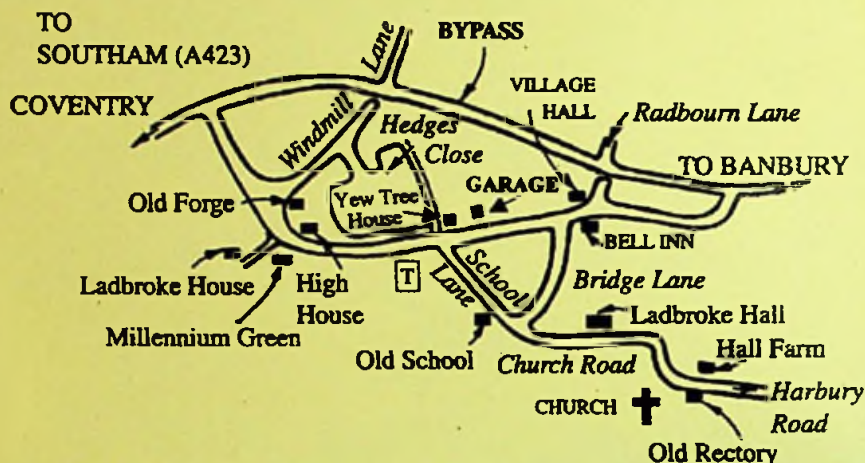


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Harbury & Ladbroke News

Reflects all aspects of local life, is published monthly and produced with the assistance of
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March 2009

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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.*



Children enjoying the recent snowy weather

After many snow-free years the recent heavy snowfalls gave families the opportunity for sledging, skiing and creative sculptures.

Ladbroke had another successful fundraising event with a Valentine's Night, raising money for the Millennium Green.

The Library Network Survey is consulting on library use and services. Have you filled in a form? These are available from the library.

Coventry and Warwickshire University volunteers are coming in March to give a cosmetic face-lift to the changing room and kitchen in the Village Hall. We are sure their help will be appreciated. This follows on from a successful coffee morning in February.

All are invited to the Harbury and Ladbroke News AGM to be held in the Shakespeare Inn on Tuesday 31st March at 8.00pm.

Finally we extend our sympathies to the families of Geoffrey Dean and Hilda Freeman.

Harbury Diary

MARCH

- Sat 7 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Brownies
- Sun 8 **LENT II**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 10 Coffee Morning for Gaza Appeal 10.00am – 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room
 Toddlers Service 2pm in Church
 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Weds 11 Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15 to 10.15am Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 12 **BLOOD DONORS IN VILLAGE HALL**
 Holy Communion 9.45am
 WI Members Evening 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 13 Mid-day Prayer with Meditation 12 noon in Church
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 14 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of British Heart Foundation
 Joe Griffin's Teenage Cancer Charity Event in Village Hall
- Sun 15 **LENT III**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM
 Evening Prayer 6.00pm in Church followed by
 Annual Church Meeting in Tom Hauley Room
- Tues 17 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Mothers' Union Meeting 8.00pm Tom Hauley Room
 Carol Davies – How M.U. members can work within their own churches
- Weds 18 Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15 to 10.15am Tom Hauley Room
 Tea 3.00 to 4.00pm Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 19 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 20 Mid-day Prayer with Meditation 12 noon in Church
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 21 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am Tom Hauley Room
 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Toddlers
 Councillor's Corner 10.00am – 11.30am outside Post Office
 Moving Pictures "High School Musical 3" Doors open 12.45pm,
 Film starts at 1.15pm.

- Sun 22 LENT IV**
MOTHERING SUNDAY
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Family Communion Service 10.30am
- Tues 24** Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Julian Meeting 8.00pm in Church
- Weds 25** Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15 to 10.15am Tom Hauley Room
 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30 to 4.30pm at **5 Penelope Close**
- Thurs 26** Holy Communion 9.45am
 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
 Parish Council 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 27** Mid-day Prayer with Meditation 12 noon in Church
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 28** Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Ladbroke Church
- Sun 29 LENT V**
SUMMERTIME STARTS – CLOCKS ON
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 30** Harbury Society AGM and talk on Tibet starts 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Bingo at Galanos House - 7.30pm Call 812185 for details
 Exhibition in School on plans for the refurbishment of the school pool.
- Tues 31** Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Harbury & Ladbroke News A.G.M. 8.00pm in the Shakespeare Inn
- APRIL**
- Weds 1** Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15 to 10.15am Tom Hauley Room
 Holy Communion 2.00pm
 Mothers' Union Meeting 2.30pm Tom Hauley Room
 Floral Decorations for Easter with Gillian Hare
 Ballroom Dancing 8.30-10pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 2** Men's Group 7.45pm Tom Hauley Room
 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Art Group 10-4pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Folk Club in Shakespeare Inn 8.30pm
- Fri 3** **SCHOOL ENDS**
 Mid-day Prayer with Meditation 12 Noon in Church
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Southam Twinning Association Quiz at Stockton Football Club, 7.30pm for an 8.00pm start. Tickets £8. Phone 814144

- Sat 4 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of GASS
 Sun 5 **PALM SUNDAY**
 Sung Eucharist 9.00am
 First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
 Tennis Club Cheque Book Tournament 10.00am to 12 noon
 Service of Benediction 6.00pm
 Mon 6 Village Hall AGM 7pm in Village Hall
 Tues 7 Horticultural Society 8pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Thurs 9 WI Pole Dancing - Sarah Davies

Refuse Collection Rota

	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Refuse Collection Week
March	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	4	5	6	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	11	12	13	Grey Bin
	18	19	20	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	25	26	27	Grey Bin
April	1	2	3	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	8	9	10	Grey Bin
	15	16	17	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	22	23	24	Grey Bin

Green Waste service resumes week commencing Monday 13 April.
 From this week onwards Grey Bins will only be collected every other week.



**All Saints
HARBURY**

From the Rector

Father Craig Grocock

'Give something up for Lent!'

'The ritual of abstinence over Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday (25th Feb), has all but disappeared. The British public has given up on 'giving up', so the Independent newspaper reported recently. This might be so but I would argue that the value, whether you're 'religious' or not, of giving something up for a period of time, is worthwhile.

The tradition of giving something up during Lent (the six week period before Easter) goes back many years and was a reminder to

Christians of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness, recorded in Matthew's Gospel, when he went without food and was tempted by the devil in preparation for his work and ministry. In remembrance of this, Christians would 'fast' as a sign of sorrow and penitence for their sins but also as a means of developing their self-discipline.

Exercising self discipline is a good thing for us. In fact, research has shown that self discipline and self denial can develop personal character. During the 1970's, a test was carried out in the United States amongst young children. The children were told that they could have a marsh mellow now or wait until later in the day when they could have two. The children were followed up later in adult life and the research showed that those who had waited, who had exercised self discipline in the marsh mellow test, were far more successful as adults in terms of their careers, relationships etc. than those who in the test couldn't wait.

So there is some evidence which seems to show that self-discipline is good for our personal development and character. As a British people we might be giving up 'giving up' for Lent but in our busy lives and stress-ridden society where everything has to be instant, perhaps revisiting Lent and the challenges of abstinence might not be such a bad thing after all.

May this Lent be a blessing to all of you.

From the Registers

Funerals, All Saints' Harbury

February 3 Hilda Freeman (88 years)

February 17 Geoffrey Dean (65 years)



From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

Appropriately, with Lent in all of our minds, at this month's Family Communion, John Stringer chose, with the aid of two wooden blocks, a number of nails and a hammer – and, of course, the ever encouraging presence of Ronnie (and there's a story behind that involving father Craig, which, as loyal churchwardens, we'll not divulge) to remind us of God's grace. Whatever we get wrong, through His grace we can always begin again.

We have had another happy children's party. Thank you to Father Craig and to everyone who entered so generously into the party spirit!

Last, but certainly not least, congratulations to Alice and Edward for 10 attendances at Funday Club and to Jessica who, at a very early age, has reached her century!



Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

The afternoon meeting was addressed by two Church Army Officers, Roger Horsley and Paul Warren. After describing their different routes into the Church Army – which is the evangelising wing of the Anglican Church – they told us about some of their work in Warwick Gates and Whitnash.

Following the vision of the founder, William Carlisle, to 'do church differently' for those on the margins of society, they work with schools, the aged, teenagers and those at risk from drugs and alcohol abuse.

The evening meeting was shown the life of people on a different sort of margin: in the camps for refugees from the long running conflict in Darfur in Sudan. Mostly women and children, they had fled from the Jangaweed carrying their few possessions. In the tented camps there is no running water, electricity or drainage; amazingly the slides showed people smiling and organising themselves into a semblance of normality – CORD focuses on schooling – there are more than 20,000 children and even in the camp the Jangaweed tries to infiltrate them, taking the boys for soldiers and the girls as slaves. We were left very humbled by such hardship, and convinced of the worth of the work being done in the Lord's name.

We are delighted to welcome Sue Boniface as Branch Leader following her commissioning on 4th February.

There is still time to have a 'Make a Mother's Day card', to thank or commemorate your own mother by a gift to someone less fortunate.

Next evening meeting: Tuesday 17th March; Carol Davies speaks on members' greater involvement in their own church.

Next afternoon meeting: Wednesday 1st April; You will all be able to make an Easter table decoration, please bring secateurs or scissors.



Toddlers Service

Lorna Bedford

Mrs Elizabeth Kitchener led our service in January. She told us the story from Luke's gospel of when Jesus was at the lakeside preaching the word of God to a lot of people on the seashore, so many in fact, that he asked fishermen if he could board one of their boats and speak to all of the people from the water's edge. When he had finished talking he said to Simon, "put out into the deep water and let down the nets for a catch". Simon answered, "Master, we've been fishing all night and haven't caught anything! But, because you say so I will let down the nets."

When they had done this, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. They filled two boats so full that they began to sink! When they went ashore Jesus said to the fishermen, "follow me and I will make you fishers of men." So, the fishermen, Andrew, Simon Peter, James and John became the first disciples of Jesus.

For our activity we stuck pretty coloured tissue paper scales onto cardboard fish.

We sang two songs, 'Big man standing by the blue waterside' and 'By blue Galilee Jesus walked of old' accompanied by Mr Michael Hare on the accordion. Also we said a thank you prayer. We then played with toys and had our refreshments.

All toddlers and babies, accompanied by an adult, are welcome to join us in church at 2.00pm at our next toddler service on Tuesday 10th March. Please note, that because of the Easter holiday our service in April will be on the 21st. We look forward to welcoming you at these services

**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

Ladbroke News & Diary

MARCH

Sun	8	LENT II Holy Communion Sung 9.00am in church
Mon	9	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Wed	11	LENT LUNCH 12.30pm – 3 Ladbroke Hall Lent Course 7.30pm in Church
Sat	14	Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
Sun	15	LENT III Holy Communion 9.00am BCP in Church ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM
Mon	16	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Wed	18	LENT LUNCH 12.30pm Hall Farm Lent Course 7.30pm in church Parish Council Meeting 7.45pm in Village Hall
Thurs	19	Church AGM 7.30pm in church
Sun	22	LENT IV MOTHERING SUNDAY Holy Communion sung 9.00am in church Mothering Sunday Service 3.30pm with distribution of posies
Mon	23	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Wed	25	LENT LUNCH 12.30pm Chapel Ascot Farm Lent Course 7.30pm in church
Thurs	26	Women's Institute 7.30pm in Village Hall ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
Sun	29	LENT V Holy Communion Said Service 9.00am in church
Mon	30	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Tues	31	Harbury & Ladbroke News A.G.M. 8.00pm in the Shakespeare Inn

APRIL

Wed	1	Lent Course 7.30pm in church
Fri	3	SCHOOL ENDS
Sun	5	PALM SUNDAY Family Communion 10.30am followed by refreshments in Church
Mon	6	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall



Ladbroke Church News

Betty Winkfield

Apart from our Lent Courses on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, please remember our special Mothering Sunday Service at 3.30pm on March 22nd. Rosemary Allington has kindly offered to make the posies for us again.

Our church AGM is on Thursday 19th March at 7.30pm in Church. This is an open meeting for everyone in the village, please come, make a contribution to the proceedings or just listen to what goes on behind the scenes in YOUR Church.



Ladbroke Parish Council

Betty Winkfield

Public Participation – Complaints about overgrown bushes near the postbox, making this difficult to use. It was thought a land drain by the paddock opposite the Croft was the cause of much water running down the road during the heavy rains. The Council discussed again the 'mapping' of the gullies around the village and numbering them. The Public Realm Grant for the new noticeboard near the Millennium Green has been sanctioned and an estimate received verbally to make the board, although a letter for the estimate still awaited.

The Welcome Pack – The booklet has been produced in draft form, which will eventually also contain an explanatory letter. A directory of contact numbers will be produced separately, thus the information can be kept updated.

Dog Waste Bin – Several letters/emails have been received about this subject. Some people thought the bin a waste of money. Various ideas on where to site it! Also complaints of dog fouling generally – on it goes.

Street Lighting – maintenance in 2008 cost £332.41. The gritting of the roads during the recent snowy weather was satisfactory in the village. The footpaths were dreadful.

We didn't have representatives present from Police, Millennium Green or the Village Hall.

County Councillor Bob Stevens

As the next six weeks are the lead up to the local elections everything

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was very quiet. There was bound to be 'streamlining' of the County Council. The libraries will be reviewed in July; they do need modernising.

The area is to have a new Fire Chief.

The collection of Green Waste will begin again week beginning April 6th. By this time Ufton recycling plant should be operational. Following questions about recycling goods going into landfill sites, Bob said that it didn't make sense to throw recyclables into landfill sites, it is more expensive (£30 tonne) than to either sell it at the reduced rate or store it until the price improves.

Correspondence

The relations of Claude Leroy (motorcyclist killed last summer at the entrance to the village) wish to plant a tree on that corner. This is to be discussed at a later date. A letter of concern was received about blockages along the brook from the Southam end. Also a letter complaining about "foul water" being evident in the culvert at Ladbroke Hall.

Next meeting is March 18th at 7.45pm.

Annual Village Meeting 15th April.

Parish Council A.G.M May 20th.



Ladbroke General Section

Valentine's Night in Ladbroke



When you announce an open microphone evening you can't be sure what you are going to hear! At Ladbroke's Valentine's Night it was all good. Musicians appeared from the village and surrounding area to entertain a packed hall. We had country and western, folk, and everything from 'Big Spender' to 'The Fear'. There were guitars, a flute, a saxophone and even poetry.

The Ladbroke Rockers made their second world appearance and everyone got up to dance and sing along. Thanks to the performers, the helpers, the listeners, the dancers and especially Alan Lochhead

(without whose equipment and expertise the evening literally could not have happened), and good food from The Bell. The evening raised a healthy sum for the maintenance of the Millennium Green.

More pictures on the Ladbroke Village website: www.ladbroke-pc.gov.uk

Kip Warr

Valentines Night

Thank you to everyone who produced the Valentine's Night Dinner and Dance. All the hard work paid off - it was a wonderful evening. When's the next one?!!

Mark and Trish Teverson

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

The results of the draw for January 2009 were:

- £80 Graham Lewis
- £50 Margaret Whitehouse
- £25 Jonathan Ford
- £10 Pete Edgar
- £10 Geoff & Georgina Middleton
- £10 Christine Baker
- £10 Jill Norgate

Janet Goldson



Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

Official minutes can be viewed in the Library on the Parish Council website www.harbury-pc.gov.uk or obtained from the Parish Clerk

This was a very short meeting (there only a few Councillors, and Tim Lockley was trying to break his own record) but it packed in a lot!

Allotments

A member of the public complained that livestock being kept on the Allotments was attracting rats. Cllrs confirmed their rules allowed the keeping of livestock but they would ask the RSPCA to investigate the welfare of the animals.

Harbury School

The School had a snap Ofsted inspection this week. The Governors

have approved the designs for the refurbished Swimming Pool and these will be on show at the school on 28th March at 10.30am.

Crime

Sgt Hill reported a very busy month with 85 incidents in Harbury and Bishops Itchington. Hooded youths were suspected of breaking into cars in the village and he urged motorists to ensure their vehicles were secure. In Napton, an itinerant had been arrested on several charges and a similar operation was underway to deal with a spate of thefts from sheds.

Twinning

Sharon Hancock reported the sudden death of staunch Twinning supporter Robin Barnes. The Twinners' Charter will be displayed in the Village Hall.

Village Hall

The funding sub-committee had its first meeting and volunteers will be repainting part of the hall.

Training

Cllr Thompson had successfully undergone training in Chairmanship.

County Council

County Cllr Bob Stevens reported on the 3.79% budget settlement. Harbury's bid for funding for its "traffic calming" goes before the Area Committee at the beginning of March. The Parish Council, corporately, and the Cllrs and other individuals were urged to respond to the Library Consultation.

District Council

District Cllr Beverley Mann reported SDC's Council tax increase of 3.5% would only put an extra 8.3p a week on a Band D property. There would be roadshows in April to explain the new Refuse and Recycling changes.

DCllr Patrick promised to "nudge" Rob Weeks to announce when the old concrete refuse sack holders would be collected. He stressed that there would be no charge, this year, for the collection of up to two green waste bins.

Planning

SDC granted: a porch at 19 Pineham Avenue, extensions to 4 Percival Drive and Cranford, Chesterton Road and change of use for the Fragrant Room.

The children especially enjoyed their trip to the Toddler Service this month as they had to walk through the snow and ice. They listened to a story about Jesus helping the disciples to catch lots of fish.

Forest School Session



Our second Forest School session was held on Thursday 12th February. First the children played the listening game and talked about the different birds they heard "I heard a pigeon" - Finn "I heard a robin redbreast" - Max . They used small mirrors which they put on the end of their noses to look up at the branches, the children then lay down under the trees looking up at the patterns and shapes that the branches and twigs made in the sky. They also took turns to create a group picture by first mixing up some mud paint and then using it to interpret what had been seen onto a huge sheet, followed by joining in with a chasing game through the trees along the footpaths.

Forest School Area Meeting

Windmills hosted the first Forest School Area Meeting on Tuesday, 3rd February from 4pm - 6pm. Forest School leaders from as far as Ragley Hall and Alcester attended to discuss future forest school projects and to visit our woodland resource, which they were extremely impressed with.

Dates for your diary:

Indulgence Evening

Windmills Nursery School is holding an indulgence evening on Thursday, 26th March, in Harbury Village Hall from 7.30 - 10.00pm. Tickets are priced at £4.00 and are available from Tina and Marie in Nursery. Taster treatments are available for a variety of pampering including massage and reflexology.

Summer Ball

Windmills Nursery will be holding a Summer Ball on Saturday 4th July, in the Village Hall, featuring local band "The Frets", further details nearer the time.

Thank you

A big thank you to the Parish Council for agreeing to provide a grant to pay for a new door and secure entry system for our classroom.

Thanks also to Paul Winchester for donating the alarm. The new door now adds to the safe secure environment provided by Windmills. Thank you also to the Trustees of the Wagstaffe Educational Foundation who have kindly agreed to a grant of £50.00 to purchase sensory resources which will enhance our light box.

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

The short month of February, made shorter for us by the half-term holiday, went by in a flash. We would like to welcome our newest recruit, Poppy, who joined us after half-term and is already settling very happily.

Chinese New Year –



Harbury PC made no representation on the demolition of a steel framed barn and its replacement with a swimming pool at Stapenhall Farm, Deppers Bridge and supported plans to extend the Village Hall. They made comprehensive objections to the proposed change of use at the Quarries to allow vehicle storage. It was contrary to the Masterplan; did not follow the design and landscaping guidance; developers had not undertaken an employment survey and were not reinstating the rail link so HGV traffic would increase.

The plans for the Bush Heath Lane local housing development would be available in the Village Hall on 30th April from 2pm-9pm.

Properties

Having had two different and expensive quotations from RoSPA for Playground surveys the PC decided to stick with their present contract. A new picnic bench is being ordered to replace the rotting one by the Sputnik. The Skate ramp needs attention and they still have not received an affordable quotation for repairs to the Aerial Runway. (This much valued piece of play equipment could go if it is uneconomic to repair, and there have been difficulties in securing insurance for it). There was praise for the work done by Colin Sheasby on the hedge.

The Clerk has managed to contact some relatives who will deal with unsafe gravestones in the Burial Grounds, but the PC has to decide what should be done with the remaining unsafe stones which have only temporarily been secured. They will also need to attend to the less dangerous ones.

Environment

The Council has to decide how best to deal with the "fading out" of mercury lamps in its street lights. It agreed to continue the WCC street lighting contract as this gave extra benefits.

The Council noted information about the Village of the Year Competition, the Biodiversity Action Plan and the One Tonne Challenge (to reduce CO₂ emissions) but took no action on these items.

Cllr Hancock asked why steel barriers had been erected along the Fosse below Chesterton Windmill (and beyond the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre) They blocked motorists' view from Harbury Lane along the Fosse. DCllr Beverly Mann had already warned WCC that they made matters at this dangerous junction even worse but Highways has rejected this claim. It seems they are there to protect operatives dealing with "the speed camera" which has yet to be installed.

There is still no resolution to the problems caused by the overflow of sewage from the Mill Street Pumping Station. Although the initial spillage was eventually cleared up by Severn Trent, the culvert is still blocked and the rights of way are made impassable by flood water. The original 1986 Consent for the Station is being lodged with the PC.

Finance

A grant from SDC will pay for maintenance of the PC website on which Twinning now has a page. PCllrs have to undertake training before they can use the "Power of Wellbeing". This would allow them to fund a wider range of initiatives for the Parish. The Model Document for the Emergency Plan is being improved and the PC will be required to check it for accuracy in the summer. There should be an emergency box in the parish with torches, blankets and fluorescent tabards, but the Clerk already has most of this equipment in her new office.

Meetings

There is uncertainty about the date of the Annual Parish Meeting, planned for 14th May, as the Village Hall is not available, but the next Parish Council meeting will definitely be in the **Tom Hauley Room**, 7.30pm on 26th March.



Councillor's Corner

Andrew Patrick

A reminder that the next **Councillors' Corner** will be on Saturday 21st March outside the Post Office, from 10:00am to 11:30am. County, District and Parish Councils will all be represented. Hope to see you there!



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

John Crossling is a Real Ale activist and Beer Festival organiser. His recent talk covered the evolution and demise of Warwickshire Breweries. After the big breweries closed, micro-breweries were set up by passionate amateurs, but some of them were gone in the blink of an eye. The reasons for closure were varied, customs and excise (!), opposition from the brewery owning the premises, family breakdown, copyright wrangles, ill health – one Brewster developed an allergy to the yeast!

Most of this century's start-ups are still going but two of the older established stand out as successful – Church End in its Ridge Lane premises has a Brewery at the back of the old Working Men's Club and a pub at the front. Its brews, which have ecclesiastical names such as Vicar's Ruin, Gravediggers, Pews Porter, have won lots of awards.

Warwickshire Brewery, in a converted bakehouse in Cubbington runs its own pubs;- The Market Taverns in Southam and Atherstone and the Bear & Ragged Staff near Nuneaton. Its bottled beers have been very successful. It launched Market Ale to celebrate the refurbishment of Warwick Market Place and its initiative to make donations to the Guide Dogs for the Blind from the sales of its Old Warwick beer won it a marketing award.

Of those less long established breweries, North Cotswold's stands out for its "extreme" brewing – an Imperial Russian Stout (15%) and at three years old it will feature at this year's Harbury Beer Festival. Rugby Brewing Company like the Warwickshire Brewery owns pubs (two big ones in Leicester). It moved to Willey in 2007 where it has an impressive brewing set-up and a Visitor Centre. Its beers have a Rugby theme. Tunnel Brewery produces lots of bottled beers which are sold on Farmers Markets. Purity is one of the most successful micro-breweries in Warwickshire, set up by ex-marketing men from Bass who secured Rural Enterprise Funding. They have a high quality Visitor Centre and equipment, innovative and sustainable technology and aggressively market their produce says John. They have increased their turnover by 35% and initially concentrated on perfecting just two brews, Gold and Obu which are sold bottled. Purity has now added Mad Goose, a Pale Ale named after the flock which guard the premises.

Future Programme

30th March - AGM & Phil Owen Tibet, its people, landscape and Everest. 7.30pm prompt in Tom Hauley Room.

28th April - Alan Griffin on Early photography, 7.30pm for 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room.

APRIL EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to	31 Binswood End	by 15th March
Articles to	Harbury Pharmacy	by 26th March



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

February will certainly be remembered for the weather and illnesses for a few of our members. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope they will enjoy some spring weather. We must thank the posties and those who delivered and helped during this time. Considering the weather the meeting was well attended with guests too. A few still went on a walk to Ufton and it was hard going but still enjoyable.

There will be walks organised by Federation and courses on a Card Making Day and Banana Biology, whatever that is!

Well, there is another poet in our midst. Chris Gore wrote an amusing one about our last meeting asking where was Badger Bill, the last speaker who got his dates mixed up and the fun of playing charades instead. Great Chris, keep it up.

The February speaker on cheese could not make it but Dorothy Groves did us proud by getting Dr Gillian White, who was a curator at Hardwick Hall. She gave us the history of Bess who was brought up at Hardwick Old Hall with acres of land in Derbyshire. Bess was first married at 14 and widowed at 16. Her second husband was William Cavendish, treasurer of the King's favours, which was a loving marriage producing eight children. He bought Chatsworth and built Chatsworth House but was in financial ruin when he died. Fortunately Bess was chums with Elizabeth 1st. Then along came her third husband, but no more children. The fourth husband was George Talbot of Shrewsbury, the Senior Earl of the bank balance. One of his duties was as the jailer of Mary Queen of Scots and he and Bess looked after her for 16 years. Because of hygiene, or lack of it, the house had to be completely cleaned. Overseeing the running of the house for up to 200 people and moving to another property whilst the previous one was cleaned 42 times broke George's health and also the marriage.

Bess was a good mother who saw her children were well educated. She was a shrewd manager and was the second richest woman in England next to Elizabeth 1st.

She purchased Hardwick Old Hall and then had the spectacular Hardwick Hall built by Robert Smithson, the best builder of the time. Every part of Hardwick was perfected and there was more glass than walls. The interior was filled with beautiful furnishings, textiles, pictures and tapestries. This year is the 400th anniversary of Bess of

Hardwick's death and her house and contents are still in perfect condition. After the super talk (this is only an outline) members hope for a trip to Hardwick in May.

March meeting: Members Evening



Harbury Theatre Group

Bob Hodge

Anyone like to guess how long the Harbury Theatre Group has been entertaining audiences in our village?

Ten years ago, Peter, Susan, Edmund & Lucy passed through a wormhole in the space time continuum of the Village Hall and successfully defeated C.S. Lewis' dragons in Narnia. Twenty years ago, Harbury Theatre Group was at the cutting edge of challenging new drama with a production of 'Frankenstein the Panto'. Thirty years ago, the struggling new playwright, Alyn Ayckbourn would have been delighted to see his works aired by one of the better provincial theatre groups. Forty years ago, the whole world's population was avidly following each step of the American moon landing, all bar 6 members of HTG who were preoccupied by a forthcoming production of Billy Liar. We have a picture taken in 1959 of Herod the King in a production by Harbury Amateur Dramatic Society (as the group was called then), terrorising his subjects with the magnificence of his cardboard crown. The archive detail starts to get a bit cloudy at this point there is little doubt that the group was in being 10 years earlier.

60 years is the answer we were looking for and so, on 15th and 16th of May, we will be presenting our Diamond Jubilee production. This will be a comedy event comprising two short plays and a number of sketches. On the Friday, you can see the play completely FREE - as long as you book in advance - or pay a nominal charge to buy any remaining tickets at the door. The play itself will also be free on Saturday but because we are serving supper there will be a small charge to cover the food - tickets for this will only be available in advance and there will be no 'play-only' tickets.

If you are not one of our regular audience members, why not join us for this special production. We will be especially pleased to see you if you think you might like to actually get involved. There will be a display of past performances and we will be holding a 'come and meet us' event after the Friday performance. Members of the group will be on

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hand to tell you about the tremendous fun we all have working on a range of activities, including light, sound, set building as well as acting. Look forward to seeing you then.

Further details in next month's Harbury and Ladbroke News.



Folk Club

Ted Crum

On February 5th:

- The club was run this month by Ted and Sue Crum
- The theme was "Surprise"
- The chosen charity was the Motor Neurone Disease Association
- The Raffle raised £67.00

On a freezing night with snow crunching in the car park, a surprisingly large band of intrepid masochists braved the bitter weather to keep faith with the music. Ted and Sue started proceedings with their melodeon-backed rendition of "Gypsy Girl".

Janny and Maureen took the stage and sang "The Whitby Maid", but then mysteriously declined to sing a second, wandering off hinting at secret surprises later in the evening! Next up were Harbury's latest supergroup, the MDs, consisting of our Deb accompanied by Mike Jerome on guitar. They gave us two John Denver songs, "Leaving on a Jet Plane" and "Annie's Song". Mike's plectrum work on guitar particularly suited the material and Deb got the Harbury Chorus Engine working well.

You can never accuse Mr Shuttleworth of being in any way conventional. The start of his performance was truly surprising: without warning he discharged what sounded like a small nuclear explosion not three feet from the front row! It turned out to be the Coventry Mummer's startling pistol, of which we are all aware, but it certainly complied in every way with the evening's theme. We think he went on to sing "Two Butchers" and "The Rich Merchant's Daughter", but since we were all temporarily deaf, it could just as well have been "The Alleluia Chorus". Pete McDonald restored a degree of serenity, not to say sanity with two well-delivered songs, "The Red Corvette" and "I thought you were an Arab".

The first half came to one of those sublime/ridiculous endings with Lynne Cooke playing a piano arrangement by Elizabeth Sidebottom of "English Country Garden", which was truly sumptuous. She then

contrived to run this seamlessly into a performance of "Whose Pigs are These" which was truly surprising (and somewhat hammy), being delivered by Lynne in company with Peter and Liz Bones and those naughty McDonalds, Margaret and Peter.

The second spasm began with the entire club singing Happy Birthday to John Hancock who looked suitably surprised and gratified. The Folk Club choir then rendered their version of "Teddy Bears' Picnic", and settled down to watch a performance (your scribe uses the word advisedly) from a visiting group known as the Von Krapp Family Singers. It didn't take long to realise they comprised Celia, Janny, Maureen and Sue Hartland fetchingly disguised in shawls and wigs with big buns (sic). Their rendition of "Favourite Things" was a hoot, and they left the stage to roars of approval.

Pete and Liz Bones then gave us "Granny's Armchair", and a song of feminist emancipation and considerable confusion, "The Bold Dragoon". Des Patalong sang Alistair Hewlett's moving song exposing the scandal of asbestos mining in Australia, followed by a risqué tale of a dog (a chihuahua with ideas well above its station).

Sue Hartland (with Ian's backing) brought her banjo frailing to the stage with a Carter Family song, "Wildwood Flower", and they gave us a fine rendition of "Sound of the Drum" to a tune from Brackley Morris accompanied on mandolin. Ending the second half, Pete Grassby sang "The Banks of Claudy" and Buddy Holly's song "It doesn't Matter Any More".

The cold weather had obviously slowed time down, because surprise surprise, we had time for a third half! Peter McDonald started proceedings with a super rendition of Paul Metsers' "Farewell to the Gold". Ron was then severely body-searched for weapons before being allowed back on stage to sing his unique take on "A Maiden or a Man", his version concerning lady Morris Dancers.

Ian and Sue then gave a fine interpretation of Iris Dement's song "Let the Mystery Be", and Des finished the evening with a Tom Lewis song describing the heinous crime of selling bad beer to sailors (or anybody for that matter). Your scribe was almost reduced to tears by those epic lyrics "Oh Lord send out a dove with beak as sharp as razors to cut the throats of them there blokes that sells bad beer to sailors". Sentiments with which we can all concur, one feels.

Next month the club will be run by Ian and the theme will be "Sorrow".



Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys

Harbury's twinning with the French town of Samois sur Seine commenced eleven years ago. Its objective was, and still is, to foster friendship and understanding between us and our European partners in France. We do this by arranging exchange visits in order to meet up with the villagers of Samois sur Seine annually. Many of our members have established close relationships with the French family that they have stayed with and who stay with them during their visit to Harbury.

Our current membership is about 60 and we would like more. Many of our French friends have young families and wish to twin with similarly aged families in Harbury. You do not have to be a French speaker as most of the residents of Samois can speak basic English and wish for their children to be able to improve their English by having an interchange with English children. This also provides an opportunity for you and your children to develop a friendship with our neighbours across the water and possibly improve their French.

Last year we visited Samois and our French friends will be coming to Harbury over the May / June bank holiday this year.

In addition to our exchange visits we hold various social events for members during the year.

If you would like to join us, or just talk to someone about, it please contact our chairman Colin Humphreys on 01926 612315. Or any member of the association that you know.



Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys

The month of February has proved a further mile stone for the Association, we now have a webpage! Just go to the Harbury Parish Council website and click on the Twinning Association link.

The Twinning page gives general information and the aims of the Association along with details of future events, contact details and a number of photographs. Our thanks to Peter McDonald for the production of this page.

A reminder to you all, the Association quiz night is on the 29th March at the Village Club, and we are still open for teams of four to enter.

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	PF	PA	Difference	PTS	Adjust
HARBURY	14	11	1	2	339	146	193	23	0
Redditch	12	10	1	1	194	123	71	21	0
Evesham	14	8	1	5	369	158	211	17	0
Manor Park	15	8	1	6	220	221	1	17	0
Cov Welsh	15	8	0	7	260	164	96	16	0
Stoke OB	15	6	2	7	208	281	-73	14	0
Keresley	13	5	1	7	210	180	30	11	0
Pinley	15	5	0	10	148	195	-47	10	0
Dudley Wasps	13	4	2	7	146	291	-145	10	0
Coventrians	15	4	2	9	136	308	-172	10	0
Copsewood	14	4	1	9	89	296	-207	7	-2
Worcester Students	13	5	0	6	272	228	44	8	-2

Results Round 15

31 January 2009

Copsewood 3 Coventrians 15, Keresley 10 Redditch 20, Manor Park 14 Evesham 22, Pinley 5 Harbury 10, Stoke OB's 12 Coventry Welsh 16

2nd XV

Warwickshire League 3

Team	P	W	D	L	PF for	PF agst	Diff	Pts
Broadstreet 3	14	13	0	1	608	100	508	53
Leamington 3	14	11	1	2	470	152	318	48
Old Laurentians 3	13	11	0	2	421	116	305	45
Manor Park 2	13	8	1	4	425	132	293	38
Kenilworth 3	14	8	0	6	273	263	10	37
HARBURY 2	12	7	0	5	271	188	88	33
Spartans 3	13	5	0	8	167	313	-146	28
Old Coventrians 3	14	4	0	10	154	750	-596	26
Stoke Old Boys 2	14	4	0	10	149	300	-151	25
Coventry Welsh 2	14	3	0	11	150	397	-247	22
Bedworth 3	13	4	0	9	190	288	-98	21
Coventrians 2	14	2	0	12	195	474	-279	19

Warwickshire Shield

Keresley v Harbury

We were due to play our re-arranged 1st Round County Shield match by 15th February. We complained about playing matches on consecutive dates as did other clubs. An alteration was made so that all games had to be played by 28th February. This created a problem for us whether we won/lost the EDF Shield Match as we still have to play Dudley Wasps and that seems the probable date. However, Peck asked if the seconds could honour the fixture so on 28th. February they are away to Keresley. Thanks Peck.

New Website

Many of you will be aware of the difficulties that we have been experiencing with our website. I should stress that this is no particular individual's fault. However, it was agreed by the Committee that we needed to move on and get it sorted.

Andy Ward has been commissioned to build us a new site which will enable us to have straightfoward access to upoad info and pictures etc. We are hopeful that this will be up and running by the end of February

Trivia Corner (from Last Month's issue) who is he?.... Why Steve Kittendorf of course!

Contacts

Club Captain: Matt Knight 07967203175 1st XV Captain: Jeff Foster 07766518197 2nd XV Captain: Adrian Exton 07989498426 Junior and Mini: Barry Dutton 01926814178 Editor: Jerry Birkbeck: 07855566325 E-Mail: jerrybirkbeck@btinternet.com Website Manager: Daz Nicholls – mazznic@aol.com



Harbury RFC

Harbury Mini & Midi Rugby

Mark Easton

Daventry v Harbury 1st February 2009

Under 7's

Played 2 games against Daventry and won them both 6-4 and 5-3. Ben White was the man of the day with the most Tags in both games and 5 tries in total. Tries also came from Luke Curtlin, Jack Knowles, Jack French, Alex Masefield and Adam Bennett. Also great to see Oliver Kirk brave the cold in his first official match.

Under 9's

Under 9's had 2 close games against Daventry. In the first we lost 15 points to 10 with tries from Mario Palmer and Ryan Caruana. In the second game Harbury were very focused and were rewarded with a win (10 points to 5) with tries from Mario Palmer and James Bath. James was also our "player of the match" for both his try and some very committed tackling.

Under 10's

Daventry 45 v Harbury 5

Despite a good start from Harbury with a quick try from Matt Laity, Daventry ran in 9 tries without reply. There was to be fair, some flair and moments of divine inspiration from Harbury. Matt had a good jinking run and covered most of the pitch before, hitting a brick wall of Daventry players. Harbury were too slow to the loose ball, often standing back, when they should have taken possession. Tackles were poor from Harbury and Daventry spread the ball wide at pace.

Daventry 15 v Harbury 25

James Butlin, (JB) fought hard and long in the forwards. Luke Winchester, was inspired as he drove, ripped and pushed through the Daventry pack. Nick Williams ran like the wind to score, Josh Savage, scored after a rolling maul, Connor Kyte, moved like a Gazelle, to score his first try, Joe Hunt went over for a sizzling try, Lewis, went in fast for a touch down. Daventry, scored 3 tries in reply.

Under 11's

Harbury 38 Daventry 0

Following a long lay off from fixtures due to frozen and water logged pitches the U11s were glad to be back in action at Daventry with 19 players turning out. Yet again the U11s played well as a team even though their coaches asked some players to try out new positions and Harry and William were playing their first ever matches. Harbury also lent several players to the opposition due to injuries. Joseph Killick had one of his best games to date with good support play and distribution. Adam Grey scored one of the best tries of the day by running from nearly one end of the pitch to the other to score a fine try.

Try scorers were Sam Tutt, George McGowan, Adam Grey, Neil and Ben Taylor, James Darlison with conversions from Henry Steele, Henry Mancell, Sam Tutt and George McGowan.

Under 12's

Daventry 21 v Harbury 113

The team kept their one hundred per cent record this season, with a dominant performance against an under strength Daventry side. Man of the Match Bradley King scored four tries for Harbury in the first half and one for Daventry in the Second half! Hooker Aaron Ward took no prisoners and powered over 3 times to bring his seasons tally to 13 tries. Centre George Brookes scored twice and one each for Finn Toner, Joe Webster, Rory Picken and William Winchester, William also kicked 11 out of 13 conversions.

Harbury Cricket Club

Phil Mugleston

The local game had been a bitter affair, with neither side giving anything away and an unusual amount of hostile bowling. Several injuries were sustained, and after the game one of the batsmen was seen pacing up and down the pitch. 'Ah, I see you are reliving the battle,' said the groundsman. 'No', said the player, 'I'm looking for my teeth'!

Firstly, I must apologise for making you read that really awful joke about a local cricket match, but I couldn't think of another way to start a season of reports unless it was to do with depressing weather. Also, the situation described in the joke is not an accurate representation of how we go about our cricket in Harbury. Yes, we do have our fast bowlers on a bouncy wicket, but more often than not we end up hurting our own players. For example I couldn't help but laugh when Will smashed the ball, straight back past the bowler at 700 miles per hour, and into Stuarts head, who was batting at the other end. Now, although he is my brother, and I wasn't sure at first whether he was going to get back up, he did go down like a sack of spuds, I couldn't help but fall over laughing!! Last season was full of memorable moments like this, whether we were winning or losing, the team spirit we have as a bunch of lads and a few ladies that watch us on the sidelines is fantastic, I even managed to laugh off being bowled by my dad in the inter club match, but it was an amazing ball! As you will know, many of last seasons games fell victim to the awful weather we have in our country (I blame the government), and we can only hope that this year we will get clear skies and plenty of sun so we can have a successful season.

Within the club we have already made a few changes in preparation for the coming season. Ed Russell, who cannot be thanked enough for his service to the club for many years now, has decided to step down as captain this year. This left the club with a dilemma of who to put in this position and take over the successful team Ed has built up. After a club meeting and everyone putting their heads together, the new captain voted was Phil Mugleston. Even though Phil is a younger member of the team, he has become a key figure in the club in recent years and his game on the field continues to improve, with the odd exception of course. After talking to Phil when hearing of his appointment, I can tell you he was "chuffed to bits" with the support he has from his team mates, and he is confidently looking forward to the challenge of leading the guys next year. He also wanted to say thanks to everyone in the club who have put their confidence in him, Cheers Guys!

Now with the season approaching fast and lots of work to be done, there isn't much more for me to say at the minute. However, as I do at the end of every report I would like to let you know that we as a team are always keen for new member to join and strengthen the squad. Harbury is a brilliant village and I know that somewhere in there, there must be a demon batsman or bowler who fancies having a good laugh

with us on a Sunday afternoon. If this refers to you, then don't just think about getting involved, do it. As you will see in any of my reports, one of the best things about the team is the spirit, so don't worry if you're a bit rusty, we won't bite (well I'm not sure about Will), just give me a bell. Or if you know who I am, just grab me in the village some time.

Phil Mugleston 01926 612382

In my next report I will be ripping apart the club averages from last year, so don't miss me taking the Michael out of my fellow team mates, and myself of course. Seriously though, that ball my dad got me out with, was out of this world!



Windmills

Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

Despite the heavy snowfall this month and the closure of many schools in the area, staff at Windmills felt proud that it managed to remain open throughout the wintry weather. We took advantage of the conditions by having the first of two Forest School sessions, when the children were able to experience and enjoy the learning opportunities that it



provided. They used magnifying glasses to study the snow crystals, compared the size of the footprints in the snow and tried to work out who they belonged to; they also had fun making different sized snowmen. "We needed lots of snow to make our snowman" - Arthur "We rolled it in a ball and it got bigger and bigger" - Rhys "then we made a little one for his head" - Arthur "and sticks for his arms" - Rhys "then we got a scarf and a hat from Amanda - the woodland lady" - Arthur "we put lots of snow in the hat" - Rebecca "so we could keep it on, when it is warm it will melt" - Arthur

Other activities this month have included:

- * making Valentines cards and heart shaped pizza to take home
- * painting their own snowmen
- * exploring cold colours and producing a fantastic group winter collage, extending this onto a table top display, including investigating the properties of ice.

The first part of the month was taken up with the Chinese New Year celebrations, which covered all areas of learning at Pre-School.

The role play area became a Chinese home, with Chinese style clothing for the children to try on, Chinese cooking and eating utensils and play food including wool noodles! In addition, dry noodles were put in the builder's tray, and then water was added so that the children could see, smell and feel the difference.

The children's creative skills were demonstrated in their wonderful observational paintings of our model dragon, their Chinese style watercolour blossom paintings and in creating their own dragon.

At the graphics table they produced amazingly good observational work in recreating their own names in Chinese. Music and physical development was achieved through listening to Chinese piano music and performing the Dragon dance with drumming rhythms.

At the snack bar, they chopped vegetables for a delicious stir fry, which they ate using chopsticks, and they also tried prawn crackers and rice cakes as well as spring rolls kindly provided by Carolyn, Charlie's mummy. Finally, language and literacy came into play with the Chinese zodiac story, poems and songs.

Our World - After half-term, the term's theme of "Our World" came closer to home, with trips to the village shops, looking at the local environment and then recreating what they had experienced with paintings, drawings and 3-D models of local buildings. Our thanks to Julie, Ruby's mummy, for her wonderful photos of Harbury's houses and interesting buildings, from which the children were able to produce their own lovely creations.

Garden Project Update – In our outdoor area, which is available to



the children every day whatever the weather, we now have a flower bed running the length of the fence and two wonderful raised planters with a pergola. The beds and planters have been prepared and our compost bins, kindly supplied by Warwickshire County

Council, are now in full use by the children as they are encouraged to take turns in emptying into them all our compostible leftovers from snack and lunchtimes. The potatoes are being chitted in preparation for the children planting them next month, and the first tomato seedlings are emerging in the propagator.

We would like to say a big "Thank You" to the Wagstaffe Foundation and Harbury Horticultural Society for their generous donations which will enable us to provide a water butt and good quality gardening tools and equipment for use by the children. Thanks also to Claire Pánek and team for helping to set up this wonderful resource for the children.

For further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jacqui Quinney, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 613386 or log onto www.harburypre-school.org.uk



1st Harbury Beavers

Emma Masefield

Who are we?

Beavers are **busy**
Beavers are **bright**
Beavers are **helpful**
Beavers **never** fight

We are Beavers
First Harbury
We made a **promise**
So everyone can see that...

Beavers are **busy**
Beavers are **bright**
Come and **join us**
Every **Thursday night**

What do Beavers do?

have **fun** - make **new friends** - meet
interesting visitors - **help** each other -
learn **new skills** - visit **exciting places**
- play **games** - have **fun indoors** -
help the **community** - have **fun out-**
doors - earn **badges** - **HAVE FUN !**

When?

We meet **every Thursday** during term
time in the **Scout Hut** (behind the
Library) between **5.30 - 6.30pm**

Interested?

For children aged 6-8 years.

To get on the waiting list, please contact:

Hayley Bennett (Tel. 614494) or **Emma Masefield** (Tel. 612822)



1st Harbury Scouts

Nick Green

This term we have taken a different approach to our meetings: each evening has been led by a patrol leader, with a specific activity that they have devised, planned and organized by themselves.

In order to do this our first meeting after Christmas was simply a planning evening for meetings to come. We used a 'Dragons Den' type format for each patrol leader (and patrol) to present ideas for a meeting. There then followed planning time, for each patrol to organize themselves for the activities that they knew were to come.

Tom from the Woodpeckers patrol has written a report on the meetings:

'The half term of meetings we had were as follows:

Masterchef

This was an amazing night where all the scouts went into small groups and cooked some fabulous meals that were enjoyed by nearly everyone who tried them. Our group cooked savoury pancakes with salami, cheese, ham and olives. Sadly we didn't win the competition at the end, when all the dishes were judged, but we had a good meal! The other group dishes included stuffed peppers, lamb burgers and tuna pasta.

Scout cartoons

This evening was great fun because all the scouts got into groups of 3 or 4 and designed a completely new comic strip that had to have a scouting theme in it. These comic strips were judged by the leaders and we could take home our comics afterwards. Some of the comics were quite random, like Ben's group which had a creature that was part squirrel and part table....

Scouts Have Got Talent

This event was our patrol's choice. Every patrol had to come up with one or more performances which could have been a song or a sketch, which included everyone in the patrol. Each patrol made up the sketches and performed them to a panel of leaders and the rest of the troop. In my opinion, the group that was best was Sam's patrol for their 'Panda' sketch. My patrol did a sketch on World War II and also a magic trick where I appeared out of a seemingly flat cardboard box.

Unfortunately it didn't quite work out but we all had a fun time and enjoyed ourselves.

Horley

In between these meetings we also spent a night in the camping barns at Horley scout site. This involved arriving on a Friday night and lighting fires, then playing wide games outside in the dark until we were absolutely freezing. We came back in for hot chocolate and pasties at 11pm! The next day we spent the morning on different activities including orienteering and building a tower from just wooden poles and rope. We all had a great time.'



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

I'm really sorry we had to cancel last month's meeting. You will recall that the weather was particularly icy and roads and pavements in the village were quite slippery. After speaking on Monday and Tuesday to Howard Drury our speaker, we both decided not to go ahead. Howard lives in Kings Heath Birmingham and his local roads were quite tricky plus he has 4 very expensive boxes of equipment to carry so we felt that we didn't want to take the risk and I didn't want anyone to fall. Hence the reasoning behind our decision and not as some people remarked the fact that he "was expensive"! I phoned almost all of our members and Jean phoned the remainder, plus word of mouth and I put a notice on the church gate in case anyone not a member decided to come. Anyway I spoke to Howard again and he will be doing his talk about New Zealand at the November meeting this year. I am currently booking speakers for 2009/10 so watch this space!

We have Ian Nex to look forward to on 3rd March. He has spoken to us at least 4 times in the past and what he doesn't know his wife does, a great team and I'm sure we will all enjoy his talk. In April Dr Murray Mylechreest will be talking about Sugar and Spice and All Things Nice which promises to be another intriguing evening.

The day trips this year are on Wednesday 24th June and Wednesday 8th July. The June outing is to Kew Gardens which is celebrating it's 250th Anniversary so there will be lots of extra things to see and enjoy this year. The Pagoda is open and there is a new Treetop Walkway and many floral displays to see and enjoy. There will be plenty of restaurants and places to picnic. The July outing is to

Hampton Court in Herefordshire where there is a castle with the most exquisite gardens on the meadows of the river Lugg. The gardens have been rescued from neglect and since 1994 they have been transformed. Briefly things to see are; Ornamental Kitchen Garden, Wisteria Tunnel, Herbaceous Borders, Dutch Garden, Maze, Sunken Garden, River Walk and much more. There is a restaurant here and a garden shop. We will leave here at 2.00pm and go to The Bannut in the afternoon. This is the garden at Bringsty that Daphne Everett gave a talk about last November. We can have tea here and enjoy her lovely garden also plants to buy. Both trips will be with Cheney Travel and the cost will be £16 for each one and we will depart from the Village Hall at 9.0am. I'm sure I will have no trouble filling both coaches, payment must be made by the May meeting and no refunds will be given.

It will seem strange not to have a walkabout this year but it gives the committee a break too. A lot of people have actually welcomed this and will be very keen to open their gardens next year when we will be bigger and better. Talking about the committee, don't forget that Daphne and Jean are both finishing this year, so far I haven't had anyone expressing an interest. Please think about it as we do want to continue to build upon our success but we cannot do so without a replacement Secretary and Treasurer.

After the snow it is now almost spring like and the displays of Snowdrops this year are fantastic. Did you see the picture in Daily Mail of the carpets of snowdrops at Painswick Rococo Gardens, absolutely amazing. Still time to go there, then it will be the turn of the daffodils. No better place to see masses of them than at Coughton Court near Alcester. There will be a special Daffodil event on 1st April when over 400,000 will be on view. The day includes an illustrated talk, and guided tour by Ian Tyler who is vice chairman of the Daffodil Society. A light lunch is also included. For more information phone 01789 762542 for booking. There are many events at Pershore College and if you want to know more contact Jill Pearson on 01386 554609. John Massey who gave us a guided tour of his garden at Ashwood Nurseries last year will be at Spetchley Gardens near Worcester on 26th April (we visited there 2 years ago) and will be talking about "Plants for all Seasons" and talk starts at 2.00pm. For booking or more information phone 0845 612 1253.

Nearer to home there will be two excellent talks in March at Hill Close Gardens in Warwick. The first is on 14th March and it will be a Fruit Tree Grafting Course. The second is on 28th March and the topic will

be Planning and Planting Herbaceous Borders. Both talks start at 10.00am and finish at 3.30pm. The cost will be £10 if you are a member of the Gardens or £15 if not, for booking etc phone 01926 493339. All National Trust properties open from the end of February; don't forget to visit Upton House and Gardens, where there is an all weather path round the garden. Also great happenings inside the house, just come along and be very surprised by the many changes.

So do get out and about and enjoy nature at its best. Just take it easy to start with in your gardens and allotments, it is so tempting to try and do everything at once but most back complaints are as a result of excessive gardening. I do want to see everyone at the next meetings in good health. Having said that as Alan would say "enjoy your garden".



Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

Your local Hardy Plant Specialists

March 'Comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb?' We shall see! Who knows these days when the weather seems so unpredictable? After the seemingly endless wintry weather in Jan and Feb you will probably need to do a lot of catching up in the garden. Take every opportunity to get out there to do pruning, digging and planting (seems my bossy side is coming out!). However, don't be too eager to plant seeds direct into the ground – it will take the soil some time to warm up.

This year I am going to try growing potatoes in compost in large tubs because the results are poor when I plant them in the ground. Likewise with carrots – last year I sowed them three times and hardly a single carrot was to be had.

- Remember to get some Rose feed to use later in the month
- Divide up Snowdrops and spread around the garden for more next year
- Prune hybrid T and floribunda roses
- Sow peas and broad beans in modules
- Try to get all herbaceous plants cut back. This will be your last chance to plant any bare root trees, hedging or fruit bushes.

Plant Names.

This month we will look again at the species name in a bit more detail. Remember the 4 main categories from last month? :

- A) Names which give an indication of the origin of the plant e.g. region, country, continent – which we covered in the last issue
- B) Names that describe its preferred habitat e.g. in woodlands, on mountains, by streams and ponds, on hillsides etc
- C) Names that describe a particular feature of the plant such as habit, size, flower, fruit, colour etc
- D) Names that commemorate people e.g. plant collectors, botanists, patrons

(In this category it is not surprising that many plants are called XXXX **banksii** after Joseph Banks who sailed on the 'Beagle' with Charles Darwin and brought back a huge number of new, and at that time unknown, plants).

Continuing with B) – examples include:

- pendula(um) (us) – pendulous/weeping e.g. *Salix pendula* or Weeping Willow
- repens – creeping e.g. *Ranunculus repens* or the dreaded Creeping Buttercup
- fastigiata(um) (us) – erect branches e.g. *Taxus fastigiata* or Yew
- horizontale(is) – horizontally spreading e.g. *Cotoneaster horizontale*
- prostrata(um) (is) – ground hugging e.g. *Rosmarinus prostratus* or Prostrate Rosemary
- nana(um) (us) – dwarf e.g. *Viburnum farreri* Namum
- fruticosa(um) (us) – shrubby e.g. *Potentilla fruticosa*
- major(us) – e.g. *Vinca major* or Larger Periwinkle
- minor(us) – e.g. *Vinca minor* or Lesser Periwinkle

The dates for our **Propagation and Pruning Workshops** have been settled.

They are:

Pruning 18/04/09 and 17/10/09

Propagation: 04/04/09 and 03/10/09

If you are interested and would like more information please phone 01926 812737 or email: pemartino@tiscali.co.uk

Harbury in the Snow



Mill Street



John and Sally's
"Turkish" Snowman



Indianna using her sledge
to bring home the groceries



Beren, Alisha and Indianna enjoying the snow



Nature Notes

John Hancock

The weather yesterday (21st February) belied the month and the temperature reached double figures at 10C (50F). Sharon and I took a walk round Draycote Reservoir to enjoy the winter sunshine. Coots were much in evidence swimming and feeding over the rocks of the dam. Somewhat larger than the Moorhen, the distinctive feature of this black water bird is its white bill and forehead. Apparently there are 20,000 resident pairs in the British Isles. In winter, the number is elevated to more than 100,000 pairs by an influx of birds escaping the harsher weather of central Europe.

We also saw a few Little Grebe, which at 25cms is about half the length of the Great Crested Grebe which was also present. March will be a good time to see the latter on the lake below Kingston House on the Thwaites Estate. There, you may be lucky enough to see the elaborate courtship display and later with the aid of binoculars, the young riding on their parents' back.

From the bird hide at Draycote, we had a good view of Cormorants sitting on perches airing their plumage. Breeding birds will head to the coast shortly. I had hoped by now I would have seen my first butterfly of the year. Perhaps readers have been more fortunate. Both Brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*) and Peacock (*Inachisio*) may be seen throughout the year, though sun and a warm sheltered spot are usually required. Small Tortoiseshell (*Aglais urticae*) and Comma (*Polygonia c-album*) both hibernate and can be seen on the wing in spring if we have a warm spell.

My first paragraph last month ended "but so far, hardly any snow." Well now it's come in quantity and gone. The bicycle was temporarily put away and cross-country skis came out of the loft. Disintegrating boots were taped up and a couple of mornings spent trundling across our snowy fields. Peter Rollason and I reached Kingston Farm coming home via Chesterton Church and Humblebee Cottage. The kissing gates and stiles were a challenge but I believe the skis were only unclipped on one occasion. I'd like to report the sighting of a stoat in winter raiment but apart from rabbits' paw prints and rooks we were disappointed. Coming back through the estate on a bike before the snow fell, I got a superb view of a Roe deer standing in a ploughed field in front of Itchington Holt.

Sharon and I joined the U3A Naturalists' Group at Batsford Arboretum near Moreton-in-Marsh (GR ref SP 184334 OS sheet 151) on the 16th February. There was still plenty of snow on the hills but the roads were clear. Snowdrops were in plentiful bloom together with a few early Daffodils, Winter Aconite and Crocus. The wonderfully convoluted yellow blossoms of Witch Hazel made a great show. This native of North America is still used for its medicinal properties. A solution containing an extract of the bark and leaves is applied to treat bruises. In one really warm marshy spot, Marsh Marigolds (*Caltha palustris*) which I call Kingcups (another of their vernacular names) were in bloom. Once a common plant, this buttercup is now in decline as agricultural land continues to be drained. Nearby were the rather sinister brown stems of Horsetail (*Equisetaceae*) some 18" tall. Looking rather like brown stalks of asparagus, these were the cone bearing elements of the plant. The familiar branched green stems which resemble a horse's tail will not put in an appearance for another two months.

I've just finished reading an excellent book by Steve Jones called 'Darwin's Island - The Galapagos in the Garden of England'. As its name implies, this tells the story of Darwin's time at Down House after he returned from the five year long voyage of the Beagle. The research he used to back up his famous book 'On the Origin of Species' published in 1859 was largely carried out at Down and it was here he also wrote his many other works culminating in 1881 in the classic (though it has a rather unwieldy title) 'The Formation Of Vegetable Mould Through The Action Of Worms With Observations Of Their Habits'. Darwin's original research pointed to the fact that if we do not look after the soil, and allow it to leach away and degrade, the human race will find it impossible to survive. Other civilisations, notably in the previously fertile crescent of the Middle East, the Nile Valley and Mexico reached an apex and then declined due to poor husbandry. I grew up less than ten miles from Down House and so, as a Kentish Man, extol the virtues of its owner and his scientific truths. The house and grounds are well worth a visit and belong to English Heritage. (www.english-heritage.org.uk/downhouse)

Do owls hover? This was a question posed by a friend recently. I said they don't rely on hovering like kestrels to kill their prey. They fly slowly and quietly before they pounce. Most birds, even Sparrows, can essentially hover for a short time and the Owl is no exception. Alan Barr was largely in agreement with this idea. Are there any dissenting voices?

Today, February 22nd, a few Primroses were flowering on a south facing bank bordering Bascote Woods. Dog's Mercury was unfurling but I couldn't find any Violets in flower. Lesser Celandine was blooming in a ditch opposite Harbury House. The days are lengthening inexorably and soon, no doubt, we will hear the sound of mowers in the land. Stop press: - Geoff Thorpe told me he saw a Brimstone Butterfly in a sunny spot recently.



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

February has been a quiet month for the Village Hall with 'nothing ventured, nothing gained', apart from some knowledge about how ground source heat pumps work. Three members of the committee went over to Church Lawford, near Rugby to see the newly developed hall and were given a guided tour of the premises and many 'handy tips' on ways of cutting costs for new developments, including the use of a natural energy source from underground. In this area, many of the original houses on Lighthorne Heath have taken advantage of deeply drilled bore-holes, which are now feeding a free source of under-floor heat energy into their properties.

The Village Hall 'checked out' by committee members had used local efforts to install the pipe-work in the nearby recreation ground and the pump installed inside the premises provided sufficient heat to maintain a pleasant level of heat for users of the property. The Harbury Village Hall committee are mindful of the need to keep running costs for the Hall as low as possible and have been researching ground source heat pumps for some months, so they are hopeful that this system will prove advantageous for our proposed developments.

In the short term, the painting of those areas of the Hall in urgent need of improvement will be addressed at the beginning of March. The team from Coventry and Warwick University Volunteers will be on hand to improve the changing rooms and kitchen with a 'cosmetic facelift'. This community action by the students will be a much appreciated service, which will enhance those rooms which appear in a poor condition at present.

The next Moving Picture Show on Saturday 21st March will be High School Musical 3 and it might be something parents might like to consider as a Birthday package for one of their children!

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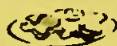
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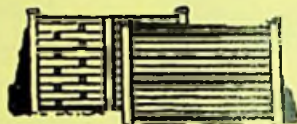
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Moving Pictures 'Birthday Package' special offer

Wondering what to do to celebrate your child's birthday?? Why not consider booking a 'Birthday Deal' at Harbury's Moving Pictures? The deal costs only £30.00 and includes:

- ten children's tickets
- one adult ticket
- reserved seating
- audience 'Happy Birthday' sing-a-long during the interval (optional!)
- further tickets can be purchased at £3.50 each

For further details please ring: 01926 613311



General Section

The Corner of Chapel Street and Mill Street

As people in the village will know, there is a project under development to house the huge reservoir of local history documents and photos collected in the school over the past 30 or so years. Some of the material is anecdotal, collected from residents when various topics have cropped up at school. A good example is "Sundays When We Were Children" – the Year 6 children were asked to question their grand-parents or other older (notice I did not use the word elderly) people, about what they did on Sundays in the distant past. There was no playing out on the streets, and tea-time's highlight was tinned fruit and evap, eaten with alternate nibbles of bread and butter.

One of the areas never investigated was the question of who and what was on the site of the present super-market and post-office. Does anyone have a picture of the cottages which stood there? Is there anyone out there who used to live there? Has anyone any documents relating to the planning of the replacement buildings, pictures of demolition etc?

Any material can be sent to the school for the attention of me, Nigel Chapman. Yes, I know I've retired. Don't ask!

Nigel Chapman

Local girls dance their way to success

LoveBallet Dance Company meets every Tuesday and Thursday night at the Grange Hall, Southam and recently some of the girls from Harbury have had the chance to take their first ballet examination. They have all been working hard towards the examinations which took place on Sunday 1st February and the children all looked immaculate and tried their best. For many of the girls who took the exam, it will have been their very first exam and aged between 4 and 10 years it is a bit of a nerve racking, but yet confidence-boosting and amazing experience for them too.

Now the exams are over LoveBallet is working towards a Summer Production which all the girls and boys will take part in which will be held at the Grange Hall on the weekend of 17th July – 19th July. For more details please visit www.loveballet.co.uk

Lorraine Heath

Harbury Choir School



On 31st January 2009, Harbury Choir School, were invited to sing in an RSCM Choir Festival at St. Nicholas Church, Nuneaton.

We had an early start because we had to be at the Church for 10.45am to begin rehearsal for the Evensong Service.

Representatives for the School were Helen Garvin, David Iles, Annabel, Megan, Abigail, Laura, Millie, Kate, Kirsty, Francesca and Jessica.

It was a very long day with some difficult arrangements to learn, but we all had fun learning new things from the different choirs. We stopped for lunch before starting the afternoon session. And as it was Kate's birthday we all sang to her.

The service commenced at 4.00 p.m. and all the preparation during the day came together. There were three presentations of Medals and Certificates given during the service, the Evensong was well supported; we look forward to our next event.

Annabel, Harbury Choir School

Coffee 'n' Chat

Fancy a coffee? For an hour in the Tom Hauley Room (behind church) on Wednesday mornings at 9.15am – after the school run. With or without small children, enjoy a coffee and an hour to be sociable before going home to the chores. Continuing until April 1st, this is run by M.U.M.S, who also offer help to new mothers or indeed anyone who could use it. Contact Gillian Hare on 614809.

Gillian Hare

Harbury Village Club

Harbury Village Club will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 31st March at 8.00pm.

All Members welcome.

Debbie Gee

Carefree Carnival Coming – Fashion a Fabulous Float!

HARBURY CARNIVAL Saturday June 13th, 2009

Its time to think how YOU can participate and help us continue the great Carnival tradition. Get together with your local organisation, pub, street or friends and see what ideas you can come up with for either a float or a walking group for the procession. The more participants we have, the more fun it is for everybody and I promise that you will enjoy the experience. Here is the list of categories:

Trade Float

Independent Float

Children's' Float

Decorated Bike/Pram/Car

Horse Drawn/Mounted/Lead

Walking Tableau Children 2-8 persons

Walking Tableau Children more than 8 persons

Walking Tableau Family

Walking Tableau Adults

Walking Adult

Walking Child

We are still looking for someone to run the teas in the Village Hall and any organisations interested should please contact John Broomfield on 614258 – first come, first served!

If you would like to book a stall/pitch on the field, please call Mike McBride on 612421.

Did you know that villages with Carnivals produce more dancers, acrobats and fun people than other places? Well it may even be true! Come and join in, and, if you have any questions about the Carnival, please feel free to call John on 614258. He will be happy to provide whatever help he can.

Peter Walshe, On behalf of the Carnival Committee

Harbury Group Holiday - Oberammergau 2010

There is a group from Harbury going to see the Passion Play in June 2010. The visit to Oberammergau will be preceded by five days in Northern Italy, at Lake Garda, and includes day trips to Venice and Verona. There are two people who booked for this holiday last year and are now unable to go. The Travel Agent has assured us that a change of name in the booking prior to the end of March would be acceptable.

There are therefore two places available at a total cost of £2,118.00 (£1059.00.p.p.). This holiday were it to be booked today, would cost £100.00.p.p. more. Should anyone be interested in taking up this opportunity please contact Keith Dormer 01926 613254 for further details.

Keith Dormer

Harbury Swimming Pool Project - Public Meeting

Many of you will be aware that the school swimming pool was closed down some time ago and that a desire to redevelop the facility resulted in a 'working group' being setup. The careful consideration of the various options and the benefits, not only to the school but also to the village community as a whole, has resulted in the drafting of a proposal for a new indoor pool.

We would like to invite the village to join us in viewing and discussing the scheme at a public meeting to be held in the school hall at 10.30 am on Saturday the 28th March.

Hope to see you there.

Rob Darlison

Library Network Survey 2009

Warwickshire County Council is currently undertaking a review of its buildings and services and is trying to gather as many people's views as possible about the way in which they wish to access library services. If you are a regular or occasional library user, particularly of the library in Harbury, it is important to make your views known on which parts of the library service you value and what additional services you would like to see in the future. Both adults and children can complete the survey which can be downloaded from www.warwickshire.gov.uk/libraries or obtained in hard copy form from the Library, High Street or from the Parish Office, Unit 2, Bull Ring Business Centre, Church Terrace (open Mon – Thurs 9.00am – 12.45pm).

Library users are being consulted on –

- Which services are **most** important to them?
- Which services are **least** important to them?
- What other services should/could be available at your library?
- From where else could you access library services, borrow books e.g. chemist, newsagent, school, nursery, doctors surgery?

All responses need to be handed in to WCC or at the library no later than 11th March.

Nicola Thompson, Parish Clerk

Serenity Update

Since last month's article in the H&L News, there has been a change in the management of Serenity with new opening hours. Christine, who has often been in the fitness salon in previous months, has taken over the day-to day running and is welcoming men as well as women to the toning salon. The new opening hours are:

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Friday 9.15-14.45 & 17.30-19.00

Saturday and Sunday 9.00- 12.00

The salon is closed all day on Wednesday.

For any further information ring 01926 613112.

Chris Finch

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 **Frances Road, Vicarage Lane, Hall Lane and Mill Street**. Dog mess is unhygienic, unpleasant and unnecessary - always clean up after your dog.

Harbury Parish Council

Lighthorne Heath & District Children's Centre

The timetable for Spring events at the **Children's Centre**, next to Lighthorne Heath Primary school, is now available. The Centre is open to children under 5 from around the District, accompanied by their families/carers, from 9.00am to 4.00pm on Monday to Friday. The regular events at the Centre are:

Tuesday – Baby Play Session

Thursday – 1.30pm – 3.00pm Chit Chat, with a new theme each week

Friday – 9.00am – 11.00am Friday Fun (6th / 20th March & 3rd April) or **Music Morning** on 13th/27th March.

The Centre is closed on 10th and 13th April for Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Dad's time this month falls on 28th March from 10.00am -11.30am for a session which is designed specially for Dads to bring Under-5's for a play. Dads are welcome in the Centre at any time, but this session is offered as a 'Dad's get-together' and whilst the children play, refreshments are offered to the adults. On the same day, there will be a Table-Top sale from 10.00am-12.00pm; please call 01926 691105 or email lighthorneheath.cc@pre-school.org.uk to book a table.

In addition to those activities offered regularly at the Centre, there is also a **Breast-feeding support group** at Kineton Village Hall on Tuesdays from 10.30am – 12.00pm and at the same venue, the **Playdough to Snowdough** learning session runs on 18th March from 1.30pm – 2.30pm.

All regular sessions at the Centre are FREE, 'drop-in' activities although a donation is appreciated towards the refreshments which are provided. However, there are still a few places available for a **'Save a Baby's Life'** first aid course at the Centre on 17th March for a £2.00 fee.

To request a copy of the Spring Timetable, please ring the Children's Centre team on 691105 or call in to see what we offer for the 0-5 years any time we are open.

Ailsa, Clare, Dea and the team

WRCC Looking for Warwickshire's Best Village

Does your village have a recent achievement to shout about? If so, **Warwickshire's Best Village Competition** provides an opportunity to win a few hundred pounds, as well as to share ideas with other communities facing similar challenges.

There are six categories to choose from: Community Projects, Community Buildings, Communication, Business in the Community, Environment and History & Heritage and there is a separate entry form for each one. By popular demand, a Best Kept section has also been included in the Environment Category.

Anyone living in a village with 5,000 or fewer inhabitants can enter. Just fill in an entry form available from the Warwickshire Rural Community Council telling us about what's going on in your village and send us some form of evidence to back up your view that your village is the best. All sorts of things are welcome – for example photographs, DVDs and publications. Entry is free (apart from Best Kept) and help is available for filling in the form. The closing date is **Sunday 31 May 2009**.

For further details visit our website or contact me by phone (02476 217390) or email - competitions@wrccrural.org.uk

The Warwickshire Rural Community Council wants to support rural communities as much as possible in these difficult times. For more information visit their website – www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk.

Ariadne Uslu, Competitions Organiser

Great British Fish and Chip Supper

Friday 15th May 2009

"Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives."

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity?

Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 15th May 2009 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

In 2009 SIA will celebrate its 35th Anniversary and being that Friday 15th May 2009 is Spinal Cord Injury awareness day and what a better way to raise funds than eating Fish and Chips and raising money for SIA.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives, by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Donor Development Officer, Elizabeth Wright, says, "The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

2009 is the first year that SIA are running the suppers but we already envisage this to be one of our top fundraising initiatives in the SIA calendar over the coming years. Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives."

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633 xtn 229 or email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.spinal.co.uk

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Southam & District News

Rural Cinema with O2 and Southam Lions

Presents: High School Musical 3 on Sunday 29th March at the Graham Adams Centre. Doors open at 3:30pm - film starts at 4pm. Entry £3.00 per person, £10.00 Family Ticket (2A + 2C). Refreshments available, please phone 813086 for further details.

Peter Guy

The Potting Shed

The speaker for the February meeting was unable to come in view of the weather. Yours truly stood in and gave an illustrated talk, appropriately enough, on 'Winter Gardening'.

The programme has had to be changed for April as Tom Sage is unable to do the workshop on Hanging Baskets. Luckily Chris Smith (who should have come in February) is able to come in April to talk on the 'Restoration of the Victorian Garden at Canons Ashby'. The March meeting on the 11th will be on 'Topiary in Garden Design'.

As always, meetings start at 8pm in Stockton Village Hall and new members are most welcome.

Christine Dakin

Oxjam Central England – Who are we?

We are a group of volunteers whose aim is to bring the community of central England together through music and raise money for a great cause. We have various events hosted by local people taking place throughout March in **Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Northants, Leicestershire and Coventry.**

What is Oxjam? - Oxjam is a national festival supported by the likes of Hot Chip and the Klaxons that kicked off in October with the grand finale taking place throughout March and April 2009. Hundreds of events will be taking place around the country to raise money for Oxfam and tackle poverty all over the world. The festival is made up of many small events and parties all raising money for Oxfam - it all adds up to one big difference. Although music is the main focus of Oxjam, we also have a mix of other fun fundraising events like dance performances, quizzes and bingo nights.

Supporting Oxjam helps people to earn a living; to get an education; healthcare; fresh water; and to grow more food. Every pound raised counts.

You can visit www.oxfam.org/oxjam for further information.

Come to an event – Please come along to any of the Oxfam Central England events, report, and take photos or just to support us by bringing along your friends and having fun!

Thursday April 2nd – Harbury Folk Club Oxfam Special in the Shakespeare Inn 8.30pm. We always have loads of performers so a packed and varied night is guaranteed, with more than a little humour. Entry is free but there will be a raffle in aid of Oxfam for which contributions are warmly encouraged. Anyone can have a go - songs, tunes, dances, readings or any other performance in reasonably good taste - and the theme for the evening is 'Jam'. Mega stars are always welcome, but so are complete novices.

Support us – please ask if your company is willing to donate money to us - all the money goes to the work of Oxfam (see at the end how your money can help). Please also spread the word to local businesses and friends if they would like to help with sponsoring events or giving donations.

Contacts

If you have any questions or need any more information please contact: Kathy Freeman, KMFreeman@live.co.uk 07885466331 or Sarah Cook, sarahcook212@hotmail.com 07843259136



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors,

Please may I thank my relatives, friends and neighbours for their lovely cards, presents and good wishes on the occasion of my birthday, February 2nd, also to my husband Bill for the gorgeous flowers and surprise party and many thanks to Qona for the lovely cake.

Peggie Middleton

Dear Editors,

May I, on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee, thank everyone who helped organise the Redevelopment Fund coffee morning on Valentine's Day. I would also like to thank everyone who attended and those who donated cakes and raffle prizes. We raised £167.17 which can be added to our local fund raising account.

Our appreciation and grateful thanks also to the All Saints' church for such a wonderful facility of the Tom Hauley Room which is available for local organisations to hold fund raising events.

Janet Thornley, Secretary – Harbury Village Hall Management Committee.

Dear Editors,

Thought the readers might like this poem:

Satnavigation!

*Welcome to Harbury – near Quarries,
Where the "SatNavs" now send great big lorries,
But hang on to your maps,
You may need them perhaps,
When I aim my missile up to the skies
And shoot down that thing that's causing the noise.*

Elizabeth Barker

Dear Editor,

I note with concern that funding for the Library service is being severely cut. It seems this is in favour of computer access to the Internet.

Although such access may well form part of the service, books require no electricity and will still be around long after all the hard drives in Warwickshire have crashed to their doom.

We are often told how many of us have difficulty reading and writing, maybe libraries are more important than computers.

A suggestion. If you feel concerned, go to your local library, sign up and take out a full quota of books. You don't actually have to read them - just return them in time to avoid the fine!

Keep on doing that for a while and the borrowing figures might just impress the accountants and 'officers' at County Hall who seem intent on removing one of the most civilised aspect of this country.

Alternatively, maybe the Council and Library Service should try a little harder to persuade us to use their excellent service. When it has gone we will all be the poorer.

Sincerely

Philip Martino

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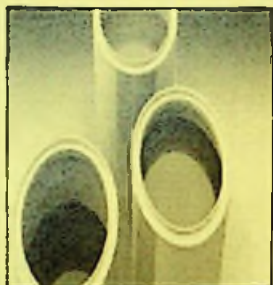
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