,000.00		
June '01 Carnival Stalls (2)	£233.84		
July '01 Family Fun Day, Gamecock	£328.45		
July '01 Geoff Goodman	£100.00		
Aug. '01 Beer Festival	£540.81		
Oct. '01 Carnival Cttee, donation	£250.00		
Nov. '01 S.D.C. Grant (part)	£4,158.61		
Nov. '01 H. Chronicles, donation	£100.00		
Feb. '02 S.D.C., final grant	£1,501.71		
Bank Interest to date, Feb. '02	£12.87	Excess of inc. over exp.	£3.09
TOTAL INCOME	£12,806.59	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£12,806.59

<u>Funding Resource:</u>	Two grants	£10,660.32
	3 Village donations	£450.00
	Village fund raising	£1,683.40
	Bank Interest	£12.87

First of all I thank Harbury Parish Council for allowing this equipment and area to be sited on the Playing Fields and for their views and good advice, particularly in advising us to re-start the Youth Club, also encouraging us to canvass and provide a display at a coffee morning last July for those residents who live in the vicinity of the site. May I also thank all those in Harbury who have supported this superb effort, particularly some of the teenagers' parents, Andy & Carol of the Shakespeare and Sharon and Pete of the Gamecock who have helped actively with fund-raising and selling tickets for our events. To those individuals and organisations who donated a magnificent £450. Our fund-raising in the village from June 2000 to November 2001 totalled £1,683. 40.

Special thanks are extended to the "Awards for All" Lottery Fund and Stratford District Council for the very generous grants totalling £10,660.32. I would like to thank Councillor James Turner and Councillor Eric Dally for their recent efforts at District level on our behalf. To Lucy Grove and Keith Britton (Administrators) at Stratford District Council for their invaluable help and guidance in facilitating our applications.

May I lastly thank the Committee – Alex Biddle (youth representative and adviser) Kevin Biddle, Margaret Harris, John Hodgkins, David

Hoffman (who has now returned to America), Danny Killian (newly appointed) and Sally Thomley. They have given me wonderful support and inspiration to press on with the project despite financial difficulties.

We are indeed privileged to live in a community, which is both unique and special. The timescale in raising funds to date has astonished me and it is a credit to our village that we reside among such generous and warm-hearted neighbours.

A VERY BIG, BIG THANK YOU.

However, may I point out that we still need to raise a lot of money to complete the project and I trust you feel the same as I do, that this is a facility needed and so far Phase I is much appreciated by the youngsters in our midst.

Janet Thornley – Treasurer

Harbury Toddler Group

Harbury Toddler Group meets twice a week (not during school holidays) at the Wight School on Mondays from 10am – 11.30am and Wednesdays from 1.30pm – 3pm. We welcome all parents, carers, and/or grandparents to bring along children up to the age of 4 years.

We are an active group – each year we have a summer outing, a Christmas Party and we take part in the Village Carnival, not to mention various fund raising events throughout the year.

The current committee members are: Lana Long (613311), Paula Russell (612684), Sarah Bull (613388), and Lianne Gillespie (614209). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of us. Below are the details from our most recent newsletter:

Judy Hartland – Photographs: Thank you to everyone who supported this fund raising event in October last year. We raised £184 in commission, which was used to help pay for the Christmas party.

Sweet Quiz: We hope you had fun doing this quiz; it raised an amazing £154. Special thanks to Dayle Adams and Nicky Kirk who, between them, sold over 50 quiz sheets! And, of course, congratulations to our quiz winner, Leslie van Kesteren.

Christmas Party: I think you'll all agree that our Christmas Party was a huge success. Father Christmas bought fantastic presents for 35

very excited toddlers and with two bouncy castles to entertain the children all the parents/carers had a reasonable stress free time too! Thank you very much to everyone who came along and especially to those who helped set up/clear away.

Paul Winchester's Fund Raising Event 2001: In the summer last year Paul held a fund raising event to raise money for local charities/groups. The event was extremely successful and Paul very generously awarded Harbury Toddler Group £300. The money has been spent on: a water play table, storage unit for craft materials, toy garage, baby activity *bounce 'n' play* unit, baby nest and activity arch.

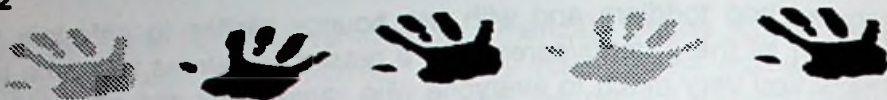
Fund Raising So Far: We have also been very successful with our fund raising and have raised just under £400 (Carnival Treasure Hunt £53, Judy Hartland Photographs £184, and Sweet Quiz £154). The committee are currently drawing up a 'shopping list' and a suggestion list is on the notice board for your ideas. We would like to spend the money on larger, more expensive toys, as day-to-day consumables, e. g., paint, glue, refreshments, etc. are paid for out of the income from Monday and Wednesday sessions.

Coffee Morning, Saturday 9th March 2002: We are lucky enough to have the opportunity to hold a coffee morning on the above date, at the Tom Hauley Room (behind the Church), Harbury. This is the first coffee morning that Toddler Group runs as far as we are aware, so please keep this morning free in your diaries, as it will be lots of fun, honest! Barclays Bank have very generously offered to sponsor our event with their '£ for £' scheme – they will double our profit! As well as refreshments and a cake stall, we will be running a raffle, tabletop sale, potted plant stall, and there will be face painting for the children. Please come along and support our event if you can.

Registered and Read to Go! As our income and expenditure are both now exceeding £1,000, we are legally required to become a registered charity, whereas before we came under the PLA's umbrella charity number. The paperwork is currently in the 'sausage machine' and we'll let you know our new, very own registration number as soon as possible.

Finally, we'd like to thank everyone for their continued support and enthusiasm, which makes Harbury Toddler Group so successful and so much fun!

Lana Long



The Pre-School - Learning Through Play

During February the Pre-School held a Thomas the Tank Engine Week that was met with great enthusiasm by the children. Numerous Thomas the Tank Engine items (trains, puzzles, books and posters) were hurriedly brought into school by the children, which were then successfully used in our counting work and colour activities.



Pre-School children stroking the guinea pigs

This month the children also brought their pet animals into the classroom to show their friends at Pre-School. Nicola brought in her two guinea pigs named Hattie and Alice; Isla brought in her mouse called Biscuit; and Joseph brought in his cockerel called Red, who was extremely well behaved! All animals were proudly shown off by their owners.

The Pre-School staff held two enjoyable open days for Toddler children to attend. The purpose was to introduce the Toddlers and parents to the nurturing and fun environment we try to create, show them the type of activities we do, and to answer any questions. The young children joined in very well with singing, playing with coloured water, and buttering their own toast and applying different coloured jams. We're not sure who enjoyed the open days the most: the Toddlers or their parents!

As part of our continued staff training, two members of our team,

Yvette and Cassie are attending further Special Educational Needs (SEN) training sessions in March. Training comes under all kinds of guises, and one initiative we are continuing is regular networking and consultation with other local nurseries to learn from each other and share ideas. Yvette (our Pre-School Leader) has a number of visits planned over the next few months with Kineton Nursery) and the Triangle Nursery Group. The exchange of ideas is always refreshing and provides even more inspiration.

We would like to thank Ken Hancox for the excellent woodwork he undertook recently for Harbury Pre-School at a remarkably generous price.

January Coffee Morning: A big thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning on January 26th. Despite the absolutely awful weather, we had a good turnout and managed to raise a healthy £334. We are once again grateful to everyone who baked cakes, donated raffle prizes and gave items for the tabletop sale. We are also most grateful to Barclays Bank, who, due to their 'Pound for Pound' scheme which supports community charities, we will double our profit!

Finally, if anyone would like more information, receive a prospectus, or bring their child along to a session, then please contact Caroline Hill (613780) or Jo Simpson (612781).

Harbury Pre-School Staff and Committee

Harbury Primary School

If anyone can help with the following we would appreciate it: Do you have a dishwasher? Does this mean you have some surplus tea towels that we could have in the staff room to replace the tatty ones we use for drying cups etc? All good clean donations gratefully received.

Do you know of anyone having a new kitchen/sink-unit fitted and needs a home for the old one? Please let us know so that we can perhaps try to make use of it in school. We'd like to replace one of the very low sinks that the children don't use, with one of normal height for adults to use in the infants shared area.

We need a midday supervisor on Fridays from after half-term, if you know of anyone who might be interested in this enjoyable work from 12:00 to 1:10pm please ask them to contact us.

Stranger- Danger. More and more reports are being received about at least one man trying to abduct youngsters. Please ensure that you know exactly where your children are and in whose care. Above all, try not to let them out alone regardless of their age – children are always more vulnerable than they think they are. Also, should anyone see any person or people acting suspiciously please contact the police and then the school.

Cross Country. Well done to all the children who took part in the final cross-country race. Especially well done to Alisdair Rollason, Hollie Wilson, Emma Austin, Kiri Shuttleworth, Elizabeth Sharples and Katherine Abbott who took part in all four of the races, a tremendous personal achievement. Even more well-done to the girls' team for winning the Cross Country Shield for small schools (yes, we count as a small school compared to many of those that enter!) They were the first Cross Country team to win a trophy at Harbury, and it was a great surprise to us all as well as being a fantastic effort and achievement.

Water pump. We had an invitation to visit Deppers Bridge Farm recently so that a few children could witness the construction of a new water pump for the village. This is to replace the pump that rotted away some time ago. Here's what Charlie Hawley wrote: *"When some of Avon went to see the new Harbury Pump first we went into a building and we saw the pump being made. The pump is made out of solid oak and it is very heavy. The old pump didn't last very long but this one will last much longer. We had our pictures taken and we had to stand by it. Originally the pump was used by the villagers to collect water but now it is just ornamental. The residents had the pump made to remind them of the history of Harbury."*

Visit to St. John's Museum. Leam had an excellent day in Warwick recently, which added enormously to their learning for their topic of Anglo-Saxons. Lauren Wilson said: *"Our teacher Miss Hartill dressed up like a 'wer', that's a man in Anglo-Saxon and a helper called Mrs. Carpenter dressed up like a 'wif', that's a woman in Anglo-Saxon."* Many thanks to all the helpers who gave up their day to go with the class.

All those parents whose children start school this coming September should have received a letter recently stating the present position. If you haven't had yours please come into school as soon as possible to collect it. If your child is a 2003 starter and you have any questions please do not hesitate to come in and arrange a chat to clarify where we are now.

PTA: Please note these events: *The Family Line Dance* will take place on Saturday 9th March in the School Hall. A *Beer Walk* is planned to go ahead on Saturday 25th May – more details later and the *Summer Fair* will be on Friday 12th July. ! The 100 Club collections will commence in late April.

Paul Milner

Harbury Tennis Club

The last week of January was very successful for fundraising and we are now better off to the tune of £12,700!! On 24 January the Parish Council agreed to a contribution of £2,700 towards the cost of re-surfacing the Tennis and Netball courts. That piece of good news was rapidly followed on 29 January when Stratford District Council's Dasset Area Committee awarded us a £10,000 capital grant.

So, armed with confirmed funding of £31,200 the re-surfacing of the two Tennis courts and the Netball/Tennis-court has been ordered and the work should start in mid-March, subject to a mild spring! This will be followed in the next couple of weeks with orders to remove the conifers and erect a 12m X 4m timber storage facility between the Tennis and Netball courts. We are now a mere £6,000 short of enough cash to get the floodlights on one court but I hope we'll be able to sort that out in time to have them installed by September/October.

Playing Matters

The start of the new season will be delayed because of the re-surfacing work but 12th May has been pencilled in for the first session. Meanwhile in the Banbury League both teams are going well in their respective Divisions and the "B" team is in with a shout for promotion from Division 4. We're putting 2 teams in for the summer league and with both having been promoted last season some hard matches are in prospect.

Fundraising

I've already mentioned the funding "gap" to complete the project so we are still in fundraising mode! The first opportunity is the Jumble sale on Saturday 9th March in the Village Hall.

We are also looking for people to "Sponsor a Slab" to pay for a patio area outside the shelter and to extend the paths around the courts. It's £5 a slab and in return you will have your name on a sponsors "roll

of honour". If you are interested please let me know how many slabs you would like to sponsor!!

Colin Mercer - 613284

Breakthrough Breast Cancer

We raised around £12,000 for Breakthrough when we were fund raising a few years ago, everything was well supported and we have a thank you plaque on the wall at the Royal Marsden in London. We thought we would do a further event this year, just a one off. This will be a Carnival Dance on the evening of Saturday 8th June. There always used to be a dance at the end of the Carnival day and it has been missed now for a couple of years.

We hope you will support us on this occasion. We will have more details for you in future months, but in the meantime please keep a note of the date. If you would like further information on the dance please ring Tony Mancell on 613313. Or for Breakthrough challengers contact Chris Carter on 641741/614721.

Meningitis

When meningitis strikes it can turn your world upside down. One in ten people will die, and many others will be left with permanent disabilities such as deafness, brain damage and loss of limbs. Although teenagers and the Under 5s are most at risk, **anyone can get meningitis.**

The support of people such as you will enable us to continue the search for a B-strain vaccine, and fight meningitis by providing research, awareness and support for those affected. Just £10 will fund 2,000 symptoms cards, one of which could save someone's life. £700 will buy a life-changing specialist walking frame to increase a child's mobility and independence.

I am holding a fund raising 'Nostalgia' evening with collections of days gone by and 'Old Harbury' in photographs, on Thursday 21st March in the Tom Hauley Room from 7.30 - 10pm. Tickets £4 (to include a glass of wine).

Celia Barrett, 613174

NSPCC Fund Raising

Raymond Flanagan of Temple End successfully completed last year's Stratford-upon-Avon Marathon and very kindly donated the money he raised in sponsorship to the NSPCC. This year, on Sunday 14th April, he is going to run the London Marathon! (he has obviously forgotten about last year's pain). So you'll soon see him in serious training around local lanes. Again he has nominated his sponsorship funds to the NSPCC.

As we all know the NSPCC provides an invaluable service in helping abused children. Therefore, any sponsorship donations will be very gratefully received. If you would like to sponsor Raymond, then please contact any of the following fund raising committee members. (Pauline Hayes 612179, Jo House 613892, Anne Greenwell 613623, Margaret Sherrington 613704).

On that same weekend, Saturday 13th April, we are going to hold an Italian Evening with a range of tempting traditional dishes to choose from. As numbers will unfortunately have to be limited we will shortly release further information, including a date on which tickets can be purchased on a first come first served basis. However, we are not promising that our Marathon Man will attend!

Anne Greenwell

A Tribute

The Village Hall Committee, on behalf of the entire Village, would like to offer a tremendous vote of thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Pratt for all their years of devoted service to the care and maintenance of our Hall.

Mr. & Mrs. Pratt both helped with raising the large amounts of funds needed to build the Hall, which involved a great deal of hard work. They were appointed by Midge Keen as caretakers to the Hall over 30 years ago. Their work would always start at 6.30am and was meticulously carried out.

Mr. Pratt was responsible for laying the sprung floor in the main Hall and is very proud of its superb appearance.

The Village Hall has received very many compliments on its appearance and most of these are due to the diligence of its caretakers. They have also provided an invaluable service in keeping a watchful eye and reporting damages immediately, thus adding to the

security of the premises. Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end.

Mr. & Mrs. Pratt retired on 31st January 2002. Brian Ingram, the Committee's current chairman was pleased to be able to present Mr. & Mrs. Pratt with well-deserved retirement presents - a bouquet of flowers and a gardening voucher.

Many good wishes in your retirement and many congratulations for your golden wedding anniversary to be celebrated on 29th March 2002.

Anne Woodward, Secretary Village Hall Committee

Club News

The Annual General Meeting of the Harbury, Chesterton and Ufton Conservative Association took place in the Tom Hauley Room on Monday evening 28th January. Chairman Councillor Eric Dalley presided.

The Chairman thanked Sheila & Ian Allan, and Anne & Michael Lambert, for hosting very successful events during the year at their homes. Treasurer Jane Nash reported that membership and subscriptions were up on the previous year.

Councillors James Turner and Eric Dalley were both confirmed as prospective candidates for the District Council elections in May.

Local MEP Philip Bushill-Matthews reported on the latest developments in the EU. In particular he pointed out how Iain Duncan Smith was looking to learn from European health care systems, and that we should all be receptive to new ideas.

The officers were re-elected for the coming year.

Every good wish

Philip Bushill-Matthews MEP

Computer "Taster" Courses at Harbury Library

At the moment there is an interesting development at Harbury Library. Free computer taster courses are being run on a Thursday and Friday. Initially, only one session was planned, but the demand was so great

that two groups were started. There was no prerequisite, except being a novice and willing to explore.

The initiative began when the Adult Education team at Southam College (supported by WCC Community Education) approached the Library Service with the idea. The Library responded with enthusiasm, wishing to make its facilities available as widely as possible. "The rest is history", as they say.

Each Thursday morning, at the Library between 10.30am and 12.30pm, there is an Adult Education team member running a drop in session. Geoff Dewhirst is available to answer all your queries on learning opportunities, including getting started on computers. He can offer short hands on tasters. He would welcome your enquiries there, or on 01926 814264.



Sid Newman,
Clare Coady,
Lesley van
Kesteren, and
Tutor Geoff
Dewhirst

Harbury Library

By the time you read this, I will have left my job at Harbury and Southam Libraries. After 15 very happy years, I have decided that the time is right to leave and pursue other interests.

I have seen a great many changes since I began all those years ago, mostly for the better, and despite several hiccoughs with the computer, have to admit that the benefits greatly outweigh any problems we have had. There are many exciting innovations planned for Harbury, not least the installation of 4 Public Access Internet Terminals in the autumn. These will be available to all, free of charge.

When I began working at the Library, I was a relative stranger to the village, so it was an ideal way of meeting people and making friends. Over the years I have made so many, and feel that I have been very lucky to be doing a job that I enjoyed so much.

I know that I am going to miss working at the Library, but am looking forward to spending more time with Andrew and my grandchildren. You will still see me in the Library from time to time, but it will be on the other side of the counter from now on.



Sue Bell

Harbury Carnival 8th June, 2002

Now is a good time to start thinking about taking part in the procession and getting some ideas together for a theme. It is Jubilee year so maybe some ideas there but as usual, anything goes. What I do ask is that you at least consider participating. Last year we saw a great improvement in the numbers taking part so let's see if we can do even better this year.

Also a good time to start training for the Wheelbarrow Race!

Don't forget, if you want to book a stall or space on the field for carnival day, please call Julie Killian on 612265 and phone me, John Broomfield, on 614258 if there is anything you would like to know about the Carnival.

John Broomfield, on behalf of the Carnival Committee

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Childyke Cottage

The Local Collection at Harbury Primary School contains a huge resource of documentary and photographic material relating to the village, its buildings and, of course, its people. We are hoping to share some of this material with a wider audience through the Harbury & Ladbroke News.

Our first article is about a terrace called Childyke Cottages, which used to stand beyond Mill Lane, past the windmill, down the field, near the railway line. Until it was ploughed out about 15 years ago, parties of children used to be taken down to field-walk what had been the gardens of these cottages, searching for items, which had been discarded or lost when the buildings were occupied. Amongst this treasure were bit of broken pot, old nails and screws, broken toy cars, headless dolls, dolls' heads, etc. Other evidence of occupation included a huge rhubarb plant and at least one fruit tree.

One of the last residents of the cottages was Kathleen Stowe (née Dark), who now lives in Pineham Avenue. When her daughter Beverley was at the school, Mrs. Stowe wrote down some of her recollections of what life was like when she lived there.

"We would like to thank Mrs. Stowe for giving us permission to use her work. The picture was drawn by Ron Shelley in 1976, and although not perfectly true to detail, gives some impression of what the cottages were like about 1914, and their relationship to the windmill. We would like to thank Mary Shelley for letting us publish this picture."

Nigel Chapman

Kathleen Stowe (Dark)

I was born at number four Childyke Cottages in 1944 and I lived there for sixteen years. There were four of us altogether in the house: my mother and father, my grandmother and myself. My house was in a row of eight houses, and our neighbours were Mr. and Mrs. Turner who lived at number 3 and Mr. and Mrs. Morris who lived at number 5.

Our house was built of stone, wattle and daub with a blue slate roof and it had a cast-iron gutter and down pipe. It had four windows and two doors which always seemed to be painted pea-green. The house had a kitchen but no sink and living room,

which had exposed beams from which my grandfather used to hang sides of home killed/cured bacon. There were two bedrooms, one main room and one at the top of the stairs, which was not much more than a large landing area. There was also a small cupboard under the stairs. Our toilet was at the top of the garden; it was of the bucket type as there were no main sewers.

There were three communal houses one at each end of the row and one across a small yard in the middle. The washing of clothes was usually done in the wood and coal burning coppers in the washhouses - they were then rinsed out in tin bowls. My mother preferred to heat her water in a large pan over the open grate in her living room. Boiling whites was done the same way. We had our own mangle. This was a frame on which two rollers are fixed and when turned by a handle the washing is passed through and the water is pressed out.

We had hot bath water by heating a pan over the fire; this was then put into a long tin bath, which was on the floor in front of the fire that was in the living room. As I grew older I used the same method, but in the main bedroom.

The meals were very much as they are today, but with fewer tinned foods and no frozen foods. The majority of the food was home grown by my father, all the normal vegetables, fruit trees and bushes, etc., all at Childyke. He kept chickens and pigs, which we killed for food. For breakfast we had boiled or fried eggs, bacon, sausages, toast and tea.

On dark evenings I read by candlelight. Oil lamps were mainly used, which burned paraffin, bought at the Co-Op.

To tell the time we had many pocket watches. We had a wooden cased clock, which stood on the mantle shelf over the fireplace. For the exact time we would listen to the radio powered by a rechargeable battery called an accumulator.

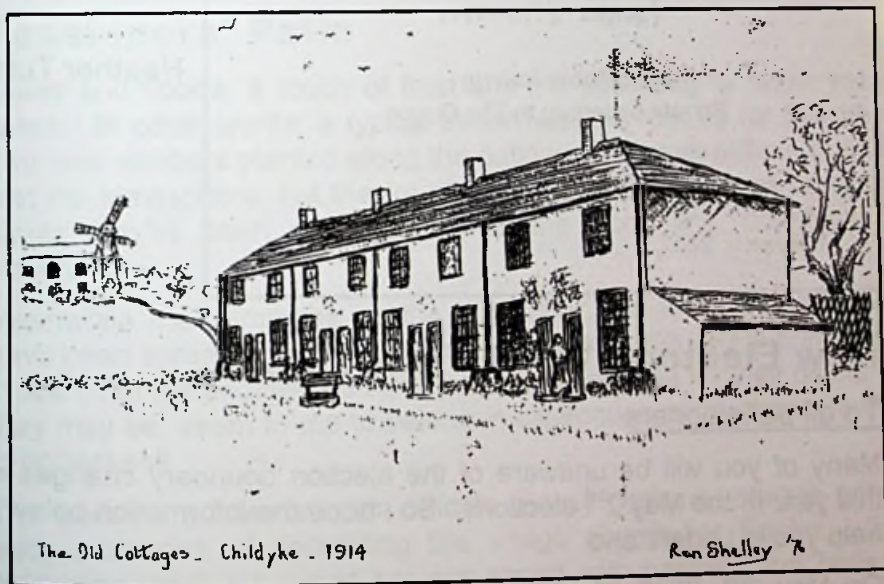
The coal was delivered by the Harbury Co-Operative Society. It came by lorry, driven by my uncle Fred, who collected it from Harbury Station. There were many shops at that time, but the nearest was the Co-Op shop. It was owned by the Harbury Co-Operative Society, where I later worked.

I had many pets. I had six cats, two dogs, two rabbits and many chickens, which I treated as pets. One of my dogs and many of the cats were found on the railway banks, having been thrown from moving trains. Many had injuries, which we treated and afterwards they stayed with us.

The school I went to was about one mile away. I first went to the Wagstaffe School in Crown Street. I was three years old and in the afternoons we would all be put to bed for a sleep in the classroom. They were the collapsible type of bed, with pink blankets. In the summer we would be taken into the churchyard and sleep under the horse chestnut tree, which has since been cut down. The Headmistress at the time was Mrs. Watts. At the age of seven I went to the Wight School where Mr. Farrow was Headmaster.

We did most of our own baking. I often helped my mother to do the baking. We did our baking in a black leaded grate/oven, which we heated by burning wood and coal.

We used water from a well, which was used by all the 8 houses.



The Old Cottages - Childyke - 1914

Ron Shelley '78

**The Old Cottages, Childyke, 1914
(by Ron Shelley)**



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Queen has asked that her warm thanks be conveyed to you for your kind message of good wishes on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee. Her Majesty received your greetings and congratulations with much pleasure.

Sir Robin Janvrin
Private Secretary to The Queen

February, 2002

Golden Jubilee

Following the invitation in last month's Harbury & Ladbroke News, a report of our informal gathering to mark the occasion was sent to the Queen. We have now received the following reply addressed to the Villagers of Harbury.

Heather Turner

New Electoral Ward – May 2002

To all parishioners

Many of you will be unaware of the election boundary changes due this year in the May 2nd elections. So I hope the information below will help you to understand.

On May 2nd, 2002 all members of Stratford District Council will be required to stand for re-election for a new council of 53 members, two fewer than at present. This is due to the new ward boundary changes, which means that the present Harbury Ward will lose Ufton to Long Itchington, and Lighthorne to Kineton, to become only Harbury.

Bishop's Itchington and Chesterton/Kingston.

For the Harbury Ward this means that the Ward will lose one councillor; there will be two instead of three. Therefore, on May 2nd, everyone in the above parishes will have two votes to use, i.e. they can vote for two councillors. Of these two councillors, the one with the most votes will serve four years to 2006; the second will serve two before coming up for re-election in 2004. This is because the District Council is elected in thirds, so to get back to this regime; there will be elections across the district in 2003 and 2004. In a few wards councillors will have to stand again next year.

Finally, please be aware the every elector is allowed to have a postal vote if they wish; one simply has to apply for one. If you should wish to participate in this I would advise you to apply soon. If you would like to telephone me, I will bring an application form to you. You do not need to contact the District Council unless you so wish. The same form allows you to arrange a proxy vote. In other words, the system has been simplified.

Stratford District Councillor Eric Dally, 651478

Pensioners' Patio

Gales and floods, a touch of frost and the possibility of snow yet to come. In other words: a typical British weather-mix so far this year. The new climbers planted along the patio wall have all put out buds to test the atmosphere, but they're not rushing up the walls; as bare-root plants they've been raised to expect the worst and, hopefully, to survive it.

Meanwhile the primroses by the front door and along the driveway have been spreading news of spring for some weeks. Real primroses, I mean, not the engineered varieties which, welcome for their colour as they may be, seem to me to belong in catalogues rather than growing in honest soil.

The genuine article, with its delicate mossy perfume, always brings back memories of decorating the village church for Easter. The preceding week we would set out armed with baskets and balls of white wool (to tie the flowers into convenient bunches). In those days wild flowers were there as a free gift. Every bank, hedgerow and wood was so thick with primrose plants that any taken were swiftly replaced. The other necessity was a good supply of Shippam's Paste

jars (I liked the salmon-and-shrimp but found the bloater too strong). Filled with flowers, the little jars stood on the church windowsills, buried to their necks in a bed of lacy moss, so that the primroses appeared to be growing in their natural environment. In that setting it wasn't too hard to sing the Easter hymns with the required enthusiasm.

I am no longer envious of our neighbour who had seen a blackcap in her garden. It, or rather she, as the chestnut cap was clearly visible, has now visited us too. My ancient bird book talks of this summer visitor 'occasionally' over wintering in this country. I suspect it does so more frequently since more humans started obeying Mary Poppins' injunction to 'feed the birds'. This is, of course, becoming big business now; a recent catalogue advertises a peanut cake spiked with dried insects; just the thing to keep blackcaps from flying south at the first touch of autumn!

Edyth Algar

Harbury Village Show - Saturday 14th September

In some classes the number of items needed has been reduced to encourage people with smaller gardens to have a go.

Calling all photographers: there are 5 classes, so get the cameras out! Photographs of holiday memories, railway scenes, sunset, childhood and colourful blooms needed.

There will be the usual cookery and handicraft classes. For artists there will be 2 classes: one watercolour only, and the other for any medium.

Schedules will be available soon. If you want early details, please contact me on 614459.

Janice Siddle

Horticultural Society

Mr. Nex with his talk on *The History of Cottage Gardens* gave us a very enjoyable evening and showed many slides. The word cottage was apparently first mentioned in the Domesday Book, and was the most humble of dwellings to qualify for inclusion. The occupier kept a cow, a pig and hens besides growing food to support the family, but

there was always room for a patch of rhubarb and a gooseberry bush. The available ground was all well used, definitely no room for a lawn! The NCCPG have saved many old plants from this time, the dahlia Bishop of Llandaff to name but one.

Daphné has been successful in securing a discount of 10% at Farnborough Garden Centre, Southam Road, Farnborough, Banbury, to members but only on production of a current membership card. Payment please by cash, cheque or debit card, but not credit card or garden gift tokens. Should you be in the Charlcoate area, the *Garden Store* near the Garden Centre offers 10% discount on a Tuesday for senior citizens. For others see the notice board displayed on talk evenings.

There is an alteration to the coach outing on Tuesday 11th June. We will leave the Village Hall at 9.00am; visit the Dorothy Clive garden Market Drayton, where there is a restaurant, then after lunch off to Wollerton Old Hall Garden. Members £10, non-members £12.50.

The evening trip will be to Tadmorton Manor on Tuesday 25th June, £2.50, meeting at the Village Hall at 5.45pm. It seems easy to find (bad navigators please note!) down by the Lampeter Arms.

John, our treasurer, will be pleased to receive the monies for one or both outings at the next meeting, if possible; also just in case anybody hasn't renewed their membership, he will be happy to do that also.

There will be an evening social in May, cost £2.50, and as soon as the date is agreed, Judy will announce it and I will include it in my article.

It will soon be seed sowing time, please sow a few extra with the Walkabout in mind, which this year, will be on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th July our 25th year – Silver?!

The next talk on Tuesday 5th March 8pm will be given by Mrs. Susan Rhodes, entitled the *Lord Leicester Hospital Gardens*, which I am sure will be very interesting and informative.

P.S. Please note the talk in May will be *National Trust Gardens* not *National Fruit Gardens*!

Muriel Grey

Gardening Notes

This can be a busy month, but will be dictated by the weather and conditions of the soil. Plan seed sowing as many half-hardy annuals

must be sown in warmth in February or March, e.g., ageratum, begonia, nicotiana, pelargonium, salvia, and verbenas. Keep seed trays at 15 – 21 °C (55 – 60F). Once the seeds germinate grow them on in good light. Prick out seedlings regularly, they are difficult to handle if they get spindly. When they have 2 to 4 leaves, pick them up by the leaves not the stem. Grow on for 6 to 8 weeks. Feed weekly. Harden off before planting in borders or containers at the end of May.

Cowslips (*Primula veris*) are now a rare sight in the countryside. Sow seeds this month to plant out in July to flower next spring. Sow hardy annuals at the end of the month in the garden, but they need an average day temperature of 6 °C before they begin to germinate, so far it has been well above this. This year plant open-faced flowers to attract hoverflies, etc. to predate on pests.

Hoe annual weeds as they germinate. Dig up perennial ones taking care to remove all pieces of root from which they can regenerate. I prefer to hand weed to protect emerging shoots of perennials. Feed beds with general fertiliser to provide the ready supply of nutrients that the new growth will need; then mulch with 3" of compost or bark or cocoa pod. This conserves moisture, presents germination of annual weeds, but on the down side perennial ones will grow through, and slugs and cats may be attracted, although they do not appear to like the cocoa. Protect emerging shoots from slugs and snails. If using pellets put them under an orange skin or pot and make sure they are wild life safe, alternatively make a protective collar from a plastic bottle.

Tidy dead stems on perennials and divide those, which have become overcrowded. This is the best time for asters, perennial poppies, scabious, and delphiniums. Plant out any bulbs from the house.

Complete the winter pruning of all late flowering varieties of clematis. Shear over winter flowering heathers after flowering finishes. Cut back old long shoots of winter jasmine after flowering. Every few years give it a really good 'hair cut'. Hard prune any shrubs that flower late July to autumn, and any grown for their winter stem colour. Most can go to 12" from the ground if necessary, but on variegated dogwoods only cut out 1 stem in 3. Complete all pruning of some types of rose this month. Take out any dead, diseased or crossing stems, and any of less than pencil thickness. Cut main stem of floribundas to about 8" and hybrid teas to 6". Prune to a healthy outward facing bud. Clear and burn all debris. Do not cut back old-fashioned types and any others, which have only one flush of flowers. These flower on last

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year's wood, so should be pruned lightly in summer after flowering finishes.

Clear away old crops now past their best, fork over the soil and dig in compost for bean and pea beds. Warm and dry the soil with cloches or plastic. Plant early potatoes into warmed soil at the end of the month. Sow early carrots under cloches and continue to sow broad beans until the end of May. Sow beetroot, early peas, lettuce radish, spring onions and spinach. The soil needs to receive some warming from the sun, so do not waste seed if we are in a cold spell. Scientists have found the print chemicals and glue used on seed packets can inhibit seed germination. Some are now packed in inner foil envelopes as a safeguard, so do not use the seed packet as a name marker in seed trays. Cut out woody stems on herbs to allow room for young growth. Thyme can be divided.

Put dahlia tubers in trays of compost to break into growth. Start begonia and gloxinia tubers in pots, plant tubercules of achimenes appear they can be used as cuttings. Gladioli can be planted out from the end of the month.

This is a good time to check pots of houseplants for signs of roots through the drainage holes or ones wrapped around the compost ball. To report use a pot that is 1" larger in diameter, with a few crocks in the bottom over the drainage holes. Before renewing any compost with a vine weevil control even if you do not find the dreaded pest. This will provide 6 months protection. Levingtons now market a compost that contains this chemical control.

Tidy away dead stems of water plants before the tadpoles become active in the pool. Continue to feed the birds to attract them as predators of insect pests. If necessary, apply a moss killer to the lawn. After a few days rake to remove debris and leaves, but do not compost this. Check lawnmower is running. Set blades high ready for the first cut.

Plant of the month: Marsh Marigold

As the rest of the garden begins to awake so does the pond, with this bright golden flower, the first of the aquatic plants to welcome the spring. Widely distributed in the wild throughout Europe and North America, from lowlands to mountaintops, wherever the soil is moist. *Caltha palustris* named by the Greeks from their word 'kalathos' meaning a goblet, or the Latin 'caltha' meaning yellow flower, is known by the common names of marsh marigold, king cup, water cowslip, or

in America as cowslip. The dark green rounded leaves grow into a mound from which emerges the cup shaped glossy petalled bright yellow flowers. These will continue to brighten the water's edge until July, which makes them one of the most popular flowers for small ponds and bog gardens. If you have moist soil in a border it is possible to grow this attractive plant there too. Sow seeds in spring or divide an established plant in later summer.

Pat Smith



Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

The family of Ken Docherty would like to thank all who enabled him to stay at home during the last six months and who showed such love and kindness.

Dear Editors

To the people of Harbury

Whilst inside the Post Office with my husband, a gentleman (if that's what you call him) asked to have a word with my husband outside in the street. My husband was asked his age and then this 'gentleman' proceeded to tell my husband that I should not have been at the Village Hall O.A.P. Christmas Party, as my husband isn't 65 until 2003, although I am over 60 years old.

Committee rule being: Husband has to be 65 before wife of 60 and over is allowed to attend the party. So, WHY, since we moved to Harbury in November 1998, have we both received invitations to summer outings and Christmas parties each summer and each

Christmas, when my husband was only 60 years and myself 57? We always declined to attend, but now that I am 60, I accepted this last Christmas party invitation.

This so-called 'gentleman' did not have the manners to speak to me personally, as he knew I was there next to my husband. A gentleman would have approached me and explained *The Committee Rules*, that I shouldn't have been at the party because....., but no, he wasn't man enough.
Absolutely disgusted.

Mrs. P.D. Cleaver

Dear Editors

Multiple Sclerosis Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning and to those who helped on the day. For the donations, cakes and Joan's raffle a big thank you.

A cheque for £650.66 has been sent to the MS Society.

Doreen Bloxham and Brenda Turner

Dear Editors

I write at the suggestion of one of our employees, a Harbury resident, following the rejection of our plans to refurbish and improve the warehouse attached to the rear of Compton House. Many Harbury residents may wonder exactly what we do at Compton International and what, if any, value our presence adds to this beautiful village.

We are a firm of fundraising consultants founded in 1962. Compton International has helped over a 1,000 Schools, Universities, Cathedrals, Churches, Museums, Art Galleries, Hospitals, Medical research institutes and a wide variety of other community organisations raise over £500 million in over 30 countries. We have offices in London, Brisbane, Vancouver and San Francisco, but our headquarters are located here in Harbury! Despite the reach of our operations we are more like a 'family' business than a multinational

conglomerate being employee owned and giving 10% of our profits away to worthwhile charities, as some in the village already know. (If readers are interested in more information they might care to visit our web site at <http://www.ComptonInternational.co.uk>.)

In late 1997 we moved to Harbury because of its central location, easy access, five pubs and excellent amenities. Some will no doubt recall the changes that we made to improve the appearance of Compton House at that time. As our consultants work in clients' offices and visit Compton House from time to time for meetings and training, some may also wonder just what sort of operation is run from these offices. Not only is our Group Headquarters based at Compton House, but so too are our training and administrative support teams for consultants on assignments across Europe.

Currently, for example, in England we have teams on 18 assignments such as the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford where we have been engaged to raise £15 million for a new Children's health centre, or further a field at Peterborough Cathedral where we are raising the funds urgently needed to help meet the insurance shortfall following the tragic fire which did over £4 million in damage.

Now I don't propose to argue the merits of our planning application in this letter; however, your readers will no doubt be interested to learn that we have amended our building plans as best we can, to take into account the objections that have been made and resubmitted the planning application. Without the conversion, of what is presently unusable warehouse space, to provide much needed up-to-date facilities for these support services, we will need to leave Harbury to find more suitable accommodation elsewhere. This will undoubtedly have an adverse impact on the pub lunch trade(!), and other businesses such as the local shops and Post Office with whom we have spent over £4,500 last year, not to mention the loss of employment for our local support staff, a number of whom live in Harbury.

I hope this letter helps create a better understanding about our business at Compton House and how we are making a real

contribution to the prosperity of Harbury. I would welcome the opportunity to respond to any questions The Harbury & Ladbroke News may receive as a result of this letter or to meet residents personally who wish to learn more about our building plans or the work that we do.

With every best wish for Easter and 2002

Yours sincerely

Andrew Day

Dear Editors

I would like to say Many Thanks to the lady who found my bantam hen—now safely recovered.

Mike Bloxham

Dear Editors

Thank you so much Mrs. Wilkins, for taking the time to bake & sell your homemade pies for our work here in Cambodia.

I will forward all of the money raised (£51) to help the street and orphaned children we work with.

Please pass our thanks on to your village for their interest in our work.

Yours sincerely,

Helen & Trevor Sworn (on behalf of WEC International)

Do you need help with any of the following?

Harbury Helpline is for you!

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT: Call Tim Millington 612808 or Charles Catt 612864.

HELP WITH FORM FILLING:

- Job Applications, CV's, Council Tax Forms, etc.: Call Joanne Cooper 613859 or Jeff Bedford 612753.

- **For University/Job Applications, interviews, CVs:** Call Philip Bushill-Matthews 612476.
- **For Personal Tax Claims, Rebates on Tax Paid to Building Societies or on Shares:** Call Jim Chapple 612044.

HOME VISITING: Caring for a sick or elderly relative and need a break for a few hours, or you would like someone to call on you. Call Sue Dormer 613254.

HOUSEHOLD BUDGETING ADVICE: Call Tony Brunton 612191.

VISITING: Hospital. If you are unable to visit a parent or relative, or parents would like support with a child in Hospital: Call Fr. Roy Brown 612377 or Keith Dormer 613254.

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

Bookings for:

Scout Hut	Lesley van Kesteren	613411
Tom Hauley Room	Liz Bunting	612450
T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning	Mrs. J. Windsor	612504
Village Hall	Mr. P. Winchester	614466
Wight School	Mrs. L. Hayes	613488

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 2:00pm; Fridays 9:30-11:30am & 2:00-3:00pm

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: (612781 or 613780) Wight School (behind Library), High St.

Monday to Friday 9:00am-1:00pm;

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

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

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 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: 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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