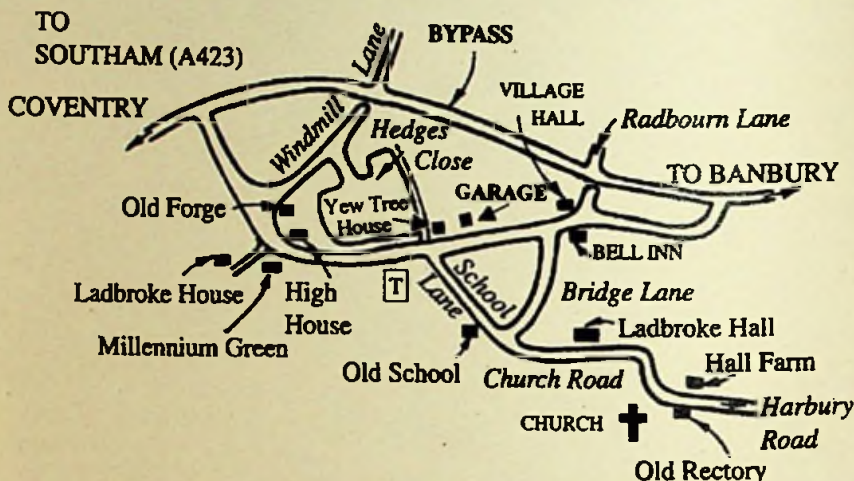


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IN THIS ISSUE

Page

EDITORIAL	2
HARBURY DIARY	2
FROM THE RECTOR & CHURCH NEWS	4
LADBROKE NEWS	8
HARBURY SOCIETY	12
HARBURY WOMENS INSTITUTE	12
HARBURY FOLK CLUB	13
HARBURY TWINNING ASSOCIATION.....	15
HARBURY TODDLER GROUP	16
WINDMILLS NURSERY.....	17
HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL	19
HARBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL	20
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY	23
NATURE NOTES	24
VILLAGE HALL UPDATE.....	26
GENERAL SECTION	28
LETTERS TO THE EDITORS	36

Editorial Team

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

*The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team
The Editors reserve the right to amend articles as they see fit.*



Editorial

Congratulations to both villages for many successful fund raising events and celebrations last month. Most notable Harbury Albion raised over £1000 to ensure the survival of the club. Also, the All Saints' Christmas Fayre raised over £2000.

Looking forward, there are two opportunities this month that are open to everyone. In Ladbroke there is a chance to join in a Gilbert and Sullivan 'from scratch' - come and join the chorus evening - see Ladbroke section for details.

To coincide with Harbury School hosting the Central Warwickshire Schools Cross Country Relay Championships, there will be an opportunity to enter a team of three in the adult charity fun run relay (one member needs to be associated with the school). Both these events take place on Saturday 24th January.

The Editors were saddened to hear of the death shortly before Christmas of Derek Trice; who for 53 years has farmed his dairy herd at Chesterton House Farm. A Memorial Service for Mr Trice was held in All Saints, Harbury on January 9th. We extend our sympathies to his family.

Harbury Diary

JANUARY

- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| Sat | 10 | Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Guide Dogs
Harbury Society Dinner 8.00pm at Dog Inn |
| Sun | 11 | BAPTISM OF CHRIST
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am |
| Tues | 13 | Holy Communion 7.30pm |
| Thurs | 15 | Holy Communion 9.45am |
| | | ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM |
| Fri | 16 | Winter WI Party in Village Hall
GASS Quiz Night 7.30pm for 8.00pm in School Hall |
| Sat | 17 | Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am in the Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Twinning
Moving Pictures Double Bill in Village Hall - 'Indiana Jones',
Doors open 2.15pm, film starts 2.45pm,
'The Duchess'- Doors open 6.00pm, film starts 6.30pm |

Sun 18 EPIPHANY II

Holy Communion 8.00am

Family Communion Service 10.30am

Evensong 6.00pm

Tues 20 Holy Communion 7.30pm

Mothers' Union Faith Supper 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room

Senior Citizens Benefit Committee 8.00pm Village Hall

Weds 21 Tea 3.00 to 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room**Thurs 22** Holy Communion 9.45am

Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall

Parish Council 7.30pm in Village Hall

Fri 23 Jean Champ's Dancers Evening Performance in Village Hall**Sat 24** Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church Flowers

Jean Champ's Dancers Evening Performance in Village Hall

Sun 25 EPIPHANY III

Holy Communion 8.00am

Sung Eucharist 10.30am

Tues 27 Harbury Society, Celia Barrett's Archive Display 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room for Meningitis Research.

Holy Communion 7.30pm

~~Mothers' Union Faith Supper 8.00pm~~**Weds 28** Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30 to 4.30pm at 12 Constance Drive**Thurs 29** Holy Communion 9.45amARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY
& EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM**Sat 31** Julian Meeting Quiet Day at Offa House

Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Mother's Union

FEBRUARY**Sun 1 EPIPHANY IV**

Holy Communion 8.00am

Sung Eucharist 9.00am

First Light Service 10.30am in Tom Hauley Room

Evening Taizé-style Service 6.00pm

Tues 3 Holy Communion 7.30pm

Horticultural Society 8pm in Tom Hauley Room

Weds 4 Holy Communion 2.00pm

Mothers' Union Meeting 2.30pm in Tom Hauley Room

Speaker – Roger Horsley, Church Army

Thurs 5 Holy Communion 9.45am

Art Group, 10.00 - 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room

Folk Club in Shakespeare Inn 8.30pm

Men's Group 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room

Sat 7 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Pre-School

Children's Party 2.00 to 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room

Moving Pictures in Village Hall

Refuse Collection Rota				
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Refuse Collection Week
January	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	THUR 8	FRI 9	SAT 10	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	14	15	16	Grey Bin
	21	22	23	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	28	29	30	Grey Bin
February	4	5	6	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	11	12	13	Grey Bin
	18	19	20	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	25	26	27	Grey Bin
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From the Rector

Father Craig Grocock

2009, here we go!

As we enter this New Year, I guess for many it will be one of uncertainty. Although towards the end of last year politicians were reluctant to mention the 'R' word, recession for many in our country and community will mean a potentially difficult twelve months ahead. I know there are businesses, farms and pubs in our villages that are feeling the strain and we need to continue to support them in whatever way we can this year.

Alongside this, however, we look into 2009 with signs of hope. The world waits to see what changes President Barack Obama might bring on the world stage. We wait, later on in the summer, for the return of British troops from long service in Iraq.

And so we enter 2009 feeling like we've just climbed into the front carriage of a roller-coaster at Alton Towers. We fasten the seat restraint and grab the side of the carriage awaiting the beginning of the 'white-knuckle' ride that looms ahead. And as is true on the roller-coaster, the year ahead, with its up and downs, is a journey we cannot get off, we've got to sit it through.

I am bound to say this (I am the Vicar after all!) but I believe that lasting security and peace is ultimately found in God. St. Augustine, in the fourth century said; "Our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee". Sure we can look for that deep peace elsewhere, and many do, but ultimately it's found there through faith in God.

This month we are running a short course called 'Thinking Allowed'. Beginning on Wednesday January 14th for five Wednesday evening sessions, we will be exploring what Christianity and faith in God is really all about. The course is for anyone who would be interested in knowing a little more. We are running the course at the Dog Inn, Harbury (thanks to Chris for allowing us to use the back room).

If you would be interested in coming along then contact Alison Abbott on 612939. There is no charge for attending, but you do need to book your place.

I look forward to seeing you out and about over the coming weeks.

A happy New Year to all of you.

God bless.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

December 21 Lorenzo Arcidiacono



From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

The **Christmas Fayre** is reported on elsewhere in the magazine, but we'd like to thank everyone who contributed to its success, particularly Sue and Jon Peacock who have taken over its organisation.

Beer 'n Carols provided us with a wonderful time, hosted at The Crown by Mark and Carol. Thank you to them for their welcome, to Father Craig for initiating and organising the evening, to Mike Hare for the music and to all of you who came – some 80 we believe. If you couldn't make it this year, come in 2009! We're sure it will be an annual event.

The Family Service with Christingle – well, what a magnificent spoof the presentation was! According to Moira who organised it, Father Craig had got it all wrong and Tony was beleaguered by children



clamouring for a service that might not have happened. But spoof over, it did, and Moira reminded us of its timeless and living message: God made the world and gave His Son, Jesus, to shed his blood for us and to be a light in our darkness. This is God's promise to us, and however sour we may feel and however pear-shaped our own worlds may seem, God's promise holds true for each and every one of us.

Advent Choral Evensong was a special occasion. The music was led by the children of Harbury Choir School. We thank them for their hard work and celebrate their talents. Thank you, too, to everyone else who supported them in the choir and in the congregation. We look forward to the next time. Please come and join us.



Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

Our afternoon meeting got us into a seasonal mood, as members shared their Christmas reminiscences.

These covered a wide spectrum; cramming big turkeys into small ovens, the feel of a stocking on the foot of a bed, a baby born on Christmas Eve!, childish tantrums, wooden figures of carol singers from Germany, presents from Father Christmas. And Craig propelled us into the 21st Century by describing a website which tracks Santa Claus journey!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the stall at the Christmas Fair. Lorna will be happy to receive this year's subscription of £14.

Wednesday 7th January – the party starts at 3.00pm (no service first). There will be a bran tub (please bring wrapped gift value £1), tea and cake and musical entertainment.

Tuesday 27th January – Faith Supper 8.00pm, please bring food to share, wine if wished and a friend (numbers to Anne please).

Saturday 31st January – Coffee morning. Cakes, raffle prizes and bring and buy goods all needed.

Wednesday 4th February – Church Army by Captain Roger Horsley



First Light

Alison Abbott

In December at First Light we looked at the Christmas story from Joseph's point of view. We know very little about Joseph, he was probably a very ordinary man, yet God used him to care for and provide for Jesus as a child. God just loves to use people like you and me to do special things. As Joseph was a carpenter, we had lots of wood about to feel and smell. The smell of freshly sawn wood always reminds me of my Dad's workshop - a fond memory. Fragrance is a very powerful way of recalling memories, and at the January First Light we will be thinking about the gifts the Magi gave to Jesus and especially incense and the power of our sense of smell.

Then in February will be thinking about light and sight.

First Light is always on the first Sunday of the month at 10.30 am in the Tom Hauley Room. It is a gentle informal service for all ages and you are welcome to come a little early for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat.



Toddlers Service

Lorna Bedford

At our December Toddler's Service, Mrs Barbara Thistlethwaite asked the children, "whose birthday do we celebrate at Christmas?" All of the children knew it was Jesus' birthday! In a story we heard about a very special star that shone on the night that Jesus was born. We also heard how an angel told some shepherds who were looking after their sheep to go to Bethlehem to see the new born baby, Jesus.

We said a prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to us as a little baby.

We sang, 'While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night', accompanied by Mr Michael Hare on the accordion, the children sang to us and did the actions to 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' and 'Away in a Manger'.

To take home we made a coloured picture showing the shepherds in the field tending their sheep and looking up at an angel in the heavens.

We then had refreshments and played until it was time to go home. Our next Toddler Service is on Tuesday 13th January at 2.00pm in the children's corner of the church. All babies and toddlers, accompanied by an adult, are welcome to join us.

Ladbroke News & Diary

JANUARY

- Sat 10 Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
 Sun 11 **BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
 Holy Communion 9.00am
 Mon 12 Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
 Thurs 15 **ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM**
 Sun 18 **EPIPHANY II**
 Holy Communion 9.00am, BCP
 Mon 19 Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
 Wed 21 Parish Council Meeting 7.45pm in Village Hall
 Sat 24 Gilbert and Sullivan Evening 7.30pm in Village Hall
 Sun 25 **EPIPHANY III**
 Holy Communion 9.00am
 Thurs 29 **ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM**

FEBRUARY

- Sun 1 **EPIPHANY IV**
 Christingle Service 10.30am with Family Communion
 Mon 2 Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall

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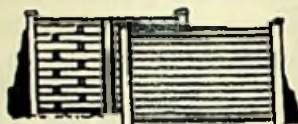
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Jane Rutherford

January	4 th	Jean Clews
January	11 th	Christine Payne
January	18 th	Christine Payne
January	25 th	Hazel Sharples
February	1 st	Hazel Sharples
February	8 th	Jane Rutherford
February	15 th	Jane Rutherford
February	22 nd	Jane Rutherford



Ladbroke General Section

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

Sue Halsall

The results of the draw for November were:

- £80 Margaret Bosworth
- £50 Pat Kennedy
- £25 Catherine Spence
- £10 Steve Copley
- £10 Beverley Bradley
- £10 Lorna Carleton
- £10 Pauline & Graham Long

Oh What a Night

Strange things happened in Ladbroke Village Hall at the Village Hall Xmas Party. Elvis entertained us – Cyril Spence and his Spencerlettes crooned their stuff and live music performed by The Ladbroke Rockers wowed the crowd – and crowded it was!

The food was tasty, the bar busy and the hall glittery. Thanks to all who participated in making this such a memorable night.

Christine Baker

Gilbert and Sullivan

Following the success of our two previous productions, Ladbroke Village Hall will again present a Gilbert and Sullivan opera from scratch. This year it will be "Trial by Jury" on Saturday 24th January at 7.30pm. Why not come along and sing in the chorus.

Vocal scores will be provided and there will be supper and a bar. Tickets are £10 and are available from Bill and Margaret Bosworth on 01926 817312 or from any committee member.

Margaret Bosworth

Daisy Herringshaw

Daisy Herringshaw, a great lover of music, acting, fencing, animals, theatre, violin and in general entertaining people, passed away earlier this month, at the grand age of 105 years.

Her life can be described as the closest of all of ours to being "complete"; she had lived through Two World Wars, the reign of five monarchs and countless revolutions of different size and origin. She had worked in a Post Office, Atkinson's drapers, in the Theatre, been chosen along with the man (who would later become) Sir Donald Wolfitt by a prestigious talent scout to go on a country wide tour. She became Mayoress, met Winston Churchill on a trip to France, trespassed deep within Buckingham Palace during a Garden Party, and nearly stole all the china, to name but a few of this remarkable woman's feats. Despite all these, she never thought of herself as better than anyone else, a firm believer of "Just call me Daisy"; she loved people; she loved entertaining them; she loved talking to them and she loved loving them.

Daisy was well renowned for telling stories, one of these, that she told most fondly, was the one about how she first got into the Theatre.

Daisy was a doer, robust and strong willed, never one to be content with "just being" until the day she died. So when the opportunity came to audition for the Christmas Pantomime at Sheffield Rep she prepared a speech and went to the audition. She sat there in the waiting room until the girl that had gone before her came out of the audition. "Oh it was horrible," the girl said "they make you say a trick word!"

Unabashed by this Daisy went to sit in the room in front of the three uninterested auditioners.

"Right," the one in the middle had said, pushing across to her an open book, "could you read this for us?" He said, indicating a passage on the page.

"No," she said, not even glancing at the book.

"No?" the auditioner asked, stunned.

"No, I have prepared my own piece."

"You've prepared your own piece have you now?"

"Yes." She responded, flatly, and waited as the central auditioner glanced at the two other's on the panel, who both shrugged.

"Ok then, let's hear it."

Daisy then went on to perform a soliloquy from one of Shakespeare's plays, upon finishing, the central auditioner, now slightly more impressed said "Thank you," adding "don't contact us, we'll contact you."

"Got a right one there." One of the panel said as she exited through the door.

A week or so later she got a phone call informing her that she had got a part.

She was a remarkable lady and these words do not even begin to do her life justice.

About a month ago prior to her death she said of her: "Life has always been life, I've started and I'll finish".

Nicholas Steenstra



Councillor's Greetings

Andrew Patrick

Your District Councillors would like to wish you all a happy,
healthy and peaceful New Year.

Best wishes,

Bev and Andrew



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

Our Christmas Fayre Photographic Quiz caused many people to puzzle over where in the village the signs displayed could possibly be. And I thought it was going to be easier this year!

Few people recognised Sunnyside, South Parade although it was just outside the Hall. I admit the Grit Bin on Binswood End Green was difficult but it was surprising so many people thought the letter box at Harbury House was in Binswood End, Leicester Close or the Mill Street Flats!

Congratulations to all who struggled through. We hope you will be back next year. The winners, the Hill family from Wagstaffe Close got 40 out of 56. Charlotte Peacock from Pineham Avenue was a close second with 38 and Parish Council Chairman Tim Lockley, one of the few to correctly identify the Mill Street Bus Shelter – (so he should!) was third with 34.

Our Next Event - 27th January - Celia Barrett' exhibits of her archive material in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm onwards with donations to Meningitis Research. All welcome to this glimpse into the past of our village.

February 23rd - John Crossling - Local Breweries. 7.30 for 8pm in Tom Hauley Room.



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

December's meeting put members in the Christmas mood, wine and mince pies are always a good starter. We were pleased to welcome Father Craig and Ann Mayer presented him with our 90th Anniversary Kneeler, worked by Dorothy Travis.

The group Carol Service at Long Itchington with a choir was enjoyable and meeting old friends too.

We had an excellent trip to Waddesdon Manor to see the Christmas decorations, which were stunning, ending up at the Plant Centre and coming home with plants, needless to say.

The coach will leave the Village Hall at 6.30pm on Wednesday 7th January for the pantomime. We thank Jo and Christine for organising these two trips.

The January Walk is on Thursday 8th, meeting at 10.00am at the Village Hall.

The New Years Party on Friday 16th January at the Village Hall is at 7.30pm. A reminder to members not to forget to put your name on the attendance and food lists.

Bertha Kettle is having an operation and we send our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Mr Martin Lawson, the Editor of our local Courier came to speak to us about his life in newspapers. He was a junior at the Daily Telegraph and said the time spent in the pub in Fleet Street was normal, gathering news. He trained in different positions in Yorkshire, Bedfordshire and Warwickshire, ending up as the Editor of the Courier. He spoke of the different aspects of the printing over the years and what a change from then to now. The troubles of the printers' strikes in London and the fold up of papers all over the country. Of course, television and computers have affected papers, but he says it is more satisfying to read a paper than staring at screens. It was interesting to hear about the running of a paper and the different ways of presenting and how advertising is most important to a paper.

May we wish "A Happy New Year" to readers.

January Speaker : Jack Reedy – Badgers.



Folk Club

Steve and Maureen Darby

Described by one of the 'old timers' as a vintage folk evening, number 289 had the theme of Seasonal Songs, Stories and Silliness... although there was a suggestion it should have been Coughs, Sneezes and headaches!

Maureen and Janny opened the evening by taking us back to the Harbury winter of 1991 when there was heavy snow and many of us enjoyed the hospitality of the McDonalds by Candlelight, hence they sang Artisan's 'Power Cut'. They were followed by possibly the youngest ever performer at Folk Club, when Connie and her father

Bob played "Cripple Creek" during which Ian and Sue Hartland did some rhythmic step dancing and then Connie played and sang her party piece, "Go tell Aunt Roady".

Barbara had travelled down from Leicester in her camper van and sang the traditional carol "Mary's Boy Child". She then had us all in stitches with "Uncle Joe's Mint Balls", definitely very silly! Hot on the theme of silliness came Rik with "Christmas Day in the Trenches", when there was no Christmas Pud for Sam but he saved the day when said Pud brought down the walls of the enemy's stronghold. He then gave us a Government Health Warning about over enthusiastic chefs whose cooking resulted in turkeys shooting out of the oven.

Ron told us it was the centenary of Bert Lloyd, an Australian who was interested in workers songs. We heard the scary story of a sheep station with a reputation for employing 'Bull men' who cursed and whipped...was the English 'Bull man' real or was he a ghost?

Pete Mason gave us "Winter Song" followed by a Steve Knightly number about getting through winter, "I promise you". The first half was closed by Jenny and Summer who sang a cheery little number based upon a poem by Robert Frost about death called "Far Away" and finished with "Dance On".

During the first interval, we all savoured Sue Crum's wonderful mince pies - a big thank you Sue, we all enjoyed them!

The second half began with the Folk Club Choir singing, "Masters in this Hall" and "Pentonville", they were followed by Des who sang about the Christmas pudding hunt and the "Cherry Tree Carol". Sue and Ian took us back to their early '70's vinyl years by singing "The Stranger" and "Calico Printers Clerk".

Peter McDonald mixed tradition with silliness by playing 3 carols, "We Three Kings", "In Dulce Jubilo" and "On Christmas Night" and then donned his fly swatting, corks on strings, bush hat to give a rendition of Christmas in Australia - an enthusiastic audience loudly joined in with the chorus!

Sue and Ted played and sang "The Holly and the Ivy" and followed this with "While Shepherds" to the tune of "Ilkely Moor Bar t'at", which we all sang along to. Next up was the "Clapper Family" (Alias Doug, Pete and Steve) who last performed and shook Celia's bells on 6th December 1990. They sang a very silly "Hark, Hark the Bells" and told everyone to call the Police next time the Morris Men make too much noise with their bells.

The second half was well and truly finished off by Pete Grasby who enthralled and enthused us with the monotony of "The Enigma of the Southwold Tide" and then he surprised everyone with his scratch band who 'slayed' us with a truly awful version of "Merry Christmas Everyone". Still, it was in keeping with the theme of silliness!!

A short third half commenced with Janny and Maureen's wonderful harmonies on "Sleigh rider in the sky", they were really good!! Pete Bones maintained a Welsh accent throughout his rendition of "Underwood's Milk", Sue and Ian were still reminiscing with another song from their vinyl years and the evening was brought to a close with a traditional shanty from Des that we all joined in with.

It really had been a vintage Christmas Folk Club evening!

The raffle raised £33 for Leamington Christian Mission and the theme for next month is "Dance" with the host being Pete Bones.



Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys

The year is now coming to its end, and we can only hope that 2009 will see the world a better place.

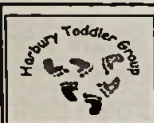
As far as the Society is concerned we all have the visit of our French friends in May to look forward to.

The Society's year has ended with the Christmas party, and I am sure that all who attended will agree that we had a first class time, with good food, wine and entertainment. My thanks goes to all those who worked so hard to make the evening special. Particularly I should mention Andrew Patrick, and Peter Rollason, who provided the entertainment, and Elaine Nomura for the live music.

On 6th January we will be enjoying the now customary Fete des Rois and all members are very welcome to join in. This year we are being hosted by June and David Eaves. Would all those who do intend coming on the night please ensure that you have let Sally Stringer know so that we have an idea of numbers.

To finish let me wish you all a very Happy New Year.





Harbury Toddler Group

Julie Young & Hilary Riemer

We would like to wish you all a very peaceful and Happy 2009 and hope that you all enjoyed a very festive time over Christmas.



Here are a few photographs from our Christmas Party - taken with that most important visitor - Father Christmas!



Thank you's

Many thanks are sent to all the parents who donated their time to make the Toddler Group run so smoothly throughout the Year, and for the Christmas Party. A lot of effort goes into purchasing and wrapping Santa's presents, preparing activities and Santa's Grotto. As well as preparing food and tidying up afterwards!

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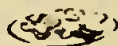
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Tim Lockley

CLERK:

Nicola Thompson

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Email: clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk
Website: www.harbury-pc.gov.uk

A very Big Thank You must go to Nigel Chapman for his very important role as Father Christmas. We were so pleased he could still perform this role, as he does it so well! Also, for the first time we had the services of Ruby's Daddy - Brian Young - who took a special photo of each child with Father Christmas. Thank you for taking the time to do that. Some of the photos are shown here. If you would like a copy of your child's, please email to jsyoung@btconnect.com In New Year copies of all photographs will be available for collection.



Windmills

Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee



This has been a busy, festive, and fun-filled half-term with the highlight being our Christmas Concert which was held in the Tom Hauley room on Friday 12th December. The room was absolutely full to bursting with parents and relatives, the children all looked fantastic. All the children sang with great enthusiasm and confidence, some even performed solos. We

were pleased to welcome Father Craig to the concert who kindly said prayers afterwards. We would like to thank all the parents/grandparents for supplying the beautiful costumes, and wonderful items for our huge Christmas hamper; Geoff and Adam for transporting the stage blocks, and Tracy and her colleague for recording the concert onto DVD for everyone; Bobby and Alison for selling raffle tickets during the morning and finally the fundraising group for serving coffee and mince pies afterwards.

Other activities this month have included:

- * Making and decorating a huge advent calendar
- * Creating a Santa's Grotto which prompted some wonderful role-play, and encouraged lots of turn taking and sharing.



- * Producing the fantastic backdrop for our Christmas Concert.
- * Printing using sponges to make our Christmas cards and calendars
- * Making multi-coloured paper chains, which improves their hand eye coordination
- * Making a post box to post their Christmas cards
- * A visit from Evie's mum Kate with their two chickens Gwynne and Arthur.



Woodland Outdoor School



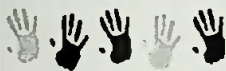
Amber with bug box

Amanda visited Windmills on Wednesday 27th December to lead our last outdoor classroom session of 2008. We began with a walk around the school grounds through the willow tunnel, and pond area then took part in a "Woodland Workout" to warm us all up. Following a story, the children were then free to explore the outdoor classroom using the resources that we have on loan from Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve. "I liked digging" - Harry, "I liked making my picture" - Keira, "I liked covering my legs with leaves" - Carys

We concluded this term with our Christmas Party on Thursday, 19th December, when the children enjoyed lots of party games, some wonderful party food, and even a surprise visit from Father Christmas who brought presents for everyone.

The children enjoyed their usual trip to the Toddler Service when we listened to the story of the nativity, and made a lovely collage to take back to Windmills. Harry presented the ladies with a box of chocolates and a Christmas card that Windmills children had made to say thank you for making us feel so welcome this year.

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, log onto our web site at windmillsnursery.co.uk or call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.



Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

Firstly, we would like to wish a warm welcome to Jake, who joined us during December and has settled in well with his new friends.

December proved to be a very exciting month at Pre-School, with everything leading up to the Christmas Festivities. The role play area was transformed into the stable, including the manger, baby Jesus and Nativity dressing up clothes.

Christmas: The children made lovely observational drawings of the Christmas tree to be made into cards in which they did their own "writing" and we listened to carols about the Christmas story. At the creative table, the children made wonderful decorations for the tree, using card shapes and CDs as the basis for small scale collages. Cutting, joining and estimating skills were put to the test as the children wrapped boxes as "presents" to go under the Christmas tree, the builders' tray had a layer of glitter for mark making using fingers, lolly sticks and brushes, and red glittery playdough was very popular.



Nativity Songtime: All the while, we practised for our Nativity Songtime in the stable yard, including carols using Makaton signing. On the day, it was overcast but dry and the children were excited as we walked down Mill Lane. They performed brilliantly to a capacity

audience of parents, grandparents, other relatives and friends and justly deserved the applause at the end. We wish to say a huge thank you to Bud and Tony Jackson for allowing us to use their stable, which made our Nativity Songtime a very special one.

Father Christmas: After the Songtime, and in anticipation of a visit from a gentleman in red, we practised songs for Father Christmas and, when he duly arrived with his sack of goodies, he was most impressed with the singing. The children were thrilled to receive their gifts from Father Christmas and most were happy to chat to him about what they hoped to get in their stockings.



In the last week of the term, the children made and took home bags of reindeer food to sprinkle on the grass outside, as encouragement to them to bring Father Christmas to their homes. Let's hope it worked!

Finally, Gael, Lisa, Lesley, Bud, Claire and Angie would like to thank the parents for all the lovely gifts and cards that we were given. We are now looking forward to a great year in 2009.

For further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jacqui Quinney, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 613386.



Harbury Primary School

Denis Daly

Infants' Christmas Productions - Congratulations to all of the children who took part in our Christmas productions – the feedback that we received from a lot of people was that they were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience – we were certainly pleased with the way that they went. Many thanks to all the children for their hard work. Thanks, too, to the staff involved for all their efforts in ensuring that the children were so well prepared and organised – their work was rewarded in the excellence of the final productions. Well done, everyone.





Infant Nativity

Junior Christmas Plays – Also, congratulations to the Junior Department on their two wonderful performances. Many parents have commented on how good they were – thanks. It was certainly a fitting reward for all the hard work that both the children and staff have put in over the last few weeks. Well done, everyone.

Harbury School Dinner ladies enjoy their Christmas Lunch



Cross Country – Congratulations, too, to the Girls' Cross Country team, who were crowned as Central Warwickshire League champions recently after the final race. This is the second year in a row that we have won the league, and is a marvellous achievement for one of the smaller schools in the league – in fact, we still qualify for the "Small Schools" section of the overall league! Well done, girls. Well done, too, to the boys team, who finished 7th recently, and actually moved themselves up to 11th overall! (out of 21 schools) despite not having a team in the first race of the year, due to the post-Shropshire illness!! This too is an excellent performance in a very competitive field – well done, boys.

PTA – Many of you will know that we have had a new regime of officers in place in the PTA, and I feel it appropriate to congratulate them on the excellence of their work last term – they have organised a number of events (Sponsored Walk, Quiz Night, Discos, Friday

Markets) over the course of the term which have added greatly to the "community feel" of the school. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Of course, when money has been raised, I am never slow in spending it! Parents will already know that the PTA purchased the new school stage which was in use for the first time during the Christmas productions; the PTA are also committed to funding a new covered area for the quiet area of the Infant playground and new wallbars and ropes for the main hall. In addition, the PTA are also putting aside funds to help with some of the smaller purchases for the proposed new swimming pool.

Meeting for Parents - Every so often since coming to Harbury I have held an Open Meeting, at which information about the school is shared with parents. The next meeting will be held at 7.30 on Wednesday 14th January. I would like to share information about two areas of school life at this meeting – how we teach the children about keeping healthy and about pupils' academic progress across the school. All are welcome.

Cross Country Running – After the success of the teams during the course of last term, the cross country season continues on Saturday 24th January, when the school will be hosting the Central Warwickshire Schools' Cross Country Relay championships at the Village Hall Playing Fields. It is an opportunity for everyone to get involved, as the event has three sections:

The Central Warwickshire Schools' Relay Championships, with the girls race at 10.30 and the boys race immediately after at about 11.00.

A children's charity fun run, for pupils at Harbury School only, at 11.30. This will be held over one lap of the Playing Fields, and is open to children across the school. The entry fee will be £1 per child, with all proceeds going to a charity to be decided by the School Council.

An adults charity fun run relay, with teams of 3 each running one lap of the playing fields, at 11.45. This is open to anyone, although all teams must have at least one runner with a direct link to the school. Parents are encouraged to try and get their own teams up, preferably including runners from outside the school community, so that we can have an increase in the number of teams running. Anyone not in a team, but who would like to run anyway, should just turn up and we will form additional teams on the day. The entry fee for this event will be £3 per team, with all proceeds again going to a charity chosen by the School Council. You have plenty of notice, so get training and lose those extra Christmas pounds!



Over 50 members braved the cold conditions for our Christmas meeting on 2nd December. We all enjoyed 6 frantic games to make a flowerpot, etc. All you could hear was the noise of dice being thrown! It was a success and the winner was Daphne; with Barbara the runner up. We then enjoyed a wonderful feast, the food just gets better every year, we have such talented cooks as well as gardeners. Thanks to everyone who contributed to make it such a success. The winner of the Annual Bursary was Jeanne Beaumont, I hope that she will enjoy whatever course she chooses to do. My thanks also to everyone who stayed behind afterwards to help put tables and chairs away and to wash up and tidy away, it all went like clockwork.

As I type this on the shortest day, the sun is shining and so many shrubs are putting in an early appearance it cheers you up. The grasses are looking good still and when the frost dusts them they take on a lovely shine. My camellia has loads of buds on which bodes well for another colourful display in early spring. The evergreen clematis has wonderful white flowers flecked with primrose which will flower for next three months, a value for money plant. Heucheras too are great plants for all year round colour and the ones I bought at Wisley are doing very well, a lovely reminder of a super day out. Which leads me quite nicely to the subject of hellebores. On our 2nd day trip we spent the morning at Ashwood Nurseries and were given a guided tour by John Massey of his own garden adjoining the nursery. He has a great collection of hellebores in all colours and is constantly breeding new ones. There will be two events in 2009 when he will be showing the latest developments, giving general advice on the care of these plants with a tour of the glasshouses and his garden (weather permitting). The first one is on 20th January from 12.30, telephone 0845 612 1253 to book or you can look on the website www.ashoodnurseries.com. There will be another one on 10th February.

Another good day out in winter is to Anglesey Abbey in Cambridgeshire. It is a National Trust property which we visited a few years ago but it is just as good in the winter. If you are a member it is of course free, telephone number is 01223 810080 for opening hours, etc.

A bit nearer to home is the Botanic Garden in Oxford, which is a joy at any time of the year. When I worked in Oxford I visited it regularly;

I can thoroughly recommend a visit, it is only about 50 minutes drive. Telephone (01865) 286690 for further details.

Don't forget that we have two tickets for Garden Organic at Ryton, Daphne has these, so please make use of them, the restaurant there is particularly good and there is always something to see and enjoy. Also worth a mention the Botanic Gardens and Glasshouses at Edgbaston near Birmingham, we have also visited there. We will be having a very welcome return visit in March from Ian Nex who has been closely associated with the Gardens for many years. I hope that you will be able to visit one or more of these places as winter doesn't mean that you have nowhere to go. Also next month we look forward to snowdrops, I will give details of where and when to see these graceful plants in my next article. So you see, there is so much to look forward to and enjoy over the coming months.

The next meeting is on 6th January when Tony Hamlin will be talking about Wildlife in the Garden. He is a local Warwickshire man from Bidford on Avon. It is sometimes a problem to get speakers for the January meeting as the weather can be a problem and speakers are quite rightly reluctant to venture too far. I'm sure the talk will be most interesting with a chance to see how we can attract more wildlife to our gardens.

Looking ahead to February I was very lucky to book Howard Drury, he is a very busy man and is booked as far ahead as 2010! He will be talking about New Zealand, the Islands, plants, gardens and people. The talk will be split into two with refreshments in between; it promises to be another splendid talk.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting and would like to wish everyone a Very Happy and Healthy New Year.



Nature Notes

John Hancock

It's about this time of year that I plan a walk to look for signs of spring. Lately we've had quite cold conditions with temperatures on some clear nights dipping well below freezing.

On Friday 12th December, I set out to walk to Priors Marston. A convenient pavement stretches all the way from Harbury to Deppers Bridge and I needed to call in at the Spoilbank Nature Reserve to put

up a notice about a forthcoming work party. Without regular winter scrub bashing, the open ground, rich in wild flowers and grasses, would turn to woodland. The ant hills which are such an integral part of the reserve would be overwhelmed. Green Woodpeckers would lose a food supply and butterflies in particular would decrease in numbers and species.

Reaching Ladbroke at All Saints Church, I entered the churchyard via the squeeze stile and turned right. A wooden signpost has been put up directing the walker to Southam, Chapel Ascote or in my case the village centre. Using the causeway between the medieval fishponds gives access to the Millennium Green across the tiny brook. Look right on the causeway to get a superb view, especially in winter, of Ladbroke Hall.

Earlier that morning there had been a very minor fall of snow in Harbury, but by the time I reached Ladbroke at 10.00 am, it had melted. Crossing the by-pass close to the Village Hall, I used Radbourne Lane to penetrate the farmland to the east. The lane is lined by hazel, blackthorn and larger trees such as ash and oak. Only the latter held any leaves and these were brown and crinkly. Inspecting the hazel, I found the catkins were green and tightly closed. A bullfinch in the hedge near the Polish camp was a flash of colour. A Squirrel moved to cover behind a branch as I approached and a number of Great Tits chattered through the tops of the bushes bordering the road. At Woodlands House Farm, the tarmac ends about half a mile from the by-pass and the real walking begins. By that, I mean it's much slower going especially after rain. Luckily the ground was frozen and I didn't pick up the glutinous mud which can ruin rambles in this terrain. Look at the map (OS Explorer 206, Edge Hill and Fenny Compton 1:25,000 or 1:50,000 No 151.) and you will see the footpath/bridleway network has a gap in it; the explanation being that E roads (green roads would be a better term) are not generally shown yet on the maps. I'm told by John Ridgley that this anomaly will be rectified in new editions. Bridging the gap on the ground was fairly easy. Pass to the right of Ladbroke Fox Covert and keep to the field margins. This brings you out on the metalled road close to Lower Radbourne Farm. Cross the road and continue on a track lined by pheasant feeding stands. This locality is the site of the deserted medieval village of Radbourne. A stone cross from the demolished church can be seen in the nave of All Saints, Ladbroke. The land around was cleared of the people in the 15th century and they were replaced by sheep.

By the fish ponds, I examined the Alder trees. Brown 2008 cones shared space with tightly closed purple catkins. Ice a quarter of an inch thick covered parts of the lake. Somewhere to the east was the twisting line of the Oxford Canal taking its tortuous contour route from Napton Junction. The northern section from Braunston to Coventry was straightened out in the 1820's but the money ran out and the southern section takes Brindley's original line. Finding Bridge 123 gave access to an excellent track which by and by came into Priors Hardwick via Hollow Meadow Farm. I was lured to that bridge by a green barn with young shaggy coated cattle munching hay. A more direct route is via Bridge 124 further south. Still, I was in no hurry. Now the Northamptonshire border was only 4kms (2.5 miles) away striding along the top of the ridge behind Priors Marston. It had been an excellent walk even if I hadn't found those early signs of spring.

Heavy rain the following day brought marginally warmer weather. On Monday 15th December I took the minor road from Barford that leads to the B4087 at the Crematorium. I've been watching the crop in several large sandy fields to the south as it has matured. Now, in time for the Christmas market no doubt, the leeks were being harvested. A gang of labourers were moving through one field. Apart from their yellow jackets the scene could have been straight out of Thomas Hardy. A necessary but back-breaking job.

Towards Bromson Hill, protected by overhanging trees and on the south-western slope, I found several markers of spring. Large plate-like leaves were emerging and just a few flower heads. At least one was fully open. It proved to be Winter Heliotrope (*Petasites fragrans*), an introduced species related to the Butterbur. Here it is a garden escape and extremely invasive. Clearing some leaves, I found fresh Stinging Nettle and the leaf of Elderberry.

Patience is the watchword. I hope you all had a very Happy Christmas and I wish you all the best for 2009. Please keep those reports of wildlife sightings coming in.



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

It's COUNTDOWN time, as the Harbury and Ladbroke News goes to press- not the last performance of Carole Vorderman on the T.V show in December, but countdown towards the New Year and the preparations for the New Year's Dance in the Village Hall.

The last three years have seen a resurgence of interest in a social gathering in celebration of the start of a new year – or maybe in providing an opportunity for Harbury folk to enjoy themselves, even if the economic forecast for 2009 is gloomy and the 'credit crunch' may be all we have to look forward to?? Whatever lies ahead on the financial climate for the country, the Village Hall committee, in line with all other bodies responsible for the maintenance of public rooms, will work hard to ensure that the bills are paid and the rooms are warm and welcoming for all hirers to use. As always, the committee is grateful to those who support the Hall and use it for the variety of functions which it accommodates throughout the year. We thank all our hirers for their continued support in 2008 and look forward to the regular bookings which maintain the premises, as a valuable asset in promoting all aspects of community life.

As the year has drawn to a close, the committee has responded to the needs to make the plans for the proposed modernisation appropriate to the locality and have recruited a figure-head who will lead the fund raising committee. John Hancock has agreed to act as the chairman and will recruit those who feel they can offer their expertise in raising the funds necessary to cover the costs of development. Already, the advice from several members of the village, including Doug Freeman and John Ridgley has proved invaluable and it is hoped to find a small group of committed volunteers who will endeavour to raise the necessary funds. This would never have been an easy job at the best of times, but it may be even more challenging as we move into the coming year?

In the past month, the area behind the Village Hall has been cleared and a new area of fencing erected to continue the boundary which separates it from the Recreation Ground. Shortly some new hawthorn 'whips' will be planted to extend the hedgerow, which not only provides a neat, 'green' surround for the building, but also offers a small-scale wild-life haven for the sparrows and blackbirds, which colonise it. The committee always seeks advice about all aspects of the Village Hall property, both the internal and the external environment and will continue to ensure that 'our' Village Hall represents the best set of function rooms, which can be offered in a village of our size.

Happy New Year – we look forward to your company in 2009.





General Section

Free Chipping Service for Christmas Trees

On Saturday, the 10th January 2009, residents will have the opportunity to get their Christmas trees "chipped" at the Village Hall Car Park. The service is being provided by local arboriculturist Colin Sheasby and customers have the option of taking their bagged chippings away with them for use in the garden – alternatively they can be left on site for disposal. This service will be available on one Saturday only between 10.00am and 12.00noon. This is a FREE service to residents, paid for by the Parish Council.

Harbury Parish Council

Harbury Choir School – First Term Goes Out in Style!

Well ... If you weren't there for the Christmas Evensong performance, you certainly missed out!!

The Choir School started singing from the back of the candlelit church. They performed an unusual, unaccompanied version of 'Away in a Manger' in two parts. They led the full congregation in the hymns, with a descant in 'Christ be our Light'. They performed 'Gaudete' in Latin; demonstrating how they had learned to watch the conductor for dynamic and speed changes. A first verse introduction of 'O come, O come, Immanuel' again required unaccompanied two-part singing. They also had the very challenging art of singing a psalm, and the Magnificat and Nunc Dimitis to contend with - which even most adult choirs find difficult!

Members of the congregation were touched by the chorister's clear young voices, singing challenging 'adult' music. There were so many fabulous comments about the performance. Not only were the youngsters complemented on the clear sound produced, but also on their neat appearance, professional attitude and the incredible amount they had achieved in such a short space of time.

We are enormously proud of what the young choristers have achieved in their first term of The Harbury Choir School. It was also an

especially proud moment for the five choristers who passed their comprehensive assessments in the RSCM 'Voice for Life' Light Blue syllabus. They wore their Choir School medals for the first time in public at this event.

The new term begins on the 8th January. We rehearse on Thursday evenings 7.00 - 8.00pm for junior members and till 8.30pm for seniors and always welcome new members. We already have a trip planned to sing at St. Nicholas in Nuneaton. Our theme for next term will be 'Music from around the World' with a focus on maintaining the high standard already proven. We look forward to a fun, busy and challenging Spring Term!

David Iles and Helen Garvin, www.harburychoirschool.org

Quiz Night – GASS (Guide & Scout Support) and Steel Pan Academy

On Friday 16th January 2009 GASS and the Steel Pan Academy will be running a quiz night, with proceeds being split equally between GASS (for the benefit of the uniformed groups) and the Academy (for the benefit of the children going on tour in 2009). Mark and Linda Casement have kindly volunteered to put their quizmaster boots back on for what promises to be a fun-filled evening!

The quiz will be held in the Harbury School hall starting at 8pm, with arrival from 7.30pm. There will be a bar, a raffle and sandwiches during the interval.

If you'd like to enter a team (£16 per team, for up to 4 people), please call Kathy on 612116 with your team name in order to reserve your place. It's likely to be popular, so please book early!

Kathy Sampson

Dog Fouling – Consider Others

The Parish Council would like to respectfully ask that dog owners consider others whilst walking your dog – the Council have received complaints recently about the footpaths in **Hall Lane, Mill Street** and on **the playing fields**. Dog mess is unhygienic, unpleasant and **unnecessary - always clean up after your dog.**

Harbury Parish Council

Christmas Fayre 2008

We and the committee would like to thank everyone who worked very hard to make the afternoon so enjoyable and such a success.

We raised over £2,300, £1097.60 of which were proceeds from the raffle and this sum will go to Myton Hospice. The remainder will go to church funds.

All the stall holders really rose to the challenge of this year's theme, "The Twelve Days of Christmas", chosen by Father Craig! Congratulations to the prizewinners, the cake stall, bric a brac and the café who won, respectively, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes.

Sue and Jon Peacock

All Saints Harbury Christmas Fayre – Raffle Ticket Sales

This year, once again, was an exceptionally good performance. I would like to thank all of our pubs, who gave tremendous support. The Dog Inn came top of the pops, selling in excess of 70 books, congratulations boys and girls.

A special mention must also be made of Vicky and Jon boy who knocked on doors in the 'freezing' cold selling tickets, well done you two!

Colin Ingram

Do you and your family enjoy Walking, Jogging or Running?

Why not try ORIENTEERING with Coventry and Warwickshire Club at Itchington Holt, Near Harbury (Entrance to Thwaites Estate by Fiveways). Saturday 24th January - 10.30am- 12.00pm. Outdoor adventure sport for all ages (5 – 85 years) beginners welcome, bring a compass if you have one.

Contact: 01788 814465 for more details, or visit the Club Website: www.octavian-droobers.org

Karin Kirk

January Neighbourhood Watch

Some advice from the police on driving in icy conditions:

Now the icy weather is with us here is a chance to advise you on what to do in icy conditions. Allow DOUBLE - QUADRUPLE the usual distance between yourself and the vehicle in front. Remember if the vehicle in front stops, you should be in a position to stop safely behind it. If you run into the back of a vehicle then generally you are at fault.

If you brake hard and your wheels lock up, take your foot off the brake to give the wheels a chance to start turning again and then apply the footbrake again. In extreme circumstances you hit the brake hard, release, hit hard again, release and keep repeating until stationary. This is called cadence braking and is a technique taught to advanced police drivers. This technique is particularly useful for non ABS fitted cars.

Alison Abbott

Harbury and District British Legion

To all of the contributors and loyal collectors of Ufton, Deppers Bridge, Chesterton and Harbury – we are so very, very grateful for the 2008 effort. Despite the countries financial difficulties, a wonderful total of £2435.66 was raised for the British Legion Poppy appeal. Generous donations from the Parish Council and others helped to give this total.

The annual coffee morning was again very successful with lots of generous raffle prizes and “goodies” for sale from the ladies. We missed your apple pies, the total passed the £200 mark.

Following on – the church service saw a full congregation and keen followers waiting at the War Memorial. Thank you Craig for the service and Tony for his welcome trumpet and indeed all who participated.

The Committee

Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

We had well over 100 people who came to the Christmas Party this year who seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves and even had some adventurous souls who ended up dancing to some good old rock and roll. The entertainment this year was provided by two local “lads” – Crocket and Phil who got the audience “moving and a shakin’ “. Many thanks, from all of us, to them for the wonderful music. We also had an

passing along at the end (those of you who were there will understand we mean) – thanks to Mavis for keeping us on track.



We couldn't put on the party without a lot of extra help from a number of volunteers who help behind the scenes and serving at table. Thank you for your hard work and support – it really is appreciated by everyone.

As we roll into 2009 the committee would like to wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Mike McBride, On behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association

Carol Singing by Hereburgh Morris and the Folk Club

On Friday, December 19th, on a pleasantly dry and mild evening, 14 carols and musicians from Harbury Folk Club and Hereburgh Morris went carol singing around the pubs of Harbury, starting at the Old New Inn and finishing at the Crown. This year, we added a private party in Harbury Lane to our route.

As usual, we enjoyed ourselves and managed to collect an impressive sum for Merton Hospice. We would like to thank the landlords, bar staff and other customers for their generosity and good humour.

Peter McDonald

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Drop - In - Tea

The January meeting for Drop - in - Tea will be on Wednesday January 28th, at the home of Joyce Windsor, 12 Constance Drive, anytime between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. For a few months, subsequent meetings will be held in different homes. If you wish to go please phone either Joyce (612504) or Alison Hunt (612931) to find the correct venue.

Jill Winter

Past, Present and Future Imperfect

Harbury expanded in the 1960s. At that time the Royal Mail made two deliveries morning and afternoon but only to properties built pre-war. The Library service was provided weekly, by a van which toured the villages and the school was then brand new. It seemed almost surprising, to find a big farm in the middle of the village and perhaps ten working farms in the parish; inevitably perhaps, there are fewer today?

Sharmer Farm, on the Fosse Way, has seen lots of changes, in the sixties Neville Ellis ran a mixed farm with dairy cows and cereals. With the need for diversification in the 1980's a B&B was started, the cereal cropping continued but beef cattle replaced the dairy cows. In 1993 the farm was sold and the land split between neighbouring farmers and the farm house became Sharmer Fields House, a care home.

At Westfield Farm, Frank Worrall grew vegetables and cereals. When the farm was sold the land was divided between neighbouring farmers. At Middle Road Farm there have been three generations of farmers, William Russell and Daniel William with a grandson is waiting to join in the family tradition. Ed Russell, the cricketer, can almost always be found around the farm. There was a herd of Friesians until 1980; today it is a mixed farm with beef cattle, sheep and arable. Harbury Fields Farm was worked by Jack Rigg, now his grandson Rob Davies keeps sheep and recently a small caravan park has been established.

Iory Davies, a JP, ran a mixed farm at Lower Westfields; when the farm was sold like Sharmer and Westfield the land was divided between neighbouring farmers. At the top of Middle Road, Ralph Gurden was at Hillside Farm, vegetables were grown, there were eggs for sale and always a supply of kittens too! In snowy winters a field opposite was superb for sledging, with tin trays and fertiliser bags as

impromptu toboggans. A small coppice is planted there now. In the centre of the Harbury is the large redbrick Chesterton House Farm where the Trice family have farmed for more than 53 years (since Michaelmas 1955) a herd (about 100) Pedigree Friesian cows. Down Hall Lane and over the railway bridge is Frost's Bull Ring Farm.

Whitegates on the Chesterton Road is one of three farms in Harbury that are listed in *Warwickshire Smallholdings* (Birt 1889) as County Council small holdings; the others are Home Farm and Oathill. The Allotments are WCC land and may have been part of this scheme. Small holdings were originally established for agricultural workers but the scheme was expanded after the Great War, to re-settle the 4 million men who were demobilized in 1919. WCC purchased land in 1920 and 1936 and let about 400 small holdings in the county.

At one time "Bonzo" Bloxham had a small holding up near the Water Tower, rearing pigs. Whilst at Moore's Station Road Farm potatoes have been the speciality crop. Along Bush Heath Road with views over to the quarry, there is Model Farm; and at Pineham Farm the Boon family offers liveries and caters for the festive poultry trade. Hurdiss Farm lies at the junction of Bush Heath Road and Bush Heath Lane and is part of the Thwaites estates.

Future Imperfect or at least uncertain? Will Harbury keep our village Post Office and our twice weekly library service? The County Records Office holds documents but the editors would welcome any local input.

Marian Millington

Rotary Club of Southam Tree of Light 2008

The Rotary Club of Southam would like to thank this publication and all its readers for the excellent assistance received on our fifth year of the Tree of Light in Southam. This year raised £1655 (*not counting Gift Aid*) for the Acorns Children's Hospice. Over the last five years we have donated over £7000.

Southam Library staff has been more than helpful to our cause with displaying the Book of Remembrance.

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 including Southam Carpets and Jacqueline's Florists, to those who reproduced it in their Parish Magazines and of course our many donors.

A special thanks to DSI Southam who have supported us for five years with sponsorship and the Southam Christmas Lights Committee for their assistance.

We look forward to your help and support in 2009 and hope to increase our target once again.

Peter Jackson and Mike Gaffney, The Rotary Club of Southam

Stockton Garden Club – The Potting Shed

Events January to May 2009:

Jan 14th: Talk on "South African Flowers" by our very own Howard Collerson. Some great slides to wow you.

February 11th: Talk on "The Re-instatement of the Victorian Garden at Canons Ashby" by Head Gardener, Chris Smith. Promises to be an interesting evening

March 11th: Talk on "Topiary in Garden Design" by Debbie Bradshaw. Very useful if you want learn about this art form.

April 8th: START 7.45 pm. Workshop, Hanging Baskets. Tom Sage is back by popular demand!

May 13th: Talk – "Exotic Vegetables" by Tris Coverdale, local professional organic vegetable grower. Maybe things you have never seen before.

All meetings in Stockton Village Hall – next to the Nelson Club on Napton Road. Meetings start at 8.00 pm except as noted. All welcome, become a member or pay on the door.

FEBRUARY EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to	31 Binswood End	by 15th January
Articles to	Harbury Pharmacy	by 29th January



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

We apologise for the narrowboat travelling through the village of Ladbroke in October. We had previously contacted our transport company and told them not to go through the village under any circumstances, unfortunately they had a new driver and did not inform him of this. Our apologies again for any disruption caused to any local residents. We have contacted our transport company again to replicate what we had previously told them.

David and Sharon Warner

Blewater Boats Limited

Dear Editors

'Harbury Albion FC's Dog Racing Evening' on Friday 28th November.

What a fantastic evening had by all and most importantly we managed to raise an outstanding £1,101 towards keeping Harbury Albion FC alive!

I would personally and on behalf of all of my players like to thank Paul Gladden for his dedication and hard work and more or less single-handedly arranging the evening, Dave Vials for his sound equipment and good humour, the Old New Inn and Rugby Club and its staff for making the night such a success and lastly everybody who donated raffle prizes and bought raffle tickets and who attended in good spirits with plenty of betting money!

Also a massive thanks to all the kind people who sponsored the races and bought dogs, without you the night wouldn't have been possible.

You have kept the club alive and we look forward to a fantastic future!

Thank you once again.

Nathaniel Cleaver, HAFC Manager

Dear Editors

I would like to thank everyone who so kindly supported the RSPCA coffee morning.

We made the splendid total of £410 which was in part due to an extremely generous individual donation.

Rosalind Wilson

Dear Editors

On behalf of Margaret, Jeanne and Pauline, may I thank everyone who baked and gave a cake to our stall at the Christmas Fayre, which as usual made a very healthy contribution to the overall result. Many thanks especially to Margaret for taking charge when I was double booked that day!

Muriel Grey

**DATES FOR INCLUSION IN THE HARBURY DIARY PLEASE TO:
LINDA RIDGLEY - TEL. 612792.**

Bookings for:

Scout Hut	Caroline Hill	613780
Tom Hauley Room	Liz Bunting	612450
T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning	Sally Stringer	613214
Village Hall	Kate Johnson	613087
Wight School	Lin Hayes	613488

Regular Diary Dates

ART TUTORIALS: Tom Hauley Room 1st Thursday of the month (614104)

BABY CLINIC: Surgery, 2nd & 4th Wednesday 1.00 – 3.00pm

BADMINTON: Village Hall, Monday mornings 10:00am -12:00 noon (612877)

Mondays 7:00 - 9:00pm; (612627)

Friday (Juniors) 6:30 - 8:15pm (612029)

BEAVERS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 5.40 - 6.40pm (613434)

BELL RINGING PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 7:30pm (612939)

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)

BRIDGE CLUB: Thursday in Village Club at 7.00pm (612714)

BROWNIES: Scout Hut, Mondays 5.45pm - 7:00pm (612538)

Brownies & Rainbows Waiting List - Bobbie Sharpe (614040)

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

CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 6:30pm (612978)

CHURCH MEN'S GROUP: Tom Hauley Room 1st Thursday in the month 7.45pm (612753)

COFFEE MORNING: Tom Hauley Room Saturdays 10:00am - 12:00noon (613214)

CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00pm (614730)

DROP-IN TEA FOR THE BEREAVED: last Wednesday in the month (except in December)

2.30 to 4.30pm phone either 612504 or 612931

GUIDES: Scout Hut, Mondays 7.15pm – 8.45pm

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, Mondays 6:00 - 7:00pm (07939 679533)

HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Shakespeare Inn 1st Thursday in the month 8:30pm (613730)

HARBURY FRIENDS: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Tuesday in the month 8:00pm (612534)

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

Years 8 & 9

Coach: Neil Murray Tel: 612524

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Year 7

Coach: Malcolm Tanner Tel: 612617

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Year 6

Coach: Tony Chamberlain Tel: 07854 358287

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Years 4 & 5

Coach: Judith Woodfield Tel: 01926 312021

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Year 3

Coach: Richard Woodhead Tel: 01926 612366

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Years 1 & 2

Coach: Steve Burnell Tel: 01926 614304

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury School

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: Wight School (behind Library), High St. Monday 12:30pm – 3:00pm, Tuesday to Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm (613386)

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 (614858)

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 612498

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: School Hall, Wednesdays 8:00 – 10:00pm (612819)

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: Scout Hut, Saturdays, 10:00am – 12:00noon (612734)

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: Village Hall Car Park, Training Thursdays 6:30pm; (613163)

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 8.00pm (612427)

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

RAINBOWS : Scout Hut Tuesdays 5.30 – 6.30pm, Unit Leader Bobbi Sharpe 614040

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00pm (614062)

SLIMMING WORLD: Village Club, Wednesdays 6.30pm, Sarah Bull 07989 901 973

TENNIS CLUB: CLUB MEMBERS PLAYING TIMES

SENIORS

Tuesdays: 6.00pm – 10.00pm

Thursdays: 6.00pm – 10.00pm

Saturdays (Winter only): 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Sundays (Summer only): 10.00am – 12.00 noon

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 or find out more about the Tennis Club, please contact Colin Mercer (Chairman) on 613284.

JUNIORS and MINIS (Reception to Year 11)

Coaching sessions take place throughout the Summer and Winter.

For up to date information, please contact Sue Mercer

(613284 or email: sucol-merc@tiscali.co.uk)

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

COACHING - For individual or small group coaching, please contact Linda Casement (614734).

THURSDAY CLUB: Farley Room of Village Hall 4th Thursday in the month 2:30pm (612877)

W.I.: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Thursday in the month 7:45pm (614188)

WINDMILLS NURSERY SCHOOL: In the grounds of Harbury Primary School,

Monday-Thursday; 9:05am - 3.05pm; Friday 9.05am -12.30pm (07906 519148)

YOGA: Tom Hauley Room, Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm Dianne Surgery (817904)

YOUTH DROP IN: Tuesdays 8:00-9:00pm in Village Hall (613207)

All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

1 st Sunday in the month:	9.00am	Sung Communion
	10.30am	First Light contemporary style service in the Tom Hauley Room
	6.00pm	Evening Worship - a different style of service each month

2 nd , 4 th (and 5 th) Sunday in the month:	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
3 rd Sunday in the month:	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Communion Service
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong

Every Sunday: (except 1 st & 3 rd Sundays)	10.30am	Funday Club (in term time)
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Every Tuesday:	7.30pm	Weekday Said Communion
Every Thursday:	9.45am	Weekday Said Communion

Times of weekday services and any variations are displayed on the notice in the lychgate.

Priest in Charge: Father Craig Grocock
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Email: kankudai43@aol.co.uk

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5.45pm - 6.30pm - Pre-Primary & Primary
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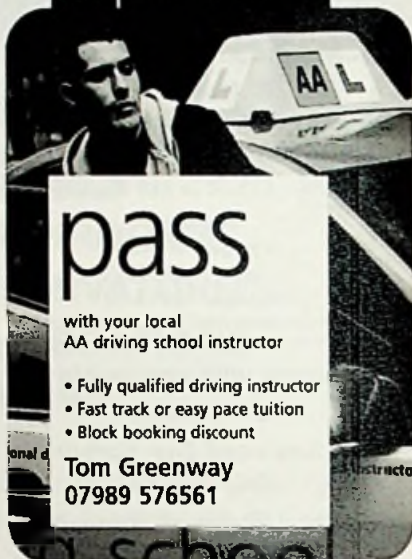
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Sunday 12 noon - 8.30pm (last tables)

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Available Tuesday - Saturday. Two meals for the price of one.

Enjoy two main meals from our menu and only pay for the higher priced one.

Tuesday Lunchtime - 2 or 3 Course Carvery available

Starter + Main £8.50, Starter + Main + Dessert £10.50

Booking essential.

WEEKNIGHT OFFERS

TWO MEALS PLUS DESSERTS £19.95 INC

Please present this advert on arrival or quote the required offer when making a booking.

TUESDAY EVENINGS - SEAFOOD & SORBET NIGHT

Enjoy either 2 Sea Bass fillet meals or 2 Bombardier Battered Haddock meals from our menu, followed by a refreshing sorbet platter.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS - STEAK AND CHOCOLATE NIGHT

Enjoy either 2 x 8oz Prime Rump Steaks or 2 Mixed Grills served with house chips, onion rings, mushrooms and tomato followed by our homemade Chocolate and Amaretto Torte.

THURSDAY EVENINGS - CURRY & COBRA BEER

Enjoy 2 of The Bell's homemade curries choose from either Chicken Korma or Beef and Mushroom Madras accompanied with savoury rice, onion bhaji, chutney's and popadoms.

Plus a refreshing bottle of Indian Cobra Beer.

SUNDAY LUNCH CARVERY MENU

We now offer an exciting Sunday Carvery menu every Sunday served between 12 noon & 3.00pm. On offer will be a choice of freshly roasted joints including: Roast Prime Beef - Roast

Warwickshire Turkey - Roast Pork served with fresh vegetables and all the trimmings. Only £9.95 per person

SUNDAY EVENINGS - GRILL & PUB FAVOURITES MENU

Book a table after 5pm and present this advert on arrival then with every main meal purchased from our menu you will receive a free dessert (last orders 8.30pm)

COMING IN 2009

Robbie Supreme, Elvis Tribute Night & Matt Richford Jazz Trio
FRIDAY 23rd JANUARY 2009

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FRIDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2009

The Bearcats Blues Band plus Hot Buffet.

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KINGDOM OF
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Film Certificate: 12a

Saturday 17th January**Tickets: £3.50 each or £10.00 per family**

(family ticket admits 2 adults & up to 3 children under the age of 12)

'Parents/carers must remain with, and are responsible for, their
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(family ticket admits 2 adults & up to 3 children under the age of 12)

'Parents/carers must remain with, and are responsible for, their
children at all times'

doors open at 6.00pm - film starts at 6.30pm

Refreshments - Raffle - Bar

All profits to Harbury Village Hall Funds

Flute Tuition**Children aged 7+****Adults welcome****ABRSM examinations (up to Diploma Level)****Music theory to Grade 5****Joanne Johnstone MSc BSc (Hons) LTCL****Flute Specialist****Tel: (01926) 614672****Mobile: (07905) 422 844**

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Telephone: 01926 612232

Monday to Friday 8.30am - 6.30pm

BISHOPS ITCHINGTON

Fisher Road, Bishops Itchington
CV47 2RE

Telephone: 01926 612977

Monday to Friday inc 9.00 - 12.00

Monday, Wednesday 4.00 - 6.00pm

NORMAL SURGERY TIMES

Surgery	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Harbury					
from	Dr Snowdon	Dr Snowdon	Dr Hancock	Dr Panting	Dr Wilkinson
8.45 am	Dr Panting	Dr Wilkinson	Dr Hill	Dr Hill	Dr Panting
Evenings	Dr Panting	Dr Snowdon	Dr Snowdon	Dr Wilkinson	By
4 - 6 pm	Dr Hill	Dr Panting	-	Dr Hill	Rota
Bishops Itchington					
from	Dr Wilkinson	Dr Panting	Dr Snowdon	Dr Wilkinson	Dr Snowdon
9.15 am					
Evenings					
3.45-6 pm	Dr Wilkinson	-	Dr Hancock	-	-

REPEAT DISPENSING - Harbury Surgery on 01926 614119

Bishops Itchington Surgery on 01926 612977

Fax on 01926 612991

e-mail via www.harburysurgery.org.uk

or by calling into either of the surgeries

Please allow at least 48 hours notice on all repeat prescription requests

HOME VISITS - Telephone 01926 612232 between 8.30 and 10.30 am
wherever possible

NHS Direct - 845 46 47
Out of Hours - 01926 888026

For full Practice details please pick up a practice leaflet from either surgery or visit our website at www.harburysurgery.org.uk

PRACTICE UPDATE

Since the installation of our new phone system the Harbury Appointments line 613554 is no longer available – Please use 612232 Option 1

EVENINGS COURSES BEGINNING

MONDAY, 12TH JANUARY 2009

Cake icing and sugar paste flowers
 Basic computing and the internet
 Introduction to Beading - 7.00 - 9.00pm (5 weeks)
 Salsa - 8.00 - 9.00pm
 Spanish for beginners - Term 2
 Woodturning for beginners 6.30 - 8.00pm
 Woodturning - experienced 8.00 - 9.30pm

WEDNESDAY 14TH JANUARY

Card Making - 5 weeks
 Introduction to digital photography and photoshop 7.00 - 9.00pm - 6 weeks
 Family History on the web - a follow on course - 6 weeks
 French for holidays - Term 2
 Achieving you dreams in 2009 - 6 weeks
 Get to know your sewing machine - 7.00 - 9.00pm
 Indian Cookery - 6.30 - 8.30pm (6 weeks)
 Introduction to AS Level Sociology - 7.00 - 9.00pm 6 weeks
 Lace Making
 Living with teenagers - A Parenting Course:
 (free to parents of students at Southam College, limited places available). 7.00-9.00pm (8 weeks)
 Yoga 7.00 - 8.30pm

THURSDAY 15TH JANUARY

Cake icing and sugar paste flowers
 Card making - 5 weeks
 Come and play badminton 7.30 - 8.30pm
 Creative fun with fabric - 5 weeks
 Family History - So who do you think you are?

**FOR A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF MOST OF THESE COURSES PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.southamcollege.com AND FOLLOW THE COMMUNITY EDUCATION LINK.**

**COURSE FEES START FROM £3.20 PER HOUR WITH SOME REDUCTIONS
 AVAILABLE. PLEASE ASK FOR FURTHER DETAILS.**



DAYTIME COURSES IN SOUTHAM

SOUTHAM COLLEGE

Calligraphy - Monday 10.00 - 12 noon

Spanish for beginners/intermediate - Tuesday 10.00 - 12 noon

Water Colour Painting - Wednesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

Cake icing and sugar paste flowers - Thursday 10.00 - 12 noon

Water Colour Painting - Thursday 1.00 - 3.00pm

Water Colour Painting - Friday 1.00 - 3.00pm

COURSES AT THE LIBRARY

SOUTHAM LIBRARY

Basic Computing - Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

Family History - So who do you think you are? 6 weeks Wednesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

HARBURY LIBRARY

Drop in Basic Computing - Monday 2.00 - 3.00pm

DUNCHURCH LIBRARY

Drop in Basic Computing - Tuesday 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

UFTON VILLAGE HALL

Pilates - Monday 9.30 - 10.30am & Wednesday 2.00 - 3.00pm

OFFCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Upholstery & soft furnishing - Tuesday 9.30 - 11.30am

STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

Upholstery & soft furnishing - Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

Floristry for beginners - starts 24th February (5 weeks) Tuesday 7.00 - 9.00pm

Circuit Training for everyone - Thursday 8.00 - 9.00pm

Most classes commence week beginning Monday 12th January. Evening Courses run from 7.30 - 9.30 for a maximum of 10 weeks (excluding half term break beginning 16th February) unless shown otherwise. Courses based at the College enrol in the Community Education Centre. Please arrive 15 minutes early to the first session to allow time for enrolment. For further information and to register, please contact Sue Hawthorn or Chris Dudley on 01926 810942 or southamcomm@aol.com



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The Grange Hall, Southam**

**Thursday evenings 7.30 - 8.30pm at
Southam Primary School, Southam**

***Classes are run by a trained
and approved instructor of the B-W-D-A.***



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