

# Harbury & Ladbroke News

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## Editorial Team

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

*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

The Harbury and Ladbroke News has now been published for 36 years and Valentine DuBuisson, who was a prime mover in establishing it recently died; Mike Bloxham, the magazine photographer for many years, sadly also died recently after a long illness. The Editors send condolences to both families.

The application process for the properties in the Bush Heath Lane development is still open. We would draw attention to the article in the magazine to check the procedure for applying.

It is disappointing to note that the vandalism to the Village Hall is still happening – over £1000 of damage most recently.

In Ladbroke, the HS2 Fighting Fund has almost reached its target of £10,000 and the residents are preparing for action!

The Editors wish all their readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

The calendar of refuse collections has been changed over the Christmas period and details are shown in the magazine.

Finally, we express our condolences to the family of Mary Teague.

## Harbury Diary

### DECEMBER

- |      |   |  |
|------|---|--|
| Sat  | 4 | Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Southam Guides<br>Christmas Fayre 2.00pm – 4.00pm in Village Hall<br>Southam Lions Santa visiting Harbury between 3.30pm – 8.00pm<br>Beading Buddies Group, Social Evening, 7.00pm-9.00pm in Tom Hauley Room |
| Sun  | 5 | <b>ADVENT II</b><br>Sung Eucharist 9.00am<br>First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room<br>Advent Carol Service 6.00pm  |
| Mon  | 6 | Village Hall Management Cttee 7.30pm in Village Hall   |
| Tues | 7 | Holy Communion 7.30pm<br>Horticultural Society 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room   |

- Thurs 9 Holy Communion 9.45am  
Harbury Choir School 6.30pm in Village Hall  
Bridge Club, 7.00pm, Harbury Village Club  
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room – Christmas Flowers by  
Gillian Hawtin
- Fri 10 Tai Chi 7.00-8.30pm in Village Hall
- Sat 11 Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of  
Southam Inner Wheel  
Senior Citizens Christmas Party 5.00pm in Village Hall
- Sun 12 ADVENT III**  
Holy Communion 8.00am  
Sung Eucharist 10.30am  
Harbury Pre-school Christmas Market 1.00pm – 6.00pm in  
Village Hall  
Christmas Concert 3.00pm at Galanos House, Southam  
Tel: 01926 812185
- Tues 14 Toddlers Service 2.00pm Tom Hauley Room  
Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Weds 15 Tea 3.00pm Tom Hauley Room  
ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: 31 BINSWOOD END,  
HARBURY BY 5.30PM  
“Beer and Carols” 7.00pm at The Crown Inn
- Thurs 16 Holy Communion 9.45am  
Bridge Club, 7.00pm, Harbury Village Club
- Fri 17 SCHOOL ENDS  
Tai Chi 7.00-8.30pm in Village Hall
- Sat 18 Free Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room  
Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am Tom Hauley Room  
Moving Pictures 'A Christmas Carol' doors open 4.00 film starts  
4.30pm in Village Hall
- Sun 19 ADVENT IV**  
Holy Communion 8.00am  
Sung Eucharist 10.30am  
Christingle Service 4.00pm  
Evensong 6.00pm
- Tues 21 Holy Communion 7.30pm  
NB No Mothers' Union meeting
- Thurs 23 Holy Communion 9.45am  
ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH STREET AND  
EMAIL ARTICLES DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
- Fri 24 CHRISTMAS EVE  
Dressing of the Crib 2.00pm  
Village Carol Service 6.30pm  
Midnight Mass 11.15pm
- Sat 25 CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Sung Eucharist 9.00am

**Sun 26 First Sunday of Christmas, St. STEPHEN'S DAY**

Holy Communion 8.00am

Sung Eucharist 10.30am

Tues 28 Holy Communion 7.30pm

No Julian Meeting

Weds 29 No Drop in Tea

Thurs 30 Holy Communion 9.45am

Bridge Club, 7.00pm, Harbury Village Club

New Year Dance in Village Hall

**JANUARY 2011**Sat 1 Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of  
Ladbroke Church**Sun 2 Sung Eucharist 9.00am**

First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room

Quiet Contemplative Service in the Celtic Tradition 6.00pm

Tues 4 Holy Communion 7.30pm

Weds 5 SCHOOL STARTS

Mothers' Union Party 2.30pm Tom Hauley Room

Thurs 6 Holy Communion 9.45am

Men's Group Meeting 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room – Jacob Hunt  
- Conjuring

Art Group 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room - Snow Scenes

Folk Club 8.00pm at the Dog Inn

Sat 8 Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of  
Mothers' UnionSat 9 Pilates 9.00am and Zumba Fitness 10.00am in Village Hall  
Tel: 0789 067 1869**Refuse Collection Rota**

	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Refuse Collection Week
<b>December</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Fri</b>	
	8	9	10	<b>Green &amp; Blue Lid Bins</b>
	15	16	17	Grey Bin
	22	23	24	<b>Green &amp; Blue Lid Bins</b>
	Thur 30	Fri 31		Grey Bin
<b>Jan</b>			Mon 3	Grey Bin
	Thur 6	Fri 7	Sat 8	<b>Green &amp; Blue Lid Bins</b>
	12	13	14	Grey Bin





## From the Rector

**Father Craig Grocock**

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel.: 612377

### **Hang on a bit . . it won't hurt!**

We are once again in the Advent season – the four weeks running up to Christmas. Such a mad time this, probably one of the busiest times of the year for all of us as we frantically try to get everything ready in time for Christmas. We had our Family Service this last week where we thought about Advent and its central theme of waiting. We live in a world that doesn't do waiting all that well. Everything is instant where waiting is simply (in the words of my son) boring. There's instant credit, instant TV where we can access programmes on the internet without the bother of having to wait for a particular day or time and then there always is a player of course. We even have instant coffee and tea (what is that about?) because we can't wait to brew it...!

Waiting has become a countercultural thing. People often say "The waiting is the hardest bit..." And I'm sure that's true; which is why maybe we need to sit with the difficult; to inhabit that space and to re-gain God's perspective.

Advent traditionally has been a season of the year where we take a step back and reflect on what God's coming to us in the baby of Bethlehem really means. Sure, during this season all of us are preparing for the great Christian festival of Christmas - buying and wrapping the presents, decorating the house, and even arranging the family visits! But Advent is about much more than this. It invites all of us to take some time out to think about Jesus' coming to us, not just as an event in history, but his coming to each of us every day of the week.

So, take some time out this Advent to 'hang on a bit', to stop, think and reflect. Enjoy the season of Advent for what it's meant to be, slow down a bit, watch and wait and then be truly prepared to celebrate the greatest event the world has ever known with real joy.

Advent blessings.

## **From the Registers**

### *Funerals at Oakley Woods*

22 November Mary Elizabeth Teague





## From the Churchwardens

Will & Fliss

When you read this, Advent, the beginning of the Church's year, a time when we wait for the coming of Christmas, will be upon us. In his presentation at the November Family Communion Service, "This is our Story", Father Craig, with the help of a letter, appropriately delivered by Lesley, and a mobile phone message, took as his theme, "Watching and Waiting". We all know how difficult it can be to wait for something exciting, something that we really want, but Father Craig urged us to resist the commercial pressures that the world hurls at us in the weeks before Christmas. If we use the time in quiet watching and waiting for the birth of Christ, then the coming festival will be all the more special.

The Church was full for the Service of Remembrance on 14<sup>th</sup> November. It was especially good to see many of the young uniformed groups with us. As war goes on in Afghanistan and other parts of the world where so many young people are dying, this service becomes ever more moving.

On 20<sup>th</sup> November, we held our second Family Social Evening. It was very well attended and it was lovely to see so many families there. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the food, fun, games and music. Thank you to Beryl and her team who made the event such a success.

PLEASE NOTE that on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December, the 10.30am service will be **Sung Eucharist** not the **Family Communion**. At 4.00pm that day, we have the **Christingle**, a lovely service of light for families and for everyone – children of all ages! Come and join us and prepare for the coming of Christ, light of the world, into our lives.



## Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

Time to send Christmas greetings to all our members.

At our afternoon meeting in November, members enjoyed a session of "Songs my mother taught me". Accompanied by Michael Hare, we sang ourselves hoarse and were gratified to realise how much has lodged in our memories from our childhoods. A lesson for us all – sing to our children and grandchildren; they are not critical and we can give them a lifelong gift.

The evening meeting was our AGM. We are pleased that Sue will continue as Branch Leader for another year, but are sorry that Barbara

has stepped down from the committee after 8½ years of service. Thank you Barbara, for your commitment and reliability.

Financially we are on an even keel and our coffee mornings have enabled us to make contributions to M.U projects at home and abroad. Next year's subscription will be £15.75; it will help Marion if this is in an envelope with your name on, but not until after Christmas please!

Our shoebox packing resulted in 80 boxes for Romania – wonderful. Also 6 gifts for prisoners' families have been sent off.

By the time of reading this, we shall have attended the Diocesan Advent service, enjoyed an afternoon of Christmas table decorations and (hopefully) run a colourful and profitable stall at the Christmas Fayre. Doesn't Mary make a stunning princess?

We have no evening meeting in December, so hope to see you all on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2.30pm for a tea party. Please bring a "bran tub" gift, value no more than £1.50.

And please support our coffee morning on 8<sup>th</sup> January. As well as help on the day, we need raffle prizes, cakes, produce and (good) bric-a-brac. This will enable us to continue our support for the many worthwhile projects under the banner of Mothers' Union.



## **Toddlers' Service**

**Lorna Bedford**

To begin our service we sang the song "Whether you're one or whether you're two". Mrs Dorothy Travis then told us the story of how a little boy gave Jesus five loaves and two fishes which Jesus then fed to 5000 people! We said a prayer and thanked God for all the food we eat. We did the actions to the song "He's got the whole world in his hands" and, while the children walked round in a circle, the adults sang the song "A boy who gave Jesus five loaves and two fish".

For all the songs Mr Michael Hare accompanied us on the accordion.

To take home, we stuck gold paper scales on to a brightly coloured paper fish which made the fish sparkle. After our activities, we had our refreshments and playtime until it was time to go home.

Our next Toddler Service is on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December in the Tom Hauley Room (entrance via the Chuch). Babies and toddlers accompanied by an adult are all welcome to come and join us. We look forward to seeing you there.

# Ladbroke News & Diary

## DECEMBER

**Sun 5**

### ADVENT II

Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments

Tues 7

Photography Club 7.30pm in Village Hall

Wed 8

Women's Institute Carol Service, 7.30pm in Church

Thurs 9

Beer and Carols, 7.30pm, The Bell Inn

Sat 11

Christmas Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall

**Sun 12**

### ADVENT III

Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am

Wed 15

ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE OF HARBURY NEWS TO  
31 BINSWOOD END BY 5.30PM

**Sun 19**

### ADVENT IV

Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer), 9.00am

Thurs 23

ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH STREET  
AND EMAIL ARTICLES DEADLINE BY 5.30PM

Friday 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

Dressing of the Crib Service, 3.00pm in Church

**Sat 25**

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Family Communion (sung), 10.30am

**Sun 26**

### St. STEPHEN'S DAY

Holy Communion, 9.00am

Tue 28

Village Carol Service, 6.30pm in Church

## JANUARY

**Sun 2**

**Family Communion, 10.30am followed by  
refreshments**



## Ladbroke Church News

**Sue Lord**



Our Harvest Supper last month was enjoyed by over 60 people. An excellent meal was followed by a surprise cabaret. The photograph shows Father Craig and Sue enjoying the evening.

An Act of Remembrance Service was held on the

afternoon of Sunday 14th November. This was very well attended by the village and by representatives of various organisations who laid wreaths.

By the time this edition reaches you all, we will have had our Christmas Fayre on November 27th which we trust will have been well supported and able to raise more funds for the Church.

Work has commenced to clear an area outside the Church on which to place the bench in memory of Alan and Nancy Stubbs. This should be completed in the very near future.

We have an ongoing list of repair work mainly focusing on outside pointing. It is also hoped to carry out improvements to internal plaster work in the New Year.

This year we will be singing carols at the Bell Inn, Ladbroke on Thursday 9th December at 7.00pm. Please come and join us to start the Christmas celebrations

Dressing the Crib is as usual at 3.00pm on Christmas Eve and the Christmas Day service this year is at 10.30am. The Carol Service takes place on December 28th at 6.30pm and everyone is welcome.

Very best wishes and blessings for this festive season from the PCC and Church Wardens, Sue and Steve.



## Ladbroke Parish Council

Betty Winkfield

**Items from the Minutes:** Fr. Craig had thanked the Council for their wreath and support at the Remembrance Day Service in Church. He was very pleased with all the support from a large congregation.

**Matters Arising:** There were complaints about the heap of cuttings, shrubbery etc building up from the caravan at the entrance to Ladbroke (North Side). These should have been burnt on the Bonfire.

The replacement gritting bin has been supplied; the clerk will contact the Highways Department about a grit supply.

**Parking Problems in Windmill Lane:** The Chairman distributed eleven questionnaires to residents asking for their concerns regarding parking in the lane – six households responded. A consensus view will be indicated. The only area of agreement was that no oak stumps are required and the need for the black and white posts were questioned. Several residents are quite happy to leave things as they are. The black and white posts are the responsibility of the Highways Department; they were put in place to stop parking on the verges and identify the roadway edges.

**Finances:** The monthly financial spreadsheet was approved and the various payments made. The Precept for 2010/11 was discussed and the Council agreed that it would remain unchanged for the next year.

**HS2:** Their fund raising target of £10,000 is almost reached. A request for a grant for the Action Group has been received, there was much discussion about this. Grants are usually only given for specific items, e.g. chairs for the Village Hall or play equipment for the Millennium Green. The Council are to give it their consideration.

**Planning Applications** have been made and approved mainly for the felling of trees.

**Parish Plan:** This has now been adopted by Stratford District Council with a recommendation of early updating. The Plan can be viewed on the SDC website, also on the Village Web site.

Discussion pursued the need for 'hard copies', therefore could all residents that would prefer a hard copy of the Ladbroke Parish Plan please advise the parish clerk preferably by email at clerk-ladbrokepc@tiscali.co.uk or by phone on 01926 613998.

**The Village Hall** held their AGM on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November. A newsletter has been handed to the Council about extra funding for community buildings. Applications for grants of £100,000 to £500,000 can be made from December. It is Lottery money and, given the economic climate, the completion for grants is likely to be intense.

**Millennium Green:** Following the planting of a memorial tree in memory of Cllr Janice Berry, a plaque has been fitted to the tree. The Wine Tasting Evening held early in the month was well attended, and a happy time was had by all.

**Future Parish Council Meetings:** The Council is going to consider reducing the number of meetings annually from 10 per year to 8, especially as all planning applications are now 'online'. The next meeting is on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 7.45pm. There will be no meeting in December 2010 or February 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

	<p><b>Ladbroke &amp; Deppers Bridge Women's Institute</b></p>	<p><b>Carol Lane</b></p>
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The Annual General Meeting, held on the 28<sup>th</sup> October opened with the pleasing news that our member and friend, Beryl Ross was home from hospital having made excellent progress from her stroke a month ago.



It is a measure of the contentment of the Association that the members of the committee were all willing to stand for re-election. Sue Moore was then elected to be president for the coming year and Lesley Jeffries was thanked for her 4 years in this office. Thus the committee

comprises Sue Moore, Collette Batty, Pam Collins, Kay Constable, Julie Harris, Rachel Thomson and Janet Yeates.

Dates for later this year and next year's diary were given out:

December 8 <sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm	W.I. Carol Service in Ladbroke Church
February 26 <sup>th</sup> 2011	Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room
March 9 <sup>th</sup> 2011	Dance Day in Hatton Village Hall
March 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2011	Spring Council

At the end of the business section, we were entertained by 'Four Girls Bright and Beautiful' when Sue, Ann Edwards, Lesley and Kay gave us their interpretation of the well known hymn. They were using the meeting as a rehearsal for performing it at Denman College when they attended the Warwickshire weekend. Apart from entertaining



others on the Saturday evening, Sue and Kay studied a course on the architecture of Oxford, Lesley took part in a dancing experience and Ann experimented with silk painting.

The meeting on November 25<sup>th</sup> was the first to be chaired by our new president, Sue Moore who was to be particularly thanked for choosing to spend her birthday evening in this way.

Lawrence Washington introduced himself as the Lord of the Manor of Sulgrave and Stuchbury, the whole 2,500 acre estate, including 2 villages, having been bought from Henry VIII in 1539.

Prior to entertaining us with the festivities in Tudor times, Lawrence explained that a pagan winter festival preceded Christianity by thousands of years. The period of the 12 days starting on December 21<sup>st</sup> was called Saturnalia by the Romans and Yuletide by other Northern tribes. Their homes were decorated using holly and ivy, when it was thought that evil spirits lived in evergreens such as these. When the 12 days of festivities were over, the noise made by the burning of the greenery was thought to be the dying screams of the spirits and that the new year could then start without evil.

We were told that it was Pope Julius 1<sup>st</sup> who decided to link Christianity with the winter festival and named 25<sup>th</sup> December as a mass for the birth of Christ.

It was so interesting to learn the origins of some of the traditions still in use. The Yule log used to be cut and dragged through the village decorated with ribbons which brought good luck to those who touched it. This burned for all 12 days in the Manor House and bad luck befell on all if it was allowed to go out.

The mince pie was originally made of mutton with fruit and spices used as a preservative so that they would last throughout the winter.

The character in the red coat distributing presents was first seen in the Mummers' plays in 1380.

Oliver Cromwell briefly put a stop to the fun but Charles II on his return from France brought many new customs which, with additions from the Victorians, last to our modern day.

More information on Sulgrave Manor can be seen on [www.sulgravemanor.org.uk](http://www.sulgravemanor.org.uk)



**Ladbroke Photography Club**

**Jackie West**

Our November meeting was on the topic "What makes a good picture and how can I improve mine?". We split up into small groups to review photos in books, magazines and some of our own efforts too, discovering that the best examples often followed the basic rules of composition, depth of field and exposure. For example landscapes had everything from foreground to distant features in sharp focus, while flowers and wildlife used a



shallow depth of field to blur the background and make the main subject stand out more clearly.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday December 7th, starting at 7.30pm** on the topic **Shedding Some Light on Camera Settings**. After an introduction to the subject, the majority of the evening will be hands on, taking pictures on our own cameras to explore the effect of different lighting and flash settings. During the evening we will also have a **competition on the subject "Autumn"**. To enter, bring along up to 3 prints of photos you have taken on this theme recently or in previous years. The prints can be any size as we will have 2 categories - one for small prints, the other for larger ones / photos by the more experienced photographers amongst us. Everyone is welcome at our meetings from beginners to experts and there is no problem if you just want to come along to try us out or to a specific meeting because you are interested in that topic - just check with one of the regulars or send an email to [jackieszone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jackieszone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk) for confirmation of the venue.



## Ladbroke General Section

### New Year's Eve

**Back by Popular Demand** – New Year's Eve with the family at Ladbroke Village Hall, 8.00pm start. Entertainment provided by Alan Lochhead, Supper and Bar. £12.00 per person. Children under 12 - £5.00.

For tickets contact, Christine Baker Tel. 811606 or Janet Goldson Tel. 817733.

**Christine Baker**

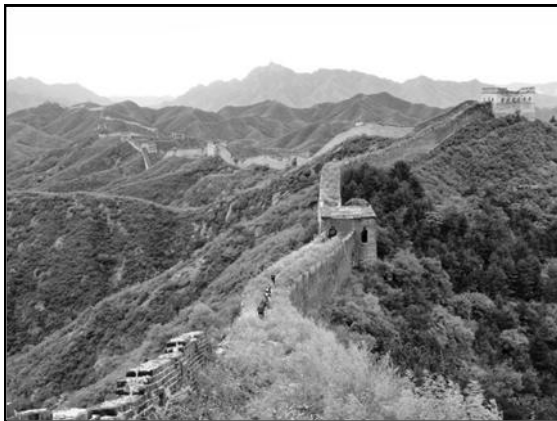
### Black Country Comedy Evening

Black Country Comedy Evening at Ladbroke Village Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011. Tickets are £12.00 per person. For more details and tickets, please contact Christine Tel. 811606, Janet Tel. 817733 or Margie Tel. 817312.

**Christine Baker**



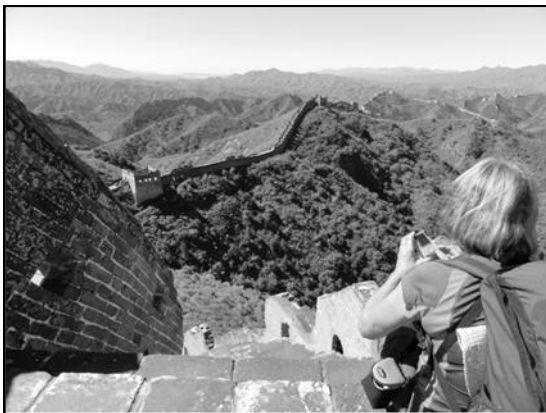
## Trek China 2010 - September 18<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>



When my father died last year of Parkinson's Disease and I booked myself onto Trek China 2010 to raise money for Parkinson's UK; I didn't fully realise what I was letting myself in for, and anyway, I had ten months to prepare (so I told myself)! But reality is not always the dream and for me, the five day walk along the Great Wall of China in September proved to be the

biggest physical and mental challenge I've ever experienced! If I'd known what I was taking on I don't think I'd have done it, but having said that, to finish five days of walking averaging eight hours a day; in weather from torrential rain to blazing sunshine; in temperatures from 5 to 25C and as much up and down steps as on the level and even rock climbing ..... well, I still have to look at the photographs to believe I actually made it, but in the post today came my certificate of proof and an acknowledgement of the £3,146.50 I raised (which doesn't include the gift aid), just a small portion of nearly £70,000 the twenty of us raised together.

To see one of the world's amazing wonders was good enough in itself, but I feel I also saw the real China .... the Chinese people still living in their small houses in little hamlets in the isolated valleys along the shadow of the Great Wall, living a day to day life of self-sufficiency from hand to mouth; the schools where the pupils walk an hour to school



and their only word outside Mandarin being "Hello" and yet where a mobile phone will ring between them and Beijing, four hours drive away, where maybe their only son or daughter has moved to gain an education and perhaps will never move back again. The old men and women still wore what we would consider traditional dress as they worked alongside

each other in the fields, but the younger generations would have looked at home in the UK or USA, but then, think of where our clothes and fashions are coming from today! Materials were not necessarily cheap, but labour most certainly was and this seems to be what makes the difference.

So thank you to all of you who made donations. You not only made physical donations in money towards further research into Parkinson's Disease and for the provision of special nurses, but you also spiritually donated into my life for a week and I too have come away from this experience with treasures.

**Linda Doyle**

## **Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club**

The results of the draws for September and October were:

### **September**

£80 Geoff Timms  
£50 Margaret Whitehouse  
£25 Jill Norgate  
£10 Steve Copley  
£10 Christine Baker  
£10 Derek & Collette Batty  
£10 Graham & Pauline Long  
£10 Susan Moore

### **October**

Scott & Siobhan Roberson  
Geoff Timms  
Peter & Janet Goldson  
Pam Collins  
Alan Lord  
Alan Lochhead  
Wild Indians  
Pat Kennedy

**Janet Goldson**



**Harbury Parish Council**

**Linda Ridgley**

*Official minutes can be viewed in the Library on the Parish Council website [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk) or obtained from the Parish Clerk Tel: 01926 614646*

### **October 2010**

Young blood amidst the audience last month when Guv from the Post Office came along to see what it was all about.

It was unfortunately a long meeting, not helped by a closed session which forced the watchers to decamp to the entrance hall of the Tom Hauley Room.

**Public Participation** - A Constance Drive resident was concerned that some of the lights in the Playing Fields car park are on all night and the area attracted youths on noisy motor cycles. Cllr Pat Summers said the Fields had certainly been churned up by motor cycles and scooters.

The Council hoped to install a new timer for the lights. They pointed out that two of the posts designed to stop cars entering the fields had been destroyed and Cllr Hancock reminded everyone of the difficulties an ambulance crew had had recently attending a casualty on the fields.

Although residents informed the police whenever there was a disturbance they were advised to attend the Community Forum and lobby for Harbury to be the focus of the police initiative on anti-social behaviour.

Both Cllrs Thompson and Ekins had been to the last Forum and pressed for action to address the problem of vandalism and youth anti-social behaviour.

**Village Hall** - Cllrs Patrick and Thornley reported fund-raising for the Hall was going well and a bid had been made to Veolia Environmental Trust to repair the extension roof and insulate it preparatory to installing Photo-Voltaic panels.

**Spending Cuts** - Council Chairman Tim Lockley was pleased to announce that the freeze on rate increases did not apply to Parish Councils. (Remember that all that money is spent in the Parish for our benefit, not spread around the District or County).

District Councillor Beverley Mann reported Stratford had to make £419,000 of savings and was to reduce its Management Structure.

County Councillor Bob Stevens said their Budget Statement was anticipated to include a 26% reduction in services, but that the government would not ring-fence the money the County received, leaving them to decide where to cut.

Schools grants were not directly affected but County Council staff were being told six months in advance of potential job cuts of 1,000 out of 18,000 employees. He hoped that Harbury would still have a Library but it could be housed elsewhere and staffed by volunteers.

Coventry and Warwickshire had been chosen to be one of the Local Enterprise Partnerships. The PCT and Statutory Heath Authority functions would be handed over to three GP Consortia. The County Council would take on responsibility for Public Health. Cllr Hancock, a doctor herself, pointed out that currently there were no hip operations being done.

**Planning** - Stratford granted permission for a pitched roof at 19 Deppers Bridge, the relocation of stables at 11 The Beeches, and extensions at 65 Mill Street and 5 Ivy Lane.

The Parish Council made no representations on the retrospective application for a pond at 10 Greenhill, the reduction in the crown of the protected walnut tree at Walnut Court, Wagstaffe Close and the re-roofing of The Cottage, High Street.

The Parish Council has suggested that the new Bush Heath Lane development road be named Hereburgh Way.

There followed a long discussion on the High Speed 2 Rail Link, but as the Chairman concluded, public consultation seemed pointless when the government had stated that the line was in the public interest and therefore the outcome seemed a foregone conclusion.

**Properties** - The BMX Track which was unusable at present would have the drainage improved at the end of the month. The young lad who was injured there was home and should make a full recovery, much to everyone's relief.

Cllrs inspections of the Play Areas would need to increase and Cllrs Knowles, Hancock and Ekins agreed to join the inspection team.

**Car Park** - Extra keys had been cut for the bollards and a notice ordered which would explain where they could be obtained in an emergency. A quote for five timer switches for the Car Park lighting of £350 had been received. The barrier is closed at 9pm.

**Dog Bins** - The Clerk reported that Stratford District had decided that dog waste could now be put in any of the bins and there followed long discussions over which bins would be redundant. Cllr Alan Knowles caused much hilarity when he commented that one of the dog bins was in any case not used, at least when he looked in it.

**Moles** - They are back in the top Field and Small Children's Play Area!

**Cemetery** - More relatives have been identified for some of the staked graves.

**Christmas Lights** - The Cllrs were pleased to agree to Gordon Bennett's initiative to raise money for the lights (with any surplus to youth projects) by setting up a Tree of Light scheme in memory of John Ridgley who had masterminded the lighting of the conifer at the Library. Money for repairs to the lights was agreed by the Council.

**Lighting** - Cllr Amanda Lewis had asked E-ON for quotes for the street lighting maintenance and the installation of LED lamps which should be 89% more efficient and reduce the power bill. She would seek other quotations too.

**Village Improvements** - The bollards for Binswood End were at last to be installed. The Speed Detector sign in Mill Street would be turned round. Cllr Patrick reported that the milk tanker still experienced difficulties accessing Trice's Farm because of parked cars. The Council had asked for an extension of the white lines indicating that the entrance should be kept clear but was told it was already at the maximum permitted.

They will look for some white paint of their own!

**Parish Plan** - The Chairman apologised for not being able to take forward the refreshing of the Parish Plan but Cllrs Thornley, Patrick and Summers volunteered to help him and Linda Ridgley promised to help too.

**Finance** - Cllrs were sad to hear that the Harbury branch of the British Legion was to close down due to the advancing age of its members. They agreed a donation to the Legions for the Remembrance Service.

At the end of the meeting Chairman Tim Lockley quipped that the Council could now do what it liked as government had abolished the Standards Board.

He was only joking! And Guv said he needed a pint!

Next Meeting: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 7.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room

## Harbury Parish Council – Quarterly Report

In the past six months the Parish Council has:

- Awarded grants to Moving Pictures to install a permanent screen in the Village Hall, to the Theatre Group and the Rugby Club.
- Continued to deal with vandalism as much as possible, including replacing damaged items and working with the police to apprehend culprits.
- Attended various briefing meetings about the Bush Heath Lane development and the proposed HS2 line.
- Continued to explore the option of moving to more energy efficient street lighting.

The PC would like to remind residents that it is crucially important to report any types of antisocial behaviour to the police. All calls are logged (please request an incident number) and the police will have to respond to large numbers of calls. Any obvious “hotspots” could also be used by the Parish Council to pressure the police for action. The next Community Forum meeting is on Dec 15th in Southam (venue to be arranged, please contact the Parish Clerk on 614646 for further details) where residents can bring matters to the attention of the police.

**Dr Tim Lockley**





## Harbury Society

**Linda Ridgley**

Mick Jeffs took us through the forces that made the Warwickshire Landscape: the geology and volcanic activity that formed the hard-rock ridge in the Nuneaton area, the Carboniferous rainforest of the Coal Measures, the desert sandstones of the Permian, the glaciations that created Lake Harrison which, when it drained away through Fenny Compton, caused the north-easterly flowing Avon to change course to join the Severn.

He described the impact of man; Bronze Age Barrows and the spooky Rollright Stones; the Roman Temple outside Coleshill and the Roman occupation at Alcester and Chesterton. (Finds from these sites are listed at [www.timetrail.warwickshire.gov.uk](http://www.timetrail.warwickshire.gov.uk)). He covered medieval ploughing and the change to sheep farming which preserved some of the ridge and furrow and then moved on to historic buildings and the industrial age's impact; turnpikes, canals, railways, waterworks, coal-mining, factories, wartime airfields and artefacts.

Mick reminded us of the CPRE's successful campaign to curb the spread of "ribbon development"; of the loss of hedgerows, the Pylons and phone masts that will remain long after their use is past; housing encroaching on the countryside, and now our tranquillity threatened by High Speed 2!

Next Event: Christmas Fayre - 4<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm Village Hall. Do try our Photographic Quiz.



## Harbury Women's Institute

**Jeanne Beaumont**

November was our AGM and saw the retirement of Ann Mayer. Ann has been an excellent President who has worked so hard during her three year term to keep Harbury W.I running efficiently. The Committee, some pretty new to W.I but who were helped by older members, have done a great job. It is all hard work but hopefully it is appreciated.

What would we do without Sylvia and Helen who have run the raffle for a very long time. If we had not had a member prepared to volunteer to be President, Harbury W.I would have folded. It is a great pleasure to welcome Janice Siddle as President.

Mrs Margaret Groad, a W.I. advisor, came to officiate proceedings. Many thanks also to Michael Hare who came to play a selection of music with a title to each on his keyboard.

The John Ridgley Shield was on show and we are honoured to be the first name on it.

Arrangements have been made to replace the W.I. tree in the children's play area. Let us hope it will be respected this time.

Thirty five shoeboxes were filled at the home of Ann Mayer and are being sent to Romania.

The walkers went to Ufton Fields on a pleasant day.

A reminder to members to remember to bring their "bran tub" present (£3) to the next meeting.

The coach leaves the Village Hall at 6.30pm on 6<sup>th</sup> January for the Pantomime.

We look forward to the Carol Service on the 8<sup>th</sup> December at Ladbroke Church.

We wish everybody Season's Greetings.

The next meeting will be on 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.45pm in the Tom Hauley Room, speaker – Gillian Hawtin on "Christmas Flowers".



## **Harbury Theatre Group**

**Keith Hayes**

By the time you read this you will all know whether the Pantomime was successful or not, but I write this before the event and I can only hope.

However, I do know that everyone is working very hard, all the final details are piling up and tempers have started to get frayed in all departments.

In our attempt to put on a pantomime, against the odds, we have chosen what appeared to be a simplified script, something that had been written for a group like ours with little resources. It did have its down side of course, limited chorus involvement, no big special effects, no dancing numbers, but it did have a script we could believe in and enjoy rehearsing. An essential ingredient. Remember, we do this for fun(!)

Following my appeal earlier this year, the response was heart warming. We have had new faces, faces from the past, help back stage, help in the technical departments and front of house, from all over the Village.

Who would believe that our "Cinders" didn't start rehearsing with us until about six weeks ago. She has done a wonderful job. All together I must say again: well done Harbury.



As I sit here biting my nails waiting for the event, I can only hope you have enjoyed it. I have been working with a lovely group of people. They have given their all to this production; I am proud of them.

There is a saying in theatre circles, "If the production was good the actors were wonderful, if the production was bad the director was rubbish." I am sure the actors I have been working with are wonderful, however, if it hasn't gone too well, my shoulders are broad.

Finally, we must start to think about our next production. We have the Hall booked for 14/15/16 April, but as yet we have to decide what to do.

So again we will be looking for ideas, actors, directors, technical staff etc. Can you help? Please contact Keith Hayes, [keith.hayes@which.net](mailto:keith.hayes@which.net).



## **Folk Club**

**Peter Bones**

One of the perks of being host for a meeting of Harbury Folk Club is that you choose the theme for the evening. Liz and I had recently been listening to a CD by the well known veteran singer song-writer Roy Bailey and realised that most of the songs which we enjoyed listening to, were giving words of wisdom and advice. Therefore, for the meeting of Harbury Folk Club on 4<sup>th</sup> November, we chose that as the theme and so ensured that we had plenty of material we could exploit.

With this theme in mind, Liz and I started the evening with a couple of songs, the second one being Roy Bailey's Silly Skin Song.

As far as numbers go, the evening was not too crowded. This reduced number, combined with posh new chairs now provided in the restaurant of the Dog Inn, made the evening very comfortable. Also, having fewer performers, it was good that we were able to fit in a third half during which some of the performers were able to return to the stage and do an extra item.

Once again the music and general entertainment provided by our 11 sets of performers was to a very high standard and the appreciative audience contributed to a pleasing atmosphere throughout the evening. For a full list of who sang what, please visit [www.Welcome.to/HarburyFolkClub](http://www.Welcome.to/HarburyFolkClub).

The culmination of the organised part of the evening was the last item in the third half which was the beautiful song "Everything is Possible", which was sensitively performed by Peter McDonald. This is another song made popular by Roy Bailey and finishes with the words "*The only measure of*

*your words and your deeds, will be the love you leave behind you when you're done".* I could not imagine there being a more appropriate final song.

After the organised part of the evening a number of musicians took part in an informal and lively music session for some 20 minutes before departing into the November night, at some time around 11:30pm.

When it came to the raffle we were very touched by the donation of two sizable meal vouchers as raffle prizes, by Wayne Harries, the proprietor of the Dog Inn. I am sure these contributed to the very handsome sum of £65.00 being raised for AVuk – a charity for whom our daughter Susannah works, and provides a specialised therapy for pre-school children who are profoundly deaf. Thanks to all those who bought tickets and to Wayne for his generosity in providing two of the prizes as well as making us so welcome in his pub.

The meeting in December would have taken place by the time you read this, so the next meeting will be on January 6<sup>th</sup>. As usual, it will be in the restaurant of the Dog Inn and starts at 8:00pm.



### **‘Shades of White’ - your Christmas present problems solved!**

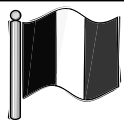
You may remember that the Harbury Folk Club Choir gave a carol concert in Harbury Church last Christmas. Judging by the size of the audience, many readers will have been there and may also remember that we recorded the performance. We have now produced a CD of the concert, entitled ‘Shades of White’, with all the proceeds going to our charities - Harbury Church and Leamington Christian Mission. We have already raised over £1,000 for these charities through our concerts and CD sales.

The new CD will be available at a stall at the Christmas Fayre on December 4<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall (2pm-4pm). If you don't catch us there, you can buy our CDs from the Fragrant Room or by phoning Margaret McDonald (613730) or, in Deppers Bridge, Lynne Cooke (612580). The price is £8 for one, £7 each for two or more.

Our previous CD, ‘A Christmas Celebration’, a recording of our 2005 concert, is also still available at a special price of £5.

Solve your Christmas present problems with a musical taste of Christmas in Harbury, safe in the knowledge that you are supporting two worthy charities.

**Peter McDonald**  
**Harbury Folk Club Choir**



## Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys

In November the Association held our twelfth Annual General Meeting and I would like to thank all those who attended. Without going into full detail of the proceedings, all of which will be issued in due time, I will give the following information. The retiring committee was re-elected for the coming year, with myself as chairman.

Our Treasurer presented the audited accounts, which I am pleased to say showed a healthy balance, which will be needed when we host our French friends when they visit Harbury in June. Under the rules as set down in our Constitution this must be my last year as Chairman so we would be very pleased to have proposals for a successor.

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December we will be holding our Christmas party in the Tom Hauley Room. Would those who have not already done so let my wife Sallie know what dish they propose to provide. i.e. main course or sweet.



**Harbury RFC**

## Harbury Mini & Midi Rugby

Mike Steele

### 31st October - At home to Daventry

#### Under 14s

#### Harbury 32 v Daventry 5

An outstanding team effort saw Harbury Under 14s overcome Daventry.

Early pressure saw No 8 Robert Rollason tackled 5 metres out; he passed the ball to Scrum Half Ted Easton who scored in the corner.

Rory Picken broke many tackles to score two good tries. Finn Toner, Joe Webster, Billy Bowman-Shaw, Josh Buckley, Josh Biggs, Henry Steele, Connor Gladwin and Ben Taylor all rucked well and constantly drove Daventry backwards.

After half time from a crash ball penalty, Daventry forwards broke through Harbury's defence to score. Full back Max Brown under pressure ran the ball back from his own 22 to score a fantastic individual try in the corner.

Harbury forwards dominated and it was no surprise when Flanker Finn Toner ripped the ball in a maul and made it to the try line.

Wingers William Rea, Shane Fennell and Adam Grey all broke tackles and made strong runs. From the restart Simon Fisher caught the ball and set up Man of the Match, Max Brown for another outstanding run and try which Josh Biggs converted.

## **7th November - Away to Redditch**

### **Under 13s**

#### **Redditch 34 v Harbury 27**

Harbury under 13s travelled to Redditch with the bare minimum of 15 players due to injury, illness and unavailability, this also meant that several players had to play out of position, but to a player they knuckled down and played some excellent rugby.

Harbury opened up the scoring with the first try from Ben Taylor which came after some strong mauling from the forwards. This was countered by two tries in return from Redditch and the first half ended 10 - 5 to Redditch.

With the change of ends and the slope now with Harbury, they hoped the tide would turn. Unfortunately this didn't happen and Redditch scored four unanswered tries and two conversions and Harbury were 34 - 5 down and very nearly out. Then Harbury produced 20 minutes of excellent rugby, including a try each for Ben and Neil Taylor with their usual rumbling runs, one try for Henry Steele after a fantastic tackle and ruck clear out from Josh Hill which left Henry a simple pick and go to score. The best of the tries came from George McGowan after a fantastic backs move with George joining in from Full Back to score. This rounded off a great game for George who must also be commended for yet another try saving tackle earlier in the game, taking the opposition runner out right on the corner flag to prevent a certain try!

With a penalty awarded to Harbury within sight of the try line Henry Steele took a quick tap and forced himself within inches of the line and a maul ensued. Unfortunately the referee saw it as a ruck and deemed the ball to have been handled on the ground and blew up for full time. Unlucky Harbury - as always you didn't give up and very nearly pulled off what would have been a fabulous come back. **Well done boys.**

## **21 November 2010 - Home to Shipston**

### **Under 14s**

#### **Harbury 10 v 33 Shipston**

Harbury Under 14s played very well defensively against a well drilled Shipston side, with some very large players. The villagers lost most of the scrums and lineouts because of the superior size and weight, but were

equal or better in the rucks and mauls. Whenever the Shipston backs got the ball they looked dangerous, scoring three tries in the first half.

Aaron Ward and Billy Bowman-Shaw both put in try saving tackles. Finn Toner and Sam Cave worked hard, picking and driving to the five metre line where Joe Webster was able to crash over to score.

In a far more even second half, Harbury got up quickly to the Shipston backs and forced them to make more mistakes. Finn Toner was held up on the line and after good rucking from Robert Rollason and Simon Fisher. Wingers Shane Fennell and Max Brown put in good tackles on their opposite numbers. Jack Hewson often made ground under considerable pressure. A fine individual run from Aaron Ward saw Harbury score, this was soon equalised by Shipston in the last minute of the Game.

## Under 13s

### Harbury 19 v Shipston 7



First 'home match' at Southam College is a success!

Harbury played their first home fixture at Southam College on Sunday - due to drainage work being carried out on a large part of Harbury's pitches, we are having to play some fixtures at the College and what a start.

Harbury started off on the right foot and dominated the

opening exchanges which culminated in the first try scored by Alex Marston in the corner. This was successfully converted by George McGowan. Harbury continued to play the better rugby with Harry Turnock - Rogers (on debut for Harbury) and William Irvine standing out with some strong runs, support play and some fantastic tackling from James Darlison and Alex Marston. Harbury's second try came from continued pressure on the Shipston try line resulting in a line out near Shipton's 5m line, which was disrupted by the Harbury forwards and a marauding run from Ben Taylor saw him pick up the loose ball and, unstoppable from short range, dive over for their second try. Half Time 12 – 0.

Multiple changes were made at half time to Harbury's side, but this did not disrupt their dominance of the game, all be it only resulting in one try in the half from some fine forward play and Ben Taylor rumbling over the try

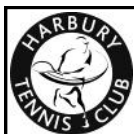
line for his second try of the day. This was duly converted by George McGowan. Shipston managed a breakaway try in the last minute of the game to give them a hard earned 7 points.

Well done lads keep up the good work.

## **Away to Shipston**

### **Under 10s**

Harbury U10s acquitted themselves very well against a very strong well drilled Shipston side. 15 players rolled up of which 7 were new comers to this season, despite this they stuck to their task and showed good spirit. Shipston won both games 6 tries to nil, but Harbury showed commitment and much improved performances from Sam, Tom, Cirah and Katherine.



## **Harbury Tennis Club**

**Colin and Sue Mercer**

In Division 4 of the Banbury Winter League the Club continued an unbeaten start to the season with a draw in a keenly contested match against Tysoe. Colin Mercer and Paul Crowton got off to a good start with a comfortable 6-2, 6-1 win but the visiting ladies proved too strong for Sara Peters and Debbie Radford. That left the match evenly poised going into the mixed doubles and it looked promising with Harbury winning the opening sets in both matches, but unfortunately Tysoe finished strongly to win both second sets and earn a draw. The next game was away at Middleton Cheney and it was a case of back to earth with a bump! Caroline and Colin were joined by Sue Mercer and Keith Thompson and crashed to a 1-7 defeat. Caroline and Keith secured Harbury's point winning their second set 6-1 after narrowly losing the first 5-7.

In the Stratford League the Men's doubles team suffered a heavy defeat at Wildmoor, newcomers to the league. Regulars Steve Stark and Geoff Prince were joined by Paul Crowton and Tim Lockley but the home side were too strong and Harbury lost 0-4. However, there were good signs of improvement in the next match at home to West Warwicks with Steve being joined by Keith Thompson and Alan and Jon Guy. Steve and Jon were in dominant form and won both their rubbers in straight sets. Keith and Alan lost their first rubber, also in straight sets, but settled down in their second and took the visitors to three sets which was enough to ensure a draw. The improvement continued in the next match against Ardencote where Steve, Geoff, Jon, and Tim played exceptionally well to earn the Club's first win of the season by 3 rubbers to 1. It was a very long match with 3 of the 4 rubbers going to 3 sets.

In the Floodlit League Division 3 the team is having a hard time and went to the bottom of the league following successive defeats against Hook Norton 2 and Towcester. Caroline Morland, Debbie Radford, Keith Thompson and Robert Stockdale (who was making his league debut) travelled to Hook Norton and despite having some close games returned without a point. In the next match, at home to Towcester, Caroline and Keith were joined by Karin Kirk and Steve Fitzgerald. The team managed a point when Caroline and Keith halved their rubber but the visitors returned to Northamptonshire with a 7-1 win. However, like the men's doubles the team bounced back and secured its first win against Hook Norton 3 in a long drawn out match. Jon Guy and Richard Everett got off to a good start winning both sets. Eira Owen partnered Caroline and after losing the first set fought back well to take the second on a tiebreak and halve the rubber. Needing only 2 sets in the mixed doubles to win the match Harbury went one better to come home with a 6-2 win.



There has been competition activity for both Seniors and Juniors. Somewhat later than usual were the Club's Ladies and Men's Singles, both played on the same day. After the round robin stages the finals were between Sue Panton and Janice Montague, and Geoff Prince and teenager Josh Marshall. Sue and Geoff were the winners and are pictured with their trophies. On the Junior front we have a squad regularly competing in the Warwickshire Mini-Red league which is the youngest age group at 8 and under. Millie Thompson, Edward Lockley, Rees Moor and Dominic Whitfield are the squad members. Moving up the age range we have Adam Bennett and Tom English in the Orange Boys (9 years old) and David Simmonds, Adam Whitfield and Alex Sabin playing in the Green Boys which is for 10 year olds. Between them they have had

some excellent results and we look forward to many more youngsters competing regularly as our Junior programme continues to make good progress under James Marsh.



## Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

**New starter:** We were delighted to welcome new starters Charles and Amy during November and they have settled in very well with their new friends at Pre-School.

**Diwali:** We began by talking about the Diwali Festival of Light, with the children making clay diwa lamps and singing the “Little Lamps” song. Indian style clothes adorned the dressing up rail and naan bread was enjoyed at snack time. Especially popular were the Indian sweets made in the afternoon session.

**Fireworks:** After the fireworks display in the park, the children were encouraged to talk about what they had liked or disliked about their experiences. They then produced some fabulous pictures, using pastels to draw bonfires and dribbling glue onto black card

before shaking on multi-coloured glitter to create a marvellous firework effect. Physical skills were put to the test outside as the children created “bonfires” with large materials such as blocks, cartons, logs and cardboard tubes. They also experimented with a range of movements as they pretended to be the fireworks!



**Autumn:** With the leaves on the trees turning to autumnal shades, we went on our autumn walks to the spinney, collecting leaves, twigs and conkers along the

way. In the spinney, we took bark rubbings on the trees and used listening spheres to identify sounds among the trees: “I can hear a train” – Charlie: “I can hear the wind” – Ruby. It was a typically cold, autumn day so we all went back to Pre-School for a mug of hot chocolate. Later, we read the story of “The Leaf Man” which inspired some fantastic pictures and collages made with the leaves and other items collected on the walk. The children also enjoyed hearing about “Hodge the Hedgehog” and retelling the story with the help of our story sack and several autumnal songs were sung at circle time. We’d like to share a poem written from the children’s quotes about the autumn walks.



**"Swish, swish, kicking  
the leaves,**

**A river of leaves near  
the spinney.**

**Put leaves in my  
bucket and listened to  
the trees in the  
spinney.**

**Running down the  
hills,**

**Climbing the trees in  
the spinney.**



**Closed my eyes, listening –**

**And there was a train!**

**Watching to see the track from the  
spinney."**

**Parents' Evening and AGM:** It was wonderful to see so many parents at Parents' Evening and to be able to share their children's learning journals with them. We would also like to thank all those who attended another successful AGM at Pre-School.



For further information about Harbury Pre-School, please e-mail [bud.jackson@btinternet.com](mailto:bud.jackson@btinternet.com) or telephone on 07939 122087. The web site can be found at [www.harburypre-school.org.uk](http://www.harburypre-school.org.uk).



## **Harbury Christmas Market**

Harbury Pre-School are holding a Christmas Market on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 1pm-6pm at Harbury Village Hall.

Come and finish your Christmas Shopping or, if you've had enough of all that, come and put your feet up, bring your friends and family and enjoy a glass or two of mulled wine while getting into the Christmas Spirit. This year we have over 30 fantastic stalls including Christmas decorations and wreaths; vintage cake stands; original silver jewellery; Venture Photography; traditional wooden toys and one stall which promises to have a gift for every man in your life!! Pino and Caroline Icaruso will be there along with Cana wines and Hambridge

Hampers offering a range of delicious foods to try and buy. Cana wines will be running a bar and also offering wine tasting so you can be sure to pick the perfect wines for all your Christmas Festivities.

Also, why not visit Santa Claus and have your photograph taken with the great guy himself. All children visiting Father Christmas get a gift and also, what better gift for those adoring grandparents than a photo of their grandchild with Father Christmas! Gael Conway (Harbury Pre-School) will be recording individual shots of all children visiting Father Christmas.

Christmas Carols; mince pies and homemade cakes; free festive quizzes with the chance to win a meal from a top class local restaurant or bottle of champagne for Christmas Day.

Mulled wine with mince pies in addition to hot dogs or children's snacks, will be available from our café.

What are you waiting for! We can't wait to see you there!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

**Julie Young**



**Windmills**  
Nursery School

**Nursery School Staff & Committee**

Windmills Nursery is situated in the grounds of Harbury Primary School and has the benefit of its own Forest School and qualified Forest School Leader. We are open all day and take children from the age of 2 years. We still have a few places remaining for our **free** morning sessions for those children over 3 years old. If you would like to register a place for your child you can email us at [info@windmills-nursery.co.uk](mailto:info@windmills-nursery.co.uk), visit our web site at [windmillsnursery.co.uk](http://windmillsnursery.co.uk) or call Katharine on 613084 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.

Our theme this term is Colours and Patterns and some of our activities this month have included:

- Discussing bonfire celebrations and creating a wonderfully colourful display.

*"I went to a bonfire with my grandad on the way to the shop and with my mummy. I saw fireworks all over the place it was all different colours they look like flowers and they went pop and bang" - Evie Robbins*

*"I saw them in the sky when it was dark; daddy lifted me on his*



head. There was pink, red, blue and yellow and there was brown. They went bloooooo blooooo. I wasn't frightened" - Molly

- Using the musical instruments to re-create the sounds of bonfire night and then make up a bonfire dance.

- Learning about Diwali the festival of light when the

children also had the opportunity to taste Indian food at snack time.

- Having fun in the fallen autumn leaves on the school playground.
- Exploring colour mixing with an activity using food colouring and kitchen paper.
- Painting a huge bonfire using our hands.
- Playing 'I spy' with colours.
- Visiting the toddler service when we talked about saying thank you.
- Learning our Christmas concert songs and poems.



## Forest School

We had planned to hold two forest schools sessions again this term, however, due to the awful wet and windy weather we had to cancel our first session planned for the 8<sup>th</sup> November. The weather for our next session on 18<sup>th</sup> November, was much kinder and despite a very brief shower remained dry. The children pretended to be minibeasts to help them make a sticky bookmark, using the beautiful autumn coloured leaves they found in the woodland. The children also made some wonderful mud



pies and developed their physical skills climbing the trees; the session ended with our listening game.

We held our Annual Review Meeting in the nursery classroom on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> November. There was an opportunity to discover what has been happening at Windmills during the last year, chat to staff, and also listen to a short presentation about our Forest School sessions by our Forest School leader Amanda Randall.



### **Thank you**

A big thank you to Frankie and Erin Powell's grandma who kindly donated two boxes of toys to Windmills, also a big thank you to Jamie Smith's mum and dad who donated a sandpit complete with sand and sand toys.

### **Dates for your diaries**

Windmills would like to invite you to their Christmas Concert to be held in the Tom Hauley Room on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at 10.15am. After the concert we will be serving tea, coffee, cakes and mince pies. There will also be a raffle.

Windmills Nursery will close for Christmas at 12.05pm on Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> December and re-open at 9.05am on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.



**Harbury Primary School P.T.A.**

**PTA Committee**

### **PTA Quiz Night**

12th November saw the PTA annual quiz night and they just get better and better. We were pleased to welcome Jason and Jane Burrows back as our question masters and they didn't disappoint. It was a hard fought battle but congratulations to The Roaring Forties who came out victorious in the end.

A huge thank you to Jason and Jane, to all our teams, our helpers and to CANA for running the bar and raffle prize and to Wayne at Jasmine Spice for their generous raffle contribution.

Our next event is for the children – our Christmas Discos on Friday 3rd December.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all readers.



## Village Hall Update

**Geoff Thorpe**

First the bad news!! Chris Finch is not very well and hence I have been pressed into service as this month's columnist, rather lacking Chris' creative writing talents. A big thank you to Chris for her efforts on behalf of the Village Hall and also for all her contributions to village life. We wish her a speedy recovery.

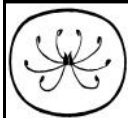
Secondly, more bad news. Halloween got a little out of hand for some local teenagers who, having watched the Blood Transfusion Service key in the numbers to access the Hall, decided to do the same. They then found that kicking in doors, spraying the contents of several fire extinguishers around and breaking crockery in the main hall was a good form of entertainment. There was in excess of £1000 worth of damage, not all of which can be claimed on insurance. Heart breaking for all the Hall volunteers especially whilst we are working so hard fundraising to improve the Hall and a slap in the face to all those who have generously donated to the fund. The better news is that the local police were brilliant, our thanks especially to PC Rod Joy. Eleven miscreants have been identified, three of whom were arrested and the remaining eight accompanied their parents to interviews with the police in Southam. Those involved, both boys and girls, were mostly from Harbury but also Bishop's, Ufton and Southam. Regrettably we are not allowed to publish their names but hopefully the families concerned will make a financial contribution!!

Now to happier things.

The motorised projection screen is now in place thanks to generous donations from the Parish Council and the Carnival Committee. This will be a huge help to Lana Long and her team who work very hard running the successful Rural Cinema.

The sliding partition between the Farley and Windmill rooms is now finished and will increase the flexibility and usage of the rooms in the Hall. Our thanks are due to Steve Bolton and his team from CAMRA who helped with the fundraising and donated their time for the building work. It would have been a little easier if the Halloween vandals had not pinched some of the fitments waiting to be installed!!

Tickets are selling quickly for the "New Year Dance" so if you wish to attend, do not delay. This year's dance is on Thursday December 30<sup>th</sup>, supper, real ale bar and The Likely Lads all for £22.50. Tickets, from Geoff Thorpe on 613801 or Chris Finch on 612305. The theme this year is Black and White, easy for the chaps in DJs and a chance for the ladies to sparkle and no doubt exercise their flexible friends!



Another month gone I can't believe it is nearly December. We had another super talk in November which was again very well attended. Derek Walker talked about his garden called Little Larford and opening it for the Yellow Book and much more. He began by showing us a montage of his wonderful garden just to give us a taster of what was to come! He used to own garden nurseries and sold these 9 years ago to the then Wyevale Group. You would have thought that he would want to wind down, not a bit of it. He and his wife Lin went to view Little Larford and fell in love with it, a thatched cottage with views and a garden to develop and nurture in their retirement.

The basic structure of the garden was already in place but they could see that massive improvements would be necessary in order to achieve a planting scheme. Thus the hard work began..... hundreds of tons of sand were removed, replaced with a good quality top soil and levels attained throughout. Hedging was planted along two boundaries to form a framework and then they set about the work of eliminating the huge rabbit population by erecting wire netting around the entire perimeter of the garden. Then came the hard landscaping, the struggling lawn was replaced with winding paths, gravelled areas, a patio and pergola. Also a cut flower and vegetable garden were formed. Next came the greenhouse and a traditional brick built potting shed. Then the exciting part - the planting stage. Hundreds of shrubs and perennials were planted including a wonderful bank of variegated rhododendrons at the side of the cottage.

As they wanted to open their garden, Lin and Derek then worked out a massive plan for Spring and Summer bulb planting and much more. They plant well over 20,000 tulips each year throughout the garden. The slides of all kinds of tulips were just breathtaking, all sizes and colours. Bedding is added including many different colours of both pansies and viola and, a new one to me, a Panola, a cross between the two. Zingy polyanthus feature too and bellis daisies, when these have finished they are replaced with summer bedding; not a spare inch of ground is left bare. The pergola is covered with a purple wisteria, what a sight that was. Words cannot describe the sheer magnitude of all these bulbs and flowers, the colours, textures and very clever mixing of permanent and seasonal plants just amazing (to borrow an expression from Craig!).

We were shown so many colourful slides and then the pots.... these are also a big feature, usually with a colourful cordyline in the centre surrounded by bulbs and bedding. The pots are all shapes and sizes and can then be moved around the garden where a gap appears. Some of

the names of the tulips are just magical for instance....Yokohama, Blue Diamond, Tinkerbell, and so many more.

All of the tulip bulbs are lifted after flowering and disgarded. Unfortunately this year tulip fire has affected the bulbs and they will be unable to open their garden next year. However Derek is very optimistic that the problem can be solved and looks forward to reopening in 2012. Since opening in 2006 they have had thousands of visitors from mid April through to Summer and have given many thousands of pounds to the children's charity, The Acorns Hospice. Open days are run with almost military precision, from car parking in a neighbours field to teas and plant sales. Derek obviously takes great pleasure from these open days and has no plans yet to wind down!

As well as all of the wonderful bulbs, flowers, shrubs and perennials there is a 3 acre woodland walk, there are many large trees such as oaks and sweet chestnut, there are snowdrops, bluebells, primroses daffodils, foxgloves too; plus very many nesting boxes which attract a variety of birds including owls and there are bee hives throughout. Squirrels are evident as are foxes and the whole area has seating at all levels. Areas include the 39 steps and quirky rabbit statues with appropriate names. Great fun. What an achievement. New for last year is a Nature Centre which is regularly visited by local and not so local school children. It includes so much information about birds and wildlife, educational but fun too. All in all something for all the family to see and enjoy.

Derek finished by showing us a 5 minute disc of a plug plant production factory where 4 to 5 million plants are grown, potted on, boxed up and transported. It was a huge place which could easily accommodate Wembley stadium many times over. It made you realise what big business plug plants are now. I'm sure we will be seeing Derek again as he does have other talks. Also a visit to Little Larford is surely on the cards for 2012, can't wait.

So far then, 2 excellent talks this season and more for next year. No speaker in December as at our recent committee meeting which was attended by our new member Jean Clews (my thanks to Jean for volunteering) we decided to have our Flower Pot game again as this is always enjoyable and Jean will be putting together a quiz for each table, as an extra for you all to have a spot of fun with. Prizes for the game but not the quiz. The draw for the Bursary will also be held plus a bumper Raffle and of course the festive buffet. So it promises to another good night out; everyone is welcome including new members. Looking ahead to January don't forget that the meeting will be the second Tuesday the 11th, I will remind again, Bob Sherman will be talking about

the Work of Garden Organic. I really am spoiling you all with such good speakers!

There is a coffee morning for the Horticultural Society on 29th January in the Tom Hauley Room, again I will remind you nearer the time; cakes and raffle prizes will be gratefully accepted. After discussions with the Committee it has been decided to hold the Garden Walkabout every other year so there will not be one next year. This seems to work well as there is so much effort put in by all of the people who so willingly open up their gardens and a year off is a welcome break. We may consider changing the dates too but will obviously canvass everyone concerned before a decision is made, plus too it gives the committee a well earned break. I have received a lovely letter from a year 6 pupil at the school asking for a donation towards raised beds etc for the school gardens and we have agreed to this request. I shall be giving the cheque to the children at the school very shortly. It is so good that the children take such an interest in nature and their gardens, hopefully some of them will be future members of our Society.

I'm sure that you will all be very busy during December but if you do have time, do go along to Westonbirt Arboretum to see the floodlit trees etc, it is on until 19th December between 5.00 and 8.30pm. The Botanic Gardens in Birmingham are also very festive now with lots of traditional events. A lot of National Trust properties are staying open throughout most of December including of course Upton House and Gardens, come and see us, also Charlecote. Look in your membership book for opening hours etc. Even with the hard frost this week my begonias are still flowering away as is the yellow buddlia, pink heucheras and clematis "Freckles". The violas in pots and troughs just sulk at first after a frost but soon recover. It is amazing how hardy most of the plants are, a bit of fleece on some borderline ones always does the trick. I just bring indoors the succulents and banana plant and John manages somehow to bring in a huge pot with a Washington palm and tetrapanax too. My utility room looks a bit like Kew Gardens!

Don't forget to bring your seed orders to the next meeting; it is so exciting looking through the catalogues and planning next year's vegetables, plus we get a good discount too.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meetings.







## Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

*Your local Hardy Plant Specialists*

*Also: Fresh cut flowers and bedding plants in season*

I won't be telling you to weed this, dig that or prune the other this month – as it's Christmas (well nearly) – so here's something a bit different.

You might like to try this after the Xmas pud.

### December Quiz

1. A perennial is:
 

**(a)** a plant that dies after one year? **(b)** a plant that comes up year after year?
2. Fleece is:
 

**(a)** a thin fabric which protects plants in winter? **(b)** a warm jacket for gardeners? **(c)** sheepskin?
3. Forsythia should be pruned:
 

**(a)** in winter? **(b)** in autumn? **(c)** after flowering?
4. The common name for Bergenia is:
 

**(a)** Donkeys Ears? **(b)** Elephant Ears? **(c)** Rabbits Ears?
5. The common name for Lathyrus is:
 

**(a)** Sweet Pea? **(b)** Sour Lemon? **(c)** Sweet Potato?
6. Sempervivum ("Houseleek") grows best in:
 

**(a)** bog gardens? **(b)** rockeries? **(c)** hanging baskets?
7. Gunnera is best in:
 

**(a)** bog gardens? **(b)** rockeries? **(c)** hanging baskets?
8. Runner beans should be sown in:
 

**(a)** January **(b)** February **(c)** April?
9. Wisteria prefers to be grown on:
 

**(a)** an East facing wall? **(b)** a West facing wall,  
**(c)** a North facing wall? **(d)** a South facing wall?

10. Gardeners should be up to date with:

**(a)** tetanus injection? **(b)** measles injection? **(c)** typhoid injection?

Answers on page 56. Finally we at Bridge Nursery wish you a very Happy Christmas and a successful New Year and leave you with an apt quotation from Vita Sackville-West:

*"The most note-worthy thing about gardeners is that they are always optimistic, always enterprising and never satisfied. They always look forward to doing better than they have ever done before"*

**Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton Tel: 01926 812737  
www.bridge-nursery.co.uk .**



## Nature Notes

**John Hancock**

As I write, it is the evening of Monday 22nd November. Today has got colder as the air flow (there is little wind) swings round to the north-east. Thin cloud covered the full moon from view earlier but now, at 9.30pm, it is visible almost directly overhead. We are promised an arctic snap with temperatures dipping at night to -9C (16F) at the end of the week in some parts of the country.

Yesterday, I set out to find the Wild Service Tree (*Sorbus torminalis*), once thought to be related to the Hawthorn. With DNA testing it is now known to be related to the Mountain Ash. Sharon and I had spent the previous evening and night with friends in Bidford-on-Avon. I had been told by another friend, who works as a volunteer for the Woodland Trust, that I should try Pepper Wood near Bromsgrove. It seemed a good excuse for a bike ride through largely unfamiliar Worcestershire countryside. The county border was crossed 3 miles west of the bridge over the River Arrow after a gradual climb through Dunnington. The countryside was a patchwork of small woods in which Oak was dominant. The sun slanting through cloud at a low angle picked out the foliage which was chiefly a shade of orange. Here and there a canopy was still largely green. Other trees such as Ash and Beech were leafless. Stands of Larch were beginning to drop their needle-like leaves now a golden yellow. I was intrigued by an inn sign at Radford where I turned right for Inkberrow (Ambridge to Archers fans). This was called the 'Wheelbarrow and Castle'. As it wasn't yet opening time, I couldn't research the name over a pint but I've since found out a bit more. Leslie Dunkling and Gordon Wright's 'A Dictionary of Pub Names' published by Routledge and Kegan Paul says the name is probably due to an earlier landlord poking fun at a neighbour who had called his hostelry 'Castle in the Air'. Sadly, as is all

too common nowadays, the latter pub has been renamed 'Wheelies', perhaps by a motorcycling publican. Maybe I'm being a bit of a stick-in-the-mud and perhaps pub signs should evolve. Any thoughts?

I was now in an area which was once the ancient forest of Feckenham, recorded as a hunting ground of the Plantagenet kings. Many older houses were black and white, the black being the timber frame and the white plaster originally wattle and daub. Often now, brick has been used to fill the gaps between the beams and plastered over.

Crossing the Worcester and Birmingham canal several times as it wandered toward the Tardebigge flight, I entered Bromsgrove and ate a picnic lunch next to the statue of A.E. Houseman in the pedestrianised High Street. Keeping as much as possible to country lanes, I crossed the M5 near its junction with the M42 and climbed to a confused upland area dotted with woods, the most northerly of which was Pepper Wood. To the south west, the Malverns looked quite close and out west was the grey outline of Clee Hill in Houseman's beloved Shropshire.

'Far in a western brookland  
That bred me long ago,  
The poplars stand and tremble  
By pools I used to know.'  
[From 'A Shropshire Lad']

An hour later, after a couple of circuits on muddy paths, I'd seen plenty of Holly, a large Crab Apple, Aspen and lots of Oak. A chap exercising his dog directed me to a hut where, luckily, a gentleman who knew all about trees was busy using a lathe. He offered to walk the half mile on a complicated path network and take me to the spot. When we arrived, the stand of young trees with smooth bark stood leafless in a glade. He explained they were suckers from a parent tree now just a low stump. I picked up a blackened leaf, thanked my guide and set about getting home.

Peter and Margaret McDonald will no doubt remember going with Sharon and I to look for a Wild Service Tree in the same area a few years ago. It was summer and we enjoyed a walk near Chaddesley Corbett but no tree was found. Steven Falk told me today that Cubbington Wood has some. According to Richard Mabey in *Flora Britannica*, a vernacular name is Chequer tree and the fruit is edible once it has been softened by frost. I had hoped to come back with some of those but the trees I saw were immature and had not fruited. The many inns called Chequers and presumably the Prime Minister's house in the Chilterns all refer to the fruit of the Wild Service.

I have had two interesting and exciting sightings reported since the last issue. Colin Humphreys saw an otter, unfortunately a dead one, on the road from Shuckburgh to Staverton at the River Leam crossing by the county boundary. Even closer to home, Michael Thwaites saw a very alive otter on the farm road at Kingston Manor. More sightings please. Rex Humphreys told me of a wasp getting tangled up in a spider's web. When the spider rushed out of hiding to claim its prize, the wasp suddenly turned the tables, grabbed the spider and flew off.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> October, I had my first mountain walk for nearly 2 years, along with my friend David who lives in the village of Kelsall near Chester. Of course, the day we chose was windy, cold and wet, whereas the following day was bright and sunny. We climbed Snowdon from Rhyd-Ddu arriving too late to sample the fare at the rebuilt cafe on the summit which, in winter, closes at 2.30pm. On the ridge between Yr Aran and Snowdon's summit, shielded by an overhanging rock, I found the delicate flowers of Starry Saxifrage which made all the effort seem worthwhile. We ate our sandwiches crouching in the closed cafe entrance while the wind howled round the peak. On a calmer day you could search for fossil shells near the summit. These lived in a shallow sea in Ordovician times, some 350 million years ago. Now due to uplift they lie some 1000 metres above sea level.

I wish you all a Happy Christmas.



## General Section

### Home Groups

Besides the meetings that take place in the church during the week, there are currently a number of home groups that meet in the village – for Bible study, prayer, general fellowship and so on. Until recently, most of these met during the day, which meant that many Christians who are out at work during the day had little or no opportunity to be involved.

To this end, two additional evening groups started earlier this year (one on Mondays, the other on Thursdays). Why do we need so many? Actually, we should be asking why there aren't more.

These groups are not in competition with each other. Whilst we meet on Sundays in our various churches to worship God, there is also the need to meet in smaller, more intimate, groups (10-12 is generally thought to be the optimum). Each group is there to meet different needs – some want to study the Bible in more detail, others to pray together or to discuss current issues in a Christian context.

The two new groups are Bible based. That means that we are not dedicated just to Bible study, or to prayer or praise. Whilst our meetings will involve some or all of these on any particular evening, we also have time to share our sorrows, concerns and joy with each other. But, whatever we do, we look to the scriptures as the basis of, and inspiration for, what happens in our meetings and how we live our lives.

Such meetings give an opportunity for all Christians and seekers, wherever they may worship on a Sunday, to come together within this community in which we live.

So, whether this is a new idea to you, or you've been to such groups before, why not explore what your faith means to you and give us a try:

Mondays, 7.30 – 9.00pm, Gordon Baldwin, 613565

Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm, John Eld, 613340

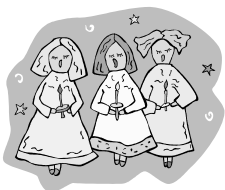
Also:

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 10.30am, Mary Catt, 612864

Thursday afternoons, Gillian Hare, 614809

Thursday Evenings (fortnightly), Tony Brunton, 612191

**Rosemary Eld**



## **Beer and Carols**

Beer and Carols is back by popular demand! Come along, have a drink and sing a-long to your favourite carols.

Ladbroke, The Bell, 9th December at 7.30pm

Harbury, The Crown, 15th December at 7.00pm

Organised by All Saints Church.

**Fr. Craig**

## **Blood Donors**

Thank you to everyone who attended the session in October. This resulted in 75 units being collected; rather fewer than usual. A date for your 2011 diaries: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**Gillian Hare**



## Operation Christmas Child

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in any way. The coffee morning resulted in 80 boxes of surprises being packed for transport to Romania. And in addition 35 were made up by W.I members plus those sent by the school. Another generous achievement by our wonderful village.

Looking ahead: there will be a coffee morning on 13<sup>th</sup> August next year to raise money for transport costs. And, our previous supply of empty boxes has dried up, so please when you buy new shoes throughout the year, ask the shop if they can spare any empty boxes. I am happy to take them out of your way.

**Gillian Hare**  
**614809**



## Rented Homes available via Home Choice Plus at Bush Heath Lane, Harbury

Thirteen homes for rent will become available early next year at the new housing development at Bush Heath Lane. The homes will be as follows:

6 x two bedroomed houses

2 x three bedroomed houses

1 x four bedroomed houses

4 x 2 bedroomed bungalows

The homes will be allocated using the system "Home Choice Plus" which will be administered by Stratford District Council. **You must have a local connection with Harbury to be eligible and you must also be registered in advance on the Stratford District Council housing list in order to be able to bid for one of the new homes.** For the definition of a "local connection", please contact Philippa Osborne, Midlands Rural Housing, on 01530 278080.

You can register on the housing list by visiting [www.homechoiceplus.org.uk](http://www.homechoiceplus.org.uk) or by e-mailing

[housingadviceteam@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:housingadviceteam@stratford-dc.gov.uk) or by telephoning Stratford District Council on 01789-260861 or by visiting Stratford District Council at Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford upon Avon CV47 6HX. If you are not already registered with the District Council, **please do this as soon as possible** as it takes approximately 2 weeks to process an application. **Please note: if you have previously been registered with**

**Home Choice Plus but have not made any bids for at least 2 years, you need to register again.**

Once registered, when the development enters the weekly bidding cycle, you can bid for the property of your choice. “Bidding” doesn’t involve paying any money – it is simply a registration of your application for one or more properties. It is expected that the homes at Bush Heath Lane will enter the weekly bidding cycle on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January (provisional) for five working days only.** You can bid on the internet by visiting [www.homechoiceplus.org.uk](http://www.homechoiceplus.org.uk) or on the telephone (automated service) 0845 270 0557 or by mobile phone (for details on how to do this, please contact Philippa Osborne 01530 278080) or in person at the Stratford District Council offices at the address given above.

It is expected that the homes will become available for occupation to the successful tenants by the end of February 2011 (may be subject to change).

**Harbury Parish Council**

## **Harbury Parish Plan Update – Your Chance to Have your Say?**

The existing Parish Plan for Harbury and Deppers Bridge was completed in 2004. The Plan covers all aspects of the community including transport, education opportunities, housing development, business needs and much more and acts as a “blueprint” for the aspirations and hopes of the village as a whole. The Parish Council is now committed to updating the Plan but this can’t be done without residents’ input and support in putting forward your ideas on how the village could develop in the future.

More details on the Parish Plan update will appear in future editions of the Harbury & Ladbroke News but for now, the Parish Plan group is inviting your initial comments on any areas you would like to see addressed in the Plan survey. The planned areas for the survey are: Transport, Retail, Education, Deppers Bridge, Business Needs, Energy Conservation, Environment, Street Lighting, Local Representatives, the Village Hall, Youth Needs, Health, Older People, Law and Order, Recreation and Spatial Planning.

There will also be a special separate Housing Needs Survey to update the previous one before any further housing development takes place.

Questions on all of the above will be included in the survey but, for now, if there is any area which you feel has been left out or if you have particular problems or ideas for improving life in Harbury that you would like highlighted in the Parish Plan Review please contact the Parish Clerk

either by e-mail [harburypc@btinternet.com](mailto:harburypc@btinternet.com) or by telephoning 01926 614646. Also, check our website [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk) for future updates on the progress of the plan.

**Harbury Parish Council**

## Harbury Craft Fair 2010



myton  
hospice

The Craft Fair this year was again organised and run by the Harbury Support Group and all proceeds have been donated to Myton Hospice.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers that helped throughout the day either in the kitchen or on the Bottle Tombola/Guess the Reindeer's Birthday stand. We couldn't have done it without you!

Thank you also to everyone who donated bottles for the bottle tombola and to anyone who donated cakes.

The winner of the Guess the Reindeer's Birthday competition was Helen Manley, the all important date was 30<sup>th</sup> November! Well done Helen.

Thankfully the weather was in our favour this year and we managed to raise an impressive £810.00; thank you for your support everyone.

Tables are already being booked up for next year and we advise you book early to avoid disappointment!

Finally, we wish you a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year from everyone at Myton Hospice Harbury Support Group.

**Fiona Cadwallader**  
[ficadwallader@btinternet.com](mailto:ficadwallader@btinternet.com)



## John Ridgley Tree of Light

With Christmas now only three weeks away decorations and lights are appearing all around the village.

To many, this season brings reminders of Christmas' past, particularly of childhood when it was a time for celebrating with family and friends, both young and old. As the years go by, whilst inevitably some familiar faces disappear, they are not forgotten.

We are inviting you to remember those who are no longer with us by making a donation and 'adopting' a light on the John Ridgley Tree of Light which will again shortly come alive with a myriad of lights outside the Library. Those you wish to remember, together with any message you



may wish to leave, will be recorded in a Book of Remembrance which will be on display in the Library.

Whilst no specific light will be allotted you are free to adopt whichever you wish. You are also free to donate whatever amount you wish, this will not be recorded in the Book of Remembrance.

All donations will be used to benefit children and young people in the Village and in the next issue of the Harbury and Ladbroke News we will be inviting applications from appropriate organisations and individuals. Requests will be considered by the Trustees of the Harbury Charities and funds distributed accordingly.

If you would like to adopt a light please complete the slip enclosed and place in an envelope, together with your donation, addressed to The John Ridgley Tree of Light and deliver to Mugleston's, 11 Vicarage Lane or 16 Farm Street. If you wish to pay by cheque please make it payable to "Wagstaffe's Educational Foundation".

We wish you a Happy and Joyful Christmas and may the New Year bring you peace and prosperity.

**Gordon Bennett on behalf of Harbury Charities**

## **Harbury & Ladbroke "Christmas Brass"... Calling All Brass Players**

We're trying to put together a small group of brass players to do some carolling over the Christmas period in Harbury/Ladbroke to raise a bit of money for charity. All very informal and not too serious. All ages/abilities/instruments welcome. Having your own instrument not essential.

Call John Hall on 01926 614901 if interested or e-mail [john.e.hall@btinternet.com](mailto:john.e.hall@btinternet.com).

**John Hall**

## **Harbury Energy Initiative**

The small but high voltage initial steering group of the Harbury Energy Initiative has been injected with new energy after two meetings at The Old New Inn, a response to the request for volunteers to join us in the August Harbury and Ladbroke News. This is really encouraging and has enabled us to create active task groups to work on different aspects of our plans. Whilst we talk of carbon footprints, FiTs, fandanglers and fancy gizmos, what we truly want is to help Harbury residents to save money and energy en route to a sustainable future.

Crucial to the delivery of all this good news is our Primary School. Two staff representatives of the school have been working with us on steady progress to a launch next year. First step will be a questionnaire to find out what villagers have already done and what residents think about the issues. Children from Harbury Primary have been quick to come up with possible questions for such a survey. We anticipate that the children will deliver these to households around half term in the spring term for analysing in the summer term.

All this is leading up to a major launch of new initiatives for Harbury on energy conservation and carbon next year. In the meantime, however, the Communications team is looking at opportunities to provide informative displays at village events. There is a mass of material available already but we currently have no means to set it up as a display. We need to be able to take an exhibition of facts and possibilities to events held outdoors, such as the carnival, or indoors, such as the Parish Council 'Save Money, Save Energy' event last May. We will work on that one.

**Tip of the month: Cut down on food waste.** Wasted food is wasted money and 'buy one get one free' can mean buy one waste one. In the UK, according to calculations by WRAP, the national waste reduction and resource efficiency agency, we throw away 8.3 million tonnes of edible food a year, the equivalent in carbon footprint of 1 in every 4 cars on our roads.

There are plenty of ideas on making good use of leftovers and reducing waste on [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com).

If you want to join the village's move to a more sustainable future, contact Bob Sherman on [bob@churchterrace8.freeseve.co.uk](mailto:bob@churchterrace8.freeseve.co.uk) Tel 612277.

**Bob Sherman**

## **Fuel Communities update**

All those who expressed interest, in purchasing fuel at a lower cost by buying in bulk through a community effort will be contacted in the second week in December. This will allow time for a delivery before Christmas – if fuel is needed.

**Chris Finch**



## **Harbury Art Group**

This friendly group meets on the first Thursday of the month in the Tom Hauley room, for a painting day school led by professional artist, Nick Baldwin. The group attracts all levels of ability, from absolute

beginner to the more experienced, and new members are always welcome. Nick provides the subject, plus demonstration and tuition. We start promptly at 10am and usually finish around 3.30pm, with a short lunch break (bring your own packed lunch, tea and coffee are provided). There is no membership fee; each session costs just £15 per person and you only pay for the workshops you attend.

Harbury Art Group's founder (Bill Davies) is retiring in December 2010, and we thank Bill for his devotion to the group and for the great fun we have had in the workshops over many years. The sessions will continue as usual in 2011, and full details of the programme are available on request.

If you would like to drop in to see a workshop in progress, please feel free to call into the Tom Hauley room on the first Thursday of the month. On January 6<sup>th</sup> we will be painting a Snow Scene in either watercolour or acrylic (your choice), and on February 3<sup>rd</sup> we will have a pen and ink drawing workshop. To find out more please telephone Pam McConnell (01926 814923) or our artist/tutor Nick Baldwin (07870 352786).

Calling all budding artists - this friendly art group is looking for more members! All levels of ability attend, and newcomers are made very welcome. If you have done a beginners' course, you may like to try a full day painting within a small, supportive group. Or, if you already paint but wish to improve your techniques, this could be the group for you.

We usually use watercolours, but may use other media such as coloured pencils, pen drawing, gouache and sometimes acrylics.

For beginners, the tutor offers sympathetic guidance. For those with greater experience, he encourages you to develop your own style. The sessions are very informal with regular coffee/tea breaks. You can walk around the class, chat with your fellow artists and see how everyone is progressing. At the end of the workshop, we put all our paintings together and compare notes.

We look forward to seeing you.

**Pam McConnell**

## **Jean Champ School of Dance - Dancing Exam Results**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, the **Jean Champ School of Dance** held another very successful session of exams, with all the children obtaining a pass at the highest two levels. Out of the 32 exams taken, 23 received a Distinction. Congratulations to the following:

<b>Silver Rose Award Ballet</b>	<b>Gold Rose Award Ballet</b>
Carla Jones Honours Ruby Markham Distinction Freya Johnson Honours Ellie Miller Honours Nuala Chiba Honours Jospef Panek Distinction	Imogen White Distinction Lily McElpatrick Distinction Amelia Johnson Honours Martha Stanton Distinction Iris Krone Distinction Hana Panek Distinction Saffie Chiba Distinction Erin Powell Distinction Amber Maule Distinction Alex Townsend Haves Distinction
<b>Intro to Grade 1 Ballet</b>	<b>Primary Ballet</b>
Harriet Best Merit Francesca Hadley Distinction Meredith Bull Merit Alice Lockley Distinction Eva Durman Merit Emily Cousins Merit Lucinda Bull Distinction	Lily Markham Distinction Poppy Bastin Distinction
<b>Bronze Medal Acrobatic</b>	<b>Grade 3 Acrobatic</b>
Victoria Green Distinction	Victoria Green Distinction
<b>Gold Medal Acrobatic</b>	<b>Silver Medal Acrobatic</b>
Maisie Stone – Distinction Phoebe Harris - Distinction	Maisie Stone Distinction Phoebe Harris Distinction Victoria Green Distinction

We are now starting to work for our “Show” to be held next year, so if you would like to join in the fun and excitement, come along to the Village Hall any Wednesday between 4pm to 7.30pm or ring me, Jean Champ, on 01789 290733.

**Jean Champ**

## **Harbury Christmas Lights**

One of our reels of rope lights has gone missing. When we went to get the lights for the recent Victorian Street Fayre we discovered that there were only three reels instead of four. Did someone borrow it over the

summer for a garden party and is it still lighting someone's garden or nicely rolled up and in the corner of a shed or garage, just forgotten about?

If anyone has it or has an idea of where it might be, could you please call me on 612421 so I can arrange its collection so that we will be able to put it up in a couple of weeks.

Many thanks.

**Mike McBride**

## Choir School Pull Out All The Stops for Charity



Those who did not make it to Harbury Choir School's 'Songs of Remembrance and Hope' concert surely missed a treat. It was a wonderfully moving evening that followed a lot of hard work and preparation. The young singers were given the professional treatment using hired sound and lighting equipment to give them the full stage feel. They certainly rose

to it – every single member of the 25 strong choir sang their hearts out to produce their best sound yet. This, coupled with some slick stagecraft and very emotive readings, meant there seemed to be not a dry eye in the house when it came to sing 'Wherever You Are' composed by David Iles that incorporates the last post.

The evening was also a resounding success for charity – over £425 was raised for SSAFA on the night, with donations still coming in for David's composition on the internet. We also raised £165 from a collection for the



Choir School which will all be spent on new equipment and music. If you missed the evening you can see more photos on our website



[www.harburychoirschool.org](http://www.harburychoirschool.org)) where you can also listen to the choir singing 'Wherever You Are' and donate online to SSAFA if you would like.

The work doesn't stop there though. Christmas has officially started and the Chamber Choir are again off on tour to Birmingham on December 5th to sing at the Fire Service Christmas Festival. You can

also come and hear the full choir sing on Saturday 11th December at 6.00pm, All Saints Harbury, where we will be joined by the Leamington Sinfonia Orchestra for an evening of festive fun. Entrance is free so come along!

**Helen Iles**  
**Harbury Choir School**  
**01926 614150**

## Village with a Vision

Since our last article in the News, there have been some interesting and positive moves in our quest for an Extra Care Home in the village.

We have agreed our Terms of Reference and are now a formally constituted committee. Our first major decision was to thank Warwickshire County Council for all the help and advice to date; and to ask if they will assist us with the next move; which is to hold meetings with potential partners.

To this end we are compiling an Information Pack, setting out our vision for the Extra Care Facility, providing each with an identical picture of our requirements. The Institute of Public Care will assist in setting out details of best practice for the project. We are hopeful that the Pack will be ready early in the New Year.

We are also very keen to improve our communications, and to this end a web site is currently under way. More details of this in due course.

Once again can we express our thanks for all the support and good wishes we receive from everyone, it's invaluable!

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

**Adverts to** 31, Binswood End by 15<sup>th</sup> December  
**Articles to** Harbury Pharmacy by 23<sup>rd</sup> December

# HARBURY BONFIRE & FIREWORKS 2010



Enjoying the warmth  
of the Bonfire.

**Tony Stubbs**

Having fun with  
sparklers.



The Firework  
display lighting  
up the sky.

**Photos by:  
Gordon Robbins**

## News on Sheilaac from Zimbabwe

Many of you will remember little Sheilac, the young girl from Zimbabwe who stayed with us in Harbury and attended the village school for a year whilst undergoing medical treatment at the children's hospital in Birmingham.

It is now about fifteen years since she returned to Zimbabwe, and for many reasons, mostly associated with the chaotic situation in that country, we lost contact with her.

However recently we have heard from her, and as so many of you have asked after her over the years since she left I thought you would like to read the e-mail that she sent me. I send it just as received.

**Colin Humphreys**



"how r u? i hope u're well. This side its so hot. it was so wonderful to hear your voices. its amaizing how voices never change. i really miss you so much. over the years i've writing letters but neva got replies, i think its becoz of the breakdown of the zimbabwean postal services so i gave up. i dont know how but i remember

so much and most of the people in uk. It seems like yesterday waking up in my little bedroom, looking out to the back and seeing the stables. and looking out nxt door and seeing the boys next door. i still remember the tree house, my little bicycle, e portable plastic swimming pool, buying ice cream from the corner store, walking across e road to school, my little chair/stool, and fish fingers. oh my word i loved fish fingers i think i was addicted to them. Colin do u still have those big eyebrows, i remember u used to make me laugh by moving them and making funny faces. i still remember e warmth of that house and the warmth you gave me.

Sallie do u remember i used to b fascinated with your earrings, well lets just say i'm now obsessed with earrings i love them so much, do people still remember me?

i could jus go on and on with all my memories, Forgive me. i realy miss everyone. i wish i could see u again one day. i'm so grateful for all you did for me. and also thanku for the money for my tuition fees. i learn at the University of South Africa in bulawayo. i'm doing a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Financial Management.

Oh well, i hope to hear from you soon. please email me pictures of you and everyone. i attached my pictures for u to c, so enjoy. say hello to everyone.

i love you 'o' so much."

**Sheilaac xxx**





## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

### **Dear Editors**

*May I thank all my neighbours and friends in Harbury for their wonderful support during Mary's time in hospital and since she passed away on 5th November. Mary thanks also for their kind cards and donations.*

**Bob Teague**

### **Dear Editors**

*Please can I say through the Harbury and Ladbroke News how much I appreciate all the concern and support I have had from everyone. I am glad to say that I am back home following the stroke I had and am making good progress.*

*I have received so many cards, flowers and visits from my friends, I just cannot thank them enough.*

*I must give special thanks to my granddaughter Caroline and to friends John and Lesley Wilkins for their quick response at the beginning. Thanks also to my daughter Mary for her "aftercare", to Father Craig for his support and to Daphne who has given my dogs a good home all this while.*

**Beryl Ross**

### **Dear Editors**

*I would like to send my love and sincere thanks to everyone who has been so kind, before my operation and after, for all the cards, flowers, plants, homemade cakes and lovely cooked meals.*

*I count my blessings; I live in such a caring village.*

*With my love to everyone.*

**Hazel Ceney**

### **Dear Editors**

*We would like to thank all those who sent messages of support during our daughter's recent stay in hospital. It meant a lot to us to receive calls, cards, emails, flowers and offers of help during the time when she was in the Walsgrave hospital on life support. We were extremely grateful for the several acts of kindness from friends in the village who provided ready-made dishes when we didn't feel like carrying on with normal life by shopping or cooking. We were very appreciative of all the care shown by many within the*

*community and it helped tremendously to know that we were in the thoughts of many, especially those who prayed daily for the family. We are delighted to say that Clare has made a complete recovery thanks to the skill and expertise of the doctors and nurses in critical care at the University hospital in Coventry. Thanks to everyone who showed concern in many different ways; we feel privileged to have experienced how much people in Harbury care about anyone facing a difficult time in a family's life.*

**Stan and Chris Finch**

**Dear Editors**

*The street collection in Farm Street and Farley Avenue in September 2010 on behalf of Myton Hospice raised £68.57. Thank you all very much for your contributions.*

**J W White**

**Dear Editors**

*The final total raised by the sponsored walk in aid of the Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust was £600. The money has been sent to the charity towards their work supporting research into brain tumours.*

*A very big thank you to all those who walked, and to all the people who sponsored us for their generosity.*

**Mary Catt**

**Dear Editors**

*We were so delighted by the support we received for the Save the Children coffee morning. It made almost £500 for the Society. People seemed very pleased to buy our Christmas cards and the gifts we had for sale. We thank you all so much for your wonderful support. Thank you again for helping to raise money which is really needed to help children everywhere.*

**Colin Humphreys**

**Dear Editors**

*Jeff and Helen would like to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Ruby Jane Foster on 28 October. Thank you also to family and friends for their kind wishes and gifts, we hope to see you all soon.*



**Helen Foster**

*Michael and Gillian Hare send  
Christmas greetings to their many  
friends in Harbury. In lieu of  
cards, we shall make a donation  
to Leamington Christian Mission.*



*We would like to wish all our  
friends in Harbury a joyous  
Christmas and a happy New Year.  
Instead of Christmas cards, this  
year we are making a donation to  
Sightsavers International.*

*Jenny and Andrew Patrick*

*We wish all our friends in Harbury  
and Ladbroke a Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year.*

*This year we are making our donation  
to Ladbroke Church Funds.*

*Sue and Alan Lord*

# *Merry Christmas*

*Brenda, Richard and Sid wish all our  
friends in Harbury, Ladbroke, Deppers  
Bridge, Bishops Itchington, Upton and  
Chesterton Merry Christmas and Happy  
New Year. We are making a donation to  
Milton Hospice.*

*The Harbury & Ladbroke News  
Editors and Committee wish all  
their readers a very  
Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year.*

*We would like to wish all our friends in  
Harbury a very happy and healthy  
Christmas and a prosperous New Year.*

*We will be making a donation to our  
chosen charity in lieu of sending cards.*

*Barbara and David Thistlethwaite*



## Answers to Bridge Nursery quiz

1 b), 2 a), b) and c), 3 c), 4 b), 5 a), 6 b), 7 a), 8 c), 9 b) and/or d), 10 a)

## Found

A pair of cuff links has been found in Farm Street. Collect on description; please call 612414.

An article of jewellery was found in the Harbury Surgery car park at the end of October. If anyone thinks it may belong to them please contact Linda Hussey at the surgery 01926 612232.

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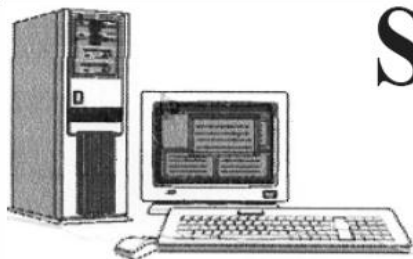
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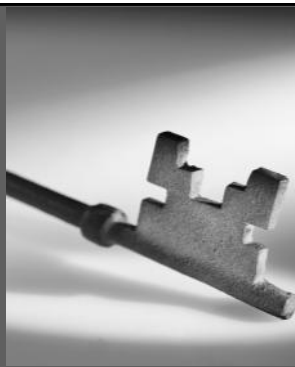
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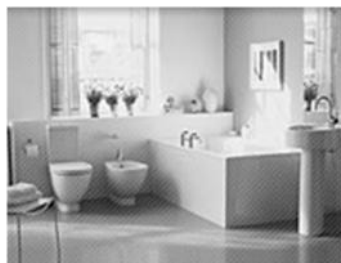
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clairehewer@hotmail.co.uk

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1/2 hour  
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**The Crown Inn**



**Christmas Menu  
from 1<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> December  
Starters**

**Tomato Soup**

*Homemade served with Croutons  
and Basil oil*

**Crown Inn Paté**

*Freshly made with Chicken Livers  
served with warm Crusty Bread*

**Smoked Salmon & Prawn Cocktail**

*Peeled King Prawns served on a  
Bed of Crispy Lettuce Topped with a  
Creamy Mayonnaise*

**Avocado & Tomato Salad**

*Half of Avocado served on a  
Bed of Sliced Tomatoes coated with  
Basil and Balsamic Dressing*

**Main Courses**

**Roast Turkey**

*A Traditional Roast Turkey served with  
Stuffing, Chipolata Sausage wrapped in  
Bacon & Pan Gravy*

**Crown Inn Special Gammon**

*Pilkington Gammon Boiled in Spices  
served with Fresh Fruit Compote*

**Fish of the Day**

*Fresh Fish Every Day  
(Please ask for details)*

**Stuffed Pancake**

*Freshly made crepe filled with savoury  
Mediterranean vegetables coated in a  
light white sauce and glazed  
with parmesan*

**Choice of Homemade Desserts**

**Followed by Fresh Coffee & Mince Pies**

**£22.50 per person**

**☎01926 614995**



*Cinda, Giuseppe,  
Andy & Staff at*

*The Crown Inn*

*wish all their  
customers and friends  
in Harbury & Ladbroke*

*a Very Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New year.*