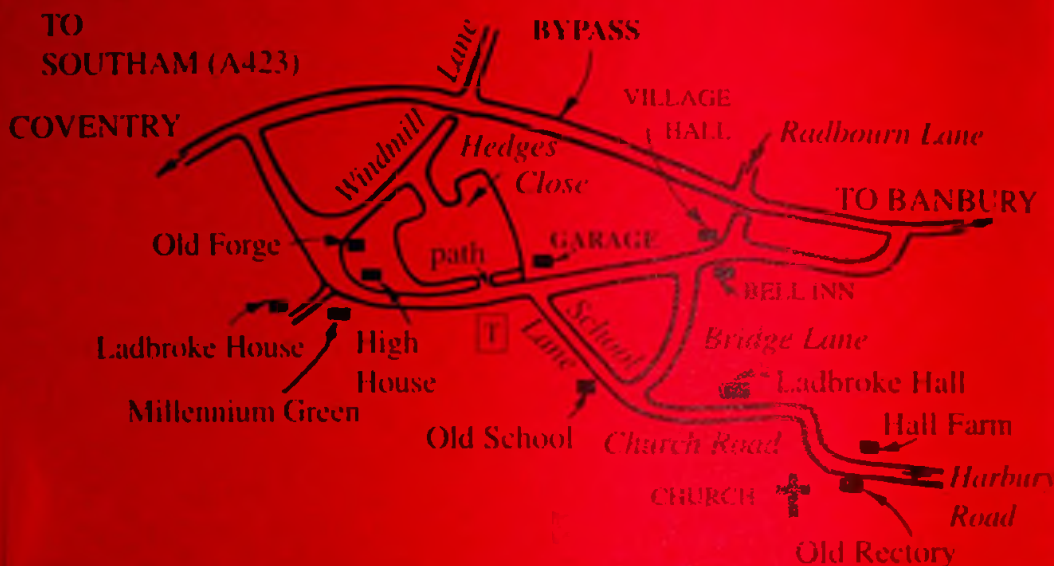




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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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December 2003

No. 357



The Remembrance Service was more poignant this year due to recent events in Iraq. The local branch of the British Legion led the procession to the War Memorial, where Geoff Goodman read the names of the fallen and Sam Keeling laid the first wreath.

Harbury was revisited by the national judges for the Calor Village of the Year competition and there will be many fingers crossed by those who supported the presentations. Everybody in the Village Hall was delighted

RAY PADBURY (STANDARD BEARER)
COLIN SMITH AND DAVID MANN



SAM KEELING

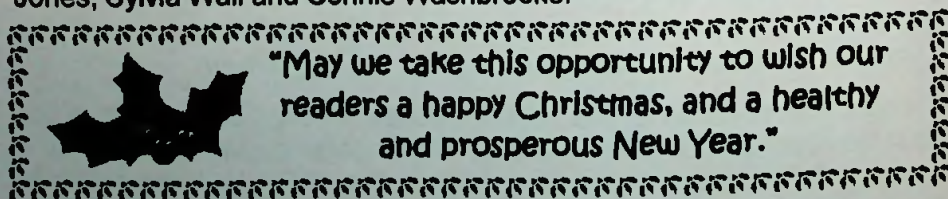



by the welcome sung by the Harbury Primary School Choir, the choice of "Consider Yourself ..." was the perfect introduction to the judging process.

We hope the village looked its best for the judges' visit as the Editors have received comments about a matter that has been reported many times over the years. They have received an anonymous letter expressing concern about dog fouling in Church Terrace permitted by "the minority of inconsiderate dog owners". We are sure that all villagers will support the sentiments of the letter writer; unfortunately neither name nor address were provided and it has always been the policy of the Harbury and Ladbroke News to only publish signed letters.

Ladbroke has already held its Christmas Fayre, whilst Harbury will be opening the doors to Father Christmas's grotto by the time you receive this edition of the magazine.

Finally, we extend our sympathy to the families of Sheila Bugg, Leonard Jones, Sylvia Wall and Connie Washbrooke.





 "May we take this opportunity to wish our
 readers a happy Christmas, and a healthy
 and prosperous New Year."

Harbury Diary

DECEMBER

- Sat 6 Coffee Morning, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room, in aid of Harbury Tennis Club.
Christmas Fayre, 2.30pm in the Village Hall – visit Santa's Grotto!
- Sun 7 **ADVENT TWO** Sung Eucharist, 9.00am.
Women's Institute Carol Service, 2.30pm at Ladbroke Church.
Mother's Union Party, 3.00pm.
Concert of Christmas Music, 6.00pm in the church (£5, concessions £4.50).
- Tue 9 Toddlers' Service, 2.15pm in the children's corner of church.
Senior Citizens Committee Meeting, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Wed 10 Toddler Group Christmas Party in the Village Hall.
Talk It Through, 8.00pm at 13 South Parade, Harbury.
- Thu 11 Treasures of Great British Heritage Course, 9.45am-11.45am in the Village Hall.
Holy Communion, 9.45pm.
Thursday Club Carol Service, 2.30pm.
Women's Institute, 7.45pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
Youth Club, 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Fri 12 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
Harbury Primary School Disco.
Folk Club Concert in the Village Hall.
- Sat 13 Coffee Morning, 10.00am in the Tom Hauley Room, in aid of C.I.N.D.I.
Senior Citizen's Christmas Party in the Village Hall, 5.00pm for meal at 5.30pm.
Harbury Pre-School Under 5s Disco, 5.00pm to 6.30pm at Harbury Village Club.
- Sun 14 **ADVENT THREE** Holy Communion, 8.00am. Sung Eucharist, 10.30am.
- Mon 15 **Adverts to 31 Binswood End, Harbury by 5.30pm.**
- Tue 16 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
- Wed 17 Afternoon Tea, 3.00pm-4.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
Prayer Meeting, 8.00pm in church.
- Thu 18 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
Treasures of Great British Heritage Course, 9.45am-11.45am in the Village Hall.
Youth Club, 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Fri 19 **School Breaks Up For Christmas!**
- Sat 20 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7.30am in the Tom Hauley Room.
Children's Christmas Workshop in the Village Hall.
Mother's Union Faith Supper, 8.00pm.
- Sun 21 **ADVENT FOUR** Holy Communion, 8.00am.
Family Communion and Christingle, 10.30am. Evensong, 6.00pm.
- Tue 23 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
- Wed 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** Dressing of the Crib, 2.30pm.
Village Carol Service, 6.30pm. Midnight Mass 11.15pm.
- Thu 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** Sung Eucharist 11.00am.
- Fri 26 **BOXING DAY, ST STEPHEN.** Holy Communion, 10.30am.

- Sat 27 **ST JOHN.** Communion, 9.30am
 Sun 28 **HOLY INNOCENTS** Holy Communion, 8.00am. Sung Eucharist, 10.30am.
 Harbury Society Burns Night at the Crown Inn.
 Tue 30 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
 Wed 31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

JANUARY

- Thu 1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY**
NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS. Holy Communion, 9.45am.
 Folk Club, 8.30pm at the Shakespeare Inn.
 Fri 2 **Articles to Harbury Chemist by 5.30pm.**
 Sat 3 Coffee Morning, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room, in aid of local children's charities.
 Sun 4 **SECOND OF CHRISTMAS**
 Sung Eucharist, 9.00am. Evening Worship, 6.00pm.
 Tue 6 **THE EPIPHANY**
Back To School
 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
 Horticultural Society, 8.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
 Wed 7 Talk It Through, 8.00pm at 33 South Parade, Harbury.
 Thu 8 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
 Fri 9 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
 Sat 10 Coffee Morning, 10.00am in the Tom Hauley Room, in aid of STETS.
 Sun 11 **THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
 Holy Communion, 8.00am. Sung Eucharist, 10.30am.

All Saints' Church Harbury Services

- | | | |
|---|---------|------------------------------|
| 1 st Sunday in the month: | 9.00am | Sung Eucharist |
| | 6.00pm | Evening Worship |
| 2 nd , 4 th (and 5 th) Sunday in the month: | 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| | 10.30am | Sung Eucharist |
| 3 rd Sunday in the month: | 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| | 10.30am | Family Communion |
| | 6.00pm | Evensong |
| Every Sunday: | 10.30am | Sunday School (in term time) |
| Every Tuesday: | 7.30pm | Weekday Communion |
| Every Thursday: | 9.45am | Weekday Communion |

Rector: Father Roy Brown, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel. 612377

www.harburychurch.fsnet.co.uk

From The Rector

We all have periods in our lives when we become particularly busy. It may be at work, at school, at church, or something in the family like planning a wedding, a holiday or, of course, Christmas preparations.

At busy times like these, it is easy to forget someone; we become occupied with what needs to be done. People are often forgotten. Perhaps forgotten is too hard a word, but when we are busy and tired, we have less time to do the little things that can be so important to the ones we love. A kiss before you walk out of the door, a little bit of fun with the children, or a phone call to see how Mum and Dad are, etc. Little things by themselves may not be missed, but collectively then can make a difference to how we handle our every day work.

The other one often forgotten is God. How do you think he feels when we leave him out of our busy days, and forget what Christmas is really all about. In Australia, I saw a poster that said, "God help me to see that there is nothing that will happen today that you and I can not handle". When we leave God out of our lives there will always be that little emptiness that we can not explain, like leaving home without that kiss or contact with the children.

Remember, it is not what we can do for God, but what God has done for us, in sending his son into the world, that makes all the difference. Do not forget him, keep in touch with him every day, and feel the difference at Christmas and every day.



"I wish you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas."

Fr. Roy

A new vicar moved into town and went out one day to visit his parishioners. All went well until he came to one house. It was obvious that someone was home, but no one came to the door, even after the vicar had knocked several times. Finally, the vicar took out his card, wrote on the back "Revelation 3:20" and stuck it in the door. The next day after service, as the vicar was counting the offering, he found his card in the collection plate. Below his message was the notation "Genesis 3:10". Upon opening his bible to the passage, the

vicar's face turned red and he let out a roar of laughter. Revelation 3:20 reads, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If any man hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come into him, and will dine with him, and he with me". Genesis 3:10 reads, "And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and was afraid, because I was naked".

From the Registers

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

November	2 nd	Lily Victoria Markham
	9 th	Joshua Robert Adam Hill
	16 th	Isobel Jane Carwardine Elvin
	16 th	Faye Lavinia Cousins
	16 th	Mariah Jane Hewer
	23 rd	Nell Lilian Spencer-Drake
	23 rd	Oliver John Kirk

Holy Matrimony, All Saints' Harbury

November	8 th	Michael Banbury to Joanne Richards
	22 nd	Trevor Jackson to Carol Percival

Funerals, All Saints' Harbury

November	11 th	Connie Washbrooke (88)
	18 th	Leonard Jones (100)
	18 th	Sheila Bugg (64)

Funerals, Oakley Wood

October	7 th	Sylvia Wall (80)
---------	-----------------	------------------



From The Churchwardens

Congratulations and thanks to the Parish Council, especially to those who initiated and organised the Calor Village of the Year presentation. It really did encapsulate the spirit of Harbury, bringing together so many people and making us all appreciative of our community. Thank you too, to everyone who gave their time and skills to assembling the ALL SAINTS' display.

The Alpha course is drawing to its close: the last meeting will have taken place before this issue is distributed. From start to finish, it has

been very well attended, and thoughtfully and enthusiastically received. We thank everyone, in-house and from outside the parish, who has given so generously of all their talents to make these past weeks so rewarding and successful. We especially thank Tony for his inspiration and understanding. The celebratory supper will be held on 26th January 2004.

Alison has now truly begun her ministry as Lay Reader. She has conducted the Family Service at Ufton, is to preach at Ladbroke on 21st December, and will take the Dressing of the Crib Services at Ladbroke and Harbury on Christmas Eve. In January, she will begin a youth group (aged 10 onwards) on Sunday evenings in the Tom Hauley Room. Please welcome her and support her with your prayers.

By the time you read this, Harbury will have been one of fifty churches of all denominations to take part in a ceremony on Advent Sunday. A rocket will have been set off at 6.00pm by each church, that moment to make our united belief in the coming of Christ, the one true light, into the world. If you missed that moment, please remember that there are still four weeks of Advent in which to prepare for the birth of the Christ Child and to make ready to receive the peace he brings to us all.

Lesley and Felicity



Mothers' Union

AFTERNOON MEETING

We were grateful to Margaret Sweet, our November speaker, for finding time in her very busy life to come and speak to us on Prayer. Margaret is a Prayer and Spirituality Co-ordinator for Mother's Union in the diocese, a Church Reader, and a student of Theology at Oxford. Margaret has experienced the importance of prayer throughout her life, especially at sad or difficult times. A focus for our prayers, such as a flower, a candle or an icon, can give us inspiration. We can send up arrow prayers at any time of the day, but a regular pattern is also important. In Matthew Chapter 7, Jesus said "Ask....., Search.... and Knock".

Margaret finished by reading "Are You Listening" by Nick Fawcett in which he asks God to accept him as he really is, with all his faults; and

in God's imagined answer he says "It's you I want to talk to – not the mask you wear for the world; you as you really are I love you as you are".

EVENING MEETING

Marian Millington, our speaker in November, felt she was called to become a Prison Visitor in the year 2000. Later, she was asked to become a Quaker Prison chaplain. She works in HMP Brockhill YO1, a small women's prison and HMP Blakenhurst, a large men's prison. Marian told us about some of the prisoners she has met; many of whom have suffered all kinds of abuse, and are deeply scarred. Even prisoners on remand can be in prison for many months before the case is heard, and women especially may be very concerned about their children outside. A visitor needs to be able to chat on various subjects, as well as to listen and support when prisoners have problems to share. Many have drug or alcohol problems and Marian is running a group for them.

Prison visiting does have its lighter side and some of Marian's anecdotes were very amusing, but her talk was also very thought provoking.

NEXT MEETINGS

Wednesday 3 rd December	2.00pm	Communion Service.
	2.30pm	Betty Connelly on Ethiopia.

There is no evening meeting in December.

Wednesday 7 th January	3.00pm	Party.
Tuesday 20 th January	8.00pm	Faith Supper.

C. Mary Catt

Toddlers' Service

Mr and Mrs Bedford led our November service. After our "thank you" prayer, Mr Bedford told us the story of Joshua and the walls of Jericho. We then marched around the circle blowing our (imaginary) trumpets and the (imaginary) walls of Jericho fell down. We followed by singing "Joshua fit the battle of Jericho". To finish, the children made collage pictures of the walls – before and after falling down.

The next service will be on Tuesday 9th December at 2.15pm in the children's corner of church, when we shall be looking forward to Christmas. All babies and toddlers are very welcome, with an adult.

C. Mary Catt

Cathedral News

As Cathedral Liaison Officer of the parish, I attended the award ceremony of Coventry's International Prize for Peace and Reconciliation, which went jointly this year to two Iraqis: Ayatollah Al Sadr (a Shi'a Muslim Leader) and Georges Sada (Leader of the Evangelical Church in the Cross of Nails). The prize was in recognition of their work together during the past five years, for peace and reconciliation between all Muslim and Christian Communities in their troubled country.

The significance of the occasion was heightened by the timing of the ceremony - held on November 14th - the 63rd anniversary of the destruction of Coventry and it's Cathedral.

James Turner

Ladbroke News

Ladbroke Diary

DECEMBER

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Sun | 7 | ADVENT TWO Family Communion 10.30am.
Women's Institute, Group Carol Service, 2.30pm in All Saints' Ladbroke. |
| Tue | 9 | Women's Institute, Christmas meal, pick up 6.45pm. |
| Wed | 10 | Women's Fellowship Church Service, 12.00noon, followed by faith lunch at Archers Rest. |
| Sun | 14 | ADVENT THREE Sung Communion, 9.00am. |
| Sun | 21 | ADVENT FOUR Sung Communion, 9.00am. |
| Wed | 24 | CHRISTMAS EVE Dressing of the Crib, 3.30pm. |
| Thu | 25 | CHRISTMAS DAY Sung Communion, 9.30am. |
| Sun | 28 | FIRST OF CHRISTMAS Sung Communion, 9.00am. Carol Service, 6.00pm. |

JANUARY

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Thu | 1 | NEW YEAR'S DAY
NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS. |
| Fri | 2 | Articles to Harbury Chemist by 5.30pm. |
| Sun | 4 | SECOND OF CHRISTMAS
Family Communion, 10.30am. |
| Sun | 11 | FIRST OF EPIPHANY
Sung Communion, 9.00am. |
| Wed | 14 | Parish Council Meeting, 7.45pm at Ladbroke Village Hall. |

Ladbroke Church Christmas Fayre

Saturday 22nd November
2003 ... it rained!

The Christmas Fayre ... a major disaster, hardly anyone came ... we made over £528 ... would someone like to tell me how?

Many thanks to those who

"RAISING FUNDS FOR THE BLUE PETER APPEAL"



THE FAYRE WAS OPENED BY
FRED NICHOLLS, PUPPY WALKER FOR
THE DISABLED, SHOWN HERE WITH
IZZY AND USKA.

did come and who must have dug deep into their pockets.

Many thanks also to those who helped; several new faces, which was very much appreciated.

The raffle prizes were fantastic – many thanks to those who donated so generously.



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Betty Winkfield

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Ladbroke Parish Council

Ladbroke Parish Council met on Wednesday 19th November at the Village Hall, when the main agenda item was a discussion with David Tiley, the Flood Defence Officer, from Stratford District Council. A drainage survey of Ladbroke is being initiated and Mr Tiley and the Councillors will be walking Lot Brook to identify any problems. We are pleased to see that Warwickshire County Council have started work on the numerous minor road repairs needed throughout the village, and they are also monitoring the heavy lorry traffic along Harbury Lane. Hopefully the work at Old Barn Farm will soon be completed.

There were no objections to the felling and trimming of some trees at Tollgate Cottage, and a further letter has gone to the Planning Inspectorate to strengthen the case of "unsuitable road access" to New Farm Stables in Ladbroke Road for extended use as B1(c) and B8.

Good news is the precept for 2004/2005 will remain the same as this year. The next meeting is January 14th 2004 at 7.45pm at Ladbroke Village Hall. A full copy of the Minutes may be obtained from the Clerk, Linda Doyle, on 01926 814214 or read on the notice board.

Linda Doyle

Ladbroke Women's Fellowship

On Wednesday 12th November, Debbie Ellis came to talk to us about the Harbury First Responder Group. This was a most enlightening talk, and Debbie was a very informative and enthusiastic speaker; she made us laugh, and explained that this group is made up of volunteers and funded from donations. (We had donated the profits from our Tea Party held in August.) Thank you Debbie, we had a great time. Thanks also to Beryl Ross, our host.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 10th December. We will be holding a service in church at the earlier time of 12.00 noon, with readings and hymns. This will be followed by a faith lunch at Archers Rest, Southam Road, Ladbroke. Members and guests are invited to bring along a plate of festive food to share.

There will be no meeting in January, but we look forward to our meeting in February 2004.

Jo Sowerby

Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I.

The Women's Institute held an extra meeting on the 6th November, 'Christmas Craft' with Lorraine Whitehouse. All the members were delighted with the beautiful baubles that they made.

Seven members had a very enjoyable evening attending the performance by the Spa Theatre Company 'Scrooge The Musical'. Plenty of laughter, and even some tears, at this excellent production.

Our meeting on November 27th called 'Musical Fun' with Keith Sandall certainly was an evening of fun. No one escaped taking part in assisting with one of the songs; all had a hilarious time!

It is good to hear that news that Catherine Spence and Stella Douglas are both home from hospital and doing really well; we wish them both a speedy recovery.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

7th December The Group Carol Service will be held at All Saints' Church, Ladbroke at 2.30pm.

9th December Our Christmas meal will be held at The Woodhouse at Princethorpe; 6.45pm pick up.



"On behalf of the committee and myself, I would like to wish all members and their families, a very happy Christmas and a good New Year."

Sue Halsall, President

Ladbroke Christmas Carol Service

The Augmented Choir have begun rehearsals for the Carol Service to be held on Sunday 28th December at 6.00pm. Please make a note to come and join us. All the times of service for Christmas will be in the Church Christmas card which will be popping through your door very soon.

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke Neighbourhood Watch

It is once again that happy time of year when the fairy lights light up our trees, and our possessions. It is, of course, prime time for burglars, thieves and opportunists.

The police recommend that Christmas presents, computers and electrical goods, etc, should be in a safe place, out of sight; and car keys should be kept in a drawer and not near the front door or on the hall table.

If you are going away, please tell your neighbours. If you are staying at home, please keep watch and report anything suspicious.



"Wishing everyone a crime-free, enjoyable
Christmas and New Year."

Janice Berry

Ladbroke Millennium Club

The October draw took place at the Bell Inn, Ladbroke on Thursday 20th November at 8.00pm.

The £80 prize was won by: Mrs P Kennedy

The £25 prizes were won by: Mr P Derrick

Mrs P Collins

The £10 prizes were won by: Mr M Theaker

Mrs B Bradley

Mr and Mrs J Laidler

Mrs M Coley

Mrs A Norgate

The next draw will take place at the Bell Inn Ladbroke on Wednesday 10th December at 8.00pm.

Mike Radburn

Harbury Parish Council

A short meeting was held with a reduced Council and few planning applications. Stratford granted a Holiday Let at Square Close, Middle Road, and a conservatory at 7 Deppers Bridge. The Parish Council had no observation to make on an extension at 4 Butt Lane, tree work at the Manor House, or the replacement of an outside spiral staircase at Harbury House. The Council had written to Stratford about problems with neighbour notification of applications.

Councillor Jenny Patrick will arrange a meeting with Bishops Itchington Parish Council Chairman to decide how we should react to any proposed development at the Quarries; this could be built into the Parish Plan. Councillor Mancell is prioritising the Review Action Plan, and has promised to publish the results in the Harbury and Ladbroke News.

Volunteers have come forward to operate SID (the Speed Indicating Device) which Councillor Booth recommended as a way to illustrate to drivers that they were exceeding the limit.

Councillor Thompson had inspected the Burial Grounds and produced a Safety Audit. He could find no evidence of gravestones having been removed and will arrange for Mike Bloxham to photograph the whole area to provide a baseline the future.

It was decided to ask Colin Sheasby to look at the foliage overhanging the roof of the Chapel in the Burial Grounds. Councillors complained about the bramble that overhangs the corner in Hall Lane's one-way system. There was still no action on the collapsed wall opposite the Pound. The Francis Road/Vicarage Lane footpath was overgrown and needed attention.

Councillors agonised over whether they should attempt to achieve Quality Parish status, which could give them enhanced powers and possibly more funding. They already satisfy many of the criteria and the Clerk is taking the appropriate qualifications. They would need to produce a quarterly newsletter for parishioners and indulge in consultation exercises. After much soul searching, they agreed to consult the Secretary to the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils and in principle – go for it.

The whole Council was thrilled with Harbury's progress in the 'Village of the Year Competition' and full of praise for the way that village groups rallied round at short notice to put on, not one but two, presentations of Harbury life. Everyone was most impressed with the publication produced by Dutch Van Spall to illustrate the depth and

breadth of Harbury's concern for its people, environment and economy. Copies will be available to buy at the Christmas Fayre. Dutch wanted to use 'Village of the Year' as a promotional hook and was keen to get together a group to seek sponsors willing to support village organisations financially.

The Clerk had had no response to the plea for information about residents who would need special care during an emergency. The data protection act prevents Councillors compiling the list from their own knowledge.

Stratford's Dasset Area Committee has an under-spend of £80,000 in its grant pot, but applications must be in by 12th December!

PC Hill warned residents that thieves were about and to report immediately anything suspicious.

Linda Ridgley



Harbury Society

Harbury was Warwickshire's nomination for the 'Village of the Year Competition' and the Society made a presentation on our work in the Village Hall in October along with many others. Unaware they would be filmed as part of the Competition Publicity; a large enthusiastic audience arrived for Stephen Faulk's talk on the Warwickshire Landscape on 25th November. Stephen is Senior Keeper of Natural History at Warwickshire Museum and gave a very clear and wide-ranging explanation of the Warwickshire Landscape, its underlying geology, natural divisions, the impact of man, and the diversity of wildlife that is still to be found in the Shire. Stephen has been involved in the Biodiversity Audit that has provided a Habitat Survey for Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire (the old Shire). He made the point that the urban and suburban areas are often richer in wildlife than the farmed countryside. Some "Brownfield" sites which are government's preferred development targets are the richest habitats of all. Bishop's Bowl Lakes is an amazing site with a very rich flora, many butterflies and even a hobby (a bird of prey), but it is threatened for it has outline planning permission.

Our next event is the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 6th December, 2.30pm in the Village Hall, where we will have our usual Photographic Quiz. We are organising a Burns Night at The Crown Inn on Friday 25th January.

Linda Ridgley

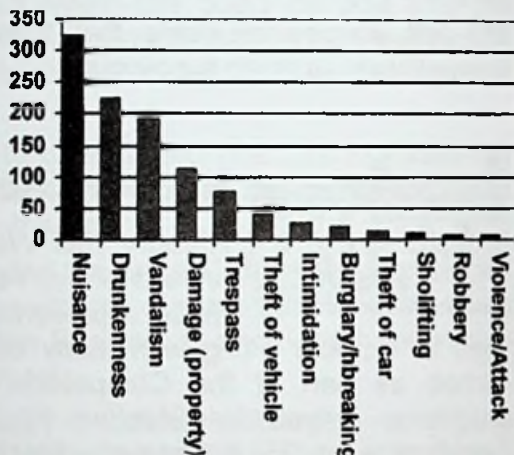
Harbury Review



CRIME

We asked people about their experiences of crime, as this was one of the most often mentioned concerns in our preliminary surveys. A hundred and fifty-three people had cause to report crime to the police, but only eighty five got an incident number. This means that only eighty five of the crimes made it to the official statistics.

When we asked what type of crime people had experienced in Harbury in the last twelve months, nuisance incidents came top followed by drunkenness, vandalism and damage to property. Trespass, theft from cars, intimidation, burglary and shoplifting had been a problem. Six people had been robbed and six had suffered personal attack.



Not surprisingly, two hundred and thirteen residents were willing to join Neighbourhood Watch and the details of those who completed the volunteer form were passed to the coordinator.

Linda Ridgley, Secretary

Local Council Issues

RECYCLING

Thank you to all who responded to the question about recycling plastics and cardboard. It is gratifying that so many of you want to see something done to stop this needless pouring into landfill sites of bulky, recyclable substances.

The bad news is that for sound economic reasons, Stratford District Council is unable to help us for the foreseeable future. The better

news is that we are talking to BIFFA about the possibility of a locally run collection point. The crucial question is "Which recycling company would collect"? If you think you know of a recycling company who might be interested, let us know!

GRANTS

Unusually, there are still funds for capital projects in the coffers of Dasset Area Community grants committee, which must be spent in the current financial year. Typically, grants are for up to 25% of costs for projects that offer benefit to the community. Deadline for applications is Friday 12th December, but anyone interested is urged to contact Lucy Workman at Stratford District Council (01789 267575) as soon as possible.

OUR NEXT SURGERY

This will be held in Harbury on Saturday 13th December between 10.00am and 12.00noon, outside the new Post Office. We have persuaded a Parish Councillor to join us – former Chairman Dutch van Spall, no less! Please come and give us the benefit of your views on anything that is important to you. Looking forward to seeing you there.

YOUR COUNCILLORS

County Councillor:

David Booth
01926 640728
cllrbooth@warwickshire.gov.uk

District Councillors:

Shenagh Booth
01926 640728
shenagh.booth@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Andrew Patrick
01926 614359
andrew.patrick@stratford-dc.gov.uk



"Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year."

Andrew Patrick



Harbury Women's Institute

At November's meeting, voting for new officers and committee took place. We were pleased to welcome Christine Sheen, County Advisor, who presided over proceedings. Dorothy Groves, who has been an able president for the past year has been re-elected. There is now a full committee too.

Very many thanks to those who donated to the Christmas Child Appeal; the boxes have now been sent.

The group Carol Service will be held at Ladbroke Church on Sunday 7th December, commencing at 2.30pm.

A reminder to members to be sure to put their names on the list for the New Year's Party on 16th January.

December's speaker will be Mr Alan Winterburn on the subject of "Little-Known Warwickshire". We will enjoy the usual wine, mince pies and, of course, the bran tub presents!



Jeanne Beaumont



Harbury Pre-School

LEARNING ABOUT SAFETY: Since the half term break, the children have been learning about how to be safe at home, at pre-school, and near roads and railways. We have noticed a marked reduction in the number of pedal car crashes in the outdoor play area, and chairs are being sat on very carefully now. A visit from "Cheeky Charlie" really brought home the message that railways are dangerous places, and all the children enjoyed taking home the colouring book he gave them.



"THE TRAFFIC STOPS TO LET THIS YOUNG LADY USE THE ZEBRA CROSSING SAFELY."

"LEARNING ABOUT RAIL SAFETY WITH CHEEKY CHARLIE."



PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS: We are starting to think about Christmas now and the stationery stock cupboard is "taking a hammering" as glitter, card, paint, and felt are being used by the ton to create individual seasonal greetings cards and calendars. The children are practising "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" ready to sing at the coffee morning next week. Yvette has bought a new picture book to share the story of the birth of Jesus and of course, the children will begin to practice taking part in their own re-enactment of the nativity in time for their end of term party.

PARENT'S EVENING: It was very gratifying that so many parents (both Mums and Dads) came to parents evening. It was a very valuable opportunity for staff and parents to get together to discuss the children's progress. Afterwards everyone felt that much had been achieved and the pre-school ideal of working together with parents put into practice.

NEW SWEATSHIRTS: Our pre-school T-shirts have been worn with pride (and protected clothes) for many years and these are still available at the cost of £5 for two (one red, one blue). Now we are pleased to announce that we also have sweatshirts with the pre-school logo on. These could make a great Christmas present for the enthusiastic pre-schooler, they cost £8 and are available in sizes age 3-4 or age 5-6, and are available from Jane Durman (613435).

CHRISTMAS QUIZ BOOK: If you are wondering how to entertain the family over Christmas, fear not – help is at hand in the form of our irresistible, bright and cheerful Quiz Book – perfect for lateral thinkers and a fun way to spend a wet and windy afternoon. It is now available for £2 per book and there is a prize of £100 of gift vouchers for the most complete entry. Perhaps this year someone might even get all the questions right! You can ring Lana Long for a copy on 613311.

GET THE BEERS IN FOR CHRISTMAS: Phil Page (an ex-Harbury lad himself) from Warwick Brewery is offering his best selling Warwick Market Ale (500ml bottles) at £2 per bottle or £20 per case of 12. Phil is kindly donating all profits from the sale of his 'charity' endorsed beer to Harbury Pre-School. (Free delivery in Harbury.) Please ring Lana Long on 613311 if you would like to place an order.

TRIBUTE NIGHT: Just in case you are wondering what to do next spring when all the hubbub of Christmas has subsided, book a baby sitter for the 20th March and get your glad rags ironed as our third tribute night will be taking place ... more details soon.

PERSIL STARS: Having received our craft pack from last years collecting (fortunately, it contained a lot of glitter!) we are once again working with the Toddler Group to collect more stars from Persil boxes. The collection poster is on the wall in the Wight school, so if anyone has tokens they can contribute we will be most grateful.

SCHOOL-LINK BOOK CLUB: Thanks to everyone who has supported our School-Link book club this year. Since we started in March, we have received at least twenty free books for our pre-school library – and our Christmas order was fantastic - thank you everyone!

UNDER 5s DISCO: Don't forget that our annual disco for Harbury's smallest groovy movers is on Saturday 13th December at Harbury Village Club, from 5.00pm to 6.30pm. The entrance cost is £2.50 per child, to be paid on the door, and this includes juice, crisps and a present from Father Christmas. Glow-in-the-dark jewellery and face painting will be available for £1 each. If anyone would like to help

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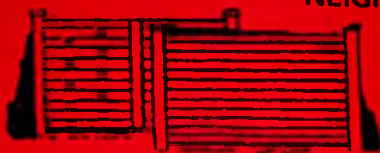
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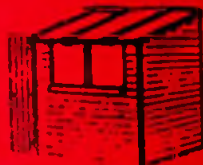
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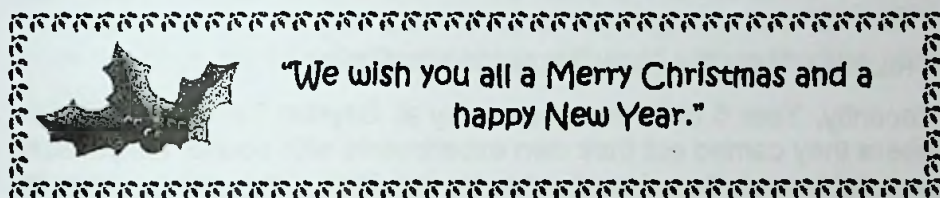
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paint faces, we would love to hear from you. Please note that parents/carers must accompany their children and be responsible for them at this event. Contact Lana Long on 613311, if you would like more details.

AND FINALLY ... USEFUL SKILLS? Last week a parent asked Yvette if she had been teaching the children how to use scissors safely. "Oh yes," replied Yvette proudly, and the parent went on to explain that her daughter had very carefully snipped the tops off all the ice-pops in her freezer!

If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jane Kempton, Chair, on 613786.



Harbury Pre-School Staff & Committee



Harbury Primary School

CALOR GAS IMPROVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

We would like to thank the team from Calor Gas in Leamington Spa, who spent a whole day improving many areas of the school grounds. The grounds now look much more attractive with newly stained outside tables and sheds, proper pathways laid through the nature area adjacent to the top field, and an attractive border added to the no-dig garden. The children from Year 5 have all written letters to the Calor Gas team thanking them very much for their generosity.

CARS AND KIDS DON'T MIX!

A number of parents have started using the school car park when they deliver/collect children from school. Could we please ask parents not to? Parking is very limited at the school, and is constantly in use by members of staff and other visitors to the school. For safety reasons,

please do not park in Back Lane (the road that leads up to the white school gates).

The offenders know who they are, and despite numerous reminders, it is still happening! A busy flow of children and parents cross this road at the beginning and end of school day, and it is dangerous for them to negotiate cars driving in, parking, and turning around. Please stop before an accident happens.

MRS PERCIVAL BECOMES MRS JACKSON!

We would like to congratulate Mrs Percival on her recent marriage to Trevor. Mrs Percival will now be known as Mrs Jackson, which will take some getting used to! We would like to wish both of them every happiness.

CHILDREN VISIT GAYDON TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

Recently, Year 5 children spent a day at Gaydon Technology Centre where they carried out their own experiments with sound, temperature and light, and they learnt how to log their data using computer software systems.

The day was extremely interesting, and the children learnt all kinds of new measurement terminology such as decibel, amplitude and frequency.

TWINKLE TWINKLE

Recently the Space Centre from Leicester visited the school, bringing with them an enormous inflatable Planetarium, which was erected in the school hall. From the outside it looked like an enormous silver domed igloo.

The children crawled in through a tunnel into the dark tent, and once seated were entertained by an informative talk about the planets and stars, using projected lights on the inside of the dome. The shows were put on for the Junior children, and Year 1 were treated to a shortened version on the stars.

"VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION"

Congratulations to the school choir on their performance at the recent judging. As well as making a marvellous impression on the judges, many villagers commented on the excellence of their singing. Well done to all. We understand there will be a feature on the six national finalists, including Harbury, in the Sunday Times on 7th December.

NETBALL

The Junior Netball Club meets every Thursday after school and is run by Mrs Kluth. Netball Club is becoming quite popular with players attending regularly and the standard of play is excellent. The club is joining the Mid Warwickshire Girls League and is looking forward to its first matches next term.

Mrs Kluth would be pleased to hear from any experienced netball players who are prepared to commit themselves every Thursday to help run the Club.

CROSS COUNTRY

Both teams continue to shine in the Central Warwickshire League. With one race left, the girls team is top of the league (out of 22 teams) while the boys are 5th. Congratulations and good luck in the final race in January.

FOOTBALL

Having won the Whitnash area 6-a-side competition, the team played in the Central Warwickshire Finals last month. Playing some wonderful football, the team reached the semi-finals, where they were narrowly beaten 2-1 by the overall winners. This is an outstanding achievement ... well done boys!

RUGBY

Congratulations to the Tag-Rugby team on their victory last month in Leamington Rugby Club's "World Cup" competition. They were excellent ambassadors for the school and worthy winners.

Denis Daly - Headteacher

Harbury Primary School P.T.A.

At the Annual General Meeting in September, Nigel Chapman thanked the committee for all their hard work and support during the last year, and spoke of the many positive comments he had received from visitors to the school on how good the grounds looked, which he felt was largely due to the funding and help given by the PTA and the willing band of helpers. Denis Daly, the new head teacher, commented that he was impressed by the work of the PTA at Harbury, and gave his thanks and congratulations.

A new committee was elected, and its first meeting has taken place with a programme of fundraising events starting to come together. The PTA has asked for a "wish list" from staff members at school, so some of the money raised can be put to good use and benefit the children – the first requests have been for some tracksuits for sports activities, and two large and one small wheelbarrow!

We now have the final total for money raised at the sponsored walk - an amazing £1,737.25 – thank you to everyone who took part; this really is a huge boost to the PTA coffers.

In October, the Victorian Street Fayre raised £161.30 – many thanks to everyone who donated jam jars – we received well over 200!

November 14th saw another fun and successful evening in the school hall in the form of Quiz Night. Twenty-three teams took part, and our congratulations go to winning team 'Say 99' and commiserations to 'Phone A Friend' for walking away with the wooden spoon. Many thanks go to Mark and Linda Casement for all their hard work in preparing the questions and Mark for being quizmaster on the evening.

Our next forthcoming events are the manning of Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Fayre to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 6th December, and a School Disco on Friday 12th December (at which we would love to see all Harbury School pupils).



"We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Harbury School PTA Committee

Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning

The Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 20th December from 10am to 12noon in the Tom Hauley Room. As usual, coffee and food will be free. The raffle this year is in aid of Helen Ley House, which was the UK's first purpose-built nursing home for people with multiple sclerosis. Opened in 1979, the design was the best that current knowledge could provide and it fulfilled a great need, providing

respite-nursing care. There is now a need to upgrade the facilities and to provide larger bedrooms, each with a toilet and shower. In order to do this, it is necessary to build a new wing to accommodate fourteen new rooms. (It is hoped that a representative will be present to explain in more detail, if you so wish.)

I hope that you will support this very necessary cause. Everyone will be welcome.

Saturday Coffee Mornings

It has been brought to my attention that some groups are somewhat concerned that they have not been given a slot on the rota for the calendar year of 2004.

As I explained when I issued to rota, because of the popularity of this event, the rota is now more than 52 weeks, and inevitably this means that some will spill over into the following year.

I try to be as fair as I can, but you can be assured that everyone gets "a fair crack of the whip". As I am sure you will realise, it is a bit of a juggling act and I do the best I can.



"A very happy Christmas to you all."

Joyce Windsor

Senior Citizens Benefit Association

Ticket holders for the Christmas party are reminded that this year there is an earlier start time, and should arrive at 5.00pm for the meal at 5.30pm.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday 13th December.

Sue Exton, Secretary

Harbury Folk Club

There have been many memorable evenings at Harbury Folk Club and November's club will probably rank in the top ten for a long time to come.

The theme was "Youth" and we were fortunate enough to have one of Britain's finest young accordionists as our special guest. Harriet Bartlett plays with finesse and almost unbelievable dexterity as well as a maturity that belies her sixteen years. Not only that, but she is also a fine singer and tells some excellent anecdotes.



"OUR GUEST, HARRIETT BARTLETT,
TOGETHER WITH DANIEL AND SUSIE BONES".

The audience sat spellbound for three quarters of an hour, punctuating each performance with rapturous applause before baying for the obligatory encore. We watched in awestruck amazement as she tackled some complex musical pieces and yet her calm expression showed her to be in complete mastery of her accordion. We can only wait in anticipation to see how her skills develop in the coming years. Her forthcoming CD, produced by Scottish accordion wizard Phil Cunningham, will probably be the 'wish-list' of everyone who heard her play that night.

The evening was not devoid of other talent, far from it. Most other artists applied themselves to the theme through song rather than representing it with their own age!

The Harvesters found a suitable song about young apprentices on an epic canal voyage, Des sang of "The Young Brethren", and Pete and Liz Bones were in "Flash Company". Peter Mc played Phil Cunningham's "Golden Memories" on his concertina with his own piano accompaniment on minidisk. Ron tried to convince us he was a "Female Morris Man" and then Danansooz (Dan and Susie Bones) followed with the lovely "If I Was A Blackbird", which they had also performed on the previous evening at The Bridgehouse Theatre, Warwick, while supporting another great young artist, Eliza Carthy. Bruce, Rebecca and David sang an atmospheric song about a wolf cub, and Rick brought the first half to a close with "Whistle Daughter, Whistle" and "Some Things That The Grown Ups Just Won't Tell Us".

Harriet's spot in the second half meant that the floor singers had a small mountain to climb in the third spot to retain the audience's interest, but they achieved it with customary zeal. The Harvesters went "Dancing With Nancy", Des followed with a favourite seasonal song about Bonfire Night, and Pete Bones returned in solo mode to sing his Trunch Alphabet Song.

Peter Mc sang the plaintive "Rosemary's Sister" by Huw Williams, and was promptly followed Ron with an intriguing song based on an actual Court case "Regina v Collins". Danansooz came up trumps with "The Flower Of Maghrallyo" in which they were accompanied by the virtuoso accordion of Harriet Bartlett. Bruce, Rebecca and David performed a complex three-part French drinking song to perfection, and were followed by John and Jonathan with "I Let Time Go By".

Pete Grassby was next to the front and sang two songs with guitar accompaniment, perhaps deciding that it would be brave of anyone to play a reed instrument after our guest's performance! Finally, John Kemsley and his singing partner Stuart from Yelvertoft closed a packed night with "Forever Young" and "The First Day At School".

Given that we had a professional guest for the evening, the proceeds of the raffle were offered to Harriet for her expenses (having travelled almost 100 miles each way to play for us), who accepted with gratitude.

There will be a Folk Club on Thursday January 1st, when Pete Bones will be at the helm with the theme of "Colours".

Ian Hartland

BONFIRE N



IGHT 2003



Harbury Juniors Football Club

UNDER 16s

October and November has been busy for the under 16s; we started the month with a narrow 1-0 loss to St Peters Celtic Juniors in the League Cup. This put us into the Supplementary Cup where we were drawn against Rugby Admirals at home. We played this game on the 2nd November and finished convincing winners 5-0. Goals from Matt Cowley, Mark Reilly, Neil Hudson and two for Sam Wilkins. We have also lost 2 and won 2 further league games, so we are currently holding a mid table position in the league.

We would also like to welcome David Bailey back into the Squad; David played for us last season and has now rejoined to great effect in midfield. He got his goal scoring off to a fine start at Lillington with 2 great strikes, the first of which Steven Gerrard would have been very pleased with.

John Wilkins

UNDER 14s HARBURY HAWKS

During November, Harbury Hawks have registered their first points of the season with two well-deserved draws against Harbury Juniors (2-2) and St Peters Celtic (2-2). The Hawks have also played, top of the table, Bilton Ajax at home which ended in defeat.

Keith Edwards

UNDER 14s HARBURY JUNIORS

The Under 14s Harbury Juniors continue to have a mixed season. The first game in November saw an early exit from the League Cup when we lost 5-2 away to Alcester Athletic in the torrential rain. Stuart Pratt and Steven Boss were the goal scorers. We are now in the Supplementary Cup and play Hillmorton at home on 7th December. The next game against Harbury Hawks was a closely fought match which saw both sides taking the lead but eventually ending in a 2-2 draw with goals from Stuart Pratt and Mathew Greenway. The recent away game at Central Ajax was a close match that resulted in a 2-1 defeat despite a spirited performance by the whole team. Travis Currell was the Harbury goal scorer.

Mick Pratt

UNDER 11s

The Under 11s continued their positive start to the season, and after five games remain undefeated. Following a 4-2 win at home to Byfield Tigers and a 2-2 away draw at Fenny Colts, the most recent fixture saw the boys beat the current league leaders Kineton 3-0. In driving rain, the whole team produced a truly gritty and disciplined performance and 3 excellent goals from Jordan King, Chris Wall and Teddy Zawaoda gave us maximum points.

Jim Farrell

UNDER 9s

The Under 9s commenced their first ever League campaign in October against local teams in the Three Counties League. Many of the opposition teams have been playing competitive matches for a year longer than Harbury and, as a result, it has been a rapid learning experience. The Harbury boys have responded to the challenge with determination, and our last 2 games have been great entertainment for all supporters.

The team play 7-a-side games and has a core backbone of 5 players who are included in each 11 strong squad, with the rest of the 20 strong squad rotated to ensure all players, irrelevant of ability, have the opportunity to participate in competitive games.

Harbury 0-4 Queensway. A very physically strong Queensway side proved a tough test for Harbury's first ever league match. Matthew Van Kesteren was outstanding in defence.

Fenny 3-0 Harbury. An excellent first half showed how much Harbury had learnt from their first match. Skill, determination and effort were all in evidence. Harbury then gifted Fenny 2 goals through basic errors and the score line did not reflect the improved Harbury performance.

Tysoe 1-5 Harbury. In atrocious conditions, Harbury dominated the game from start to finish. The decision to switch Adam Miles to a more forward position reaped dividends as he bagged 4 goals. An all-round excellent performance which sent home the freezing cold, wet supporters with a smile on their faces and the boys experiencing the joy of winning!

Harbury 4-1 Kineton. Adam Miles again proved what a hot shot he is with another 3 goals added to his tally. Ashley Dickson was man of

the match with a very strong, energetic and skilful performance crowned with a cracking goal.

Can Harbury maintain their improving performances against Napton?
– A win could move Harbury to second place in the league table.

YEAR 2 - SATURDAY MORNING FOOTBALL

From the first Saturday following the return to school in January 2004, the club would like to establish an additional team for the School Year 2 age group (boys and girls), with a view to hopefully playing small-sided competitive soccer from the start of the next school year (assuming there is enough interest). Coaching sessions will be held during term time only from 10.30am until 12.00noon each Saturday (commencing Saturday 10th January 2004) at the school playing field, and will be run by Steve Darby and Neil Murray. Just turn up on the day for initial registration!!

Currently, the annual registration fee for a full seasons coaching is £20.00, however, as we will be almost at the halfway stage of the season, the registration fee will be £10 per child. (Cheques payable to Harbury Junior Football Club.)

If you plan to send your child along, would you please ensure your child wears football boots, shin pads, has appropriate clothing for the weather conditions, and we recommend they bring a non-fizzy drink. No jewellery should be worn (including ear studs) and chewing gum is forbidden. We are certain you will appreciate that football is a contact sport, and we endeavour to prevent 'accidents' at all times.

In the event of adverse weather conditions, Steve will contact the school to advise of any training session cancellation. For further details call Steve Darby on 613330.

Steve Darby

Harbury Tennis Club

First of all, many thanks to everyone who came to the Craft Fair. We had more stallholders than in previous years, and it seemed to be busy all day, which was a nice way to end our association with the event.

The "A" Team faced last year's Banbury league champions Byfield "A" and reached the halfway point all-square. Carol Best and Kate Young

did well to win the ladies' rubber, but the visiting men proved too strong for Andrew Rendell and Geoff Prince. Harbury battled well in the mixed doubles but lost both giving Byfield a 3-1 win. They returned to winning ways with a 3-1 away win over Warwick "A". Geoff and Andrew took the first set 6-1, but narrowly lost the second 7-5 to halve the match. Gill Thorpe and Carol Best were in fine form winning both sets and putting Harbury in the driving seat. In the mixed doubles, Gill and Andrew won a marathon first set on a tiebreak and clinched the match when they won the second set. Carol and Geoff halved their match.

The "B" Team were in action at home against Nether Heyford "B". Keith Thompson and Colin Mercer won the first set but let a 5-3 lead in the second set slip and had to be satisfied with halving the match. Caroline Morland and Sue Mercer lost a close match against a very consistent Nether Heyford pair. In the mixed doubles, Caroline and Colin halved their match, with Sue and Keith narrowly losing the first but falling away in the second. This meant Nether Heyford was able to go home with a 3-1 win.

Colin Mercer

Corporate Support For Best Village

Did you know that Harbury is now officially the best village in Central England? This is a great accolade, as well as a source of pride, to the whole community. It could also be a valuable source of income.

The Parish Council would like to take advantage of this short-term opportunity and attract corporate support from companies who would like to be associated with winning quality "brand" of Harbury.

To achieve that we need support, help and advice from media, public relations and marketing professionals. If you have such experience or expertise and would like to help please contact Parish Councillor Dutch Van Spall on 614640.

We need to act quickly to make the most of all the hard work that has already been put into making Harbury a success story. Thank you!

Nicola Thompson

Village Of The Year Competition

December 9th is the BIG day, when we will know how high in the competition we have reached, we are among the last six villages. The displays put on by many of the village organisations on the two occasions the judges visited the Village Hall were a great tribute to our community life here in Harbury. We on the Parish Council were very proud to take the judges round, albeit in a rather rushed fashion - we had no control over them. Although we tried to be fair, I am afraid those at the start got a better chat than those at the end, on both occasions. The judges were certainly very taken with the Morris Dancers outside the hall, and our primary school choir children, who sang magnificently and really did make the judges feel "at home". If we win anything further, it will all be down to those of you who gave your time and effort to show off what Harbury is as a village community. A big thank you to you all. For those of you who are keen to know the opposition, there will be an article in the Sunday Times on 7th December.

I was asked at the session on 18th November what I thought the village had gained from the whole event; all I can say is that it gave those who came to visit the displays, and those who took part, a greater insight into what makes a good village like ours 'tick'. It also makes us reflect and appreciate each other's efforts, and maybe encourages those on the fringe to become a more integral part of our village and community, and to lead a more fulfilled life.

Jenny Patrick

Did You Hear The Bells?

Those of you who were 'out and about' on the evening of Monday 17th November (coming to Alpha or setting up in the village hall) may well have heard the sound of our church bells being rung.

Simon Rogers from Warwick brought a band of ringers from around Warwickshire to ring a peal (which involves ringing over 5000 changes and takes about 3 hours).

It is customary to dedicate a peal to an event, occasion or person. When Simon heard that we had reached the final of the Village of the Year competition, and that at the same time as they were ringing many people in the village were busy preparing our entry, he decided to dedicate the peal to us, so:

**ON MONDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2003
 IN 2 HOURS AND 47 MINUTES
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS'
 HARBURY, WARWICKSHIRE
 A PEAL OF 5040 DAIN'S ALLIANCE MAJOR
 CONDUCTED BY SIMON P ROGERS
 WAS RUNG TO CONGRATULATE HARBURY
 ON REACHING THE FINALS OF THE
 CALOR VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION.**

Allison Abbott, Tower Secretary

Pino Iacarusso

Former Royal chef and long-time Harbury resident, Pino Iacarusso has more reason than usual to be celebrating Christmas this year.

Six months ago, Pino published his first book 'Flavours of Rosello', a delightfully nostalgic and highly evocative recollection of a calendar year in the life of the little Italian village where he grew up in the fifties and sixties.

The book has proved to be a runaway success, selling like hot cakes to friends, customers and people who visit the charity fairs where Pino and his wife Caroline sell the mouth-watering foodstuffs that they produce in the kitchens of their home in Penelope Close and from where they run their business Take Two Cooks.

During a long and colourful career as a chef, Pino has cooked for several members of the Royal Family, including the Queen, the late Princess Margaret, and Prince and Princess Michael of Kent. (It was Princess Michael, who has written an introduction to the book and who is one of Pino's favourite Royals, who was one of the first people to receive a copy of his book.)

Pino began writing the book, which contains some of his delightful watercolour paintings as well as dozens of delicious recipes from his childhood in the Abruzzo region of Italy, over 12 years ago.

Progress came to a halt when he was diagnosed with mouth cancer in 1995; he had major surgery the following year. As a mark of his gratitude to consultant cancer specialist Mr. John Watkinson of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham and the team of doctors and surgeons who helped to save his life, he will be donating part of the proceeds from the sale of 'Flavours of Rosello' to the 'Get A-Head' charity appeal for head and neck diseases, including cancer.

Pino and Caroline are inviting anybody who would like to buy a personally signed copy of the book (which costs £10), to call in at 8 Penelope Close and, at the same time, enjoy one of their delicious mince pies. Please ring first on 612417.

Jill Cable

Guide And Scout Support (GASS)

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What a great Bonfire Night we had on 1st November, with good weather, lots of people and a great display! Thank you to all those who came, and particularly for buying your tickets in advance (it made our food buying and preparation much easier). Our partners in Harbury Church were as helpful and supportive as always. We were grateful to the many helpers who collected firewood

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Call 01926 811272 for an appointment to suit - daytimes, evenings, Saturdays, or home visits

Podiatrists can also provide a wide range of podiatric treatments e.g. nail surgery, pedicures, corns, calluses, nailbed pain, nail fungus, sports injuries, ankle sprains, etc. or refer you to a specialist if required.

Also introducing **Health First Foot Care Products** - a mail-order service delivering high quality, cost-effective items to your door.

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We also offer a private Physiotherapy Service provided by Paul Nicholls (see web) - specialises in back and knee problems.

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during the day; bought, cooked and served food; put on the firework display; acted as first aiders and gate keepers; sold tickets, etc.

Please note the first collection of the GASS Christmas Post is on Saturday 6th December. Thank you to Mugleston's who are accepting post from 1st December in exchange for your donations. Delivery times are not guaranteed (but are usually within one week of posting), as we rely on parents, friends and members of the scouting groups giving up their evenings and weekends to sort and deliver the cards.



"Happy Christmas All."

Alan Guy, Chair GASS

Trading Standards Advice - Knowing Your Rights When Buying Goods

Most people have bought things and when they have got them home changed their minds for one reason or another.

Many shops these days will let you have your money back if you wish to return something you have bought, even though there is nothing wrong with it. But what are you entitled to in law?

The law only requires a shop to take goods back and refund your money if the item is faulty or incorrectly described, or it does not do what it is supposed to do.

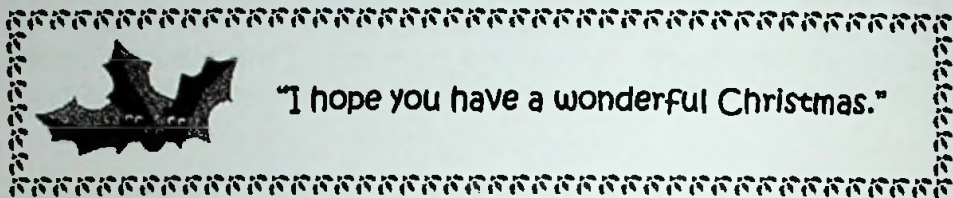
However, choose carefully, because if you have made the wrong choice, then they do not have to do anything, not even offer a credit note or exchange.

For more advice on shopping problems contact Trading Standards Advice Line, Old Budbrooke Road, Warwick CV35 7DP, telephone 01926 414000 or email ts-advice@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Pat Whorton, Trading Standards

Musings From A Country Garden

Sorry there is no article for December, I got 'real' flu after I had a flu jab, so I have spent more than half of November in bed, but I hope to 'observe' and 'muse' in time for the January article.



Elsa Greenway



Horticultural Society

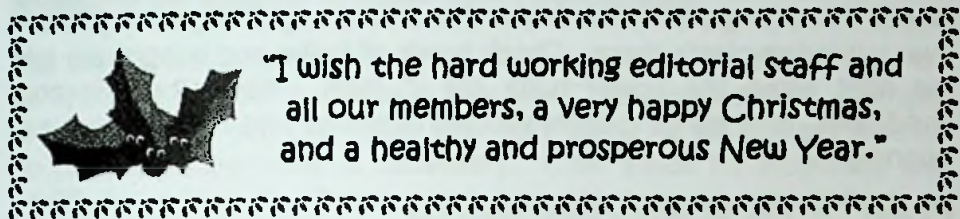
Our last talk? Mr Brian Cook took us through the rudimentary steps of pruning. Thank you Brian, it was a memorable evening, we all learned something, and it lived up to all expectations. During his talk, Brian stressed the point that many plants can be pruned in a similar way. Always prune to an outward facing bud, being careful not to damage it, especially if the buds are long. However, if in any doubt, reduce the plant to only one third and repeat the process for the two following years. Needless to say, the evening was very enjoyable, more people joined the society, some familiar and some new, all very welcome.

The Annual General Meeting was quickly dealt with; the present committee staying the same but only for another year – they are as follows: Mrs Judy Morrall (chair), Mr John Clifford (treasurer), Mrs Daphne Clifford (secretary), Mrs Janice Siddle (show secretary), Mr Alan Barr, Mrs Heather Turner, Mrs Pat Smith, Mr Ron Grey and Mrs Muriel Grey.

The seed and plant orders have been despatched by Heather Turner, and we hope they will soon be ready for distribution.

Remembers to keep an eye on the notice board for garden centres, etc, who offer discounts on production of your 2003/04 Membership Card before the sale is rung up on the till. If by any chance you have not yet paid your subscription (£3 each), I am sure the treasurer will be pleased to see you! Please also bear in mind other local nurseries, etc, who, although they do not offer discounts, have keen prices and friendly knowledgeable service.

Mr Nex will give the first talk of the New Year which will take place on Tuesday 6th January entitled "The Strange And Wonderful World Of Plants".



Muriel Grey

Gardening Notes For December

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of the year, and what an exceptional one it has been, from the weather aspect and for gardeners. Summer flowers are still blooming along side winter jasmine and cyclamens as I write. It is now time to tidy up for winter, and then a period of relative inactivity in the garden through the next two or three months. Severe weather is rare in December so we hope there will be some days to get all the jobs out of the way.

Remove any dead or untidy growth from trees and shrubs, and any branches that may rub in the wind, as this gives a site where disease can enter. Roses should be planted now, and prune established bushes, cutting them back by about a third. Prune apple and pear trees and give them a winter wash to kill moss and over-wintering pests. Feed and mulch currant bushes and inspect blackcurrants for big bud. Cut out branches bearing these swollen buds and destroy them. Give a general tidy up to the borders ready for the bulbs to make their appearance.

In dry weather rake up leaves from lawns and paths. Compost them in a separate pile or in bags as they take at least a year to rot. The resulting leaf mould will be worth waiting for as an excellent organic addition to both flower and vegetable beds. Do think of growing a few vegetables next year, to feed the family with the organic crops so many people now seek. A small space in a border or a few pots will yield quite a worthwhile amount. Yes, it will entail some work but the pleasure of producing food for oneself is great, far better than trudging round shops. From July about eighty garden chemicals were withdrawn from the shops, and from the end of this month it will be

illegal to use any you may have in the garden shed.

Check outdoor taps for leaks and lag pipes before we get frost. Take all pots to sheltered positions and lag those containing less hardy plants. Check greenhouse heaters and seal any draughts if you are over wintering plants there. Check bowls of bulbs and bring them into the light when the flower buds are 2" high. Keep them in cool conditions, only bringing them into warm rooms when the flowers are opening.

PLANT OF THE MONTH - SARCOCOCCA

The easier name for this evergreen small shrub is Christmas Box or Sweet Box, which make it sound far more attractive. Although it has glossy foliage and grows into neat dark green mounds, it is



often unnoticed until winter; then the tiny flowers open giving out such a sweet fragrance, you stop to search for the source of the lovely honey scent - go to Warwick Castle gardens on a mild, moist day to experience it.

This shrub arrived here in the 19th century from their native China, and possibly found by the plant hunter Joseph Hooker, as a specie bears his name. These shrubs will fit into any garden, will do well in almost any soil, and are good in shade, even in dry, rooty places under trees. *Sarcococca hookeriana* will eventually reach 5ft x 6ft; *Sarcococca humilis* forms dense little shiny hummocks of about 1ft. A few other varieties are raised, all bearing small fragrant white flowers followed by black or red berries. Their awkward name comes from the Greek 'sarkos' meaning flesh and 'kokkos' meaning berry, but it is for their wonderful winter fragrance that I grow them.

Pat Smith

Take Time Out At Ufton

MAKE A CHRISTMAS WREATH

Wednesday 3rd December, 10.00am-1.30pm, Ufton Village Hall.

We will be welcoming back Chris Goldsmith from Southam, who will be showing us how to create a beautiful Christmas wreath. No need to buy one now you can make your very own! As with all our events, no previous experience is necessary. Cost: £5.50 for workshop and £4.00 for materials (these costs are approximate, dependant on numbers attending and the price of materials, which are known nearer the time). Contact Tracey Watts on 614413 for full details.

CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA – CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday 21st December, 4.00pm.

Sarah Warlow from Stone Cottages has agreed to conduct our choir, and both she and her husband Gwyn will rehearse and conduct our mini orchestra. So come and join the fun! There will be rehearsals on Saturday 13th and Saturday 20th December from 10.45am to 11.45am for orchestra, and 12.00noon to 1.00pm for choir. Singers need no previous experience! Telephone Sara Bennett on 612595 to put your name down.

Karin Kirk

Do you need help with any of the following? Harbury Help Line is for you!

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT:

Call Charles Catt on 612864, or John Travis on 613264.

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COUNCIL TAX FORMS, POST OFFICE PENSION PAYMENTS:

Call David Cooke on 614692.

FOR UNIVERSITY/JOB APPLICATIONS, INTERVIEWS, CVs:

Call Philip Bushill-Matthews on 612476.

HOME VISITING:

Call Sue Dormer on 613254 if you would like someone to call on you or you are caring for a sick or elderly relative and need a break for a few hours.

HOUSEHOLD BUDGETING ADVICE:

Call Tony Brunton on 612191.

HOSPITAL VISITING:

Call Fr. Roy Brown on 612377 or Keith Dormer on 613254 if you are unable to visit a parent or relative, or parents would like support with a child in hospital.

New Year Courses

EVENING COURSES AT SOUTHAM COLLEGE

(All courses are for 10 weeks, starting at 7.30pm and finish at 9.30pm unless shown differently)

MONDAY 12TH JANUARY:

Learn To Play The Guitar
 Lip-Reading
 Art Classes (including acrylic, oil and water colours painting)
 Wood Turning For The Beginner
 Spanish Language
 Cake Icing And Sugar Paste Flowers
 Computing Plus (for the more experienced user)
 Upholstery
 French Language (8-week course)
 Understanding And Using Aromatherapy
 Tai Chi For All

TUESDAY 13TH JANUARY:

Cake Icing And Sugar Paste Flowers
 Introducing AS Psychology Term 2
 Basic Computing For All Who Are Frightened
 Upholstery
 Salsa Dance (Beginners Course) 7.00pm-8.00pm
 Salsa Dance (Second Term) 8.00pm-9.00pm
 Flower Arranging Techniques - Floristry For All
 Understanding And Using Aromatherapy And Essential Oils

WEDNESDAY 14TH JANUARY:

Begin Computing
 Cake Icing And Sugar Paste Flowers
 Italian Conversation (Term 2)
 Creating Sacred Spaces With Angels (mediation/oils/essences/colour by a Reiki Master)
 Pillow Lace Making (Bobbin Lace)
 Using A Digital Camera And How To Use The Software (Beginners)
 Flower Preparations For Spring and Easter
 Wood Turning For The Beginner
 Calligraphy
 Keep Fit For Men

THURSDAY 15TH JANUARY:

Cake Icing And Sugar Paste Flowers
 Italian Starting Conversation
 Watercolour Painting
 Understanding And Using Aromatherapy
 Computing For Beginners
 Badminton For All 7.30pm - 8.30pm

DAYTIME COURSES AT SOUTHAM COLLEGE (in the Community Lounge)

Tuesday	Beginners Computing to New Clait (5 week course)	10.00am-12.00pm
Tuesday	Healing, crystals and meditation	1.00pm-3.00pm
Monday	Spanish Language	1.00pm- 3.00pm
Wednesday	Keep Fit To Music	9.30am-10.30am
Wednesday	Water Colour Painting	1.00pm-3.00pm
Thursday	Yoga For Relaxation	10.00am-12.00pm
Thursday	Water Colour Painting	1.00pm-3.00pm
Friday	Flower Preparations for Spring and Easter	10.00am-2.00pm
Friday	Water Colour Painting	1.00pm-3.00pm

New Italian course starting in February at Southam College**DAYTIME COURSES AT SOUTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Monday	Beginners computing	1.00pm-3.00pm
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DAYTIME COURSES AT HARBURY LIBRARY

Thursday	Computing Workshops	10.00am-11.00am
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EVENING COURSES AT HARBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monday	Beginners computing	7.30pm-9.30pm
Thursday	Keep Fit To Music	7.00pm-8.00pm

EVENING COURSES AT THE TOM HAULEY ROOM, HARBURY

Wednesday	Yoga	7.30pm-9.30pm
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COURSES AT OFFCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday	Upholstery And Soft Furnishing	9.30am-11.30am
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COURSES AT LONG ITCHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday	Computer Keyboard Skills	1.00pm-3.00pm
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COURSES AT STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday	Upholstery And Soft Furnishing	1.00pm-3.00pm
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COURSES AT STOCKTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tuesday	Basic Computing	7.30pm-9.30pm
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COURSES AT ST LAWRENCE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, NAPTON

Tuesday	Yoga	7.30pm-9.00pm
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COURSES AT BISHOPS ITCHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tues/Thurs	Basic Computing starting 20/01/04 (5 weeks)	7.30pm-9.30pm
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COURSES AT DUNCHURCH LIBRARY

Tuesday	Computing Workshop	9.30am-10.30am
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Most courses enrol and commence week beginning 12th January 2004.

The centre will be closed for Spring Half Term Holiday week for all centres beginning on Monday 16th February 2004 and finishing term around week beginning 22nd March.

The daytime Southam College site will be closed for the science week exhibition the week beginning 22nd March 2004.

The term will finish around the week beginning 29th March 2004.

The summer term will begin Monday 26th April 2004, half term beginning on Monday 31st May 2004.

The term will finish around week beginning 28th June 2004

Most evening Courses start at 7.30 and finish at 9.30pm although these times may change.

Fees are based on a charge of £24 50 for a 5-week course of 10 hours with 2 sessions of 5 weeks.

Where a course has fewer students, they will be given the option to continue but at a higher rate to cover the cost of tuition.

Cheques should be made payable to Southam College, and credit card enrolments are also available.

If you feel that you should be entitled to a discount please apply to Gerry Young by Telephone 01926 810942 or 01926 812560, or through the Internet at gdyoung1@aol.com. Gerry is a fulltime teacher so please leave a message on the answering service.

Those reserving places on computer courses are advised to book themselves into the classes before they arrive to save any disappointments.

These details may be change due to circumstances beyond our control.



*new hobby?
new skill?
new me?*



Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

Connie Washbrooke

I would like to say thank you to all my relatives, friends and neighbours for their love and support during the very sad loss of my mother.

Thank you for the beautiful flowers and donations made to the British Heart Foundation.

Many thanks also to Father Roy Brown for a lovely and moving service.

God bless you all.

Anita Stynes (nee Washbrooke)

Dear Editors

On the 15th November, we held a coffee morning for the County Air Ambulance Appeal. With the wonderful support we received for this very worthwhile cause, we were able to send a cheque for £260.

Many thanks to you all; with special thanks to Helen, Joyce and Wendy whose help was greatly appreciated.

Pat & Sylvia

Dear Editors

Poppy Day Appeal

I would like to thank the very generous people of Ladbroke for donating to this appeal the excellent amount of £134.17. I would particularly like to thank my helpers - Marian, Teresa, Gemma and Francis for their hard work in collecting this amount.

Gwynne Badman

Dear Editors

On behalf of the Christian Hospital Quetta, I wish to thank Mrs Alice Wilkins for her ongoing support for the Women's Clinics; by selling apfelstrudel, she has raised £40 this year.

Mrs Wilkins has also raised £80 toward a project for street children in Cambodia.

Yours sincerely,

Marian Millington

Dear Editors

We would like to thank everyone involved in the organising and running of the recent Alpha Course at Harbury Church.

The course was both enjoyable and thought provoking, due in a large part to the excellence of the speakers. We particularly valued the opportunity to freely discuss many of the issues raised throughout the course.

Congratulations to the catering team for producing such satisfying fare to start each evening. Thank you to the organisers and leaders for making the whole course run so smoothly, and finally, a thank you to everyone in our discussion group for all your help and consideration.

Alan & Betty Barr

Dear Editors

We would like to send best wishes for Christmas to all the new friends we have made since coming to Harbury.

Instead of Christmas cards, we shall be sending a donation to Leamington Christian Mission for their work with homeless and disadvantaged people.

Michael & Gillian Hare

Dear Editors

There must be many people, like me, who are dismayed at the continuously spiralling level of our Council Tax. You will recall this year's massive 58% increase from Stratford District Council, which they attempted to mask by including the Parish Rate and then calling it

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38%. When added to the increases in the two previous years, we have all incurred a 79% increase since the turn of the millennium; and this only from Stratford District Council - also very large cash increases have been imposed by the County Council, in addition to a 38% increase in the Police Authority Precept.

For those of us living modestly on fixed incomes, the strain is now beginning to tell. When council tax becomes greater than all other fixed costs put together, ie, telephone, gas, electricity and water, there has to be something wrong. Yet, council tax is a monopoly, and you cannot "take your business elsewhere".

All indications are that rises of this magnitude are not about to stop. So what is to be done, and who is at fault? Is it our inefficient local authorities, or is it central government short changing them? Whomever you speak to there is a different reply.

Well, now there is an opportunity to find out, and make your voice heard. After considerable pressure from many people in the District, Stratford Council have belatedly called a Public Meeting at The Grange in Southam on Thursday 11th December to "test the water" on the level of council tax next year. Don't let this rare opportunity to interrogate your councillors and officers pass you by.

It's good news that these meetings are taking place, but disappointing that Warwickshire County Council and the Police Authority choose to call their own separate meetings. I think it is called 'Divide and rule - what price joined up government'?

Anyone who would like further information can call me on 612908 or email johnwoodward38@freeuk.com.

John Woodward

PLEASE NOTE:

ADVERTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END BY 15TH DECEMBER 2003

ARTICLES TO HARBURY CHEMIST BY 2ND JANUARY 2004

BOOKINGS FOR:

Scout Hut	Lesley Van Kesteren	613411
Tom Hauley Room	Liz Bunting	612450
Tom Hauley Room Coffee Morning	Mrs J. Windsor	612504
Village Hall	Wendy Hawkes	613198
Wight School	Mrs L. Hayes	613488

Regular Diary Dates

ART TUTORIALS: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Thursday of the month.

BABY CLINIC: Surgery, 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 2.00pm-4.00pm.

BADMINTON: Village Hall, (613174) Monday morning 10.00am-12.00noon;
 (612627) Monday (Seniors) 7.00pm-9.00pm;
 (613413) Tuesday (Club) 8.00pm-10.00pm (not in summer);
 (612029) Friday (Juniors) 2.00pm-3.00pm;
 (613340) Sunday 7.00pm-10.00pm (not in summer).

BELL RINGING PRACTICE: (613605) Church, Friday 7.30pm.

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: (613207) various homes, 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month 2.00pm-3.30pm;
 (612864) various homes, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 10.30am-12.00noon.

BOOKWORMS: (614793) Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Tuesday of the month 7.30pm.

BROWNIES: Scout Hut, Monday 6.15pm-7.30pm.

CHILDRENS DANCE CLASSES: (01789-842242) Farley Room, Wednesday 4.00pm-8.00pm.

CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Friday 6.30pm.

COFFEE MORNING: Tom Hauley Room, Saturday 10.00am-12.00noon.

CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesday 6.30pm-8.00pm.

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

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, Monday 6.00pm-7.00pm.

HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Shakespeare Inn, 1st Thursday of the month 8.30pm.

HARBURY FRIENDS: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Tuesday of the month 8.00pm.

HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB TRAINING:

Under 9s: Coach: Steve Darby (613330), Saturday at Harbury School Pitch 9.00am.

Under 11s: Coach: Jim Farrell (612396), Saturday at Harbury School Pitch 9.00am.

Under 14s: Coach: Mick Pratt (817700), Saturday at Playing Fields 9.30am.

Under 16s: Coach: John Wilkins (612115), Saturday at Playing Fields (top pitch) 10.30am.

HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL: Harbury School, Monday-Friday 9.00am-12.00noon; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 12.45pm-3.15pm.

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: (613786) Wight School, Tuesday-Friday 9.00am-1.00pm.

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP: (612009) Shakespeare Inn, last Tuesday of the month 8.00pm.

HARBURY TODDLER GROUP: (613311) Wight School,

Monday 10.00am-11.30am and Wednesday 1.30pm-3.00pm.

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 612498.

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: (613730) School Hall, Wednesday 8.00pm-10.00pm.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Tuesday of the month (Oct-May) 8.00pm

KICK START APPALACHIAN STEP DANCERS: (612734) Scout Hut, Saturday 10.00am-12.00noon

LIBRARY: (613297) Monday 2.00pm-5.00pm and 5.30pm-7.00pm; Thursday 10.00am-1.00pm; 2.00pm-5.00pm and 5.30pm-7.00pm.

NETBALL CLUB: (613239) Village Hall Car Park, Training Thursday 6.30pm;
Matches Saturday Afternoon.

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursday 7.00pm.

PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP: (614274) Shakespeare Inn, 2nd Thursday of the month 8.00pm.

TENNIS CLUB: April to September:

Adults (614532), Tuesday and Thursday 6.30pm onwards (6.00pm for April and September);
Wednesday 2.15pm onwards; Saturday 3.00pm-5.00pm.

Under 16s (613284), Sunday 10.00am-12.00pm, Wednesday 6.00pm-8.00pm,
Thursday 4.15pm-6.00pm.

Non-Members may book courts at £2 per hour at Country Fayre on Chapel Street.

THURSDAY CLUB: (612273) Farley Room, 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month 2.30pm.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Thursday of the month 7.45pm.

YOGA: Dianne Surgey (817904) Tom Hauley Room, Wednesday 7.30pm-9.30pm.

YOUTH CLUB: (612688) Village Hall, Thursday 7.00pm-9.00pm.

DATES FOR INCLUSION IN THE HARBURY DIARY PLEASE TO:

LINDA RIDGLEY - TELEPHONE 612792



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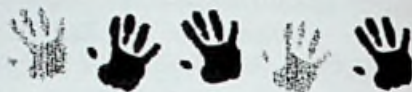
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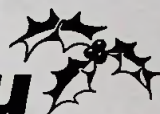
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