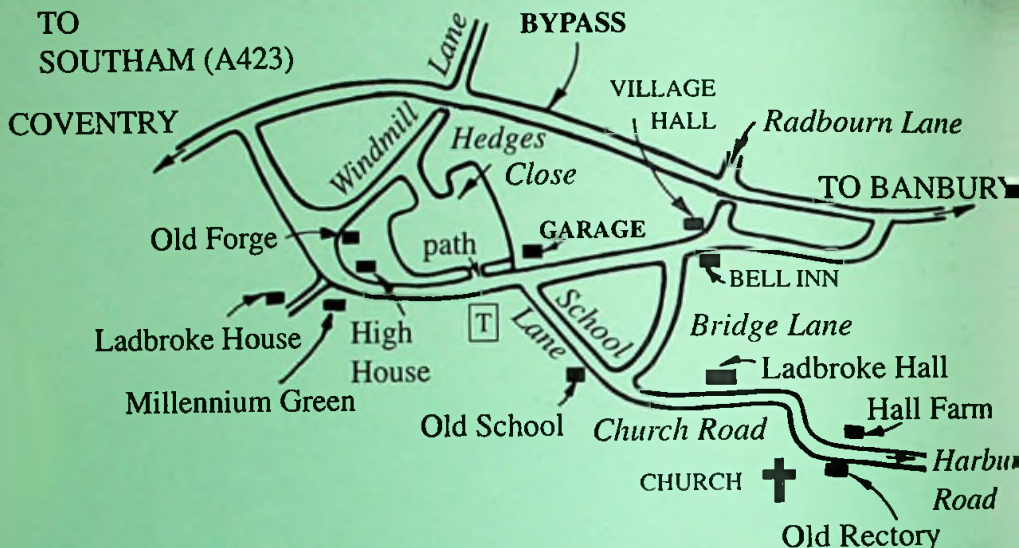




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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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 2003

No. 348

Two long-term projects to improve Harbury's Village Hall and playing fields came to fruition last month. After at least two years of hard work fund raising (lead by Janet Thornley), the skate board park is now in full use. The ramps almost take on the appearance of a sculpture park!

Following collaboration between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee, the new gates have been installed. They will provide added safety to all those who use the facilities.



Brian Ingram, Chairman of the Village Committee, testing the new gates.

Following the article *It Cannot Happen Here!* in last month's magazine, a letter was sent to the Warwickshire Police force. Their advice on the procedure to follow, if spotting 'strangers', is to ring the Police who will meet them and contact the immigration services (see article).



Edward Easton, Jacob Tanner, Yvonne Easton and Annabel Easton

Finally we extend our sympathies to the families of Ida Scurry and Rose Gulliver.

Harbury Diary

March

- | | | |
|------|---|---|
| Sun | 2 | NEXT BEFORE LENT - Sung Eucharist, 9am; Evening Worship 6pm
LEAGUE CUP FINAL |
| Tues | 4 | Bible Study at Manor Stable, Park Lane 2-3.30pm
Holy Communion 7.30pm
Horticultural Society, 8pm in Tom Hauley Room |
| Wed | 5 | ASH WEDNESDAY
Communion with Hymns, Address and Imposition of Ashes 2pm
Mothers' Union 2.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Holy Communion, Address and Imposition of Ashes 7.30pm
'Talk it Through', 33, South Parade 8pm
Aerobics Class in Village Hall 8.15 to 9.15pm (Angela 810127) |

- Thurs 6 Holy Communion 9.45am
Storytelling in the Library 10am
Youth Club in Village Hall 7-9pm
Men's Society *Travels to Afghanistan*, in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
Folk Club in The Dog Inn 8.30pm
- Fri 7 RECYCLING COLLECTION
Holy Communion 12 noon
Lent Lunch 12.30pm
- Sat 8 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Meningitis Research
BEATLES TRIBUTE NIGHT
- Sun 9 LENT I - Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Twinning Quiz at Club 7.30pm
- Tues 11 Bible Study 10.30am at 16 Dovehouse Lane
Holy Communion 7.30pm
Village Hall Committee in Village Hall 8pm
- Wed 12 Aerobics Class in Village Hall 8.15-9.15pm
Best Kept Village Competition meeting in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm
Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
- Thurs 13 Holy Communion 9.45pm
Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
Youth Club in Village Hall 7-9pm
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 14 Holy Communion 12 noon
Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 15 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30pm
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church Flowers
Tennis Club Jumble Sale in Village Hall 10-11.30am
ADVERTS to 31, Binswood End by 5.30pm
- Sun 16 LENT II - Family Communion 10.30am; Evensong 6pm
- Mon 17 Harbury Society AGM in Tom Hauley Room 7.30 for 8pm
- Tues 18 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Bookworms in Tom Hauley Room (West Room) 7.30pm
Senior Citizens' Committee in Village Hall 8pm
- Wed 19 Tea in the Tom Hauley Room 3-4pm
Lent Course 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Aerobics Class in Village Hall 8.15-9.15pm
- Thurs 20 Holy Communion 9.45am
Youth Club in Village Hall 7-9pm
- Fri 21 RECYCLING COLLECTION
Holy Communion 12 noon
Lent lunch 12.30pm
- Sat 22 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of PTA Funds
- Sun 23 LENT III - Holy Communion 8am
Family Communion 10.30am

- Tues 25 Bible Study 10.30am at 6 Manor Orchard
Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary
Holy Communion 7.30pm; Julian Meeting 8pm
- Wed 26 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30-4.30pm at 19 Farm St
Lent Course 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
Aerobics Class in Village Hall 8.15-9.15pm
- Thurs 27 Holy Communion 9.45am
Thursday Club 2.30pm
Parish Council 7.30pm at School
PLAY IN VILLAGE HALL
- Fri 28 Holy Communion 12 noon
Lent Lunch 12.30pm
PLAY IN VILLAGE HALL
ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist, High Street by 5.30pm
- Sat 29 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Pre-School
PLAY IN VILLAGE HALL
Southam Twinning Association present *Karousels in Concert* in the
Congregational Church, Southam at 7.30pm. Admission £5 to include a
glass of wine and "nibbles". Tickets available from Bill on 813873, Stan on
813637 or on the door.
- Sun 30 **MOTHERING SUNDAY** - Holy Communion 8am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am;

APRIL

- Tues 1 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Horticultural Society 8pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 2 Holy Communion 2pm
Mothers' Union 2.30pm
Lent Course 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 3 Holy Communion 9.45am
Storytelling in Library 10am
Youth Club in Village Hall 7-9pm
Folk Club at Shakespeare Inn 8.30pm
- Fri 4 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
Holy Communion 12 noon
Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 5 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Brownies
- Sun 6 **LENT V** - Sung Eucharist 9am; Evening Worship 6pm

All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

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

From the Rector

While in Dorset for a break after Christmas, I came across the following anonymous contribution in a church magazine.

I offer it to you with tongue in cheek. It was headed *The No Excuse Sunday*.

To make it possible for everyone to attend church next week we are planning to have:

1. Beds for those who say Sunday is their only day for sleeping in;
2. Eye drops for those whose eyes are tired from watching too much television the night before;
3. Steel helmets for those who say the roof will fall in if they go to church;
4. Blankets for those who say the building is too cold and fans for those who say it is too hot;
5. Hearing aids for those who say the vicar isn't loud enough and ear plugs for those who say he shouts too much;
6. Score cards for those who like to count all the hypocrites;
7. Relatives for those who say Sunday is their only day to be with the family;
8. Lunch for those who say they cannot attend church and make dinner too;
9. Trees and grass for those who say they 'see God in nature', especially golf courses!
10. Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who would not recognise church without them.

Well, perhaps we might try it, eh?

A prayer for Ash Wednesday and Lent.

Almighty God, we pray that through this season of Lent, by prayer and study and self-discipline, we may penetrate more deeply into the mystery of Christ's sufferings; that following in the way of His Cross and Passion we may come to share in the glory and triumph of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Fr. Roy

From the Registers

Funerals at All Saints' Harbury

12th February - Rose Gulliver, 54

21st February - Ida Scurry



From the Churchwardens



'Snow Wardens'

The month of February: Candlemas; the time of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Presentation of Christ in the Temple – may His light inform our lives.

We were privileged to hear Alison preach at Candlemas Evening Worship and we pray for her, as she is about to begin the final phase of her training as a Reader. We thank Lorna and Jeff who, at February's Family Service, reminded us of the richness and importance of family love.

As the pew sheet tells us, there is an open meeting of the Southam Deanery Synod on Tuesday 4th March in Holy Trinity Church, Long Itchington at 7.30pm. Everyone is

welcome. The subject, presented by Bishop Colin, will be: *A Vision for Deanery Ministry*, an exploration of proposals for the Deanery by the Deanery. It is crucial that all the laity should be aware of the implications, short and long term, for our Deanery and our parish. We shall do our best to keep you well informed of the outcome of this meeting but if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to approach Father Roy or one of us.

Please put in your diaries Friday 7th March when at 2pm we shall hold a service for the Women's World Day of Prayer. Everyone, man, woman or child, is welcome. Please do come or, if that is not possible join us in spirit.

Lesley and Felicity

Mothers' Union



Afternoon meeting: Our February meeting was the annual party when we were joined by friends from Ladbroke Women's Fellowship. We started with party games and then had tea, provided by the committee. To finish everyone received a present from the lucky dip. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Evening meeting: Lorna Bedford led our recipe evening when we each told of our favourite recipes, many passed down from mother or grandmother or with some other story attached. We then tried samples of each and went home with a number of new ideas.

Next meetings:

Wednesday 5th March: 2pm, Lent service in Church with address by Rev. Marjorie Warnes;

Tuesday 18th March: 8pm, Margaret Sweet on *Prayer and Spirituality*.

Wednesday 2nd April: 2pm, Service in Church; 2.30pm Betty Phillips on *The History of the Mothers' Union*.

C.Mary Catt

Toddlers' Service

After all the children had helped ring the bell, we started our February service by singing *My God is so Big*, with actions. Mrs. Bedford led us in our prayer and then we sang *Fight the Good Fight*, accompanied by the children on the instruments.

Mr. Jeff Bedford told the story, which was about how the boy David beat Goliath the giant, with God's help. The children then made pictures of Goliath.

The next service will be on Tuesday 11th March at 2.15pm. All babies and toddlers, with an adult are very welcome.

C. Mary Catt

Women's World Day of Prayer

This annual service will be held throughout the world on Friday 7th March. The theme this year is *Holy Spirit Fill Us* and the service has been drawn up by the women of Lebanon. The wave of prayer starts each year at dawn in Tonga and finishes on an island off Alaska.

In Harbury we shall be holding the service at 2pm in the Church. Women, men and children of all denominations are very welcome. There will be a collection during this service, which should finish in time to meet children from school. Tea and biscuits will be served in the Tom Hauley Room afterwards.

Please come and join us and people in 180 countries around the world who will take part in this day of prayer.

For further information please contact:

C. Mary Catt on 612864



Is this for you?

All Saints Church, Harbury is running another Alpha Course this autumn. Alpha Courses have been a huge success across the world, enabling people to think about key issues related to faith. The courses are friendly and unthreatening. You can ask the questions you want to, or just listen to the discussion. There is no follow-up; if you find it is not for you, or you miss the odd week, nobody chases you to find out why.

Following a brief talk, the course divides into groups, each with a trained leader, to discuss the topics raised, which include:

- * Christianity: Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant?
- * Who is Jesus?
- * Why did Jesus die?

- * How does God guide us?
- * What does the Holy Spirit do?
- * How can I make the most of the rest of my life?
- * Does God heal today?

There are 7,000 courses running across the country right now, and the participants will include people with a lifelong faith, new Christians, and people with no faith at all. The Guardian newspaper said that Alpha courses 'Give you permission to discuss the big questions of life and death and their meaning'. A good reason to join us on Monday nights? Look out for more on the Alpha Course.

John Stringer 613214



Father Roy with Megan Cooper, 50 attendances at Sunday School

Laugh Line

That's the Spirit! A member of the Free Church of Scotland gave the minister a bottle of cherry brandy on the understanding that it would be acknowledged in the church magazine. In the next edition the minister 'thanked Mrs. Mackintosh for the gift of cherries and for the spirit in which it was given'.

Ladbroke News

March

- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| Wed | 5 | Holy Communion 10am with Imposition of Ashes
Lent Lunch 12 noon at Archers Rest, Southam Road |
| Thurs | 6 | PCC Meeting 7.30pm at the Old Rectory |
| Sun | 9 | LENT I - Sung Communion 9am |
| Wed | 12 | Lent Lunch 12 noon at Ladbroke Hall
Holy Communion 2pm
Women's Fellowship 2.45pm |
| Sun | 16 | LENT II - Sung Communion 9am |
| Wed | 19 | Lent Lunch 12 noon, Hall Farm |
| Sun | 23 | LENT III - Sung Communion 9am |
| Wed | 26 | Lent Lunch 12 noon The Old Rectory |
| Sun | 30 | MOTHERING SUNDAY
Holy Communion 9am
Mothering Sunday Service 3.30pm |

April

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| Wed | 2 | Lent Lunch 12 noon at Chapel Ascote Farm |
| Thurs | 3 | Vestry and Annual Church Meeting 7.30pm in Village Hall |
| Sun | 6 | LENT V - Family Communion 10.30am |

Women's Fellowship

We were very lucky to have Mary Watson from Harbury as our speaker in February. She talked about her links with The Guide Dogs

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for the Blind. Mary has been a breeder for them for many years and in fact her two Labrador/Retriever dogs Eve and Irene have, between them, produced over 40 pups in the last 12 years.

Mary told us that all the litters have turned into excellent Guide Dogs. When a bitch is no longer able to breed, the dog will retire and the owner is able to keep it as a family pet.

All Guide Dogs start their life with a Puppy Walker and the Walker is responsible for introducing the young dog to familiar sounds that it will have to deal with every day when finally placed with its blind owner (by the way, each owner is asked to buy their dog at the great of cost of 50p).

After one year with the Puppy Walker the dog is then sent to the kennels in Leamington Spa for a 1-2 year training programme. Then the dog will go to its blind owner where it will become their eyes. A Guide Dog will work for up to 12 years after which it retires. Dogs that do not pass the training will often become Dogs for the Disabled or 'Sniffer' Dogs for Customs and Excise. We had a most enjoyable afternoon – Thank You Mary.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th March at the home of Catherine Spence, 3, Ladbroke Hall – All welcome.

We shall be having our usual Lent Lunches during Lent at 12.30pm; Cost £2.50 on the following dates:

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| March | 5 th | - Archer's Rest, Southam Road |
| | 12 th | - 3, Ladbroke Hall |
| | 19 th | - Hall Farm |
| | 26 th | - The Old Rectory |
| April | 2 nd | - Chapel Ascot Farm |
| | 9 th | - Fields Far, Kineton Road |

Jo Sowerby

Ladbroke Development Plan

On February 8th Carol and Geoff Lane put on a tea party to say farewell to George and Peggy Askew, as they have moved away from the area to Leamington Spa. Many of their friends wished them well; Peggy has been a very enthusiastic member of the Development Fund and has worked exceedingly hard to help raise money for the Church. She has also worked hard to organise the upkeep of the graves in the



churchyard. We shall miss both Peggy and George as they were members of the P.C.C. for some years and took a very keen interest in the Church.

A big thank you to Carol and Geoff for hosting the event at which we presented a plant for their new garden. Goodbye and Good luck from all your friends in Ladbroke.

We shall be having a Development Plan meeting soon and welcome new members to join us and give us new ideas for raising funds.

Jo Sowerby 811749

Ladbroke Village hall

The first draw of 2003 took place at the Bell Inn, Ladbroke on Monday 10th February. The winners were: Mrs. J. Sowerby £80; Mrs. M. Grey £25; Mr. K. Picken £25; Mrs. J. Sowerby £10; Mrs. A. Norgate £10; Mrs. I. Harvey £10; Mr. J. Lowman £10, and Mr. R. Walker £10.

The number of members eligible for the draw was 54; to those who have not yet renewed their membership I would urge them to do so as soon as possible; to those who have cancelled their membership, whilst regretting their decision I would like to express our thanks for their support in the past.

New members would be very welcome; anyone wishing to become a member can do so by contacting me at Yew Tree Cottage in Ladbroke.

The next draw will take place in the Bell Inn, Ladbroke on Monday 10th March at 8.00pm

Mike Radburn

Ladbroke Hall Portraits – Mystery Solved

A custodian of some Ladbroke Hall history, Marion Grainger, has finally solved the mystery of the whereabouts of the Palmer-Morewood

family portraits, which once graced Ladbroke Hall.

A letter from the National Trust details the *rediscovery of the collection*. The pictures spent time in Yorkshire and Surrey before being dispersed on the death of Mr. C.A. Palmer-Morewood in 1911. Two of the portraits went to the National Trust in lieu of *£5000* and these now hang at the Trust property, Clanton Park, Surrey.

They are interesting works by Wright of Derby, increasingly recognised as one of the greatest British painters who, in 1782, painted matching portraits of Rev. Henry Case, bachelor rector of Ladbroke and of Mrs. Helen Morewood. The pair married in 1793, a year after the death of her first husband. The nature of the relationship represented by the portraits arouses speculation but it is well to remember that this is the age of intense sentiment and passionate friendship between and across gender (a classic example being Dr. Johnson and Mrs. Thrale). The mood of the paintings is deliberately romantic, both parties wearing Van Dyke costume, a backward looking and anachronistic feature.

There were no children from either Mrs. Morewood's marriages and on her death extensive property (including Ladbroke Hall) passed to the children of Mrs. Morewood's sister, the Palmers, who assumed the name Morewood.

Geoffrey Middleton



Harbury Society

Harbury Society

The Society's Landscape Audit and the Village Design Statement identified Harbury's stone walls as important features. Our recent survey revealed that many of the walls are in poor condition and in need urgent maintenance and that is why it is so gratifying to see the Temple End wall being rebuilt.

Many things go to make our village a special place. The stone walls are distinctive but there are many other elements that contribute to the character of the village, as the Village Design Statement showed.

It is inevitable that over the years there will be changes and that some things will be lost. However the consultations for the Design Statement allowed people to highlight what they valued and these findings were set down as Guidelines so that everyone could understand what should be cherished and protected.

But the erosion of village character comes also from a multitude of small changes which in themselves may not be noticed. Sometimes changes in fashion, or personal taste slowly undermine the rural character of our village, bringing in a sharper, tidier, more urban edge:

- The loss of greenery, trees and the paving over of gardens to provide more car parking;
- The proliferation of security lighting;
- The increasing number of street signs;
- The close mowing of green spaces eliminating wild flowers (weeds);
- An obsession with tidying nature when we ought to be making war on litter, and probably most of all the growing number of vehicles in our narrow streets.

All these things contribute to sub-urbanisation. They may make life easier, prettier and less challenging but the village gradually loses its essential rural qualities.

Anyone who has not received the Village Design Statement and would like to see how it sets out Guidelines for the sensitive development of the village can obtain a free copy from Linda Ridgley (ring 612792).

The Harbury Society will be holding a Tree Survey Walk in the Spring to highlight the contribution that trees make to the village. The Parish Plan will also seek to emphasise their value and to protect them and other distinctive features.

Harbury Society AGM will take place in the Tom Hauley Room on Monday 17th March, 7.30 for 8pm.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury Women's Institute



Thanks to all who answered the call for buttons and jewellery. They will be taken to the Spring Council meeting in mid March.

The Home and Country exhibition, depicting the history of the W.I. to celebrate the 85th Anniversary of the Warwickshire Federation of Women's Institutes is at Warwick Museum from February 15th to March 22nd.

We are lucky to have the offer of some great trips. There is the

Warwickshire/Kent cricket match at W.C.C. club at Edgbaston on May 21st. Then Hatfield House and Gardens in June and Barnsdale Gardens and Oakham in July.

Mrs. Diana Hodges came to speak on the 'History and work of the Red Cross'. She has worked for them for 25 years and was a volunteer at the age of 10 years.

'Henry Dunant witnessed the aftermath of the Franco/Russian battle of Solferino in 1859 in which 300,000 men took part and 40,000 lay dead and dying. He was not very successful in getting help. In 1862 his book, 'A Memory of Solferino' was published. So moved were some readers that this led to a meeting of the 'Committee of Five' in Switzerland (now the International Committee of the Red Cross). It acts as a neutral, intermediary in humanitarian matters to protect and assist victims of armed conflict. Its delegates visit P.O.W.'s, inspect interment camps, help trace and unite families and organise relief in areas of conflict.

The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies encourages the creation and development of National Societies and co-ordinates relief activities in cases of natural disasters. National Societies work in their own countries in peace and war for the improvement of health, the prevention of disease and mitigation of suffering. They also support each other's work, particularly in times of war and natural disasters.

The Red Cross emblem is the visible sign of the protection accorded by the 1949 Geneva Convention. It has two purposes – the first is to protect the sick and wounded victims of war, the second is to indicate that the person or object on which it is displayed is connected with the Red Cross movements. The Red Cross makes no distinction as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions and is completely impartial.'

One must add that the Red Cross is completely voluntary. Money from events, collections, donations and business sponsorship is essential to their work. So, do remember their marvellous work during Red Cross Week.

March meeting – Members Evening.

Jeanne Beaumont

Harbury Folk Club

The theme for the night was 'winter' and the Band of Folk opened with a tune that had nothing to do with winter, but their second tune *BBQ Hornpipe* at least looked forward to the warmer times to come. Rick followed singing two 'miserable' songs: *Hard Love* and *Waltzing's for Dreamers*. Pete & Liz sang *High Germany* and then *The Trees They Do Grow High*, which is about the boy who died at 16, and Brian played *Winter* by Vivaldi followed by *Cold Ground*. Peter McDonald finished the first half with *Punch & Judy Man* and *the Glencoe Massacre*. After that lot we all needed an uplifting drink.

More and more people had come in and were trying to find seats when the second half started. Dave Fry sang *Keep your Distance* and *Don't think Twice*. Daniel and Susie gave a lovely rendition of *Hedgerow* and *Rocking a Baby*, and then Ian and Sue had us in stitches with Sue's *Winter Drawers*. Polly sang *You've got a Friend* and *April to September*. Sean Cannon surprised us with a visit and treated us with two excellent songs, the names of which we forgot to write down.

The third half began with everybody singing Happy Birthday to John Hancock. The room was now full to capacity, and we panicked, as we knew that if we continued with two numbers per performer we would still be there in the early hours of the morning. We reluctantly had to limit the remaining performers to one number, and we thank Ron, Peter Mason, Pam, and Des for their excellent contributions. The formal part of the folk club finished around 11pm with a final number from Sean, but then a small group of musicians continued with their own impromptu session.

The raffle raised a magnificent £40 for Harbury Scouts. Thank you all very much. The next Folk Club is on Thursday 6th March, and will be hosted by Peter McDonald. The theme is *War and Peace*.

Doug & Janny Freeman

Harbury Toddler Group

Welcome back everyone & hello to all new parents/carers and toddlers. Below is a brief update of what has been happening over the past couple of months and what is coming up.

Play Area: You have no doubt noticed that the play area outside the Wight School now has a fantastic multi-coloured safety surface. Lana Long has masterminded the entire project, including the painting of the

murals (a large part of which she did herself) and sourcing the funds to pay for the project from three different grants. Lana has given up an enormous amount of time and effort to make this work and she richly deserves a huge vote of thanks for all she has done. Our gratitude should also go to Abacus Playgrounds, the contractors who laid the surface. It was understood that the job would take three days, but by working flat out all day, it was completed in two – despite the need to replace two sections on Sunday morning after an unknown intruder left their footprints in areas that had not completely “set”. During the coming months, both the Pre-School and the Toddler Group will get together and finish off the last bits of painting/wood preserving and our play area will be complete, all we need now is some sunshine.

Judy Hartland Photographs: Thank you to every one who supported our annual fund-raising photo session, we hope you were pleased with your photographs. The event raised £157.30; this money was used to help pay for our 2002 Christmas Party. Judy will be visiting us again this October, watch this space for details nearer the time.

Christmas Party: We think you'll agree that last year's party was great fun – balloons, dancing, two bouncy castles, party food, and of course Father Christmas with lots of presents. Thank you to all who came and helped to make the day so successful.

Christmas Carol Quiz: Our Christmas Carol quiz raised £97.00; all of the money was used to help pay for the Christmas Party. Special thanks to Eli Priest for organising the quiz & to all parents for selling the quiz sheets & donating items for the Christmas Food Hamper.

Night Out!: Everyone is welcome to join us for a night out in the village on Wednesday 12th March from 8 p.m. at the Dog Inn. This is a social evening for parents/carers to have a chance to escape, even for just a couple of hours, without the children. Please come along and join us for a beer!

Future Fund-Raising Events: Giant Easter Egg Raffle – Parents/carers will shortly be issued with some raffle tickets to buy/sell to friends/relatives. The winner of a fantastic giant Easter egg will be drawn on Wednesday 9th April at the end of the Toddler Group session. Please do your best to sell as many tickets as possible, as funds raised help to purchase more toys and to pay for the summer outing, etc.

Easter Bonnet Parade/Easter Egg Hunt, to be held in place of the normal activity on Monday 7th and Wednesday 9th April. Easter

bonnets can be made at home or on the day and, weather permitting, the children will do a parade outside in their creations. In addition, a simple Easter egg hunt will be held in the new play area outside.

A Coffee Morning will be held in the Tom Hauley Room (behind the church) on Saturday 10th May, 10.00am – 12.00noon. In the usual pattern, there will be a raffle, a cake stall, bric-a-brac, face painting and, of course, coffee and biscuits. Lists will be circulated in due course, asking for cakes, raffle prizes and help on the day. These can be great fundraisers, so please support the day if you can.

We hope that as many as possible will take part in the Toddler Group's pageant in the Carnival Parade. The theme this year will be "transport" and more details will be included in the next newsletter.

If you have any comments or ideas that you think may improve Toddlers please feel free to speak to any member of the committee – Bud Jackson (613434), Nicky Kirk (614316), Eli Priest (770616), Lana Long (613311), Dayle Adams (737076), Sally-Ann Jenner (612951), Julie Jennings (614639).

Harbury Toddler Group Committee



Harbury Nursery School

The children have really enjoyed the topic of dinosaurs. They particularly liked making our giant dinosaur named 'Boxosaurus' and have produced wonderful pictures, paintings and models all displayed on the walls. From half term we will be looking at patterns. An awareness of pattern is vital to children's understanding of mathematical concepts. Patterns, simple and complex, are all around us, in nature, music, rhymes and stories, even in our daily routines and the children will have lots of fun discovering them.

Because of talking to many nursery parents and prospective parents it is obvious that there is a need for longer hours. Consequently we are requesting a change in our hours with Osted. We will have to undergo a further inspection by Social Services to ensure that we are meeting the new criteria and avoid invalidating our insurance. Hopefully, this will take place before Easter and we should be able to offer extended hours in the summer term.

Kate is currently undertaking a research project on the effect of personality on children's learning. If any one has any books on

psychology, especially self-esteem, personality or intelligence studies, she would very much like to borrow them. The project will be available for any one to read later this year.

On the evening of February 8th, people passing by the School would have been forgiven if they thought that Madonna, Cher, Adam Ant and other 80's stars had all descended on Harbury. In fact, they were the parents and friends of the Nursery all attending the very successful 80's night to raise an invaluable £800, some of which will be used to improve the bikes and outdoor play equipment. Many thanks to everyone who came and supported us, helped on the night and made the evening such fun.

If anyone is interested in visiting the Nursery or booking a place please ring Kate on 612656 or Sue Bushill, Chairman on 614565. Sue will be delighted to give further information on the Nursery.

Sue Bushill

👏👏👏👏👏 Harbury Pre-School

During the month of February, the children were involved in many exciting activities. They continued learning about China and the culture of the Chinese people, following on from the Chinese New Year celebrations. They talked about what clothes Chinese people wear - and of course did lots of dressing up - tried Chinese food, and talked about their customs.

Playbox Theatre Trip: On the morning of Thursday 6th February



twenty children climbed eagerly onto the coach, the excitement began as the coach pulled away. When they arrived the children were shown around the theatre. Going backstage, through to the

front stage, auditorium, make-up room, dance room, café area and 'Jinks' workshop was a mini adventure in itself.

All children took part in the action songs, including Ring A Ring O' Roses and Pussy Cat Pussy Cat, these were performed with great enthusiasm. Then the children had story time in the Jinx workshop and coloured in pictures relating to this. After a break, when the children had juice and biscuits, the adventure continued with dressing up (the children chose their own costumes), face painting (one parent remarked 'a simple green spot on the nose and blue line on the eyelid made children feel they'd taken on a new persona') and tight rope walking (wow!). The morning ended with another story and twenty extremely happy (but tired) children climbed onto the coach and returned to Harbury.

We are pleased to say that this fantastic outing was completely free of charge for all Pre-school children – the proceeds from our November coffee morning and the Christmas Disco funded the event and the coach. So thank you from the children to everyone who supported these events.

Visit to Harbury School: On 14th February, our older Pre-school children visited Harbury Primary School to join in with a morning assembly hosted by Rainsbrook Reception Class. The school children acted the story of "The Enormous Turnip" and sang songs about supermarkets and food.

Pre-School's Brilliant New Play Surface: The new outdoor play surface has just been completed – making our new play area complete. This has been a joint project between Harbury Toddler Group and Pre-School, and it has been well worth the effort – come and see it, you will be amazed!

The surface is a special springy safety surface, with inspiring bold colourful patterns, like hopscotch, which is actually within the pattern of the surface. We now truly have our "outdoor classroom" so the children can safely and enjoyably play outside to their hearts content.

We will be having an official opening soon, so we can properly thank everyone who has contributed towards this project. Our main supporters/sponsors have been Barclays Bank, Compton International, Heart of England Community Foundation, Lloyds TSB, Stratford District Council and Paul Winchester.

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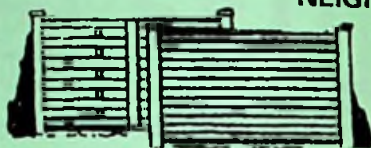
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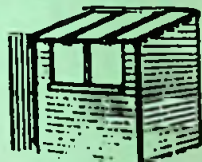
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NEED A SKIP?



FORTRESS

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Please put in your diaries Saturday 29th March for our next Pre-School Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room 10am - noon. Plants, flowers and gifts for sale, tabletop sale, cake stall, face painting, etc.

If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-school, then please contact Jane Kempton, the Chair, on 01926 613786 – alternatively, you can drop a note through Jane's door at 'Helen Owen House', Mill Street.

Harbury Pre-School Staff and Committee

Harbury Primary School

Stamps – Which Charity? We have a box full of stamps taken from envelopes. Does anyone know of a charity that collects them? They are mainly British commemorates and whatever the ordinary ones are called.

Used Printer Cartridges: Thank you, and keep them coming!

Thank you to everyone who has sent used printer ink cartridges into school; we have raised an amazing £81.50 towards school funds. Please, please keep them coming.

Clothes Hanging Rails: The PTA are in need of two new clothes rails on which to sell their second hand/re-cycled uniform, do you have one lurking in the back of your garage? If you have a clothes rail that you'd like to donate, please ring Lana Long on 01926 613311. Thank you.

Nigel Chapman (Acting Headteacher)

Aztec Trip

On February 10th, class Severn went to The Royal Academy of Arts to see the Aztec exhibition. After a long coach journey to London, we arrived and started on an interesting tour. First we entered gallery one and turned on our auto-guides. It told us a story about a man who visited the Aztecs.

We entered gallery two, and the story carried on. We saw many objects that had been brought straight from Mexico, which had never before past the Mexican border. The main features of this gallery were the statues of the gods. We especially liked the statue of the god with the inside out skin. The Aztecs believed that this would make you more powerful.

We then went into gallery three which was about Mexican food, yet it still had many fascinating sculptures. The usual meal for the Aztecs was dog or deer pie. When we walked into gallery four, we were stunned by the amount of snakes and serpents there were. They were all very large with big heads. In gallery five it was all about warriors, who had died in wars, and had been sacrificed to the sun god who took their hearts.

Gallery six had human sacrifices, which were gory but very good. We listened to that bit a couple of times. Gallery seven was about important Aztecs. These people wore rich clothes and many ornaments. The more captives an Aztec took, the richer his clothes and jewellery became.

Gallery eight had lots of high replicas of bits of temples which were very fascinating. Powerful people lived in these temples, which would be in the centre. Gallery nine was full of Codex books, but we could not understand the writing. It looked a bit like Egyptian, because it was all in pictures. We then got to gallery ten, the last gallery, which had gold that had been taken from prisoners. We went to the gift shop, but it was very expensive, so we all bought little things.

We had a quick walk to the coach luckily, and had a nice journey home.

Zoë Williams and Robin Ashurst

Harbury Albion Football Club

The Club is having a good season in Division 2 of the Leamington Sunday League, currently in second position with half of our games played. The team has mostly the same village-based players as last season with the addition of the prolific goal-scoring talent of Ian McVarish (28 goals so far), the youthful pace(?) of Chris Harris and the return of the highly experienced John Luke.

As last season's Division 2 champions we are also contesting the Maurice Billington Cup Final in March against Leamington Hibs A.F.C. (exact date to be arranged). This is a charity cup final and so the more support that we get for it the more money goes to local charities. The Club would like to thank our sponsors Brian and Sandra (and Carling) for our new away kit and for their hospitality every Sunday and also R.P. Hall and Son (Ground Care) for permanently marking the pitch at the beginning of the season.

Rob Davis

Harbury Tennis Club

February was a very quiet month with the weather preventing much activity. However, the "A" Team managed another good win and moved into the top half of Division 1. The "B" Team finally broke its duck with an excellent away win at Byfield which may have lifted them off the bottom of Division 3!

The Club featured in the Stratford District Council's first Annual Awards Evening for Contributions to Sport and Sue Mercer won the Volunteer/Club Administrator category. That means she will have to keep on for another year!

Attention returns to fundraising in March when we hold a Jumble Sale at the Village Hall on Saturday 15th March from 10.00a.m. to 11.30a.m. Look out on Village notice boards for more details.

Colin Mercer

To all Quiz Enthusiasts

Harbury Twinning Association is holding a quiz on Sunday 9th March at the Village Club, 7.30pm for 7.45pm start. We are looking for teams of 4 people (cost £12 per team). If you can enter a team, please phone me on 613214. The questions are not biased towards those with any knowledge of France!

Sally Stringer

Harbury Youth Project Group



*"A Success Story
on a Grand Scale!"*

As you are probably aware, the Phase II of our Skateboard Park Site is complete with the installation of further equipment, namely, a half-pipe, two quarter-

pipes and two grind rails and is already being regularly used by several village children. They have verbally expressed their gratitude to members of our Committee and we thank all village residents for their generosity in helping us to raise funds by supporting events and to Harbury Parish Council for their support and willingness to allow this facility to be built on the playing fields.

May I thank all members of our present Committee for their hard work in the achievement of this project to date viz – Alex Biddle, Kevin Biddle, John Hodgkins, Danny Killian, and lastly my daughter Sally Thornley (who is also a Committee member) and has helped me particularly in my administrative endeavours.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking the teenagers who initiated the project by collating a presentation which included a petition of village residents and was submitted to all Parish Councillors in January 2000 viz – Graham Allcock, Tim Andrews, Alex Biddle, James Finch, Chris Harris, Dean Hodgkins, Adam Wilkins, Chris Wood and Mark Wood. (Particular thanks and gratitude to Chris and Mark for their wonderful drawings.) Also my sincere gratitude to Margaret Harris for her enthusiasm at the start of the project and help and support in local fundraising for Phase I. Also David Hoffman (now residing in America) for his initial research, donation of a computer, belief in all the ideas put forward and support of the whole project.

We convey our appreciation to the Hunt family as the late John Hunt gave us initial support and backing of Harbury Parish Council, which inspired us to forge ahead with the project. He believed in providing facilities for young people and in particular in providing a Youth Shelter where they can meet with their peers, hopefully this will be achieved in the near future.

We are also grateful to past Councillors, Eric Dally and James Turner for their efforts and support during Phase I. We also thank County Councillor David Booth for his time and efforts on our project and securing a very generous grant from Warwickshire County Council.

We are indebted to Linda Ridgley who has given us sound advice and provided information on all aspects of the project, has always been positive about our aims and particularly her invaluable assistance with grant applications. She deserves a special thank you for all her efforts in connection with the accomplishment of Phase II.

Below is a breakdown of the costs of Phase I and II and details of our funding source.

COSTS

PHASE I (completed in December 2001 and a report and balance sheet published in March 2002 of the H&L News):

Tarmac surface and one Funbox	£12,803.50
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PHASE II (completed in February 2003)

Tarmac extension/concrete pads for grind rails with installation of a half-pipe, two quarter-pipes and 2 grind rails	£22,421.87
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TOTAL costs to date	<u>£35,225.37</u>
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FUNDING SOURCES

PHASE I:

2 grants from Stratford District Council	£10,660.32	
3 Village donations (Harbury Carnival Committee, Geoff Goodman and Harbury Chronicles)	£450.00	
Village fund-raising events	£1,683.40	
Bank interest	<u>£12.87</u>	£12,806.59

PHASE II:

2 grants – WCC & Countryside Agency	£22,723.90	
3 Village donations (Eric Dally, Pam Sperling and Michael Thwaites)	£230.00	
Village fund-raising events	£1,085.50	
Bank interest	<u>£6.54</u>	£24,045.94

TOTAL funding to date:	<u>£36,852.53</u>
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As you will see from the above, we have some monies in credit and we are looking at a further final stage, Phase III, to complete the site. The teenagers have asked for an extension of the footpath to gain access to the skateboard site and we hope to convert the existing mounds for BMX 'bikers so we will need to raise further funds to complete this final stage.

Janet Thornley, Treasurer

Memorable quotes from women

I never married because there was no need. I have three pets at home which answer the same purpose as a husband. I have a dog that growls every morning, a parrot which swears all afternoon and a cat that comes home late at night. *Marie Corelli*

Skateboard Park



Jack Baldwin, Christopher Thompson, Abigail and Jacob Hunt



Pre-School Valentine's Day



The Barker's in Ivy Lane; soon to be One Way



Mary Ceney sending woollen hats to seamen

Take Time Out – Ufton Village Hall

Tuesday 4th March: Pancake Race on Shrove Tuesday. Come along and join in Ufton's annual Pancake Race, which takes place along Ufton Fields, starting at 5.00pm from Broad Close. Prizes for the winners of the races for children, ladies and gentlemen. Prize giving and refreshments for all will be served in the Ufton Village Hall. Entrants need only bring a frying pan and pancake to enter. Please contact me (613003) if you would like further details.

Friday 21 March 2003: Tassels, Braids & Cords, 10am – 12.30pm at Ufton Village Hall. Workshop cost £3.50 including materials and light refreshments. Learn how to make colourful tassels and cords and watch a demonstration of braid making with Sue Cooke, from Leamington Embroiderers Guild (suitable for beginners). Then use your new found skills to add beautiful original trims to your soft furnishing, cards, gift wraps and other craft projects. Please contact Tracey Watts, TAKE TIME OUT co-ordinator, on 01926 614413 now, to book your place.

Karin Kirk

Best Kept Village Competition

It is fast approaching that time of the year again when we need to start thinking about the village environment. Many people volunteered their names to the Parish Review questionnaire that came out last year and I am sure there are many others that are keen to help.

Those of us on the Parish Council Environment Sub Committee would like to invite anyone interested in helping keep our village attractive to a meeting in the Tom Hauley Room on March 12th at 7.30pm; the meeting should last no longer than 1½ hours.

We would like to explain what is involved to gain an award for the Best Kept Village and to work out the best way to move forward.

We are sure there are many people with talent and ideas so please come along and share them with us!

Ann Winchester - Ch. Environment sub committee
Jenny Patrick & Janet Thornley

Harbury First Responder Group

I would like you to try and remember a while back when I first approached the village regarding the Harbury First Responder Group. I wrote about why we needed a responder group in the village and how you could assist the group by either, helping to raise funds for it or, you could put yourself forward for responder training.

Well, I have some very exciting news! I am pleased to announce that the current fundraising activity has resulted in enough money being raised to buy our own defibrillator.

Additionally, I have been able to train and get assessed some responders already in the village, who will be responsible for and be able to respond with the defibrillator too.

Due to Christmas and New Year (plus my own personal commitments) there has been no training for responders recently. Now I am in a position to offer training for volunteers to become responders.

- You need to be able to drive a car (if you have not got a car then you can partner up with a responder who has!).
- You need to be over the age of 21 years of age (unless you are partnered with a responder who is!).
- You also need to just want to help your local community by being able to use your new skills when needed.

If you would like to volunteer your services by becoming a first responder then put your name, address and telephone number on a piece of paper and drop it into the Hairdresser's, Chapel Street, Harbury. I will contact you thereafter.

I am planning a launch of the Harbury First Responder Group at sometime in the near future so watch this space.

If you feel unable to put yourself forward for responder training, but feel that someone you know might, could you spread the word?

The Harbury First Responder Group will still require fundraising and on March 17th a Murder Mystery Evening is being planned to raise money for the group's consumables and running costs.

I would like to thank everybody who has helped so far in helping me get our group off the ground. It has been a huge task for me and I feel a lot lighter knowing that I am at long last seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

Deborah Ellis

We want our Broadband now!

This is a light-hearted attempt to open up a public debate about the serious issue concerning the financial discrimination against rural communities. Although there are many topics worthy of debate, this one is about Broadband. Within 2 years the lack of access to Broadband within rural communities will place them at a disadvantage in terms of communication and the cost saving of new technologies associated with this massive revolution.

If you are already aware of the effects on society, particularly business, that the Internet has caused, that will look minor compared with the changes that Broadband will bring. Soon files and programmes will be designed purely for Broadband and will be far too big to download or use on a normal telephone Internet access.

Don't believe it will happen? Try buying your favourite artist's album on cassette or vinyl LP in any music shop today! So what could you play on your 'record player' now? stuff you already own, with little chance of getting anything new. That is how your Internet access will be, and sooner than you think. This is one story about Harbury, Warwickshire. But it could be anywhere in rural Britain! The Broadband Acquisition and Rural Fairness group (BARF), is sick of second-class service.

Dear Urbanites

Gentle Folk who live, work and run a business in rural areas are getting a rough deal. To attract inward investment you need to be in the town or inner city and then EEC quangos give you money. However, if you live further out it all starts getting difficult. Buses do not stop here often; they are too likely to be snatched as collectors' items. Since they were privatised to offer more choices - the operators chose to prioritise the most profitable routes. The railway station closed down decades ago ... mind you, they have offered us a nice airport with convenient routes to both Europe and the USA. The thing is, we just want to get to the shops, maybe see a film or visit the hospital.

Now before you nice people tell us it is our own choice, I have to say that most rural folk have been here for a generation or more. They closed down our fire station and THE beat bobby is a celebrity throughout South Warwickshire from Oxfordshire to the Northamptonshire border.

BT won't tell us how many people we need before they will let us have

Broadband. Is it an Official Secret? A scheme to preserve the national interest, or a way of keeping us in the dark to preserve a financial interest? What happened to BT's master plan to get us all interactive or did it not mean us? Perhaps BT thinks we can't get Radio or TV either, so what we don't know won't harm us? Well, we have a surprise, we have sussed out how to drive and some of us have even been as far as London. Bet you didn't think about that when you decided to send motorways into the provinces? If you don't give us Broadband we will come into your towns and occupy your Internet Cafés, coffee bars, and form really long queues at every cash machine and that's just the start. We will register rural areas as National Parks; soak up all EEC grant aid; impose rural road taxes (if Ken can do it so can we); charge village admission fees, and declare a National Farm Food embargo. Let's see how long you urbanites can exist on a restricted diet of Pot Noodle and Belgian lagers! No more Sunday drives looking at sheep. We will taunt you at our border points with piles of fresh fruit and vegetables. Gaze on longingly as we brazenly tuck into our bacon sandwiches and Sunday roasts. Only tumbleweed will roll down the empty aisles of your supermarkets as you avoid the accusing stares of your children.

We want Broadband and we want it now; you have been warned.

To find out more, please visit the website: <http://www.broadband1.bt.com> and register your interest (see also article in December 2002 of the H&L News).

**Dutch Van Spall - Ambassador for BARF - dB & Hz Republic
(Deppers Bridge and Harbury zone - formerly known as Harbury
Parish)**

P.S. Dutch is Chairman of Harbury Parish Council (614640).

Parish Paths Partnership

Harbury co-ordinator Clive Taylor welcomed over thirty potential parish paths volunteers to a packed open meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Sarah Manchester, the County Council's Community Paths Officer gave the background to the Parish Paths Partnership approach to maintaining and promoting the use of local public rights of way and members of the team described how they liaise with landowners, programme the work and carry out tasks. The lively question and answer session covered a range of issues with a welcome contribution from one of our farmers, John Moore.

Over a cup of coffee, volunteers had the opportunity to look at the display of photographs, maps and tools, talk to members of the team and sign up for a number of activities. Our initial review of the response shows that we have a group of 8 to 10 people interested in running a programme of guided walks and we shall be asking one of the team to bring this group together soon.

There were 15 people interested in clearing footpaths. This is a late spring and summer activity and we shall be announcing some dates for this in a month or two. We thought that those interested in documentation might like to work with the Harbury Society to complete the update of 'Cross the Stile' and get it published. They could also help the County Council refresh the 'Lias Rings' walks leaflets.

A number of people were interested in surveying paths and whilst we do survey our paths each year there would be benefits in carrying out a more detailed survey and getting the information on our new computer database. Finally there were those who volunteered for building stiles and gates. This is on-going work for small teams and we are on top of it in Harbury but a lot of our most interesting walks spread into adjoining parishes. We have therefore offered our services to Chesterton where your skills may well be needed.

Thank you all for your interest; we will be in touch.

Parish Paths Team

Feedback from the District and County Councillors' Surgery

Thank you to all those who attended our Bishop's Itchington Surgery on February 8th. Some of the issues raised were:

- Difficulties with right to buy at Hillside, Harbury. (We are pursuing this with Warwickshire Rural Housing Association and with Stratford District Council.)
- Progress with traffic calming in Bishop's Itchington.
- The state of the airport plans.
- Concerns about possible future development of the former Blue Circle site.
- The need to have access to broadband. On this point, please note that BT are more likely to take notice, once the number of requests passes the 100 mark. So far, 88 requests have been received

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8.45 a.m. to 12.00 Saturday (Emergencies only)

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REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS: Ring 614119 please give 24 hours notice
TEST RESULTS: Ring 612232 between 11.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.
DISTRICT NURSE: Ring Southam 815045
HEALTH VISITOR: Ring Southam 815045

**EXCEPT IN AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE DO NOT RING OUTSIDE SURGERY HOURS
THE SURGERY IS CLOSED ON SUNDAYS AND BANK HOLIDAYS**

from the Harbury exchange (all numbers starting 61). There are 3 websites where you can register a request, but the one that matters is: www.bt.com.

The next Surgery will be in Harbury, but please remember that you don't have to wait until then if you need us! Our contact details are below.

Andrew Patrick

Harbury Carnival June 14th, 2003

Time for a bit of a pep talk!

The success of our carnival has something to do with the five people on the organising committee but everything to do with you, the people of Harbury. Sure we can do a bit of organising, book some fairground rides and arrange a few events but in the end it all comes to nought without your participation and support. Every year now, for the past few years, I and other members of the committee have received comments along the lines of, *"pity there weren't so many floats this year"*, *"pity not so many people took part"*, *"why don't the pubs enter floats any more?"* Well, frankly there is not a lot we can do about this but YOU CAN.

So, get together with your local organisation, pub, street or friends and take part in this year's procession, either with a float or as a walking group. I promise that you will enjoy the experience. At the end of the day, it is your carnival and it will be as good as you make it.

No, our carnival is not on its last legs but if we wait until it is to make an extra effort, then it will be far too late. So let us do it now! We have a great carnival tradition in Harbury and we should all work together to keep it that way.

Ok, I have said my piece, now a couple of other issues:

1. Teas on the day – we are still looking for an organisation to take this on. Please call me on 614258 if you are interested or would like more information.
2. If you would like to book a stall/pitch on the field for carnival day please call Jane McCluskey on 614453.

Finally, please visit our web site at www.harburycarnival.org.uk. I am sure you will find it interesting and worthwhile.

John Broomfield

It Can't Happen Here – Update!

I thought that my article last month might serve to raise awareness of a potential problem for villagers who might also have a chance meeting in future with a 'foreign migrant' anxious to start a 'new life' in our country. As a consequence of my article, I have been regaled with several stories from local people who have also met 'strangers' in recent months. Some have been accosted whilst out walking the dog, others whilst driving in the area close to the exits from the M40 service station. One person even remarked that lorries had been seen in lay-bys on the B4100 disgorging their human cargo.

As a result of my conversations with a number of people, I decided that I would write letters to the Chief Constable for Warwickshire, our two 'local' MPs, and David Blunkett, enclosing a copy of my article in last month's H&L News. So far, I have had written responses from two out of the four contacts and I am grateful for the fact that the two respondees took time out of their busy schedules to address my queries. I have quoted directly from their letters and will send an acknowledgement (together with a photocopy of this article!) to thank them for taking an interest. It may initially be a small problem in our 'backyard', but who knows where the next 'port of call' might be or whether we are only witnessing the 'tip of the iceberg'? Not all of the economic migrants obviously seek refuge immediately on disembarkation at one of the major ports after their journeys on the high seas and there are doubtless many other 'staging posts' around the country. Birmingham, Coventry and Leicester are obvious targets with their close proximity to the Motorway network?

James Plaskitt MP responded to my letter by return of post, stating:

"Parliamentary convention prevents MPs from corresponding with other members' constituents. However, I note that you have also written to your own MP, the Rt. Hon John Maples MP, and I am sure that he will respond."

I appreciated Mr. Plaskitt's speedy response and recognised that he had provided a useful piece of information for any villager who wishes to alert an MP to any situation, which might require attention. I must explain that I contacted Mr. Plaskitt, as a result of his high profile in the Leamington Courier, which probably has more readers in Harbury than the Stratford Herald? The latter paper would be responsible for covering the activity of Mr. Maples, but is maybe not seen by as many Harbury and Ladbroke people? In any further development arising out

of the interest created by my original article, I may need to contact the News desks of each paper? In future, it is obviously important to address only 'our MP.'

The **Chief Constable of Warwickshire** passed his letter on to Colin Reynolds, Chief Inspector at Stratford-upon-Avon. Again, I have quoted verbatim from his letter, as it provides all the information we need at this juncture.

"Your letter, requesting information about reporting procedures for suspected illegal immigrants and asylum seekers, has been passed on to me by the Chief Constable for reply.

Thank you for drawing attention to this issue.

Our advice to anyone seeing someone who they suspect to be an illegal immigrant is to report the matter to the Warwickshire Police Communications Centre by dialling 01926 41500, as soon as possible after they have been sighted.

It will help the police if the caller can have the following information available:

- *An accurate location and time where they have been seen (including local landmarks if it is a rural or remote location);*
- *How many people are in the group;*
- *Descriptions of their appearance and what they are wearing;*
- *What direction they appear to be heading in.*

The police will then take them to a police station and contact the Immigration Services who will ensure they receive the correct humanitarian care, assistance and advice.

I trust this helps with your enquiry."

Again, I am pleased that the Chief Constable felt that it was appropriate to make a response in time for it to be published in the March edition of the H&L News. I will also forward a photocopy of this article to him acknowledging his attention to a 'local concern with wider implications.' If further replies are received in response to my original letters, then I will also ensure that they receive the same attention. I appreciate that the other recipients of my letters may have other more pressing problems to deliberate at this time. Watch this space!

Chris Finch

Harbury Co-op during the War

I can't remember where this article came from. Apologies if you recognise it. Although titled "During the War" it must refer to 1939 or thereabouts, as at least some of the items were later rationed. My father has just told me that the letter "d" stands for "penny" and "s" for "shilling". Apparently 12 old pennies made a shilling, which was the equivalent of our present 5p coin, so the bacon would have cost about 3p or 4p for a lb (pronounced pound). A pound would not buy a pound now, let alone 454 grams (pronounced grams), which would have been the equivalent weight or mass (at sea level). Probably just as well because we would not be able to buy a pound of bacon now in the first place without being locked away for daring to ask (and a good job too). Interesting that you could get 60 pints of beer (or 60 loaves of bread if you weren't that thirsty) for a pound (not avoirdupois).....and a virtual van load of Omo or whatever for the same price.

Nigel Chapman

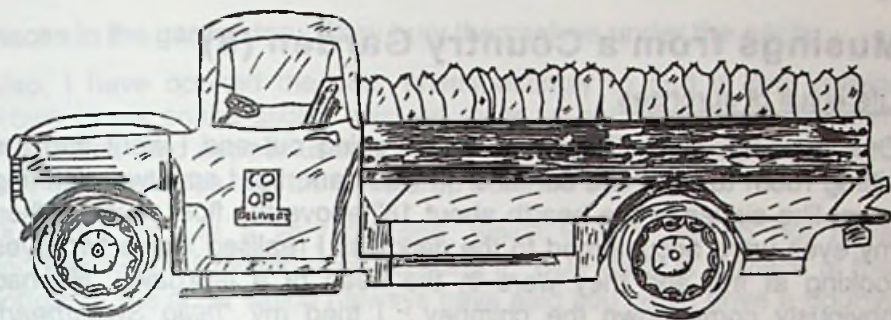


Harbury Co-op during the War

By 1939 the Co-op employed 18 people including Mr. Honiwell, the Manager; Mr. Carter, the Head Shopman; Mr. S. Knight, the Secretary; Mrs. Holder, the Draper; Mr. A. Austin and Mr. D. Robbins were Grocers; Mr. J.

Bloxham was the Baker, and Mr. B. Fell delivered the bread.

The Co-op delivered to most outlying villages using three grey Ford vans from Soans, and a coal lorry. Mr. Honiwell would also stand in for Rev. Capps during his absence from Church.



The wonderful picture of a shop, and a van, are by George Coady, Y6.

Pricelist:

Bacon	9d/lb	Paper or comic	1d
Butter	6d/½ lb	Licquorice	¼d/lace
Salt block	1d	Washing powder	2d
Sugar	4d/lb	Chocolate	½d, 1, 2d
Bisto gravy	1d	Saucepans	10s6d for 6
Cottage loaf	4d	Lux soap	2d
Beer	4d/pint	Tea	4d/¼lb
Whisky	10s6d/bottle	Milk	2d/pint
Cherries	9d/lb	Beef	2s6d/lb
Rice	4d/lb	Dress	£1:10s0d
Ladies shoes	12s6d/pair	Coat	£1:10s0d

New Year – New Start

If you decided to turn over a new leaf and start the New Year healthier, then why not rent an allotment? The digging, hoeing and planting of vegetables and fruit keep you fit and healthy. They taste so much better and you know exactly what they have been treated with. You can be as organic as you like.

We have bulk buy prices for seeds and potatoes. If you would like to know more then please contact:

Patrick Clarke, 612066.

Musings from a Country Garden (8)

Life is full of surprises.

One evening, since Stan died, I was going out and I went into the sitting room to draw the curtains. It was dark, but I saw two glittering jewel-like circles in the hearth about 18" above the floor level. When my eyes were accustomed to the darkness I realised it was two eyes looking at me and they were in the head of a jackdaw. He had obviously come down the chimney. I tried my *"hello Sweetheart, whatever are you doing in my fireplace"* chat-up line but he did not move. Talking all the time I slowly reached the window, unlocked it, and opened it wide. I thought if he suddenly went berserk I would be left with no "objet d'arts" at all. He was quite a size even with his wings closed. Further thinking told me that this was an incident, which needed a Batman and a Robin. I contacted my next door neighbour who came immediately. What happened next is a blur (I was the 'Robin' part of the duo, on auto pilot, acting only on instruction), but he captured the bird and put it outside and we breathed again. I will never forget those two eyes, and I am not referring to 'Batman'.

Our woodpile used to be where the herb garden is now, but when we had the Byre built I had the bright idea of storing all the logs under cover. Stan said "What a good idea", so we moved the wood. It would have to be *my* turn with the wheelbarrow when I picked up a log and "voila" there was an adder curled up asleep. It moved at high speed and so did I; fortunately in opposite directions.

The adder has been seen several times since and a 'baby' adder was seen just a few weeks ago travelling from my garden into my neighbours (I am happy to report).

Butterflies 'overwinter' on the black beams in the bedroom. I am not sure when they come or when they go or what they do, but these irregular shapes stick out. Once I have established that these black protrusions are not spiders I leave them alone. Currently, I have a 'Peacock' living on my green carpet under the landing fire. It opens its wings during the day and closes them at night. I will let you know when the metamorphosis takes place.

Several surprises have revealed themselves outside the back door. We have had an enormous toad, which must live in close proximity to the back door. We have seen a lot of him. I say *"hello sweetheart"* to him and he stops and listens to me wittering on. I learnt only this week that Toads could live for around 35 years. We have toads in other

places in the garden too. They bury themselves under the earth.

Also, I have opened the door unsuspectingly to find a long green/brown grass snake sliding past en route to my neighbour's garden. Pheasants also appear usually in pairs. They are beautiful birds and they eat the seeds that the birds drop from the bird table.

Our front door is a very old one, which is why we do not have doorknockers and letterboxes defacing it. BUT there is a space at the bottom of the door, which I always have said you could drive a double decker bus under. (I am prone to slight exaggeration.) A long, thick draught excluder reduces the wind strength and noise. It sounds like the screen set for 'The Hounds of the Baskervilles' some nights. However, we have had many frogs in the sitting room and the dining room. They are exciting to catch because they jump quite high. We have a thick voluminous velvet curtain behind the front door and once we found a beautiful dormouse nest in the folds nearest the wall. The nest was superbly made of a silky down - all very soft. We actually saw the dormouse, an exquisite creature. Naturally, there was no hovering nor washing the tiles for some time because we left the nest there until the dormouse had finished with it - well one would, wouldn't one?

We were driven out of the Byre for three years (well, our cars were driven out) whilst the returning swallows made new and refurbished their old nests.

Unfortunately they had no respect for the cars' underneath, which is why we had to move them out. They had many nests in the corners of most of the cross sections. It was quite a commune. When the young were ready to fly they lined up at the back of the Byre in order of size. They were simply lovely and were well photographed.

We get little coach parties of squirrels - well, they appear in the early morning and come through the front gate as if they have just got off a bus. Unfortunately, although they can have as many nuts as they can eat from the bird table, they insist on clearing completely the nuts that my 'contorted Hazel Bush' produces. I have only ever ONCE been able to 'harvest' six nuts from the bush for my Christmas cake a few years ago. Since then they have got there first every year..... not a nut left for me.

The foxes have been in the garden twice this week, creating the most awful ear-splitting noise which I am reliably informed is a preliminary mating call. Dear me, if I was a vixen he would have to tone the noise

down a bit otherwise I would be a nervous wreck. I am assuming, of course that it is the male that makes most of the noise! The not so nice very noisy incidents have been the Kestrel attacking and killing two pigeons on two different nights. Two heaps of feathers indicate this. Oh dear!

Finally, when I am sat at my kitchen sink I have time to study every bird that lands on the bird table. Today it was the turn of the greater spotted woodpecker. What a fine chap he is with his bright red undercarriage feathers. He is in no hurry to fly away and I am in no hurry to do the washing-up. What a joy!

The snowdrops arrived on 14th January and the birds are already house hunting. Spring is coming!

Elsa Greenway



Horticultural Society

Although we were not at the last talk *Partners by Arrangement*, we had it on good authority that it was an excellent meeting. Apparently Gillian, the speaker, graduated in geography, then went off at a tangent, and chose Horticulture and Flower Arranging instead. She mentioned many plants for display, both in the garden and indoors, and ended the evening making a lovely arrangement, which was raffled; a very enjoyable evening.

Instead of a Social this year the committee thought a trip to Bridge Nursery would be a change, with refreshments if required. This would be on Thursday 22nd May. Details of the trips are as follows.

The coach trip on Wednesday 11th June will just visit the Rococo Garden where lunch can be arranged, then on to Abbey Garden in the afternoon. The Society are one again subsidising the coach, the cost is £11.50 for the whole day. Lunch will be extra of course. These gardens are near Ralnsbury in Wiltshire.

The evening outing on Thursday 26th June will be to South Newington House near Banbury; members will use their own cars. For more information on these activities please see Judy.

John, our Treasurer, will be pleased to receive the monies for any of the above outings at the next meeting, if possible please; also just in case anybody has not renewed their membership, he will be happy to do this.

It will soon be seed sowing time – how about setting a few extra with the Garden Walkabout (Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th July) in mind? Then the resulting plants, or cuttings can be sold and you get the proceeds.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th March. The talk will be *An Introduction to Ferns* by Mr. Busby. The Society held its first talk and meeting on March 7th 1978, so we intend to have a small celebration at the meeting to mark the event. Are there many members who were at that meeting in 1978? We were not, but I do remember being cornered by Edna Lines and were persuaded to join, but do not remember the exact date. It was many moons ago! We held our talks in the Wight School, the room behind the Library, and sat on the children's low chairs!

On Tuesday 1st April, the talk will be entitled *Dwarf Shrubs*.

Muriel Grey

Gardening Notes

Strew me the ground with daff-down-dillies, and cowslips and kingcups and loved lilies, wrote Edward Spencer. Already there are signs of those daff-down dillies, and with the lengthening hours of daylight other plants will awaken too, to show us that spring is on the way.

To give the long growing season needed by half-hardy annuals for bedding and containers, sow in February or March. Sow at 15-21 °C (55-60F), and grow on at 7 °C. African marigolds, impatiens, lobelia, nicotiana, petunia, salvia and verbenas, all need 12 to 16 weeks before they begin to make flower buds. Prick out seedlings regularly, these are difficult to handle if they get spindly. Grow them on, giving a weekly liquid feed at the correct strength. As they begin growth, young plants need a ready supply of nutrients. Harden them off before planting out at the end of May. Although root systems may be vast they absorb most water and nutrients over a narrow zone, around and behind the root tip, so careful handling of young roots is important when transplanting. Young active roots are brittle and snap easily, root hairs just behind the tip are very vulnerable and although they do re-grow it can be a setback to plant establishment.

Buy and plant hardy perennials, to fill the spaces left by the inevitable winter losses. Plant out any perennials grown from seed last year, after hardening them off, and be prepared to protect them from frost.

Transplant any self-sown seedlings as you find them in the borders. Tidy dead stems on hardy perennials and divide those that have become overcrowded. Look for several healthy buds and shoots on each piece you re-plant. This is the best time to divide asters, perennial poppies, scabious and delphiniums. If buying in, read the advice label so that the plant suits your garden conditions.

Plant lilies in pots or in the borders. Top dress alpine beds with new gravel. A handful of grit under the crown of a plant can be a life-saver in wet weather. It will also keep clean, the leaves and flowers, which are near the soil surface and will set off low growing plants. Divide straggly plants or ones too large for their space before the new growth really gets under way. Be careful not to overstock an alpine or gravel bed.

Shear over, winter flowering heathers after flowering finishes. Finish pruning any fruit trees or bushes whilst they are still dormant. Do not remove protection from around shrubs and young trees yet. Plants are starting to lose their cold resistance now, so may be caught by a sharp frost. Sunny days and chilly nights are particularly difficult for a plant to cope with. Listen to weather forecasts and be ready with horticultural fleece to cover camellias and pieris. In the ponds thin out the oxygenating plants, before the tadpoles become active, and repeat this 'a little and often', to keep the pond balance.

In the vegetable garden feed all the beds with a fertiliser appropriate to the crop that will be grown. A controlled release one is good for crops sown direct i.e., from seed to harvest in the same place. Warm and dry the soil with cloches or black plastic. If not done in February, plant shallot sets. The sooner these go in, the better leaf growth they will make, before the bulb begins to swell. This will begin when the night darkness is eight hours or less. Plant onion sets at end of month or in early April. Put bags of compost into the greenhouse or shed to warm, ready for seed sowing.

Indoors, increase water to over-wintered tender plants. As new shoots appear they can be used as cuttings. They will root quickly with some bottom heat. This is a good time to take cuttings of fuchsia, heliotrope, marguerites and pelargoniums. Prune hibiscus plants. A mature shrub of 2ft. may have the main stem cut back to about 20cm. (8") and side shoots to 2.5cm. (1") Do not pot on until new growth is well under way and do not feed until then. Pinch back leggy stems to keep the plant in a good shape.

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Plant of the month - Crocus

Native to the Mediterranean area and westwards as far as Russia, there are at least 100 species of crocus, flowering as the snows melt in February to April or from September to December. These bright little flowers have been grown here for centuries, possibly being brought by the Romans. It is thought that they certainly planted the saffron crocus, which blooms in October. However there is the story that an early pilgrim smuggled home some corms, in his hollowed out staff, and planted them in his hometown of Walden. Many of the wild species have been greatly improved by the Dutch breeders. Today we can have colours from white through to orange, pale blue to dark purple. Some have different colours on the outsides of the petals to inside, whilst others have another colour in the throat. Plant them 2-3" deep in a sunny spot where many will readily self-seed, to give patches of colour for years to come. If mice or squirrels dig them up put mothballs into the soil to deter them. If grown in grass delay cutting until the leaves yellow, to allow the corm to build up a reserve of food.

Pat Smith

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

Blood donation

Congratulations to everyone who braved the ice to attend the January session. The result was a very creditable collection of 87 units. However, last time it was 94, and last year 115. So, can we get back to treble figures?

The next session will be on Thursday 29th May. Please put it in your diary now. More details nearer the time, or ring me on 614809 for sessions at Southam or Leamington before then.

Gillian Hare

Dear Editors

May we through the H&L News say thank you to everyone for their support and kindness on the sad loss of a dear mother and sister.

A special thank you to Fiona, Jeanette, and Colin Wyburn for the help and support they gave Rosemary; it was appreciated. Also many thanks to Father Roy Brown for a lovely service.

Stephen Gulliver and Family

Dear Editors

Harbury and District British Legion

The 2002 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal realised the grand total of £1,829.32. Our sincerest thanks to all contributors of Deppers Bridge, Chesterton, Ufton and Harbury and to our loyal band of collectors.

The end of the year Coffee Morning was also a great success. Again we experienced superb help with gifts of cakes, pies, etc. and many, many raffle prizes. The result: a total of £226.

The Committee

Dear Editors

Left to Right: Jack Baldwin, Christopher Thompson, Abigail and Jacob Hunt

On January 11th Christopher, Peter Thompson, Jack Baldwin, Jacob Hunt and Sam Butler held a Bring and Buy sale in the Village Hall to raise money for the Blue Peter Appeal. The appeal is to provide fresh water for Tanzania.

We found old toys and books that we had grown out of and some other people gave us things as well. We managed to raise £54.85 and Blue Peter have now met their target of £500,000.

Christopher and Peter Thompson

Dear Editors

We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, messages, flowers and presents to Sarah during her recent stay in hospital. Many thanks, too, to those who made it to Nottingham to visit; it was a real boost to Sarah's moral.

We are so grateful for all the love and support we have received; it has made such a difference knowing that so many people were thinking of us.

Bob and Christina Sherman

Dear Editors

A note to say thank you to everyone who attended the coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on February 8th, run by Southam and District Ladies Circle. We raised £198.20, which will be donated to Myton Hospice and Walsgrave Oncology Unit, in memory of Ann Snowden. Many thanks.

Pauline Snowden and all the ladies in Southam Circle

Dear Editors

It pays to complain!

You will recall our saga of our train journey to Eastbourne in September. I received vouchers from South Central Trains by way of compensation for my wife (wheelchair bound) having to travel in the ??? van.

I did tell them that we would be going to Bognor Regis for New Year and they said they expected to hear from me on our return, requesting compensation. I wrote, explaining that I was not requesting compensation for riding on their trains but for not doing so. We used taxis to and from Southampton Central station.

These two taxi journeys cost a total of £86 and I asked them to consider contributing towards this cost - tongue in cheek I might add. Surprise, surprise! They replied that they were sending separately a check for £32.10 in the cost of the train journey I did not take.

Arthur Turner

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	Wendy Hawkes	613198
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

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: (613207) various homes, 1st & 3rd Thursdays in the month 2:00 to 3:30pm

(612864) various homes, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays in the month 10.30am to 12noon

BOOKWORMS: (614793) Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Tuesday of the month 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: The Shakespeare, 1st Thursday in the month 8:30pm

HARBURY FRIENDS: Tom Hauley Room, 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 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: Harbury Primary School, Monday-Friday; 9:00am-12:00noon;

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 12:45pm-3:15pm

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: (613786) Wight School (behind Library), High St. Tuesday to Friday 9:00am-1:00pm;

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP: (612009) The Shakespeare Inn, last Tuesday in the month 8:00pm

HARBURY TODDLER GROUP: (613311) Wight School, Monday 10:00-11:30am & Wednesday 1:30-3:00pm

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 612498

HARBURY WARD LIBERAL DEMOCRATS:

County Councillor: David Booth (640728)

District Councillors: Shenagh Booth (640728) and Andrew Patrick (614359)

Email: cllrbooth@warwickshire.gov.uk shenagh.booth@stratford-dc.gov.uk

andrew.patrick@stratford-dc.gov.uk

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

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: T. Hauley Room, 1st Tuesday in the month (Oct. to May) 8:00pm

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

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

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

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

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

Matches on Saturday Afternoon

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00pm

PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP: (614274) Meeting on 2nd Thursday in the month at the Shakespeare 8:00pm

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.

E-Mail: sucol-ashcroft@tinyworld.co.uk

Club Website: www.harburytennisclub.homestead.com

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

WEIGHT WATCHERS: (07971 457143) Tom Hauley Room, Mondays 7:00pm

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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