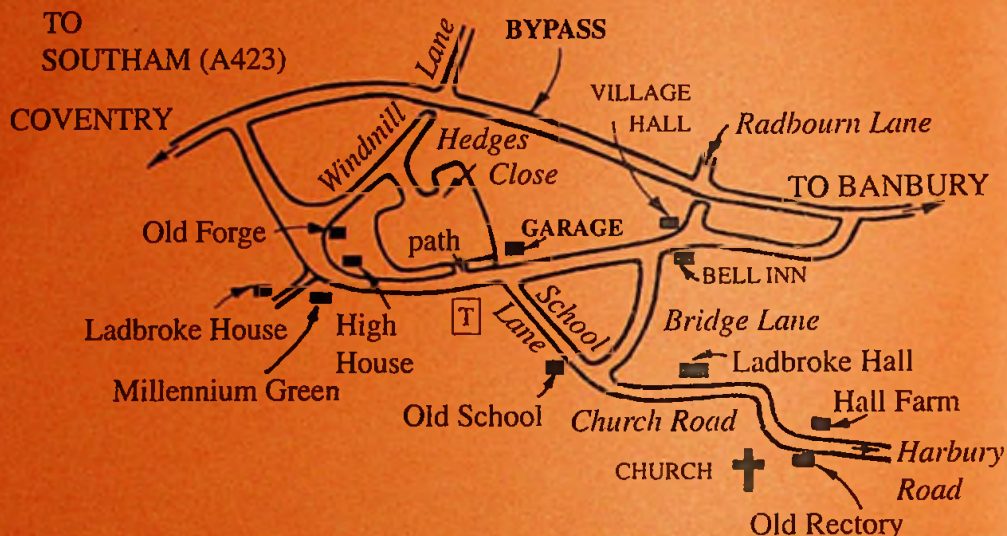


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# Harbury & Ladbroke News

Reflects all aspects of local life, is published monthly and produced with the assistance of  
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## IN THIS ISSUE

## Page

EDITORIAL .....	2
HARBURY DIARY .....	3
FROM THE RECTOR & CHURCH NEWS .....	5
LADBROKE NEWS .....	8
HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL .....	11
HARBURY SOCIETY .....	14
HARBURY WOMENS INSTITUTE .....	15
HARBURY THEATRE GROUP .....	16
HARBURY FOLK CLUB .....	17
HARBURY TENNIS CLUB .....	17
HARBURY TODDLER GROUP .....	19
HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL .....	20
HARBURY CRICKET CLUB .....	22
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY .....	23
NATURE NOTES .....	24
GENERAL SECTION .....	27
LETTERS TO THE EDITORS .....	39

### 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

Twenty five children spent a fun-filled week in the Tom Hauley Room at the annual Holiday Club. As always, this would not be possible without the many helpers who gave their time to ensure the children enjoyed themselves.



Also during August, the Youth Drop-in held a Circus Skills workshop in the Village Hall and all participants learnt new skills.

This month sees the annual village Horticultural Show on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. This is a chance to see the skills and talents of adults and young people. There will also be the opportunity to purchase items from a number of stalls, as well as to see sideshows.

Chesterton Windmill will be open as part of the Heritage Open Weekend, on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September. It is well worth a visit if you have not been inside before.

We wish our regular W.I. contributor Jeanne Beaumont a speedy recovery following her accident.

A reminder that next month subscriptions to the 'News' are due and your distributor will no doubt be calling on you to collect it!

Finally, we extend our sympathies to the families of Marian Bowden-Pritchett and John Rigby.

# Harbury Diary

## SEPTEMBER

- Fri 1 BEER FESTIVAL IN VILLAGE HALL
- Sat 2 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Rotary 10.00am—12.00pm  
RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION  
BEER FESTIVAL IN VILLAGE HALL
- Sun 3 **TRINITY XII**  
Sung Eucharist 9.00am, Evening Worship 6.00pm  
Cricket First XI home to Edgbaston Unity
- Mon 4 SCHOOL TERM BEGINS
- Tues 5 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 6 Holy Communion 2.00pm with Hymns and address followed by Mothers Union  
Deadline for entry forms to the Horticultural Show to Janice Siddle or Ron Grey by 6.00pm
- Thurs 7 Holy Communion 9.45am  
Blood Donors session at the Grange Hall, Southam  
Harbury Art Group in Tom Hauley Room 10.00am to 4.00pm  
Folk Club in Shakespeare Inn 8.30pm
- Sat 9 HERITAGE OPEN DAYS – Chesterton Windmill 10.00am – 5.00pm  
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of the Church 10.00am - 12.00pm  
Horticultural Show in Village Hall 2.00pm
- Sun 10 **TRINITY XIII**  
Holy Communion 8.00am, Sung Eucharist 10.30am  
HERITAGE OPEN DAYS – Chesterton Windmill 10.00am – 5.00pm
- Mon 11 Toddlers Service in Church 2.00pm
- Tues 12 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 13 'Talk it Through' at 33 South Parade 8.00pm
- Thurs 14 Holy Communion 9.45am  
Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm  
W.I. in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
- Fri 15 RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION  
'Take Time Out' - Vibrant Abstract Painting Day in Ufton 10.00am – 2.00pm  
ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY BY 5.30PM  
Grange Players perform "Over My Dead Body" The Grange, Southam 7.30pm
- Sat 16 Men's Prayer Breakfast in Tom Hauley Room 7.30am  
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of GASS 10.00am - 12.00pm  
Harbury Society trip to Sulgrave Manor (details from Linda 612792)  
Grange Players perform "Over My Dead Body" The Grange, Southam 7.30pm
- Sun 17 **TRINITY XIV**  
Holy Communion 8.00am,  
Harvest Thanksgiving Family Communion 10.30am Evensong 6.00pm  
Fairtrade Stall in Tom Hauley Room after Service



The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Harbury Hash, Itchington Holt, registration from 2.00pm start time 2.30pm

- Tues 19 Holy Communion 7.30pm, Mothers Union talk 'Behind the Frame' 8.00pm  
Senior Citizens Benefit Committee in Village Hall 8.00pm
- Wed 20 Tea in the Tom Hauley Room 3.00 – 4.00pm
- Thurs 21 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 22 Harbury W.I. Harvest Supper in Tom Hauley Room 7.30 for 8.00pm
- Sat 23 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Youth Grp 10.00am – 12.00pm  
Myton Hospice Plant Sale on Dog Car Park 11.00 – 2.00pm
- Sun 24 TRINITY XV**  
Holy Communion 8.00am, Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 26 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 27 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved at 19 Farm Street 2.30-4.30pm  
'Talk it Through' at 33 South Parade 8.00pm
- Thurs 28 Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm  
Parish Council in Village Hall 7.30pm  
Parochial Church Council Meeting 7.30pm
- Fri 29 ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL  
ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM  
RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION  
Macmillan's World Biggest Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room  
10.00am – 12.00 noon  
Kid's Club Quiz Night in Village Hall 8.00pm start
- Sat 30 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Pre-School 10.00am - 12.00pm  
Meet Southam Lions in Southam Library 9.30am – 12.30pm  
Myton Hospice Plant Sale on Dog Car Park 11.00am – 2.00pm  
Village Hall Refurbishment Exhibition in Village Hall 12.00 - 4.00pm

## OCTOBER

- Sun 1 TRINITY XVI**  
Sung Eucharist 9.00am, Evening Worship 6.00pm
- Mon 2 Village Hall Committee in Village Hall 8.00pm
- Tues 3 Holy Communion 7.30pm  
Horticultural Society talk 'Batsford Arboretum through the Seasons' in  
Tom Hauley Room at 8.00pm
- Wed 4 Holy Communion 2.00pm Mothers Union 2.30pm
- Thurs 5 Holy Communion 9.45am  
Harbury Art Group in Tom Hauley Room 10.00am to 4.00pm  
Folk Club in Shakespeare Inn 8.30pm
- Sat 7 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Brownies 10.00am – 12.00pm  
Harbury W.I. Lunch in Tom Hauley Room  
Harvest Supper in Village Hall  
Myton Hospice Plant Sale on Dog Car Park 11.00am – 2.00pm  
Meet Southam Lions in Southam Library 9.30am – 12.30pm



All Saints  
HARBURY

## From the Rector

Father Roy Brown

This last month has been rather busy for me, with work and treatment, so I looked yet again into my 'Inspirational File', and would like to share with you the following thoughts:-

Think of graceful flowers and birds  
 Don't think of hurtful words.  
 Think of gaiety, laughter, fun  
 Don't think of ills that folk have done.  
 Think of the help you can give old Jones  
 Even though he moans and groans.  
 Think of that blackbird on the lawn  
 And that wondrous song heralding the dawn.  
 Don't think of your misery 'cos you're home and forgotten the kippers  
 Think of the look on Bert's face when he forgot and turned up at Peg's  
 Wedding in slippers!  
 Think of soft breezes in yonder old oak  
 Forget that remark Maud thought was a joke!  
 Think of the pleasures you enjoyed by the sea  
 And that sudden great wave washing right up to your knee.  
 Don't think and lie worrying – it'll all come right.  
 Just think of that lovely old moon staring right at you from the night.  
 Think of that stew – Marg thought we were funny 'uns  
 When we cooked her bulbs and thought they were onions!  
 Think of sweet meadows in summer, all carpeted in wild flowers  
 And reverie in the Lord's beauty for hours and hours.  
 Think of a quiet flowing river, the old man waves from his barge....  
 And smiles .... And you wave and smile back .... There's no extra charge!  
 Think of the mental restfulness you reap just sitting in Church  
 There's no place so peaceful on earth wherever you search.  
 Think of .... well, one could go on unceasingly,  
 Thinking of all the simple, happy occurrences in our lives and ....  
 apparently .... all quite free.'

They say there is no such thing as a free meal. You get nothing for nothing. – Ponder on!



*Congratulations to Rennie and David Delin  
of Binswood End.  
On celebrating your Diamond Wedding Anniversary on  
August 7<sup>th</sup>.  
The couple received a greeting card from the Queen  
to mark the occasion.*

## **From the Registers**

### *Holy Matrimony, All Saints' Harbury*

August 27<sup>th</sup>      Nicholas Coles to Heidi Joseph

### *Holy Baptism, All Saints' Ladbroke*

August 6<sup>th</sup>      Callum Reece Stewart

### *Holy Baptism All Saints' Harbury*

August 20<sup>th</sup>      Thomas Lewis Cumberbatch

### *Funerals at Oakley Wood*

August 15<sup>th</sup>      Marian Boden-Pritchett (67)

August 18<sup>th</sup>      John Rigby (88)



## **From the Churchwardens**

**Tony & Fliss**

After a hectic July, August has been a relatively quiet month, except, of course, for those involved in All Saints' Holiday Club!

Congratulations to Alison and her team on a happy, busy week during which the children learned about Jesus' miracles and sang, acted, made gardens and masks and thoroughly enjoyed all the activities on offer. We do thank everyone involved for their enthusiasm and hard work.

Thank you, too, to Alison and everyone who took part in the presentation at the Family Service when, through readings and drama, we were invited to reflect on the greatest miracle of all – the Resurrection.

**STOP PRESS!** (Again) How many of you spotted last month's deliberate mistake? The Christmas Fayre will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> December not the date given last month!





## Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

Many thanks to everyone who helped at, or supported, the Coffee Morning and lunch at the end of July. It was a happy and successful morning.

Our afternoon meeting on September 6<sup>th</sup> will be in church at 2.00pm, for our corporate communion with address.

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 8.00pm (following communion at 7.30pm) the previous diocesan President Audrey Hobley will be talking about the symbolism of religious paintings. Entitled 'Behind the Frame,' this promises to be enjoyable as well as informative, and visitors will be most welcome.

October 4<sup>th</sup> – 2.30pm following the service at 2.00pm – speaker yet to be confirmed.

And a reminder of M.U.M.S. – our way of offering help to new mothers in the village. Do let me know where it is needed on 614809.

## WOW! - It was a miracle

Alison Abbott



Children and nearly as many adults not to mention our wonderful teenage helpers met in the Tom Hauley Room for four fun filled days at our summer holiday club.

We sang and acted, made music and masks, planted miniature gardens, had fun with

clay and made a collage which is displayed in the children's corner in church. We listened to how Jesus fed 5,000 people with one packed lunch, healed a paralysed man and ten lepers and calmed a storm. It was fantastic.

Maybe you couldn't come this year but don't miss out next year; put August 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> in your diary and be there!

# Ladbroke News & Diary

## SEPTEMBER

Sat	9	Historic Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride - 10.00am – 6.00pm
Sun	10	TRINITY XIII Sung Communion 9.00am
Fri	15	ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY BY 5.30PM
Sun	17	TRINITY XIV Sung Communion 9.00am
Mon	18	Ladbroke Table Tennis Club (new season) in Village Hall 8.00pm
Wed	20	PCC at Chapel Ascot Farm 7.30pm
Sun	24	TRINITY XV Sung Communion 9.00am
Thurs	28	Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I. Meeting 'Wartime Tunes' - with Eric Hibbs
Fri	29	ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
Sat	30	Ladbroke Millennium Green Trustees Race Night 2006

## OCTOBER

Sun	1	TRINITY XVI Harvest Family Communion 10.30am
Fri	6	Harvest Supper 7.00 for 7.30pm in Village Hall
Sun	8	TRINITY XVII Sung Communion 9.00am

## Ladbroke Flower Rota

Jane Rutherford

September	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kate Todman
September	10 <sup>th</sup>	Laura Taylor
September	17 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Bosworth
September	24 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Clews
October	1 <sup>st</sup>	Jenny Barrett (Harvest)
October	8 <sup>th</sup>	Jenny Barrett



## Ladbroke Church News

Betty Winkfield

Some dates for your diary.

- ♦ **Sponsored Cycle Ride.** My grand-daughter Melanie Teverson's sponsor form is in church – she needs your sponsorship please. I also need volunteers to man the church through the day. Only an hour each – PLEASE – on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00am – 6.00pm.

- ♦ **Harvest Thanksgiving Service** is on 1<sup>st</sup> October at the 10.30am Family Communion. Donations of produce please, especially from the children. The produce will be taken as usual to Castel Froma, home for the disabled on the Monday morning.
- ♦ **Harvest Supper** – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October (time – it will be on your ticket) in the Village Hall.



## **Women's Fellowship**

**Betty Winkfield**

Our Tea Party on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August was a happy and successful afternoon. We made £71.00 for our donation to the Vietnamese Children's Project. Many thanks go to our Harbury Mothers' Union friends who gave us such wonderful support, I hope they enjoyed the afternoon too.

No meeting in September.



## **Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I.**

**Sue Halsall**

The summer outing on 23<sup>rd</sup> August to Sulgrave Manor was a great success. The weather forecast was heavy showers, luckily the rain kept off until our journey home. Following lunch at the Wharfe, Fenny Compton we arrived at Sulgrave Manor for a very interesting talk and enlightening explanation for words in our vocabulary such as cupboard, boarding house, the dole, uppercrust, bed bugs and many more. Well worth a visit. It was lovely that Ann Edwards, a past president who now lives in South Africa, was able to join us.

Next Meeting September 28<sup>th</sup> - Wartime Tunes - with Eric Hibbs.



## **Ladbroke Table Tennis Club**

**Sue Halsall**

The new season will start on Monday September 18<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. This will be an open evening, with cheese and wine. Please do just come along, everyone welcome. The present members will agree that it is a fun evening, plenty of exercise, chatter and



## **Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club**

**Catherine Spence**

Here are the winners of June and July's draw.

<b>June Draw</b>		<b>July Draw</b>	
£70	Beverley Bradley	£70	Richard Walker
£25	Alan Court	£25	Lorna Carleton
£25	Chris Baker	£25	Alan Stubbs
£10	John Lowman	£10	Andy Bendzak
£10	Ken Whiteley	£10	Ken Whiteley
£10	Margaret Bosworth	£10	Mary Coley

Next month's draw will not take place until Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September due to holiday commitments.

## **Ladbroke Millennium Green Trustees Race Night 2006**

**Carol Lane**

You didn't miss last year's race night did you? Well, make sure you don't miss it this year: Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> September. But if you really can't make it, you can still participate by sponsoring a horse or a race, so read on.

One of the Trustees will be calling on you at the beginning of September to give you the opportunity to 'buy' a horse in one of the races, so get the name of your horse(s) ready!

There will be cash prizes for the winning owners and there will be horses in at least 8 races for you to place your bets on.

Tickets (which include a chicken and chip supper) will be available at £5 for adults and £3 for children. All profits go to the Millennium Green Trust.

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## Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

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

Cllr Biddle had a course on Chairing before he took over the Chain of Office, even so July's was a very long meeting. Fair enough - there were some very contentious issues, but Cllrs spent ages speculating with too little information.

**Traffic** - They had asked for improvements at Butt Lane/Station Road junction following a recent accident but were told that a mini-roundabout on a derestricted road would entail expensive engineering works that the accident record did not warrant it. After lengthy discussion the Council decided to ask for better and more visible signage and the 30 m.p.h zone to be extended.

**Safety** - They only took 10 minutes despite Dutch Van Spall's diversion into Resident's Parking Schemes and Clamping, to determine action on the vexed subject of outsiders parking irresponsibly then recklessly diving into the Quarries. It was Follett's responsibility to secure their land and highlight the dangers. As Dutch remarked they could afford to employ men with dogs to warn Butterfly enthusiasts off their land so should make more efforts to prevent a tragedy. The Health and Safety Executive will be alerted.

**Smartwater** - This property-marking scheme will be introduced on an area basis with Manor Orchard as the first tranche, although some individuals have already taken up the initiative. Geoff Thorpe warned Cllrs "If you find a fluorescent tortoise - it's MINE!"

**Village Hall** - Geoff Thorpe and Chris Finch updated the Council on progress towards upgrading the Village Hall. Disabled facilities, improved toilets and changing rooms plus a permanent stage and office space for the Council were the immediate priorities and preliminary sketches would be on display for the public on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

A second stage could include an extension to provide accommodation for the Pre-school, Youth Club and possibly the Scouts if they decided not to repair their Hut. There was a need to balance income with improvement and running costs. One of the Halls the group visited had super facilities but did not even generate enough money to pay its

The idea of including a swimming pool was a non-starter especially because of the proximity of a pool at Southam, but they had visited Brookhurst School where an existing pool had been upgraded by the County and were sending details to Nigel Chapman at Harbury School.

**Deppers Bridge** - Dutch Van Spall appeared to be co-ordinating opposition to boat-building in Ladbroke. The only link to Harbury appeared to be the possibility that barges would have to negotiate Deppers traffic calming. Dutch claimed that that continual destruction of the "bollards" was deliberate and not caused by domestic vehicles. CCTV pictures will be used in evidence

**Planning** - Follet's are once again ignoring the spirit of the agreement to produce a Masterplan for the Quarries and have applied for a declaration that they can lawfully use the lakes for fishing, scuba-diving, jet skiing, canoeing, water skiing, paddle boating, sailing, and swimming and asserted that these uses have continued there since 1988.

The Council knows this not to be true and will challenge the scope of the watersports claim and the affidavits Follet produced. The company were allowed the more modest of their "Clubhouse" plans on Appeal.

The Pre-school will be erecting advertising signs at the Wight School and although they do not need planning permission, Mrs Thompson attended the meeting to inform the Parish Council of the move.

**Parish Council** - made no representations on: extensions at 8 The Beeches, 8 Chapel Street and 26 Binswood End; felling an apple tree at the Bungalow, Chapel Street and a vehicle repair workshop on land off Ufton Road. The plans for a toilet block for touring caravans at Harbury Fields Farm, on which they commented was withdrawn.

**Stratford refused** - permission for a two storey extension at West End Cottage, Mill Street: **Granted** - Treework at the Shakespeare Inn, an extension at 26 Binswood End, conservatory at 7 Farm Street and front extensions to 23 Manor Orchard and to the intense disgust of the whole Parish Council gave permission for a two storey and a single storey extension to 30 Percival Drive.

Councillors who attended the area meeting at which this decision was made had nothing but condemnation for the way the meeting was Chaired, and complaints have been sent to the District and the MP.

The Parish will complain to the Ombudsman but were hampered by Stratford's inability to supply them with contact details! They will complain about that too.

**Playing Fields** - Repairs and painting of the Play Equipment are in hand. The demolished barrier has been repaired and the bill must be paid by the motorist concerned. Quotes for providing a tarmac surround to the Netball courts are over £5,000 and the work is unlikely to take place this year.

**Allotments** - Patrick Clarke and the allotment holders had taken the initiative to reduce their rabbit problem, but like Victor Borge's Bucket and Pulley Story had precipitated unintended misfortune. After clearing the undergrowth they burned the brash, accidentally setting fire to the hedge which necessitated putting up replacement fencing that cost the PC £30.

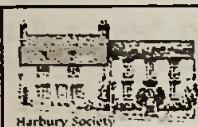
**Improvements** - Urgent work to the Council's trees will be undertaken this year and the rest of the improvements will be phased over the following two years. No-one can sit on the Library bench now the access improvements have been made, so it will be re-sited. Congratulations were offered on the rebuilt walls at the Paddock and Old New Inn will be sent to Mrs Price and the Moffats. The Bus Shelter is ordered and funding approved for planting up the flower tubs. The Council seems once again set on creating a complete One Way Circuit round the Church. There were complaints about the verges in Bull Ring Lane and the Co-op lorry parking across Mill Lane. The Council still believes its only Bye-laws relate to Dog Fouling and they have been superseded by the ones Stratford recently introduced.

**Finance** - The Clerk will get vouchers printed and advertise the Parish's Concessionary Transport Scheme. This time vouchers will be posted out.

Along with many other Parishes Harbury received a Lottery Grant for a website scheme masterminded by the District Council. Unfortunately there is no news from Stratford on what it wants us to spend the money on. Harbury has to account it by March so approved the purchase of a laptop, software, printer and copier for the Clerk. We already have a Parish Council website at [www.harbury-parish.co.uk](http://www.harbury-parish.co.uk) where you can read last month's official minutes.

The public left Councillors to discuss confidential staffing issues.





## Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

There have been some interesting moves this Summer by Follett's over development at the Quarries. They seek to obtain a ruling that they can lawfully use the lakes for fishing and water sports including Jet and Water Skiing. This application is based on their contention that these uses have been on-going for many years. Whilst it is probably true for the fishing, Jet and Water Skiing were a temporary nuisance in the early 1990. Skiing stopped after an accident there a couple of years later.

Follett's appeal against refusal for the larger "Fisherman's Clubhouse" at the lakes was ruled out but the "more modest" but still big development was allowed. Some time in the autumn there will be the next round in the Master-planning exercise.

We have begun to put together an Autumn/Winter programme of events but before the official start there are several Heritage Open Days properties in Leamington and Warwick which people might like to visit independently. Details are on the Civic Trust website at [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk) Entrance is free and here is a taster of the places open:

Hill Close Gardens, Warwick	9 <sup>th</sup> September 11.00 - 5.00pm and 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2.00 - 5.00pm
Guys Cliffe House, Coventry Road, Warwick	7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> September 10.00 - .4.00pm
Court House, Jury Street Warwick	7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2.00 - 4.00pm

Our first event on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September is a visit to Sulgrave Manor – "a superb example of a modest manor house and garden of Shakespeare's time. It was home to the ancestors of George Washington. The guided tour starts at 3pm – cost £5. In the New Year we hope to have a speaker from Sulgrave to talk about Mediaeval food.

Graham Sutherland talks about English Eccentrics on 19<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 for 8.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room and on 6<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm Pc Craig Fellows talks on Wildlife Policing.



## Harbury Women's Institute

Nora Ellis

There was no meeting in August but members enjoyed a county outing to the House of Commons and many thanks go to Peggie and Anne who arranged our trip to Royal Worcester where we learnt about the history of the pottery and saw artists painting beautiful designs on plates and vases. We also enjoyed hunting for bargains in the seconds shop.

### **Forthcoming events:**

#### **Horticultural Show – 9<sup>th</sup> September in the Village Hall**

Entries must be in by 6.00pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at the latest. Please do enter, even if it is in only one or two classes. We cannot have a show if no one enters!!

#### **Harvest Supper – 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

In the Tom Hauley Room 7.30 for 8.00pm. Please bring your own glass and wine.

#### **W.I. Lunch – 7<sup>th</sup> October in Tom Hauley Room**

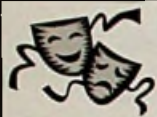
This is an important event to raise funds to pay for speakers etc. Menus are in the Church. Please come and bring your friends and family to support this. Offers of help with cooking/serving etc. will be appreciated. Thank you.

#### **Autumn Council Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> October at the Spa Centre**

A reminder to bring a photograph 8" x 10" maximum, mounted on A4 card in colour or black and white entitled "Every picture tells a Story" to our meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup> and the best one will be entered in the competition at the Autumn Council Meeting.

The speaker at our meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup> is Mr George Hook talking on "Mother of Pearl" and we look forward to seeing everyone after the summer break.

As you see this is not Jeanne's usual witty report but I have done my best in her absence. We wish her well and a good recovery after her accident.



## Harbury Theatre Group

Keith Hayes

August should be a quiet month for HTG as a lot of us are away on holiday, the last plays have been discussed, analysed and forgotten, the ACT Festival has been all tidied up and all the accounts paid and, most important of all, Ian & Trish Donnelly's wedding has successfully taken place. (A good time was had by all.)

However, we have a lot of organising to do over the next few months so we have come back to a flurry of activity.

We have two major projects in hand. First, next August we hope to take a play to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and the amount of work involved is immense. Meetings are taking place at regular intervals (in the pub) and fund raising events are already in hand.

Second, we are going to tackle a very ambitious play for our November production. As I mentioned briefly last month, we are going to stage Peter Pan.

Do I here gasps of amazement? I think I should as projects go, this is a big one. Our newly weds, Trish & Ian Donnelly, have taken this one on between, them, and I believe it gave them something to do and discuss in their spare time while on honeymoon (?!). Work has already started. A cast of children has been rounded up and auditioned for Indians, mermaids, lost boys etc. not to mention the three major children. A play reading was convened for the senior parts and several meetings have taken place, both official and unofficial to discuss the many staging problems. Over the next three months we have sets to design, scenery to make and paint, sound tracks to find and lighting plots to finalise. Several weekends will have to be put aside for the construction work. All this on top of rehearsals, working out the choreography and fight scenes etc. Will we ever have time to learn our lines?

However, come the end of November, we aim to have a good show for you, and hopefully, we can convince you that children can fly.







## Folk Club

Peter Bones

With it being August and knowing that many people will be away on holiday or at Sidmouth Folk festival, it was expected that there would be fewer than usual people at the folk club which took place on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was therefore decided to have an informal sing around and music session rather than having the usual theme.

As it happened more people than expected turned up and we were treated to a wide variety of items including unaccompanied solos, rich harmony singing and instrumental music. Everyone was in fine voice as they joined in with the many chorus songs, and at times there were more than a dozen instruments squeezing, strumming and scraping together to several familiar tunes.

In spite of the numbers, we still kept to an informal format which included having no stage area so the music was led from the floor.

Many thanks to all who took part, which owing to the nature of the evening, was everyone who came.

Thanks also to those who contributed to the raffle which raised £38.00 for Emmaus, which is an international charity administered by the Anglican Church with the aim of tackling the problem of homelessness.



## Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

The main event since the last report was our second open day as part of the Lawn Tennis Association's Play Tennis 2006 initiative. Our first event was aimed at adult "Rusties" and newcomers so this time the event was for children between 3 and 15. We aim to catch 'em young!! Coaches Angie and Lucy Dean were on hand to give the 41 youngsters who came along an enjoyable opportunity to sample the game. It was a great day and it was particularly nice to see so many three and four-year-olds with their parents on court.



A group of 3-4 year olds with their parents

The Club has also been very busy with its summer tennis fun programme for youngsters aged 5 to 15. It has been very successful and the 3 weeks were completed without interruptions for rain so it's fingers crossed for the final week!

The feedback from both events has been really good and quite a few parents of the children who took part in the events have approached us about the Autumn programme which is in the final stages of preparation.

The Club's 2 teams playing in the Banbury League are coming to the end of their fixtures with very mixed fortunes! In Division 2 the "A" is in second place with a game in hand over leaders Charlbury "A" and could clinch the championship by winning the last two matches. The last match is against Byfield "B" who are in third place and it looks likely that this match will decide who wins the championship and who gets the other promotion place – no pressure then! The "B" team are now able to relax after a further 4 defeats makes it mathematically impossible for them to avoid relegation.





## Harbury Toddler Group

Emma Legg

September is here again and we welcome back all those who have stayed away during the holidays looking after older siblings, holidaying in the sun and having more babies! Talking of which we would like to give congratulations three families who have been busy this holiday, firstly Ceri who has given birth to Nuala, to Claire who gave birth to Josef and finally Elizabeth who has broken tradition and produced Charles, her first son following three beautiful girls.

Mondays have remained busy through the summer break and there seems to have been so much development with the little ones. Babies who were struggling to sit up a few weeks ago are now taking their first tentative steps with the walkers. Older children who are getting close to pre-school age have given up with the tricycles and buggies and are working out how the large gate bolts work! So that's what they mean when they say they are into everything.

September also means the Toddler Group AGM is just around the corner (around the 26<sup>th</sup> September but still to be confirmed), a time when the committee get together and either sign up to another year on the committee or hand over their responsibilities to new members. This year we are appealing to any parents who are even remotely interested to please come along to the AGM and join us. We will be losing a few of the committee due to people moving out of the area and moving on to pre-school committee so it is essential that we get reinforcements to carry on the good work that has been started.

Some of the tasks involved are: organising the Christmas party, hosting a coffee morning, planning a summer trip and building the float for the Harbury Carnival. All the past years efforts are well documented and a framework for the year is in place and easy to follow. Of course there is always room for fresh ideas on fund raising, trips and activities and if you can see improvements that could be made then we definitely need you.

A confirmed date for the AGM will be on the notice board at Toddlers but if you would like to ask any questions about this or any other toddler group business please do not hesitate to contact me, Emma on 01926 613093.





## Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

We are now beginning a new school year after enjoying our summer holidays. Searching through our archives we have re-discovered some delightful photographs which illustrate the 6 areas of learning covered at Pre-school.

### Creative Development



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### Knowledge and Understanding of the World



Discovering the properties of ice.

### Communication, Language and Literacy



Reading in our book area.

### Physical Development



Enjoying our outdoor area.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development



Sharing a lunchtime session.

### Mathematical Development



Counting and sorting.

We are looking forward to welcoming old and new faces back to Pre-school when the new term begins on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

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



## Harbury Cricket Club

Philip Mugleston

The season so far has proved to be very mixed; with the club having its fair share of wins and losses. We have seen many impressive individual and team performances throughout this season, which have proved to be decisive in many matches. This season we have seen two centuries, one of which from our captain Ed Russell who continues to be a key figure for the team, using his experience to take key wickets with his fast bowling and also passing down his knowledge to the younger members of the team. The other came from Stuart Mugleston; this being his maiden century against local rivals Wellesbourne. Stuart is also vice captain showing his commitment towards the team and game. Also with the bat Graham Newport has shown his quality; scoring four fifties to date; opening the batting he is always reliable, setting a good platform for the innings.

The club has always had a high bowling standard and is known in the area for its pace bowlers and this year has been no exception. Pace bowler Greg Neale continues to use every inch of the pitch to rattle the top order batsman and continues to take vital wickets. Jamie Newport is another quick bowler keen to steam in at the batsmen and has done so to great effect. Spin has also played a role this year for Harbury with young off-Spinner Phil Mugleston being leading wicket taker to date with 16 to his name.

Every game this year has been played in great spirit and most have gone down to the last few overs showing a good standard of cricket. This year's most memorable game was against local rivals Southam, whom we beat off the last ball of our innings with a quickly taken single.

This season has also seen new players come into the team. 14-year-old George Bloxham has become a valuable member of the team after a great first impression on his debut taking 2 wickets and hitting more runs than many senior players. Matt Boneham has also become a regular member of the team and after a shaky start has improved massively as an all rounder. Another key member of the team this year and for many years has been our wall behind the stumps, Richard Carr, otherwise known as the Major. He has been a quality wicket keeper and superb groundsman for the club providing a brilliant wicket. Still in his prime we hope for him to continue for a few more years!





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As ever we are keen for new players to get involved in the club, so if anyone fancies to dig out their bat for a game at the weekend they are very welcome. Please contact either Ed Russell 01926 612684 or Stuart Mugleston 01926 612382

We have a brilliant team spirit at Harbury helped by a good number of supporters, and if you would like to just watch a game alongside them for a bit of fun you are very welcome! Our last home game is on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Rugby Club starting at 2.30pm if anyone is interested in coming along.



## Horticultural Society

Muriel Grey

Last month the Walkabout was the main topic, this month is the Show on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September, and if you haven't got one please pick up a schedule, there should be something for everyone. There are classes for flower arranging, painting, photography, crafts, cooking, preserves and so on, all this besides the flower and veg. sections. The youngsters have a separate schedule as in previous years; the cut off date for everyone is the same – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00pm, please deliver your entry form and money to Janice, 35 Percival Drive or Ron Grey, 23 Deppers Bridge. This arrangement is very necessary for admin purposes and the staging of the exhibition. Janice will then have a better idea how much space to allow for each class. On the previous evening to the Show the tables have to be put in place then covered with paper, so if anyone would like to help – preferably male and under 70 – please ring Janice on 614459. Help will also be needed to dismantle everything after the Show on the Saturday afternoon.

Please, please bring entries to stage – allowing plenty of time – well before 10.45am, this usually takes more time to complete than you might think – it would be a shame if you were disqualified because you were late – all that wasted effort. The hall opens at 8.00am, so there shouldn't be any excuses. There will be a Produce Stall, so all contributions will be very welcome – baking wrapped for selling please, brought to the hall the morning of the show, but not between 11.00am and 1.00pm, when the judging takes place. Also as in previous years any produce left in the hall after the Show will be taken to Castel Froma who are always very appreciative.



There will be various side shows, something of interest for all ages. Of course there will be a tombola (no alcohol please), contributions will be very welcome, please deliver by Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, to 55 Mill Street or 23 Deppers Bridge, thank you in anticipation.

The Trophies and Cups are being engraved ready to be won once more, they make an impressive display. The list of winners will be published next month. Even if you haven't entered anything, do come to the hall at 2.00pm on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September to see what others have exhibited, you might be inspired to try next year!

Finally our new season of talks starts with "Batsford Arboretum through the Seasons" and will be given by Sue Burns on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 8.00pm.



## Nature Notes

John Hancock

As I write (August 12<sup>th</sup>), the heatwave has cooled and we have a northerly airflow with winds off the North sea coast of 25mph and temperatures 18°C at most, some 10 degrees lower than a week ago. As promised in last month's article, I'll try to give you a flavour of Peru and its flora and fauna, as experienced by Sharon and I on our recent holiday. Peru lies just south of the Equator and in area is about ten times the size of England. It can be divided into three parts from west to east. The Pacific coastal strip is largely desert, although the many rivers coursing down from the mountains provide relatively frequent fertile valleys. Moving east the mountains are soon reached. The Andes (they get their name from the volcanic rock Andesite of which they are composed) seem a narrow range in an atlas but in fact stretch 200kms across the country, with many peaks over 6000 metres. On the eastern side of this communications barrier lies the third component of Peru's environment, the jungle. This comprises over half the country with mighty rivers draining into the Amazon basin. It is the most biodiverse region on Earth. Jaguars, Anteaters and Tapirs roam the forest, huge Anacondas live in the swamps and Caimans (small alligators) inhabit the rivers and lakes. Of these, we were only destined to see the latter but there was plenty of other wildlife to savour.

After a brief stop in Lima, where a third of Peru's population of 28 million reside, we flew to Cusco which lies in a valley at 12000 feet. (3,500m). This was the capital of the Inca Empire which at its height stretched from modern day Chile to Columbia-some 2000 miles.

Many Inca buildings with their impressive mortarless, closely fitting stonework have been incorporated into the city built after the Spanish conquest in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The church of Santa Domingo was built on top of the Inca Temple of the Sun which the Conquistadors had stripped of its fabulous gold artwork. The Inca capital was built in the shape of a Puma, one of their sacred animals; the others being the Condor, the Snake and the Llama.

We felt breathless and suffered headaches on our arrival. Walking uphill was an effort, but we gradually improved as we explored the city and enjoyed the dry warm days. At night, the temperature dropped to near freezing, giving a diurnal swing of 20°C.

From Cusco, we travelled by road to the Sacred Valley, which has many Inca strongholds and temples, and where a large population could be maintained farming the rich alluvial soil. Herds of Llamas and Alpacas graze on the non-arable fields. Great use is made of terracing to farm well up the mountains and water is brought to the fields using leats and aqueducts where necessary. Here, at Ollantaytambo, the Inca warrior Manco held Hernando Pizarro (Francisco's brother) and his forces at bay for several years.

Our first day's trek took us to 14000 feet and covered 15 miles, so our guide Umberto hired horses for the climb. Sharon and I and our companions Sarah and Kelvin were able to let the sure-footed animals take the strain of the steep ascent. At the summit of the pass, we were on bare rock. Above us towered the glaciated Cordillera Urubamba. We dismounted and rapidly descended on scree, using walking poles for support. Even a short uphill section caused a noticeable tightening of the chest and air hunger. Later, on our 4 day trek, we coped with the hills more comfortably as we acclimatised.

Our first night under canvas was beneath 6300m Nevado Salcantay and its ice wall. The temperature plummeted to well below zero with a considerable wind chill and we were glad of our down jackets and four seasons' sleeping bags. The night sky was a wonder with the Milky Way a broad, brilliant brush stroke. Umberto and his assistant Alain pointed out the Southern Cross and explained something of the Inca's view of the heavens. Instead of picking out bright stars and joining them with imaginary lines to form constellations - Taurus, Libra, Gemini and so on they had looked at the Milky Way and noticed sizeable, black [starless], areas in the form of their sacred animals, puma, llama.....It is only with no light pollution, often in clear mountain air that they can be seen, something we are missing in this country. We were privileged that night.

As the path descended we entered cloud forest where the trees were covered with a thick layer of epiphytes - moss, orchids and bromeliads [pineapple relatives]. Alder colonized areas disturbed by landslips. Tree ferns were commonplace some reaching a height of 15m [50ft]. Stands of bamboo provided hiding places for a wealth of insect life. We kept seeing a particularly large, showy butterfly. It was 5" across and had blue upper wings with distinctive 'eyesspots' on its brown underwings, giving it the common name Owl Butterfly [*Caligo urilochus*].

The village people we met could not have been more friendly, inviting us, often by gesture, into their homes. These tended to be basic with earth floors and guinea pigs, destined for the pot, running about. Back in Cusco cathedral we had seen a picture of the Last Supper above the altar painted years before by a local artist in the Spanish style. In pride of place in the centre of the table was a roast guinea pig with its legs in the air.

Before reaching Machu Picchu, we bathed in a hot spring and later crossed a river sitting in a box suspended on a wire! Machu Picchu did not disappoint. The city was built on a ridge above a gorge and here the Incas studied the heavens and experimented with agricultural methods. It lay hidden until discovered by the American archaeologist Hiram Bingham in 1911. We spent several hours exploring the wonder of the ruins and enjoying the spectacular location.

After returning to Cusco by train, we flew to Puerto Maldonado in the Amazon basin, close to the border with Bolivia. After a river boat ride, a jungle walk and a canoe trip across Lake Sandoval, an oxbow lake, we reached the lodge where we were to stay and met our new guide Oscar. Over the next 3 days, on foot, or from a boat, he showed us some of the varied wildlife. We watched giant otters devouring fish, tracked Caiman, saw many varieties of monkeys, parrots, macaws, butterflies...the list goes on. Oscar told us that the greatest threat to the rainforest is not logging, but indiscriminate clearance to provide grazing for cattle. He asked us to encourage everyone to help by buying Brazil nuts. These wonderful trees are protected by law and each one yields huge quantities of nuts which can provide an income to the indigenous people.

We left Peru with many happy memories of a beautiful country.



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## General Section

### The Nigel Chapman Memorial Bench!

We've all seen those seats, usually in a park, or facing the sea or overlooking a beautiful view. They are put there usually because some old codger used to sit or stand there, probably with nothing better to do, until he/she became as much a feature of the place as the view itself..... and when they died, they were replaced by a bench, usually with a brass plaque "In Memory Of Old Sid Who Often Spoilt This View" etc.

Now I don't know how far along this norm the Year 6 children were thinking (or hoping) at the end of July, but suffice it to say that I now have one of these benches in my garden. .... complete with brass plaque (but I haven't died). The sentiment on the plaque is delightful – and very humbling. They were MY class for two whole years; normally children only have to suffer one year, and some manage to dodge altogether, sometimes by taking the drastic step of moving to another part of the country.

The presentation of the bench was made on the last afternoon of term, in the middle of the Leavers' assembly, and came completely out of the blue – I know it's an old cliché, but I really hadn't the faintest idea that anything was afoot (or even a bench). For probably the first time since a bout of laryngitis, I was rendered speechless, unable to do justice to the thought behind this present ..... And then the children and their parents, who were there to watch their children's final performance at the school, went off home, some of them probably never to be seen again. And I hadn't been able adequately to express my thanks. So many thanks to all involved, and many thanks also for the many other presents which arrived on the last day. They had been a great group to work with, sometimes frustrating, but every one having something delightful about them. They now move forward to their secondary schools - a fresh challenge which I know they will rise to. Good luck and all best wishes to all of them and their parents from a stunned teacher.

**Nigel Chapman**



## Circus Workshop



The workshop was held at the Village Hall and young people had the chance to try their hand on the tightrope, stilts, unicycle, or juggling at Harbury Youth Drop-In under the instruction of Steve Grainger of Shooting Stars Circus.

**Mike Bloxham**

## A Night Out at the Theatre in September?

The Grange Players, at the Grange, Southam, will be entertaining again with "Over My Dead Body" by Derek Benfield. A comedy with candle lit ploughmans supper at the interval and there is a bar.

Date: 15/16<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm

Tickets are £7 and can be purchased in advance from Karena Ellis (who is in this play for a change!!) on 01926 614462

**Karena Ellis**

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Harbury Hash

This event for all the family will be held on Sunday September 17<sup>th</sup>. The Hash is for walkers and runners and is loosely based on a paper trail, but the trail is marked in flour. It is for all ages, levels of fitness, or lack of, and short cutting is actively encouraged.

The start is from Itchington Holt (access via Thwaites Estate) and there will be signs on the day from the village to the start location (where to park cars and bikes). Registration begins at 2.00pm for a start time of 2.30pm.

There will a BBQ after the Hash, so please bring your own meat, veggie, drinks, salads, drinks, etc. We will provide bread plus some drinks for the down downs (penalties). Dogs on a lead with well-behaved owners are most welcome. The cost is £2 an adult or child, or £8 a family, and any profits will be donated to Harbury GASS.

**Doug Freeman (612002) and Mali Murphy (613063)**

## **Would you like to try Morris dancing?**

Hereburgh Morris, your local Morris team has been delighted to welcome six new dancers this year. They have been able to join us in a number of dancing opportunities through the summer at a variety of local venues. The older, creakier members have been able to relax a little with some new younger, enthusiastic dancers who can take over when we start to flag!

The winter months are the time for learning new dances and practising old ones, and now is the best time to join us. If you want a fun way to keep fit, we practise in the school hall every Wednesday evening 8.00 – 10.00pm. If you just want to see what we get up to, do come along you will be very welcome. First practice of the autumn will be on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. If you want to know more, please contact me or look out for us at the Beer Festival on September 3<sup>rd</sup> (around lunchtime) or the Merrie Lion, Fenny Compton on September 6<sup>th</sup> (from 8.00pm).

**Celia Neill (612819)**  
[chelianne@aol.com](mailto:chelianne@aol.com)

## **Macmillan's World Biggest Coffee Morning**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September is the morning for the Macmillan's Biggest Coffee Morning, we are hoping for your support again this year, at the Tom Hauley Room 10.00am – 12 noon. Please help us to make it a bigger Coffee Morning than last year.

So come and relax with friends, have a coffee and a chat. Buy a raffle ticket or a cake, or something from the 'Bring and Buy'. Please help us to send a bigger donation this year, to help the Macmillan Cancer Support. So please call in and see us. Everyone is welcome.

**Mary Ceney & Friends**

## The Post Office

We all know the story of Peter and the wolf. Peter warned so often that the wolf was on the way that the people eventually took no notice of him. But in the end the wolf did indeed arrive.

Have you tried to pay for your TV licence at a Post Office recently? It's not possible now, making it harder to pay. And don't even mention car tax.

The network of rural sub post-offices seems to have been threatened so often in the past that now we don't recognise the wolf at the door. The rural network benefits from a government subsidy known as the "social network payment". This subsidy is due to expire in March 2008. It seems like a long time to go but so far there has been no indication of what might replace the support for the rural network.

The "Post Office" will submit its five year business plan to the Government in September this year. Reports suggest that the Post Office management would be comfortable (that is return a profit) with a network of 4000 outlets. This sounds like a lot, but implies a reduction of 10,000. Even if the figures are not as drastic as this, it could nevertheless mean a large number of sub post-office closures. And without doubt the majority will be in rural areas!

When a sub post-office closes it very often means that the associated village shop becomes unviable, which in turn also closes. In our most recent "Vital Villages" survey the total of village shops across Warwickshire was 122. And 40% of these had a sub post-office. If your village has a shop and post office then it is at risk.

So what can you do?

First of all continue to use the shop and Post Office as much as you can. Secondly, write to your MPs to ensure that they are aware of your views. The more letters the better; they need to know. They need to be able to gauge the strength of opinion, in order to make representation to ministers. Below is a list of local MPs and the address.

North Warwickshire – Mike O'Brien MP

Rugby and Kenilworth – Jeremy Wright MP

Warwick and Leamington – James Plaskitt MP

Stratford on Avon – John Maples MP

Nuneaton – Bill Olnier MP



The House of Commons,  
London

SW1A 0AA

Or log on to [www.writetothem.com](http://www.writetothem.com)

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Contact: Steve Patalong. Tel. 02476 217348, or email  
[stevep@wrccrural.org.uk](mailto:stevep@wrccrural.org.uk)

**Steve Patalong**

## **Kid's Club Quiz Night**

Friends of Harbury After School Kids' Club present a quiz night (pop music, sport, cinema, T.V) at the Village Hall on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September (8.00pm start). Call Sally (614290), Suzanne (612201) or Jane (613435) to register your team.

**Michael Harris**

## **Blood Donors**

I hope you all spotted the deliberate mistake before rushing off to Fenny Compton. Apologies on behalf of the Blood Service for a clerical error (or blame the computer!) For holiday time, there was a good result of 84 donations. If you couldn't make it, there is a session at Grange Hall, Southam on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Gillian Hare**

## **Wanted - Farmers with a story!**

Do you have real enthusiasm for what you do?

Do you enjoy talking to the general public?

Do you want to share your experiences and ideas with other farmers?

Do you want to meet like-minded farmers?

If that's you, then read on.....

LEAF would like to offer a number of farmers in Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire the opportunity to take part in an exciting project that includes a free two-day training course in Presentation, Media and Audience Participation skills.

This fun, motivating and inspiring course has been designed for farmers who are already giving or intending to give farm walks or presentations to groups of farmers, consumers or interviews with the press. Timescale Oct 06.

In addition to the training, LEAF is also looking for a number of farmers close to large urban areas who have an existing Environmental Stewardship Scheme to host some farm events. Some of the events will be for the general public, specifically those who are low users of the countryside, to raise their awareness of farming, food and environmental issues, and well as informing them about the benefits and opportunities of countryside access. Timescale Oct/Nov 06. The other events will be aimed at farmers with the aim of demonstrating opportunities through Environmental Stewardship Schemes, as well as perhaps access and communication; improved efficiency through new technology or collaboration with others; adding value through food processing and retailing; diversifying. Timescale Oct 06 to Jan 07

If you are interested to know more or have any questions, please contact Roly Puzey at LEAF [roly.puzey@leafuk.org](mailto:roly.puzey@leafuk.org) or 07764 201333 or Robert Kynaston on 01743 884253

*These activities are funded as part of the RDS Regional Farm Demonstration Programme.*

Steve Patalong

## Sponsored cycle ride for Alzheimer's Society

**Alzheimer's Society**  
Dementia care and research

You may have noticed a couple of bearded old blokes cycling around the local lanes of late – if not, you probably will over the coming months. This is because two local residents (Doug Freeman and Dave Shuttleworth) are in

training for a charity cycle ride next February to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society. The ride is 400 kilometres over 5 days, along the banks of the River Nile and we'd be very grateful for any sponsorship. You can find out more at the Alzheimer's Society website at [http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/events/bike Nile.htm](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/events/bike%20Nile.htm). The easiest way to sponsor us is via websites that we've set up – see <http://www.justgiving.com/bikerdoug> for Doug or <http://www.justgiving.com/bikerdave> for Dave - we don't mind who you sponsor, any donation will be very gratefully received. We are paying all our own travel expenses, so any amount you give will go directly to the charity – and

if you sponsor us via the website an extra 28% Gift Aid is automatically added (if you are a UK taxpayer). We're aiming to raise several thousand pounds, it's a very worthy cause, so please dig deep! Thanks in advance if you are able to help us, and if you see us riding around feel free to offer some words of encouragement!

**Doug Freeman and Dave Shuttleworth**

## **Operation Christmas Child**

Further to the request in last month's issue, for contributions for gifts for children who are the victims of war, poverty, famine, disease and natural disasters, it would be most helpful if you can collect shoe boxes maximum size 30 x 18 x 15 cm, and cover them with Christmas paper (the lid separately). Suggestions for the contents are cuddly toys, toiletries, note books, colouring books, hat, scarves, gloves, balls, puzzles and small toys. Not acceptable: chocolates or foods other than sweets with a long sell-by date, clothing, war related items or liquids.

For the full list or a pattern for a knitted hand puppet, please ask me Tel: 614809.

**Gillian Hare**

## **Harbury in 1916**

By the beginning of 1916, there were 38 British Army divisions in France, and by July another 19 had joined them. As the battalions of Kitchener recruits arrived, a mighty force was being assembled. The French and British commanders, Joffre and Haig, planned a major offensive in the middle of the year. In the meantime, the men in the trenches faced a daily toll of casualties caused by snipers, shells and largely useless intelligence-gathering raids.

Three Harbury men were serving as regulars in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Coldstream Guards, and two of them were killed early in 1916. They had survived the Battle of Loos which had decimated their battalion. Private Albert Victor Wyatt was only 18 when he was killed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January. He had been in France since November 1914. Albert was raised in Temple End. On the 1901 census, Albert's father Edward is described as disabled and the family's support seems to have been his 22 year old brother Edward, a herdsman, and his 16 year old sister Ellen, a domestic servant. Albert was then 3 and his mother Sarah



also had Harry (13), Emily (10), Charlotte (6) and William (2 months). Life must have been a struggle. Albert's father later died and his mother remarried and as Mrs Shaler continued to live in Temple End. Albert is buried in the Rue de Bocquerot Cemetery in Laventie, 6 kilometres south of Armentieres.

A few weeks later, his comrade Private Edward William Cooper was killed in action on the 27<sup>th</sup> March, aged 21. He was born in Southam but lived in Temple End before enlisting. He is buried in the Menin Road South Military Cemetery near Ypres.

On April 13<sup>th</sup>, Private Arthur Allen was lost. He was 27, and the son of James and the late Sarah Allen of Western House, which faces the end of Hall Lane. The family were originally from Upper Heyford in Oxfordshire and Arthur's father was a self-employed carpenter. Arthur served in the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. This was a Kitchener battalion formed in Hounslow in August 1914. Arthur's name is one of 20,000 on the Loos memorial, commemorating men killed in that sector who have no known grave.

As the French and British commanders planned their great summer offensive, the German commander, Falkenheim had plans of his own. He reasoned that it would be difficult for Germany to defeat Great Britain by military means alone-it would need unrestricted submarine warfare to bring her to her knees. However, Germany did not yet have enough U-boats. He decided that he could deprive Britain of her ally France. The French had already suffered terrible losses. Now, he proposed to 'bleed the French white', by attacking the symbol of French pride, the great fortress of Verdun.

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, the greatest artillery bombardment ever known was unleashed on Verdun. Unknown to the French people, it was in fact only lightly defended. Hastily, Marshal Petain was placed in command and troops were poured in - 78 divisions by the end of June. All passed along one road 'The Sacred Way'. Losses on both sides were colossal. Eventually, in the face of such loss, the Germans gave up. Verdun was saved but the price was the virtual destruction of the French Army.

During the worst of the fighting, Joffre sent out agonised appeals for the British to provide some relief by bringing forward the planned offensive. Haig agreed to attack on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The attack was to be on the Somme. This was a poor choice as it offered little in the way of strategic gain and as the Germans occupied the hills, the attack would be uphill against a concealed enemy. The attacking force would

consist largely of Kitchener battalions whose training had been to say the least, rudimentary. They had been taught to go forward in a straight line and to rely mainly on the bayonet. Their officers were taught to lead from the front and expose themselves recklessly. Officer casualties were six times those of other ranks. In the days before the attack, there was a huge artillery bombardment which not only warned the other side-it pitted the ground with shell craters making advance even more difficult.

On the morning of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 13 British divisions went 'over the top', most carrying 66lbs of equipment. They were mown down in droves by German machine guns. By the afternoon, the survivors were back in their own trenches. Casualties totalled 60,000 of whom 20,000 were dead, the worst day in British military history. Because many of these came from the so called 'Pals' battalions', whole communities were devastated. Far from being deterred, the commanders ordered more attacks which failed until as the autumn rains began to fall, the offensive was abandoned.

In order to move huge quantities of ammunition and supplies to the front, miles of railway track were laid for the trains operated by the Railway Companies of the Royal Engineers. Among the huge numbers of men who volunteered for military service were 180,000 railway employees, and 40,000 of these were directed into the Royal Engineers. Around 170 of these were killed in France, many by shellfire when repairing damaged lines. One of these was Sapper Albert Edward Marlow of the 110<sup>th</sup> Railway Company. Albert grew up at 27, Mill St. His father, Henry, was a platelayer on the railway and like Albert's mother Sarah, was Harbury born. Albert had 2 sisters, Annie and Beatrice and 2 brothers, William and Frederick. Albert was killed in action on the Somme on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, aged 20, and is buried in Dernancourt Communal Cemetery, near Albert.

John Albert Morgan was born in Bishops Itchington and I am not sure of his Harbury connection. He served in the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Royal Warwicks which formed in Warwick in September 1914. John obviously took to soldiering as by the time of the Somme offensive, he was a sergeant. He was killed on the 30<sup>th</sup> July in the fierce fighting to take a valley known to the soldiers as Caterpillar Valley. He is buried in the cemetery there with 5,500 others.

Frank Boiles was the son of Albert and Ellen Boiles of 4, Springfield Terrace (now demolished). The family had moved from Whichford and Albert was a waggoner. Frank served as a Private in the 95<sup>th</sup>

Company of the Machine Gun Corps. The Corps was established in 1915 to provide specialist machine-gun companies for each brigade. Of the 170,500 who served in the Corps, 62,049 became casualties. One of them was Frank Boiles who died of wounds on the 29<sup>th</sup> September aged 22. He is buried in Grove Town Cemetery just south of Albert.

I mentioned that 3 Harbury men served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Coldstream Guards. The third was Private Gabriel George Overton. Gabriel grew up at 22, Binswood End. His father William worked in the quarry. William and his wife Elizabeth received a letter of commendation from the King as they had 7 sons and a son-in-law serving in the army. The others were Corporal Sydney Overton, Royal Warwicks, Private Thomas Overton, Dragoons, Private Walter Overton, Duke of Cornwall's LI, Private Albert Overton, Staffordshires, Private Roland Overton, Royal Warwicks, Private Douglas Overton, Royal Warwicks, and Private Ernest Adams, RASC. They all survived the war but Gabriel was killed in action on September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Battle of Flers-Courcelette on the Somme. He was 25. This was a notable action as it saw the introduction of tanks for the first time. Gabriel is buried in the Serre Road Cemetery No 2, which is 11 kilometres north-east of Albert.

Frederick Owen Young lived at the Pound. His father, Thomas was a railway signalman. Frederick enlisted in the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, a Kitchener battalion formed in September 1914. After training on Salisbury Plain, they went to France in September 1915. However, shortly afterwards their orders were changed and they travelled to Marseilles where they boarded ship for Salonika in Greece-their mission to help the Serbs against the Bulgars. Lance-Corporal Young died there, aged 27, a year later on the 19<sup>th</sup> November. During the Salonika campaign, which lasted until September 1918, three times as many soldiers died of disease than in action, including many victims of malaria and dysentery. Frederick is buried in Sangul Military Cemetery in Greece.

As 1916 drew to a close, the nation was in mourning. The huge number of casualties - 420,000 on the Somme alone, had brought grief to every community. Harbury had now lost 14 young men and many more were at the front. There was no prospect whatsoever of an end to the war, and as the year turned, few if any can have celebrated the arrival of 1917.



## Open Day at Chedham's Yard

T.V. viewers across the country have voted it through to the finals. The historic Chedham's Yard at Wellesbourne which was profiled on BBC2's television 'Restoration Village' was one of three endangered sites in the Midlands featured for the programme presented by Griff Rhys Jones.

The Chedham's family of Wheelwrights and Blacksmiths started their business in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century; this only finished when young Bill Chedham, the seventh generation, ceased work at the yard in the 1970s. From then, it was left untouched until a few years ago when Wellesbourne Parish Council took over from the owner Mr Bill Chedham.



It remains a unique part of the Warwickshire history and by applying to Restoration for help, they also stand a chance of getting something from the Heritage Lottery Fund. If successful the workshop buildings could be restored and used for an active Heritage Centre to teach students the tricks of the trade.

The yard consists of a blacksmith's forge, a wheelwright's workshop and drying shed. Bill Chedham started work at the yard aged 14 years old with his father and dad's two brothers but he didn't know his grandfather.

The yard was open to the public on a rainy day last month.

### Brian Wright (Wheelwright) at work

I went along to take a look at the yard and many people had a similar idea. On duty were two blacksmiths and a wheelwright who gave practical demonstrations for visitors' benefit. To cap it all there was a charabanc bus and a two horse drawn carriage which ferried visitors between Chedham's yard and Wellesbourne Watermill.



The carriage travelling along Church Walk, Wellesbourne

Project Officer Elaine Hughes said "we're thrilled to bits looking forward to the final on BBC2s Restoration Village later this month, (September), and thank everyone for their support."

Mike Bloxham

## Southam Lions

Are looking to recruit new members and would especially welcome any members from Harbury and Ladbroke. Do come along and meet members of Southam Lions and learn what the organisation is all about. There are three opportunities coming up to come and meet us.

<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b> Southam Library 9.30am to 12.30pm	<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October</b> Southam Library 9.30am to 12.30pm
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October</b> Coffee Stop and Sandwich Deli, Market Hill Southam 5.00pm to 8.00pm	

See what a difference we make everyday within the community.

- ♦ Ordinary people, doing special things.
- ♦ We have fun and we get things done.
- ♦ All money we raise, goes to our chosen charities, also to help local people in need.
- ♦ We pay our own administration fees.

Come along, ask your questions, we're a friendly bunch. If you require any more information, visit our web site [www.southamlions.org.uk](http://www.southamlions.org.uk) or ring Jim Steele - Membership Secretary on 01926 813577 or Peter Guy - President 01926 814436.

Val Steele



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## Time Out – Ufton

*A Leisure Time Project for Ufton and surrounding area*

The Autumn programme starts with:

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September – 10.00am - 2.00pm Vibrant Abstract Painting Day

Rugby based artist Fiona Peart will demonstrate and teach how to create a vibrant contemporary artwork using mixed media and collage. Suitable for beginners and the more experienced artist. This 4 hour session costs £15 and includes refreshments. Bring along water based paints and brushes.

Please book early to avoid disappointment, by contacting Karin Kirk on 613003.

**Gillian Ingham**



### LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

*Dear Editors*

*Letter from Levignac de Guyenne*

*This September it is two years since we left Harbury to start our new life here in France. We have had two wonderfully full years with friends and family visiting both last year and this year.*

*Of course, in July we celebrated (I think that is the word!) Jen's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party in the garden for 75 people. It included English friends who live over here, French friends, friends who had travelled from Harbury (and who had strict instructions from Marie to ensure that the plants she had put in when she was here in May had not been killed off!), a Harbury friend with her French friend who had also travelled from Monsalut in France, and of course all the family. It was a lovely day, we certainly enjoyed it and hope everyone else did. We had eight of the family staying in the house, which if you have only one shower and two loos is a bit like a military operation if you are all going out for a meal! It was hard work, but very enjoyable and lovely to see everyone.*

*Life here continues, pretty much as before, perhaps a little more hectic in the summer months as there are various fêtes and fairs where everyone can sample local produce such as wines, pâtes, pâtisseries, prunes, strawberries, etc. In August many of the villages hold concerts with all kinds of music.*



*The area where we live is famous for the battles of the 100 years war which took place in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, many towns and villages were fortified during the war and Levignac de Guyenne is one of the fortified villages. It is built on a ridge overlooking the River Dropt valley. Each year during August there are medieval events held in the villages, on or overlooking the Dropt, to commemorate the period with jousting, medieval music, re-enactments of battles. Levignac de Guyenne hosted an event which of course also involves plenty of eating and drinking of the local produce.*

*Each year during July and August Levignac de Guyenne holds a Night Market on each Friday with around 300 people attending. There are long trestle tables and chairs for everyone so that they sit and eat the food and drink which they buy from the local producer's stalls in the market. It's a bit like the farmers markets in England but with a built in restaurant. Rick is now part of the work team who put out the tables and chairs in the village square on a Friday afternoon before the night markets. He says the French helpers put the tables in a different place every time, so he and the English helpers want to draw up a plan so that we have the same layout each week. We don't rate their chances of organising things as the French will want to change the layout as they always have!!*

*In the middle of August, Duras (the nearest market town) holds a two day wine festival that promotes all the wine producers that are covered by the Appellation Côtes De Duras Contrôlée. This is yet another event where you can taste all the wines produced in the area (which Rick commends) and buy them. It's held in the field below the Chateau De Duras with live bands playing into the early hours of the morning and the town itself offering smaller groups at each of the bars. A wonderful couple of days if you can stand the pace!!!*

*As you probably know August is the time when most of France is closed and on holiday, you cannot even get a watch repaired. Jen's watch stopped and it will be September before she can have a quote for its repair let alone have the work done.*

*Despite all the above, August has been quite a quiet month (ha, ha,) for us and we have more friends coming in September and October.*

*July down here saw the corn being harvested and other fields which had been a sea of upturned yellow sunflowers in July turned to fields of blackening circles on blackening stalks awaiting harvest. Other fields are full of maize which is now over two and a half metres high, blocking out the views, also soon to be harvested. Autumn is on its way!! In other fields are orchards with plums (that become the local prunes when dried), hazel nut groves, and something that we were not aware of, fields of tobacco leaves that are*



harvested and dried. All this means that all the local roads and lanes are full of tractors and trailers in September and October. Plus of course in October all the trailers are full of grapes from the vines, Rick is always careful when driving near them in case they lose any of their precious load (they actually put out temporary signs warning you of a slippery road due to grape spillages that have been crushed by vehicle tyres).

Last summer we planted (or Rick has!) a couple of rows of vines and hope to produce our own wine in a year or so's time. This will be home pressed, so no transport problems.

So much goes on with harvesting in September and October, that our winter logs arrive in the middle of August transported in three tractor and trailer loads. The first load was tipped outside the garage where we stack them, so we had to carry them in before stacking them. We hoped that the farmer would not return with the second load until we had rested our aching backs. However, with the second load, he was able to back the trailer into the garage and tip the logs so that we only had to stack them. At least, Rick had to stack them, because the pile was so high, I could only reach to a certain level (well, that's my story and I'm sticking to it!). We are therefore, ready for winter and the colder weather when it arrives. We do have electric central heating, but the log fire, when it gets hot enough, has a back boiler which cuts out the electric and runs the central heating!

Bruno is still enjoying living in France and when we go away, we have friends who have two dogs and they look after Bruno for us. The only downside to that is that they are young dogs and Bruno seems to think that he is the same age and when we come back he can hardly move for a couple of days because he is so stiff!! The same thing happens when they go away and we look after their two dogs. However, he is a male dog and of course, makes more of it than it is!!

We are both still attending French classes but have both moved up a group. Rick's group is taken by a very interesting French lady who has done such a lot in her life that the lesson is taken up with her telling you about her life. As there are only a couple of males in the class, she also gets them to translate recipes etc. and knitting and weaving which is not Rick's thing at all!! My class is either taken by a Frenchman or an Englishman. When the Frenchman was taking the class for a month or so, I attended one morning's class and there were only two of us that turned up! This teacher used to be a primary school teacher and he loves singing and normally has the class singing all sorts of songs. Not at all put out by the fact that there were only two of us, he gave us a song sheet, sang it for us unaccompanied and then asked us to sing it! Anyone who has heard me sing will realise this was a

*terrible mistake and yet, it didn't seem to put him off and he had the two of us singing about half a dozen songs, none of which we knew either the words or the tune! After that, the two of us decided that we should be let off the homework for the next two weeks!*

*We do seem to have finally got to grips (well as far as you can in France) with CPAM, that's the Health Department over here. I am now fully in the French health system as I am now a pensioner, but Rick has to 'ride' on my health card (known as a Carte Vitale). CPAM are adamant he has to wait until November, for some reason known only to them, before they issue him with his own Carte Vitale. We are also now in the French tax system (we don't know if that is a good thing or a bad thing yet!!) and have French driving licences so we have to be nice to the gendarmes when they stop us.*

*We manage to keep in touch with friends either by phone or e-mail so keep fairly up to date with what is happening in Harbury.*

*We do hope that everyone in Harbury is fit and well and that the village is still as lively as ever and we look forward to seeing you at Christmas.*

*Best wishes to everyone in Harbury*  
**Jenny and Rick Evans**

---

*Dear Editors*

*We would like to thank everyone, who sponsored our Macmillan Cancer Relief, Walk Wonders in May. We made a wonderful amount of £820.50. We had a good walk, and enjoyed it, about six miles (but very wet).*

*Mary and Friends*

#### **OCTOBER EDITION – HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS**

**Adverts to** 31, Binswood End by 15<sup>th</sup> September

**Articles to** Harbury Pharmacy by 29<sup>th</sup> September

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- ¼ page – £10.00 or £26 for 3 months
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- Full page – £32.00 or £85 for 3 months

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Traditional Sunday Lunches served from 12 .00 noon - 4.00pm

From September we will be offering our new fixed price three course menu at £14.95 per person, and for the diner that wants to choose freely from a number of courses we also offer our Sunday main menu which includes: Ettington Roast Beef, Warwickshire Turkey and much more.

Sunday Night is Steak Night 5.00 - 8.30pm

From September enjoy a delicious range of steaks with side salad and chips, followed by a choice of dessert.

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# **SOUTHAM COLLEGE COMMUNITY COURSES**

## **AUTUMN TERM 2006**

### **Evenings beginning**

#### **MONDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006 AT 7.30 - 9.30PM**

Cake icing and sugar paste flowers

Fulfil your potential with Life coaching - 7.30 - 9.00pm 6 weeks

Tai Chi for all - 7.30 - 9.00pm

Salsa - experienced - 7.30 - 8.30pm

Salsa - beginners - 8.30 - 9.30pm

Spanish for beginners - starts 2/10/06

Upholstery & Soft Furnishing

Woodturning for beginners 6.30 - 7.30pm

Woodturning - experienced 7.30 - 9.30pm

European Computer Driving Licence

#### **WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 7.30 - 9.30PM**

Cake Icing and sugar paste flowers

Digital cameras and photo editing 7.00 - 9.00pm - 6 weeks

Family History

German for beginners

Italian - a course for beginners 7.00 - 9.00pm

Keep fit for men

Lace making

Basic sign language & deaf awareness. 7.30 - 9.00pm - 7 weeks

Using your PC to communicate

Yoga 7.30 - 9.00pm - 10 weeks

#### **THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 7.30 - 9.30PM**

Arabic belly dance 7.00 - 8.00pm

Beginner Recorder Classes 7.15 - 8.15pm

Consort Playing 8.30 - 9.30pm

Come and play badminton 7.30 - 8.30pm

French for beginners

Fun with Art

Touch Typing - 6 weeks



## SOUTHAM COLLEGE COMMUNITY COURSES

### AUTUMN TERM 2006

#### DAYTIME COURSES IN SOUTHAM

##### SOUTHAM COLLEGE

Cake Icing and sugar paste flowers Monday 10.00 - 12 noon

Yoga Monday 1.30 - 3.00pm - 10 weeks

Spanish for beginners -Tuesday 10.00am - 12 noon starts 2/10/06

Keep Fit To Music for Ladies - Wednesday 9.30-10.30am

Water Colour Painting - Wednesday 1.00-3.00pm

Water Colour Painting -Thursday 1.00-3.00pm

Water Colour Painting - Friday 1.00-3.00pm

##### COMPUTING

###### **SOUTHAM LIBRARY**

Basic Computing - Tuesday 10.00 – 12 noon

###### **HARBURY LIBRARY**

Drop in Basic Computing - Thursday 2.00 - 3.00pm

###### **DUNCHURCH LIBRARY**

Drop in Basic Computing - Thursday 10.30 – 11.30am

#### COURSES IN THE VILLAGES

##### **HARBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Keep Fit To Music For Ladies -Thursday 7.00 - 8.00pm

##### **TOM HAULEY ROOM, HARBURY**

Yoga Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm

##### **OFFCHURCH VILLAGE HALL**

Upholstery & soft furnishing -Tuesday 9.30 - 11.30am

##### **STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL**

Upholstery & soft furnishing Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

All classes enrol and start week beginning Monday 11th September, unless shown otherwise. Evening Courses run from 7.30—9.30 for a maximum of 12 weeks (excluding half term break 23rd October) unless shown otherwise. Courses based at the College enrol in the Community Education lounge. For further information and to register, please contact Sue Hawthorn or Chris Dudley on 01926 810942 or southamcomm@aol.com

Fees are based on a charge of £2.60 per hour for the duration of your course. Some reductions/fee remissions are available. Please ask for further details.

**THERE WILL BE NO COURSES AT THE COLLEGE ON THE EVENING OF  
THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER DUE TO THE COLLEGE OPEN EVENING**

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