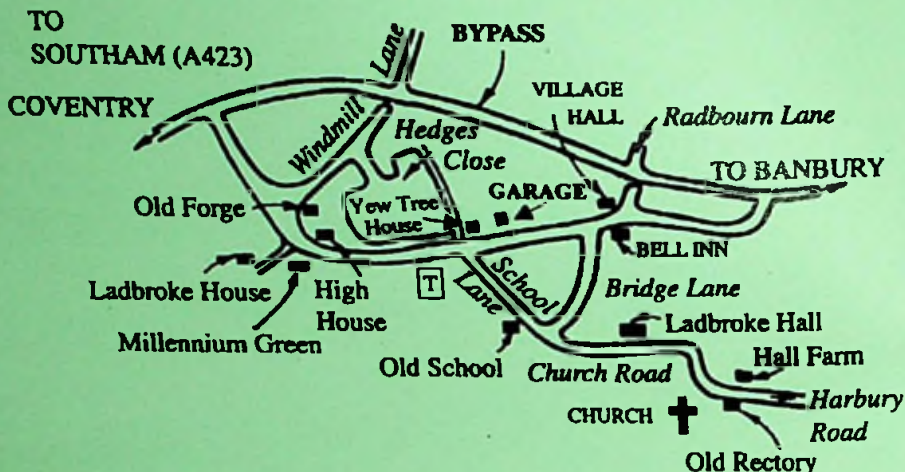




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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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May 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.*



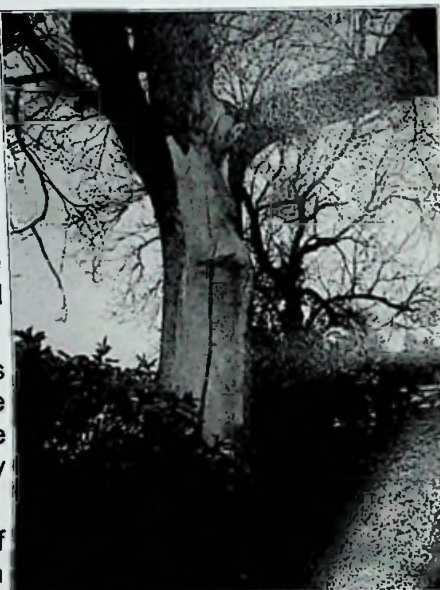
Editorial

Next month the annual village summer events get underway. Harbury Carnival is on 13th June with Ladbroke's summer fete the week after. We hope for good weather for both events.

The Village Hall AGM was recently held and it is good to read that the hall remains on a sound financial footing with increased bookings.

Of interest to all Harbury villagers will be the consultation day on the proposed Bush Heath Lane housing development on Thursday 21st May in the Village Hall.

Excessive speeding has been of concern in both villages – in Ladbroke on the by-pass and for Harbury, within the village. Enforcement action has recently been taking place in Harbury on Temple End and Park Lane.



Tree having suffered lightning strike behind Farley Avenue in the recent early morning storm

Harbury Diary

MAY

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| Sat | 2 | Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Thursday Club
Myton Hospice Plant Sale in Dog Inn Car Park 10.30-1.30pm
Twinning Group in Village Hall |
| Sun | 3 | EASTER IV
Sung Eucharist 9.00am
First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
Quiet Contemplative Service in the Celtic Tradition 6.00pm |
| Mon | 4 | MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY |
| Tue | 5 | Holy Communion 7.30pm |

- Wed 6 Holy Communion 2.00pm
Mothers' Union Meeting 2.30pm Tom Hauley Room
Marian Millington – "The Soup"
- Thurs 7 Holy Communion 9.45am
Art Group in Tom Hauley Room 10-4pm
Men's Group Dinner Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club at Shakespeare 8.30pm
- Fri 8 Harbury Pre-School Quiz Night, Harbury School Hall 8.00pm
- Sat 9 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Kids Club
Myton Hospice Plant Sale in Dog Inn Car Park 10.30-1.30pm
Concert in Church by "Kosmos" 7.30pm
Junior Football Presentation at Village Hall
- Sun 10 **EASTER V**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 11 Harbury Society Guided Walk of Priory Park Warwick 7.30pm
- Tues 12 Toddlers Service 2.00pm in Church
Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Thurs 14 Holy Communion 9.45am
Mothers' Union Deanery Festival Service 2.30pm
Theatre Group Production in Village Hall
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 15 **ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY**
Theatre Group Production in Village Hall
- Sat 16 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Grange Players
Myton Hospice Plant Sale in Dog Inn Car Park 10.30-1.30pm
Theatre Group Production in Village Hall
- Sun 17 **EASTER VI**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Family Communion Service 10.30am
Evensong 6.00pm
Light Classical Concert, Heart of England Concert Orchestra at the Church, 2.30pm Tickets £5, Tel: 614672
- Tues 19 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Senior Citizens Benefit Association Meeting 8.00pm, Village Hall
Mothers' Union Meeting 8.00pm Tom Hauley Room
David Benskin, Assistant Chaplain,
Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre for Young Offenders
Annual Parish Meeting in Village Hall 7.30pm
- Weds 20 Tea 3.00 to 4.00pm Tom Hauley Room
Ballroom Dancing 8.30 – 10.00pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 21 **ASCENSION DAY**
Holy Communion 9.45am
BUSH HEATH HOUSING CONSULATION 2.00pm – 9.00pm
in Village Hall

- Sat 23 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Society
Myton Hospice Plant Sale in Dog Inn Car Park 10.30-1.30pm
Moving Pictures at Village Hall
- Sun 24 **EASTER VII – Sunday after Ascension Day**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Cricket at home to Bugbrooke, 2.30pm start
- Mon 25 **BANK HOLIDAY**
Mothers Union Fund Raising Picnic at Village Hall for Guinness
Record
- Tues 26 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Julian Meeting 8.00pm
- Weds 27 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30 to 4.30pm, 5 Penelope Close
- Thurs 28 Holy Communion 9.45am
**ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY &
EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM**
Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Sat 30 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Fair Trade
Car boot sale 8.00am – 12.00noon, Village Hall car park: contact
612688.
Myton Hospice Plant Sale in Dog Inn Car Park 10.30-1.30pm
Recycling seminar 10.45am - 12.00, Farley Room, Village Hall.
- Sun 31 **PENTECOST/WHIT SUNDAY**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Cricket at home to Kineton, 2.30pm start

JUNE

- Tues 2 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Weds 3 Holy Communion 2.00pm
Mothers' Union Meeting 2.30pm Tom Hauley Room
Bible Study with Sue Boniface – 'Cost of Relationship'
Ballroom Dancing 8.30-10pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 4 Holy Communion 9.45am
Art Group in Tom Hauley Room 10-4pm
Men's Group 7.45pm Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 6 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Junior Football
Myton Hospice Plant Sale in Dog Inn Car Park 10.30-1.30pm
Ufton Village Church Fete, 2.00 – 4.00pm at Colbourne House
Confirmation Service 6.00pm in Harbury Church
Carnival BBQ and Barn Dance 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Sun 7 **TRINITY SUNDAY**
Sung Eucharist 9.00am
First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
Wheelbarrow Race assemble at 12.30pm at The Gamecock
Cream Teas and Family Fun 2.30pm - 4.30pm in Village Hall
Evening Taizé-style Service 6.00pm

- Tues 9 Toddlers Service 2.00pm in Church
Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Thurs 11 WI History of Harbury Church Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm with
Neville Ellis
- Sat 13 HARBURY CARNIVAL

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

- Sat 20 Open Weekend at Chesterton Church "A Journey Through Time"
archaeology finds on display.
- Sun 21 Open Weekend at Chesterton Church "A Journey Through Time"
archaeology finds on display.

Refuse Collection Rota

	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Refuse Collection Week
May	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	6	7	8	Grey Bin
	13	14	15	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	20	21	22	Grey Bin
	27	28	29	Green & Blue Lid Bins
June	3	4	5	Grey Bin
	10	11	12	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	17	18	19	Grey Bin
	24	25	26	Green & Blue Lid Bins

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

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel.: 612377

I hope you have all enjoyed Easter and not over-indulged on too many chocolate eggs! We had a great Easter at both churches and it was good to see so many of you from the villages at our Easter Sunday services particularly.

We were very excited last month as we at All Saint's, Harbury, launched our new website.

Please do have a look at what's there and let us know how we can improve the site. You'll find all sorts of information if you are interested for example, in having a baby baptised, or wanting to be married or are wanting to know what groups exists and how you can get involved in one of them. The site is there to let you know what services and events take place each month and what might be of interest to you.

The church is here for you as the local community and as it says on the site; All Saints is a community which exists for two basic reasons: to worship God and to serve our area. We gather to pray and worship, to draw near to God that God might polish the tarnish off our fragile lives and restore his image in us. The congregation is very varied and mixed, so you'll fit in just fine!

We're keen that people should feel that it's a safe place to come and be – we promise we won't jump on you and make you join something! And we don't claim to have all the answers but in our faith we've found a framework and friendship with God which is beginning to make sense of friendship and life as we experience it.

We strive to be a truly open Church – so not everybody agrees about everything, but together and individually we are trying to "cling tight to Christ and hang loose about the rest"!

We'd be delighted to see you at one of our services over the next few weeks. On 17th May we are having a Pet's Service at 10.30am – come along, bring the kids and bring a pet too!!

God bless, as ever, Fr Craig.

From the Registers

Holy Matrimony, All Saints' Harbury

April 18 Adrian Cooper to Catherine Wilkins

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

April 5 Jo Duffy

April 19 Emma Lockley

April 26 Finlay Hanson



From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

This year's Lent lunches raised £125 for the Gaza Appeal. Thank you to everyone who prepared and supported them.

Thank you to Su who gave the presentation at the April Family Communion Service. She took as her theme, change and transformation, demonstrating with an impressive display of pyrotechnics that no created matter can be destroyed but only changed. Forget the quick-fix changes promised by the TV industry to make over our homes, gardens and bodies, put your trust in the transforming message of Easter: the resurrected Christ – not a resuscitated Christ – promises that eternal life does not begin at some hazy future date, but began at our baptism and begins everyday in the here and now.

Calling all creatures, great and small! Come to the pet service – our next Family Communion Service – on Sunday 17th May at 10.30am. Please bring your owners and any equipment you think they or you might need! All are welcome.

At the end of April, we say, with sadness, farewell to Joyce Windsor. As you will know, events have been planned to say goodbye to her and an account of these will appear in next month's Harbury and Ladbroke News.



Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

At our afternoon meeting eighteen members anticipated Easter by each making a flower arrangement – complete with fluffy chicks!

In the evening, Lynda Howells moved and inspired us with her talk about the work of Women's Refugees; sadly as much needed now as ever.

Everyone is welcome to join us at the Deanery Festival, in Harbury Church at 2.30pm on Thursday 14th May.

If you have any unwanted postcards – new or used – they can be sold in aid of the Church in Sudan. Gillian Hare will collect them; if convenient leave them in church in an envelope with her name on, please.

- Wednesday 6th May** – 2.30pm following 2.00pm communion – Marion Millington 'The Soup'.
- Tuesday 19th May** – 8.00pm following 7.30pm communion – Secure Training for Youth Offenders.
- Wednesday 3rd June** – 2.30pm, Sue Boniface will lead a Bible study on this year's theme, "The Cost of Relationships".

Anyone is welcome to join us at any meeting. You need not be a mother – or even a woman!



Toddlers Service

Lorna Bedford

Mrs Mary Catt led the Toddlers' Service in April. We heard the Old Testament story of David the shepherd boy and learnt how he looked after the sheep. Sometimes he had to protect them from wild animals such as lions and bears. He was a very brave man and very good with a sling. Later in his life he used the sling to slay the giant Goliath. We had great fun during the storytelling as each time Mrs Catt referred to either sheep, lions or bears we all had to make the necessary, baa, roar or growl noises.

We said a prayer and accompanied by Mr Charles Catt on the clarinet we sang, 'My God is so Big so Strong and so Mighty' and 'The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll trust him always'. For our activity Mrs Catt had prepared a picture showing David as a shepherd and the children had to draw sheep and glue on some cotton wool to make the sheep look very woolly. We followed with refreshments and played with toys before it was time to go home.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 12th May in the children's corner of the church at 2.00pm. All babies and small children accompanied by an adult are very welcome to join us.

Ladbroke News & Diary

MAY

Sun

3

EASTER IV

Family Communion 10.30am followed by refreshments in church

Mon	4	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
Sun	10	EASTER V Holy Communion 9.00am
Fri	15	ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM
Sat	16	Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
Sun	17	EASTER VI Holy Communion 9.00am BCP in church
Weds	20	Parish Council Meeting 7.45pm in Village Hall
Thurs	21	ASCENSION DAY Holy Communion 7.30pm
Sat	23	Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
Sun	24	EASTER VII – Sunday after Ascension Day Holy Communion 9.00am Sung in church
Mon	25	BANK HOLIDAY
Thurs	28	ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM Women's Institute 7.30pm in Village Hall
Sat	30	Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
Sun	31	PENTECOST/WHIT SUNDAY Holy Communion 9.00am said service in church
JUNE		
Sun	7	TRINITY SUNDAY Family Communion 10.30am followed by refreshments in church
Sat	13	HARBURY CARNIVAL

Ladbroke Flower Rota

Jane Rutherford

May	3 rd	Margaret Whitehouse
May	10 th	Kate Todman
May	17 th	Betty Winkfield
May	24 th	Trisha Teverson
May	31 st	Jenny Barrett
June	7 th	Jenny Barrett



Ladbroke General Section

Ladbroke Village Meeting

I have no report from the Parish Council meeting this month; we held the village AGM instead.

It was very well attended with some interesting discussions. The PCO who gave the police report was very good and made reference notes about several questions asked. These were mainly concerns about speeding on the A423 and how the new 50mph speed restrictions would be monitored.

The organisations in the village gave their various reports. The biggest buzz came when it was announced that the new Village hall would cost £700,000. Apparently this is just a rumour, not to be taken seriously!

The Millennium Green is being well maintained with several new pieces of equipment for children. There will be a Summer Fete this year on the green – Saturday 20th June – please note.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on May 20th at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

The results of the draws for February and March were as follows:

	February	March
£80	Pete Edgar	John & Jenny Barrett
£50	Martin & Debra Neal	Wild Indians
£25	Wild Indians	Roger Plaskett
£10	Francis Badman	Jonathan Ford
£10	Gwynne Badman	K Tancock
£10	Sue Lord	Elaine Taylor
£10	Jonathan Ford	Gwynne Badman

Due to the increasing number of participants, an extra £10 prize will be added from April so that a total of £205 will be distributed to 8 lucky winners each month in future. For a chance to be amongst these and to join the club, please phone me on 817733 - it only costs £5 a month. Remember, the more participants, the more prize money!

Janet Goldson

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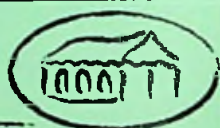
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Harbury Parish Council

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

Several members of the public attended the meeting, one from Bishops Itchington, one from Coventry Diocese Mothers' Union and one from Australia!

Gill Gilford from the MU wanted permission to use the Playing Fields for their Guinness World Record Picnic at the Village Hall on 25th May. Not only did they agree but offered Cllr Thornley as an adjudicator.

Mr Biddle from Australia is on a study tour of our governance structure. He had our Parish Plan from the web and sat through a very well structured meeting which showed our Council in an excellent light. Chairman Tim Lockley once again rattling through business in just over an hour.

Policing - Cllr Patrick reported that from 12th May residents can make an appointment at Southam Police Station to discuss none urgent matters. Pc Hill will undertake speed checks round the Old New Inn Green after receiving complaints from a resident.

District Matters - District Cllr Patrick reported the "hiccup" over refuse collection in Manor Road and a complaint about the "less than courteous" response of the Verdant operatives. However, the mess in the village centre from refuse out on the wrong day was cleared up well. The District Council will write to everyone who asked for redundant concrete stands to be removed to tell them when this will happen.

Stratford's recycling guru, Rob Weeks, will be the speaker at the Twinning Association Recycling Seminar put on for the French Visitors.

The company seeking permission to store cars at the Cement Works has gone into receivership and their permission has yet to be decided.

County Matters - County Cllr Bob Stevens reported lower speed limits were likely for A roads and 20 mph limits in some built up areas. The Drink/driving limit might be reduced; the driving test made tougher and more practical and more safety education in secondary schools.

The County and the Freight Transport Association were working to direct their members' HGVs away from rural roads, but this does not cover foreign lorries.

The Police priorities were to reduce car crime, burglary and numbers killed or injured, and increase public trust and confidence of the force.

The Tesco application for a Southam supermarket was on hold until it knew the intentions of Sainsburys who were considering building in the town centre.

Deppers Bridge - As there has been no movement from the County to improve the bus service for the hamlet the PC is to consider giving some financial help for the elderly who cannot walk to the Great Western.

PC congratulated Deppers resident Mr Townsend on his 103rd birthday.

Planning - Stratford approved Village Hall plans, swimming pool at Stapenhall Farm and extensions to Henrys, Bush Heath Lane.

The Parish is insisting Enforcement Action should be taken over the boarding up of the Dog Inn. They will send a representative to a meeting to consider proposals for Retirement Homes in the village. Public consultation on the Bush Heath Lane site is Thursday 21st May 2.00 – 9.00pm in the Village Hall.

Playing Fields - Contractors who repaired the Skate Ramp will make good the problems there. Quotes are being sought for the aerial runway. The bench will be repaired and the slabs re-laid. Play bark will be topped up. The car park gratings need jetting and the notices cleaned.

Cllr Hancock wants a long term plan for upgrading the Playground, removing the Rocking Horse and replacing it with a Seesaw. She agreed to leave the small children's "igloo" after the Chairman protested that his children liked it.

Cemetery - Just after the PC undertook a Safety review of the Gravestones, a more "light-touch" guidance was issued by government which will now be used to consider action on the medium risk stones.

Environment - Residents are asking for lights in Hall Lane, Temple End and Bull Ring Lane. Eon sent a "horrible bill" (48% up) for the lighting at the end of the fixed rate tariff. The Clerk had complained at the lack of warning and demanded details before she would pay them.

The Knotweed needs spraying again. The saga of the Mill Street Pumping Station continues with Severn Trent seemingly reluctant to

take responsibility. There is now a map of the sewers in Frances Road which suffers occasional problems too.

Traffic Management Funding has been approved and Graham Stanley from WCC will provide plans for a public consultation on these improvements.

Finance - Father Grocock's request for funding to equip a new Youth Club to be set up in the Tom Hauley Room in the autumn was deferred for further details of costs. The PC agreed to send a letter of support for the Heritage Group Project.

Meetings - The **Annual Parish Meeting** on 19th May will include a presentation on Climate Change, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The **Next Parish Council Meeting** (their annual meeting where they elect officers) will be on 28th May, 7.30pm in the Farley Room of the Village Hall.

Harbury Parish Council Quarterly Report

April 2009

Cllr Tim Lockley

In the past three months Harbury Parish Council have:

- Secured substantial funding from WCC for traffic calming in the village. Proposals will be displayed for consultation hopefully by the summer.
- Made representation to WCC about the bus service in Deppers Bridge, and continued to explore options for elderly people deprived of a bus service.
- Formulated a strategy to deal with the phasing out of mercury street lights over the next 6 years.
- Organised a consultation event about the housing proposed for Bush Heath Lane.
- Objected to the latest planning application for Bishop Bowls.
- Continued routine maintenance at the playing fields

Finally, a request:

Please can residents with hedges that adjoin the footpaths, make sure they are cut back to allow for pushchairs and wheelchairs to pass safely.

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 19th May 2009

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held this year on **Tuesday 19th May** commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Our speaker this year is Jacky Lawrence of Warwickshire County Council Climate Change Initiative. If you have any questions or ideas on how to make Harbury "greener" please come along; this is also a good chance to put questions on any subject to the local police and the County and District Councillors. Light refreshments will be available.

Harbury Parish Council

Elections

Bob Stevens: Conservative Candidate

I have had the pleasure and privilege of representing Harbury and Ladbroke on Warwickshire County Council for the last 4 years. During that period I have helped many of you overcome the idiosyncrasies of local Government beaurocracy and ensured that common sense has prevailed.



I have:

- Successfully negotiated a weight limit on Deppers Bridge
- Gained a grant for a traffic calming scheme in Harbury
- Supported speed limits throughout the Feldon Division
- As Chair of Governors at Southam College, actively taken an interest on the education of all your Children
- Kept abreast with the problems of "Caring for the elderly" through my involvement with Galanos House
- Supported your village activities including fetes, carol services, Village Hall events, pre school groups and on Harbury Rugby Club's touchline.

If re elected on June 4th I will build on my 12 years of County Council experience and successes to:

- Work towards reducing HGV traffic on your village roads
- Encourage activities for your young people thus reducing possible anti social behaviour problems
- Maintain and preserve the recreational spaces in your villages

- Continue to support measures that will reduce speeding traffic
- Obtain value for money for your council tax

By putting people before politics and working with your Parish Council and partners, I will continue to strive to maintain the ethos and character of your village and most importantly, to personally represent you, the residents.

Sue Roderick:

Sue Roderick has been selected as the **Liberal Democrat** candidate in the County Council elections on 4 June.

Sue has lived in Bishops Itchington for over 20 years and was the Parish Clerk for 10 years. She has been a school governor at Bishops Itchington since 1994 with 2 sessions as Chair.



Sue and her husband Steve have 4 children, the youngest two are at Southam College.

Originally a computer programmer, Sue now cares for their eldest daughter who was born with profound learning disabilities and epilepsy, combining this with working for the family business supplying IT solutions to the public sector.

Heavily involved in village affairs, Sue was Chair of the Playgroup which her second child attended and has been a longstanding member and sometime officer of Bishops Itchington WI. With a colleague, she is now a promoter for Live & Local, which brings quality live entertainment to rural venues.

As an initiator of a reading group in Bishops, Sue is concerned at the threats to our libraries and the introduction of charges for those least able to afford it.

The Liberal Democrat priorities for the next four years are:

- The local economy and skills
- Safe, healthy and active communities
- An education system for the 21st century
- The environment and climate change
- Public transport and walking/cycling facilities
- Efficient and cost-effective public services

If elected Sue will join other Liberal Democrat councillors to work on these objectives.

Editors – The local Labour Party were contacted to ascertain whether a candidate will be standing for election, at the time of going to press no details were available.



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

At the Harbury Society AGM Phil Owen gave a superb illustrated talk on the people, landscape and way of life in Tibet with stunning pictures of Everest and the other major peaks.

His trip began at Lhasa, the Capital, where the former palace of the Dalai Lama, now the Chinese administrative centre, dominates the city. The Market Place is popular with tourists but is watched over by policemen. Groups of more than four Tibetans are forbidden.

The Jokang Temple is the most holy place, visited by hundreds of thousands but where once there were 6,000 monks now there are only 600. They have to speak Mandarin and all teaching is in that language.

In Tibetan society traditionally there are monks, farmers and nomads,. The farmer's main crop is Barley, ground, mixed with water or Yak milk to make a tasteless biscuit. Phil encountered the nomads on the way to Everest Base Camp. They are friendly and generous, live in Yurts and maintain a pastoral way of life unless forced by the Chinese to live in settlements where they cannot keep their animals.

The closer to the Base Camp the worse the road became, passing temples and the Chinese-made camp for nomads. Then it enters the Everest Park with breathtaking views of the Himalayas and the five peaks of Makalu, Lhotse, Everest, Chooyo and Katchenjunga and continues to Rombuk to the world's highest monastery with a Stupa and prayer flags.

A five mile trek up 500 feet reaches the next Base Camp to see sunset over Everest – with startling hanging glaciers. Tourists are warned not to go near the tents of Chinese Soldiers who shortly after Phil's visit shot Tibetan refugees. On the way to Shishpansma, the twelfth highest mountain at 8,000 meters, the plateau was littered with cairns of stones carved with Buddhist mantras. The Base Camp had tents

and nomads, their Yaks decorated with prayer flags. The children were very friendly and clamoured for any gifts the tourists had, but the faces of the men and women are aged and worn. The headman still had a photograph of the Dalai Lama which brought Phil's guide to tears.

In Nyalam town (near the Nepal border) they saw school children doing their outdoor exercises, watched over by guards. All lessons are in Mandarin which limits the access to education for the Tibetans.

What impressed Phil most was the architecture, the religious fervour, the friendly people with their characterful faces, the poor state of the roads and accommodation, the landscape and - **Everest**.

Phil received a spontaneous ovation and was thanked enthusiastically by the Chairman. He answered dozens of questions. He is donating his fee to his favourite Tibetan Charity.

Please support our coffee morning - 23rd May and our Carnival Stall (this will be a bric-a-brac stall contact Linda on 612792 for collection).



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

A lot of activities and classes for members are on offer in Corunna News to attract and keep members busy.

The trip to Hardwick Hall on Wednesday 20th May leaves the Village Hall at 9.30am and National Trust members are reminded to bring their membership card.

The members Garden Party will be at the home of Ann Mayer on Thursday 18th June.

The Bulbs brochure is out. Do collect shoeboxes for the Children's Appeal in the autumn.

Mary Thompson gave a full report on the Annual Council Meeting at the Spa Centre (not Animal C.M as stated in last month's Harbury and Ladbroke News).

Samantha Gibson was a speaker from Taylor Teas who sponsor gifts to the WI and we always look forward to our "goodie box" of Yorkshire tea etc. every year. They plan to save a rainforest the size of the

Yorkshire dales supporting 25,000 people in Peru to help win the battle against climate change. While she was speaking 300 acres of rainforest will have been destroyed.

But the main speaker was Simon Weston MBE who survived when the Sir Galahad was destroyed in Bluff Cove, Falklands in 1982. We were shown a film of the awful episode and of him. Out of 30 men in his platoon only 8 survived. With 50% burns and 70 operations and being physically and mentally repaired over the years, he has become active in a number of highly successful ventures. The latest is to support a new Star and Garter Home in Solihull and now trying to get a hospital dedicated to Military Campaign Veterans he is starting in April, as he says, 'to give people care with dignity'.

He passed his driving test in 1986, then went to Australia to the Guards Association and was offered a flying scholarship and in 1989 raced cars to raise Weston Spirit money to help young people. He was on a regular chat and music show for the BBC. He is now happily married with three children. He had a sense of guilt about avoiding death and the death of friends. He returned to the Falklands and met the pilot who dropped the bombs on Sir Galahad, who had suffered his own horrors. Simon has a marvellous sense of humour and we shared a lot of laughter with him. A super man.

Well, Ann apologised for not having the pole dancing but Dorothy stepped in once again and we had a wonderful talk on Bees by John Holmes, who is well known in this area for his wonderful honey. He started off by giving some sayings like beesfoot, buzzoff and honeymoon, all related to the little things. He started off at a farming college in 1965 which included bees and from then on he was hooked.

He spoke of his business and the importance of the bees in crops. We also heard their history, the experiences of old days and the world wide trouble of the wretched mite destroying them. Our food will be affected by nature's untold heroes if they disappear. Since selling his business John has travelled, speaking and offering advice on beekeeping in England and abroad. His wife Mary travels abroad with him now and having been a nurse is again help in her own way. I will not quote all that John told us as I would hate to give wrong information, but he was so interesting.

Next meeting, Tom Hauley Room, Thursday 14th May at 7.45pm – Resolutions.



Harbury Theatre Group

Bob Hodge

Tremendous demand for tickets – additional performance announced!

In case you haven't heard, Harbury Theatre group is celebrating its 60th anniversary this month with a comedy event *It Only Hurts When We Laugh!* So great has been the interest in this production that we have had to introduce a third performance and you can now see us on 14, 15, and 16 May.

On the Thursday and Friday the tickets are FREE, if booked in advance or 20p on the door. On Saturday 16th May the group is also serving a supper and so there is a nominal charge of £5 for the food – tickets for this are only available in advance.



The picture shows *The Retiring Highwayman* rehearsing his last stick up, which is just one of several entertainments we have planned for you.

Don't forget the 'come and meet us' event after the Friday performance. Do stay for this; we would love to tell you how much fun it is to put on a production and how pleased we are to welcome new members.

See you there!



Folk Club

Doug and Janny

The theme for Harbury Folk Club number 293 was "Jam". We had registered as one of the many hundreds of "Oxjam" musical events held during March and April, to raise money for Oxfam in its fight against global poverty. The selected theme tested the skills of the performers, but they "battered" the audience with their "fruity" delights.

The first half got underway with a new group "JaMaMa" (Janny, Maureen & Margaret) who gave us a delightful song in a Shetland dialect. They were followed by Rick, Summer & Jenny, Stuart, Barbara, Sue & Ted. They "conserved" the theme with various fine offerings which "set" us up for the evening. The topics ranged from the hot stuff, hang man, strawberry, mucky, household help. We were in for a "tasty" evening.

The second half started with yet another new group comprising Janny, Maureen, Ian & Sue. The theme was then "preserved" by more great offerings from Ian & Sue, Peter McDonald, Debbie, Des, Band of Folk. A couple of songs even managed to mention jam, and we enjoyed new "recipes" and old favourites out of the "jar". Everybody was on great form, and we were ready to "flavour" the final half.

The third half really "jelled" with top notch performances from Pete Mason, Ron and Pete Grassby. Somehow St George got into the theme, but nobody minded as the performers and audience were in great voice. We could no longer keep the "lid" on the evening, so a session "spread" amongst the many talented musicians "jammed" into the backroom of the Shakespeare.

A "toast" to a vintage evening that raised a fantastic £59 for Oxfam. Debbie & Des host the next folk club on Thursday 7th May, when the theme will be "The Great Outdoors", or stop Debbie and ask her about the alternative theme.



Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys

Our chief event in March has been the Quiz evening, held at the Village Club on 29th. The evening was well attended and a really good time was had by all. The questions were of a high standard, with some very tricky indeed. (At least they were to me!) The winning team was

Bladderwrack! better known as John and Sharon Hancock together with Peter and Margaret Mc Donald. Our thanks to the Village Club for hosting the Quiz, and to all the members who worked to provide the refreshments.

The visit of our French friends is coming ever nearer. In fact they will be with us on Friday 29th May, and staying with us until Monday June 1st. Along with the activities planned for our guests, there are two events that are open to all, as follows:

On Saturday morning 30th May there will be a Car Boot Sale to be held on the Village Hall car park. Anyone wanting a pitch should phone 612688.

On both the Saturday and Sunday there will be an Art Exhibition in the Wight School. This will feature the work of both Harbury artists and those from the French village with whom we are twinned. We will be taking Warwickshire as a theme for our art work, and I believe that the French will base theirs on the region Seine et Marne where they live.

Hope to see you there.

Recycling Seminar:

And one further event open to the public:-

Starting at 10.45am on Saturday 30th May in the Farley Room at the Village Hall, the Twinning Association will host a Recycling Seminar, comparing experiences here in Harbury with those in Samois.

Rob Weeks, Head of Stratford District Environment service has kindly agreed to attend. So if you have a question - or just want to listen - please come along.

We're holding this from 10.45am on Saturday 30th May, the same morning as the Car Boot sale in the Village Hall car park (a living example for our French friends of recycling in action - English style!).

Andrew Patrick



Harbury RFC

Harbury Mini & Midi Rugby

Debbie Steele

March 27th - 29th, Under 9s and 10s Tour

Decked out in matching sponsored fleece tops, on 27 March Harbury U9s and U10s hopped on board their tour bus and headed for deepest

Norfolk. After four and a half hours and a narrow squeak with the stone gateposts, the coach deposited its cargo at the magnificent Kingswood Activity Centre in Overstrand, near Cromer.

This turn-of-the-century country estate has been transformed into a haven for pillow-fighting tykes and competitive parents. Boasting the most uncomfortable bunks in the world, there was little rest for the wicked, despite the many precautionary nightcaps downed by the adults.

The stay at the Kingswood Centre was full on, with organised activities supervised by trained 'activity leaders' from Friday evening through to Saturday night. In a wood clearing, we solved team problems like how to move a pile of tyres from one wooden stump on to another. We crawled through small muddy tunnels in a caving exercise. We were blindfolded and led bewilderingly here, there and everywhere. But the vertigo-inducing aerial climbing tower was undoubtedly the high point (very scary). Despite the rain and the mud, both under 9 and 10 teams could let their hair down, challenged themselves, bonded with each other and new friendships were forged. □ Sunday arrived drier and sunnier. Today we were guests at the Holt RFC tournament, and in keeping with tours undertaken by players of any age, some of our players were not as fresh as they might be.

Only nine of the U9 squad were available to tour which meant no subs and a full three games for each player. The team went down 25-0 to Bedford Blues, Oakham and Holt. On another day a win against Holt would be well within our grasp. That said, Jim Owen was our tour captain and led from the front. There were moments of great individual and combined play from the team, but not sustained enough to get a result. □ U10s fielded two teams with reinforcements generously provided by Lowestoft and Yarmouth RFC. They acquitted themselves well in a series of stern tests against well-drilled teams from Holt, Nottingham, Cheshunt and Oakham. The two Harbury teams met in a shield match towards the end of the day, with honours shared at 5-5. Matty Laity had a particularly good tournament with typically determined play and tenacious running.

The tournament was run with military precision, which meant there was time for a quick celebratory drink before contemplating the bladder-challenging four-and-a-half-hour journey back to Harbury. By now the boys were sporting matching mud-coloured kit and most of them were fast asleep.

Jim Davis / James Head

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March 29 – Away at Earlsdon

Under 7's

Match 1 Earlsdon 15 - Harbury 12

William Banfield and Luke Curtlin were the leading try scorers with 4 each and Ben White pulled an impressive 11 tags. Harbury struggled with the speed of several Earlsdon players, after having 2 decisions go against them. Earlsdon took advantage to take a 2 point lead and then made it three on the last play of the game.

Match 2 Earlsdon 10 - Harbury 11

William Banfield with 4 and Ben White with 3 were the leading try scorers in the second with Luke Curtlin taking the most tags at 5. A much better performance from Harbury saw them finish their friendly matches with a win. Harbury could have made the victory bigger but a run down the left flank was marginally out. In the last play of the game William Banfield with a lovely darting run, changing direction at the last minute, took the all important point for Harbury.

Under 8's

The first match was a close fought game which ended in a draw with 3 tries each. However, the second and third matches the Harbury team came alive with some fantastic tagging, which resulted in more turnover possession of the ball, therefore building the platform to run in many more tries than the first game. Harbury won the second match 7-4 and the third match 9-3. A brilliant team effort all round with Dominic Priest, James Huke, Finn Brown, Hugh Cave and Murray Gibson great in defence with the largest amount of tags. In attack there was some strong running all round, with Alex Green running in the most tries – touching down 7 in the last match alone!

Under 11's

Earlsdon 40 - Harbury 5

Earlsdon came out firing on all cylinders and scored their first try in the first few seconds. Harbury replied with a try from Ben Taylor but despite some good play, especially from Sam Tutt, started the second half two tries to one down. The second half saw plenty of involvement from Connor Gladwin, George McGowan and Henry Steele, but this was, unfortunately, not sufficient to stop Earlsdon from scoring a further four unanswered tries.

Under 12's

Earlsdon 14 - Harbury 40

Earlsdon opened the scoring with a good run down the wing by their Lock. From the restart Aaron Ward broke through to land Harbury's first score. From a maul Aaron ripped the ball from the opposition and powered through the defence to score again. Harbury's forwards drove well, particularly Sam Cave and Jack Zulianni, and won good ball for the backs and Jack Hewson finally touched down after virtually every player in the team had touched the ball. A great try. Bradley King broke from mauls on numerous occasions and burst through half tackles to score. William Winchester kicked 3 of 4 conversions in the first half.

Earlsdon rallied in the second half and kept Harbury at bay with good tackling. Their forwards would have scored were it not for saving tackles from George Brooks and Aaron Ward. Following a ruck 5 metres out, Prop Joe Webster used his power to drive over the line and add to his growing list of tries. Callum Panton also managed to drive over and add to Harbury's total. In the last play Earlsdon drove over from a tap penalty for a second try.

U11's and U12's Tour to Okehampton 3rd - 5th April



U11's Report

After school on Friday we went down to the Rugby Club, and battled our way onto the coach. It was a 4 hour journey there but it felt like 2 minutes it was so enjoyable. When we got there Mike showed us to our dorms, and then we all went to the games room. That night the earliest someone got to sleep was 1 in the morning.

When we woke up, we all were half asleep (well I was), then we had breakfast and the U12's went on the high wires while the U11's stayed at the youth hostel and did some rugby practice. Then we had lunch and we swapped round activities.

When we got to the high wires, we were told how to put our harness on and were split into 2 groups. There were 3 different challenges; the first was Jacob's ladder, when you had to work in teams to get to the top of 5 hanging beams, with only your team mates and 2 ropes to help you. The second activity was a podium where you had to climb a really tall telegraph pole, with a wooden square plank the size of a manhole cover on top. When you got on the top you had to lean off backwards holding onto your team mates who had climbed up with you.

The last of the 3 was the obstacle course where you had to get across a rope, walk along 2 logs, and finally step your way over the stepping logs before jumping off. The teamwork we used showed in the match especially when half our team was falling asleep under the posts. Against Teignmouth we came from 1 converted try down to beat them by quite a lot (I don't know the actual score).

Our next opponents Okehampton (who had just come 2nd in the Devon league) scored 1st but luckily missed the conversion, which proved pivotal as we scored a try and converted it to win the match 7-5. On the way back it was really quiet compared to the way there. Thank you to Michael and Mark for organising such a great weekend.

Reported by Alex Marston

Teignmouth 7 - Harbury 33

Harbury U11s started the game half asleep (not too sure whether some of them had even been to bed). However, after a wakeup call in the first few minutes when Teignmouth scored their only try of the match, the boys opened their eyes and dominated the rest of the match.

Okehampton 5 - Harbury 7

After watching Okehampton walk all over Teignmouth the Harbury U11's realised that they were going to have to produce some exceptional rugby to stay in the match. They did not disappoint! Harbury played some of their best rugby ever to overcome the best opposition they had faced this year. Mark Gladwin was seen to have a tear in his eye as he looked on, for once stuck for words to express his admiration. Thank you boys for making your coaches proud.

U12's Report

With false moustaches in tow, Harbury Under 11's & U12's set off on tour to Okehampton in Devon.

After high wires and a long off road bike ride on Saturday the teams turned up at Okehampton Rugby Club to play a three way fixture against the hosts and Teignmouth.

Okehampton Under 12's looked pretty useful beating Teignmouth 63 – 0. They started well against Harbury scoring straight from the kick off. The village boys then put together some good rucks and mauls that resulted in Bradley King bursting through to score. Sam Cave, Aaron Ward, Robert Rollason, George White, Callum Panton, Max Brown and William Rea all put in great tackles; the Okehampton back broke through to go ahead again. Bradley managed to get one back for Harbury which William Winchester converted. Half-time 14 points each. Finn Toner constantly harassed the opposition forwards, Simon Fisher did some great passing and tackling at fly half, Harbury were on the back foot for most of the second half as Okehampton ran in two further tries. Final Score 28 – 14.

Harbury did not play as well against Teignmouth, knocking on and giving away silly penalties. However Sam Cave was awesome in the line outs and hooker Aaron Ward used his speed and power to score four tries. Scrum half Ted Easton set up good ball from the rucks and mauls and Captain Joe Webster crossed the line for Harbury's final score all converted by Bradley King. Outside centre Jack Hewson and winger Shane Fennell both had good games as Harbury ran out winners 35 – 0 to round off an outstanding tour.

Harbury Juniors
FOOTBALL CLUB

Harbury Junior's Football

Steve Burnell

Under 7's

In September 2008, Harbury Juniors Football Club commenced training with an under 7's team. The team, consisting of mostly year 1 (aged 5-6) and some year 2 children was a bold move as the club had not enrolled children at this age previously. We have had an unprecedented response from the children this season and now have over 20 children registered which, is testament to the success of the club holistically, its management and those coaches that contributing to its success. This is also the most important age group at the club

as this will ensure the survival and continuation year upon year providing the opportunity for the children of the village and surrounding areas to play football for a recognised organisation.

Initially, our aim was to teach the children the basic skills and make them comfortable on the ball, but after only a few months, we have a large quantity of very good players which we hope will continue to play for HJFC until they progress to the senior levels of the game. The team train every Saturday morning at the school grounds and they will take part in an exhibition game at the end of season tournament in May 2009.

Harbury Cricket Club

Phil Mugleston

Well who would have guessed it, the cricket season is here and the weather is good! Well once in a decade isn't too bad I suppose, I just hope it lasts for the whole season and not just for the first few weeks, wishful thinking or what?

Now, in my last issue a couple of months back I did promise that I would publish the team averages so we could all have a good laugh at my dad's batting average (it may be less than two this year), and who got smashed for the most runs off their bowling (this may also be my dad). However, since then no one has managed to find the team calculator, and/or scorebook, so that will have to wait. We may have left it at an away ground, knowing us, that is a high possibility, or it could be under my bed, it's a mystery!

Moving swiftly on, I can now announce the player awards for last season. The awards dinner hasn't actually taken place yet whilst I am writing this, however I do know (well I think I do) who has won each award. The first award was that of player of the year, which many players in the club could have been a candidate for. However, one man last season pulled off some fantastic batting performances as well as throwing down some great leg spinners, causing opposing batsmen, and our wicket keeper plenty of problems!! This of course is Will Russell, scoring 3 centuries and taking 14 wickets he was the standout player of our season. His most memorable innings of the year came against Hockley Heath and showed real quality, coming in down the order we looked dead and buried but Will battled his way to 114 not out and won us the match, it was awesome.

Next is young player of the year, for which there were two main candidates. Firstly Tom McKenzie who has proven to be a fantastic introduction to the club and team, he gives everything to every match and his all round game improved massively last season. However, the trophy for last season will be given to George Bloxham. He has improved dramatically since joining the club a few years ago and last season saw him turn into a level headed cricketer, and an integral part of the team. He bowled consistently well for the whole season, and in one match we let him go out and bat, we didn't have high hopes and expected him to be back with us momentarily, but who would have thought it, he hit two fours and nearly won the game for us. I've got a feeling his eyes were closed when he took a massive swing of the bat, but at least he hit it, one of them nearly went for six, but he's going to have to wait a little longer for that. Anyway, back to the subject, well done George!!

Our next award was the 'Bunny Ravy' trophy, which has not been presented for five years in the club. It goes to the clubman of the year, and for the last five years there is no doubt that Richard Carr has been vital to the club's progression and the level of cricket it plays. The Major has consistently produced top notch pitches for us to play on, and this award shows that each and every player appreciates his efforts as groundsman. Cheers Major!

Finally, the duck of the season award. The unfortunate winner this year was the one and only Greg Neale, who in actual fact probably had his best batting season ever, scoring plenty of runs, and pulling some nice shots out of the bag. However on one occasion Greg was not too happy about his dismissal and showed how unhappy he was by hitting his wickets with his bat, which would have seen him be given out anyway, but oh well, bet it seemed like a good idea at the time. These things happen; Greg did also get a couple of ducks in the season, so it was only right that he got the award.

Right then, I'd best be off, so until next month if anyone fancies a game of cricket on the weekend then give me a call on 01926 612382. Cheers, and enjoy the good weather while it lasts.



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

We held our "Cheque Book" tournament on the first Sunday in April. This is our traditional tournament to prise out members' subscriptions

although with internet banking we might need to find a more relevant name! Anyway, it was the usual morning of social tennis with the winners being Karen Bristow and teenager Marcus Sharpe.

I'm pleased to say that we've finally completed the winter league fixtures having played 3 Floodlit matches in a week! It started off badly with a crushing 0-8 defeat on Brackley's Astroturf. Karin Kirk, Sue Mercer, Peter Walshe and Colin Mercer took some time to get used to the surface and were soon 0-2 down. They put up much stiffer resistance in the mixed doubles but still lost both rubbers. The next match was at Hook Norton where Jon Guy and Colin Mercer got Harbury off to a good start with an emphatic win in the mixed doubles. Sue Panton and Sue Mercer lost a hard fought ladies doubles leaving the match evenly poised going into the mixed doubles. Colin and Sue M went AWOL in the first set but pulled themselves together to win the second and halve the rubber, but Sue P and Jon won both sets to secure a 5-3 win. The same "gang of four" then completed the season with a convincing 7-1 win over Kings Sutton to finish in a comfortable mid table position. The same could not be said for the weekend league as we finished with the wooden spoon, mainly because we had to concede 2 matches as not enough ladies were available. In the Stratford men's double league the team finished in a respectable 5th place in Division 4.

Juniors

By the time you read this, the Junior summer programme will have started. This term we're providing 12 hours a week of coaching led by Head Coach Linda Casement and Duncan Scheltens, who is the Head Coach at Byfield, supported by Sue Panton, Jon Guy and Adam Crossling. Adam has a Level 1 Coach Assistant Award and Sue and Jon are nearly at the end of their Level 2. Adam is an experienced Level 1 now and unfortunately A levels have prevented him from taking Level 2 this year.

This year we are planning more competitive play for those who wish to take part. Dates have already been set for six friendly tournaments during May and June, catering for all our age groups. These will be between Harbury, Byfield and Banbury Town Clubs. Harbury will be hosting three of these; there will be two at Byfield and one at Banbury Town. Some of our children have already played in tournaments against these clubs and really enjoyed themselves. The children's results in these tournaments as well as matches played in club sessions can now be recorded on the internet.

It is three years since we offered tennis activities during the school Summer Holidays. We have been unable to do anything in recent years, as we haven't had enough coaching staff available during the summer. This was disappointing as the 2006 programme was very successful, both for the players and the Tennis Club. But this summer we'll be back! Details should be ready for the June edition of Harbury News, so watch this space!



Harbury Toddler Group

Julie Young & Hilary Riemer

Our Toddlers have been busy burning off all those Easter Eggs in the beautiful sunshine as we have been focusing on lots of outdoor play and fun with our friends. After we've had our juice and biscuits the regular music slot is proving to be a big hit. The children are loving the chance to show off their 'moves' with the Hokey Cokey being current favourite. Who needs Mamma Mia!

As part of our drive to make the Toddler sessions more varied we have also purchased a parachute to help with group play so look out for photographs in next month's edition. Many thanks to Corrina for organizing this.

Other activities to look forward to include a visit from Harbury Folk singers who have agreed to come and play and sing songs for the children, a storytelling session with Debbie Ellis and a visit from Dragon Ceramics in time for Father's Day presents.

Carnival - A huge 'Thank You' to Haidee Powell who has secured a lorry for Toddler Group. Our theme is 'Toybox' so we will be having lots of fun over the forthcoming weeks designing props and costumes for the float.

More Thank You's! - At the last Toddler Meeting Ceri Edwards stepped down as Secretary. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and welcome Hilary Riemer who is to take over.

And finally - Please remember that Toddler Group sessions are held every Monday morning 10.00am – 11.30am and Weds afternoon 1.30pm – 3.00pm. With exciting activities and the opportunity to play alongside friends for the toddlers it gives you the chance to meet other parents and carers and enjoy a well earned cuppa! Please feel free to come and join us - you really will be most welcome.



Windmills
Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

Windmills held a 'people who help us' fancy dress day on Thursday 26th March to mark the end of this terms topic. Outfits included hospital surgeons, doctors, nurses, police officers and not to forget Sportacus.

Forest School

During the Forest School session on 25th March, Amanda talked about birds nesting in spring. The children then created their own birds' nests from the natural materials and also used willow to create a collage.



We made the most of the early spring sunshine by holding our Easter egg hunt outside in our woodland area. As well as being fun this activity encouraged the use and understanding of positional language.

Other activities this month have included:

- Making patterns on an egg shape and using our new laptop computer to create Easter cards
- Making chocolate crispy nests
- Visiting the allotments to see where people grow their own fruit and vegetables and also to see the chickens - thanks to Lily our college student for arranging this activity.
- Visiting School to see the Reception Class assembly which tied in with our topic of helping others.



Indulgence Evening

Windmills Nursery held an Indulgence evening in the Village Hall on Thursday 26th March. It was wonderful to see so many people supporting our fundraising event. A variety of taster treatments were available throughout the evening and we also held a raffle. Tickets included wine and nibbles.

The evening was a great success raising over £500.00. Thank you to everyone in the fundraising group for organising this event especially Emma and Haidee.

Thank you

Thank you to Moira Rollason for donating a big box of assorted wax crayons. A big thank you also to Geoff Maule for constructing and fitting a secure box for our door alarm, and replenishing the climbing mound in our Forest School.

Windmill 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 log on to our web site at windmillsnursery.co.uk, or call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906519148.



Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

Our World: At the beginning of April, we continued the term's theme of "Our World" by transforming the role play area into a home, with living, dining and bedroom areas. The children had a wonderful time dressing and feeding their "babies", quietly looking at books in the living room and preparing meals for each other in the kitchen area.

Trip to Harbury Primary School: We are grateful to Miss Maher for inviting the Pre-School children to watch the Reception Class assembly. The performance was delightful and the children behaved beautifully and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The New Term:



When they returned to Pre-School after Easter, full of chocolate and enthusiasm, the children found some different activities on offer. The new sand trays, with very fine sand and special tools for levelling, moving and mark marking, were very popular. Hamish: "It's dry and not sticky." Ellie: "It feels like flour"

Keira: "It's a desert where camels have been – that's their footprints". They also enjoyed threading coloured beads and weaving with a variety of materials.

Jungle Theme: The theme for the first half of the summer term is "The Jungle". Books about wild animals have taken their place in the book area and the children were delighted to get involved in making all the noises of the animals when we read 'Rumble in the Jungle' at circle time. The creative table has already been the base for the production of paintings and collages using wonderful animal print fabrics and lots of different textures and colours.



Outdoor Classroom: The continuing fine weather during the first week of the new term has enabled us to continue to make full use of our outdoor classroom. The quiet book area, large blackboard and chalks, roadway for cars, water tray and dolls house have all been very popular, with the children, as always, adapting the equipment to their own ideas. The potatoes, beans, peas and chives are already growing nicely and the children enjoy weeding around them and carefully watering and caring for them.



Quiz Night : This is to be held in Harbury Primary School hall on Friday 8th May at 8pm. £16 per team of 4 with light refreshments included and CANA wines will be running a bar. Please contact Jo Johnstone on 614672 to book your place.

Diary Date: Another fund raising event is a concert performed by the Heart of England Concert Orchestra in Harbury Church on Sunday 17th May, 2.30 – 4.30pm. **Tickets:** £5 each (£4 concessions) from Jo Johnstone on 614672. This promises to be a wonderful afternoon of music in the church, with refreshments during the interval.

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



Harbury Primary School

Denis Daly

Congratulations – To Francesca, who recently added the Warwickshire Primary Schools' Cross Country title to the Central Warwickshire championship title she already held. In a brilliant display of front running on a very tough course, Francesca came home around 100m clear of the runner up over a distance of only 1.25 miles, an outstanding performance. In addition to Frankie, we had two other runners representing Central Warwickshire in the championships – Kate (who was runner-up in the Central area championships), who finished 49th and Saul who, as a Year 5 pupil, had a magnificent run to finish 12th in the boys' race. The race brought to an end an outstanding cross country season for the school – well done to all who took part.

Other school sport – A new departure for the school was the selection of a team of gymnasts, who represented the school in a competition in Banbury. In a very high quality competition, in which they had to perform both a floor routine and a vault, the team of Hannah, Henry, Emily and Nikki performed well to finish 9th of the 13 teams. Well done, everyone.

In a busy time for the school sports' teams, the swimming team was also in action, with a number of swimmers taking part in the Southam Area gala. Congratulations to Sam, Hannah and Henry, who have all been selected to represent the Southam Area in the Stratford and District finals in May.

And finally in terms of school sport, the football team has resumed its fixtures. Unfortunately, the fixture list threw up two very difficult games as we started back, against the top two teams in the league, which meant a slow start to our resumed campaign, but the much improved performances in our last two matches suggest that the tide may have turned.

Results: Harbury 1 Bishop Itchington 4, Radford Semele 7 Harbury 1, Harbury 2 St Peters 2, Harbury 4 Our Lady's 1

Swimming Pool – Many thanks to those parents who supported one of the consultation meetings. There was overwhelming support for the concept and design of the pool, although there are one or two issues, primarily around access, that the Swimming Pool Development Group will be debating over the course of the next week or two. I shall, of course, keep parents fully informed of any developments.

OFSTED – Many thanks to those parents who have sent in their congratulations following the circulation of the school's recent OFSTED report. I shall put the OFSTED report on the agenda for my next open meeting with parents, which should take place sometime next term.

Riding Bikes To School – For the remainder of this school year, the children in **Years 5 and 6 only** will be allowed to ride their bikes to school. Whether individual children in these classes actually come to school on their bikes is, of course, a matter for parents! However, the children have been told that if they do bring their bikes to school, they must wear a cycle helmet, they must chain their bikes up against the fence near the swimming pool, and they must not ride their bikes on the school site. Parents should also be aware that the school can take no responsibility for bikes that are brought in to school.

Parking – On the subject of getting to and from school, one of our key objectives at the school is to maintain good relationships with our immediate neighbours – informal feedback from our neighbours suggests that we are fairly successful in achieving this. However, in recent weeks I have received a couple of complaints about parents parking in Wagstaffe Close. Not only do the complaints refer to inconsiderate parking by parents, especially across drives, they also refer to the danger of too many cars parking and turning around in such a narrow road. I would hope that any parents who are parking in the vicinity of the school would take into consideration the needs of our neighbours, and therefore park considerately. However, I do agree with the latter point about the dangers presented by the number of parents' cars being in Wagstaffe Close before and after school. Could I therefore urge all parents to avoid parking/dropping children off in Wagstaffe Close – we have an agreement with the landlord at the Shakespeare to use that car park in the mornings and afternoons. Even better, now that the weather is improving, why not walk to school (or, if you live outside the village, park away from school and walk the rest of the way)!!

Reception Class, September 2009 – The meeting for parents with children starting school in September will be held on Tuesday 19th May at 7.30 pm. All parents on our list will be receiving an invitation in the next day or two – if you have a child due to start school in September, but have not received an invitation to this meeting please come in to see me, as it may mean that we do not have your child registered to start!

Vacancy – The school has a vacancy for a dining room assistant (dinner lady!), either for one or more days per week. If you are interested in applying for the vacancy, please contact the School Secretary for further details.



1st Harbury Scouts

Nick Green

This month Josh has written a report on the camp to Snowdonia that took place back in March...

'On Friday 20th March, the 15 scouts going to Snowdonia bundled into a small minibus and began their long journey towards northern Wales. The journey took about 3 hours and by the time we had reached the

bunkhouse the bus was very hot. Nick, who had already been at the bunk house a few hours, had prepared some tomato soup and pasties - which disappeared quickly- before we went to our dormitories.

We all woke up well refreshed to a bright Saturday morning, with perfect conditions for climbing Snowdon. After splitting into two groups, we once again piled into the minibus and drove to the very foot of Snowdon. My group consisted of Max, Sam, Alex, Elliot and Tom. Walking up Snowdon alongside the river and old slate mines is great and I would really advise it. It was beautiful and the water looked blue due to the sun. At about midday the cloud started to close in around us, and by the time we had reached the summit we could hardly see five yards in front of us.

The descent was slightly harder as the cloud thickened and the boys in my group became hyper-active courtesy of the fruit pastilles we had at the top.

When we reached the bottom we were very hot and some people decided to take a quick dip in the river.

On Sunday we had an earlier start because we had to be at the Tree Tops High Ropes course for nine o'clock. From the car park the course looked extremely challenging, but once we were on it, it was much easier than it looked and I think all of us gained loads of confidence!

After a quick lunch back at the bunk house we set out one final time towards a nearby Go-Karting track. Before racing we had to put on special suits and crash helmets (see below), but once we were racing we had a brilliant time and every one really enjoyed themselves.



Overall this has to have been my best camp! Thanks to all the leaders who gave up their time to take us on camp!



When I was talking to the April speaker before our meeting asking about his previous occupation etc, he told me quite modestly that he had been Dean of Science at University of Worcester and that his first degree had been in Horticulture, I knew that we were going to enjoy the evening. We were not disappointed.

The topic being "Sugar and Spice and all Things Nice" and started with the humble sugar beet. Dr Mylechreest explained that this was first introduced in the 18th century and was a close relative of the beetroot and at first it only contained 5% of sugar but breeding of the plant over the centuries meant that the sugar content is now 20%. Carbohydrates are found in wheat, rice and potatoes, and we were shown some super slides of paddy fields in Sri Lanka. Vegetables are also a good source of energy and we were introduced to one that I had never heard of - the Asparagus Pea which has lovely red flowers and looks good in flower borders. Another interesting one was the Bottle Gourd which as the name suggests will fill with water and is used for drinking out of - another fascinating plant.

We then moved on to fibre and vitamins found in fruit and the slides featured were mostly from the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale which was recently in danger of closing but thankfully has been saved. Here there are many cultivars of fruit trees which are in danger of becoming extinct but are being revitalised. We were shown some multicoloured bananas on sale at the roadside, again in Sri Lanka, from the usual yellow to red even purple ones; they taste just as good as the yellow ones.

The Spice part of the talk was about all sorts of herbs and spices, from the usual ones to the most unusual. The cinnamon tree was shown and the bark from this is used as a culinary spice. Also hops featured and a hop pillow can ensure that we get a good nights sleep, worth trying I think. Tea leaves are obviously dried to create the tea that we are familiar with but did you know that the story goes that once the processes have been carried out; the residue which is left on the floor is then used for tea bags? I had heard of this when we visited a tea plantation in Sri Lanka and I have to say that the tea produced there is nothing like the tea we buy in the UK.

Every day plants such as the Pot Marigold and Daffodil are very useful in everyday medications, the extracts from these being used as antiseptics. Also Sunflowers seeds are a good source of oil as is Lavender and the extract from Roses. Not forgetting the Poppy which contains seeds which are used in codeine and morphine for the relief of pain. Both the Rubber and Dragon Trees yield resin used as latex and varnish.

The herb garden at Sulgrave Manor was featured (remember we had an evening trip there 2 years ago) and some herbs grown here are exported to the USA. Of course some are very poisonous especially the castor oil plant. So herbs and spices are most important to our food chain but used wisely.

This is just a potted history of a most fascinating talk in which we were given an insight into plant developments, their uses and even cookery advice. Everyone enjoyed the talk and questions were answered too. Another packed meeting, 60 plus, thank you to everyone who came along.

Don't forget that the last meeting of the Season is on Tuesday 5th May, Stanley Lampard will be talking about Venezuela "Plants of the Lost World". Another colourful talk to look forward to, he will also be bringing along plants for sale. If you haven't paid for the trips yet can you please do so at the May meeting? I have unexpectedly one seat available for the trip to Kew Gardens on the 24th June so if anyone would like to join us please let me know, the cost is £16.

Lots of open gardens to see in May, here are a few from the Yellow Book. There are 2 new gardens in Eckington near Evesham open on 30th and 31st May from 11.00am to 6.00pm, also Frogs Nest at Honeybourne also near Evesham, on 25th May. This garden was featured in Amateur Gardening last May. Not too far away near to Bromsgrove, Marlbrook Gardens are open from 1.30pm to 5.30pm. I will bring along all details of these, directions, cost etc to the May Meeting. Also a mention of well dressing in Derbyshire. Villages, towns and the city of Derby all participate. For details contact the Tourist Information Centre on 01246 345777/8. Don't forget the plant sale at Pump Room Gardens on Sunday 3rd May from 10.00am to 3.00pm, some little gems to be bought.

I look forward to seeing everyone on 5th May, in the meantime enjoy this glorious weather but don't work too hard in your gardens and allotments.



Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

Your local Hardy Plant Specialists - Fresh cut flowers also available

In early April, I heard of someone who had bought tomato plants and put them straight out into the garden.

Garden Centres and 'shed' type outlets always have tender bedding and vegetable plants for sale weeks (sometimes months) before it is safe to assume that there is no risk of frost. Basically, these plants should **not** be planted outside until June. Buy them early only if you know you can protect them in a greenhouse or conservatory. Otherwise, be patient and wait!

More and more people are growing their own fruit and veg: this is very rewarding and usually results in much tastier produce. Even if you only have a small garden, you can grow beans, peas, strawberries, tomatoes and courgettes in pots, BUT you can't go away for a two-week long holiday unless you have a good neighbour who can water the pots for you (and pick the produce!).

We grew a tomato called 'Sungold' last year – small orange, abundant fruits and very sweet.

I was given some autumn fruiting raspberry canes last spring which produced a few handfuls of fruit in their first year and I have high hopes of bowls full of them this year with lashings of cream – yum!

It goes without saying that this is a busy month. It is also a time to enjoy all the flowers and fresh foliage in the garden.

Some jobs to do.....

- Weeding
- Apply 'weed and feed' preparations to your lawn
- Earth up potatoes
- Sow French beans, beetroot, spring onions, carrots, runner beans.
- Sow half-hardy annuals e.g. French and African Marigolds, Asters, Nasturtiums, Amaranthus.
- Check Lilies for lily beetle – a red beetle that destroys your lilies – and squash them.
- Stake tall plants
- And – more weeding!

Unfortunately, the Pruning and Propagation workshops we intended to run in April failed to get enough bookings and were cancelled. However, they will be on again in the Autumn: Propagation on 03/10/09 and Pruning on 17/10/09. We will remind you nearer the time.



Nature Notes

John Hancock

Spring was certainly not held back by the cold snap at the end of March. Yesterday, the 21st of April, with the afternoon temperature at 19C (66F) has been typical and consequently vegetative growth has been positively luxurious. It's a wonderful time of year with flowers such as Primrose, Violet, and Lesser Celandine bringing colour to the local ditches, verges and hedgerows. Wildlife does not thrive in too manicured a garden so leave a bit in a wild state. Nettles are the food plant of the Small Tortoiseshell butterfly (*Aglais urticae*) which has been in decline in recent years. A pile of wood gradually decaying will help our threatened Stag beetle to survive and you will get a thrill watching a Red Admiral butterfly feed on fallen uncleared fruit later in the year.

Next door, the bees have come through the winter, but it was last August's wet conditions that nearly wiped the colony out. As I said in an earlier article, they had to be fed on a watery solution made with icing sugar to survive. Now, they are producing honey. John Stringer and Gordon Robbins invited me to don a protective suit when they examined a hive recently. The queen was confirmed to be present and busy laying eggs in cells which the workers around her then capped with wax. She had been marked on her back with a red felt tipped pen. It's important to check on her presence from time to time as without a queen, the colony will not survive. I had some of this year's honey on a piece of toast and found it delicious.

On the 3rd April, Warwickshire beekeepers gathered at Warwick Horticultural Research International, formerly the Vegetable Research Station, Wellesbourne to listen to two lectures and take a conducted tour of the grounds and laboratories. One lecture dealt with the Varroa Mite which is decimating some bee colonies. The task is to find a biological predator for the mite which is effective and safe. The likely agent is a group of fungi widespread in the environment where they help to naturally regulate populations of insects and mites. Research is

progressing at the laboratory to develop field trials. Without the pollinating power of the honey bee, our natural world would quickly collapse. It was an excellent way to learn more about some leading edge research and good to see our local beekeepers including John Home and Joe Van Hoorebeek adding their opinions to the mix.

I've seen House Martins and a solitary Swallow so the Swifts, with their raucous cry and aerial acrobatics, cannot be far from our shores. In Northumberland, where we stayed with some of the family over Easter, it's the seabirds which demanded attention. A cliff near Craster was alive with Fulmars nesting on every available ledge and streaking the rock face with guano. This gull-like seabird catches fish on the surface or dives to depths of up to a few metres. They disperse out to sea in winter.

On the Farne Islands, Puffins were the star attraction. It's a stout bird some 32cms (12 ½") long which flies strongly with rapid wing beats. Underwater, it behaves rather like a penguin and its principle food source are sand-eels. Oystercatchers, Cormorants, several species of Tern and the handsome, black and white, distinctively shaped Eider Duck, a bird of the Arctic, here at the southern end of its range, were also sighted.

Locally, go down to the Spoil Bank Nature Reserve close to the Great Western. In the rabbit cropped turf, hummocky with anthills are many dwarf Cowslips. On the 22nd April, I saw a Grizzled Skipper butterfly at the reserve, an early emergence from pupation as May and June are the months to see it. A large area on the left of the main track has been cleared of mature scrub and really taken back to the appearance the area must have had when the Spoilbank was created at the excavation of the railway in the 1840's. At the moment, it looks stark. A series of plots with different soil preparations will be monitored over the next few years. Some have been planted with Kidney Vetch (sole food plant for the rare Small Blue butterfly). Talking of blue, I saw a Holly Blue in the garden yesterday. Any blue butterfly in this country seen in April must be a Holly Blue as the other species do not emerge till later in the year.

On the Welcombe Hills in Stratford-on-Avon on the 20th April while with my Open Studies Lepidoptera group, we saw nine species of butterfly in the warm sunny conditions. Small Tortoiseshell, Brimstone, Comma and Peacock had survived winter by hibernation. Green-Veined White, Orange Tip, Speckled Wood, Large and Small White had freshly emerged.

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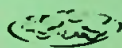
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Go to Ufton Woods for Bluebells, Primrose and the delicate Wood Anemone. I saw the typical spotted leaves of Early Purple Orchid there at the end of March. On 20th April, they were in flower. A walk from Ufton on the footpath to Bascote Heath gives you several opportunities to enter the wood and see the flowers at their best before they are shaded out by the rapidly developing leaf canopy.

Enjoy our magnificent burgeoning spring and visit as many habitats as you can. Margaret and Peter McDonald reported hearing a Cuckoo in Somerset on April 14th. When will the birds reach Harbury?



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

The A.G.M of the Village Hall committee held last month was a fairly upbeat affair attended by the majority of committee members and nine members of the public, representing some of the village organisations, including the Parish Council.

In his annual report, Chairman Geoff Thorpe stated that the Hall had witnessed a 'steady year' with sufficient income generated to cover all the expenses. He reported that there had been two additional regular uses of the premises during the year from Tai Chi enthusiasts and dog training activities. The Hall had been well used and the committee had taken an active part in fund-raising, including a Carnival Dance; the New Year's Dance; assisting GASS with the CAMRA Beer Festival and also supporting the regular 'Moving Pictures' initiative. He recorded his thanks to all members of the committee for their assistance with the various activities and particularly mentioned Lana Long who has spear-headed the highly successful Rural Cinema.

The committee was voted in 'en bloc', although Linda Ridgley wished to be recognised as a co-opted member with observer status. Andrew Lawrence was voted on to the committee and it was noted that his expertise would be a significant asset as plans to modernise the Hall were developed. John Hancock, chair of the fund-raising group, presented a report on the plans to date and stated that he felt that the village would get behind the proposals, as it was appreciated that those working towards the proposals did so with the interest of all villagers at heart. Geoff thanked the Parish Council for its support for the initiative and mentioned that the plans had now been passed by Stratford District Council.

The present committee includes John Crossling, Chris Finch, Doug Freeman, Gill Gurden, David & Kate Johnson, Midge Keen, Andrew Lawrence, Jenny Patrick, Linda Ridgley, Janet Thornley and Geoff Thorpe. Alison Hodge had resigned from the committee during the previous year owing to work commitments.

Hopefully, visitors to the Hall in recent weeks have noticed the significant improvement made by the recent paint overhaul and also that the hawthorn whips planted towards the end of March are now beginning to 'sprout'. Unfortunately, someone has attempted to damage the small notice-board outside the main entrance and this will incur a minor repair. All-in-all, the community premises have kept pace with the changes needed to make it an attractive venue as it stands, but it is anticipated that the developments will make it a building 'fit for the 21st Century' and more 'fit for purpose' from the planned improvements.

The next event the Village Hall committee is organising is the Carnival BBQ and Barn Dance, featuring 'Reel to Reel'. This will be held on Saturday June 6th before the Carnival Week events commence and tickets priced at £12.50 can be booked by contacting Chris (612305) or Geoff (613801).



General Section

Village Hall

Fundraising for the Village Hall has commenced and a committee dedicated to the task has met on three occasions and lots of ideas have been discussed. We have put in a bid to receive a grant from the District Council via Southam Vision Action who are supporting our application. If successful we will get £8,900 towards the estimated £20,000 cost to refurbish and reconfigure the gents' lavatory and do preliminary work to provide facilities for the disabled.

The money, if awarded must be spent by March 2010. Your support is very necessary and I know will be forthcoming so we can make our Village Hall into a 21st century building.

John Hancock

Harbury Carnival - Saturday June 13th, 2009

What's the history of Carnival?

Carnival was almost certainly a tradition in the Middle Ages (**but Harbury Carnival is for ALL ages from the very young to the most mature**).

The word seems to originate from the Italian '*carne levare*' meaning to '*remove meat*' as it was generally held in Lent when meat was forbidden (**but Harbury Carnival will be well after Lent and includes delicious hot dogs and burgers**).

Famous carnivals include:

- *Rio* with its huge Samba Schools and Blocos – small groups parading usually with satirical themes about the political situation of the day (**and Harbury will see our own floats and walking tableaux**)
- *Notting Hill* with the many Steel Pan bands in competition (**whilst Harbury will see the Parade led by the fabulous 'Steel Pan Academy'**)
- *And Uruguay* with the longest Carnival in the World at 80 days (**Harbury will last at least 180 minutes**)

A reminder of the categories for the Parade: 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.

History does not record a **Wheelbarrow Race** in any other Carnival. So, uniquely, the Wheelbarrow Race on the 7th June will commence from the Gamecock. Please assemble at 12-30pm for a 1-00pm start. Again, can I please ask you to make sure you complete an entry form and pay the entrance fee **BEFORE** the day. Forms are available from the pubs and Dan Killian on 612265.

There is still time to book a stall/pitch on the field, please call Mike McBride on 612421 and, if you have any questions about the Carnival, please feel free to call John Broomfield, Carnival Committee Chairman, on 614258. He will be happy to provide whatever help he can.

Many thanks to our SPONSORS who include: Avondale Veterinary, Braeside Bed & Breakfast, Mr Brooks – Chimney Sweep, Andy Brunt,

Bull Ring Garage, Cana Import Wines, The Door Store, Fitzgerald Marshall-Hardy Advertising & Design, Fosse Garage, The Gamecock, Gino's Decorating, TM & JM Grey Builders, Harbury Supermarket & Post Office, Zoe Kate Photography, Miles of Tiles, Muglestone's Country Fayre, Nifty Needle, The Olde New Inn, Rollason Fencing, The Salon, Visage Visage and Bev Walshe Voice Matters.

'Mardi Gras' translates as 'Fat Tuesday'. In Poland they call theirs 'Fat Thursday' **(and remember in Harbury ours will be on Slim Saturday 13th June)**. Keep tradition with history and be there!

Submitted by Peter Walshe, On behalf of the Carnival Committee

Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

The summer outing this year will be to Windsor on Wednesday June 17th, leaving the Village Hall at 08:30. The invitations have been issued but if you are new to the village, think you may be eligible, and want to go on the trip, please contact Margaret Taylor on 612903.

We have had several resignations from the committee this year – Mrs Chris Finch, Mrs Marie Wallington, Mr Terry Nockalls and our Chairman of many years, Mr Tony Ceney. The committee are sure that you would all like to join us in thanking them for the time and effort they have put in to making the events that have been organised so successful and appreciated over many, many years.

We have two new members joining us – Mrs Margaret Sherrington and Mrs Linda Roe. However we could do with a few more. Have you ever thought of supporting our senior citizens by becoming a committee member? What will you have to do? We meet seven or eight times a year for about an hour to discuss fundraising, the annual outing, the summer lunch and the Christmas Party. Apart from the meetings, you will also be expected to give some hands-on help at the events along with the other committee members and volunteers. Your total effort will be three to four days a year – not a lot of time to put aside for something that makes a difference and is really appreciated by the people who benefit from the activities.

If you want further information or are interested in joining us, please contact Mike McBride on 612421 or one of the committee members.

A couple of dates for your diaries. Our coffee morning will be on September 19th and the Christmas party will be on Saturday 12th December.

Finally, the collection bottle that used to be on the bar in The Shakespeare has been found and emptied. It contained donations of £72.10. We would like to thank the patrons of The Shakespeare for their generosity. Thank you.

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

Upcoming Events for Harbury Pre-School:

Quiz Night: Fed-up with watching Coronation Street on a Friday night. Fancy a night out with your friends? Why not come and pit your wits against Harbury's finest on Friday May 8th. Doors open at 8.00pm. Great prizes, a chance to beat your neighbours and a light supper! A bar will be provided by CANA wines. **Where:** Harbury Primary School. Doors open at 8pm. Team of 4 £16.00.

A Concert By Heart Of England Orchestra: A chance to enjoy some light classical music in the surroundings of Harbury Church.

The concert will be approximately 45minutes long with refreshments served in the interval. **When:** Sunday 17th May at 1.30pm.

Cream Teas And Family Fun: A chance to put your feet up, enjoy a delicious Cream Tea while being entertained by the Hereburgh Morris Dancers. Lots of activities for the children including a balloon race, Scavenger Hunt, face painting and colouring competition. More details to follow. **When:** Saturday June 7th 2.30-4.30pm Harbury Village Hall

For details of tickets please contact Jo Johnstone on 614672 or email Julie Young jsyoung@btconnect.com

We look forward to your support! Thank you!

Julie Young

Ballroom Dancing....

We have another 5 weeks of lessons booked beginning on 20th May. We will miss the 27th (half term) and continue on 3rd June, 10th, 17th and 24th. Again we will meet in the Village Hall on Wednesday evenings 8.30pm – 10.00pm. These lessons are for 'improvers' and we hope to add salsa, continue with the foxtrot and probably a touch of waltz and/or quickstep. If you would like any information please contact me on 613680. It really is a lot of fun!

Joan Smith

WRVS Meals on Wheels

Meal on Wheels are delivered by volunteers four lunchtimes a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday) to residents of Harbury and Bishops Itchington. There are a decreasing number of meals requested so if you know any deserving ladies and/or gentlemen who would benefit from this service please telephone WRVS in Stratford (01789 209210) for an application form. Each hot meal costs £3.

If you would like to volunteer to deliver Meals on Wheels or go on the relief driver's list please let me know.

Gill Thorpe, Harbury Village Organiser (613801)

48th Annual Beer Walk

Harbury PTA is proud to announce that the 48th Annual Beer Walk (has it been going that long? No!) will take place on Saturday 20th June starting between 11.30 and midday from the school.

Tickets are £3 for adults and £1.50 for children. This is an unbeatable, stress-free way to spend a Saturday. All you have to do is register at the school, pay your money and disappear into any one or more (though that's physically impossible) of the five (or will it still be four) pubs in the village. When you've had suitable refreshment, or conscience calls, you go for a walk (map provided) over the Thwaites estate to Chesterton, where a temporary pub is set up and food is available. (In reality, this is a couple of vehicles serving Slaughterhouse beer and sandwiches.) You can then amble back to the village, visit those pubs you were forced to miss first time around, and end up for a barbecue at the Old New Inn from about 5.30p.m. Good eh?

All we ask is that you let us know if you are taking part beforehand so that we know how many to expect; we particularly need to know numbers for the barbecue. Please use the reply slips issued by the school, or ring 813765 if your school connections have expired (or never existed in the first place).

Harbury PTA

National Family Week 25th - 31st May 2009

Monday 25th May 2009 - Help the UK to set the Guinness World Record for the World's Largest Picnic!

National Family Week is a new Government initiative aimed at encouraging families to spend more quality time together.

On Monday 25th of May, the UK will be a hive of picnicking activity as thousands of families join in the fun and take part in Family Week Picnics all over the country. National Family Week will be attempting to set a Guinness World Record on this day.

The Mothers' Union Coventry Diocese is organising a Picnic at Harbury Village Hall to commence at 1pm and families, relatives and friends regardless of age, are invited to come along and join in the fun, and help the UK to set a Guinness World Record for the World's Largest Picnic! Entry to the picnic is free.

From 1.30pm to 3pm inside the Village Hall there is the opportunity to come in and buy refreshments and raffle tickets. The not-for-profit organisations within Harbury and Ladbroke are invited to run a stall for their charity. If your organisation would be interested, please contact Gill Guilford 614206 for further information.

As a National event we have been asked to follow the guidelines below for the picnic:

- Picnic **MUST** start at 1pm. You can arrive from 12.30pm to 12.50pm at the latest, as people must be registered and a head count will need to be taken before the event commences.
- We need a minimum of 25 people picnicking.
- Each person needs to have two courses (e.g. a sandwich and fruit or a cake) and a drink. (No glass please)
- A rug/mat to sit on.
- Two independent witnesses that have 'standing' in the local community, such as a teacher, councillor, or doctor, to attend the picnic, and to sign a form to confirm that the Guinness World Records guidelines were met.
- Photographs and Video footage must be obtained of the event. Please note that by registering you provide consent for yourself and children under the age of 16, under your supervision, to be included in photos and video footage of the event.

Please can we ask that Dogs are left at home, however Guide dogs/ dogs for hearing are welcome.

For further information about National Family Week, and the events that will be happening across the UK, please see the official website nationalfamilyweek.co.uk

Enjoy an afternoon of fun and **MAKE HISTORY!**

Gill Guilford

Walking the West Highland Way for DebRA

In January my sister asked if I wanted to walk the West Highland Way with her in June. Without hesitation, I said, "Yes," as it was something I have wanted to do for twenty-five years. Friends and family suggested I walk for charity. Coincidentally, that week I visited an art exhibition at Warwickshire College. The artist was a young woman called Alex Hood from Leamington Spa. Sadly Alex died last year aged 19, after a lifelong battle with E.B. (Epidermismolysis Bullosa). This is a genetic condition, causing blistering and shearing of the skin, making the skin as fragile as a butterfly's wing. When a child is born with E.B. the skin can be damaged by a mother's hug or caress. The subsequent blisters have to be lanced every day. It is a painful and agonising experience. The constant damage to the skin leads to skin-cancer. When Alex was 18, the skin-cancer was very aggressive and eventually spread to other parts of her body. She fought her last fight in July 2008. She is now at peace and free from pain.

I know Alex's parents, Virginia and Robin. They promised they would continue to raise funds for E.B. research. This was the dying wish of Alex. She begged her father moments before her death, "Please, Daddy, after I am gone carry on working to save others - please don't give up." Her parents are an inspiration to anyone who has tragically lost a loved one, because they are determined to raise funds to find a cure. DebRA is a registered charity 1084958 which supports people with E.B. Furthermore it funds vital research into E.B. and associated skin-cancer.

For my part, I will be walking the West Highland Way to raise funds. The footpath is 95 miles long and I intend to complete it in 6 days. It starts north of Glasgow and ends at Fort William. The path skirts lochs, glens, waterfalls and streams. It traverses the volatile Rannoch Moor and then through the Pass of Glencoe, with its dramatic haunting scenery. As my ancestors were Macdonalds, I won't be tarrying there long or accepting dinner from passing Campbells! The weather varies from hot and sunny to wet and windy, then fog, snow, thunder and lightning (and sometimes that all happens on the same day!). I will start on June 27th. You can help by sponsoring me. My telephone number is 612730 for further details.

Please also help by coming to the:

Coffee Morning

Friday 12th June 10.00 am to 12 noon in the Tom Hauley Room. Usual

stalls and raffle. Please bring along books, toys, bric-a-brac etc. on the day or I can pick up items before the day. Cakes and produce very welcome too!

The walk is in Memory of Alex Hood and my husband, Colin, who died last year with cancer too. He would approve of what I'm doing and would be proud of me. So, I will be thinking of them both and that will spur me on every step of the West Highland Way.

Jeanette Wyburn (612730)

Windmills Nursery School Ofsted Success

Windmills Nursery School was inspected by OFSTED on 26th February, 2009. This was the first inspection based on the new Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum implemented from September 2008, and staff were delighted with the extremely positive feedback.

The new inspections judge settings in three main areas:

- Overall effectiveness
- Leadership and Management
- Quality and Standards
- Inspectors assign a grade to each aspect within these areas from 1 - 4. Grade 1 being Outstanding and Grade 4 being inadequate. Windmills achieved grade 2 - good in all areas and staff were very proud to receive the highest judgment grade 1 - outstanding for the following:

'How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?'

'How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?'

'How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?'

Below are just some of the comments made in the report:

"The Nursery provides a warm and caring environment where the welfare of the children is a priority. The managers are constantly looking for ways to improve the provision, and they demonstrate that they have good capacity to maintain continuous improvement."

"Their practice in meeting the needs of all groups of children is outstanding. Partnership with parents and with the school is exemplary and contributes very effectively to the good progress that children make. The children benefit from the shared use of the school's good quality outdoor play areas and resources".

"The management has successfully brought about considerable improvements to the setting since the last inspection through a number of initiatives, including the establishment of a Forest School on the nursery site."

"The children show exceptional enjoyment in coming to the nursery because the activities provided are both interesting and fun and they are made to feel very secure in the caring and welcoming environment. Consequently, they are well motivated and challenged, and progress well in all areas of their learning."

Anyone interested in seeing a full copy of the inspection report can find it at www.ofsted.gov.uk

Directors of Windmills Nursery School

Concrete Bin Stands – Further Information

Those residents who have registered their names with the Parish Council to have their old concrete bin stands removed by Stratford District Council will be pleased to hear that the District will be arranging for collection of these between 4th and the 22nd May. SDC should write to all residents concerned individually advising further on the dates and requesting that the stands are put out at the front of properties if at all possible. If this is not possible residents need to provide the pickup crew with access to the rear in order to remove the bin. There will be no charge for removal of the stands.

Harbury Parish Council

Public Consultation Event

Warwickshire Rural Housing Association and Warwickshire Rural Community Council are holding a Public Consultation event on the 21st May 2009 regarding the proposed development of 22 new homes for local people off Bush Heath Lane in Harbury.

The event will be held at Harbury Village Hall from 2.00pm to 9.00pm. There will be an opportunity to see plans for the new homes, to ask questions and to comment on any aspect of the proposal. It is intended to be a "drop-in" event so people can come along at any time.

The 22 new homes are proposed to meet the housing needs of Harbury Parish, as identified through the Parish Plan and the most recent Housing Needs Survey. Occupancy of the new homes would be restricted by way of a Planning Agreement.

If you have any questions regarding the event please contact Warwickshire Rural Community Council. Telephone 02476 303232, e-mail address enquiries@wrccrural.org.uk.

Warwickshire Rural Community Council

Milk in Harbury

I came across this piece, hand-written by Bob Thornicroft, who lived in the big house next to Mugleston for many years. He was the village baker, but had obviously been asked about the story of milk deliveries by one of the children from Harbury School called Adrian, as at the end of the article he signs off with "Those were the days, Adrian". It obviously wasn't me, because my name's not Adrian, though apparently, when I was born, it was a toss-up as to whether I'd be named Nigel or Adrian. I still don't know which is worse. Bob was always willing to provide memories of his life, and at one time we even went round to his house and tape-recorded him. Needless to say I can't find the tape any more. Anyway, here is Bob from 1985.

'The price of milk was tuppence a pint in summer, tuppence ha'penny in winter.

It was much better and more nutritious than the milk we get today as it all came from one farm. Today's milk is collected from various farms and mixed up before being bottled.

There was no dairy in Harbury. Mr Wincott from Deppers Bridge delivered to Harbury with pony and float with the milk in very large churns from which he ladled the milk into your jugs or bowls at your door. So you were sure the milk was fresh, straight from the cows to your door. Of course it often contained a little dust, or road grit, but who bothered about such trifles when it was good milk? We all lived anyway!!

It was always possible to collect milk from any of the farms. If you took a jug when the farmer was milking his cows he would often run some from the cow straight into the jug. When the jug was filled you had to get out of the way quick as he would turn the cow's teat and squirt you in the face with it.

I can remember about ten different people selling milk in Harbury. They would often sell eggs as well; lovely big fresh eggs at one penny each.

All the best REJ'.

Nigel Chapman

Packages for Afghanistan

Postage of parcels to the troops in Afghanistan is free (if under 2kgs, A4 Jiffy bag size, ideal); we are appealing for paperbacks, DVD's and sweets (eg. Toffees etc.) these items are in great demand and should be sent to;

The Rev. Peter Scott
Royal Navy Chaplain.
Cdo Log Regt
Bastion 2
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Alternatively ring Bill Davies on 614104 for help/advice.

Bill Davies



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

I would like to say heartfelt thanks to all who telephoned and sent messages of sympathy in the sad loss of my brother, who will be sadly missed.

Margaret Taylor

Dear Editors

Readers may recall that in May 2007 I wrote to the Harbury News in the following terms:

"How glorious Bush Heath Lane looks at this time of year with its swathes of Cow Parsley and boughs of May Blossom; the epitome of an unspoiled country lane. It is daily enjoyed by dozens of villagers for recreation and exercise; walkers, runners, horse riders, dog walkers and cyclists can be encountered at all hours of the day enjoying this valuable village amenity.

However, I wonder how many people are yet aware that this idyllic state of affairs is under threat! South Warwickshire Rural Housing Association have plans to build up to 50 dwellings on prime agricultural land beyond the current built boundary of the village in Bush Heath Lane. They have been working on this proposal for some considerable time and plan to hold a public consultation in the Autumn prior to submitting a planning application.

Those of us who value our countryside and wish to see it protected from the sprawl of development need now to take action by lobbying our District

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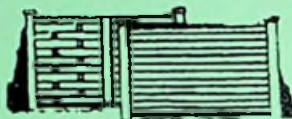
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Councillors and the Parish Council to make our opinions clear well in advance of the Public Consultation"

Well, after some delay, the public consultation on the first phase of the proposal, for an initial 22 dwellings, is to be held at the Village Hall on Thursday 21st May between 2.00pm to 9.00pm. I would therefore urge all who feel strongly, as many do, that this is the wrong location and the wrong profile of unit types to attend and make their views known. There are alternative sites closer to the village centre which would be less isolating for senior citizens who, if the collected data on housing need were refined to a conclusive and meaningful point, are likely to emerge as the prime category of demand.

Yours faithfully

Patrick Tanner

Dear Editors

Puzzled (but suspicious) by the increasing number of knotted polythene bags appearing in the bushes along Butt Lane between Pirie Close and Harbury House, I decided to take a look at one. Yes - it was full of dog poo, as I suspect are the others. The BUAV polythene bag (British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection) carries the message - please re-use this bag. I assume the BUAV would not be best pleased with this re-use. Surely with Dog Litter bins plus their own refuse bins this minority of dog owners could manage to carry the bags to the nearest repository!

Sincerely

Bridget Burnham

**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

JUNE EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to	31 Binswood End	by 15th May
Articles to	Harbury Pharmacy	by 28th May

All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

1 st Sunday in the month:	9.00am	Sung Communion
	10.30am	First Light contemporary style service in the Tom Hauley Room
	6.00pm	Evening Worship - a different style of service each month
2 nd , 4 th (and 5 th) Sunday in the month:	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
3 rd Sunday in the month:	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Communion Service
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong
Every Sunday: (except 1 st & 3 rd Sundays)	10.30am	Funday Club (in term time)
Every Tuesday:	7.30pm	Weekday Said Communion
Every Thursday:	9.45am	Weekday Said Communion

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

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Calling the Ladies of Harbury!

Harbury Tennis Club is trying to encourage more ladies to play tennis. There must be lots of you out there who play a bit or have played in the past and would love to hit a few balls again!

We would like to set up some informal sessions on Wednesday afternoons from 2.00-3.00 p.m. You can come along and play some fun social tennis and get some help to improve your game at the same time. We will adapt the sessions to suit your needs.

Special starter offer - just £18 for 6 sessions, from 3rd June.

We look forward to getting the ladies of Harbury playing tennis again, so please give Sue Panton a call on 614800 and sign up!

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