

Harbury & Ladbroke News

Reflects all aspects of local life, is published monthly and produced with the assistance of
All Saints' Parochial Church Council.

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Editorial Team

John Holden - Chris Finch - Marian Millington - Janice Montague
Ralph Swadling - Jackie West

*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 New Year sees a number of clubs and groups offering villagers the opportunity to participate in activities with new friends; including acting, walking, painting, knitting and exercising to music for the over 60's. Details for all these appear in the magazine.

To whet your appetite we would like to draw your attention to two Harbury groups that have produced recipe books – The Hereburgh Morris Dancers and the Pre-School.

The consultation on compensation for property owners affected by HS2 closes on 31st January 2013; see entry in the Ladbroke section for more details.

Wishing all our readers a very happy and healthy New Year.

Finally we extend our sympathies to the families of Frances Onions and Rachel Brown.

Harbury Diary

JANUARY 2013

Sun 6 EPIPHANY

Sung Eucharist, 9.00am

First Light Service, 10.30am, Tom Hauley Room

Quiet Contemplative Service in the Celtic Tradition, 6.00pm

Zumba, 9.00 – 10.00am in Village Hall

Tues 8 Heritage Room open from 6.30-8.30pm at school

Holy Communion, 7.30pm

****Note change of date for Horticultural Society to 15th****

Wed 9 Wednesday Walkers, Shuckburgh (3 miles), meet 9.40am,
Village Hall Car Park

Ballroom Dancing, 4.00-7.30pm in Village Hall

Thurs 10 Holy Communion, 9.45am followed by coffee

Movement to Music, 2.00pm in Village Hall

WI, 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room

Sat 12 Coffee Morning, 10.00am–12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid
of Mothers' Union

Sun 13 EPIPHANY II / BAPTISM OF CHRIST

Holy Communion, 8.00am

Sung Eucharist, 10.30am

Zumba, 9.00–10.00am in Village Hall

- Tues 15 ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO 31 BINSWOOD END,
HARBURY BY 5.30PM
Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Horticultural Society: Linda Smith – Our 1st Chelsea Exhibit,
8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 16 Tea 3.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Wednesday Walkers, Priors Marston (3 miles), meet 9.40am,
Village Hall Car Park
Ballroom Dancing, 4.00-7.30pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 17 Holy Communion, 9.45am followed by coffee
Movement to Music, 2.00pm in Village Hall
Warwickshire Young Voices, 6.30-8.00pm in Village Hall
- Sat 19 Men's Breakfast, 7.30am, Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning, 10.00am–12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in
aid of Harbury School P.T.A.
Harbury School Christmas production "Babes in the Wood"
from 1989, 2.30pm at school
Moving Pictures present 'The Angel's Share', (Tickets £6.00
each), doors open 5.30, film starts 6.00pm in Village Hall
- Sun 20 EPIPHANY III**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Family Communion Service, 10.30am
Evensong, 6.00pm
Zumba, 9.00–10.00am in Village Hall
- Tues 22 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Julian Meeting, 8.00pm in Church
- Wed 23 Wednesday Walkers Snitterfield – Welcombe obelisk with pub
meal (4 miles), meet 9.40am Village Hall Car Park
Ballroom Dancing, 4.00-7.30pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 24 Blood Donors, 1.30 – 3.30pm and 4.30 – 7.30pm
Holy Communion, 9.45am followed by coffee
ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO HARBURY PHARMACY,
HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY
5.30PM
Parish Council, 7.30pm, venue to be announced
- Sat 26 Harbury School Cross Country Event, 9.00am-noon
Coffee Morning, 10.00am–12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid
of Horticultural Society
- Sun 27 EPIPHANY IV**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Little Saints' Service, 9.00am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am
Zumba, 9.00–10.00am in Village Hall
- Tues 29 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved, 2.30 to 4.30pm, 19 Farm Street
Holy Communion, 7.30pm
- Wed 30 Wednesday Walkers - to be arranged.

- Wed 30 Ballroom Dancing, 4.00-7.30pm in Village Hall
 Thurs 31 Holy Communion, 9.45am followed by coffee
 Movement to Music, 2.00pm, Village Hall
 Warwickshire Young Voices, 6.30-8.00pm in Village Hall

FEBRUARY

- Sat 2 Coffee Morning, 10.00am–12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of NSPCC
- Sun 3 2nd BEFORE LENT**
 Sung Eucharist, 9.00am
 First Light Service, 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
 Taizé-style Service, 6.00pm
- Tues 5 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
 Horticultural Society Gardens of Yorkshire – Howard Drury
 8.00pm Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 6 Holy Communion, 2.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
 Mothers' Union Meeting, 2.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
 Wednesday Walkers, Bourton on Dunsmore – Stockton
 (4 miles), meet 9.40am Village Hall Car Park
- Thurs 7 Holy Communion, 9.45am followed by coffee
 Movement to Music, 2.00pm in Village Hall
 Men's Group Meeting, 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
 Folk Club, 8.00pm in Village Club

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

Refuse Collection Rota				
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Collection Week
January	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	Thurs 10	Fri 11	Sat 12	Grey Bin
	16	17	18	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	23	24	25	Grey Bin
	30	31		Green & Blue Lid Bins
Feb			1	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	6	7	8	Grey Bin
	13	14	15	Green & Blue Lid Bins



From the Rector

Reverend Craig Grocock

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury ☎612377 ✉kankudai43@aol.co.uk

The power of forgiveness

I don't know if you've seen the film *Les Misérables* yet? The film is an adaptation of the stage musical of the same name, itself an adaptation of Victor Hugo's 1862 novel. Considered one of the greatest novels of the 19th century, Hugo's story was set to music by Claude-Michel Schönberg and Alain Boublil in 1980. The show went on to become one of the most successful musicals in history, and has now been seen by more than 60 million people in 42 countries and in 21 languages across the globe.

The story begins as embittered convict Jean Valjean is released after a nineteen-year spell in prison just for stealing a loaf of bread. An encounter with forgiveness changes him forever, leading him to break parole and reach out to impoverished single mother Fantine and her daughter Cosette but, as the years pass and revolution looms, Valjean realises that policeman Javert is still hunting him down.

Les Mis is undoubtedly one of the greatest musicals ever written and if you haven't had the joy of watching it on the big screen yet, then make a date to go and see it.

The story is essentially about redemption and the impact redemption can have on an individual and on those around them. It shows how Valjean's life is turned around by the forgiveness offered to him by a bishop from whom he had stolen some silver. He becomes a new man and passes on the mercy he has discovered to Fantine, Cosette and eventually even to his enemy Javert.

I can think in real life of many lives that have been literally turned around through the experience of forgiveness. Imagine what a transformative effect this could have too on the wider world?

Peace on earth – we heard that sung and said a lot over Christmas. As we enter another year we know only too well that real peace will come when forgiveness is offered and received and when love fuels peoples' motives and not hatred, fear and prejudice.

May God bless you this coming year.



@CGrocock

From the Registers

Funerals at All Saints', Harbury

27th November Frances Onions

18th December Rachel Brown

Holy Baptism, All Saints', Harbury

9th December Ben Edward O'Keeffe



From the Churchwardens

Liz & Will

We were one warden down during December due to a planned, routine operation and we continue to wish Liz well during her recovery. Thankfully Charles Catt agreed to step in to help out for the Christmas period (providing it doesn't turn into something more permanent!) and we owe our thanks to him.

Didn't the Christmas tree in Church look wonderful? We are extremely grateful to Brian Merryman for providing the tree and the helpers who erected and decorated it and all those who made the Church look so festive.

Finally you might notice that the toilets are finally finished, although now the dishwasher has failed and is beyond economic repair so we need a new one.

All Saints' Church Harbury Christmas Fayre

Once again the Fayre was a great success and well supported by the local community.

A special thank you for your generous giving in buying so many raffle tickets! The Crown Inn was the "star" performer and our congratulations go to Joe for selling 65 books.

We have been able to send a cheque for £1200 to Myton Hospice; well done everyone.

Colin Ingram

Ladbroke News & Diary

www.ladbroke-pc.org.uk

JANUARY 2013

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|---|
| Sun | 6 | EPIPHANY
Family Communion and Christingle, 10.30am followed by refreshments |
| Tues | 8 | Photography Club meal |
| Sun | 13 | EPIPHANY II / BAPTISM OF CHRIST
Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am |
| Tues | 15 | ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE OF HARBURY NEWS TO 31 BINSWOOD END BY 5.30PM |
| Wed | 16 | Parish Council Meeting, 7.45pm, Village Hall |

- Sat 19 Safari Supper around the village
Sun 20 EPIPHANY III
 Holy Communion BCP, 9.00am
 Thurs 24 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO HARBURY PHARMACY,
 HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY
 5.30PM
 Women's Institute, 7.30pm, Village Hall
 Sat 26 Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
Sun 27 EPIPHANY IV
 Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am
FEBRUARY
 Sat 2 Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
Sun 3 2nd BEFORE LENT
 Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments
 Tues 5 Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall



Ladbroke Church News

Sue Lord

Thank you to everyone who bought Church Christmas cards. Jackie was amazed to have sold out all 800 in early December. £168 profit was raised for Church funds.



Forty people gathered at The Bell on the evening of Wednesday 12th December to sing carols and enjoy mulled wine. Thank you to Kate for accompanying the singing and to Allan Ballard for managing the sound equipment. A highlight of the evening was Alice's beautiful solo of Once in Royal David's City. It was a very festive atmosphere

with the carols reminding us of the birth of Jesus. This annual event is a wonderful start to the Christmas period.

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Ladbroke

16th December 2012

Harleigh Sidney Graham Cotton

Portia Mae Birch

Ladbroke Flower Rota

6 th January	Val Copley
13 th January	Val Copley
20 th January	Carole Loftus
27 th January	Carole Loftus
3 rd February	Helen Morten



Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge Women's Institute

Carol Lane

It was unusual for W.I. members to meet on a Monday evening and the special event was a First Aid course provided by Susan Clark of S. J. Training Solutions. During the two hours, it was her intention to instruct us in the latest Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) techniques for adults, juniors and babies; putting patients in the recovery position and how to deal with choking, again in the 3 categories above.

All First Aid attempted must be **safe, prompt and effective** and Sue worked with us to give us the best chance of achieving this, should the need arise. There was much explanation and demonstration with each of the bullet points but this was the outline of the steps needed for CPR

- ✧ Observation of the casualty
- ✧ Care of approach in case of danger to first aider
- ✧ When no response, shout for help
- ✧ Tilt head back to clear airway, look and listen for 10 seconds
- ✧ If no breathing, call 112 (direct line to nearest emergency service) or 999
- ✧ Make sure position is obvious to ambulance. (Put lights on; station someone to alert them)
- ✧ Start CPR. 30 chest compressions to 2 breaths
- ✧ If two people are present swap every two minutes. Continue until ambulance arrives.



We then had the opportunity to practise on special dummies of different 'ages'. Susan demonstrated the recovery position using Sue Moore as the patient. When a person starts choking, the following advice was given:

- ✧ Encourage person to cough. Check.
- ✧ Give 5 sharp blows with the heel of the hand between the shoulder blades, Check.
- ✧ Give 5 abdominal thrusts using a fist covered by the other hand positioned in the centre just beneath the rib cage. Check.
- ✧ If no response, phone for ambulance
- ✧ Continue alternating the above until the ambulance arrives or the blockage is cleared.

I think we all felt more confident by the end of the session and hope that Susan will return next year to give more advice about the contents of first aid boxes for example. Anyone wishing to find out more about this service can contact SJ Training on 07527 195 675 or www.sjtrainingsolutions.co.uk

The second of our December meetings was held on 6th Thursday when members entered a festive Village Hall with chairs arranged in a circle round internally lit parcels. We were welcomed with glasses of hot mulled wine and there followed self made entertainment. We got into the mood with parcels being passed round the group while Sue Moore paraded in her musical headgear! Then it was time for the 'turns'.

We heard 'When I'm an old lady, I'll live with each kid' (it might be as well for teenagers and children to access this online to perceive from the parents' point of view!) We heard what not to do at the office party; many hilarious editing errors taken from magazines and newspapers and the Pam Ayres' Christmas poem.

Rachel had brought backing tapes and printed pamphlets - in case we didn't know every word - for us to sing carols and Christmas songs.



While the mulled wine was being topped up and the mince pies distributed, Jackie entertained individual groups with card tricks. Watch out Paul Zenon!

The evening was made complete with Jean Clews rendition of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' a traditional poem which dates back to 1823 which, I believe, is the first time Santa Claus (St Nicholas) was associated with a sleigh and reindeer.

Happy New Year from Ladbrooke and Deppers Bridge W.I.



Ladbroke Millennium Green AGM

Jackie West

Six trustees and one dog attended this meeting on 29th November. Chairman, Graham Lewis, thanked the trustees for their hard work providing on-going management, fundraising and basic upkeep of the Green and treasurer, Paul Taylor, presented the accounts. There had been three fund raising events: a quiz, the fete and a treasure hunt (joint with the Village Hall) and funds had been spent on insuring the Green and its regular maintenance i.e. grass and hedge cutting and spraying the paths by a contractor etc. Costs had been higher than previous years due to a major hedge cut in Autumn 2011 but, before any special costs, fund raising needs to generate approx £2500 per year. As well as supporting events, people who make purchases on the internet can help us towards that goal at no extra cost to themselves by entering the retailers site via **easyfundraising.org.uk** All you need to do is sign up to have any donations assigned to Ladbroke Millennium Green Trust. In the past year £119 was raised in this way by just 11 people, *just think what we could do if everyone in the village signs up!*

Events this financial year have made a good start with the race night, others planned are:

Safari Supper	Saturday 19th January
Quiz Night	Saturday 20th April
Village Fete	Saturday 15th June

The trustees had formed working parties in November and May to cut back shrubs, weed and clean the play area and do some repairs. They had considered a request to convert some of the green into allotments but individual allotments are not within the spirit of the trust deed, in that it is an area open for all to enjoy. Also the suggestion to remove fertility from the wildflower area using yellow rattle would not be progressed on grounds of cost and effort. Instead trustees are considering having shorter grass paths - perhaps even a Ladbroke Labyrinth in the summer and planting a few fruit trees in that area.

There was an update on the "merger" with the Village Hall and unanimous support to progress with a Uniting Direction as recommended by the Charity Commissioners. The trustees all agreed to continue until the merger at which point there are likely to be fewer actual trustees together with a strong operating committee.

February Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News

Adverts to 31 Binswood End by 15th January

Articles to Harbury Pharmacy or e-mail to articles@hlnews.co.uk by
24th January



Ladbroke Photography Club

Jackie West

Our December meeting was a workshop on close ups. As people arrived, cameras in hand, there were a number of small tables, with spotlights to illuminate the subject matter - but what were we to photograph, the tables were empty! Well, that was up to the members - another much larger table contained a wide variety of props and soon the small ones contained artistic arrangements of coloured paper curls, fir cones and tinsel, golden teasels and a beaded evening bag. However, the most popular set up by far was in the entrance lobby to the Village Hall - a small torch suspended from a pipe in the corridor. A bit of trial and error was required initially but soon word got around that manual focus, f22, ISO 100 and 20 seconds were the right settings and then it was just luck to get the torch swinging well to give interesting light patterns. This technique was new to all of us and proved so popular that soon, not one or two, but four cameras were clustered on the floor underneath the torch and woe betide anyone who attempted to open the door into the main hall breaking the blackout during the critical 20 seconds! I'm looking forward to seeing the best shots of this and other abstract pictures at our February meeting (our first meeting of 2013 will be a meal on January 8th).



John Lowman, one of our members, has provided this amusing photo of his cat, Monty. Please email captions for it to jackieszone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk and we'll publish the best in next month's edition.



Ladbroke General Section

Ladbroke Christmas Party

Friday night was party night in Ladbroke Village Hall for the annual village Christmas party. The Village Hall Committee, who hosted the event had worked extremely hard decking the hall not with boughs of holly, but with some tasteful and colourful Christmas decorations to put us all in a festive mood. They had also prepared candlelit tables to seat the 80 or so guests; and ensured there was a well-stocked bar.

The party started with a delicious meal in the style of a ploughman's buffet followed by a selection of scrumptious desserts. All the food generously supplied by Ladbroke ladies – our own 'masterchefesses'.

At around 9pm our renowned local band the Ladbroke Rockers (augmented by two singers from Newcastle!) took to the stage to get us all up and dancing. The number of musicians varied according to the song being played, but at one stage I counted 12, comprising four singers, three guitarists, two percussionists, a sax player, a harmonica player, and a keyboard player. They played an energetic mix of rock 'n' roll and soul standards as well as a selection of pop classics until well after midnight. Ladbroke's certainly got talent!

Overall it was a most enjoyable way to herald in the Christmas season. Thanks must go to the Village Hall Committee for masterminding the party; the 'masterchefesses' for their cooking prowess; and the Ladbroke Rockers for their musical marathon. You all deserve a well-earned rest!

David Wright

Ladbroke Safari Supper, Saturday 19th January

If you haven't experienced a safari supper before, prepare for a very enjoyable evening. We each host a course for a small number of people, so the first course is at one address, the main course at another and then we all get together for desserts, cheese and drinks. It is a great way to meet people and catch up with old friends and no-one has to drive! More information will follow but to find out more, contact Kip (815004) or Martin (812668).

Kip Warr

HS2 Consultation on Compensation

Remember the closing date for comments is 31st January. A simple way to respond is by filling in a pre-printed postcard and sending it off to the Freepost address. Cards have been delivered around the village; if you want more please contact Graham Long – grahamjohnlong@hotmail.co.uk

Jackie West

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

£80	Simon and Jackie West	£50	Kim and Andy Bendzak
£25	Graham and Pauline Long	£10	John and Jenny Barrett
£10	Keith Tancock	£10	Alan Lord
£10	Sheena Healey	£10	Susan Moore

Margaret Bosworth



Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

Official minutes can be viewed in the Library, on the Parish Council website www.harbury-pc.gov.uk or obtained from the Parish Clerk Tel: 01926 614646

Planning Meeting 13th December 2012

This was a special meeting to consider the second planning application for the Dovehouse Autos site and, although it only lasted an hour, it was full of passion and interest. Richard Wright, the applicant was there along with his architect, Mr Brain, to explain their intentions. A number of residents were present to articulate their opposition to the development.



Chris Dudley, speaking for the residents, outlined their objections and provided photographs to illustrate their contention that the building would be overbearing and unacceptable adjacent to the Conservation Area. Other concerns were the allegedly inadequate sewerage and parking provision; potential traffic problems in the cul-de-sac in Frances Road; lack of garden space for the flats and a

design which "will not blend in" and would dominate the adjacent Conservation Area.

The residents had taken photographs from a hoist at the proposed ridge level of the building to illustrate the height of the flats and the way they would take light and privacy from neighbouring properties.

Mr Dudley stressed the residents were not opposed to all development, but found this plan an over-development of the existing site that would have an impact not just on Frances Road but on Dovehouse Lane,



Church Street and Vicarage Lane. He urged the Parish Council to work with the residents and developers to find an acceptable solution.

Colin Sheasby said the plans were not sympathetic to this historic part of the village. His property and others would be dominated by the flats. He gave examples of previous sympathetic conversions of village buildings which had attracted new residents to the village. He urged everyone to work together to produce something better than the present plans.

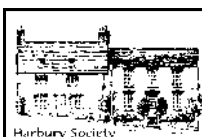
Responding to these concerns Richard Wright said Harbury needed housing near the village for elderly people. His site was not taking 'green field' land and was not suitable for business use, and he had asked the District Council for design guidance. Mr Brain (architect) explained the previous plans for dwellings with gardens had been opposed because the Parish Council did not want to lose the green space. Objections to the loss of the footpath were addressed and the present plan was acceptable to District planners in size, shape and position.

Linda Ridgley, for the Harbury Society, demanded to know why the architect had not considered Harbury's "Adopted" Village Design Guidelines, as the planned development impinged on the Conservation Area and would have an impact on the Dovehouse, the Church and the views down Dovehouse Lane. Mr Brain said Stratford's Case Officer had provided him with a template of a development at St Peter's Road, Kineton which had been considered suitable for this site.

Keith Thompson, who was chairing the meeting in Tim Lockley's absence, explained how the Parish Council's comments would be viewed by the District Council. Cllr Jenny Patrick said Parish Councillors had looked at the site and realised the proposed flats would be higher than the existing buildings, but planning guidance had been followed. The planners had said they would accept 1½ parking spaces per flat and the access off Frances Road would be safer than on the previous plans.

Cllr Janet Thornley was concerned about the impact on the bungalow at No 6 Dovehouse Lane. Cllr Alan Knowles said he had no problem with the development except for the prominence of the gable-end and asked if the roofline could be lowered. Mr Wright said he would look at that.

The Parish Council had until 19th December to formulate its response to the plans. The Clerk, Alison Biddle, in summing up said that the feelings of residents and Councillors was that the height of the development was a major concern and the Chairman agreed that the effect on the adjacent bungalow should also be addressed.



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

Christmas Fayre Tree Quiz

This year our quiz was based on trees. There was no prize, just the kudos of being the best at identifying what and where they were. The aim, as always, was to encourage people to look more carefully at their village and to value and protect its assets.

All the trees can be seen from public vantage points.



On the left is the weeping birch on the corner of Fox Close.

A surprising number of people did not recognise the Copper Beech outside the surgery in Mill Street (below right).

Our Chairman, John Hancock, tried the quiz out and got 41 points. Margaret McDonald was adjudged the winner, as

she amassed 37 points and fully identified the conifer on the corner of Queens Close as a Western Hemlock, then rather spoiled the effect by adding - MINE!

Tim Lockley got 33 points, Ali Hodge 29, and Bridget Burnham was fourth with 28 marks. But we must give credit to William Jones who identified all but four of the locations correctly but omitted to name the trees.

If anyone wants a copy of the answers email me at two.ridgleys@virgin.net and I will send them a copy.



This beautiful specimen is a walnut in the Church Paddock, as seen from Hall Lane.

The next Harbury Society event is a talk in the Tom Hauley Room by **Terry Hunt, Jewellery Making with Rare Metals** on Tuesday 19th February, 7.30 for 8pm.



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

December's meeting was very enjoyable with mince pies, wine and presents to help us on our way.

We also had a very pleasant evening playing a darts match against Bishops Itchington with a nice supper too. Blow it – Harbury lost by one point.

Many thanks to Norma and Sue who ran the Cake Stall at the Christmas Fayre and to the people who provided the lovely cakes etc.

We joined the Group Carol Service at the Catholic Church in Southam and it proved to be a nice evening.

Christine read the yearly newsletter with cards from St Andrew's W.I in Guernsey. We have corresponded with them for many years.

We have decided to take part in another rubbish collection on 18th April.

Our guest speaker this month was Gillian Hawton from Flower, Thyme Floristry, Kineton, talking about and demonstrating Christmas flowers – and does she know her flowers!

Gillian first visited us at the beginning of the century when she was just starting out and she has an interesting and knowledgeable business now. She serves about 60-70 weddings a year as well as other occasions. She amazed us with the requests she has and what she is asked to make. Her family have all helped in different ways with the business. She often goes to Holland to visit the growers and learn about their excellent ways.

She made two floral displays and a wreath with so little effort and we were fascinated. She also offered a lot of helpful hints whilst she was working – then she gave her efforts to the raffle; you can imagine how that went down.

So, we have the Pantomime to look forward to in the New Year and our New Year's party on 1st February.

A happy New Year to all readers.

January meeting: 10th January 2013, 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room.



Harbury Theatre Group

Mike Banbury

The folk of the Theatre Group have been having a wee rest over the festive period, following the ultra busy season which led up to the Wizard of Oz. Everyone in the group would like to extend their wholehearted thanks to everyone who supported us in coming to see it, and being part of its success. The children were magnificent, and gave us great hope for fuelling the numbers of our merry band in the future. But we won't rest for long. Oh no! As you are reading this, we will be starting to get together to discuss options for our May production (will it be one play. Will it be two?). And then there is our New Year social event, competing against each other at Snitterfield skittle ally. This is followed by a play reading of Shakespeare (just for fun!), spring performances, carnival stalls, perhaps another summer BBQ, and then back full circle to the November production. And it is Panto next year folks. Oh yes it is!

So you can see we are quite a sociable little bunch, and we are really pleased to have welcomed so many new members recently. But there is always room for more. So if you fancy coming to see what we are all about, without pressure to actually tread the boards, then do come along to our meetings in the Shakespeare - usually the last Tuesday of the month.

Happy New Year!



Folk Club

Peter Bones

When the Folk Club met on 6th December, between 60 and 70 people turned up which I think was the largest number we have ever had. It's a good job we now meet regularly in the function room at the Harbury Club as it is large enough to provide enough space for everyone to be comfortable.

Whether it was this good attendance, the room being adorned with Christmas decorations or a combination of the two, the evening had a very pleasing atmosphere right from the start.

The quality of music and entertainment was also to a very high standard. It appears that the regular performers are getting used to the acoustics of the new venue, and are feeling more at ease.

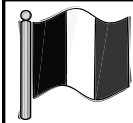
As it was the last Folk Club before Christmas I chose the theme as "Near and Dear" as this is the time of year when most of us focus on our friends and families. There were 14 acts that contributed to the evening and once again, they stuck to the theme with varying degrees of success, but the quality of entertainment was excellent. There were many highlights of the evening, but perhaps the most memorable was Thre'penny Bit's rendition of "Gawdy Tree" – a hilarious parody of the well known Latin Christmas song "Gaudete" made famous by Steeleye Span some years ago.

It was good to welcome newcomers to the club who performed for the first time. Mandy had come all the way from Kidlington and it was clear that she is a very talented singer songwriter and seasoned folk club goer. There was also Phil from Lighthorne Heath who made his debut. This was particularly brave as he had never been to a folk club before, but it was good to experience his rich unaccompanied singing. It is hoped that both these artistes will come again.

For a complete list of who sang what, please visit the Folk Cub website, www.welcome.to/harburyfolkclub

Many thanks to all who took part, the audience who provided a good atmosphere, and the committee and bar staff of Harbury Club, for making us so welcome.

Thanks also to those who contributed to the raffle which raised £85.00 for Leamington Night Shelter. This is a charity that strives to provide food, shelter and safety for the homeless and those sleeping rough in Leamington.



Harbury Twinning Association

Andrew Patrick

Signs of madness are showing in the Twinning Association.

1. The AGM elected your correspondent as the new Chairman. (It can't be blamed on the wine and cheese, which came later.)
2. The Christmas party featured a new form of madness, the Strictly Catwalk Challenge. The object was to present a brand-new outfit – ensemble, hat, shoes, accessories – using nothing more than newspaper, paper serviettes, sellotape and an extravagant commentary. The six resulting creations were incredible, and indescribable.

The panel of four judges agreed they were all in their own way 'sensational'. A good example is this "Christmas Tree" outfit fetchingly modelled by Mlle Malcolm Tanner. No knowledge of French is required to join the Twinning Association, but an ability in newspaper origami is a great help!

Later in the evening we welcomed some strangely-named late arrivals to the Olympic Ball, notably Mr and Mrs Preemlyfit and their daughter Sue Preemlyfit.

By the time you read this we shall have done our best to celebrate a Harbury version of the French epiphany "Fête des Rois", or Feast of the three Kings, involving (definitely) paper crowns and almond-flavoured cakes with secret contents and (maybe) some more creative challenges.



2013 is an odd number, so it will be our turn to host visitors from Samois in May. Preparations are afoot on both sides of the Channel. In Samois a group of three ladies and seven men intend to spend the previous week cycling all the way. We hope to send a party of four to cycle with them from Newhaven, and we're waiting for Team Sky's response.

The madness is catching

Bonne Année!

**Dates for inclusion in the Harbury Diary please to:
Linda Ridgley - Tel: 612792**

Under 7's - Steve Darby

The cold, frosty Saturday mornings during December prevented much training taking place. However, we managed a couple of sessions and congratulations go to Alfie, Matthew and Tate for winning the outstanding performance awards. Matthew is making good progress with his focus on goal keeping, Tate did particularly well with his passing and Alfie worked hard at making space available so he had time on the ball to make good decisions.

Under 10's Harbury Hawks - Ian Jones

Harbury Juniors Hawks 1 v 1 Harbury Juniors Colts - League (24th November)

Billed as a right old ding-dong earlier in the week, this was the one most were looking forward to. The Hawks started brighter creating most of the chances and several near misses. The Colts started to get into the game and managed to get a goal in. Jack was the busiest keeper as both teams fought a valiant battle. In the end, deep into the 2nd half Liam popped up with a well deserved equaliser for the Hawks. An entertaining draw in the end. Credit to both teams for their desire and commitment to the game. Edward was excellent carrying the ball out of defence. In the end the Man of the Match went to the whole team; all were excellent today.

Harbury Juniors Hawks 1 v 1 Leamington Juniors - Supp Cup lost 4-3 on pens (1st December)

The Hawks started well and took a deserved lead in the first half. The Hawks had a couple of good chances to extend their lead. Somehow, (I still don't know how this goal went in) Leam Juniors got back in it from a corner. It was very close for the rest of the game. Five minutes each way extra time and still no breakthrough and then the dreaded penalties. Penalties, aka "The Lottery" - and this time our numbers didn't come up. Well done to all those that took the pens and a big shout out to Cam B in goal who played really well all game and deserved his MoM award today. This was a real shame and a cruel way to go out. Also a lesson learnt - take our chances.

Harbury Juniors Hawks 1 v 2 Whitnash Town - League (8th December)

So near, yet so far....The team played well against the high flying Whitnash but were left without getting anything from the game. The Hawks took the lead through Morgan after a period of sustained pressure. The game was fairly even with both teams having chances. After the break Whitnash had the better of the exchanges applying pressure and getting a deserved goal.

Excellent performances across the pitch from all, however a sucker punch with two minutes to go as a Whitnash got the winner. Although on the back foot for most of the 2nd half, the Hawks deserved something from the game. Hard luck guys. MoM going to Morgan for all round performance and for his goal.

Under 10's Harbury Colts - Steve Burnell

St Peter Celtic Vikings 0 vs 5 Harbury Colts – League (1st December 2012)

A convincing win from Harbury to put them back at the top of the league table against a much depleted St Peters side. While the home team battled, a win for Harbury was never in doubt. Jack P had little to do, Millie T, Joe D and Ollie K were rarely threatened in defence, Morgan F, Beau S and Josh B dominated the midfield and Luca W and Jack D ran the St Peters defence ragged. Luca scored the first goal 10 minutes in with a sweet left foot strike, Josh B scored the second, a trademark 15 yards smash and again with a 2nd, a rare two yard poach. The second half saw Jack D introduced who literally glides above the grass he is so quick, whereupon he scored also, one a poachers goal from a few yards out and a text book guided header from a great cross from Beau S. Convincing win from the Colts, however it's a marathon not a sprint!

St Peter Celtic Knights 0 vs 4 Harbury Colts – League (8th December 2012)

A lethargic start from Harbury albeit after 10 minutes Harbury geared up and started to play football. Jack D, Beau and Josh all went close early on with some good shots, with the St Peters goalkeeper keeping them in the game. 15 minutes in a goal mouth scramble and a jab of the studs from Josh B saw Harbury take a 0 vs 1 lead before the interval. Still lethargic, Harbury did dominate although we could have been caught out. However, as time passed our quality showed and 15 minutes into the 2nd half Oscar B hit a 25 yard screamer that silenced St Peter Celtic. Two minutes on he then went on a stunning run, taking on virtually the whole St Peters team to get his second. Then after a further three minutes he did the same again to claim a hatrick. A great show from Oscar B winning him the man of the match and Harbury became two points clear at the top of the table

Harbury Colts 0 vs 1 Harbury Hawks – League (15th December 2012)

The village derby game was highly anticipated by all, it was never going to be a high scorer but one where no love would be lost between the teams. Both teams started positively playing some good football and it was end to end stuff. The Hawks started much the brighter and made most of the early running They continued to press and went close on many occasions. 15 minutes in, disaster struck for the Colts as a well worked move down the left flank found Seb P in space in front of goal unmarks with a easy tap in to make it 0 v 1 Hawks taking them into the break with the lead.

Again both teams started well in the second half, the Hawks dug in protecting their lead, however the Colts did not really get going until 10 minutes in. As time passed, the Colts realised that time was running out and started to dig in and play football and the Hawks were on the back foot a little for the last 10 minutes. However they held firm, the Colts did not really threaten and the Hawks ground out the desired result. Too little, too late for the Colts, the Hawks claimed a well deserved victory over a lacklustre Colts team.

Under 12's - Woody

Harbury 1 - 0 Central Ajax

The U12s only had one game in December against Central Ajax - a very skilful, well organised team, who passed the ball around beautifully. The first half was scoreless and the second half was also short of chances until Riley broke away and slotted home to give Harbury the lead. The score remained at 1:0 until late on in the game when Central Ajax were awarded a controversial penalty. The kick was taken and was hit with pace towards the top corner, but Jordan managed to pull off an incredible save and tipped the ball away for a corner. The rock solid Harbury defence kept Ajax at bay and they held out for a win, which keeps them in second place in the league.



The Rugby Club had a slow start to the early part of the season. Our usual warm up *The Paddy Tournament* held in memory of Alan (Paddy) Padbury was supported by the regular participants. This year it was won by Long Buckby RFC.

Paddy Tournament – Mixed Touch Rugby?

We may well hold this event under a different guise – for example, mixed touch rugby. I'm sure that it would be something that Paddy would have supported! The aim would be to run it very much as a community event – perhaps with an introductory round at the Carnival and a Saturday or Sunday event in August.

The Season so far

Harbury are traditionally slow starters and by the end of September had shown just two wins out of four in the 1st XV and none at all in the 2nds. For the Mini and Junior Section the opening month is based very much on recruitment and coaching. As a consequence, the club is now running Minis at 6 different levels (U7 –U12) and Juniors at 4 age groups (U13-U16). Early October was characterised by a hugely successful Mini Rugby Festival – with five different clubs involved and reflected in over 300 boys and girls plus

coaches, parents and supporters present on a lovely sunny day at the beginning of October.

It is a credit to the organisers that they cater brilliantly and the show is run with military precision and a lot of fun. It started at 11.00 am and finished at 2.00 pm exactly as printed in the programme. The U12's were the most successful group and winning their age groups. Very well done to all for promoting a super event.

One of the matches that the 1st XV won was against Wellingborough Old Grammarians in the first round of the RFU Midlands Junior Vase. They have since gone from strength to strength and on Saturday 19 January they are away to St Ives in Cambridgeshire in the semi-final.

The winners then play another Midlands based semi-finalist later in the season. From there the four Regional winners have a play off with the subsequent visitors appearing at Twickenham in May.

October too, was initially sluggish but after an emphatic victory over Coventry Welsh at the end of the month the 1st XV have remained unbeaten. By the end of the first half of the league programme (*Midlands 4 West (South)*) on 15th December Harbury had moved up to third place. Much of this reflects the on field contribution by Director of Rugby, Hendry Rheeders, the former Coventry RFC captain) and the confidence that has developed in the team.

The 2nd XV have started to pick up and have attracted new players and welcomed back several regulars from injury. Team Manager Ben Linnett has gradually pulled together a useful side. As current holders of the Warwickshire RFU 2nd XV Shield they have reached the semi-finals of the competition for which the draw will be made in early January.

Come and Watch us!

Harbury are playing some excellent rugby at present and anyone is more than welcome to come and watch us. The home fixtures are posted on the notice board at the entrance to the car park off Middle Road. You can also check all fixtures on our website: www.harbury.rfc.co.uk

Seniors matches are played on Saturday afternoon with a KO at 2.15pm (Nov-Feb) and 3.00pm (Sep-Oct and March-April). All Mini and Junior matches are played on Sunday morning KO 11.00am.

More Details

For more details and information please contact Dave Andrews on 07966 108547, Ian Holroyd on 07831 602131 or Jerry Birkbeck on 07855 566325.

Season's Greetings

A Happy New Year to all the readers of this excellent newsletter from everyone at Harbury Rugby Football Club.



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer
www.tennis-today.net/harbury

Who said tennis is a summer sport? November and December proved to be a hectic period for the Club, particularly on the competitive front. In the Banbury Floodlit League the first match was an extremely close one at Buckingham with very little to choose between the teams. Caroline Morland and Sue Mercer halved their rubber as did Steve Stark and Colin Mercer, leaving everything to play for in the mixed doubles. Steve and Caroline had an emphatic win but unfortunately the home pair were too strong for Sue and Colin so a 2-2 draw was a fair result. The next match was also away, at Banbury, where the start was delayed while rain was brushed off one of the courts! Caroline was joined by Sue Panton for the ladies' doubles and they made an excellent start winning both sets. Steve Fitzgerald joined Colin and faced two very strong home men, putting up a good fight but losing both sets. Once again the outcome of the match depended on the mixed doubles but this time, although Caroline and Colin halved a very close match, Sue and Steve lost theirs, so Banbury clinched the match 5-3.

In the Banbury Weekend Winter League the club played 3 matches, the first being at home against unbeaten Kings Sutton. Steve Stark and Geoff Prince got off to a good start winning both sets but once again the match was all square going into the mixed doubles as Caroline Morland and Sue Panton and Caroline were narrowly beaten by the visitors' ladies. Caroline and Steve halved their rubber so it was down to Sue and Geoff who came up trumps winning their rubber after a second set tiebreak. The next match was at Deddington and unfortunately Harbury could only field one lady so had to concede 2 of the 4 rubbers. However, Sue Mercer, Geoff Prince and Colin Mercer were in excellent form and won 3 of the 4 sets played to come away with a creditable 3-5 defeat! In the final match of 2012 Harbury entertained Priors Marston. Caroline and Sue M won both sets and with Steve S and Colin halving their rubber Harbury were in the driving seat going into the mixed doubles. Sue and Colin halved their rubber but Caroline and Steve ensured a comfortable 6-2 win by winning both sets in theirs.

The social side has also been busy and weather permitting by the time you read this the Club will have seen the old year out at its Muffler Tournament.

Juniors

Sarah Bunting reports that it was great to see so many Harbury players participating in the Christmas Mini Masters tennis tournament which was staged at Kington



High School on Sunday 9th December. Nine Harbury Juniors took part in a field of 32 players from the South Warwickshire area. Edward Lockley, Millie Thompson and Morgan Jones (all aged 10 and under – green ball) along with Tana Taikato (9 and under – orange ball), braved the elements to compete in the wintery conditions outside, while Sam Groom and Thomas Cumberbatch (5-6yr olds), Jamie Smith, Hamish Lewis Smith and Arthur Giblin (7-8 yr olds) participated on smaller ‘red ball’ courts inside the school gym.

Well done to all players, especially Hamish, Arthur and Thomas who were participating in their first tournaments. Congratulations to Sam Groom who didn't lose a match on his way to winning the 5-6 year old division – a real achievement considering he was the youngest player in the entire tournament. Tana came second in his division but unfortunately the green ballers didn't quite finish their event as some wintery showers came through to



make the courts unsafe just before we were able to complete all matches. We still hope to play the remaining games some time soon.

There will be more Mini Masters in the New Year. If your child is enjoying his/her tennis and has a basic understanding of how to serve and play points, please come along to the next one – everyone is welcome!

For any queries regarding tennis tournaments or coaching in general please contact Sarah Bunting on 07757 538325 or s.bunting@tennisolutions.co.uk. January term courses for both children and adults begin in the week of 14th January 2013.

The Club welcomes new players so if you're interested please contact me at sucol-mercero@tiscali.co.uk or go to our website, www.tennis-today.net/harbury

	<h2>Harbury Toddler Group</h2>	<p>Rosemary Scott</p>
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The highlight of the month was the Christmas Party which was held on the 5th December. It was a great success with 30 children in the Village Hall enjoying the softplay equipment, making crowns and having a party lunch. There was also a visit from Father Christmas who had a present for all the children. It was lovely to see so many people there and everyone had a great time.

We have also been making peppermint creams at Toddler Group and whilst some were eaten, I think at least some of them made it home.

At our last session on the 17th December, Annie came to talk to the children about the nativity. It was very successful as the



children actually sat and listened, which made it a really lovely moment.

We will start again on the 14th January as a new canopy is being installed on the 7th January, so we are unable to have our usual session on that day. If you are interested in joining us at Toddler Group we are always pleased to see newcomers. We run every Monday from 9.30am to 11.15am at the Wight School (behind the library), and cater for children from birth to school age.



Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

Well, what a busy time we've had at Pre-School in the three weeks building up to Christmas!

Goodbye Claire and Welcome Helen – At the end of November we were very sad to say our goodbyes to Claire who has been a fantastic member of the Pre-School team for 6 years. We thanked her for her dedication, care and professionalism with gifts from staff and parents. In Claire's place we are delighted to welcome Helen Edwards, who has been helping this term as "bank" staff and has now joined the team as a permanent staff member.

The Nativity Story: At the beginning of December, we were delighted to welcome Rev. Annie Goldthorp who came to tell us the story of the very first Christmas. The children listened intently and were able to help her with parts of the story. The role play area then became a nativity scene, with a crib for the baby Jesus, and the dressing up stand full of outfits for



angels, shepherds, sheep, donkeys, Mary and Joseph and the three kings. The children all chose their roles for the Nativity Songtime and enjoyed trying

on the various costumes. We would like to say a special **thank you** to the **Wagstaffe Foundation** for their generous donation which enabled us to buy a new dressing up stand for use in the role play area.



Christmas Preparation – Some beautiful decorations were made at the creative table, using redundant CDs, brightly coloured collage materials, coloured pasta and lots of glue. The children also made lovely Christmas cards for their families from great observational drawings of the Christmas tree and fantastic party hats ready for a visit from Father Christmas. Cutting, joining and estimating skills were

put to the test as the children wrapped assorted cartons to go as “presents” under the Christmas tree.

Nativity Songtime – The morning of the Nativity Songtime dawned cold and frosty, but the sun was shining as the children braved the cold and made their way to the Jackson’s stable yard. There they performed beautifully in front of their parents and other relatives and friends. They finished with “Silent Night”, using Makaton



signing, before challenging the audience to take part in the encore which, it has to be said, they did with much success. A much deserved rousing round of applause for the children marked the end of the performance. We would like to thank the Jacksons for providing a beautiful and very meaningful setting for our nativity.

Father Christmas and Reindeer Food – A rumour went round that Father Christmas might be taking time out of his busy schedule to pay a visit to Pre-School, so the children learned some special songs to sing to him. Sure enough, he arrived, and was most impressed with the singing and the lovely party hats that the children had made. Each child was thrilled to be presented with a gift by Father Christmas and to chat to him about what they hoped to get in their stockings. Before they went home at the end of the term, the children made and took home bags of reindeer food to sprinkle on the ground outside, as encouragement to them to bring Father Christmas to their homes. We will be soon hearing if it worked – let’s hope so!

And Finally Gael, Lisa, Bud, Angie, Anne, Julie and Helen would like to thank the parents and the children for all the lovely gifts and cards that we were given. We now look forward to a great year in 2013 and we return to Pre-School for the Spring Term on Tuesday 8th January.

If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please contact Rosemary Jackson, Pre-School administrator: e-mail enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk phone 07939 122087 or look at the website www.harburypre-school.org.uk Please note that although the starting age for Pre-School is two years nine months, your child is never too young to be registered – we are already nearly full for summer term 2014 and are filling up very fast for the school year 2014-15



Windmills
Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

Windmills Nursery is situated in the grounds of Harbury Primary School. We are open all day between school hours and take children from the age of two years. If you would like to register a place for your child you can email us at info@windmillsnursery.co.uk, visit our website at www.windmillsnursery.co.uk, call Tina/Sally on 07906 519148 (Nursery mobile) or Katharine on 01926 613084 (admin).

In Nursery



Welcome to Charlotte, Evan and Finley who have joined Windmills this month amidst a flurry of Christmas preparations including the Christmas Concert held in the Village Hall, the Windmills Christmas Party and lots of other festive activities. We've had a visit from Reverend Annie who read the children a nativity story and Amanda Randall, our Forest School Leader, brought in her new puppy Bryher to show the children. The children also presented Mr Cousens with a collage they had produced of Forest School.

A Windmills Christmas

The main focus this month has been the build up to Christmas. The children were superb in the Windmills Christmas Concert on 7th December. They performed a series of songs relating to the seasons and delighted the audience with a selection of carols all kindly accompanied by Mr Hare on his accordion. This was followed by coffee and mince pies. Thanks to the staff and fundraising group for all their efforts and of course the children who were the main stars.



In nursery, the children have been talking about the nativity and a role play area has been created including stage and curtains for the children to dress up as nativity characters. They have also enjoyed watching the DVD produced of the Christmas concert.



Charlotte – “I stood on the stage and dressed as an angel. We sang Twinkle Twinkle and Away in a Manger. Santa comes at Christmas Eve. He wears a big red coat and hat. He has reindeers and a sleigh and he flies. He knows my house with the lights. He leaves presents under the Christmas tree.”



Finlay – “Santa is bringing me a toy camera and a toy computer to play games. Santa looks like Father Christmas. We have Christmas to celebrate baby Jesus because it is his birthday. Santa comes by a sledge with reindeers at the front. His reindeers are magic. One is Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer. Grandma and Grandad and Granny are coming to my house and we are going to eat Christmas roast dinner and Daddy is cooking it.”

In nursery the children have been busy producing some wonderful Christmas creations to take home. They have flower arranged table decorations and made paper chains and iced biscuits with a holly design. For their



parents they have designed a beautiful card in the shape of a wreath and decorated and laminated their own calendars.

The term ended with a special Christmas party with food, games and a visit from Father Christmas.



Farewell to Mrs Houghton

After an epic career at Windmills Nursery spanning well over 15 years Cassie Houghton is stepping down from the permanent staff at the end of this term. She has seen Windmills Nursery develop from Harbury Nursery School which was based in Harbury Village Hall for over 20 years. Windmills moved to the school grounds in 1997 operating from one of the classrooms for 8 years and then relocated to the current portacabin and Cassie has been a valued team member during all this time. Cassie is a very caring person with a sunny disposition which the children always warm to and

children, parents and staff will all miss her very much. She is happiest doing creative activities with the children and she will be a big loss to the nursery. We are delighted she is remaining as bank staff and will be visiting the nursery periodically.

Thank you to everyone who has supported Windmills Nursery in 2012 and we wish everyone a festive Christmas. Thanks from all the staff for the cards and presents from children and parents. Nursery will reopen on Tuesday 8th January at 9.05am.



Harbury Primary School P.T.A.

PTA Committee

Well it's been a fantastic Autumn term – despite the weather's best efforts we had very successful sponsored walks followed by an equally successful AGM which resulted in the largest PTA Committee in history! Our Quiz Night, as always, was great fun and again we'd like to thank Jason and Jane Burrows for their hard work with this – alas it was their last one, but we are looking forward to welcoming new Quizmasters Wayne and Jacqui McElfratrick later this year.

Our Christmas fundraiser was Christmas cards and as always the children came up with some fantastic designs.

We're kicking off our Spring Term fundraising with a **COFFEE MORNING** at the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 19th January - our parents are fantastic bakers so please come along and join us for a cuppa and cake and help us raise funds to make the children's experience of Harbury School even more special. Happy New Year everyone!



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

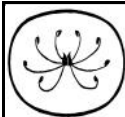
It's all been quiet on the 'western front' of the Village Hall recently, as the plans for the extension have been passed and the committees are now waiting for the detailed specifications, so that fund-raising for the Constance Drive development can be actioned in the New Year.

However, all has not been as quiet as one resident living on the 'southern front' would like it and a recent late night event drew a complaint about the excessively loud bass beat from the disco, which was difficult to ignore, especially late at night. The agreement for all hirers sets out that we expect due consideration to be taken into account for those who live close to the Village Hall when using the premises for a dance/disco. The organisers of the recent event did go round to apologise to the complainant, but it is preferable for all members of the community to be aware of the sensibilities of those living close by the Hall, so that this action would not be necessary.

December has been a busy month for usage of the Hall with three Christmas events for fund-raising for other groups – a Christmas Fair, the Christmas Fayre and the Christmas Market, all of which were well supported. The two Rural Cinema films also drew impressive numbers, with the Best Exotic Marigold Hotel attracting a good audience for the film and food, whilst the more recent Arthur Christmas proved a 'hit' with younger members of the village.

The replacement roofing has finally been completed by the stoic roofer, who continued to battle with the bouts of bad weather in order to ensure that the kitchen and toilet area are watertight for the winter season – a job well done!

The annual 'New Year's Dance' will have seen the old year out 'with a bang', but hopefully, since it's organised by Village Hall members themselves, the event will not have caused problems to any of the householders nearby. The Hall is a splendid venue for many different activities and is attracting more support as each year proceeds. It must continue to be a vibrant building at the heart of the community, which is there for all to enjoy in their many different ways.



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

We all enjoyed another Festive Fun evening at our December meeting. Prior to that we just had a very short AGM. I thanked the committee once again for all their support and input plus help with the raffle. Laura has resigned from the committee and, despite my best efforts, no one stepped forward to take

her place. The rest of the committee were willing to stand and the members supported us, so our smaller committee is as follows. Myself as Chairperson, Tony Brunton as Treasurer, David Powell-Tuck as Secretary with support from Kathleen Ellis, Jean Clews and Jane Giddings.

We then proceeded to enjoy feeling parcels that Jean had made and trying to guess the contents. As Patricia Hodge would say...such fun. Who would have thought we would have been puzzled by things from nature from a pheasant feather to raffia and moss!!! Jean had then brought a brilliant quiz with a difference ...we had to find a link word to attach to 3 words ie..Bed-Down-Tight have you got it? The answer is sit and so we had 24 of these teasers to solve. The winning team scored a total for the 2 games of 31. Our table scored 30 so quite good. My thanks again to Jean for assembling both games; we all enjoyed them. After that we all enjoyed some really tasty food, as in previous years such a variety and very colourful too. The Bursary was won by John Clifford who has quietly got on with the seed orders for the past few years, my thanks to him also. The raffle prizes were spread equally around the room. My thanks to everyone who came along and supported another excellent evening and to all of you who helped with the clearing up afterwards and the washing up.

Our next meeting is on 15th January when Linda Smith and her husband will be paying a return visit to our Society. Last year she talked about Water Gardening and showed some slides from the Chelsea Flower Show of 2011 when she won a Gold medal. So her talk in January will be "Our First Chelsea Exhibit". We look forward to that; please come along and be transported to magical Chelsea.

Then our February talk on 5th will be a welcome return from Howard Drury who really needs no introduction as his slide show really is amazing. The topic will be Gardens of Yorkshire, so much to look forward to.

After the hectic month of December please do not think that there is nothing to enjoy in January and February. Here are just a few suggestions. At Garden Organic Ryton there will be a Wassail Ceremony on Sunday 20th January. This is a very ancient ceremony involving apples.. do go along and discover why we do celebrate this. Then on 24th January there is a practical course all about fruit tree pruning where advice will be given plus all about safety too. Do not forget the annual Potato day which this year is on 26th January. For more information just look at the website at www.gardenorganic.org.uk. Also I do have tickets for members for Ryton.

At Pershore College an old friend of the Society, Duncan Coombs will be giving a talk on 22nd January from 2.00 - 4.00pm about his recent visit to Japan including the northern island of Hokkaido and fascinating tours of several nature reserves. It is not far to go and if you are an RHS member the cost will be £8 otherwise £9.50.

For the most welcome sight and harbinger of spring the snowdrop, Ragley Hall near Alcester will be open on 31st January, 7th, 14th and 28th February from 11.00am to 3.00pm. The gardens are not normally open to the public during these months but the Head Gardener, Ross Barbour will give a talk about the Winter Garden and the 50 cultivars of snowdrops here. There will also be a question and answer session at 1.00pm and he will be providing ideas and advice about choosing and using plants for winter interest. To book or for more information go to www.ragleyhall.com. I hope that you can visit any one of these wonderful places.

I look forward to seeing everyone on 15th January and would like to wish you all a Happy and Healthy New year.



Nature Notes

John Hancock

There was lots of rain at the end of November and into December with floods. The Itchen had burst its banks and the Welsh Road Bridge had vanished when I cycled to Southam on November 25th. On December 5th we woke to a light flurry of snow with ice on untreated roads making travel difficult. At Brandon Marsh, the Warwickshire wildlife Trust HQ on December 7th, I saw a flock of Teal and just missed a Kingfisher. Teal are small dabbling ducks. As with Mallard, the male has the finery with a rich chestnut head and emerald green cheeks. The collective name for a flock is a spring due to their habit of suddenly rising vertically en masse and moving in unison with a jinking flight, evolved to outwit predators.

Sitting patiently in a bird hide, I was rewarded with a good view of a Snipe, a dumpy, medium sized wader with a long straight bill and brown cryptically marked plumage providing superb camouflage. It was only twenty metres away but 'disappeared' into the dead tufts of grass when it remained still. In proportion to its size, it has the largest bill of any British bird.

Now, on Sunday December 16th, we are frost free and temperatures are touching double figures with mild weather stretching towards Christmas. This compares with the frozen terrain we experienced just a week before. Sharon and I were walking with our son Stephen on Blackamoor, close to his home in Sheffield. The steep paths were treacherous where snow had been compacted by other walkers and frozen overnight. Crampons would have been useful but walking poles sufficed. Birch with an under storey of Bilberry and Bracken covered large areas with Oak and Willow in the sheltered clefts. It was an invigorating walk but we were glad to get into the warm bar of the Cricket Inn for a Whisky Mac.

Yesterday afternoon, with a low sun throwing long shadows, I took a spongy walk through Ufton Woods. Setting off on the path behind Saint Michael's church, I noticed the stocks had lost their wooden restraining beams.

Napton windmill stood out to the east backed by the woods of Shuckburgh Hill. A woman was exercising a horse, expertly using a rope to allow the animal to trot round her. The rides bisecting the wood were difficult going after our wet autumn and it was generally a better bet to keep to the wood proper. Tree identification in winter is that bit more difficult so lends some added interest to any ramble. Shape, bark, buds and leaf litter supply the clues. A stand of Larch, our only common, deciduous softwood gained my attention. The downward pointing branches have doubtless evolved to shed snow. Numerous, golden, pine needles lay beneath the trunks. Later, a darker group of fir trees showed up together with an isolated Yew and some Holly. The commoner trees were Oak and Ash. In one place a duvet, groundsheet and rusting billy cans marked the site of a bivouac, presumably an illegal one, in these pristine, private woodlands.

Along the footpath at the southern boundary I came across a bush bearing clusters of red berries. They were unusual in having four lobes each containing a bright orange seed. The shrub was a Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*). The wood was used in olden times to make skewers, pegs and knitting needles. Its presence denotes an ancient wood or hedgerow and here it is at the northern end of its range.

Driving down to Bath, to see three of our grandchildren in their school Nativity Plays, the sun, never high in the sky at this time of year, cast shadows picking out the ridge and furrow created by medieval ploughmen. Great swags of Mistletoe hung from the branches of a damaged Lime tree in the grounds of Royal Bath Hospital.

I came across a book most ornithologists would wish to read. It was 'Birds in a Cage' by Derek Nieman (published by Short Books in association with the RSPB). It tells the story of four 2nd World War POW's who formed a bird watching club while interned in Germany. They kept meticulous records. On release they kept in touch with one another and formed the nucleus of the post war conservation movement.

I wish you all a Happy New Year.



General Section



Harbury Art Group

Our final painting workshop of 2012 saw twelve of us tackling a snow scene in watercolour. Nick provided a choice of two Alpine scenes, one of which he assured us was 'easy!' (A matter of opinion...?) We had a very enjoyable session with lots of chat and laughs, and we produced some remarkably good pictures. We had our Christmas 'bring and share' buffet and once again we had plenty of festive fare to enjoy.

We also had a visit from our old friend, Bill Davies (founder of the group) to check how we were getting along.

The 2013 programmes are now ready, and if you would like a copy, please contact us. The first session of the New Year will be on Thursday 3rd January. The theme will be "Stormy Weather" and we can choose between Acrylic, Oil or Watercolour for our painting.



Harbury Art Group Workshops are led by a professional artist (Nick Baldwin) who provides the subject. They take place on the first Thursday of every month in the Tom Hauley Room from 10am to 3pm. Each workshop costs £15 per person and we operate on a 'pay as you go' basis so there is no joining fee. To find out more, contact Nick on 01295 276465 or Pam on 01926 814923.

In between these tutored workshops, we have social painting days on the third Thursday of the month. "Come Paint With Us" starts again at 10am on Thursday 17th January, when the theme will be "Water". Anyone who would like to spend a relaxing day painting or drawing a subject of their choice in a friendly, mixed ability group is welcome to join us. The cost is just £5 per person to cover the cost of the room hire, tea and coffee. Contact Pam on 01926 814923, Alma on 01926 812930 or email harburyart@hotmail.com for more details.

Pam McConnell

Harbury NSPCC Committee

Many thanks to all those who attended our Christmas Quiz on Sunday 19th December in the Village Club. We raised a total of £194.60. Over the course of 2012, we have raised over £2400 for the NSPCC and we would like to thank all our regular supporters for helping us to raise so much for this very worthwhile charity.

The next event we are associated with is the Burns Night on the 25th January 2013, which is being organised by the Southam Rotary Club. It is being held in Harbury Village Hall and the Rotarians have kindly said that if we organise the raffle, we can keep the proceeds. Tickets are £30 per person and include a three course meal plus whiskey tasting. If you are interested in coming along, please contact Raymond Flanagan on 613612.

Further Fundraising: As you can probably imagine, we are constantly, like most other charities, trying to come up with new and sometimes not so new

ways of raising both awareness of the work that is carried out and also fundraising.

Recently we mentioned to our Regional Office the idea of collecting foreign coins/notes (those that are still legal tender) like airlines and others do. Great they said, so hence my request. If you find, like so many of us, coins lurking in the back of drawers and would like to find a very welcome home for them, we would be very grateful to pass these on and help further the work carried out.

Any monies can be delivered to either Elaine Bruce, tel: 614664 or Joan Broomfield, tel: 614258 – if more convenient we will be happy to collect.

Please feel free to mention our endeavours to friends, relations etc and hopefully we can continue to make a difference.

Joan Broomfield



Blood Donors

The service needs to register 100,000 new donors to protect future blood stocks. Now, I realise that not even generous Harbury could quite hit that target, BUT maybe we could find a few more donors here. After all, just about everyone knows someone who has benefitted from a transfusion. You can start aged 17 and can now continue for as long as your health is good.

Our last session was down in numbers to 94; the next will be on Thursday 24th January in the Village Hall – times 1.30 – 3.30pm and 4.30 – 7.30pm.

For an appointment, phone 0300 123 23 23 or check the website www.blood.co.uk – alternatively I may be able to answer any queries you have.

Gillian Hare

614809



Wednesday Walkers

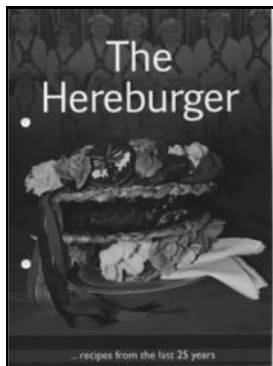
Is it possible that the New Year finds you feeling less fit than last year? A bit flabby and couch potato-ey? Do you wish to use more of our interesting countryside? Would you like company to do so?

We can't guarantee sunshine or dry paths but we can offer company every Wednesday morning. We meet behind the Village Hall at 9.40am and, on average, walk four miles in the nearby area. We carry coffee and sometimes finish with a pub lunch.

You would be most welcome to join us, walk and make new friends. Any questions? Ring 614809.

Gillian Hare

The Hereburger (Recipe Book)



Morris dancing is not just about sticks and hankies!

Food and drink also feature highly in the social calendar of the local team, Hereburgh. As part of their 25th anniversary celebrations in 2012, the dancers and musicians, past and present, have had fun testing and tasting a collection of their most popular recipes, which they have turned into a colourful book, The Hereburger.

Many of the recipes are associated with events in the team's history, some one-off, some annual, such as their regular dancing tour of the pubs in Harbury on New Year's Day (the 'Hangover Tour'). It has become traditional for the team to enjoy bowls of Granny Neill's Curried Parsnip Soup afterwards as well as celebration drinks of various kinds on the way round, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

Copies of the recipe book are available for non-Morris dancers to buy from Ceri Edwards Tel: 01926 612 136.

Dancers and would-be dancers (and musicians) are reminded that Morris practice starts again on Weds 8th January, at 8pm in the School Hall, all welcome to come along and have a go, or just watch and see what we do.



Rosie Beaufoy
Hereburgh Morris

Harbury Senior Citizens' Committee Update

We had 122 people attend the Christmas Party this year and from what we have heard on the grapevine you all had a good time and were particularly taken with the entertainment provided. We are glad that you enjoyed yourselves. Thank you all for coming along.

The entertainment this year was provided by Jacob Stone who was a great find. He played keyboards and saxophone with a jazz flavour and even put a quiz together for "name that tune" consisting of film theme tunes and well known songs and music. I can't remember who won the prize but I think it was with a score of 17 right answers out of 27. Jacob did say that there was probably one tune that no one would know and when he revealed that it was a piece of music that he had composed, we understood why. I think that everyone was enthralled by his skill and personality and all who heard him thoroughly enjoyed it. It was great listening to him.



Thank you to everyone who donated some interesting and sought after prizes for our raffle. They were much appreciated.

It would be difficult to put on the party without a lot of extra volunteers, who support the committee by helping to set up, dish up, serve up, wash up and clear up. Thank you for your hard work and support – it really is appreciated by everyone. Again this year, we had some help from the Harbury Scouts who helped put up the tree and the decorations as part of their community involvement. The extra hands came in very useful and made the setting up a lot easier.

As we roll into 2013 the committee would like to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and we look forward to seeing you at our events during the year and for giving us your support. Fundraising is getting more difficult and we will be trying to put on additional fundraising events. More details will be provided as and when, but we hope you can come along and support us.

Mike McBride

On behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens' Benefit Association

Harbury Pre-School Fundraising Group

We have had a very busy December raising money for Harbury Pre-School. Our **Christmas Disco** on 1st December was great fun and raised £220 (many thanks to Cana Wines and Mark and Dave). Our **Christmas Market** on

9th December was a great success, raising over £920. The festive live music (many thanks to the Ukele Group, David Thomson's Quartet and Melody Makers Ladies' Choir) was the perfect backdrop to Christmas shopping at the high quality and varied stalls, then relaxing with mulled wine, tea, cakes and mince pies (many thanks to all the talented bakers who donated these). The children enjoyed the lucky dip, jam jar tombola, Emily Jackson's amazing festive face painting and, of course, Santa's Grotto. Thank you so much to our wonderful Father Christmases for giving up their time to give the children a magical Christmas experience. Huge thanks also to the local businesses who donated the generous raffle prizes and to everyone who helped us put together such a warm and friendly community event, and, of course, to everyone who came along to support us.

In addition, our recycled leads and cables generated over £100 (we are continuing to collect these so please keep donating). So, December has seen us raise over **£1240 for Pre-School** - thank you everyone!

Of course, our fundraising efforts continue into the New Year! Our next **Bag2School textile collection** is **January 24th 2013**. Please take your unwanted children's and adult's clothing, linen, towels, paired shoes etc. in any plastic bag to Saddlers, Chapel Street from 17th January or call Helen on 07976 935439 to arrange collection or if you have any questions. We receive £550/tonne (2012 saw Bag2School raise £660 for Pre School) so we really would appreciate your donations.

Our recipe book "**90 of Harbury's Favourite Recipes**," full of delicious recipes such as Spanish Fish Soup, Braised Shoulder of Lamb with Apricots and Lemon and Lime Syllabub, is **on sale at Mugglestons and Harbury Library/Cafe**. All recipes have been sent in by friends and family of Harbury Pre-School and will make a lovely gift for your friends and family or will provide you with inspiration for some new, exciting dishes for your family in the New Year. All proceeds to Harbury Pre-School.

Recycling:

We are still collecting unwanted electrical leads, mobile phones and used ink cartridges. Please drop them into the box in reception.

Pre-School Fundraising Events for your diary:

- January 24th 2013 (9am) – Bag2School Textile Collection (please take to Saddlers, Chapel Street from January 17th or call for collection)
- May 18th 2013 (9am) – Pre-School Coffee Morning at the Tom Hauley Room
- June 14th 2013 – Bag2School Textile Collection
- June/July 2013 – Cream Teas at Harbury Open Gardens
- June 2013 – Barbecue at Harbury Carnival

Thank you for your continued support. For more information about any of the above, or if you would like to join our friendly group, please call Sarah on 07791 807970.

Helen Edwards



Biblio's Cafe

Food Hygiene Award

We are delighted that Stratford District Council Environmental Health has awarded Biblio's top marks! SDC is in the process of integrating a new nationwide evaluation system, and so we will receive the paperwork in February.

THE BIBLIO'S CAFE TEAM & BAKERS WISH ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A WONDERFUL 2013!

Lynn MacWhinnie

Make a 'Rock n Roll' Noise with Warwickshire Young Voices this Half Term...

Warwickshire Young Voices are hosting their 5th annual 'Make a Noise' workshop day presenting '*Cinderella and her Rock n Roll Fella*' on Sunday 17th February at The Grange Hall in Southam 10.30-17.00.

Will Cinderella break out of the *Jailhouse Rock* and escape the ugly sisters? *If I Can Dream*, the Fairy Godmother might appear and the party will *Rock Around the Clock*. Prince Charming is *All Shook Up* when she disappears leaving only her slipper; but *I Can't Help Falling in Love With You* and they all live happily ever after...

The day is a fantastic opportunity for some half term fun for all youngsters aged 7-16. Join us as we put on a 'show in a day' with singing, acting, dancing, facepainting and craft.

The workshop is run by the experienced Warwickshire Young Voices team with full professional sound and lighting equipment and a live band of musicians - giving the youngsters a real experience of working within a live, professional musical environment. You can see pictures and video clips from previous workshop days at www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org/media

The workshop day is open to all 7-16 year olds with no previous experience necessary. Places are limited and go quickly - so sign up now at www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org or phone 01926 614 150.

Helen Iles - 01926 614 150

Warwickshire Young Voices

www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org

Movement 2 Music

The sessions for Movement 2 Music, which have been on offer since September, have drawn a core of enthusiasts who enjoy the varied movements led by the trainer from KIneton. As reported previously, the group has not managed to maintain a regular slot at the Village Hall due to other external events which have long term bookings e.g. the Blood Transfusion/ PCC Election and this may have affected the attendance in the past three months. In order to ensure that the weekly sessions remain viable in the New Year, a minimum of 16 people is required, so that all costs are met. The M2M is not a profit-making exercise and it was set up to offer men and women over 60, a chance to do some activities appropriate to their level of fitness without having to leave the village.

Hopefully, 2013 will draw in some new members; there's no deposit and each session only costs £2.50 so we are looking to 2013's resolutions for 'fitness for all' to find the extra bodies we need to keep going?? We do currently have men and women who join the sessions.

We hope to see you at the first session on January 10th at 2.00pm in the Village Hall.

Chris Finch

Bumps, Bundles and Tots too



Happy New Year from Bumps and Bundles. We had a lovely Christmas party in December, with lots of nice food and a special visit from Father Christmas who brought a present for each little person.

Come along to "Bumps" this new year, with your bundles or tots, every

Tuesday in the Tom Hauley room behind the church from 10:30am 'til 12 for tea, coffee and company for you and your little person.



Kelly and Henry



Harbury Heritage Room

The Heritage Room is open next on Tuesday 8th January from 6.30 -8.30. You are welcome to come and browse the hundreds of documents and photos relating to the story of our village.

On Saturday 19th January at 2.30pm we are showing a film of the school Christmas production "Babes In The Wood" from 1989 starring many well-known faces. This will be coupled with some other historic footage. Tickets are on sale at the school and at Mugleston's Country Fayre price £3 for adults, £1.50 for children.

Nigel Chapman

Harbury Parish Council - Village Maintenance Contract April 2013 to March 2016

Tenders are invited for the above maintenance contract to include grass mowing, leaf and litter clearance and general village maintenance in the villages of Harbury and Deppers Bridge.

Closing date for receipt of tenders is 18th January 2013

For further information please contact:

Mrs Alison Biddle, Clerk to the Council

2, Bull Ring Business Centre

Church Terrace

Harbury

Leamington Spa, CV33 9HL

Telephone: 01926-614646, E-mail: clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk

Alison Biddle, Clerk to the Council

Windmills Nursery Fundraising Group

Thank you to parents and staff at the nursery and to the local community who have supported any events organised by Windmills Nursery. This term we managed to raise over £1400 for the nursery and we ended the term with good fundraising events at the Christmas Fayre, Windmills Christmas concert and our Bag2School collection.

Some dates for next term:

Casino Night – Saturday 2nd February, 8pm-midnight, Harbury Village Hall (tickets)

Ladies' Indulgence Evening – Thursday 28th February, 7.30pm-10.30pm, Harbury Village Club

Bag2School Collection – Thursday 14th March (please save any unwanted old clothes or shoes for us)

Wishing everyone a prosperous 2013.

Windmills Fundraising Group

Harbury Knitwits

Come and join us! Can you knit or would you like to learn to knit?

In either case why not come and join us. We are the HARBURY KNITWITS and we meet every Monday afternoon between 2 – 4pm.

We knit baby clothes for the Premature Baby Unit at Warwick Hospital, we knit hats for the Mission for Seamen and we knit shawls for the patients in Myton Hospice.

We also drink tea and have a good natter!

Offers of any kind of good quality wool, particularly new Double Knit Baby Wool, are always appreciated.

If you would like to join us, or if you have any wool you would like to donate, then please ring Barbara on 01926 613555.

Barbara Thistlethwaite

Thursday Club

At our Thursday Club meeting in November we invited Sharon Hancock to talk to us about her research into the names on the Harbury War Memorial. What an interesting afternoon! The time and effort she had put into this is amazing. Now we read her report in the Harbury and Ladbroke News and live it all again.

I think she should be commended for her determination in finding out about our village soldiers and where their graves are. I'm sure all the families of these men will be very grateful. Well done Sharon.

Peggie Middleton

Harbury Village Club

Subs for 2013 are now due. For continued membership, please submit your subs by the end of January.

Deborah Gee

Community Education classes

Classes run by Southam College start week commencing 14th January, 2013. Leaflets will be available from local libraries, shops and Southam leisure centre or visit our website www.southamcollege.com and follow the community education link from the homepage (Latest News) or under the 'About Us' tab.

For further information, please contact us on 01926 810942 or email commed.s@welearn365.com. The office re-opens on Wednesday, 9th January.

Sue Hawthorn
Community Education Centre



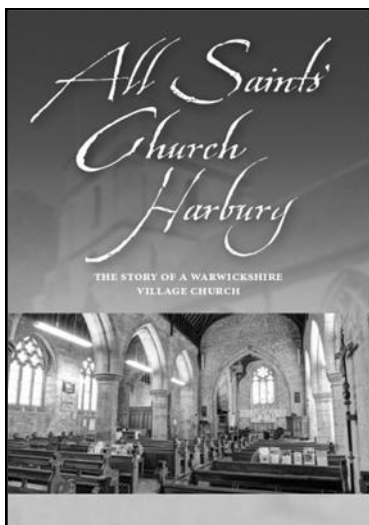
Rotary Clubs of Southam and Southam 2000

Young Writer Competition

Calling young writers – students must be aged 7-18 to enter. Have your keyboard or pen at the ready for the national RIBI Young Writer competition. Fabulous prizes ...including prestigious trophies and cash prizes. Take your entry to Southam Library. For further information see our web site: <http://s2kr.org.uk/yw2013>. Entries close on 28th February 2013.

Richard Hall

A Hundred in the First 24 Hours



Thanks to Neville and Nora Ellis's marketing and to sales at the Christmas Fayre, the book telling the story of Harbury's village Church sold a hundred in the first 24 hours. We've had great feedback from its first readers. Sales are now close to 200. 'All Saints' Church, Harbury: The Story of a Warwickshire Village Church' explains how the different crafts contributed to the building of the village's first church 700 years ago, and how it was rebuilt, having fallen into disrepair, in Victorian times.

It tells the lives of some of the ministers who have served the church over the centuries, from the poet Richard Jago and the reformer William Wight to Roy Mackley, Tony Rowe, Roy Brown, Craig and Annie. The many illustrations include the Church in the 1830s with a small conical top, the 1872 rebuild planned with a tall spire, the Victorian church interior with box pews and a rood screen across the chancel, the bells, the clock and the sundial.

All Saints' Church, Harbury: The Story of a Warwickshire Village Church is available at the library, or from us at 30 Mill Street, price £5.99. I will post it to any UK address for you for £8.00 to include postage and packing. Please make cheques payable to All Saints' Church, Harbury.

John Stringer, 613214

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The Poppy collection from Bascote, Depper's Bridge, Harbury and Ufton raised an impressive £3,140.47 as a result of the 'sterling work' by the many collectors who carried out the street collection in 2012. By the time the Harbury and Ladbroke News is delivered in January, each collector will have been informed about the amount raised in each area of the villages, so that they can feel that their hard work was rewarded. It was a learning experience for Jackie and myself to count the collection in each tin, but we were fortunate to be guided by an expert who taught us how to stack the coins, agree the total and then place the required amounts in the plastic bags provided by the bank. Many thanks to all the collectors who walked the streets who helped to make this year's fantastic total and to Jackie and Mike, the expert, who ensured that the totals tallied!

Chris Finch

Broadband in Harbury – Fast or Slow?

Like me you probably occasionally get bombarded by a series of emails asking you to support such and such a campaign for faster broadband. Understandably if you are sitting at your computer and waiting patiently to access your email or see the results of your latest query on Google, and you don't get it in the twinkling of an eye the natural reaction is to blame the speed of your broadband link. If you have a couple of minutes to spare what follows may help you understand how it all works (in non-technical terms) and, more importantly, what you can do (or not) about it.

Virtually everyone in the village and surrounding area will get their broadband connection via a fixed line telephone wire. A very, very few people just may have a satellite connection (no, it is not as wonderful as it sounds) or possibly use a 3G wireless service, but these will be the minority. Most people will have a laptop or desktop PC in their home which makes use of their home phone line, albeit possibly through a wireless router, and it is these folks that this article is aimed at. There is no cable TV in the village and I suspect there will not be any in the near future – it just is not economic for Virgin or anyone else to lay the cable.

So the response you get at your laptop or PC is largely a function of the following (some items omitted for simplicity):

- The speed of the computer at the far end (Google, Sainsburys, Amazon, the BBC or whoever)
- The backbone network (staggeringly fast – the autobahn, relatively speaking)
- The local telephone exchange (here in Mill Street)

- The wire from Mill Street to the first phone socket in your house
- The wiring in your house between the first phone socket and your router / modem
- Your router or (heaven forbid) modem
- Your Laptop or PC

You can do nothing about the first three items in the list, but it is worth noting that Sainsbury's (or whoever's) computers do sometimes go slow – maybe not very often, but they can and do occasionally. It is also worth noting that short of something like a major civil disturbance (Hurricane Sandy, or a cyberspace war) it is unlikely the backbone network will be of any consideration in your response times. It is so fast and has so much redundancy built in you just would not believe it.

Now we have got to the telephone exchange in Mill Street. Over the past year (prior to April) the whole of this exchange has been upgraded so that every telephone number is theoretically capable of achieving around 24 megabits per second download (and > 1 megabits upload) speeds. This is irrespective of whether you rent your line from BT or someone else. However remember this is delivered to your house over copper wires at very low power levels (when did you last get an electric shock from a telephone wire?), and so the signal strength drops significantly with distance from the exchange. Most properties in the village are half a mile or less from the exchange. You will share this wire, or more accurately the connection point at the exchange, with a number of other people and of course if they all happen to want to use it at the same time there will be some delays, just like when everyone wants to cross the Fosse Way in the mornings. There are strict limits on the number of people who can share these connection points so you are unlikely to suffer from this problem unless you are very unlucky.

Where I live (near Butt Lane) I am 600 yards (as the crow flies, more as the wire goes) from the exchange and I can typically get 17 megabits download speed (with a theoretical figure of 19 megabits) during the peak times of 7 – 10 PM in the evening. But what does this mean? Well 17 megabits is roughly 5 times the speed I need to watch live television on the iPlayer or I could download a full CD in around 5 minutes, so it is actually pretty fast. It would take longer than that to copy the CD on your PC! In fact it is fast enough to give a good response time for all practical domestic purposes apart from some extreme game playing scenarios. It is difficult to think of why you would need anything faster in your home today.

So why might you have a slow broadband speed – assuming that really is the reason for your poor response times when surfing the web. Well one reason could be that you live significantly further away from the exchange – perhaps on a farm – this could drop your speed significantly. However this is not likely within the village. It is also possible there is a problem with the wiring to your

property – this passes through junction boxes in the street and it is possible sometimes for wiring to become corroded – you can usually tell if this is a problem by listening on your phone for crackles and whistles (but do the listening from a phone physically plugged into the first socket in the house, often by the front door) – if you hear any noise on the line it would be worth getting your supplier to investigate.

Another reason is the telephone wiring within your property. Do you have a lot of extension wiring? Is the wiring very old? Do you have the right microfilters installed? Does your wiring run alongside power cables? All of these could be reasons why interference is causing a lot of errors and therefore slow speeds on your connection.

Assuming your household wiring is OK, the next place to look is how you connect your PC to the line. If you are still using an old modem (supplied many years ago) then get rid of it (it is antique technology) and invest in a router. If you have a router but it is an old one you may be being held back by the capabilities of the router. My old router would not handle the new ADSL2+ standard (introduced when the Harbury exchange was upgraded) and so I was limited to 6 megabits until I upgraded it to a new one! Check your router is capable of supporting ADSL2+.

Lastly we come to your PC. If your machine tends to run slowly anyway it is unlikely to be lightening fast when it comes to web surfing. If you suffer from general slowness then it may be that the PC is short of memory – this is a bit like old age – it creeps up on you without you really noticing and then one day you wake up to it. Either the PC is just too old and needs replacing, or more likely it is just short of memory! Most PCs can be upgraded easily but you do need to talk to someone who knows how to check if this is the problem (using a program found on every PC called Task Manager) and then work out what memory to buy and how to fit it – typically it is a 30 minute job at the most and the effect can be dramatic to say the least.

So in conclusion, broadband in Harbury should deliver around 15 megabits per second or more and this should be very adequate for everyone – if you are not getting this then there is a problem that needs investigating, and it is more likely than not that it is inside your house! There really is no need to campaign for faster broadband in Harbury – it would be nice to have, but I would rather the investment went to those who can only dream about what we in Harbury have today.

Bernard Cadogan

Fuel Community Update

The fuel community, which started in Harbury with four members, now has 20+ households which are part of the group, including properties in

Bishop's Itchington, Depper's Bridge, Harbury and Ladbroke. There is no 'joining fee' and no costs, apart from the cost of oil on delivery. The aim is always to get several people to order oil at any one time and by doing so, the price per litre is always better than one person could achieve on their own, as a tanker can be routed to our area to do several 'drops' and so offer a better price. The most recent price (before the Christmas rush) was a case in point, as we paid 57.5p/litre and a householder on their own with a different supplier paid 68p/litre – an additional cost of £105 on a 1,000 delivery – not to be overlooked these days! Obviously, the more fuel which is ordered at any one time; the better the price and on the occasion when 'Harbury's group paid the 57.5p/ litre, a bigger buying group in Kineton paid 56.5p, so we still did very well! If anyone in the CV33 or CV47 postcodes feels they would like to know more, please call Chris on 612305 to see if our fuel community could improve your buying potential.

Chris Finch

Harbury Energy Initiative

We have plans. Following our *Drink and Think* session at The Shakespeare on 11th December, eased by a little alcohol, we have decided on two possible events for 2013. One of these is likely to be in late spring and the other in autumn. We have a lot to do to turn those ideas into reality but they will be aimed at helping all of us to lower our bills for energy use and gain some control over how much we use. We hope to involve other local village and community initiatives similar to HEI and thus reach more people. There are quite a few.

Since the best way now to invest in energy efficiency at home without spending money up front is through the Green Deal, I have decided to make myself a guinea pig (not literally, you understand) for the process, so that I can get an idea of what happens at an assessment and how easy it is to progress through the system. I hope to be able to tell you all about it in February. The Green Deal goes live on 28th January but assessments can be done before then. Early bird participants are eligible for cash back deals on some installations. More on that too in February H&L News.

HEI Steering Group is delighted to welcome Hugh Tottle to the team. Anyone else who would like to be part of what we are doing to serve the village, especially as we move into planning mode for our events and other activities, will be welcome. Just get in touch with me via email or phone.

Happy New Year from HEI.

Bob Sherman - 612277
bob@churchterrace8.freemove.co.uk



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

The family of the late Fran Onions would like to thank all her lovely friends and neighbours for their friendship and support over the last few years. Mum loved village life and the companionship it gave her after she lost Dad. You will all miss her naughty jokes and her sense of humour, as will her family. Our special thanks go to the lovely Father Roy who gave up his time to officiate at Mum's service and Ann her neighbour and friend, who kept an especially careful eye on her during her last few weeks. She loved Knitwits and her coffee mornings and lunches, really any occasion to get dressed up. Thank you, to all of you, for making her last few years special.

Elaine and Philip and all the family XXXXXX

Regular Diary Dates

ART CLASSES: The Studio, Church House, Crown St, Tuesday 10am -12 noon (614251)

ART TUTORIALS: Tom Hauley Room 1st Thursday of the month (814923 or 01295 276465)

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

Mondays evenings 7:30 - 9:00pm; (612627)

BEAVERS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 5.30 - 6.40pm (01788 816214)

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

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: various homes 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month 2.00-3.00pm (614809); 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 10.30 - 12.00 Noon (612864)

BIBLIO'S CAFÉ (WITHIN HARBURY VILLAGE LIBRARY): Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9.15am – 12 noon

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

Brownies & Rainbows Waiting List - Bobbie Sharpe (614040)

BUMPS & BUNDLES: Tom Hauley Room, Tuesdays, 10.30am – 12 noon (614150 or 611914)

CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES: Farley Room Wednesday 4.00 - 8.00pm (07837 152839)

CHURCH MEN'S GROUP: Tom Hauley Room 1st Thursday in the month 7.45pm (612765)

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

CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesdays 6:45 - 8:15pm (614730)

DROP-IN TEA FOR THE BEREAVED: 19, Farm Street, last Tuesday in the month (except August and December) 2.30 to 4.30pm (612585)

GUIDES: Scout Hut, Mondays 7.15pm – 9.00pm (614375)

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, Mondays 6:00 - 8:00pm (07939 679533)

HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Dog Inn 1st Thursday in the month 8:00pm (613730)

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

HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB:

Under 6's/7's - Year 1 & Year 2 (Mixed)

Coach: Steve Darby Tel: 01926 613330

Training: Saturday 9.00 am Harbury School

Under 8's - Year 3 (Mixed)

Coach: Bob Church Tel: 01926 614366

Training: Saturday 9.30 am Harbury School

Under 9's - Year 4 (Mixed)

Coach: Steve Burnell Tel: 07795 428087

Training: Tuesday 6.00pm Harbury Rugby Club

Under 11's/12's - Year 6 (Mixed)

Coach: Richard Woodhead Tel: 07786 802803

Training: Saturday 9.00 am Harbury Playing Fields

Under 15's - Year 10

Coach: Malcolm Tanner Tel: 01926 612617

Training: Saturday 9.00 am Harbury Playing Fields

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: Wight School (behind Library), High St. Monday 12 noon – 3.30pm, Tues & Thurs – 9.00am, - 3.30pm, Wed & Fri – 9.00am – 1.30pm (07939 122087) enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP: Last Tuesday of the month Shakespeare Inn (611930)

HARBURY TODDLER GROUP: Wight School, Monday 9.30 - 11:15am

HARBURY UKULELE GROUP: Shakespeare Inn, 1st & 3rd Monday of the month 8.00pm, contact Craig (612377)

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 612498 (evenings).

Bingo every Friday 8.30pm - non members welcome.

HARBURY VILLAGE LIBRARY: Monday 9.00am-6.30pm and Tuesday to Friday 9.00am-5.00pm

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: School Hall, Wednesdays 8:00 - 10:00pm (613730)

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Tuesday in the month (Oct. to May) 8:00pm Contact David Powell-Tuck (614492)

KICK START APPALACHIAN STEP DANCERS: Scout Hut, Saturdays, 10:00am - 12:00noon (612734)

NETBALL CLUB: Village Hall Car Park, Training Thursday evenings, Juniors 6.00 till 7.30pm & Seniors 7.30 till 8.30pm, Matches on Saturday Afternoon (613163)

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Tom Hauley Room, 3rd Saturday in the month 7.30am (612782)

MOTHER'S UNION: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Wednesday in the month 2.30pm; 3rd Tuesday in the month 8.00pm (613831)

RAINBOWS: Scout Hut Tuesdays 5.30 - 6.30pm, Unit Leader Bobbie Sharpe 614040

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00 - 8.30pm (614177)

TABLE TENNIS: Village Hall, Thursdays, 9.30 - 10.30am (614809)

TAI CHI: Ufton Village Hall, Monday, 7.15pm – 8.45pm (612277)

TENNIS CLUB: Adult / Student Members Playing Times:

Tuesdays: 6.30pm– 10.00pm, Thursdays: 6.30pm – 10.00pm

Saturdays: (from Sept to March) 10.00am – 12 noon

Sundays: (from April to August) 10.00am – 12 noon

Members may play at other times free of charge, provided the courts are not already booked. **Guests** playing with members should pay £1 an hour.

If you would like to become a member or find out more about Harbury Tennis Club, please contact Colin Mercer (613284 or email sucol-merc@tiscali.co.uk)

Non-members - Courts should be booked at Country Fayre, Chapel Street (£4 per court per hour) Floodlit bookings - £7 per court per hour.

Minis and Juniors (age 3 - 17) For details of Junior membership, contact Sue Mercer: sucol-merc@tiscali.co.uk

Coaching: Adult and Junior coaching takes place throughout the year.

For up to date information contact admin@tennisolutions.co.uk

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

WARWICKSHIRE YOUNG VOICES: Village Hall, Thursdays 6.30 - 8.00pm (614150)

W.I.: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Thursday in the month 7:45pm (612708)

WEDNESDAY WALKERS: Village Hall, Wednesday 9.45am (614188)

WINDMILLS NURSERY SCHOOL: In the grounds of Harbury Primary School,
Monday-Thursday; 9:05am - 3.05pm; Friday 9.05am -12.35pm (07906 519148)
nfo@windmillsnursery.co.uk

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

YOUTH GROUP-ICON @ All Saints': Tom Hauley Room, Sundays 7.00 – 8.30pm (612377)

All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

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

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

Every Sunday: (except 1 st)	10.30am	Funday Club (in term time)
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Every Tuesday:	7.30pm	Weekday Said Communion
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Every Thursday:	9.45am	Weekday Said Communion
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Times of weekday services and any variations are displayed on the notice in the lychgate.

Priest in Charge: Father Craig Grocock

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel.: 612377

Email: kankudai43@aol.co.uk www.allsaintsharbury.org


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Sarah Sherman Tel: 612277 hvlbookings@gmail.com	Sally Stringer Tel: 613214 sal.47@hotmail.co.uk	Sally Stringer Tel: 613214 sal.47@hotmail.co.uk


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4.30pm - Pre-Syllabus (5-6yrs)

5.00pm - Pre-Primary (7-8yrs)

5.45pm - Primary (8yrs+)

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Thursdays, The Grange, Southam



4.00pm - Funky Dance 1 (4-6yrs)

4.30pm - Gymnastics (all ages)

5.00pm - Grade 1 Ballet (9yrs +)

5.30pm - Funky Dance 2 (7yrs +)

6.00pm - Grade 2 Ballet (11yrs+)

6.45pm - Grade 3 Ballet (13yrs+)

Tap Lessons



Fridays, The Grange, Southam

4.00pm - Little Tappers (3-5yrs)

4.30pm - Pre-Primary Tap (6-8yrs)

5.00pm - Primary Tap (8-10yrs)

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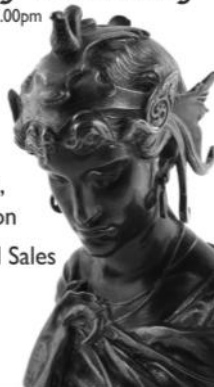
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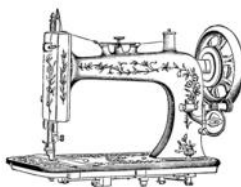


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