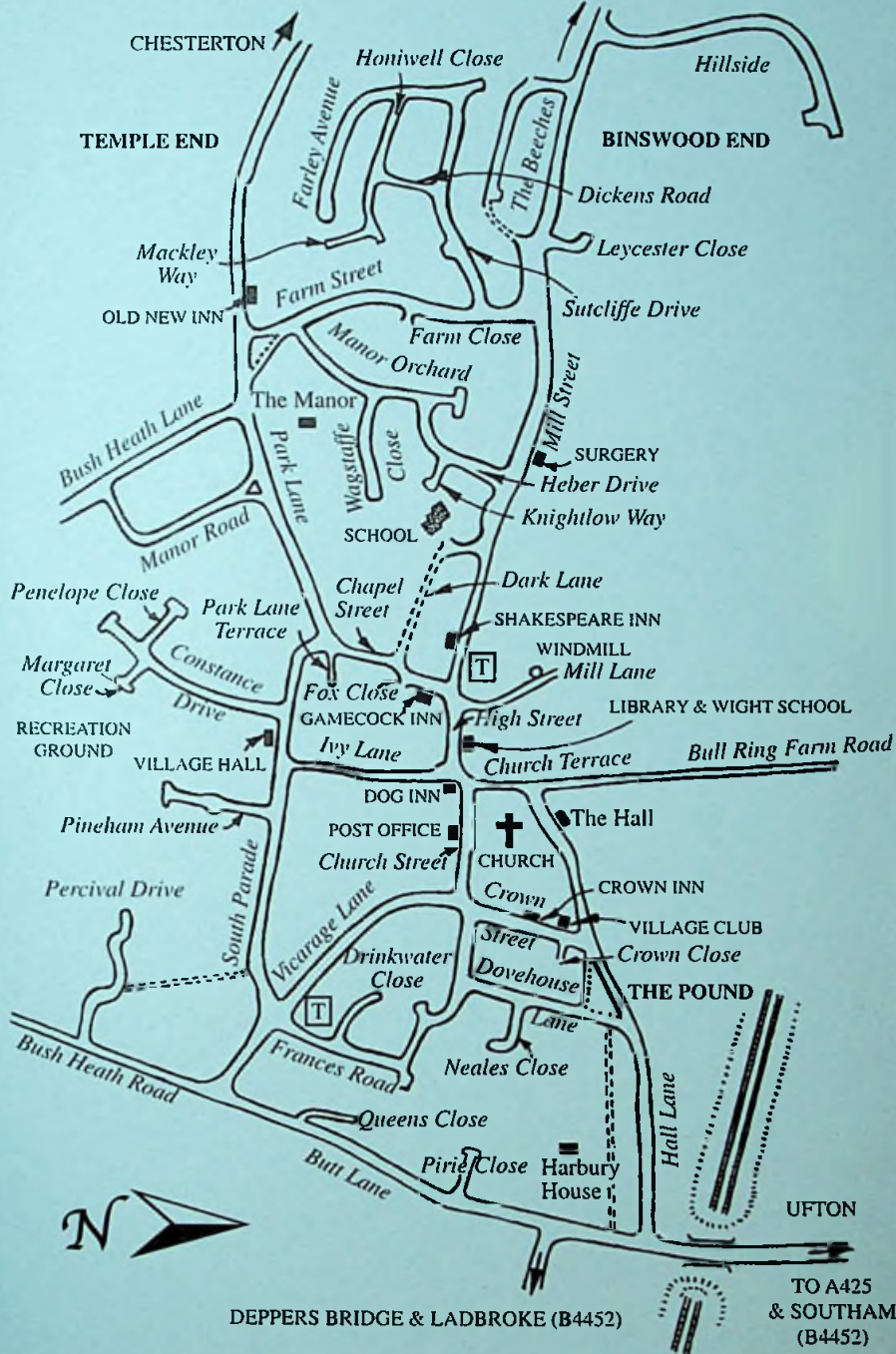


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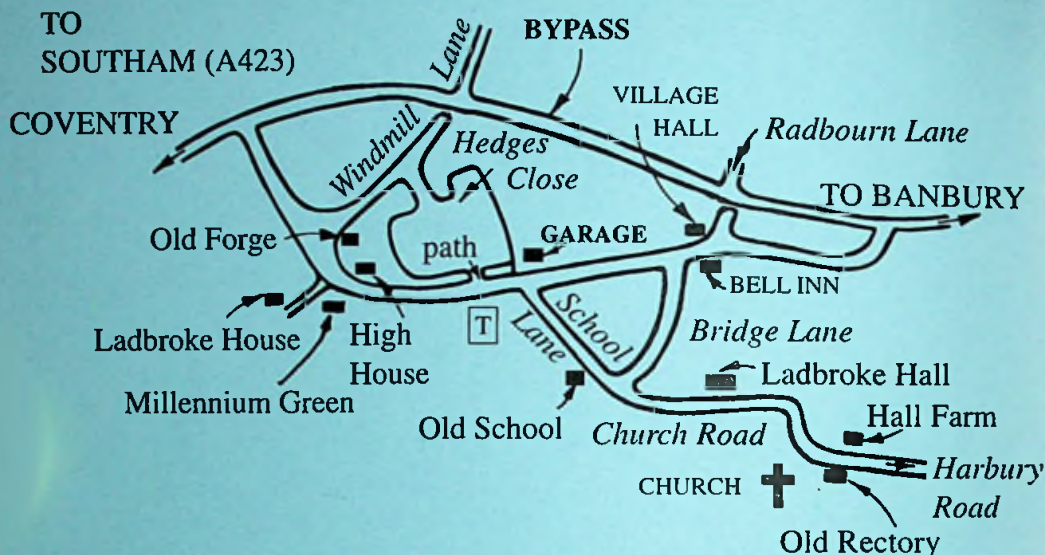


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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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September 2003

No. 354

The Editors have reflected on the good news, and the not so good news, relating to events in the past month. The good news encompasses the fantastic weather which helped Ladbroke's two fundraising events raise a total of £760. In Harbury, the Playscheme and the Holiday Club allowed children to enjoy a wide range of activities.



"A Natural Break At The Playscheme"

The local farmers have also benefited from the wonderful weather and have had an early harvest.



The disturbing news concerns the vandalism at the tennis courts on Harbury's recreation ground and in the centre of the village. This is particularly distressing as the Tennis Club raised a considerable sum for the improvement of the facilities for the benefit of the whole village.

This month sees the transfer of the Post Office into the Harbury Supermarket. The Editors wish Brian and Josie every happiness in their retirement after a long period of service to the village.

Finally we extend our sympathies to the families of Margaret Bevan, Edith Coleman, Ron Stynes, Jim, Suttie and Ivy Watford

Harbury Diary

September

Sun 7 TWELFTH AFTER TRINITY

Sung Eucharist, 9.00am; Evening Worship, 6.00pm.

Harbury Cricket Club at home to OK Blockers.

Harbury Hash, registration at 2.30pm for a start time of 3.00pm.

Harbury Juniors Football Club: U16s Home to Henley Forest and U14s Harbury Juniors Home to Khalsa.

- Tue 9 Toddler's Service, 2.15pm in the children's corner of the church.
Bookworms, 7.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
Harbury Friends Open Meeting, 8.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Wed 10 Prayer Meeting in Church, 8.00pm.
- Thu 11 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
Thursday Club, 2.30pm in the Village Hall.
Harbury Society Guided Tour, 6.30pm at Jephson Gardens.
Parochial Church Council, 7.30pm
Women's Institute, 7.45pm in the Tom Hauley Room
Youth Club, 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Fri 12 Brian Taylor's Retirement Party, at 7.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Sat 13 Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room in aid of Myton Hospice Support Group.
Horticultural Show, doors open at 2.00pm, in the Village Hall.
- Sun 14 **THIRTEENTH AFTER TRINITY**
Holy Communion, 8.00am; Sung Eucharist, 10.30am.
Harbury Cricket Club away to Badby.
Harbury Juniors Football Club: U16s Away to Lodge Park, U14s Harbury Juniors Away to Alcester Athletic, and U14s Harbury Hawks Home to Whitnash Juniors.
- Mon 15 **ADVERTS for H&L News** to 31 Binswood End by 5.30pm.
The Alpha Course Launch, 7.00pm at The Shakespeare Inn.
- Tue 16 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
Mother's Union, 8.00pm, Rev. Marjorie Warnes on 'Caring and Sharing'.
Julian Group Quiet Day at Southam Retreat House.
Senior Citizens' Committee Meeting, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Wed 17 Afternoon Tea in the Tom Hauley Room, 3.00pm-4.00pm.
'Talk It Through' - 8.00pm at 33 South Parade.
- Thu 18 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
Deanery Synod, 7.30pm at Napton Church.
- Fri 19 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
Southam Twinning Association Quiz, doors 7.30pm for 8.00pm start, at The Nelson Club, Stockton (£8 per team of four) – please book by ringing 813637.
- Sat 20 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7.30am in the Tom Hauley Room.
Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury School.
Blues Festival in the Village Hall.
- Sun 21 **FOURTEENTH AFTER TRINITY**
Holy Communion, 8.00am; Harvest Family Communion, 6.00pm.
Harbury Juniors Football Club: U14s Harbury Juniors Away to Bilton Ajax, and U14s Harbury Hawks Home to Alcester Athletic.
- Mon 22 The Alpha Course, 7.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Tue 23 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
- Wed 24 Drop In Tea for the bereaved, 2.30pm-4.30pm at 19 Farm Street, Harbury.
Prayer Meeting in Church, 8.00pm.
- Thu 25 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
Thursday Club, 2.30pm in the Village Hall.

- Fri 26 Macmillan Coffee Morning, 10.00am-12.00noon, in the Tom Hauley Room.
Women's Institute Supper in the Village Hall.
ARTICLES For H&L News to Harbury Chemist by 5.30pm.
- Sat 27 Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room in aid of the Rotary Club.
Harbury Ward Local Councillors' Surgery, 10.00am-12.00noon, at Bishops
Itchington Memorial Hall.
Myton Hospice Plant Sale, 11.00am-2.00pm, The Dog Inn Car Park.
70s Night at the Village Hall.
- Sun 28 **FIFTEENTH AFTER TRINITY**
Holy Communion, 8.00am; Sung Eucharist, 10.30am.
Harbury Juniors Football Club: U16s Home to St Peters Celtic Colts, U14s
Harbury Juniors Home to Kenilworth Wardens Juniors, and U14s Harbury Hawks
Away to Balsall & Berkswell.
- Mon 29 The Alpha Course, 7.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Tue 30 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.

October

- Wed 1 Holy Communion 2.00pm, Mother's Union 2.30pm.
'Talk It Through' - 8.00pm at 33 South Parade.
- Thu 2 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
"Treasures Of The Great British Heritage" 9.45am-11.45am in the Village Hall.
Youth Club, 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Village Hall.
Men's Society, 7.45pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Fri 3 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
- Sat 4 Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Nursery School.
Myton Hospice Plant Sale, 11.00am-2.00pm, The Dog Inn Car Park.
Church Harvest Festival Supper in the Village Hall.
- Sun 5 **SIXTEENTH AFTER TRINITY**
Sung Eucharist, 9.00am; Evening Worship, 6.00pm.

From The Rector

Heaven as explained to a child -

"There were a lot of bugs swimming around in the pond having a wild old time. There was a lot to do and nothing to worry them at all. The only thing that caused concern was when one of their friends disappeared and never came back again.

One day, they swam together and talked about it. Ben said that he would see what happened. One day Sam crawled up a stalk and just never came back. This is no good they all said. Ben agreed to go and find out what was going on.

So the next day he climbed up a stalk but then just went to sleep. When he woke up, he found out that he had changed and could go

wherever he wanted and actually fly around in the sky. He was a beautiful colour, and felt so happy.

Ben never forgot his friends at the bottom of the pond and his promise to them. He went to the pond to tell them and landed on a lily-pad. He looked through the clear water and watched them swimming around below him. Try as he might he could not get into the water, but only see them all playing below him.

He just knew that when their time came they would fall asleep too and change into a magnificent Dragonfly, and so he flew away happily into the beautiful blue skies."

This was found in my inspirational file.

Fr. Roy

From the Registers

Holy Matrimony, All Saints' Harbury

1 st August	Aaron Bailey to Nadia Wyspianska
30 th August	Robert Shuttleworth to Seona Lamont

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

17 th August	Charles Edward Jenner
24 th August	Tiegan Sassoon-Taylor

Funerals, All Saints' Harbury

22 nd August	Margaret Bevan (81)
26 th August	Ivy Watford (97)
27 th August	Edith Coleman (98)



From The Churchwardens

We hope that you have all had a good, restful and happy holiday.

We have had our Holiday Club and, thanks to so many people there were record attendances among children, helpers and at the Family Service.

At the service, we asked ourselves some questions: Where do we come from? Who are we? And we acknowledged our needs: we

need a name, and we need a friend. The answers were very simple. We believe that we come from God, and so we are His Children; we each have a name and Jesus has called us by it because we are special to Him; He is the friend who will never let us down. The stars of the presentation were the children. Eat your heart out Hollywood!

Now we are looking ahead to:

- ✠ The new term. We wish all our children and young people happiness and success in the paths that they will follow.
- ✠ Brian Taylor's Retirement Party, hosted by All Saints'. It will take place on Friday 12th September at 7.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room. All village organisations will be informed of arrangements, but please do spread the news.
- ✠ The Deanery Synod Pastoral Committee Meeting on 6th September. We will keep you informed.
- ✠ The Launch^{*} of the Alpha Course, with a Murder Mystery Evening at The Shakespeare Inn on Monday 15th September.
- ✠ The service at Coventry Cathedral when Alison, and we with her, will celebrate the beginning of her ministry as Reader. The date to put in your diaries is Saturday 20th September, 2.30pm. We are currently looking into travel arrangements.
- ✠ Bonfire Night. Well ahead, we know, but we are very grateful to everyone in GASS and elsewhere who have worked, and will work so hard, for an event that means so much to the village.

Thanks to the expertise and loving commitment of John Algar, an edited version of the Churchwardens notes will, in future, be on the website. We also propose to set up a children's page, beginning in October in a modest way, with a monthly competition. Closing date for entries – written only – will be the third Friday in every month so that we can award prizes at the Family Service. There will be a marked box (on the table at the back of the church) into which you can put your entries.

Lesley and Felicity

All Saints' Holiday Club

As those of you with access to the website will know we have completed the eighth year of the Harbury Holiday Club. We took as our theme "Once Upon A Time" – stories for ALL based on Jesus' parables. And we did have fun listening and learning, acting the

stories, making gardens and a joyous noise, decorating biscuits, designing a frieze and posters.

Some long-standing helpers are retiring this year, not because we do not support the Club or have run out of energy, but because we feel



that now is the time for new blood. We have said so much in the Parochial Church Council and elsewhere about involving younger people in church activities. Perhaps now is the time to put our money where our mouth is!

As far as helpers are concerned, we have never asked that they be regular members of the congregation or that they be sure of their beliefs. Our unspoken hopes and prayers - blessedly answered time and time again - are that they have open minds, a love of children and a real concern for their welfare, and a commitment to the future of this community.

If this sounds like a party political broadcast, perhaps it is, but I make no apology for that. All I can say, from four years' experience, is that you receive far more than you give, from the children, their parents and helpers amongst all of whom you make new friends.



I am so very grateful to everyone who has supported me in the past four years. I wish Alison and everyone in her team the happy, fulfilling, if nerve-wracking, time that I have been fortunate to enjoy.

Ladbroke News

September

Sun	7	TWELFTH AFTER TRINITY Family Communion, 10.30am.
Wed	10	Holy Communion, 2.00pm. Women's Fellowship, 2.45pm at 19 Pound Way, Southam. Millennium Club Draw, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
Sun	14	THIRTEENTH AFTER TRINITY Sung Communion, 9.00am.
Wed	17	Parish Council Meeting, 7.45 pm in the Village Hall.
Sun	21	FOURTEENTH AFTER TRINITY Sung Communion, 9.00am.
Wed	24	Parish Council Committee, 7.30pm at Chapel Ascote Farm.
Thu	25	Women's Institute, Gillian Andrews talk on "Shakespeare's Women".
Sun	28	FIFTEENTH AFTER TRINITY Sung Communion, 9.00am.

October

Fri	3	"Ladbroke Does The Blues", 8.00pm till late in the Village Hall.
Sun	5	SIXTEENTH AFTER TRINITY Harvest Family Communion, 10.30am.

Ladbroke Flower Rota

7 th September	Kate Pickin
14 th September	Mary Haynes
21 st September	Carol Lane and Carolyn Taylor
28 th September	Carol Lane and Carolyn Taylor
5 th October (Harvest)	Valerie Copley
12 th October	Valerie Copley

Jane Rutherford



Ladbroke Parish Council

Ladbroke Parish Council met on Wednesday 20th August at the village hall; the July meeting having been postponed due to the absence of three of the five Parish Councillors.

The pole under Macklin Bridge still remains in-situ, but as the Parish Plan had now been granted funding, the Quiet Lanes initiative that Councillor Janice Berry has been promoting can now go ahead under this medium. The Council are also pleased to announce that Richard Walker has kindly taken on the job of chairmanship over the working party for the Parish Plan, and we look forward to involving everyone in this venture to facilitate improvements throughout all areas of the village.

Councillors were advised that a copy of the crime survey prepared by Councillor Peter Baker had been handed to the Police.

Meanwhile, Councillor Tim Seden and the Clerk have been looking at a new notice board and consider placing it in a more accessible part of the village. The Clerk will be pleased to receive all ideas on its new location and this will also enable the Council to display the Minutes in a more easily read format.

Councillor Richard Bennett had walked the village and listed the numerous requirements for the cleanliness and repair of the roads, kerbs, footpaths, verges and signs throughout the village, in preparation for a visit from the Divisional Engineers.

Mike Boden-Pritchett handed out copies of the new Blue Lias Rings Walk No.3 "Ladbroke And The Lost Villages". Copies are available at the Bell Inn, and if anyone wants more information on the lost villages, contact Linda Doyle for history booklets about Ladbroke.

Thanks were expressed to Jim Laidler for his assistance in preparing the Internal Audit.

Stratford District Council have refused permission to New Farm Stables, Ladbroke Lane, for change of use to cover B1(c) and B8, due to the impact of vehicles on the approaching Class C and D roads. The stables at Newlands, Windmill Lane and the garage roof alteration at Whiteways, Bridge Lane have both been granted and the Councillors acknowledged that to the best of their knowledge Fitrite Wardrobes have been using the land and buildings at Ladbroke Farm in accordance with their business. Councillors had no objections to an application at Cherry Trees, School Lane for a side extension and at 14 Ladbroke Hall for bedroom alterations.

Finally, the mobile food van operating in the lay-by is under observation by Stratford District Council, and Severn Trent has at last cut the grass on their site in Bridge Lane.

The next meeting is on September 17th 2003 at 7.45pm in 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 13th August, the sun shone and many people came to support the Women's Fellowship Tea Party at Archers Rest. Thank you to all the members for the wonderful food (there was so much of it), thank you to Pam and Betty for manning the Bring and Buy Stall, and thank you to Beryl and Gywnn for doing the raffle.



The whole event made the great sum of £160 for the Harbury First Responder Group. Well done to everyone who came and supported this event!



Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th September at the home of Hazel Sharples (19 Pound Way, Southam). All are welcome to join us.

Jo Sowerby

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Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I.

On 26th July, the rain held off just long enough for us to enjoy our delicious barbecue expertly cooked by the "chefettes" – thank you husbands for your help, working so hard to make it a very successful afternoon. A big thank you also to John and Jan Loman for allowing the Women's Institute to use their beautiful garden. Lynda Ridpath won the competition to guess the weight of "Babe" – a very large but friendly Koi Carp.



Thirty-six ladies enjoyed the summer outing to Evesham on 20th August. After coffee at the Waterside Hotel, we had some free time to wander before our interesting and informative conducted tour of the Almonry Museum and Heritage Centre. The sun was shining; the weather was perfect as we set off on our boat trip down the River Avon to the Sankey Marine restaurant, where a scrumptious afternoon tea awaited us. A super day with plenty of things to see and do.

Our speaker on September 25th will be Gillian Andrews, talking about "Shakespeare's Women – Upstairs and Downstairs".

Sue Halsall

Ladbroke Millennium Club

The July draw took place on Wednesday 13th August in the Village Hall, Ladbroke.

The £80 prize was won by Mrs J Sowerby, the two £25 prizes were won by Mrs M Theaker and Mrs M Grey, and the five £10 prizes were won by Mrs B Bradley, Mrs B Ross, Mrs C Spence, Mr A Court and Mrs M Coley.

The next draw will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th September in the Village Hall, Ladbroke.

Mike Radburn

Ladbroke Neighbourhood Watch

Warwickshire Police has now launched a new website at www.warwickshire.police.uk and it will include the weekly Southam Crime Summary. (It can be found by going to the Southam police station pages.) The crime summary is a look at the crimes of public interest that occurred on the Southam policing area over the last seven days. The police do not as normal practice include crimes of shoplifting, bilking, domestic violence, fraud, or offences occurring on the Barnhill M40 service areas.




A number of calls have been received about bogus household collections. Residents in the Southam and Rugby area have been leafleted with a request for bric-a-brac in aid of needy children. However, the requests do not appear to come from a registered charity and it is therefore possible that any donations will be sold to profit the collectors.

Residents across the county have been receiving unsolicited phone calls from an energy supplier offering both gas and electricity. Householders have complained that they have either declined the offer or have asked for further information and then received notification of their "verbal agreement" to change their supplier. These cases of energy mis-selling have been taken up with Energy Watch. Please report any rogue traders via the website or telephone 01926 414000.

Mike Radburn

Sponsored Cycle Ride

We have several people taking part in the Sponsored Cycle Ride to be held on Saturday 13th September:

-  The Constable Family, especially James
-  The Walker Family, Village Farm
-  Jamie Sowerby

Their sponsorship forms will be in church at the family services on 7th September should you wish to make a contribution.

Please give them your support.

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke Millennium Green Trust

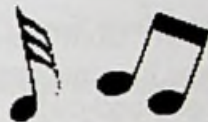
The Annual General Meeting for Ladbroke Millennium Green Trust is to be held on Friday 24th October 2003 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Please come and give the Trustees your support, and listen to proposed plans for the future development of the Millennium Green.

Carol Lane

"Ladbroke Does The Blues"

Ladbroke Village Hall Committee have organised an evening of live music and dancing with the "Bloze Kings" on Friday 3rd October 2003 from 8.00pm till late in the Village Hall.



So, join us and dance the night away to this very popular band. Bar facilities will be available.

Tickets are priced at £10 each to include a buffet, and are available from Collette Batty (817278) or Sue Halsall (811838).

Sue Halsall

The Facts Of Life

I cannot remember where I found the following – it most definitely doesn't apply to the folks of Harbury and Ladbroke. There again there may be people other than my husband who say "They'll do it"!!

"This is the story of four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody and there was an important job to be done.

Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did. Somebody got angry because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done."

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

Fund Raising Barbecue

A Sunday lunch-time barbecue to raise funds for Ladbroke Church extension was held at Chapel Ascote Farm, Ladbroke on 10th August.

After some early rainfall, the sun shone and everyone enjoyed a delicious food cooked by four excellent chefs, together with salads and sweets prepared by the ladies of the committee.

We dined to the sounds of local band 'Loco Mundo' and played games during the afternoon.

I am very pleased to announce that we raised £600, and I am very grateful to all who helped on the day.

Jenny Barrett

Harbury Review

The results of the Review have now been published along with a Draft Action Plan (copies from Linda Ridgley on 612792). The Parish Council is now using this information to devise its Parish Plan, which will seek to solve the problems exposed by the survey. Below, we give a flavour of what came out of the Review process.



WHAT YOU SAID!

THE HOUSEHOLD SECTION was intended to give us baseline details about the people who live here. The typical family lives in Harbury in an owner-occupied detached house. Over ninety percent of homes have mains electricity, water, sewerage, central heating and inside WC, but only two thirds have a computer, and only half are connected to the internet. Sixty-nine children could enter

Harbury School in the next four years. Forty-seven percent of respondents reported no one from their household had been forced away to find suitable/affordable housing. However, there were seventy-nine individuals who had done so. (In the personal section, thirty-one people said they needed separate accommodation.)

The survey showed that there is little existing "social" housing or homes available for rent within the parish.



HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Details of the Housing Needs Survey must remain confidential, but there were thirty-six respondents, of whom five wanted a single person flat. Eleven needed a two-bedroomed house; five families required a three-bedroomed home; eight wanted a bungalow and there were five requests for sheltered accommodation (two people did not specify what they wanted).

The majority of households needed rented homes, eight would like shared equity dwellings, seven could buy on the open market. Seven were unspecified.

The Draft Action Plan for Housing looks like this:

PROBLEM	ACTION
HOUSING NEED	a) In depth survey of type and need.
Single person flats	b) PC to identify sites within the community through consultation exercises. Parish to help negotiate with landowners.
Two/three bed family homes	
Shared equity houses	c) Parish to feed Review results into Local Strategic Partnership and Plan.
Sheltered accommodation	d) Parish provide results of Review to Local Plan Team at Stratford.

PARTNERS	FUNDING
a) SDC Housing Dept, John Gordon, 01789 267575. Warwickshire Rural Housing Association, Shaun Fielding, 01530 411877.	Housing Corporation Grant.
b) Ditto and SDC Planning Dept, Colin Staves, 01789 260333.	Existing Parish Plans Grant.
c) Local Partnership Officer, Martin Gibbons at Stratford, 01789 260150.	No cost.
d) SDC, Simon Payne, 01789 267575.	

The Parish Plan process should include further consultations on possible sites for not only the provision of local needs housing but also for other community requirements (perhaps for business and recreation).

The Review Team would like to thank everyone who helped or took part in this process, including the Parish Council, and to congratulate Gwen Austin and her family who won the £50 prize draw for a meal at The Shakespeare Inn.

Linda Ridgley, Secretary



Harbury Society

Harbury Society

Our Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room made over £100, thanks to great support from members and the public.

We had the Review Report on show which was very well received (telephone 612792 for your copy). The Society, along with the Review Group, will now be helping the Parish Council to undertake the actions outlined and to formulate the Parish Plan.

Already Warwickshire Rural Housing Association has agreed to help with a full-scale Housing Needs Survey, and Stratford Rural Transport Partnership will help prepare a "village-specific" bus timetable for Harbury. However, satisfying local housing needs is totally dependant upon suitable land being found and on the availability of subsidy.

Harbury Society's next event is a Guided Tour of the Jephson Gardens starting at 6.30pm at The Parade entrance on Thursday 11th September.

On 28th October, we have a return visit from Ed Moss of British Waterways, who will give an update on the Aqueducts projects.

Linda Ridgley



Harbury Women's Institute

We have had a lovely summer. There was no meeting in August but plenty of activities.

The Garden Party went well, with members sitting in Jean Abraham's lovely garden enjoying the company and refreshments. Many thanks to Jean and Gordon.

The river trip on the Countess of Evesham at Stratford is always a super evening out. The meal was first class and recommended.

Our members were guests of Southam Women's Institute to commemorate their 75th anniversary. They were entertained by a ladies' barber-shop choir.

A few of our members joined Ladbroke Women's Institute on their day out to Evesham, and had a great time.

A reminder that the Horticultural Show is to be held on 13th September. Please support the Tombola Stall; any donations may be left at 55 Mill Street or handed to any Women's Institute Member (by 10th September please). See you there!

Our September speaker will be Mr Hector Sutherland on "Food For Thought".

Jeanne Beaumont

Harbury Senior Citizens

Once again, Paul Winchester and his team put together a wonderful fund raising evening and the committee would like to thank him for his very generous donation of £400.

The coffee morning held in the Tom Hauley Room raised £192.51. Thank you to all those who popped in during the Garden Walkabout and helped to make it a success.

A total of £424.59 was raised by the Summer Lunch which was again well supported, and everyone seemed to enjoy the meal.

We really do appreciate the village support in raising funds to provide a summer outing and a Christmas dinner for the Senior Citizens of Harbury.

Many thanks to everyone.

Sue Exton, Secretary

Harbury Toddler Group

The summer seems to be passing in a flash, but the Toddler Group has been very busy since we last went to print in the Harbury and Ladbroke News in June.

Carnival

What a result we had at the Carnival, third prize in the Children's Float category with our farm theme, and we made £73.40 on the Treasure Hunt stand which went towards funding the summer trip. It was great to see the Dad's taking part too. Many thanks to everyone for their support, in particular to Nicholas Morley for lending us not only the tractor but himself as driver as well; the Trice family for the trailer; Jonathan Jennings for the brilliant treasure chest, and our very own Clare Stone who volunteered to be our Artistic Director and inspired us to do great things with cardboard and sellotape!! Also, congratulations to Joy Moore, who won the hamper.

Summer Outing

This year, twenty-two toddlers and their mums/carers went to Umberslade Farm near Tanworth in Arden. We were met by our own guide for the day, who showed us round the farm, talked about the animals, and allowed the children to stroke and, where possible, hold all sorts of farmyard friends from chickens to pigs and sheep. They bottle fed lambs, gave calves milk from a bucket, and even had a demonstration of milking a goat which completely enthralled them! After a picnic lunch and some time in the excellent play area, a tractor and trailer ride took us round the outer reaches of the farm, before a last look at the animals and back onto the coach for, in most cases, a rather sleepy ride home.

Sponsored Toddle

The Toddle, run over a half-mile course on the playing fields, raised a magnificent total of over £250, which will enable us to purchase several new "crash mats". Fifteen children took part, together with assorted parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and younger (non-toddling) siblings. They set off together and everyone completed the course, to be rewarded by refreshments all round and a certificate and sweets for the Toddlers. Special prizes were awarded to Dominic (aged 2 years 8 months), Adam (aged 17 months) and Anna (aged 19 months). Dominic completed the course at a rapid jog – twice – hotly

pursued by his father who seemed rather more 'out of breath' at the end than Dominic! Adam and Anna marched on doggedly and completed 'The Toddle' without assistance from pushchairs or Dad's shoulders despite their young age. Congratulations to all those who took part, and many thanks to all the sponsors.

Teddy Bears' Picnic

After all the fantastic weather in the past few weeks, we made contingency plans to hold the picnic in the Wight School if the rain came at the wrong moment; but we were lucky, the sun shone and we were able to sit in the shade of the trees near the village hall car park. The children brought their teddy bears and we all enjoyed a leisurely picnic, followed by a "Teddy Bear Hunt" where the children had to find one of the paper teddy bears that had been pinned up around the tennis courts and play area. They were rewarded for their efforts with a chocolate bar, and then went off to make the most of the lovely weather and the proximity of the park before being 'rounded up' by their respective parents/carers.

Lana Long

Finally, particular thanks must go to Lana Long for her incredible work in fund raising, organising, and unstinting involvement in Toddler Group activities over many years. Lana has decided to stand down from the Toddler Group Committee as her children are now out of Toddlers, and she will no doubt be concentrating her efforts on Harbury Pre-School and Primary School. However, it is largely due to her efforts that the Toddler Group is in a financially stable position, with a wonderful play area and great toys. Her achievements on behalf of the Toddler Group are too numerous to mention, but we are undoubtedly indebted to her. Thank you Lana!

If anyone would like to know more about the Toddler Group, please just come along to one of the sessions at the Wight School, behind the Library, on Monday's 10.00am-11.30am and Wednesday's 1.30pm-3.00pm, or call Bud Jackson (Chair of the Toddler Group Committee) on 613434, or Nicky Kirk (Secretary) on 614316.

Harbury Toddler Group Committee

Harbury Tennis Club

August was a hot and busy month for many reasons, not all welcome! We organised a very successful four days of coaching with Pat Langston, assisted by our own Linda Casement. It concentrated on the Juniors and Intermediates with twenty-nine children taking part. It was the first time we have been able to give the Intermediates an opportunity to have a qualified coach, which was very satisfying. From the feedback we've had from both parents and children, the sessions were a huge success and we will be looking to run similar sessions in the future.



Becky McDaid and Sue Mercer eventually overcame Rosemary Harley and Jane Parker in a close final. Andrew Rendell and Keith Thompson were in dominant form in the early stages but were pushed very hard by David Lauder and Colin Mercer in the final.

Paul Crowton (aka Tournament Tsar!) was busy and organised both the Men's and the Ladies' Doubles Tournaments to take place on the same evening; ably assisted by his "apprentice" Caroline Morland. Nobody was allowed much rest between the "Round Robin" phase to make sure the finals could be played in decent light. In the Ladies' Tournament,



All this positive activity was soured by the damage to the floodlights on Saturday 2nd August. The vandals who had caused trouble in the village earlier in the evening moved to the tennis courts where they smashed four of the six lights, and left the courts strewn with rocks and broken beer bottles. Banners on the fence were also ripped down. It took a hastily convened working party of six club members to sweep up all the glass on Sunday morning, so that they were safe enough for the coaching that started the following day. The Police were involved, and whilst they have strong suspicions as to who was

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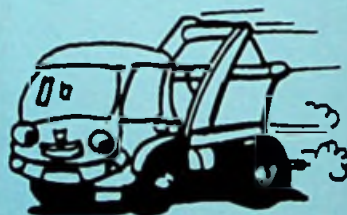


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responsible are unable to press charges without witnesses. It will cost £700 to repair the lights.

We hope to be in a position in the coming weeks to finish the landscaping around the Clubhouse and the Netball Court. That will virtually complete the project, with the connection of a water supply being the only outstanding item, and we hope to have that completed this year!

The Banbury Summer League is now in its closing stages and the "A" and "B" Teams continue to maintain consistency. The "A" Team look set for a quick return to Division 1 having lost only 2 matches. The "B" Team are even more consistent having lost their twelfth successive game against Middleton Cheney "C". However, we like to take something positive from all situations, and from comments made by our opponents it's clear that our refreshments are top of the league!

Finally, there are still some tables left for our annual Craft Fair on Saturday 8th November. If anyone is interested in a table, please contact Tim Lockley on 614532.

Colin and Sue Mercer



Harbury Juniors Football Club

The new season will start in September after a series of pre-season friendly matches. This year, we will be fielding five squads involving about eighty players in total. We welcome a new U14s team joining the club who will be known as Harbury Hawks. The U9s and U11s will

play in the Three Counties Junior Football League, and the two U14s and the U16s will play in the Mid-Warwickshire Boys League.

The September 2003 fixtures for the U14s and U16s are:

7th September

U16s	Home to Henley Forest
U14s Harbury Juniors	Home to Khalsa
U14s Harbury Hawks	No fixture

14th September

U16s	Away to Lodge Park
U14s Harbury Juniors	Away to Alcester Athletic
U14s Harbury Hawks	Home to Whitnash Juniors

21st September

U16s	No fixture
U14s Harbury Juniors	Away to Bilton Ajax
U14s Harbury Hawks	Home to Alcester Athletic

28th September

U16s	Home to St Peters Celtic Colts
U14s Harbury Juniors	Home to Kenilworth Wardens Juniors
U14s Harbury Hawks	Away to Balsall & Berkswell

Home matches kick off at 2.00pm on a Sunday afternoon at the village playing field. Spectators are always welcome.

The fixture list for the younger age groups is not yet available, but they will be playing their home matches at the school playing field.

If you wish to know more about the club, or feel that you wish to get involved in the clubs football or social activities, please contact one of the Team Managers listed below, the Chairman or myself.

John Wilkins	(U16s Team Manager) Tel. 612115
Mick Pratt	(U14s Harbury Juniors Team Manager) Tel. 817700
Keith Edwards	(U14s Harbury Hawks Team Manager) Tel. 421414
Jim Farrell	(U11s Team Manager) Tel. 612396
Steve Darby	(U9s Team Manager) Tel. 613330
Gary Barnes	(Chairman) Tel. 614807
Steve Young	(Club Secretary) Tel. 813690

Finally, we would like to wish all old and new players and coaches an enjoyable and successful 2003/2004 season.

Steve Young, Club Secretary



The Alpha Course in Harbury ...

will be launched at The Shakespeare Inn on Monday 15th September with a cold buffet and a crime mystery presented by Harbury Theatre Group. The evening starts at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, and will end around 10.30pm. It will include a five-minute presentation on the aims of Alpha, and you will have the opportunity – but no pressure! – to register. The price for

food and entertainment is £6.50. Book in advance. Tickets are available from 30 Mill Street, or telephone 613214. Cheques payable to All Saints Church, Harbury, please.

Then on every Monday from September 22nd to December 1st (except October 27th – the Monday of Half Term) the course will take place in the Tom Hauley Room – the modern, warm and welcoming parish building you find if you follow the path round the left of the church. They will start at 7.00pm (not 7.30pm as previously advertised) and finish around 9.00pm. There will be no charge, but a voluntary contribution for refreshments will be welcome.

Alpha courses will be advertised nationally during September. Look out for the Alpha logo on posters and flyers around the village. You can register your interest with Tony Stubbs at 5 South Parade (612872), Lesley Jones at 15 Pineham Avenue (613207) or Felicity Harris at 1 Dovehouse Lane (612395) – even if you don't come to the launch night. Or just come along to the course on any Monday. Nobody will be turned away!

John Stringer

Calor Village Of The Year Competition 2003

As you may have recently read in the Harbury News or the Leamington Spa Courier, Harbury has been chosen to represent Warwickshire in the 'Calor Village Of The Year Competition'. We are now one of forty villages from England and Wales who will compete in the regional heats, and ultimately in the national competition for a first prize of £6,000. The competition is judged on community spirit and the vibrancy of village life, so we feel that Harbury must stand an excellent chance!

A small group is currently assembling a written compilation of the many things that happen in Harbury which make it such a great place to live, and we would welcome comments and suggestions from all areas of the community.

During the last two weeks of October, we expect a visit from the regional judges; the date of this will be confirmed nearer the time, but it is likely to be midweek and during the day. We will need to make a presentation to the judges, lasting no longer than two hours and being as widely representative of the community as possible. Our initial suggested format would be to have one main speaker to welcome the judges and then allow them to visit tables/areas representative of as

many village groups as possible, talking to the people in charge of them. If you are a member of a group or organisation that feels it could put together a small static presentation (photographs, etc.) and have one or more people available "to man the area" on the day, please contact either Nicola Thompson (614646) or Jenny Patrick (614359) as soon as possible.

This will be our main opportunity to make Harbury 'come to life' for the judges, and we want to give the best impression possible, so please consider giving some of you time to help.

Jenny Patrick

Harbury Village Hall

Brian Ingram recently retired from the village hall committee, having served since 1987; the last ten years as Chairman.

On behalf of the committee, Peggie Middleton (the new Chairman), along with Midge Keen and Bill Middleton (the Treasurer), presented Brian with



a garden chair in appreciation of his commitment and hard work.

Bill Middleton

Harbury Ward Local Councillors

Councillors' Surgery on Saturday 27th September

We've decided to delay our 'Summer' Surgery until September, to give more people the chance to get there. It will be held at the Memorial Hall in Bishop's Itchington on Saturday 27th September.

If you have something you want to ask us, tell us or simply get off your chest, please come along any time from 10.00am to 12.00noon.

But please remember that you don't have to wait until then if you need us. Our contact details are below.

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

Harbury Post Office

After more than 33 years service, the sub postmaster of Harbury Post Office, Brian Taylor, has decided to retire.

The office will close at 1.00pm on Wednesday 10th September 2003 and will relocate to Mr Atwal, Harbury Supermarket, at 9.00am on Friday 12th September 2003.

On the day of closure, alternative offices for payment are Southam, Bishops Itchington and Radford Semele.



The new opening hours will be 9.00am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 12.30pm on Saturday.

I would like to wish Mr and Mrs Taylor a long and happy retirement, and wish all the best to Mr Atwal in his new venture.

Zoe Hibberd, Rural Transfer Advisor

The Post Office

Harbury Post Office is due to move to the supermarket on 12th September. This painless transfer is due in large part to the loyalty and public spirit shown by the Taylor family, who have kept the business running whilst the long drawn out process of setting up the new office took place. The village will show its appreciation for this dedication at a 'get together' in the Tom Hauley Room on 12th September.

Many people do not realise that sub-postmasters (and mistresses) are independent contractors who shoulder the responsibilities of financing and organising the delivery of the post office functions in our villages. They are not Post Office employees but entrepreneurs who provide a service for a fee.

Each transaction made in a post office has a certain value, and the use a community makes of its own post office has an impact on its viability. The Government says it is committed to maintaining a rural network of sub-post offices and has recently put a direct subsidy into the Post Office to back this up; but they still need to make a profit and many do not. Every year, four or five more are lost in this County alone.

For us in rural Warwickshire, it is very much a case of "use it or lose it"!

Linda Ridgley

"Time Out" For The Taylors!

The closure of the Post Office at the present premises in Church Street will mean more than the end of an era for postmaster Brian Taylor and his wife, Josie. It will bring an opportunity for Brian to take 'time out' from a twelve hour working day, which has seen him open up at 6.00am for sorting the village post and close after 6.00pm after completing the myriad of forms demanded by the current system. It has been part of his life for over fifty years, which is a tremendous achievement by any standard, but 'all good things have to come to an end sometime', and for Brian and Josie the doors will finally close on the family business this month.

A.W. Taylor and Son was opened by Brian's father, Archie, in 1947 when he took on the lease of Harbury General and Wine Store. Archie had been introduced to shop-keeping by one of his brothers who ran a

bakery store in Warwick; although he had started out in the family electro-plating firm in Birmingham with his father, followed by a spell spent driving around Wales for a paper company. For those who remember Archie driving orders around the local villages until well into his eighties, it is interesting to reflect on the fact that he had never been required to take a driving test! Archie and Madge lived 'above the shop' and Brian went to Campion School in Leamington when it occupied its former premises in Leicester Street. On completing his education, Brian went to work for G Orange (Estate Agents) in Leamington, as his father had decreed that he 'could not work for him until he had worked for another boss'. In the early days, Brian recalls that many items in the store were rationed, including sweets and there was a notice which stated that some products were for 'regular customers only'.

The Post Office was introduced into Taylor's in 1948; Brian joined the family firm in 1950 as a counter clerk. As a teenager growing up in the village, he played snooker at the Club (which let in young people 'provided they drank no alcohol') and spent time visiting family in Cromer on the East Coast. There were the heady delights of driving around the roads in the company of a car enthusiast when there were relatively few cars about. Although he does not consider himself to be a sportsman, Brian played football for the village when the Harbury Junior team captained by Mick Bishop 'needed players', and he also took his turn at the crease in similar circumstances! In 1952, Brian was posted to Düsseldorf to do his National Service in the Royal Artillery BAOR (British Army On the Rhine), but even on his two Christmas leaves from the Army, he spent time 'back behind the counter'. On his 'demob' two years later, he returned to assist with delivering the orders as well as keeping the books.

Josie's family was originally from Coventry, but they came to live in Harbury in 1941 when their house suffered a direct hit during the Blitz. They lived in one of the row of cottages which were adjacent to the vicarage in Vicarage Lane, and her parents were friendly with George Marshall, who was already established in the village as a well known builder. Josie went to Leamington Secretarial College in Holly Walk to learn shorthand and typing, and started work for Car Bodies in Coventry when the family returned to their house after it had been rebuilt. Eventually, she took a job as George Marshall's book-keeper for seven years, during which she gradually got to know Brian when she went to the Post Office to buy the National Insurance stamps for the company's employees.



Brian and Josie married in Wyken Parish Church, Coventry and came to live in the 'back half' of the accommodation above the shop until they bought their current home in Margaret Close. By now, Brian had passed his driving test and was allowed to help out delivering the orders to over one hundred customers in Ashorne, Deppers Bridge, Ladbroke and Ufton, as well as Harbury, and he was expected to provide the same level of service as his father, Archie. If this meant chatting to the customers, helping to put away the products he was delivering, then it was 'all in a day's work'. He could not compete with Archie in the customer service department, however, as his father had been known to go out on his rounds at 9am and only returned 'back to base' around 2pm. On one celebrated occasion at Christmas, Archie only returned home to the ever patient Madge at midnight, having assisted with numerous requests for help on his rounds!

In the sixties, Josie was mainly a housewife bringing up their three sons (Ian, Clive and Keith), although she was allowed to bag up the money collected from the local telephone boxes in Chesterton, the Banbury Road and Harbury. In those days, Brian recalls people queuing to use the boxes, which needed 1d, 6d or 1 shilling coins, and as the old pennies were rather large, the £20 bags of coins taken to the main GPO in Leamington were a considerable weight. As time went on, Brian took over ordering all the grocery stock, originally from Laxon's of Coventry (the VG wholesalers), but eventually he collected the orders from Nurdin and Peacock in Nuneaton.

The shop still involved several family members, with Josie helping out in the shop on the occasional weekday and on Saturday; but Brian recognises the tremendous support and commitment he has received from many helpers in both the Post Office (Mary Ceney, Mrs Drinkwater, Gill Carter, and more recently Dave Cooke) and in the shop (Nora Bastock, Mary Newbold and Pat Weeks), as well as many others over the years. It was an extended family with each person offering the same level of cheerful, helpful service that had been the watchword from the time Archie first established the General Store. Behind the scenes, the Post Office sorters and deliverers have also worked impressively to maintain a level of service, which would be the envy of many towns and villages around the country (Tony Ceney, Leonie Keyte (daughter of long-serving post-lady Ethel Sollis), Barbara Southam, Margaret Warner and John Woodward, with Lesley Jones and Martin Perry acting as the relief 'posties').

The weeks ahead will provide Brian and Josie with the 'time out' they deserve for themselves after such long and faithful service to the village, and the chance to enjoy a well earned break. For Brian, there is gardening to look forward to and for Josie, her impressive cross-stitched samplers, which are a work of art. There will also be time to catch up with their sons and Ian's two children, Emily (10) and Alexander (3). Ian is a senior manager for HSBC in Southampton, Clive works as a software engineer for a machine tool company in Rugby, and Keith is the IT manager with Dictaphone in Hammersmith. It could mean a bit more time to go out on the road in pursuit of their own interests, instead of being tied to a job, which has provided the village with an impressively consistent service for over five decades.

A.W. Taylor and Son may no longer have a shop-keeping presence in the village, but the name will always be synonymous with all that is best in local shops – friendliness, efficiency, and caring, personal service.

Chris Finch

Saturday Coffee Mornings

Shortly, the new coffee morning rota will be compiled which will run from the beginning of January 2004. The Coffee Mornings are very popular, and it is important that everyone wishing to be included is incorporated in the new rota.

If you are already on the rota, you will automatically be included in the new one, unless I am informed otherwise. If you have not previously

taken part and would like to do so, please let me know by 1st October.

One of the difficulties in compiling the rota is being able to send it out to the right contacts, therefore, if this information has changed, it is important that you let me know.

Anyone new wishing to be included in the rota, or for any changes to existing information, please call me on 612504.

Finally, I would like to wish you all success in your fund raising.

Joyce Windsor

Harbury Victorian Street Fayre



It is back again after three years on Saturday 11th October, from 5.00pm onwards and is one of those Harbury events that make the village so special. There will be an abundance of stalls, food and drink, fairground rides, Punch and Judy, music, dancing, a raffle (with £100 first prize), and much more.

The main beneficiaries of money raised by the organisers will be Harbury Cub Scouts and Brownies and Cancer Research UK. If you or your organisation would like to raise money, call 614062 to book a stall.

Nick Tawney

Harbury Bonfire Evening

1st November 2003 (Harbury Church and GASS)

Like many other good things in our lives today, the future of the Harbury Bonfire Evening has been seriously threatened this year by spiralling insurance costs. The Church has been obliged to increase its insurance cover specifically for this event, at an increased cost of several hundred pounds.

This extra cost would wipe out a large part of the financial contribution made to the village scouting groups by this event. The Church and GASS (Guide And Scout Support) have discussed this problem and

agree that this important village event, which has run for at least thirty years I am told, must continue if at all possible.

We have decided to go ahead, but we do need your special support this year. Firstly, by buying advance tickets which will be on sale next month (and will include entrance into a raffle), and secondly, we will ask you to pay a bit more for tickers this year, in order to cover the increased insurance costs.



Thank you for your understanding, and let us look forward to another great firework evening (and better weather than last year!). Please also note the earlier date.

Alan Guy, Chairperson of GASS

Blood Donor Session

Congratulations – the session on 28th August was attended by 106 people – the most since February 2002. This included 9 new donors, and resulted in 97 successful donations – an increase of 15 on the last visit in May.

If you missed the session, there is another in Southam on 6th November, and frequent sessions in Leamington. Details are available from myself on 614809, the Blood Service Helpline on 0845 711 711, or BBC Ceefax Page 465.

The next Blood Service visit to Harbury will be on Thursday 29th January, 2004. The first entry in next year's diary, perhaps?

Gillian Hare

Sounds Of The Sixties (2003)

Just when you think things can't get any better – they do! This year's event with the six live bands performing in a marquee on the Rugby Club grounds was a vintage year. The weather was fantastic, so that all the devotees of folk/country and western/60's chart toppers could choose to dance the night away or sit outside on a balmy night enjoying the 'sounds' from a distance. Although there was no attempt by the organisers to advertise the event this year, all the tickets were

allocated within days through word of mouth, as enthusiasts clamoured to 'be there' in support of the Teenage Cancer Trust.

As in previous years, all the efforts of the bands, car park attendants, scaffold erectors, stage dressers were entirely voluntary, so that all the profit can be given directly to the Trust. This year, £6,600 was raised from ticket sales and the raffle, which is already an increase on the amount raised at a similar stage last year. By the time the follow-up evening is arranged for later in the year, the organisers are hoping to exceed last year's target of £8,000.

On the night, the grounds of the Rugby Club were opened up to allow twelve beneficiaries of the Teenage Cancer Trust to camp overnight in the company of the Senior Manager, Nigel Revell and his wife Cath. Nigel was delighted to be present, and the teenagers in his company enjoyed a fantastic night revelling in the atmosphere of the live music and even livelier company of the 500 'supporters' of the event! The event is so well recognised locally that it sells itself, and it is hoped that it can continue as a fixture in the Harbury calendar for a number of years.

Although the main mood of the evening was very up-beat, it was not without a tinge of sadness at the sudden loss of 'JR' (John Roddis), the lead guitarist of Woody Allen and the Challengers. The group are exceptionally well-known in the local pubs and clubs for their superb musicianship and Woody's incredible singing. They had been billed to perform again this year, but JR's sudden death a few days earlier meant last minute changes. It didn't stop Woody and several members of the Challengers from turning up in support of the event and joining in the tribute to their colleague. The organisers called for a minute's silence in memory of 'JR' and the entire gathering showed the greatest respect by standing to remember a tremendous performer. In addition, Woody and the remaining members of the band performed an amazing rendition of 'Johnny Be Good', as their testimony to a well-loved colleague.

The 'band of five' who organise 'Sounds of the Sixties' – Andy Cowan, Dave (Crockett) Edmans, Sue Dronfield, Michelle Griffin and father, Joe, were overwhelmed by the support from the community on the night. They offer their special thanks to all the team of helpers without whom it would be impossible to stage the event, as well as to the local sponsors who provide funding to cover the major expenses or one of the huge range of raffle prizes.

It is hoped that 'the show will go on' for a number of years in support of

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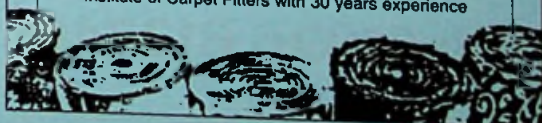
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an exceptionally worthwhile cause, but as always, voluntary support from anyone who feels they have a contribution to make would be welcome. 'Sounds Of The Sixties' obviously strikes a chord with many people for all the right reasons; so if you have a contribution to give, please make yourself known and you will be "more than welcome" says Joe, who masterminds the event.

Chris Finch

Treasures Of The Great British Heritage

Our village hall will be the venue for an exciting series of illustrated lectures being put on by Warwickshire College.

"Treasures Of The Great British Heritage" runs from 9.45am to 11.45am starting on Thursday 2nd October until 18th December (with a half term break).

The ten week course will cost £55; reduced to £41.25 for 60-64 year olds, £27.50 for over 65 year olds, and nothing for those in receipt of benefit. (To book a place on the course, call Dawn on 318172.)

Not only will this initiative bring information and entertainment to villagers, but the hiring fees bring in revenue for our village hall; helping the management committee maintain and improve facilities for everyone who uses it.

Linda Ridgley

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning

We are holding a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief on Friday 26th September in The Tom Hauley Room between 10.00am and 12.00noon.

Please come along and support us, as we are hoping to make it a bigger coffee morning than last year.

There will be a raffle, cakes and bring and buy, so please come and have a coffee and a chat, and help this worthy cause.



Mary Ceney

The Grange Players Of Southam

The Grange Players are putting on a comedy play on 24th and 25th October from 7.30pm at The Grange Hall in Southam. The evening is themed "a Greek evening of comedy by candlelight".

Tickets are £5 which includes a selection of Greek nibbles, and there will be a licensed bar. It would be great if there was some local support. New faces are really welcome!

For tickets contact Karena Ellis on telephone 613867, or for further information karena@karena.fsbusiness.co.uk.

Karena Ellis

Santa Is Lighting Up Southam



Santa is dusting off his sleigh to arrive in style to make a special appearance at the switch on of Southam's Christmas Lights on Monday 1st December 2003.

Part of Coventry Street will be closed and there will be stalls, a bouncy castle and fairground rides. The fun all starts at 5.00pm, with the big switch on at 6.00pm.

Everyone is welcome to come and join in and get the festive season off to a bright start (and your first chance to see Santa).

Are you part of a local association or a local business, would you like to contribute to this years' display or would you like to have a stall? If so, please contact the association c/o Bowholm, 3 Meadow Road, Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 1EN or telephone 01926 813577.

Carolyn Akelster, Publicity Officer

Offchurch Flower Festival 'September Song'

At St Gregory's Church on Friday 19th, Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st September we will be holding our Flower Festival, from 10.00am to 6.00pm. There will be live organ music on Saturday and until 5.00pm on Sunday. At 6.30pm on Sunday we will commence the 'Choral Evensong'.

Teas will be available in the Village Hall throughout the weekend, and everyone is welcome.

Mrs C Ainscow

Electric Blanket Testing

Warwickshire County Council's Trading Standards Service is offering electric blanket testing 'free of charge' to Warwickshire Over 60s. Electric blanket tests will take place at several venues in October:

Thursday 9 th October	- Nuneaton Fire Station
Friday 10 th October	- Atherstone Fire Station (am)
	- Coleshill Town Hall (pm)
Monday 20 th October	- Kenilworth Library
Tuesday 21 st October	- Shire Hall, Warwick
Wednesday 22 nd October	- Rugby Library
Thursday 23 rd October	- Stratford Fire Station
Friday 24 th October	- Leamington Library

Tests will be conducted by appointment only, and bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis.

The number of appointments is limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

To book an appointment call free phone on 0800 413332.

The free phone number will be staffed between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday, and an answer phone will operate at all other times.

"In past years we have found faults on up to 75% of all the blankets we have checked. Unsafe electric blankets are the cause of many house fires each year, and can often lead to death or serious injury. Elderly people are particularly at risk, making up a large percentage of reported deaths. We are determined to rid Warwickshire of dangerous and unsafe electrical blankets and we urge you to take up this opportunity."

Pat Whorton, Warwickshire County Council

Ufton – Take Time Out

Sponsored Cycle Ride



Saturday 13th September, 10.00am-6.00pm.

This event is open to walkers and horse-riders as well as cyclists, and is on behalf of Warwickshire and Coventry Historic Churches Trust. Half of the money raised will go to Ufton Church.

Winners Cups (to be retained for a year) will be presented to those visiting the most participating churches in the age ranges of under 18 years, 18 to 54 years, and 55 years and over.

Sponsor Forms and a list of participating churches is available from Terry Coombs on 01926 613685. Volunteers are also needed for hourly periods on the day to record visitors to the churches. All participation is appreciated!

Stumpwork Embroidery

Thursday 18th September, 10.00am-12.30pm, Ufton Village Hall.

Future Diary Dates

Sunday 28th September, Harvest Festival.

Saturday 4th October, Harvest Supper.

Karin Kirk

From Yesteryear

Apologies for the lack of items from the school's Local Collection recently, but there have been one or two minor distractions stopping me getting round to digging them out.

The following extracts are from the Parish Magazine towards the close of the 19th Century. The first is a wonderful example of a piece of creative writing which ran away with its writer, starting off as it does with a pure statement of fact, but quickly degenerating into a hysterical tirade, threatening eternal damnation to the fire-raiser.



Incendiary Fires: We have only space to note the sad occurrence of five incendiary fires on Saturday night June 21st and Sunday morning in Harbury and Chesterton, where no incendiary fires have been known within living memory. At present, no definite evidence can be obtained, nor has anything transpired to put the crime on anyone and all must guard against hasty suspicions and rash judgements, but although such wickedness may for a time be undiscovered, yet assuredly it shall not go unpunished for God saw it; and these things are noted in His book. That wickedness of Man should be so great as to destroy in God's sight, God's own gifts, and corn that sustains the life of Man.

The same writer must have been involved with the following cheerless "Thou shalt not" event.

The prospects for the Jubilee celebrations at Harbury seem very bright. About £80 has been subscribed, and a representative and very energetic committee is hard at work. A house to house census has been taken, and about 720 dinner tickets and 330 tea tickets issued, and the issue has finally closed. The Dinner will be held in the Parks by kind permission of Mr Carpenter. One pint of beer (or lemonade) will be the allowance for males, with half a pint for females. It will be interesting to watch for the Signal Rockets on Malvern at 10.00pm, and the answering bonfires on other hills. To carry out this programme, much voluntary assistance will be required in carving, cooking and waiting. All we hope will unite to make the day happy and harmonious. No disorderly conduct will be permitted on the Ground. There will be a refreshment tent for the supply of tea, coffee and mineral waters.



The next two are rather touching accounts of accidents.

We are glad to record an act showing great presence of mind on the part of a little boy, Walter Griffin, 7 years old at the North Cottages. His younger brother, 2 years old, fell over a fender, December 14th, and his clothes caught fire. He dragged him out of the smoke, undressed him, and carried him to bed. When asked why he did not call for help to his only neighbour, he calmly said, "Oh! I thought she would have been frightened". The little sufferer was removed to Harbury, and although severely burnt, is under the care of Mr Rice, progressing favourably.

A sad accident happened at the Lime Works to John Hickson. He was wheeling a barrow of stone, from which one fell under the wheel, and the sudden stop caused him to over-balance himself and he fell 20 feet onto a wagon of stone, fracturing his skull. He was promptly and carefully removed to the Warneford Hospital. He is somewhat better, but still in a critical condition.



.... and one for animal lovers. I wonder how they got the animal out through the folding doors?

You will all be pleased to hear that the poor old white horse has been redeemed by Miss Hodges from the Southam bus and returned to its old home.

Finally, a rather confused report by the school overseers, who seem to think "the school is going well" but

Mixed School – The school is going well. Spelling is weak throughout, and handwriting needs some attention. Grammar has improved. Needlework is not strong, yet the children are orderly and sing well.

Infant's School – The singing is a failure and ought not to be taken again until taught in the upper school.

Nigel Chapman

Musings From A Country Garden (14)

New Development For Ladbroke - no planning permission necessary!

Bell View Garden has been confusing blue tits for years soon after we moved, one of Stan's woodworking friends made us a free-standing letter box which was 'a bird box look-alike' with the exception that there was no hole for the birds to go through. It had 'LETTER BOX' in large letters printed on it, and a door with a knob which the postman lifted to push the letters through. This box is situated outside the dining room window, so one could watch our perplexed feathered friends frequently as they tried to get inside. After many years of trying, some birds learnt that they could push the knob with their beaks and the door would open, but fortunately for them it did not remain open long enough for the bird to enter.

This year because of not being able to get to the letter box very easily, another friend has made it into a "semi-detached 'des-res'" for blue

tits, - with a hole in the front and another in the rear and a partition down the middle. I shall watch with interest to see what happens when nesting time comes round again. In actual fact, only hours after David had finished the transformation, a great tit inspected it very closely and almost disappeared through the hole in the front. He changed his mind and came back out again pretty smartish. A tortoiseshell butterfly was the next interested party - he went in and came out again a little later on.

Original Front Door - Toad In The Hole!

Another innovation has been an attachment for the inside of the front door which keeps out wildlife and draughts. It has fine bristles which close up the quite wide gap. This was brought about by a nocturnal visit of a small BLACK creature that I thought from my view point at the top of the stairs might be a l-a-r-g-e spider. I telephoned my "emergency" friend who came over and discovered it was a baby toad. I like toads; we have assorted sizes all over the place. This little chap was off course and not very happy inspecting my stair lift. Of course, all types of wildlife find their way under the door.... frogs, toads, mice, beetles and my bête noire - spiders! However, since this 'bristle excluder' has been fitted, nothing untoward has been able to get in. What joy!

Butterflies, Bumble Bees And Dragonflies

I have had several opportunities to watch the activity around the four Buddleia trees. It has been fascinating. I don't think I have ever seen so many of these three species before. I had to give up counting the butterflies there were so many. I have also had to tread very carefully over the shale with my walker as the large butterflies have been stretched out flat over the surface. I have never seen this before - I am still searching for a reason.

Ginger - et al

Ginger the feral cat has established a behavioural pattern this last month - he pays very regular visits once every third day. A black and white cat has also appeared and seems to be living on the top of my compost heap. I talk to both of them but cannot get near to either, so this addition must also be a feral cat. How do I attract them I wonder? It's not food, as I have not fed the black and white cat and Ginger only eats inside my kitchen.

Have you noticed? At 5.00am when I get up, the smell of Autumn is now obvious. The hips and haws are already red, the elderberry is covered with fruit, and the crab apple tree is loaded. One thinks immediately of Christmas puddings that used to be made at the end of September. Where does the time go?

Elsa Greenway



Horticultural Society

The Village Show (Saturday 13th September) is almost here, and if you have not already got one, please pick-up a schedule as the committee believe there is something for everyone. There are classes for cooking (how about a carrot cake?), preserves, flower arranging, extra wine classes, paintings, photography, crafts, etc., etc. Please make sure the judges are well occupied, they do not like to be idle! Keep them happy and enter something. The youngsters, of course, have a schedule all to themselves.

As in previous years, the cut off date is the Wednesday before the show (10th September at 6.00pm). Please deliver your entry form and money to Janice Siddle at 35 Percival Drive, Dorothy Groves at 37 Mill Street, Ron Grey at 23 Deppers Bridge or Harbury School. This arrangement is essential for administration purposes and the staging of exhibits (Janice then has a fair idea of how much space to devote to each class). On the evening prior to the show, the tables and trestles have to be put in place and covered with paper, so if any strong men are willing to help please telephone Janice on 614459. Help is also required to dismantle everything afterwards at 4.15pm on the Saturday.

Please, please bring entries to stage well before 10.45am – this does take a while to complete and it would be a shame if you could not take part because your entry was late – all that wasted effort. The doors open at 8.00am, so no excuses!

As usual, there will be a Produce Stall, so if you have a contribution please bring it to the village hall on the morning of the show, but *not* between 11.00am and 12.30pm (whilst judging is in progress). As in previous years, any produce left at the hall after the show will be taken to Castel Froma; they are always very appreciative. There will be the raffle for a litre of whisky and various side shows; something of interest

for all ages. Anyone wishing to donate tombola prizes can hand them to Judy Morrall at 55 Mill Street or Ron Grey at 23 Deppers Bridge, by Wednesday 10th September please.

The Silver Cups and Trophies are being engraved – ready to be won yet again. They make a splendid display on the table in the hall. The list of winners will be published next month.

Even if you have not entered anything, do come to the village hall at 2.00pm on Saturday 13th September, to see what others have done.

An Update on the Garden Walkabout – as everybody will realise, John the treasurer was well satisfied with the proceeds, so our main donations this year are to Harbury Scouts, First Responder Group, Senior Citizens' and the Ladbroke Church Building Fund. Thank you everybody.

Our new season of talks start with "Foliage In The Garden" to be given by Linda Eggins on Tuesday 7th October at 8.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room. A full listing of the whole programme will be displayed at the show.

And finally a note for your diary the November (4th) talk will be given by our old friend Brian Cook and is titled "Pruning". We can rely on an entertaining evening!

Muriel Grey

Gardening Notes For September

Michaelmas, one of the four Quarter days, falls this month, so we begin to think of autumn after this exceptionally hot month of August. Everywhere looks so dried up and tired, the colours of ripening berries and tinted leaves will be a welcome change.

Continue deadheading to prevent plants setting seed (unless, of course, that is what you want) for propagation or decoration. Give all plants a general tidy up. The conservationists tell us that we are being too tidy in our gardens, so do your bit for wildlife by leaving a few hollow stems and dried up plants as winter quarters for insects. Hedgehogs, small rodents and toads will find shelter amongst leaves and twigs. If the soil becomes moist and whilst it is still warm, perennials that have become overcrowded or reluctant to bloom, can be divided. Lift the clump and take off the outer, younger pieces of

root, each with a few healthy shoots. Plant these and throw away the older centre part. Fleshy rooted ones like hostas and red-hot pokers resent root disturbance so are best left as large clumps. When these have to be divided, dig them up carefully then cut the thick roots with a sharp knife making sure that each section has stem growth and replant immediately. This may leave space for spring bedding or bulbs which can be put in this month.

Some lilies must be planted this month, in pots or in well-drained soil. Read the plant labels for the correct planting time as it does vary. Plant up bowls of treated hyacinth bulbs and paper narcissus, allowing eight-ten weeks to flowering time. Cover them and keep in a dark place for several weeks. I have found several vine weevils during the summer so I know they will have laid eggs, especially in pots. Before taking these into the greenhouse or house water them with vine weevil control.

If we get wet weather at the end of the month, plant evergreen hedges, roses and shrubs especially evergreen types and conifers. In dry weather, water at the roots and spray the foliage. It is also a good time to move any of these plants. This is a good time to tackle lawn problems. Perhaps stepping stones through areas that have become worn and compacted would help.

Continue sowing of radish, the variety China rose will go on into the winter. Sow an autumn carrot for Christmas cropping. Sow winter hardy spinach. Buy and plant-out spring cabbage, and it is not too late to raise some from seed and put out the young plants in October. Tie grease bands around apple trees trunks to catch the wingless female winter moths before they can crawl up to lay eggs on the bark. Spray against canker in stone fruits with a Bordeaux mixture in mid-September. Pick and store apples and pears. Scientists have worked out that in the 180 days from pollination to the mature apple a total of twenty four hours of sun energy is needed. The leaves must convert this solar energy into apple tissue to give us the fruit we love. The abundance of sunshine this year should mean we can look forward to a bumper crop. Fumigate the greenhouse after clearing the summer crops, to prevent pests over wintering. Take down any shading, and remember to close all vents as nights become cooler.

Bring in azaleas for winter flowering. Give a feed of Miracid. Begin to water cyclamen, sparingly at first then increasing as growth takes off. Replace some of the compost every three or four years. Bring back into the house any other plants which have been outside for the

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summer. The majority of our houseplants will survive in a winter temperature of 10°C so do not put them near a radiator or on a very sunny window sill.

Plant Of The Month - *Cimicifuga*



Cimicifuga simplex

This tall, autumn flowering perennial is not widely used, but is graceful and trouble free. The name comes from the Latin 'cimex' meaning a bug and 'fugo' to drive away. So, a common name for the type native to Europe and northern Asia is bugbane after its use as an insect repellent and for warding off bedbugs. This type *C. foetida* does have an unusual, slightly unpleasant smell.

Cimicifuga racemosa, coming from North America is known as snakeroot because of the form and shape of the root. The Doctrine of Signatures of the 16th Century stated that on all living things is a signature for the guidance of Man, so this plant was regarded as useful in cases

of snakebite. It will grow to four or five feet tall with fern-like leaves and bottlebrush-like spikes of white flowers.

The species native to China and Japan is *cimicifuga simplex*, and this can grow to eight feet, although the ones grown now are four to six feet in height. Their purple stems carry a mass of glossy ferny foliage and elegant sprays of small white flowers, making a rather more unusual addition to the late border. Plant them from October to March in any humus rich soil in light shade.

Pat Smith

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

To our friends,

We would like to thank you all our friends so much for your prayers and support on the death of our mother, Margaret Bevan. Mum would have been gladdened and deeply touched to see so many of you at the funeral on August 22nd. It was a very memorable day for us all. A special thank you to Father Roy for the lovely service, Clive Watts for the music, and to Goodwin's Undertakers.

Thank you all; you are special people.

Tony Bevan and Vanda Ball

Dear Editors

We would like to thank all those who sent cards and supported us in our loss of husband and father. Jim will be sadly missed.

Elizabeth Suttie, James & Julie, William & Isobel, Edward & Clare.

Dear Editors

Ron Stynes

We would like to say thank you to friends and neighbours for the cards and messages of sympathy during our sad loss, and for the donations to the Heart Foundation. Ron was known by a lot of people in Harbury, young and old, and he played darts for The Gamecock for a lot of years.

Thank you once again, and God bless you all.

Anita Stynes and Mrs C Washbrook

Dear Editors

Sheila and I would like to thank everyone who was involved in any way with our coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 2nd August in aid of the Macmillan Nurses. We had wonderful support from many people, and several generous donations. Thank you all very much indeed. We were able to send off a cheque to the Macmillan Nurses for £197.85p.

Liz Bunting and Sheila Scott

P.S. I am still collecting used ink cartridges and old mobile phones for the same charity, so keep them coming in. (Liz)

Dear Editors

Knitted Woollen Hats (Mission to Seafarers)



Caring for seafarers
around the world

Knitters (affectionately known as KNITWITS) are invited yet again to make colourful hats for distribution to the Seafarers from the Far East and other lands, who call at UK ports this winter.

A box will be available in church or deliver to 29 Neale's Close. Many thanks

Bill Davies

Dear Editors

May I offer you, and anyone in the villages who was offended by my laugh line in the July issue, my sincere apologies. I can assure you that no racial or anti Semitic slur was intended, and that no-one values the spirit of Harbury more than I.

I firmly believe that we should be able to laugh at ourselves, which is why, over the past nearly ten years, my laugh lines have been mainly 'vicar' or 'church' based. Hopefully, some of them have raised at least a smile. Rather than inadvertently cause offence, I shall now sign-off as your anonymous 'laugh liner'.

Roy Brown

Do you need help with any of the following?

Harbury Helpline is for you!

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT:

Call Charles Catt 612864, or John Travis 613264.

HELP WITH FORM FILLING:

- **Council Tax Forms, Post Office Pension Payments:**
Call David Cooke 614692.
- **For University/Job Applications, Interviews, CVs:**
Call Philip Bushill-Matthews 612476.

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

HOUSEHOLD BUDGETING ADVICE: Call Tony Brunton 612191.

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

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

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.

CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Friday 6.30pm.

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

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

DANCING CLASSES: Children only (01789-842242) Farley Room of Village Hall,
Wednesday 4.00pm-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: The 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 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: (613402) School Hall, Wednesday 8.00pm-10.00pm.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Tuesday of 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 PART'SHIP: (614274) Shakespeare Inn, 2nd Thursday of the month 8.00pm.

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

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursday 7.00pm.

PARISH PATHS PART'SHIP: (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-12.00noon, 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.

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

Club Website: www.harburytennisclub.homestead.com

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

W.I.: 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.

Please note:

Adverts to 31 Binswood End by 15th September

Articles to Harbury Chemist by 26th September

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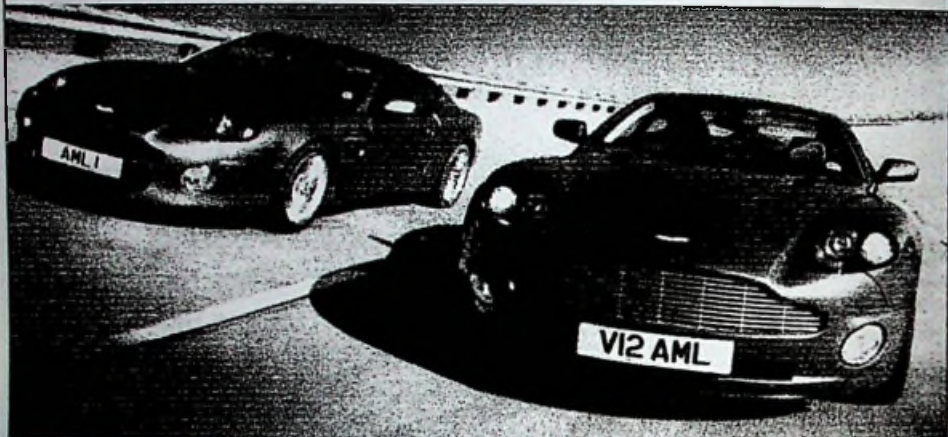
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