

Harbury & Ladbroke News

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☎ 612155

Harbury Chemist, High Street

articles@harburynews.freemove.co.uk

http://www.harburynews.freemove.co.uk

31, Binswood End (☎ 612155)

49, Mill Street (☎ 612009)

☎ 612009

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Editorial Team

John Holden - Chris Finch - Adrian French - Marian Millington
Ralph Swadling - Janice Thraves

The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team



Editorial

Our photograph shows, Colin Ingram presenting a bottle of champagne to Vicky at the Dog Inn, on behalf of the All Saints' Harbury Christmas Fayre Committee. Vicky broke all records in selling raffle tickets on behalf of the Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance Service.



At a recent Harbury & Ladbroke News Committee meeting, various suggestions were made about an improved format for the magazine; some of which were incorporated last month; with additional changes being included this month. We hope that readers will feel that the magazine is improved with the inclusion of an index and the uniform headings. It has been suggested that a For Sale and Wanted section might be helpful to readers – please contact our advertising office on 612155 if you have anything to sell. Any comment about the layout of the magazine or ideas for other

improvements would be welcome at our AGM, which will be held on Tuesday 4th April – venue to be confirmed.

For those who have wondered about the temporary roadways and construction sites leading off from Hall Lane and Ufton and Depper's Bridge roads, the railway contractor, Birse is undertaking extensive stabilisation work along the embankment between the Three Arch Bridge and the Great Western pub.

The Village Hall has also undergone major refurbishment this month and the Village Hall Committee ask for villagers' support in maintaining the premises in the condition they have worked hard to improve.

Finally, we extend our sympathies to the families of William Allsopp, Thomas Frost and Alan Padbury.

Harbury Diary

MARCH

- Wed 1 **ST DAVID'S DAY**
ASH WEDNESDAY School Service 10.30am
 Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes 2pm.
 Mothers Union 2.30pm
- Thurs 2 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Harbury Art Group 10am to 4pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Men's Society talk – Prison reform in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
 Folk Club 8.30pm in Shakespeare Inn
- Fri 3 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**
 Holy Communion 12 noon
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm
 Women's World Day of Prayer 2pm
 "Choice Donations" Pamper and Social Night in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm – 10.30pm
- Sat 4 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Junior Football
 10am – 12noon
- Sun 5 **LENT I**
 Sung Eucharist 9am
 Evening Worship 6pm
- Mon 6 Village Hall Committee 8pm in Village Hall
- Tues 7 Horticultural Society 8pm in Tom Hauley Room,
 History of Paeonies, Roger Smith
 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Youth Drop-in at Village Hall 7-9pm
- Thurs 9 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
 WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 10 Holy Communion 12 noon
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm
- Sat 11 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Tennis Club
 10am – 12noon
 Councillor's Surgery outside Post Office from 10am – 12noon
- Sun 12 **LENT II**
 Holy Communion 8am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 14 Toddlers service 2pm in Church
 Holy Communion 7.30pm with laying on of hands
 Lent Address – Haling and Wholeness
 Youth Drop-in at Village Hall 7-9pm
 Senior Citizens Benefit Committee 8pm in Village Hall

- Wed 15 Tea in the Tom Hauley Room 3-4pm
PCC meeting 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
ADVERTISEMENT TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM
- Thurs 16 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 17 **ST PATRICK'S DAY**
RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION
Holy Communion 12 Noon
Lent Lunch 12.30pm
- Sat 18 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am in Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of C.I.N.D.I.
10am – 12noon
- Sun 19 **LENT III**
Holy Communion 8am
Family Communion 10.30am
Fairtrade stall in Tom Hauley Room after Family Service
Evensong 6pm
- Tues 21 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Youth Drop-in at Village Hall 7-9pm
- Thurs 23 Holy Communion 9.45am
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
Parish Council in Village Hall 7.30pm
- Fri 24 **ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM**
Holy Communion 12 Noon
Lent lunch 12.30pm
- Sat 25 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Ladbroke Church 10am – 12noon
Casino Night in Village Hall
- Sun 26 **CLOCKS FORWARD**
MOTHERING SUNDAY
Holy Communion 8am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 28 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Youth Drop-in at Village Hall 7-9pm
- Wed 29 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30-4.30pm at 19 Farm Street
- Thurs 30 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 31 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**
Holy Communion 12 noon
Lent Lunch 12.30pm

APRIL

- Sat 1 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Theatre Group
10am – 12noon
Harbury Society Pub Walk round Hampton Lucy
Details - Ed Wilson 612345

- Sun 2 LENT V**
 Sung Eucharist 9am
 Evening Worship 6pm
 Annual Church Meeting 6.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Mon 3**
 Harbury Society AGM 7.30 for 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room
 Talk by Mr Harding "The Fosse Way"
- Tues 4**
 Horticultural Society 8pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Plant Pilgrimage to Western China, Linda Egging
 Harbury & Ladbroke News AGM 8pm (venue to be confirmed)
 Youth Drop-in at Village Hall 7-9pm
 Holy Communion 7.30pm with laying on of hands with Lent
 address – Healing and Wholeness

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- Fri 7** Choice Donations Children's Easter Disco 5pm – 7pm in Dog Inn
- Sat 8** "Ballroom Glitz" 70's TRIBUTE NIGHT in Village Hall
 8.30 - 12 midnight. Tickets £12.50 from Lana Long 613311



From the Rector

All Saints
HARBURY

Father Roy Brown

"The Fruit of the Spirit"

Jesus said:-

"A good tree cannot bear bad fruit or a poor tree good fruit. That is why I say you will recognise them by their fruits."

The 'fruits' are mentioned often in Scripture, mainly the grape pomegranate, fig, olive and apple. The word 'fruit' is very often used metaphorically and it is a rewarding exercise to reflect on the nature of the fruit in an effort to get a closer understanding of these metaphors. Let us take a well known one, the apple. The fruit of the apple, magnificent in shape, perfume and taste is the triumphal result of the tree's activity over the previous year. It withstood the rigours of winter; it produced seeds and flowers to attract insects to pollinate the seeds and over the summer months developed a thick, nutritious flesh around them. But the apple, in its perfect form is not an end in itself. It is the means by which the seed is fed, protected, nurtured and eventually introduced into the soil in which it will develop into an adult plant.

The fruit of the Spirit is to be used in just such a way. The gifts of the Spirit are used to further God's work and create the 'seeds' of salvation, while the fruit of the Spirit is for feeding, protecting, nurturing and ensuring the growth into maturity of these seeds.

But just what is the fruit of the Spirit? St Paul tells us that "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self control."

| | |
|--------------|--|
| LOVE | is crucial, both to God and one another. |
| JOY | in which cheerfulness in conversation with others illustrates our constant delight in God. |
| PEACE | with God and others leading into inner tranquillity. |
| PATIENCE | to defer anger and give contentment, no matter what will happen. |
| KINDNESS | shows itself in a readiness to do good for everyone when we have the opportunity. |
| GOODNESS | with which we show justice and honesty to others. |
| TRUSTFULNESS | accepting and trusting what others say and do. |
| GENTLENESS | with which we adopt an attitude towards others in keeping with the self denial of ourselves. |
| SELF CONTROL | leading to moderation and an aversion to self indulgence in the enjoyment of life. |

These are the 'fruit' of the Spirit in which other people that we came into contact with reach spiritual maturity.

"Thus you will be known by your fruits."



From the Registers

Funerals at Oakley Wood

February 15th William Allsopp (71)

February 20th Thomas Frost (79)

Funerals at All Saints Harbury

February 27th Alan Padbury (34)



Thought for the Month

Mere silence is not wisdom, for wisdom consists of knowing when and how to speak and when and where to keep silent.



From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

The presentation given by Philip at February's Family Service looked ahead to Lent which is now almost upon us.

Each member of the congregation was given a slip of gummed paper, and at the beginning of the presentation we were asked to think of something we'd done wrong and then join our slip with that of our neighbour in each pew - and so a chain was formed.

Philip likened them to the chains of sin and asked us to imagine them to be heavy, weighing us down and separating us from God. The children loaded the figure of Jesus (bravely represented by William) to show how, on the Cross, He bore all our sins. Philip reminded us that



God's love in giving us His only Son brought us forgiveness and salvation: and this was symbolised by the children pulling off the chains and tearing them to shreds - a process which they much enjoyed! The chains remained on the floor throughout the service and we trampled them underfoot as we came to Holy Communion.

The whole presentation - so simple in its concept, as the best ideas usually are - was powerfully symbolic and brought the entire congregation together in saying sorry for doing wrong and thank you to God for His love.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone who has worked our beautiful kneelers for All Saints' over many years. They've always been much admired and a representative number were taken to the recent exhibition at Compton Verney.



Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

Our afternoon speaker, Sue Halsall, was accompanied by six other people – except that cleverly each one was herself in disguise!

She started as a frail old lady, struggling with life alone, and used her alter ego's to demonstrate how Age Concern can come into such a situation and transform it completely. After an initial assessment, they can suggest appropriate help such as home care, safety checks, care after hospital discharge, the fitting of ramps and grab rails and help with decisions about future needs. Whilst there are some charges, according to ability to pay, all workers are approved and overseen and most work just at cost of materials. Above all, help and advice is friendly rather than bossy. The local office is 10 Clemens Street, Leamington Spa CV31 2DL; telephone (01926) 458125.

Our evening speaker was equally inspiring; he was Captain Stephen Thomas of The Salvation Army. He showed us a photograph of his great, great grandfather in Salvation Army uniform, (looking startlingly alike), talked about his childhood in an Army family, then "going off" it as a teenager and training as a hairdresser. Living as a young man about town, with his own salon and drinking and clubbing with his mates, he heard a gentle call from the Lord to go to a Christmas Eve Carol Service. He was drawn back into the Army fellowship, doing more and more in it, especially with young people, when he had a much stronger call to be trained and give his life as an officer. His first posting, with his Danish wife Camilla, was in the Isle of Sheppey in Kent, where they soon built up their membership. They innovated a Sunday school in a supermarket, with some 50 children in attendance whilst their parents shopped. What a terrific idea!

Their next posting was to Copenhagen, to a very big centre, then a smaller one in North Denmark. Now they are in Leamington, focusing on work for homeless people and again with a growing membership. They have just launched a Gospel Choir, with its first public concert in Leamington Town Hall.

This inspiring man had a message for us all: Each one of us does the work that the Lord gave us to do.

From the Diocese: A thank you from our link in Tomasina, Madagascar, for the gift of a computer. This is a reminder that the Mothers Union is an international organisation with 3.6million members dedicated to promoting marriage and family values. Abroad there are literacy and development programmes, and in the U.K, parenting groups, projects in child contact centres and prisons and involvement in the United Nations.

March 21st - 8pm, John Guilford on Business in the Community

April 5th - 2pm, Lent Service with address by Tony Stubbs

May 18th - 2.30pm, Southam Deanery Festival

August 9th - 2.30pm, Southam Mary Sumner Day

STOP PRESS! We have received an urgent appeal from the refugee centre in Coventry for adult and children's hats, scarves and gloves.



Toddler's Service

Lorna Bedford

Mrs Gillian Hare presented our Toddler Service in February. She told us the story of Zacchaeus, a tax collector, who was unpopular because of his job. He became wealthy by overcharging his own people. One day Jesus came to visit the town and because he was small, Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus above the crowd. When Jesus saw him he called him down from the tree and chose to stay that night at his home. After meeting Jesus, Zacchaeus became a new and honest man.

We sang two songs, "Jesus' Love is Very Wonderful" and "Zacchaeus Was a Very Little Man", accompanied by Mr Charles Catt on the clarinet and the children playing musical instruments.

For our activity, we made a paper tree and a paper face on a stick, which we put in the tree.

Our next meeting is in Tuesday 14th March at 2pm in the children's corner of the Church. Young children and babies, accompanied by an adult, are very welcome to come and join us.

Sing For Life

Father Roy Brown

In Harbury Church at 6.45pm on Friday 24th March we are having a sponsored Hymn Sing.

The challenge is to sing 50 hymns (or verses) to raise money for the 'Anthony Nolan Trust', which provides lifesaving donors for patients in need of a bone-marrow transplant.

Members of the choir will have sponsor forms and there will be some at the back of the church too. Please help us to make a good contribution to this worthwhile cause.

Please also pop into church at anytime during the singing, (it will probably last about one and a half hours) and join us for refreshments afterwards in the Tom Hauley Room.

Ladbroke News & Diary

MARCH

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| Wed | 8 | Lent lunch 12 noon Field Farm Women's Fellowship 2.45pm |
| Thurs | 9 | PCC Meeting 7.30pm at Chapel Ascot |
| Sun | 12 | Lent II Sung Communion 9am |
| Wed | 15 | Lent Lunch 12 noon at Walworth Farm Women's Fellowship 2.45pm ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM |
| Sun | 19 | Lent III Sung Communion 9am |
| Wed | 22 | Lent Lunch 12 noon at 3 Ladbroke Hall Women's Fellowship 2.45pm |
| Fri | 24 | ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM |
| Sat | 25 | Coffee morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Women's Fellowship 10am – 12noon |
| Sun | 26 | MOTHERING SUNDAY Sung Communion 9am |

Wed 29 Lent Lunch 12 noon in Church
 Women's Fellowship 2.45pm
 Thurs 30 Annual Church Meeting 7.30pm
 Fri 24 Millennium Green Quiz

APRIL

Sun 2 **Lent V**
 Family Communion 10.30am
 Wed 5 Lent Lunch 12 noon at 43a Deppers Bridge
 Women's Fellowship 2.45pm

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

Sat 3 Village Fete

SEPTEMBER

Sat 30 Millennium Green Race Night

Ladbroke Flower Rota

No flowers in Church during Lent.



Women's Fellowship

Betty Winkfield

The Acupuncturist, Gerry Bishop, gave us a very interesting talk and demonstration at our last meeting. I hope Margaret Whitehouse feels better for her treatment.

Our next meeting on March 8th is at Field farm, Beryl Ross's home. This follows the Lent lunch also at Field Farm. There is no service in church that day. Our Rector will be recovering from his operation.

I made a slight error, (another one!) last month. The donations from the Lent Lunches will be for Siloam Christian Mission and Myton Hospice.

PLEASE support our coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on **March 25th**. As usual, cakes, raffle, prizes etc will be gratefully received as well as your presence.



Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I.

Christine Baker

A fascinating February meeting was held at Ladbroke Village Hall, where Alan Griffin - our speaker, enthralled us with a tale of 'Assassination'. Alan told us about Czechoslovakian undercover operators in the Second World War, some of whom came to this area and many remained here after the war. We listened spellbound as he explained that seven of these men were given the task of assassinating the Head of the Gestapo - Herr Heyndrich, who was third in control after Hitler and Himler. This dangerous task was carried out and serious reprisals were meted out by Hitler following the death of his German Protector in Czechoslovakia, whose funeral was the largest ever held in the Third Reich.

All seven of these brave men hid in a crypt in Prague. Once discovered, however, they shot themselves in the head in order not to be caught alive.

Next time you walk through Jephson Gardens look for the Parachute Tribute to these brave men. On the 18th June every year, there is a celebration of these men's lives, when flowers are placed at this memorial.

The Raffle was won by Jenny, Pam and Collette.

Next meeting on 23rd March - Lorraine Whitehouse will be assisting us with Craft Fayre Fundraisers.

ALL WELCOME - Ladbroke Village Hall - 7.30pm start.



Ladbroke Parish Council

Betty Winkfield

Matters arising from January meeting:

Open Gardens – mainly through a lack of interest, the idea has been abandoned.

Freedom of Information Act – publications should be on the village notice board.

Police Report – P.C. Went emphasised the importance of never letting your own credit cards out of our sight, especially in restaurants. Chip and Pin crime seems to “top the list”. Farm Watch is to be included on email to the Parish Council.

Street Lighting – The annual maintenance cost in Ladbroke is £229.48.

New Planning Applications – The Bell Inn have put forward plans for alterations, which include a new porch to a new entrance, a new ramp to both the ladies and gents toilets and also to form a patio area to the rear.

The council had no objections to the erection of a first floor pitched roof side extension over an existing garage at no.2 School Lane.

Permission has been granted, with conditions, for a gateway, verge crossing ditch, culvert and fence gate in Deppers Bridge Parcel of land 3647 & 5060 on S.P4059.

There was still on-going discussions about the felling of trees (apparently 6 trees not 4) belonging to Dovecote. If felled they may need replacing.

Highways and Drainage – The work is still to go ahead on Harbury Road – not forgotten – financial problems again. There was a long discussion about land on the corner of School Lane/Bridge Lane. It was sold about five years ago and no-one has registered it. The history of the ownership of that piece of ground is quite a mystery. Can anyone put any light on the subject? This is required for Lot brook improvements.

Footpaths – The only monies available for the maintenance of public footpaths is expenses only. It is a totally voluntary organisation. (I apologise if I gave the wrong impression in the December 2005 magazine.) Future expenses will be paid from the parish precept, maximum £50 for 2006/7. Land owners, though not fully responsible for the footpaths, are expected to repair any damage they do to stiles etc during ploughing. They should also keep hedges cut back.

Parish Plan – 80% of the Parish Plans have been returned. Richard Bennett and the committee now have the unenviable task of collating it all.

District and County Councillors Report – Our community charge will be going up by 3.7% (about 8p per week for a band D dwelling).

Both councillors talked about "modernisation" of all services – we have been hearing about it, Health, Education etc. It is now suggested that Ladbroke has a website. It will not be long before all communications will be computerised and not through the letterbox.

The bollard at the entrance of the by-pass (South end) has not yet been replaced. It was damaged several months ago now.

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

Christine Spence

The results of the last two draws are:

December Draw;

£70 - M. Kennedy
 £25 - B. Bradley
 £25 - A. Court
 £10 - A & H Dowdeswell
 £10 - M. Wright
 £10 - C. Lane

January Draw;

£70 - P. Collins
 £25 - K. Whiteley
 £25 - P. Kennedy
 £10 - J. Lowman
 £10 - L. Carleton
 £10 - S. Healey

Next month's draw will be held on March 13th at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.





Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

Official minutes can be viewed in the Library or obtained from the Parish Clerk

Whether it was down to Tim Lockley's Chairing, or the absence/late arrival of certain Councillors, the Parish Council meeting was concluded by 9pm, something that has not happened in twenty years!

We rattled through the news of Harbury School's excellent Ofsted Inspection. The children were praised for their well-behaved and happy nature.

Planning Matters were rapidly dealt with too. Stratford granted permission for an extension at 19 South Parade, and permission with conditions for barns at Harbury Fields Farm to be converted to provide 3 dwellings and a holiday cottage. Plans for an agricultural workers dwelling at Springfield Farm at the top of Treens Hill were withdrawn. The Appeal against enforcement to dismantle an unauthorised extension at 1 Deppers Bridge was dismissed, and enforcement will be taken against the use of farmland as garden in Hall Lane.

The Parish Council made extensive and well argued objections to Follett Properties attempt to claim "Existing Lawful Use" of the quarries site for Distribution, quoting the previous 1989 Appeal where the owners claimed the site would have a high-technology use. The Parish complained that the current Inspector's Report insisted nothing should be determined until a Master plan has been prepared.

The Council were cheered to hear that "The Cottage", the restaurant forced to leave Ufton, aims to re-site itself near the business units at Churchlands Farm by the old Watertower, and they will actively support the application.

Although there was no crime report there was news of welcome moves to make the police more accessible by phone and email (see article elsewhere); with FAQ's that my old friend Jim Chapple will relish – for the purposes of accident reporting a cat is not a dog.

The Parish Council is considering putting our **Parish Plan** on their website and permitted for Stratford District to do so too. They are slowly working on the Actions in the Plan and decided to look into undertaking improvements to the village centre.

Having done a footway condition audit they will survey all "street furniture", i.e. signs, lamp-posts, bus stops etc with a view to painting them the same colour – black. They will consult residents about the

return of the bus shelter to Mill Street and are considering issuing windscreen stickers to be put on badly parked vehicles. Cllr Biddle's jocular suggestion "You should not have parked here – you Muppet" was not given serious consideration.

The Council has completed installing Windsor lights and for next year will replace the existing "Goose-neck" lamps and consider how to improve the illumination for Pineham Avenue.

They are still thinking of Bollards in Binswood End; asking the Horticultural Society to help make the village centre more floriferous and looking for somewhere to put a pond.

However, they decided not to re-enter the Village of the Year Competition this year. They may try the Best Kept Village Competition instead if any village groups can be interested in helping. They were concerned that Birse's work on the Cutting could spoil our chances of winning.

They were pleased to hear that Mr & Mrs Cleaver are happy with the newly installed dropped curbs and will continue to press the County to install more, especially in Frances Road.

Indefatigable Janet Thornley has found someone qualified to produce planning drawings for the BMX track and asked the PC to fund this and the application. "In the absence of Tony Mancell, we can do what we like" Chairman Tim quipped, and it was agreed.

Janet suggested that the hedge should be retained because it cut down noise, acted as a windbreak and would keep mud from the track off the Skatepark. The BMX track would be safety fenced and there will be full consultation.

The Parish Council will repair the Village Hall gate but there was still no decision on whether both gates should now be opened. The Village Hall Committee assured the PC that the Dancing and Football Clubs had withdrawn their complaints about the Hall and reminded the Councillors that the AGM was on 3rd April and would be followed by a guided tour of the Hall.

The Councillors Surgery will take place on Saturday 11th March 10 –12 noon outside the Post office when residents have their chance to put concerns not only to the Parish Councillors but also to District and County representatives.

The next Parish Council meeting is on 23rd March, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Councillors' Corner for March:-

The next Harbury Surgery will be on **Saturday 11th March 10-12 am**, outside the Post Office.

If you have burning issues – or even if you haven't – please come and we'll do our best to listen to you.

Best wishes,

Andrew Patrick.

County Councillor: Bob Stevens (01926) 814031
 cllrstevens@warwickshire.gov.uk

District Councillors: Andrew Patrick (01926) 614359
 andrew.patrick@stratford-dc.gov.uk
 Eric Dally (01926) 651478
 eric.dally@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

Our Burn's Night at the Shakespeare Inn on Burn's Night was a very jolly affair, what I remember of it. The food was good and so was the company. There were quizzes, the first; I think won by Jenny Patrick with persistence; the second by John Hancock by intellectual prowess and the third appropriately by Sheila Scott recalling the Folk Songs of her childhood.

Our next event is the AGM on the 3rd April followed by Mr Harding who will tell us more about the Fosse Way in the Tom Hauley Room at 7.30pm.

You will see elsewhere in the magazine that we desperately need information (and preferably written proof) of the date that Blue Circle stopped using the Works to distribute Cement. We know it was sometime after production stopped but do not believe it was as late as Follett's are claiming. Nicola Thompson, Parish Clerk on 614646 would be pleased to hear what you know about this as soon as possible.



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

Delighted to report that Diana Buck is recovering from her recent operation and Pam Merchant is on the mend from her illness.

We are extremely lucky to have John Travis, who printed our yearly programme. Many thanks to John.

How ingenious of Lin Hayes to raise £100 by holding a dinner party. Thank you Lin. This sum has gone towards the cost of the Wall Hanging framing, which is now in the hands of the expert and will be hung in the near future. The official viewing for sponsors and those who were involved will be on March 30th at 8pm.

Sylvia Burdett is entering the Corunna Cup for Creative Writing competition. We wish her luck.

Members enjoyed a lovely walk with lunch at Draycote Water recently.

John Johnson, a third generation of Johnson Coaches came to talk on the family business. It was started in 1909 by his grandfather and we were shown a super photo of him with his first horse drawn transport. Starting as a carrier service at Henley in Arden, it later progressed to include passengers. The first coach arrived in 1926. Grandmother was a very important member of the business and drove the coaches' way back! She is still a very active member. John's uncle and parents joined the business and much later John and his brother.

Johnson's has expanded beyond belief with new ideas being introduced. There are now 36 coaches and 20 buses and other smaller vehicles. Long distance coaches concentrate on comfort with legroom and facilities. Those of us who have travelled with Johnson's know that their coaches are immaculate inside and out. Particular importance is given to choosing hotels and we were shown a selection. The price always includes insurance, all excursions, admission, guides and couriers. They provide door to door service too.

Johnson's provide holidays of every kind abroad and in Great Britain. There are activity holidays for those who want more than just to relax, short breaks and day excursions. In fact they seem to have covered every facility. We certainly enjoyed the lovely locations shown to us on a bleak February evening.

No Speaker but Members Evening which is always fun.



Folk Club

Ian Hartland

Time was of the essence for February's session of the Folk Club (255 meetings and counting) as that was the theme chosen for the evening. On a bitterly cold evening many chose to keep their coats firmly buttoned in a rather chilly Garden Room at The Shakespeare. Some communal exercises soon raised the temperature, as did some fine performances from a range of singers.

The Harvesters kicked off the night "Clockwatching" and then proved that "Time is a Thief". Guilty as charged. Des was next with Simon & Garfunkel's "Old Friends" before he went "Hopping down in Kent". Maureen and Janny sang "Let the Cold Winds Blow" before warming us with "Feel the Rhyme". Rik gave us "Time in a Bottle" and then effortlessly stole the first half with Jake Thackeray's classic about the landlady and her three lusty daughters! Pete and Liz invited us to "Come by the Hills" and then Pete gave us a solo rendition of that classic "The Wild Mounting Time", and no, that's not a miss-spelling. Harriet Guy gave a stunning debut performance with Karine Polwart's lovely song "Daisy", accompanied by the host. The first half came to a fine conclusion in the safe hands of Peter McDonald with "Lady Take Your Time" and Huw Williams' "Struck It Right This Time".

A short break allowed mid-evening refuelling and then it was back to more fine music, opening with Peter Mason who chose "Nothing But Time" and another fine Jez Lowe song whose title evaded my spell-checker. Barbara followed with the ever-popular "Fiddler's Green", John Connolly's version of a fisherman's heaven, and then a popular song about L.S. Lowry. It was good to see Tony Bayliss return again and he provided fine versions of "Time to Ring Some Changes" and "Once Upon A Time". The evening's theme was kept up admirably with Ron's rendition of "The Tyranny of Time" and "Strike the Bell Landlord". Surely not "Time" yet? David Johnson also returned from his previous month's debut with his own song "I Just Don't Have the Time" and the classic song from the film *Casablanca*, "As Time Goes By". Danansooz completed the second half with their newly-learned song "She Moved through the Fair" and completed a fine set with "Spencilhill", an emotional song of an emigrant's dream of home. By the time you read this, their first CD will be available for sale and well worth seeking out.

The third half allowed some of the earlier performers to offer more from their varied repertoires and Des commenced with the shanty "Shallow Brown". Peter Mason gave us a "Gift Of Years" and Ron proved himself "A Peaceful Man". Barbara sang Bob Dylan's classic song "Blowing in the Wind" and was followed by Maureen and Janny with "Seven Days of the Week". So, lots of time there then? Finally, Peter McD capped the session with Paul Metser's "One More Time" and another highly enjoyable evening came to a conclusion. The raffle raised an impressive £52 for Cancer Research.

As ever, we meet every first Thursday in the Garden Room of The Shakespeare. All are welcome, whether audience or participant and every encouragement is given to first-time performers. Get there by 8:30 and you stand a good chance of getting a seat. Best of all? It's completely free!



Harbury Twinning Association

Moira Lamont

There will be a pre-visit meeting for all members going to Samoa on March 28th at 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room. We hope to be able to give you a final programme for the weekend and details of your host families. If you are unable to attend and need more information please ring me on 613527. Only 10 weeks to go!

Our next event is a Quiz Night at the Village Club on March 5th at 7.30pm.



G.A.S.S.

Alan Guy

Rewarding Opportunities

Once again we are in need of fresh faces to assist with or lead two of the village's highly successful scouting groups.

Having resurrected and run the Beaver group for the last 3 years, Sheila Malin and her colleagues Christine Miliken and Rebecca Groves now wish to stand down at Easter and get a well deserved rest. The reforming and running of this unit, which is so popular with children of this age (6-8 years), has been a great achievement, and

they will be much missed. Similarly, one of the Brownie permanent helpers, Helen Cooper, will be standing down shortly and we would love to hear from anyone willing to help out this keen and inspiring group of young girls. All the scouting and guiding groups in the village are popular and over-subscribed but they regularly need an influx of 'new blood' in order to survive and thrive.

In order to encourage some of you 'out there' to think about being a leader or helper, we thought we would ask a few current and ex-leaders to say why and how they got involved in leading a scout or guiding group.

Dr John Hancock, former Scout leader and Venture Scout leader:

"Scouting has played a large part in my life. I was a Cub from the age of seven and went on into Scouts, Senior Scouts and Rovers. Moving to Harbury in 1969, I was asked if I would help with the village Troop. It was a privilege to be able to put back in a small way some of the scouting principles I had learned as a youngster. Harbury Scout Group is an important part of the jigsaw that makes this village such a special community."

Sally Stringer, former Beavers leader:

"I was somewhat apprehensive, never having been a Brownie or Guide myself, but soon found that having my own children meant I could easily cope with what was required. I could play games, ice biscuits, help them learn skills, facts, tracking, services to the community etc so that far from being daunting, it was fun for me too. We always had a full pack – which proved the need for such an organisation and it was enjoyable and satisfying, particularly seeing how many of the boys improved in skills and confidence."

Ruth Coleman, Assistant and Beaver Leader mid- late 90's :

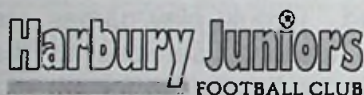
"When first asked, by Gill Guilford, to be involved with Beavers I hesitated as I wasn't sure how it would all work out. However, we received brilliant support from other leaders, within the village and the district, and from parents. I look back fondly to my time in Scouting and remember the games, hikes in the summer to Chesterton and Ufton, quizzes around the village, the numerous craft activities and quizzes to while away the winter months in the scout hut. Particularly I remember pancake days and the huge pile of pancakes we had to make for pancake races and eating. I loved the enthusiasm of the Beavers themselves."

These are only a few of the many people who have been leaders and assistant leaders or who have helped with funding over the years. You will surely know some of these people as neighbours and friends, very likely contributing to the village in other ways today. As you will have read, many of them had no special skills – just a willingness to get stuck in.

I believe it is good to show our children that we value them as part of our community, not simply as individuals, and being involved in the Scout & Guide organisation in the village gives them that opportunity. The job of leader is rewarded by the children's enthusiasm and the pleasure of seeing them realise that they are valued members of a group and of the village. And, by the way, it can be a lot of fun!

The existing leaders will help anyone coming in to 'learn the ropes' and get settled in. If you think that you can help the Beavers and Brownies carry on, by being a leader or an assistant, please phone any of the following: Alan Guy (614242), Jim Ward (612401) or Helen Cooper on 612794. Thank you on behalf of the children.

Finally, a reminder of the fantastic 70s Glam Tribute Night being held on Saturday 8th April at the Village Hall. There will be a great live band and it will be a fun evening (Over 18s only). Tickets £12.50, available by phoning 613311.



Harbury Junior's Football

U11's

Harbury under 11's v Napton.

Napton came with a below strength side due to illness but gave Harbury a good game till the end. With reduced number of players on the pitch the coaches were forced to change things around to get everyone a game. Good play by Mark & Luke in midfield kept the strikers on their toes, Luke & Matty scoring their first goals for HJFC. The team finally won 7-1.

Harbury Under 11's v Cropredy.

Top of the table Cropredy proved to be a tough team, although Harbury took the lead with Mark scoring his first for HJFC. The team failed to maintain their good early work and soon found themselves 5-1 down. After a strong half time team talk the lads pulled together

well and found the extra effort that had been missing. The sticky pitch drained the strength of the players as the game finished 6-4 to Cropredy. Good performances from Jamie, Sam & Alex.

Next game for the under 11's is away to Fenny Compton Sunday 26th February 2006 at 2.00pm.

The cancelled game from November 6th 2005 has been rearranged for Sunday 5th March 2006 at 2.00pm, this is away again to Fenny Compton, sorry for back-to-back weekends but it needs to be played sooner rather than later to avoid extending the season and clashing with other events/fixtures. If anyone can't make it please let me or Graham know ASAP.

Andy & Graham

U10's

Banbury Irish 10 - 2 Harbury

Banbury Irish proved to be the stronger squad and knocked our confidence by scoring 5 goals in the first 20 minute period. The team did well in the next two periods of twenty minutes, being particularly strong in the end. Both our goals were scored by Adam Miles. Harry Maurice and Elliott Tawney showed incredible determination throughout the game.

Neil Murray

Presentation Evening

The Harbury Junior Football Club Presentation evening will now take place on Saturday 17th June at Harbury Village Hall, from 6.30pm with the first presentation commencing at 7pm. There will be a pay bar, buffet, raffle and disco. Apologies for the change of date. This has been due to external factors that would have meant that a number of players, parents and coaches would not have been able to attend.

Mike Jones



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

Most of the Club's activities since the last Harbury News have concentrated on league matches with some excellent results.

The "A" Team finally managed to get some decent weather and play its first match of 2006. Gill Thorpe, Angie Dean, Geoff Prince and Andrew Rendell were in fine form, demolishing league leaders

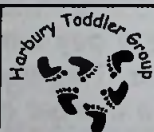
Middleton Cheney "A" 4-0. That win puts Harbury equal top but with 3 games in hand. The "B" Team chalked up its first win of the season, also with a 4-0 win against Charlbury "B". Angie played in this one as well, with Sue Mercer, Ed Wilson and Colin Mercer.

Not to be outdone the Floodlit team of Caroline Morland, Angie Dean, Steve Stark and Colin Mercer travelled to Banbury on a freezing night and also recorded a 4-0 win. In the next floodlit match the same four were hosts to unbeaten Marsh Gibbon. Steve and Colin struggled in the men's doubles losing both sets but were bailed out by Caroline and Angie who won their match by the same score. Both mixed doubles were halved so the overall score was 2-2 and the points were shared.

The men's doubles Team also had a win to celebrate, with a very good 3-1 win at Bidford. Steve Stark and Colin Mercer had a comfortable win in the first rubber with a straight sets win and then had a long wait while Paul Crowton and Tim Lockley played out a marathon match which they eventually won. This put Harbury in the driving seat and Steve and Colin clinched the match with a second straight sets win.

Juniors

The Junior coaching programme continues to go well and the outdoor sessions have so far managed to avoid the bad weather! Sue and Linda have now sorted the availability of coaches for the summer and have been working up the programme. Sue has sent out details to parents so if you haven't seen them check your email in box!!



Harbury Toddler Group

Emma Legg

How cold has it been? Brrrrrr. Well, the toddlers have been busy, regardless of the weather. There is always so much sticking, colouring and decorating to be doing when you are only knee high and they have been up to plenty of that.

During February, Harbury Toddler Group held its annual coffee morning at the Tom Hauley room. The event was themed as 'Cakes & Cuddlies' where we asked people to donate cakes to be sold and homeless teddies to re-house for a small donation. There was also a raffle with superb prizes which had been generously donated by local residents and businesses including a couple of very generous prizes from Harbury Chemist and the Co-op.

On the day the event was very well supported, raising £200 which we hope to put towards a trip for the children to Twycross Zoo this summer.

A huge thank-you goes out to everyone who helped out on the day and to all who bought cakes, cuddlies and raffle tickets.

If you've not been to Toddler group before but are thinking about it, here are a couple of details. Sessions are held at the Wight School behind the Library on Monday mornings 10-11.30am and on Wednesday afternoons 1.30-3.00pm. There is a craft activity going on at each session, toys for children from birth to 3 years, all for the tiny sum of 50p per person which includes refreshments. There is sometimes even a sing song if you're lucky, so get yourselves down there and join in the fun; we look forward to seeing you.



Windmills

Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

During the half-term break Terry Grey constructed a canopy to cover the outside play area attached to our building. We are now just waiting for a ramp to be installed and the new toys and equipment to be delivered, before we can begin to make full use of this fantastic new facility.

Windmills Nursery School recently received a new style Ofsted inspection – staff were given no warning about this. The inspection reported on the quality of the provision we offer and we are very pleased to say that on both the quality & standards of care and the education we were described as “strong”. We would like to share some of our inspector’s comments:

“Children enjoy their time in the nursery; they are made welcome and are respected as individuals. Those that are new to the setting are helped to settle by staff that are sensitive to their needs. Children feel secure and are reassured by staff that show care and give supportive contact. This helps them to become increasingly confident, to explore the environment and independently select activities. Children show very good levels of concentration and involvement in activities. Children make good progress towards early learning goals because the curriculum is effective. The children are very well behaved and co-operative and have good awareness of adult expectations.”

Training

Tina and Marie attended a "Birth to Three Matters" course in Rugby, which they found very informative and useful, especially now as we are accepting children from 2 years of age.

This half term we will be finding out about spring time and looking for signs of new life in and around the school grounds. We will be observing the weather and enjoying lots of fun activities connected with it.

As Valentines Day fell in our half term holiday, we discussed people we love, the week before this, and made chocolate-coated peppermint creams as gifts, as a token of our love. The children also made heart collages and told us whom they wanted to give them to:

"I am giving my heart to my brother Daniel for playing with me." (Emily)

"I love Olivia because she is my friend, we play together, and friends love each other." (Connor)

"I love my daddy – he does jobs with me and helps me fix everything. I love Riley because he plays with me." (Oliver)



We celebrated Chinese New Year with a fancy dress party on the last day of term. The children looked fantastic in their Chinese outfits, especially Connor who came as Jackie Chan! The children made Chinese lanterns, as well as cooking and

eating Chinese food with chopsticks – there seemed to be more noodles reaching the floor than the children's mouths! There was also the opportunity for the children to have their faces painted and also attempt Chinese writing. Mrs Varriale's mum, Beryl, came in to talk to the children about her visit to China, and brought in lots of photographs and interesting items for the children to explore. Mrs

Varriale and Mrs Kennedy took the older children to see Year 1's assembly in the school hall. They particularly enjoyed the Chinese dragon dancing and parading around the hall and also the play explaining how they named each year after an animal. The nursery children were a credit to us.



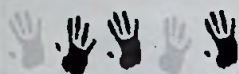
On Tuesday 21st February we took the children to the church toddler service, which the ladies had kindly rearranged because of our half-term holiday. The children learned about Zacchaeus and how Jesus forgave him for being unkind.

Dates for your diary

James Bond Casino Night – Saturday, 25th March 2006, 8.00 pm till 12.00 midnight at Harbury Village Hall. Come along and have fun gambling for exciting prizes including "007" remote control car, a trip in an Aston Martin and many more. There will also be a James Bond themed quiz, raffle and catered buffet, and of course a licensed bar. Tickets are priced at £12.50 and include the buffet and initial supply of gaming chips. Tickets are available from the nursery, Jo Lockley on 614532 or Hayley Bennett 614494.

Easter Coffee Morning – Wednesday 5th April 2006, 10.00 am till 12.00 noon, in the Tom Hauley room. There will be a cake stall, raffle, and spring plants for sale. The children of the nursery will also be visiting during the morning to parade in their Easter bonnets and sing some songs.

Windmills Nursery School is situated in the grounds of Harbury Primary School. If you would like to register a place for your child or require any information on Windmills Nursery you can email us at info@windmills-nursery.co.uk call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.



February, with half term falling in the middle, was a short month but the children at Pre-School still managed to pack a great deal into it.

The Chinese New Year dominated the first part of the month and the children had a wonderful time practising their Chinese writing, recognising their own names in Chinese and chanting "Kung Hey Fat Choy" (Happy New Year). Molly brought in some lovely Chinese paintings for us to look at and the watercolour paintings produced by the children were just delightful. They also did fantastic observational paintings of the dragon's head.



Sophie, the watercolour artist



Evie painting her Chinese dragon



Molly enjoying her stir-fry

As well as the writing, the children had fun recognising Chinese numbers and learning about food such as noodles and assorted stir fry ingredients that they helped to prepare for their own stir fried snack.

All the children tried the stir fried food and Nat, in particular, enjoyed eating everything on offer.

Continuing the Chinese theme, the children made a wonderful lion's head, using a cardboard box, gold material, paper, glue and lots of red and gold paint. They then used it to perform their own Chinese Lion Dance.



The children performing their Chinese Lion Dance

When studying different textures, the children had great fun experimenting with a fabulous cornflour and water mixture. They discovered that it could be picked up in lumps, allowed to run through their fingers and could be written in when in the tray. The cornflour mixture was

followed by dry noodles in the builders' tray and then, as a direct comparison, cooked noodles. Different utensils such as tongs, chopsticks and Chinese spoons, as well as hands, were used to move the cooked noodles around, and it is amazing to see how far they can gravitate from their original tray! After the noodles, the children made play dough in different colours and saw what happened when the colours were mixed.

After half-term, our attentions turned to "kind hands" and how our hands could be used in kind ways.

"Kind hands throw balls to each other" – Millie.

"Kind hands help somebody who might be crying" – Matthew.

"Kind hands can give cuddles" – Clarice.

The children also started a growing project planting grass seed which, when it grows, will be used as real grass fields and gardens in our small world play.

During the half term break, Dave Perry came to the Tom Hauley Room to take black and white photographs. Twenty-seven families attended the session and he took some excellent photos. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Nicky Kirk, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 614316.



Year 1 were asked to write about their holidays, we have chosen this piece of writing to share with you.

My Holiday

I went to a museum and I saw a bear. It was a sign of Warwick Castle. In the castle we looked in the rooms and we went to a café. I had soup and a really nice pudding. In it was chocolate cake. I went to a market and bought a groovy chick bag.

Lucy Bishop – (age 5) Stowe

Ofsted Report – Parents should now have received a copy of the report from OFSTED, following their visit to the school last month. I hope that you are as delighted with the report as we are here. In "OFSTED-speak", a grade of "satisfactory" means exactly that – the inspectors are happy with what they see – and the majority of schools are receiving a number of "satisfactory" grades. For us, therefore, to have five out of the six main sections graded as "good", with the sixth section being given OFSTED's highest grade of "outstanding", really is something to celebrate. Where the inspectors have identified areas for further development, they are offered very much in the context of steps that the school should consider taking in order to make what is good even better. The report is a fitting recognition of the work of everyone involved in our school community – teachers, non-teaching staff, governors, parents and, most particularly, pupils – and I offer my thanks and congratulations to everyone on this achievement.

Sainsbury's/Tesco vouchers – We are collecting Sainsbury's "Active Kids" vouchers for more sports equipment for the school. Last year the School Council bought a range of equipment for use at playtimes on the two playgrounds – these are now in school, and will be used in the Summer Term when the weather is better. We are also continuing to collect Tesco vouchers which will enable us to purchase additional computer equipment. If you normally shop at either store, please collect the vouchers and send them in to school.

Maternity leave – As you are aware, Mrs. Payne will be taking maternity leave later this year – she is hoping to work through to the Easter holidays. The Governors are currently advertising for a teacher

to cover Mrs. Payne's maternity leave – I shall keep you informed of any developments.

Dogs on the playground – I have had a number of comments from parents about dogs being brought on to the playgrounds both before and after school. Could I ask all parents not to bring their dogs onto the school grounds – if you do want to bring your dog for a walk to school, please arrange to meet your child at the gate? Many thanks.

PTA Golf Tournament – This year's tournament will take place on Sunday 2nd April at Newbold Comyn Golf Course. Pre-round bacon baguettes and coffee will be served from 10.15 in the Newbold Comyn Arms, with the first tee-off time being 11 a.m. A one-course "late lunch" will be served immediately after the last group finishes, which should be around 4 p.m. The cost of the day is £26 per person. The competition is open to all parents and any golfing friends – I have reserved 20 places, but if I know numbers at any early stage, there will be no problem increasing the number of tee-off times. Please don't be put off if your standard of play is not great – I am still at the stage where I breathe a sigh of relief if I actually make contact with the ball – if it goes roughly in the direction in which I am aiming, I have been known to do a dance of joy, even if the ball is only 25 yards down the fairway!!! So, don't be shy, come along and have some fun. If you do want to take part, please let me know in writing as soon as possible.

Dates for your diary:

March

- 2nd - Years 1 and 2 to St John's Museum
- 11th - Central Warwickshire Cross Country Championships, Newbold Comyn
- 13th - Scholastic Bookfair (until Thursday)
Parish to lead Monday Assembly
- 17th - Years 5 and 6 to Southam College – "Forceworks" exhibition
- 24th - PTA Friday Market
- 25th - Warwickshire Cross Country Championships, Newbold Comyn

April

- 4th - Stratford District Council Football Tournaments (Boys and Girls)
- 7th - Mrs. Payne to commence maternity leave
Easter holidays begin
- 8th - PTA/GASS 70's Tribute Night
- 24th - Return for Summer Term



Mr John Clews started his talk with a short history of the RSPB. It was formed at the end of the 18th Century and is now the largest charity in Europe. It relies on its members to finance its activities, also on legacies and wills – and naturally also on recruiting. For extra help with their work they encourage volunteers – both adults and children – but they must be keen. In the last thirty years the numbers of birds have declined, some species more than others, this is partly due to modern farming methods etc, but birds of prey and magpies are also guilty, whilst cats are one of the main culprits. Owners can help by making sure they are kept in one hour before dark and one hour after dawn as this is when the birds are most vulnerable. He gave advice on feeding, bird tables and nesting boxes; the boxes must always face north east - so that they are not so liable to dry out. The charity owns reserves, one is in an area north of Oxford which has returned to its original state of wetland with the resulting fauna and flora, another is Hope Farm. Here they farm leaving edges of the field and other areas bare, thus encouraging wild life to return and flourish. The RSPB work with farmers, encouraging them - with subsidies – to use this practice on their farms; also to reduce the cutting of hedges to every three years, thus giving the birds etc more chance. He ended willing to answer questions, but there were not many!

Judy as usual has been busy arranging trips. The all day coach outing will be on Wednesday 28th June to Grimsthorpe Castle near Grantham where lunch will be available, then on to Eastern Walled Gardens where tea can be purchased. Once again the Society is subsidising the coach, the whole trip will cost in the region of £21 to include entrance fees and a guided tour – but not the food.

On Thursday 18th May the Society will visit Fibrex Nurseries, the cost is £3.50 and I believe refreshments are included, more details on both trips later. As usual, John our Treasurer will be on hand to collect monies at the next talk for one or both trips.

The hour goes on this month, so the seed sowing time approaches. How about sowing a few extra with the Garden Walkabout in mind, this year Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th the usual second weekend in July? Take the plants to one of the gardens participating, people do like to buy such items.

A note for your diary. The talk "Plants Pilgrimage to Western China" will take place Tuesday 4th April and will be given by Linda Egging.

On 2nd May Tim Miles will give a talk entitled "Plants and Gardens of Cornwall".



Nature Notes

John Hancock

Last month's article, written on January 23rd, started with a weather report - pressure 30.5 millibars, cold and dry. Well, it's more of the same. Admittedly, we have had the odd wintry shower but as I write, 'February Fill Dyke' seems a misnomer. Despite the generally cold conditions, some birds now seem to hang on in Britain and refuse to migrate. Rex Humphreys reports a female Blackcap in his garden on January 30th, seemingly determined to risk our unpredictable weather rather than fly south.

The Wren goes underground to survive and feed. It's not called Troglodytes troglodytes (cave dweller) for nothing. It is estimated that there are in excess of 7 million pairs in the UK making it easily the commonest member of our avian fauna. Owing to its tiny weight, it must constantly forage to find its invertebrate food. During harsh winters, the population can be decimated so it has done well for nigh on 20 years. Wrens will soon be looking for nesting sites. Apparently a male will build up to 6 nests so that its mate can choose the perfect one!

On the 13th February, I visited Batsford Arboretum with my U3A Naturalist Group. Ostensibly, it was to see the Snowdrops which were present in large swathes of the woodland. The many varieties of Magnolia will draw me back in the spring to see the flowers. Crocus, Aconite and a few early Celandine enhanced the greensward. I particularly liked the variously coloured blooms of the Wych Hazel - a shrubby tree from North America with yellow or reddish flowers. An extract from the bark and leaves has long been used to treat bruises.

On the 24th January, I received Ron Standbridge's 2005 list of birds reported at Harbury Spoilbank - just too late for inclusion last month. It makes interesting reading with Blackcaps, Chiffchaffs and Willow Warblers to look forward to this summer when migrants return to join those birds such as Goldcrests and Wrens which have struggled through our winter.

The highlight of the month of February for Sharon and me was a weekend in the Lake District. We broke the journey in Lancashire, to walk up Pendle Hill on the south side of the Ribble Valley near Clitheroe. After fortifying ourselves at the Spread Eagle Inn in Sawley (recommended), we looked over the remains of Sawley Abbey. Then it was on to Pendle Hill which rises to 1700 feet and commands a view to the north-east, taking in the Three Peaks, and to the north-west over the Trough of Bowland. Arriving in Ambleside, we were pleased to see snow glistening on the higher fells. Next day, a round of the Fairfield Horseshoe meant some ice and snow had to be negotiated but that only increased the enjoyment. The views were impressive with nearby Helvellyn a 'wedding cake' and Skiddaw and Blencathra further away also tipped with snow. Next day, we walked and scrambled along Crinkle Crag. We started at the Three Shires Stone, a marker put up at the summit of the Wrynose Pass at the point where the old counties of Lancashire, Westmorland and Cumberland met. Again there was snow, but this time instead of bright sunshine, there was an altogether colder and greyer environment. The scramble at the eastern end of the crags was followed by the switchback ridge and the question 'How many crinkles are there?' was pointedly ignored. We tracked back down the Band, the broad ridge leading into Langdale and the National Trust owned farm at Stool End. There, shire horses, cattle, sheep, goats and hens shared a barn and looked quite content in their various pens. Once upon a time, not so long ago, they would have lived in a bay alongside the farmhouse or even beneath it providing a primitive central heating of sorts.

Between Warwick and Kenilworth, the Centenary Way runs to the west of Leek Wootton adjacent to the still-maturing golf course. From it you can see a rather good example of Bromsgrove Sandstone. A quarry face shows current bedding - lines in the rock which tell which way the current was flowing in the shallow sea covering this part of Warwickshire in the Triassic period (250-205 million years ago). Along with 6 other members of Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group, I helped clear the quarry floor of accumulated rubbish, filling two large tractor trailers. There was plenty of rusting corrugated iron, numerous plastic sacks, rubber tyres, barbed wire and even a carpet measuring at least 50 feet in length - some staircase! The quarry has been designated as a Regionally Important Geological Site. We hope you get to see it restored to something like splendour during your summer perambulations. (Map Reference 276678, Sheet 151, Stratford-upon-Avon)

Wootton comes from the Saxon 'wudu tun' meaning 'the farm by a wood'. Why 'Leek' was added seems a mystery according to Anthony Poulton-Smith in 'Warwickshire Place Names'.



General Section

Citizen of the Year

There are so many people who through their efforts, time and leadership help to make Harbury such a vibrant and happy village.

Your nominations please for this year's Harbury Spirit award to Alison Hunt 10 Farley Avenue, tel. 612931 or all@thehunts.eu.com.

Alison Hunt

Choice Donations

Choice Donations is an internet charity being specifically set up to provide help or assistance for individual people to make their life more bearable. For example: operations, mobility equipment, artificial limbs etc.

The website will allow people to see where their donated money is going. They will choose the person to donate to, watch them reach their target and then see how it makes a difference to their life.

Choice Donations is holding three fund-raising events in the village to help pay towards its running costs.

Friday 3rd March - Pamper & Social Night 7.30pm - 10.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room. £10 entrance fee and then FREE taster treatments of such therapies as Indian Head Massages, Reiki, Bio Detox, Chair Massages, Tarot Cards, Manicures, Hair Styling, plus more. Coffee, tea, coke & lemonade will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own alcohol.

Friday 7th April - Children's Easter Disco 5pm - 7pm in the back room at the Dog Inn. Open to Reception class, Years 1, 2 & 3. £3 entry: includes crisps, drink & a chocolate bunny.

For tickets to either of these, phone [REDACTED] ... or pay on the door.

Saturday 17th June - Coffee Morning 10am - 12noon in the Tom Hauley Room. Refreshments, Cake Stall and Raffle.

Dayle Adams

Harbury First Responders Group

In January, three new recruits joined Harbury First Responders Group, having successfully passed their training with Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance NHS Trust. They are Sheila Malin and David and Sue Wurr. They take the total number of responders in the group to nine, which means the Group are able to provide nearly 24 hour cover to the Ambulance Service. First Responders are called to help members of the locality who are suffering from life-threatening conditions, until the arrival of the ambulance. First responders do not replace the ambulance, but administer early life saving help in the event of a cardiac arrest or chest pains.

If you would like more information about Harbury First Responders, please call Caroline Hill on 613780.

Caroline Hill

Neighbourhood Watch

I thought this month I would just pass on a message from the Chairman of Warwickshire Neighbourhood Watch Association Ltd:

"It is getting easier to communicate with Warwickshire Police. Firstly they have initiated an on line e-mail system which can be accessed from the front page of their website www.warwickshire.police.uk This gives people the opportunity to contact a local police station with non urgent enquiries. The service is not intended for reporting crime. To report a crime or serious incident telephone 01926 415000 and always dial 999 in an emergency. The service may also be used for asking local officers any non urgent questions or to check on the progress of an ongoing inquiry. Secondly, on that same front page there is a button giving access to a feature called 'Ask the Force'. This gives direct access to the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section of the Police National Legal Database. Answers are provided to a wide range of questions that have a legal aspect. Typically:

"I have knocked over a dog/badger/fox, do I have to report it to the police?"

Please encourage your members to use this service where possible. They will benefit by getting an authoritative response to their queries quickly and others will benefit by having freer telephone contact."

Just in case you are wondering, the answer given to the above question is: The above animals (apart from dog) do not come within the definition of animal within the Road Traffic Act 1988, so you are

not required to report it to the police. However, it may be worth contacting the police to inform them of the incident. Also the local authority will need to be contacted to remove the remains of the animal.

A dog (as well as a goat, horse, cattle, ass, mule, sheep and pig) does come within the remit of the Road Traffic Act and is a reportable accident so you are required by law to report it to the police.

I hope this is useful to you, and remember this is our community, so let's look after each other. If you don't receive regular crime summaries and crime prevention information it is probably because your street doesn't have a coordinator. How about you doing it?

Alison Abbott

Harbury Carnival June 10th, 2006

Well, same message as usual for this time of the year - please think about how you can participate and help us continue the great carnival tradition. Get together with your local organisation, pub, street or friends and see what ideas you can come up with for either a float or a walking group for the procession. The more participants we have, the more fun it is for everybody and I promise that you will enjoy the experience. Here is the list of categories:

Trade Float

Independent Float

Children's' Float

Decorated Bike/Pram/Car

Horse Drawn/Mounted/Lead

Walking Tableau Children 2-8 persons

Walking Tableau Children more than 8 persons

Walking Tableau Family

Walking Tableau Adults

Walking Adult

Walking Child

Maybe you would like to book a stall/pitch on the field and if so, please call Mike McBride on 612421. And we are still looking for somebody to do the teas, which, as I have said, is a very good money making opportunity.

As usual, I would be happy to answer any questions and provide whatever help I can. Please feel free to call me on 614258.

John Broomfield

Transform your garden with a compost bin

Spring is a great time to start composting at home. As you clear up the garden ready for the sunnier weather, you will undoubtedly have lots of things that can be composted.

Warwickshire County Council and WRAP (the Waste & Resources Action Programme) are still supplying home compost bins at subsidised prices. Starting from £6, including delivery, they certainly are a good deal.

Composting is a great way to help the environment. It is the biodegradable waste in landfill sites that rots to produce methane gas, because squashed under all the other rubbish it doesn't have enough access to air and anaerobic decomposition takes place. Landfill sites still account for about 25% of UK methane emissions. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, contributing to climate change.

Nearly two thirds of kitchen and garden waste can be tipped straight in the compost bin. You might be surprised to discover that it's not just fruit waste, vegetable peelings and prunings that can go in either – paper / cardboard, eggshells and teabags make for great compost too. Composting means hugely cutting down on the amount of waste we put out for collection – while receiving lots of free nutritious fertilizer that will help your garden bloom.

The most important tips for making good compost are:

- Ensure that you get a good mix of wet (e.g. food scraps, grass clippings) and dry (e.g. paper, card, straw, leaves) materials. The dry materials will trap air spaces in the compost, which it needs to work properly.
- Do not include meat, fish, dairy or cooked food scraps. These are the things that might attract unwanted visitors to the bin!

If you would like to order a compost bin please call the order line: 0845 073 2001. The offer is limited to 3 bins per address. There are two models of bin available, the Compost Converter 330 litres - £6 and the Soil Saver 600 litres - £15. Delivery is free! As part of the bin offer, WRAP will also provide an extensive range of support materials that are sent to you seasonally and contain lots of hints and tips designed to keep you composting successfully at home.

Penny Holmes is the Home Composting Advisor for Warwickshire and Coventry. She is working closely with Warwickshire County Council, and is available to attend events, give talks or help schools with

composting. If you have an event you would like her to attend, please call her on 07985 953184. Local residents can also call 0845 600 0323 for advice and information on home composting, or visit www.recyclenow.com/compost

Penny Holmes

Wheels to Work

Is your choice of employment, training or education limited because public transport is not available?

If you between 16 and 25 there may be help for you from **Wheels to Work** – a scheme which could loan you a moped for up to a year with safety equipment, insurance and basic training, all for a £20 deposit and contributions of £20 per month.

If you are interested contact Michelle Meacham at Coventry and Warwickshire Connexions on 02476 707400 who has twelve bikes available at present.

Linda Ridgley

Wight School / Library

Work has started at Harbury Library, the former Wight School building, (which used to be known as the big school), to improve access for wheelchair users. Builders removed old quarry floor tiles and dug out the porch area and filled it with hardcore topped up with concrete. After this has dried out a carpet will be laid. The access after completion will have a wooden ramp fitted outside.



How times have changed. When this building was used as a school at playtimes the boys were separated from the girls by a middle wooden fence which ran the full length of the playground. The fence finished at the outside lavatories, built of brick, with the boys' entrance on one side of the fence and the girls' entrance on the other side. These have now long gone. The toilets were emptied by night soil men along with others in the village after 10pm on

Fridays. The main sewage was piped together with Bishops Itchington in the 1950's; the contract was for £50,000 for the two villages.



After the job was completed, the contractor went on to open a shop in Leamington called "Toytown" and did nothing else. Beyond the toilets, where the Scout Hut is, there used to be the school's handicraft room lit by natural daylight; the room had good benches and wooden and steel vices.

Mr Fred Williamson, ex RAF, used to cycle over from Northend on his green Raleigh push bike to teach the woodwork class at Harbury. After a time the class transferred to Southam's Pendency Street, where the clinic is now. The school meals were produced there also in a large kitchen. Mr Williamson went on to teach

woodwork classes at different village schools for many years after.

Before Harbury's Village Hall was built, the Wight School was sometimes used for a flower show or dance classes.

Mike Bloxham

C.I.N.D.I. Kansenshi

On March 18th I will be having my yearly coffee morning for C.I.N.D.I Kansenshi. This year, however, there will be an extra reason for the coffee morning, which I hope you will generously support.

The school is attempting to start a banana plantation. This will be self generating, which not only means being able to sell the produce, but will also provide work for some of the children when they leave school. Eventually they will be self sufficient and not have to rely upon gifts to keep them going. The problem – yes there always is one – they need £5000 to provide the plantation with water and electricity. So far over £2000 has been raised. My daughter who was recently in Zambia at the school will be at the coffee morning and will be able to answer any questions about the project.

Please support us in this, it would mean so much to C.I.N.D.I Kansenshi. Thank you.

Gladys Hutchins

Rotary Tree of Light

The Rotary Club of Southam would like to thank this publication and all of its readers for the excellent assistance received on our second year of the Tree of Light. Our first year raised £1000 for the Acorns Children's Hospice. This year we have exceeded that sum by a further £400. They and we are delighted by this increase. In addition to this we have, through donations from sponsors, doubled the number of lights available and improved the Book of Remembrance in Southam Library. The Librarian and staff, also, have been more than helpful to our cause. The securing of a permanent site (Tree) on land owned by Goodwin and Sons, with the power supplied by Southam Carpets Ltd is also much appreciated. Acorns Hospice receives no subsidy from Government funds and at present is sorely in need of money, so the help provided by all our supporters will give them encouragement and help in their vital work.

A final word of thanks to all who helped to distribute our leaflet and to those who reproduced it in their magazine.

We look forward to your help and support in Oct/Nov this year and dare to hope to increase our target once again.

Peter Jackson & Mike Gaffney

Upton House and Gardens

I am a volunteer steward and tour guide at Upton House near Edgehill which is a National Trust property and opens for 2006 on 28th March. For those of you who have never visited this gem of a house which is almost on our doorstep, you have missed a treat! Regular visitors will be aware of the fact that it was owned by the 2nd Viscount Bearsted who was the son of the founder of Shell Oil, hence the lavish millionaire lifestyle of the 1920's and 1930's with a hint of Art Deco. However, it is the collections of art, porcelain and furniture amassed by Viscount Bearsted which are the stars. Briefly, the collection of paintings is one of the finest private collections of the 20th century in England. There are paintings by Stubbs, Hogarth, Guardi, Canaletto, Breughel and El Greco to name just a few. The porcelain is 18th Century Sevres, Derby, Chelsea and Worcester and many of the pieces are quite unique. In addition, there are Brussels tapestries and superb pieces of 18th Century furniture. At the end of the tour of the house there is a room dedicated to an exhibition of Shell posters, postcards and paintings by well known artists of the day such as Rex Whistler and Graham Sutherland.

The gardens are colourful all the year round and were re modelled in the 1920's by Kitty Lloyd-Jones. The formal lawns give way to a series of terraces which slowly descend to the recently cleaned mirror pool. There is an arboretum and superb bog garden and plenty of room to explore. In short, there is something for all the family and there are many interesting events taking place throughout the new season. I hope I have whetted your appetite. Please spare an afternoon to either visit or visit again this remarkable jewel of a place.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Judy Morral

Volunteer Drivers Urgently Needed

Do you have any spare time? It doesn't matter how short, or whether it's in the early morning, daytime, evenings or weekends.

Do you enjoy driving? We have one seven seater minibus, two sixteen seater mini buses and we provide full training under the Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme.

Do you enjoy working with people of all ages? Our customers need help getting to medical appointments, social and educational activities.

If you are aged between 25 and 70 and would like to join a team of volunteers providing accessible transport for those who need it most, please contact me, Ariadne Uslu at Back and 4th Transport on 01789 471595.

Ariadne Uslu

'Paddy' – Remembered



Last Monday, Harbury Church was packed by family, relatives and countless friends, both young and old, to remember Alan (Paddy) Padbury, who lost his courageous fight against cancer on February 15th. Paddy will be sorely missed by many, both those who watched him grow up in the village and by those who came into contact with him in his adult life either at work or in the field of sport.

Paddy had lived all his life in Ivy Lane with his parents, Joy and Derek and he attended the local

schools at Harbury and Southam. On completing his full-time education, he first went to work as a Youth Training Scheme student, assisting Rob Davies on his farm on Middle Road before he eventually went to Moreton Morrell Agricultural College. Paddy was a country lad at heart and he developed a great friendship with Richard (Tiny) Smith through his interest in farming and the countryside. He enjoyed nothing more than helping Richard on his farm in his spare time and they spent many hours together following country pursuits – with Paddy enjoying the chance to join shooting parties and to drive a quad bike across the fields when Tiny's flock of sheep needed attention. Paddy had worked for Building and Plumbing Supplies in Leamington for several years where he was a valued employee who made many friends among his colleagues.

Harbury Rugby Club played a significant part in Paddy's life, as he joined the Club when he was six and under the tutelage of Dave Andrews he learnt and mastered the game, so that he worked his way up from the mini and junior sides into the senior teams. He was an honest and committed player who was willing to play wherever his team needed him. Over the years Paddy became one of the most popular Club members and was friends with everyone – a man whose face shone with a wonderful smile. He was a true 'one club man' and was an utterly committed and loyal player who wore his HRF Club blazer and tie with obvious pride.

Paddy also supported other village teams, as he was an active member of the football club and an enthusiastic member of the darts team for the Old New Inn. He joined in any village activity where he could add his special brand of infectious enthusiasm. He entered the Wheelbarrow Race on several occasions and will be long remembered as a dashing white swan on the Shakespeare's winning 'Swan Lake' float some years ago. All of Paddy's interests centred around the village community and his sociable personality made him a popular figure wherever he went.

The confirmation of cancer eighteen months ago with the immediate outcome that he had to lose part of a leg was a tremendous shock to everyone and was especially tragic for a fit and keen young sportsman. However, his determined fight against the disease was remarkable and he gained the admiration and respect of everyone, as he battled to conquer the debilitating effects which gradually took a toll on his health.

Paddy was, however, determined to live life to the full and he continued to watch his beloved Manchester United and any

International Rugby matches on the Sky system at his 'second home', the Old New Inn, right up until the weekend before his untimely death. He was constantly helped by a group of his closest friends who arranged transport to the pub and the Rugby Club whenever he was home after receiving treatment, as he wanted to be part of all the 'village action' as long as he was able. The regulars of the village pub and all those with whom he came in contact throughout the last months will always remember his bravery and determination to live life 'his way' until it was cruelly taken away from him. Whenever Manchester United are 'on the box' in the O.N.I. or there is an International rugby game, Paddy will be remembered with affection by all those who enjoyed his friendship and marvelled at his sheer courage in the last months of his life. Many villagers were constant in their support for Paddy and his family during the difficult times in hospital and at Myton Hospice and it is a testimony to his strength of purpose that all his friends wanted to do their bit to ensure that he achieved his goals for as long as possible. He was aided in his battle by carers who regularly visited him at home and whose presence eased the difficult times. The thoughts of all those who have known Paddy over the years are now with his parents and last week's service will have shown the love, respect and admiration in which he was held by all those who knew him.

Ian Holroyd

Spotlight On Business

Country Fayre – Muggleston's Fresh Produce Shop

Paul and Mary Muggleston have run their Fresh Produce shop since 1980 after taking over the business from Paul's brother, Christopher, who was helped by sister, Julie. Previously the premises had been occupied by Cecil ('Bonzo') Bloxham who operated a bookies shop upstairs, as well as the Greengrocers, whilst in the early seventies, the rear part of the shop also housed, Stan Smith who had a boot and shoe repairers business.

When Paul and Mary took over the business they initially lived in the flat above the shop with their first son David, before they eventually moved into their current house in the Beeches in 1986 when Mary was expecting the imminent birth of their second son Stuart. Three years later, Philip completed the 'Family Muggleston' and as anyone who has patronised the village shop will know, all three sons have assisted their

parents with serving customers particularly at the weekend or after they returned from school at Southam College. Currently, David (21) is working full-time with Millward Brown, whilst Stuart (19) is studying at Sheffield University, so Philip (16) is left 'holding the fort' most of the time, until the older brothers return home and find working in the shop a useful way to earn some money.



Paul has always been a 'local boy', as his family moved into a farm at Deppers Bridge when he was three, whilst Mary hails from the village of Water Orton, near Coleshill. They met as teenagers when both sets of parents holidayed at the same place in Wales and continued visiting each other in subsequent years, with Mary spending part of the Summer holidays 'on the farm' with Paul's parents. They married at Ladbroke 30 years ago with Canon Fishley conducting the service.

Paul buys most of his fresh produce from farms and the main depot in the Evesham area. Country Fayre sells fruit, flowers,

vegetables, pot plants, garden ornaments, pet products and wild bird seed, as well as freshly baked bread and biscuits, free range eggs and local 'Fosse Way' honey. The impressive range of cut flowers, which Mary uses to make her floral arrangements, is delivered each week by a flower transporter, which comes to Harbury directly from De Groot's, a flower wholesaler in Holland. Mary's expertise as a floral artist is well known and she receives orders from across the world, including Australia, Hong Kong, and New Zealand from former village families who want special floral displays sent to relatives on their birthdays, for Mother's Day, or at Christmas. She also makes floral arrangements and sprays for Valentine's Day, as well as wedding bouquets and wreaths according to customers requests.

The majority of Country Fayre's customers are from the village, but the shop is well supported by the adjacent communities of Bishop's Itchington, Bishop's Tachbrook, Chesterton, Deppers Bridge and

Ladbroke, since Paul maintains a stock of animal feeds and hay, as well as bedding plants, filled containers, garden products and Christmas trees according to the season. He even finds time to make all his own holly wreaths, which are sold for the Festive Season.

As a contribution to some village organisations, Paul and Mary act as agents for the H&L News; as they maintain a stock of Harbury and Ladbroke News for villagers who may like an extra copy to send to friends or relatives from time to time; for the Harbury Society, as they have copies of the Chesterton History, 'Cross the Stile' (a series of local walks) and 'Hungry Harbury' and the Tennis Club, as it is possible to book a tennis court at the shop, as they have the booking forms.

The shop opens each weekday and on Saturday from 9.00am-6.00pm with a break for lunch between 1.00-2.00pm. It is not usually open on a Sunday, but on special occasions, it opens for a few hours in the morning for those who have left the celebration of Valentine's Day or Mothering Sunday until the last minute. There is nothing 'last minute' about Paul and Mary's commitment to their business, as apart from a few brief overnight visits to family and friends, they have not had a proper holiday in 30 years. They did, however, manage a few days in France last year in celebration of a special occasion, but at all other times, it has been 'business as usual'. It is a demanding lifestyle, with early mornings and late nights and their regular customers are grateful to their 'devotion to duty' in providing a range of impressive products in their well-stocked shop. Let's hope that 'Family Mugleston' continue to have the energy to provide such a wide-ranging service for many years to come.

Chris Finch

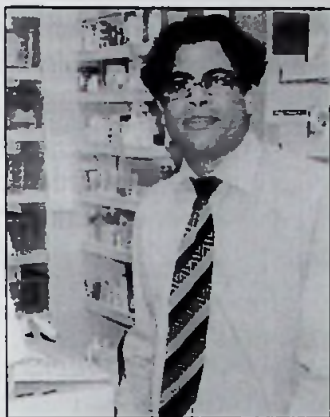
The Harbury Pharmacy

The Harbury Pharmacy provides an excellent service in dispensing prescriptions, either from the village GP's or from other doctors in the area, as well as maintaining an impressive range of over-the-counter medicines, hygiene products and a babies and young children's section.

The shop is owned by brothers, Suresh and Mahesh Patel who will have been in Harbury for 2 years in May. They are both qualified pharmacists who live in Birmingham, but whilst Suresh makes the round trip from the City most days of the week, Mahesh usually comes to the village only on Tuesday. For the rest of the week he acts as a locum to pharmacies around his home base.



Mahesh Patel



Suresh Patel

The Pharmacy provides a comprehensive range of services in addition to dispensing and the Government has recently recognised the value of advice which can be provided by a local pharmacist in the New Medication Review. This is a FREE '**medicines use review**' service (MUR), whereby any person can discuss issues or concerns about his/her own medication. Suresh has been accredited by the local Primary Care Trust to offer personal consultations, which will be held in a private consultation area, so that they can be carried out in the strictest confidence. There is a leaflet in the shop about this new service setting out all the details about the MUR, which will enable questions to be asked about the nature of prescribed medicines and how to take them in the most effective way. It will be possible to discuss interactions between various drugs, so that possible side-effects can be reduced. No medicines will be altered without the agreement of the patient's doctor.

Another new service, which is offered is the smoking cessation programme whereby a trained specialist can discuss the range of products aimed at helping a smoker quit his/her habit by recommending appropriate products and monitoring progress over a period of time

In addition to carrying out pregnancy testing and fertility testing, the Pharmacy can also provide nebulisers for asthma treatment, (which can be bought without an N.H.S. prescription, but following a doctor's advice), as well as special hosiery, surgical equipment and first aid supplies. It is also possible to receive advice and guidance about vital holiday needs, especially when travelling to countries where

recommendations for specific vaccinations or appropriate medication e.g. malaria tablets, is required.

On typical days, the prescriptions delivered by Harbury surgery at lunch time are ready for collection by 5.00pm and Suresh is able to place requests for special medication throughout the day, since he has at least three deliveries during the day.

Apart from all the support for health care, the Pharmacy also provides a photographic collection and printing service and a Dry Cleaning service using Leamington's Top Cleaners. The shop also stocks some children's clothes, fancy goods and a range of expensive perfumes as a special gift – or as a treat for the purchaser!

The Harbury Pharmacy employs three local people in addition to the Patel brothers. Carol Meredith, from Harbury and Lynsey Worrall, from Bishop's Itchington are full-time, whilst Celia Barrett is employed on a part-time basis. There is always a very friendly welcome to all customers and a family atmosphere is created by the willingness of everyone to work together. The employees all commented how much they appreciate the good working conditions and that Suresh and Mahesh are superb employers. In turn, Suresh commented that he really enjoys working in Harbury, as it is less formal than working in the City and more rewarding, as he gets to know customers individually so that really feels part of the community for which he is providing such an important service. The Pharmacy is open from 9.00am-6.30pm each weekday, except Wednesday, when it closes at 6.00pm. There is a lunch break each day between 1.00pm-2.00pm and on Saturday it closes at 1.00pm. As with all village businesses, a visit to Harbury Pharmacy is recommended, especially to check out the new range of services and the new products which are constantly being made available.

Chris Finch

Next month's SPOTLIGHT will feature two young entrepreneurs.

Village Hall Facilities

Harbury is extremely fortunate to have a first-rate community centre, which provides opportunities for villagers of all ages to meet together for a variety of activities. The Village Hall is a very well used facility, which hosts badminton groups, children's parties, dancing classes, youth group meetings and committee meetings of several village organisations on a regular basis, including the Parish Council and the

Village Hall committee. It also provides a venue for the Blood Donor Service, the Harvest Supper, the Beer Festival, Senior Citizen's events, the Christmas Fayre and the Theatre Group productions, as well as a base for the village football and netball teams.



As with all public amenities, the 'public' expects the facilities to be maintained in excellent condition without much consideration for the efforts and commitment of those who maintain the premises on behalf of the community. The facilities are enjoyed by all, but there is only a handful of volunteers who ensure that all the services are in working order. This month has seen extensive re-decoration of doors and walls as a major refurbishment, which will mean that the premises have had another upgrade, in addition to the 30 padded chairs purchased for the Farley room.

In previous years, Curly Pratt and his wife provided a sterling service to the community, by cleaning the Hall every day and attending to any small maintenance requirements. Despite advertisements in the H&L News some time ago, it has only been possible to recruit a cleaner for two mornings a week and consequently in order to keep the costs of hire to a minimum (as advertised in the November 2005 magazine), the V.H. committee provide a handbook which sets out all the details for the use of the Hall and the expectation that each room will be left in the state in which it was found. There is useful advice on the operation of the heating and lighting, as well as a comprehensive plan for the storage of all the equipment and the location of basic cleaning equipment, so that users can 'do their bit' to keep the premises 'clean and tidy'. Each hirer is also provided with a questionnaire, so that the committee can assess any future needs and act on recommendations. There is a very high degree of satisfaction with the facilities, but the

current level of maintenance depends on the efforts of all those who use the Hall treating the 'public facility' with respect. 'Respect' may be high on the agenda of the current P.M. but it also features on the agenda of the Committee who are the current guardians of the premises on behalf of us all.



Decorating in progress

There is well documented evidence of how the Hall was purchased through public subscription and fund-raising in the late fifties before it was built and eventually opened officially by John Profumo (Stratford on Avon's M.P.) in 1962. The original documents show that there was an agreement between the Parish Council and the Trustees of the time that whilst the land on which the Hall was built would be leased in perpetuity to the Village Hall committee, the car park and the playing fields remain the responsibility of the P.C.

Currently, the V.H committee has 12 members – Peggie Middleton (Chair), Geoff Thorpe (Vice Chair), Janet Thornley (Secretary), Bill Middleton (Treasurer), Gill Gurden, Wendy Hawkes (Booking Sec.), Alison Hodge (Theatre Group rep.), Midge Keen, Jenny Patrick (P.C. rep.), Gordon Robbins, Linda Ridgley and Ethel Sollis. Some of the committee members have offered their services over a very long time, but any village organisation which uses the Hall can send a representative to the meetings which are held once every two months.

The next meeting is the **A.G.M. on April 3rd at 8.00pm** and the committee would be pleased to welcome any new recruits to their willing band of volunteers, who provide such a vital service - a life-blood for any village community – with it; the community thrives, without it; the community would not be able to function.

Chris Finch

Southam Lions President's Spring Dance

Southam Lions are holding their Spring Dance at the Grange Hall, Southam on Friday 7th April at 8.00pm. The music played live, by 'The Official Receivers' will include songs like, Mustang Sally, My Girl,

Dock of the Bay and much much more!! There will also be a raffle, bar and disco. Tickets cost £15.00 each and are available by telephoning 817744 or 814294.

Terry Grey

Southam Carnival

Spring is in the air, and yes this can only mean one thing, it's that time of year again. Carnival day is fast approaching! Put the date in your diary, Monday 29th May, Bank Holiday. This year's theme is 'The World of Entertainment'. If you would like to:

1. book a stall please call Malcolm on 814294
2. take part in the procession phone Joy on 812718

For all general enquiries ring Terry on 817744.

Hope to see you all there on the day.

Terry Grey, Chairman

Ufton News

Sat 4 March – 10.00am – 12 noon Table Top Sale, Ufton Village Hall

Take Time Out

The most successful event so far with nearly 40 people booked we had to split it into a morning and afternoon session. Tom Hare showed us how to weave with willow and everyone went home with one or two finished examples. It was fascinating.

With many events nearly full please book early to avoid disappointment.

PaperCraft – Friday 17th March 10.00 – 12.30pm **EVENT IS NOW FULL** – waiting list.

Transfer Any Image onto Any Surface! – Thursday 20th April 10.00am – 2.00pm

Pat Osborne, from W. Yorkshire, will show how to transfer any image/picture onto a wide range of surfaces, inc. wood, leather, fimo clay and glass. This 'magic' film system can be used to enhance many ready made and handcrafted items. Please note this is a four hour session to give us plenty of time to try everything out.

Cost: workshop £7.50 + £5.00 for materials.

To book these events and for your copy of the 2006 programme contact Karin Kirk on 613003.



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors, we would like to thank all our Harbury friends and family for the cards and donations on the sad loss of my dear husband Andrew.

The total amount raised for the Motor Neurone Disease Association was £350.73.

Thank you to Father Roy and Pam, for all their help and support. Also many thanks to Drs. Snowden, Wilkinson, Panting and Hancock and all at Harbury Surgery including District Nurses, Frances and Hannah.

Special thanks to Sheona our Motor Neurone helper for all her help and support over the past two years and to Rose Severs who did all she could to help Andrew. Thank you to Mr. Daly, Carol Jackson and everyone at Harbury School for all their kindness and help.

We are very grateful to Harbury Friends, the young couple who sent us a Christmas Hamper and to the Samuel Warneford N.P. Fund for all their donations. These all helped us to have a better Christmas.

With love and thanks

Isobel, Helen and Peter Clarke

Dear Editors, we would like to thank everyone who supported our coffee morning at the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 11th February. We raised a wonderful £343.00 for Myton Hospice. Thank you.

Harbury Support Group for Myton Hospice

APRIL EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to 31, Binswood End

by 15th March

Articles to Harbury Pharmacy

by 24th March

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. S. Stringer | 613214 |
| 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 & 4th Wednesday 2:00-4:00pm

BADMINTON: Village Hall, Monday mornings (612877) 10:00am-12:00noon
Mondays (612627) (Seniors) 7:00-9:00pm;
Friday (612029) (Juniors) 6:30-8:00pm;
Sunday (not in summer) (613340) 7:00-10:00pm

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

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS various homes 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month 2.00-3.00pm
(613207); 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 10.30-12.00 Noon (612864)

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

CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES Farley Room Wednesday 4.00-8.00pm (01789 290733)

CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 6:30pm

CHURCH NEN'S GROUP: Tom Hauley Room 1st Thursday in the month 7.45pm

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

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

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

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, Mondays 5.30-7:30pm

HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Shakespeare Inn 1st Thursday in the month 8:30pm

HARBURY FRIENDS: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Tuesday in the month 8:00pm

HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB: Chairman: Mike Jones Tel: 614040

Under 12s - Training: 10.30am Saturday at Harbury playing fields
Coach: Andy Dickson Tel: 612192

Year 1 - Training: 9.00am Saturday at Harbury playing fields
Coach: David Hoey Tel: 311097

Years 2&3 - Training: 10.45am Saturday at Harbury School
Coach: David Hoey Tel: 311097

Year 4 - Training: 9.00am Saturday at Harbury School
Coach: Neil Murray Tel: 612524

Year 5 - Training: 9.00am Saturday at Harbury School
Coach: Neil Murray Tel: 612524

Under 15s - Training: 11am Saturday at Myton School
Coach: Keith Edwards Tel: 421414

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: Wight School (behind Library), High St. Monday 12:30pm – 3:00pm, Tuesday to Friday 9:00am-1:00pm (614316)

HARBURY RAINBOWS Scout Hut Tuesdays 5.30-6.30pm

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP Last Monday of the month Shakespeare Inn (612150)

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

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 612498

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: (613730) School Hall, Wednesdays 8:00-10:00pm

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Tuesday in the month (Oct. to May) 8:00pm Contact Daphne Clifford 01926 612829

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;

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

Matches on Saturday Afternoon

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Tom Hauley Room, 3rd Saturday in the month 7.30am

MOTHER'S UNION: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Wednesday in the month 2.30pm; 3rd Tuesday in the month 8pm

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00pm

PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP: (612792) Meeting on 2nd Wednesday in the month at the Shakespeare 8:00pm

TENNIS CLUB: CLUB MEMBERS PLAYING TIMES

ADULTS: Tuesdays: 6.00pm - 10.00pm

Thursdays: 6.00pm - 10.00pm

Wednesdays: 1.45pm - 3.15pm

Saturdays (Winter only): 3.00pm - 5.00pm

Sundays (Summer only): 10am - 12 noon

Club Members may play at other times free of charge, provided the courts are not already booked. Guests playing with members should pay £1 an hour.

If you would like to become a member, please contact Angie Dean (secretary) on 614513 or Colin Mercer (Chairman) on 613284.

JUNIORS and MINIS (Reception to Year 11)

Coaching sessions take place throughout the Summer and Winter.

Please contact Sue Mercer (Phone 613284 or Email sucol-merc@tiscali.co.uk for up to date information.

NON MEMBERS: Courts should be booked at Country Fayre, Chapel Street (£2 per hour per court) For Floodlight Bookings (£5 per hour + £5 deposit for the key) - Ring 613284 April to September:

THURSDAY CLUB: (612273) Farley Room of Village Hall 2nd & 4th Thursday in the month 2:30pm

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

WINDMILLS NURSERY SCHOOL: Primary School, Monday-Friday; 9:00am-3.15pm; Friday 9.00am-1.00pm

YOGA: Tom Hauley Room, Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm Dianne Surgery Tel. 817904

YOUTH CLUB: Drop-in facility on Tuesdays 8-9pm in Village Hall



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