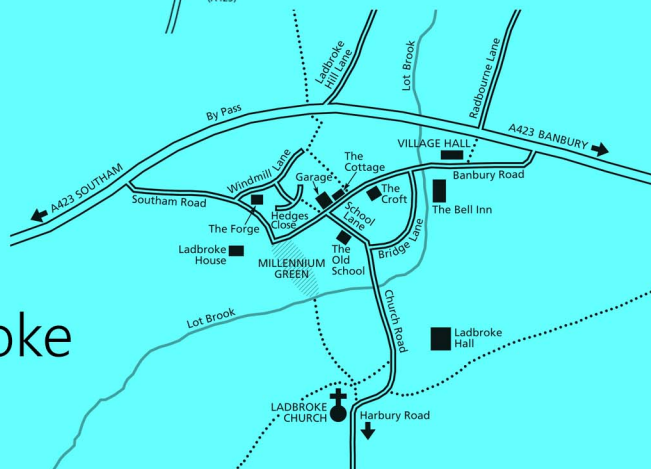


## Harbury



## Ladbroke

May 2020  
Online Edition

# Harbury & Ladbroke News

Is published monthly and reflects all aspects of local life.

**May 2020**

**No.554**

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Jackie West - Katy Wiltshire

*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

It has been a strange month in lockdown. Families staying at home unless visiting the supermarket or going out for their daily exercise, usually a cycle ride or a walk round the village or surrounding footpaths. Parents having to home-school their children and trying to keep them entertained in down time. With the play equipment at the park closed, some households have placed rainbows and teddy bears in windows or cars for children to spot while out exercising with their families. The teddy bears in Ivy Lane enjoying afternoon tea were a particularly lovely sight!



Due to many businesses being closed their employees are adapting to working from home or are being furloughed. However, those classed as key workers continue to travel to do essential work. Some professions, particularly NHS workers on the front line dealing with Covid-19 have been recognised in what has become a weekly Thursday evening occurrence, supporting the 'Clap for our Carers' campaign. Many residents in our villages have come out to take part with some playing instruments and singing too.





Chesterton Windmill, which is normally just lit up at Christmas, is now being illuminated each night in support of NHS staff and other key workers - a lovely gesture. Thanks go to James Carro for letting us publish his photograph of it.

Congratulations to all those involved with both villages' volunteer networks, coming together to help elderly and isolating residents during this difficult time.

Harbury e-Wheels are still busy working behind the scenes and are conducting a study into the likely demand for electric cars amongst Harbury residents as we transition to a future free of fossil fuel vehicles. Please take time to complete their short survey, deadline for completion is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020. Further details can be found on page 27.

Thank you to those who have sent in extra photos, quizzes and other interesting articles. Do please keep them coming.

Finally, we extend our condolences to the family of Ted Crum.

## Harbury Diary


**All events normally listed are suspended at present.**

We welcome items for inclusion in the June edition of the Harbury News eg articles on hobbies, memories of living in the village, items on self-isolation, photos and quizzes.

**June Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News**

**Articles to:** Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to [articles@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:articles@hlnews.co.uk) by 5.30pm, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May



Refuse Collection Rota			
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury, Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge outlying properties	Collection Week
May	Wed	Fri	
	6	8	Grey Bin
	13	15	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	20	22	Grey Bin
	27	29	Green & Blue Lid Bins
June	3	5	Grey Bin
	10	12	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	17	19	Grey Bin

	<b>From the Rector</b>	<b>Rev Ann Mulley</b>
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By the time you read this we'll coming to the end of our second three weeks of lockdown but what happens then is anyone's guess. One thing we've all had to learn to live with is uncertainty. On the positive side is the tremendous amount of community spirit, the truly heartwarming amount of helpfulness, friendliness, care and love just pouring out in these villages - and in the nation as whole. Thank you all so very much and I do thank God for you. The other positive has been the fantastic weather - weeks of sun after months of dark cloud, rain, floods and mud which never seemed to end and farmers desperate to get on their land. Now the flowers are fantastic, the crops are pushing through in the fields and all around is new growth, new life.

Easter Sunday was so different. No bells ringing out, no cheerful groups of people greeting each other happily in a full church to celebrate Jesus' victory over death to bring new life, no physical sharing of communion. That was sad and many of us felt that loss even though there were great services on BBC and online. Yet, as I said in my Easter message to our church family, our Easter in many ways was much closer to that very first Easter. After all, the risen Jesus didn't **first** appear to happy cheerful crowds in religious buildings. Crowds and churches came later. He first came in very personal ways to isolated people.

Jesus came to a brokenhearted woman on her own weeping by a grave for the person she lost. *John 20 10-19*. He came to two walkers, going along by themselves, whose dreams and hopes had been shattered and who didn't know what the future would hold. *Luke 24 13-32*.

He came to a man burdened by failure and guilt whose faith in himself had been broken. *Luke 24:34*. He came to a small group of friends in lockdown for fear of the danger outside *John 20 19-21*. He was waiting with help and a hot meal for a small group of workers finishing a tiring and frustrating nightshift *John 21 1-14*.

Jesus comes to us as we are today whether in lockdown at home, or walking by ourselves, or working perhaps to exhaustion with coronavirus patients and other essential work or struggling to work from home with small children and their demands, or desperately worried about our businesses and jobs or simply enjoying the sun. He comes to us in our grief and loneliness, our fears and uncertainties and stress, our happy moments in the sunshine, our hopes and dreams. He comes to us in the love we receive from others and in the love and care we give. But we so often are not aware of him. We don't know what the future will hold but we can know Jesus will be there for us, holding out his hand for us to take - if we turn to him. He walks with us in love now and into the future we can't see. Let's ask him to help us meet with him and so know the comfort and help he brings in dark times now - and the fresh inspiration, courage and hope, the new ways forward, new growth, new life he can bring to us in the days ahead.

May God bless you all.



## From the Churchwardens

**Liz & Michael**

The church building may be shut (although I go and check it now and again and say hello) but the people are zooming church services, having teleconference calls, joining in prayers and singing in a variety of ways, phoning up for a chat and along with many others shop and deliver to those isolated. And quite a few are very nifty with a needle and are sewing scrubs for the NHS.

Some of these people have also been part of a project embroidering panels for the children's corner. Ros Baldwin has sent along some photos showing the work as it has been progressed. Once the lockdown is over, Ros and others will be hand sewing the edges and hanging "sleeves". Each panel will have a title sewn onto the left-hand border, to see the Bible References referred to in the pictures.



**Borders in Preparation**



Ros will be asking all who have worked on them to sign their names on a label to be attached to the back of each panel.



**Resurrection - New Life, Panel 3 Summer to Autumn - quilting in progress**

I can't wait for these to be part of the church and see the real skill and beauty up close - but I may have to.

Wheels are moving in the right direction for advertising for a new vicar for the three parishes of Harbury, Ladbroke and Upton. The present situation will obviously present a few physical challenges but we hope and pray this progresses well over the next three months.

The weekly pew sheet is being sent out by email and contains news, quiz, reflections and contacts. If you wish to receive this please email me on **[lizzie.mcbride@talk21.com](mailto:lizzie.mcbride@talk21.com)** to add you to the circulation.

Also, we wish to add our thanks to Tim Lockley and the Parish Council for a superb piece of organization in matching volunteers to those who may need assistance during this weird time of lockdown. We do live in a most caring village and give thanks to all.

Please do contact either of us should you have any queries relating to church life.

Liz McBride (tel: 612421) and Michael Vincent (tel: 614806).

# Easter Gardens 2020



## Ladbroke News & Diary

<http://www.ladbroke-pc.org.uk>

**All events normally listed are suspended at present.**

When church, meetings and events are allowed again this will be communicated by enews and on websites.







## Ladbroke Church News

**Peter Rigby**

As we enter into the second month of lockdown, it has been interesting and encouraging to see how the Church, both national and local, has been adapting to the new "normal". That is not to say we do not all hope that we shall soon be able to reopen our doors again, but, in the meantime, we have discovered that there are a lot of on-line ways to worship, and our own Ladbroke Church family is keeping in touch by distributing our weekly service sheets and pews news, together with a "thought for the week", to our email circulation list. If you have not been receiving this, and would like to, please send an email to [ladbrokechurch@gmail.com](mailto:ladbrokechurch@gmail.com).

We are also continuing with a virtual "Pause and Pray", using Zoom. This is continuing fortnightly on the first and third Mondays of the month for the time being. Again, please email us if you would like an invitation.

We do have some good news on the "Vicar vacancy". It has been proposed that the parish of Ufton will join with Harbury and Ladbroke to form a new grouping, to formalise the support Rev Craig had been giving to our neighbours. This will require some legal formalities, but subject to these we are now proceeding with advertising the post. We have prepared a "Parish Profile" to describe our churches and communities; this will be available for candidates, and everyone else, to see from the beginning of May. You will be able to find it at <http://www.dioceseofcoventry.org/vacancies> - do take a look.



## Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge Women's Institute

**Carol Lane**

Obviously there is very little to report this month as all meetings until June have been cancelled or postponed and we have no idea when we will be able to resume. There is an online WI group which can be used to share messages and files and to coordinate group events.

Instead I am sending a parody on Jerusalem, with apologies to William Blake, which was written by Shirley Hunt from another WI group, which I include with her permission.

And did our feet, pre-Covid times  
Walk upon England's mountains green?  
And were our children out at play  
In England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did those rainbows so divine,  
Shine forth upon our window sills?  
For NHS much needed here  
Amongst towns, villages and hills!

Bring me my soap, to wash my hands,  
 Bring me my shopping I require.  
 Bring me my health, and my household.  
 Bring me the strength that I desire.

We will not cease to fight this blight,  
 Nor spread this virus by our hand.  
 Till we have stayed six feet apart,  
 To free our green and pleasant land!



## Ladbroke Matters

David Wright



This month we were going to have a Sixties Musical Soiree in the Village Hall, but current events have caused us to postpone it for a future time. However, for those who can remember the sixties, here's a musical quiz to test your knowledge. Each year has two questions, so the top mark is 20. This quiz is for

entertainment only, so please don't use Google to find the answers as it wasn't invented then! I have used the New Musical Express charts as my basis.

### 1960:

- a) Which pianist had a top twenty hit in March with 'Royal Event'?
- b) What was the 'royal event' being celebrated?

### 1961:

- a) Elvis' number one record 'It's Now or Never' was based on which Italian song?
- b) On which of his hits did Elvis sing partially in German?

### 1962:

- a) Which group had a number one hit with 'Telstar'?
- b) What was Telstar?

### 1963:

- a) What was the title track of the Beatles' first top ten EP?
- b) Which other British group also scored a top ten hit with a version of the song?

### 1964:

- a) Which Irish boy band had a number one hit with 'Diane'?

b) Why did the BBC refuse to play 'Caroline' by the Fortunes?

**1965:**

a) The first release on the Immediate label was 'Hang on Sloopy' – a top ten hit for which group?

b) Who founded Immediate records?

**1966:**

a) Which number one record was the first to use a sitar?

b) .....and which number one record was the first to use a theremin?

**1967:**

a) 'The band had only one more song to play' is a line from which Engelbert Humperdinck hit?

b) What is Engelbert Humperdinck's real name?

**1968:**

a) Massiel won the Eurovision Song Contest with 'La La La' for which country?

b) Cliff Richard was runner-up for the UK with which song?

**1969:**

a) Which French-speaking record entered the top ten on the Fontana label and left a few weeks later on the Major Minor label?

b) Fairport Convention's only chart entry was sung in French. What was its title?

*If you enjoyed this quiz and would like another next month, or have any other comments, please let me know (davidwright1303@gmail.com).*

**Answers on page 56.**

### **Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Draw for March 2020**

£50	Bill Bosworth	£50	Geoff Timms
£25	Derek and Collette Batty	£25	Tracy Lochhead
£25	Helen Morten	£10	Trevor Jay
£10	Mary Coley	£10	Joan Perry
£10	A and E Dowdeswell	£10	John Liverton

Due to the unprecedented circumstances, we decided to continue with the monthly draw but will not be going to the bank for the necessary cash until the lockdown is over. Above are listed this month's winners who will receive their prizes, hopefully, in the near future. Thanks for your patience.

Stay safe and well.

**Margaret Bosworth**



## Ladbroke General Section



### From Your District Councillor for Ladbroke

**Coronavirus.** It seems amazing that the last report made no mention of Covid19, but since then activity has concerned little else. Both the Council and I have been very busy and this report is all about Coronavirus activity. The Council has had a key role to play in emergency responses and I will try to summarise a few of the things that have been going on.

The Council has set priorities during the coronavirus crisis:

- Protecting residents, staff, and councillors from coronavirus
- Maintaining business critical services
- Maintaining the decision making capability of the Council
- Support to businesses through the rapid processing of the reliefs and grants to business
- Support to the vulnerable, and the “shielded” within our communities.

### Council Tax Bills and Leaflet

The Coronavirus emergency actions came into being just after the council tax bills were sent out. This timing was unfortunate especially for those that have lost income as a result of the emergency. If anyone has difficulty in paying the bill, please note that the Council is not taking enforcement action against failure to pay at the moment, but if you can afford to pay, please do - the Council is under severe financial pressure. Accompanying the bill was a leaflet explaining the proposed green waste charges. For those of us that campaigned against the introduction of the charge we now find that a virus less than a micron in diameter has achieved what we did not - and the charge has been deferred for at least a year.

Who knows what the future holds, as government finances - including local government - will be an area of difficulty for years to come. To date the Government has provided £43,508 of financial support, however, the estimated cost through increased expenditure and reduced revenue income is estimated to be in the region of £4-5m. In relation to additional emergency related expenditure the Council has incurred costs of around £100,000.

### Operation of the Council

I am pleased to report that the Council - staff, management and Councillors of all parties are working together in a collaborative and effective manner for the community. Legislation and council rules are in the process of

being revised to allow some decisions to be taken by remote working - such as video conferencing when technological facilities can be established. This is not easy and we want to ensure that democratic control and oversight is not lost. Planning committees are a good example where it is important that there is scope for such oversight.

The Council is very much open for business by phone and email and continues to receive above average call volumes, but the Council offices are closed for personal visits.

Key services being maintained include:

- Environmental Protection; Food Safety
- Benefits – Housing and Council Tax (significant increase in demand)
- Homelessness/Rough Sleepers/housing officers
- Legal services; Licensing
- Refuse and Recycling
- Planning

Due to the need to comply with social distancing arrangements, some services have been temporarily suspended such as UBUS, public toilets, and Land Charge searches.

Currently the Council is able to maintain all of the refuse and recycling collections, however residents may have heard Warwick had to suspend their garden waste service (in fact they now intend to restart this). Whilst garden waste collections are being maintained by BIFFA, if staffing levels drop in the future then this service may need to be suspended by Stratford on Avon District Council. Happily, I can say that at the present time there appears to be no prospect of this need arising.

In line with the instruction from central Government, the election for the Police and Crime Commissioner on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020 has been cancelled.

### **Support for the Vulnerable**

This has been an area of partnership working across County, District and Parishes. The establishment of so many local volunteers to support individuals within communities has been important for many of our residents.

In addition, there has been the implementation of the Shielded Hubs in partnership with the County Council. Those who have been identified as the “extremely vulnerable” - those who have been/are being contacted by the NHS, and must not leave their homes for a 12 week period. Nationally, there were 900,000 individuals, and the District Council has been undertaking food deliveries, for individuals with no current arrangements in place from a newly established distribution hub which has been set up at Stratford. To date nearly 300 food deliveries have been made by the Council.

There is a helpline 0800 4081447 which is open 24/7 for individuals to call if they need support.



What has not been working well is the national co-ordination with supermarkets and I have struggled to resolve a number of cases with home deliveries for the vulnerable.

### **Enforcing the Regulations**

The Council's Environmental Health department is leading the compliance of regulations at businesses. (The Police lead on enforcing government guidance on individuals and groups.) In the first week, the Food Safety team contacted over 400 food businesses by telephone, email and leaflet drop, to advise them of the new business closure rules. The Council has issued posters for display on practical measures on social distancing to smaller food retailers on customer social distancing. Additionally, area surveys have been carried out in daytime and evening by officers to identify any business that were open illegally. The Council has investigated 31 reports of complaints about businesses not complying with the law and served two Prohibition Notices on businesses that had remained open in contravention of the regulations.

### **Support to Businesses**

The council are operating Business Rate Grant schemes. At the time of writing the Council has had 1,700 businesses complete the online claim form with the details that are needed to enable payment. The Council's revenues department team worked through weekends on these payments, so already more than 70% of those claims had been processed for payment totalling £15.5m. Details are still needed from around 700 businesses, all of which have been written to, and these will be followed up by calling each of them individually encouraging them to complete the form as soon as possible: <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/business-rates-grant-form.cfm>

**This has been an extremely busy period and I express my thanks to all involved. As well as the applause at the 8pm, events for all the support services and workers - the sense of community spirit has been heart warming in many ways.**

The Council call centre is open during office hours 01789 267575.

**Nigel Rock**  
**Councillor for Ladbroke, Napton & Fenny Compton Ward**  
**[nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk)**  
**☎ 07971 343065**



**LOCAL FOODBANK** - there is a facility to donate any non-perishable food to your local Foodbank, which supplies the local area, including Harbury & Ladbroke. For the time being please bring any donations to the Wight School (Library) car park on Mondays between 11.30am and 12.30pm, during these times only. One of the e-Wheels drivers will be there to receive the items donated. Please observe all the usual safety advice and distancing. Thank you.

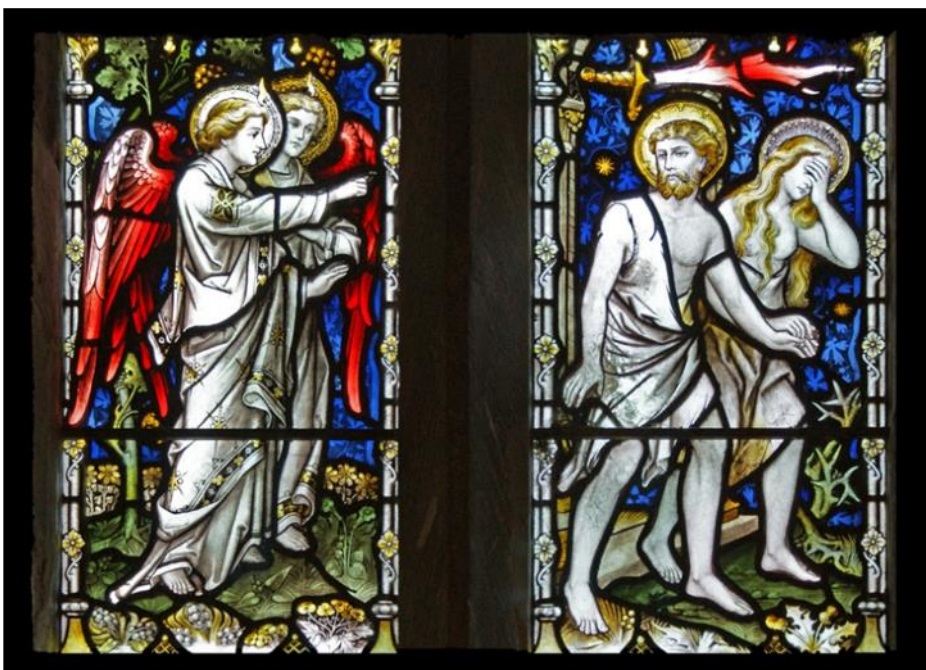
## Stained Glass Windows in Ladbroke Church

Our occasional series continues with the window in the vestry at the base of the tower. The topic of this window is the expulsion from Eden. It is another window made by the Birmingham company, Hardman and Co.

The technique used then, and still today, is essentially unchanged since the Middle Ages. Once the design is agreed, a full black-and-white drawing or cartoon is made with the position of the lead and the colour of the glass indicated (apparently before paper was available they used to do this on a limewashed board or table). The glass is cut and painted with solid black lines to outline the details. A thin wash layer is applied and then partially removed to give subtle toning. A silver nitrate stain is used to give yellow highlights on specific details and then it is fired so the paintwork fuses with the glass itself. The pieces of glass are then leaded up, "cemented" in to make the panel waterproof and installed in the stonework using supporting metal bars for large windows.

The expulsion window was given in memory of Rev John Richard Errington, Rector 1872 - 1882, and his wife Charlotte by their surviving children. Charlotte died in 1902 but the Hardman records archived at Birmingham Library show it was not made until 10 years later, in 1912. The index books show how prolific the company was; this was the 66<sup>th</sup> window they made that year.

In the centre panel of the window, two angels stand in the Garden of Eden commanding Adam and Eve to go from it.



It's a rather strange choice of subject to remember one's parents but perhaps the position in the west tower, which was visible through the unglazed screen until 1973, can explain it, especially if you look at the tiny window at the top. This shows God's hand pointing down in judgment on Adam and Eve as described in the first book of the Old Testament, in contrast to the Great East Window in the chancel opposite which shows Christ at the Final Judgment as described in the last book of the New Testament.



### Imagery

Genesis 3 v24 describes a flaming sword placed east of the Garden of Eden to guard the way to the tree of life.

The intricate patterns above and below the figures contain golden apples reflecting the fact that it was an "apple", the fruit of the tree of knowledge, that Adam and Eve ate in direct disobedience of God's instructions.

### Don't Miss

The difference in vegetation in the two panels - flowers and grape-bearing vines inside the garden and thorns and thistles outside it.

Unfortunately, Ladbroke church is closed at present due to Coronavirus restrictions, so you cannot come and see its stained glass in situ but you can download a guide to all the windows from the visiting/history page of the church website, [ladbrokechurch.org.uk](http://ladbrokechurch.org.uk)

One advantage of social isolation is the number of organisations that are creating/publicising interesting on-line offerings. There is an excellent guide to the medieval window at Holy Trinity, York at [https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/glass-goblets-and-dragons/VglCUZ5Sco\\_aJg](https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/glass-goblets-and-dragons/VglCUZ5Sco_aJg)

**Jackie West**



## Harbury Parish Council

**Linda Ridgley**  
Harbury News Correspondent

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

This was our Parish's first "virtual" meeting set up by Cllr Gibb via Zoom, and it went surprisingly well. All the Councillors "attended" as well as SDC Cllr Jacqui Harris and WCC Cllr Bob Stevens and four members of the public.



### **Emergency Planning**

Chairman Tim Lockley provided an update on the Volunteering Network. A Working Party was set up of Cllrs to act in this and future emergencies. Tim was praised by his colleagues for his quick work in organising the volunteer efforts. He will be interviewed on Coventry & Warwickshire Radio.

Cllr Thornley said there had been congratulations from all round the village for the efforts of the Council and the volunteers and for keeping Harbury Supermarket functioning whilst Preet and Bob were ill. Cllr Lockley thanked all the volunteers who had kept the shop running. He had also made sure that the Chemists was still functioning normally.

### **Grants for Community Groups**

The lockdown was making life difficult for some village organisations especially those in the throes of upgrading their premises. Cllr Thornley reminded her colleagues that the Village Club should be included in their grant considerations. WCC Cllr Stevens reminded those attending that he still has a small amount of grant aid to distribute.

Phillip Mayer asked for PC grant aid for two village projects, one for the Church repairs and the other for E-Wheels. The PC had already agreed in principle to a £1324 grant for the Church but the Diocese had insisted that they employ an architect at an added cost of £5K. Now, at the start of their financial year this would take half the grant budget. To commit to more would deprive other village organisations of PC support in this financial year.

After discussion they agreed to the promised £1324 for the Church and 2K for eWheels. Phillip Mayer was content with this. He said eWheels would use the money for a survey and a public consultation, probably in the Library after lockdown was lifted.

### **District and County Councillors**

Jacqui Harris (SDC) praised the quick action of volunteers during this crisis. 1,700 businesses in the District had taken up funding being offered to help them. She was pleased the “green bin charge” had at least been delayed.

Bob Stevens (WCC) reported that 200 of their officers were working from home and some were volunteering with Social Care. The Chief Executive gave a weekly briefing. There is a helpline on the Council's website for people in need. HS2 had been given the go-ahead.

Tim Lockley reported that HS2 appeared to have stopped working on the cable laying so that the advertised road closures were not being enforced. Cllr Thornley asked how Warwick Hospital was coping and Cllr Harris said staff were filling in for other hospitals in need. She assured the meeting that they had enough PPE equipment and that "it had never been short". Cllr Thompson asked Cllr Harris if the "Planning Process" was still happening and she said there was a skeleton group dealing with it and the Clerk explained that the Head of Planning was dealing with contentious applications and advising the Planning Committee.

## **Planning**

Councillors made no representations on tree felling at Temple Cottage in Temple End nor on plans to fell a Western Red Cedar at Harbury House although the Chairman did note the application gave no reason why it was to be removed. A minor amendment was needed to the Neighbourhood Development Plan as the land at the Quarries being developed by David Wilson Homes will now be transferred to Bishops Itchington Parish.

## **Environment and Properties**

The maintenance contract for the inspection of lighting columns was agreed, but no work has been done to replace the demolished lamppost at the junction of Farm Street and Mill Street.

Cllr Rutherford reported that the Village Hall had agreed to the £5,700 CCTV project but the work had been deferred. Cllrs approved repairs to the skatepark. Repairs to the Chapel were delayed as it was proving difficult to find roof tiles to match the original ones. Repairs to ruts at the Deppers Bridge playing fields will be undertaken.

Cllr Ekins was concerned that repairs to Harbury playing field were not level and there were other tyre ruts which needed to be filled. The Chairman would contact Murphy's who had promised to do work on the drainage at the top end and said it was better done when the ground was dry.

## **Any other Business**

Chris Gibb reported that Harbury School had been open over the holiday and that home schooling had been very successful. All would be ready for when the Government freed them. "New girl" on the Council, Julie, was pleased with everything the teachers had done for the children stuck at home. Tim had the same praise for Southam School.

The Annual Parish Meeting has been deferred. Tim quipped that this would deprive his colleagues of the opportunity of voting him out of the Chairmanship!

**Next meeting:** 28<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm, venue to be determined.





## Parish Council Update

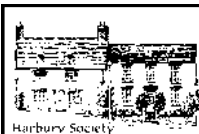
It has been a very strange month for everyone. The volunteer network that the PC set up to help elderly and isolating people seems to be working well, and I would like to pay tribute to the more than one hundred people who are getting shopping, daily newspapers and prescriptions for those who need them but can't get them on their own. Harbury has really pulled together so impressively. The eight co-ordinators, Nicola, Jacqui, Katharine, Gael, Julie B, Julie Y, Kelley, and Helen have worked extremely hard and I have had numerous messages from people all over the country (and the world!) thanking us for helping their relatives at this time. In the past month Preet and Bob at the Post Office had to take time off when they became ill themselves. Within a few days yet more volunteers had signed up to reopen the shop and huge thanks go to Helen, Sue, Tracey, Haidee, Karena, Geoff, Tai, Dan, Matty, Ed, Hattie, Ben and particularly Brian who opened and closed every day. We were all very happy to see Preet and Bob fit and well and able to return!

By the time you read this the PC will have held its first ever virtual meeting, and we will try to continue our normal activities as much as possible. We know that the grass cutting etc will not be occurring as frequently as usual, and there are probably other maintenance type jobs that might be delayed. If anything is urgent please contact the Parish Clerk, Tel: 614646, Email: [clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk) and we will try to sort it.

Stay safe everyone.

**Tim Lockley**  
Chairman, Harbury Parish Council

Current Parish Council members contactable via the Parish Office are:  
Tim Lockley (Chairman), Keith Thompson (Vice-Chair), Samantha Allen, Julie Balch, Steve Ekins, Chris Gibb, Alan Knowles, Tony Mancell, Andrew Rutherford, Janet Thornley



## Harbury Society

**Linda Ridgley**

### Cecil Bloxham's History of Harbury Tradesmen – Part 1

*Below are notes of a talk that Cecil Bloxham gave to the Harbury Society in the late 1990's on the village tradesmen. Cecil was a true village character who died in 2007.*

We were of course lucky to have Bonzo with us that December night for he had received an offer from Maktoom El Maktoom to go to the United Arab Emirates for a fortnight to help out with the harem, but instead he stayed in Harbury to talk about the peculiar habits of its tradesmen of long ago.

All the tradesmen in the village wore bowler hats when Cecil was young and he remembers Painter Bird who used to work for Mr Batchelor, a builder who lived by the Shakespeare Inn. He was accustomed to working for a while and then going on a binge. His wife threatened to accompany him in an attempt to stop the habit, and brought his dinner to the Gamecock (then called the New Inn) but even that did not shame him out of it.

Arthur (Nosey) Wells was an articulate sign writer but suffered from an inability to spell. Once when it was pointed out to him that he had spelt "licenced" wrongly he took to his bed and cried for a fortnight.

Although the Doctors were good, the Surgeries left a lot to be desired. There was no privacy. Dr Pirie held consultations in a tin shack and Dr Sutcliffe had a lean-to attached to his house in Farm Street. Dr Allott who took over from Dr Pirie had a shack in Dovehouse Orchard.



Perce Tompkins was a carpenter, who like Bird the Painter, was fond of his drink. He rowed with Terry Baylis who kept the sweet shop in Chapel Street and when they came out of the Gamecock to settle the dispute they both fell over; went home for dinner and came back afterwards to finish the fight!

Perce fell out with his mother and went to live with Charles Sollis in Binswood End. During the War they were playing dominoes in the Shakespeare when a German Bomber dropped a stick of bombs at the bottom of the village, killing some cows and demolishing a few buildings. Tompkins claimed that when he asked "Who's down is it?" he found that all his companions were "down" sheltering in the corners of the Bar. The pair were notorious for trying to trick the Home Guard on their way back from a session at the pub.

Connor Ivens was a builder who lived in Mill Street and he was the last man Bonzo remembers still using a pony and trap. Fred Robbins worked for him. The builders had regular work spring-cleaning the big houses after the Winter. Arthur Ceney, called Trippet, because he would not swear, was a journeyman builder. His nephew Tony Sollis worked for him and when he was told that he needed a licence for his motorbike he went all the way to Shire Hall in Warwick to get one.

Binswood End was almost a separate entity and was ruled by the two matriarchs, Gert Sollis and Rachel Freeman. Nothing seemed to happen

there without their permission. (Uncle) Ira Whitehead, lived in Farm Street and was remembered for the day he tried to take his 40 rung ladder round the Chapel Street corner on his bike. It is said he got stuck and four rungs had to be sawn off to free him. Once at a painting job in Ladbroke, he persuaded the housekeeper that it would be best to remove all the furniture first. Having got it all on the lawn, he retired to The Bell and had so much to drink that he could not carry on. As it then rained he was not very welcome in Ladbroke again.

Doug Gasgoyne was a Master Craftsman who made Cecil his first snooker cue. On the eve of his retirement he made a new door for one of the houses in the village. Cecil testified that it was a masterpiece of his art, all pegged together, but sadly when the property was sold the old oak door was just thrown on a skip. Doug's father was the tailor who lived in Church Terrace and fitted the village lads out in blue serge suits which did them for all formal occasions. When Jack put a button on, he boasted that the suit would fall apart before the button came adrift.

Alice Hawkins was a spinster from Binswood End who lived with a man called Russell. She made skirts and trousers for all the children. Cecil often passed the house when driving sheep and was of the belief that if there had been a fire the two occupants would have escaped through the same window.

Charles Fields, the last of the line of blacksmiths, lived down the Bottom End, shoeing horses. He had worked for Blicks, the wheelwrights, machinists and shoeing smiths who made their wheels out on the Green by Binswood End Forge. They also made clocks, ploughs and locks. "Putting the Blacksmith on" was a common term used to signify locking-up securely. It was claimed that Charles Field worked with Arthur Brain as his "Striker" and as both had a speech impediment they took too long telling each other when to hit the iron and it went cold on them.

Tom Malin was the Harbury "Town Crier" who went round advertising the Crock Fairs that were held at the Bull Ring. He lived on the corner of Hall Lane in a shed - with his donkey. The donkey was supposed to have been so difficult that it had to be turned on its back to be shod.

Frank and Arthur Jeffs were also blacksmiths and Bonzo recalled waiting with Jack Crump to have a horse shod, when Frank reeled in clutching his head, having been kicked by a horse - he survived.

Dudley (Wet) Overton had several allotments and acted as seedsman for many people. He was an odd job man who would tackle most things, including chimney sweeping. One day he caught a ginger tom eating his tea and painted its "posterior" with Turpentine. It taught the cat a lesson it never forgot, because it refused to stay in the same room with Wet when he came to sweep its owner's chimneys, although the lady never understood why.

Bill Marlow was the night-soil man who went round on Thursday and Friday nights with his horse and cart emptying the earth closets. There was a portrait by Mrs Joan Farley of the cart horse (Dick) displayed in the Surgery. Dudley

Overton's son, who worked with Bill Marlow is reputed to have salvaged his sandwiches from his coat pocket after they dropped into the cart one night.

"Dewy" Marlow was quite mad, Cecil thought. He broke horses, but not very well and one day when taking a load of muck to someone, he was thrown into the street when the horse bolted and the cart hit the wall that used to run round the Tunnel Cottage (Walnut Tree Cottage now). Dazed and torn, Dewy was lying in the muck "exposing his all" when an old lady passing was heard to remark in amazement that "When I was fourteen I did not know what they were; at eighteen I was enquiring about them; in my prime I was enjoying them; in my fifties I paid for them; at sixty I forgot about them and now at 80 I find they are growing wild!"

Cecil was fascinated by horses and so happened to be with Bill Marlow when he went round to clear out "Prof" Carington's home. They found thousands of Boer War cartridges there, the sort that were in cardboard cases. They took them down to Churchlands (where Bonzo later lived) and Bill Marlow set fire to them. Bullets were flying everywhere for about half an hour.

Alcock, the Butcher, bet the cricketers a leg of pork that they could not hit the ball out of the ground at Station Road. Only Jess Hickson came near achieving it and the ball he hit bounced back into play after hitting an elm tree.

F.D. Farley, from the Manor House, had two sons, John and Richard, a surgeon and a solicitor. They were served by Mr and Mrs Bill Davies. Bill used to organise cricket matches between the village lads and the Farleys and their friends. There was never any problem getting the villagers to play, because the teas were so splendid, but John Farley refused to "walk" when bowled out and had to be taught his manners by Bill Davies who only allowed him back to field.

Mr Farley had rich friends to stay. J.B. Rank the Miller and racehorse owner was so taken with the primroses in Chesterton Woods that he asked Bill Davies to transplant some for him. Bill organised the Didicoys (old-fashioned Gypsies) to do the job, but it was not a great success, for the flowers did not thrive in Surrey.

A painful experience for Bonzo was falling off the Farley's Shetland pony and breaking his arm. And there were frightening times when J.B. Rank brought Irish wolfhounds to the Manor when he stayed there, and Cecil had to outrun them to deliver the Evening Mail. He used to creep up, throw the paper down and rush back down the drive. One Summer evening he was pursued only by laughter and called back by Farley and Rank who gave him a 10/- note!

Cecil used to deliver the papers with Reg Boneham who had had a leg shot off in the Great War. Reg rode a bike with a fixed wheel. He was a proper countryman and introduced Cecil to cub hunting, showed him how to catch rabbits and to mushroom.

Once he took Bonzo over Harbury Heath to collect wild honey from an old willow tree. Cecil was sent up the tree to knock the hive off for Reg to catch, but the bees were very angry and Cecil came down quicker than he went up

and then set off across the fields. When he realised that Reg could not escape fast enough he circled back and the bees followed HIM!

Reg did gardening and in the War ran the Crown Inn for Bob Terry when he was called up in 1939. Reg's wife Dolly was also a character and called Cecil her Babbie, for his father - a football fan, had called her in to minister to his wife when the infant Cecil was due, while he went off to the match!

To be concluded next month...



## Harbury Women's Institute

Mary Thompson

A very strange month with no monthly meeting to report on.

Nevertheless, our WI is still functioning. The committee had their usual planning meeting using a conference call instead of meeting in someone's house as usual. Gill Thorpe reported that most people have received refunds for the cancelled cinema on 28<sup>th</sup> March - if you haven't received yours please contact her on 613801.

All outside activities organised by the Warwickshire Federation for the next few months have either been cancelled or postponed. However, they are rearranging events in the autumn. A lunch with the Reverend Richard Coles, which some members and husbands were due to attend in April, has been re-arranged for 15<sup>th</sup> October and the day trip to Windsor has been arranged for Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October. It's good that some events are still being planned.



We know our members have been keeping in touch with each other by phone, e-mail, Zoom and even a brief chat from a distance as they are out walking. Some members have been busy making scrubs and scrubs laundry bags for NHS staff.

Our meeting arranged for 14<sup>th</sup> May is unlikely to happen. We were looking forward to hearing Kath Ching, one of our members, talking about her hobby of decorating Easter eggs, Victorian style. We shall look forward to including her in the programme for 2021.

## Harbury WI Memories

Many of us have had the time to sort through old photographs etc. We celebrated our centenary in 2018 - here is a photograph of members celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary; this was a Mike Bloxham photograph that



appeared in the Morning News on 16<sup>th</sup> May 1968. Mrs K N Hancox is the President cutting the cake and I'm sure some people can recognise others in the photograph.



**Mary Thompson**



## **Harbury Theatre Group**

**Geoff Allen**

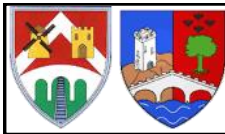
With our show "The Affairs at Medler's Top" postponed until at least November the group have been experimenting with ways of keeping together and maintaining the momentum for getting the show on the road as soon as the situation permits. We are experimenting with the use of Zoom (a service that allows online meetings and chat etc.) to hold virtual rehearsals. I must admit so far we have only managed to hold a virtual visit to the pub. But as I pointed out to my wife Julie, these processes need extensive testing before going into production.

My fellow Brummie, Brian Wade has launched our own version of "Podcasts" entitled "Sodcasts" in honour of the good old British comment on life. Basically, we have the likes of Brian moaning about life in general and giving us useful tips on coping with the lockdown. Also we have Andrew and Sue Lawrence regaling us with messages of advice and comfort from

Miles and Daphne of Farnsbarns Hall in a lovely other worldly style, drawn from characters in "The Affairs at Medler's Top". A very good taster for the show when we get to perform it, others to follow I am sure.

Perhaps we will add some links on the village Facebook page for the rest of our Harbury community to access and enjoy.

Although these are difficult times, I have been cheered by seeing our band of "luvvies" talking and supporting each other, and we are looking forward to our next show which will provide much needed relief from the stresses we are experiencing.



## Harbury Twinning Association

**Tony Thomas**

### James Turner

We were deeply saddened to hear of the sudden death of James Turner who became a victim of the coronavirus pandemic on the 5<sup>th</sup> April. James was more than just a founder member of the Harbury Twinning Association, he was the person who gave to Harbury the opportunity to establish a twinning partnership with the French Village of Samois-sur Seine by introducing the option to the Harbury Parish council.

James had been informed by a mutual friend that Mme Nelly Touchard, the president of the Samois-sur-Seine Twinning Association, was searching for a twinning partner. James, who was our District Councillor, spoke with her on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1996 and following a visit to Samois-sur-Seine with his wife Heather, where they met with their Twinning Committee and return visits to Harbury by Mme Nelly Touchard, the Parish Council invited the residents of Harbury to a presentation in the Tom Hauley Rooms where it was agreed that the residents of Harbury would like to form a twinning relationship with the residents of Samois-sur-Seine. A Twinning Committee was formed. Exchange visits by peoples from both villages were made during 1997 and after agreement by both Twinning Committees, the partnership was formalised.

James and Heather remained active members of the Harbury Twinning Association until they retired to their London home in 2007 and as it was James who introduced the opportunity to twin with the French village of Samois-sur-Seine he can be rightly considered to have been the father of the Harbury Twinning Association.





## Harbury Heritage Room

Bill Timson



*As most of us know, this month marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War Two in Europe. Ideally it would have been fitting to have celebrated as a village together or by holding street parties to mark this historic occasion. Unfortunately, another 'war' is being fought at the moment against an invisible enemy and this forbids the gathering together for social events. However, I have submitted below an interesting article written by one of our more senior Harbury residents capturing her memories of those dark times over 75 years ago. **Can you guess who the person is?***

### My World War II Childhood Experience

My earliest memory of the Second World War is the general feeling of dread and terror of a German invasion. All street lights were turned off and cars had hoods attached to the headlights. Bicycles also had shielded front lights.

Both my mother and father came from large families, 18 and 13 children respectively. My father, grandfathers and uncles were all coal miners and were not called up to serve in the War; there was one exception; my mother's youngest brother, Sidney (Sid) was conscripted to the Army despite being a coal miner. My grandfather tried to prevent Sidney from going into the Army but to no avail.

The first real frightening experience for me was seeing my mother with her head in her hands sobbing. She had heard the news of the German advance into France and that Sid was in France at the time of the subsequent evacuation of troops from Dunkirk. Sid was reported missing and it was assumed that he had been killed at Dunkirk.

I remember my first experience of infant school in 1941 with large numbers in the class and wearing a black pleated pinafore dress over a white blouse. Every day we carried out emergency drills. We always walked to school with our own gas mask contained in a square box with string attached to carry over the shoulder. No-one forgot their gas mask and I don't remember any ever being missing or lost.

The first drill session was to get under the small desks which had a fixed hinged seat. Whenever we heard the air raid siren, we all put on our coats and went outside to the Anderson shelter. The shelter was dank and very cold and usually filled with six inches of water. The door was closed with no light and we could not leave the shelter until the "All Clear" sounded.

All classes were taught by the rote system with no individual tuition. In 1943 I transferred to the adjacent Junior School where we were given pens with

removal nibs and black ink was in small pottery ink wells on the desk. These ink wells were all taken from the desks on Friday afternoon to be washed. One child was chosen on Monday morning to be ink monitor when they would fill the small ink wells each day.

I was the youngest of three children and we all helped in the garden. In the evenings we helped to make rag rugs. These were made with small strips of material from old clothing sewn with a bodkin into sacking. I remember that a completed rug was very heavy and I could never pick one up. We also had heavy dark curtains fitted to the windows.

My father was a very good gardener and we had a large garden. He used to make a "clamp" in which he put potatoes, swedes and carrots. The "clamp" was made with piled up straw and held together with mud. Any surplus vegetables were put into cardboard boxes and left outside the front gate for neighbours to help themselves.

We also had some evacuees stay with us for a few years. They were an elderly couple (Mr and Mrs Painter) and they lived in London. They had come to Staffordshire to stay with their daughter who lived next door to us; their house had been bombed so they were advised to go into the country to live with relatives. There had been a row with their daughter and her husband and they were told to leave and were out on the street where my father found them on his return from the pub. My parents converted one of the larger bedrooms as a bedsit and they stayed with us for a few years.

Everything was rationed; food, clothing; petrol and other fuels. Sweet coupons had to last for four weeks. I used to eat jellies (the ones used to put in jelly moulds). My mother made butter, cheese, bread and cakes. I really liked bread with HP sauce – no butter.

My parents reared chickens and rabbits, for extra food, but we were never allowed near them because my father used to say "no blarting at the table when you have dinner"!!!!

I remember the Yanks billeted at Lichfield the nearest town to where we lived. My brother and I used to go there on the 'bus and ask "Got any gum chum".

In April 1945 I was given a fox terrier puppy for my ninth birthday. He never had any kind of manufactured dog food, only scraps and was given some of the chicken food which was mashed potato mixed with meal. His name was Laddie and he lived for 15 years. We only had birthday gifts. At Christmas, we had a stocking which contained, an apple, orange and peanuts in their shells.

I remember VE Day in 1945 when we all congregated outside our local cinema. There were musicians, dancing and singing and I stayed up until after midnight.

### **A post script:**

In recent years, my brother and I researched the two uncles (my mother's brothers) one who was killed at the Somme aged 19 years in 1917 and one who was killed on the Lancastria ship off the coast of St. Nazaire, France.

This ship was attacked when it anchored off the shore of St. Nazaire after it had picked up soldiers escaping from Dunkirk. It was a British passenger ship and it was sunk by the Luftwaffe, killing civilians. This was kept secret by the British Government to protect the morale of the British people. My grandmother and mother died believing that Jim had died at Dunkirk and did not know that he is buried at La Bernerie-En-Retz Communal Cemetery near St. Nazaire in France.



## Harbury Energy Initiative & e-Wheels

**Bob Sherman**

☎612277 ✉info@harburyenergy.co.uk



### Electric Cars and Charging Points in Harbury - We need your help!

Let me take you a year or two into the future, away from these days of frustration and fear. Harbury Future Energy (HFE), a project being developed by a small group from the Board of Harbury e-Wheels, looks forward to a time beyond the unyielding and unhealthy present. Not everything about the present is unhealthy, however. You will have noticed and read that the reduction in traffic has meant a massive improvement in air quality and a valuable cut in carbon emissions from industrialised countries. Covid-19 has been a blessing to our environment and wildlife, it seems, if not immediately for us. This is temporary, we have to accept. Many are thinking about what happens after the pandemic. Can things change radically and for the long term? An article in Energy Live News reports that, in the wake of Covid-19, almost half of UK drivers are considering switching to electric for their next car. 62% of people in their survey wanted to see greater investment in charging infrastructure and 38% wanted to see more 'Clean Air Zones'.

We will be consulting you all further about our idea but we need to be able to get a bit closer to each other than 2 metres so that we can talk to you and show you the plans, so that has to wait. In the meantime we have gathered support from the Parish Council, District Council, County Council and national government's BEIS. However, it is your opinion that counts most as our plan is that the community should own this eventually. We have a long way to go yet.

HEI and Harbury e-Wheels can't save the world but we can affect change in Harbury. **The HFE group now really need your help. And it won't take long at all.**

We are conducting a study into the likely demand for electric cars amongst Harbury residents as we transition to a future free of fossil fuel vehicles. **PLEASE COMPLETE OUR SHORT SURVEY at:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/M5GN896>**

## What is it all about?

With the help of Greenwatt Technology, the consultancy appointed to carry out a feasibility study for us, we need your best guesses to help us assess the need for charge points in Harbury for electric cars and vans. Below is their explanation of the survey we want you to complete by the end of May.

‘Electric vehicles (EVs) are coming – and they are coming to Harbury soon! Already some local residents are driving EVs and many more will be considering purchasing or leasing EVs as an alternative to petrol or diesel vehicles in the next few years. The UK Government has stated that there will be a ban on selling new petrol, diesel or hybrid cars in the UK from 2035 at the latest<sup>1</sup>.

The Harbury community has a reputation for energy innovation over the last 10 years led by Harbury Energy Initiative, managed by volunteers and supported by the Parish Council. In preparation for the uptake of EVs by residents and businesses in the village, Harbury e-Wheels has applied successfully for a grant from the Rural Community Energy Fund to investigate the practicalities and viability of installing a community EV charging station at the Village Hall car park powered by renewable energy – probably a combination of solar and wind. The project is called ‘Harbury Future Energy’. Buying or leasing an EV is no different from usual - using dealerships or online purchasing. A Government grant towards the purchase of an EV is available – currently at £3,000<sup>2</sup>. But charging your EV will require some changes. If you have an ‘off-street’ parking space at home, i.e. a drive or garage, it is likely that you will install an EV charge point (EVCP) at your house and charge up whenever your EV is at home e.g. overnight. This is the easiest and cheapest option of recharging. A Government grant of up to £350 is available to contribute to the purchase and installation costs<sup>3</sup>.

However if you do not have ‘off-street’ parking i.e. you live in a terrace house or flat, you will need to use a public access EV charging point. There are a number of these installed across Warwickshire (see ZapMap<sup>4</sup>). But there are none as yet in Harbury or the near vicinity. (Harbury e-Wheels operates its two EVs currently from the rear of the Library building but these are now used exclusively for Harbury e-Wheels.)

Visitors to friends and relatives in Harbury and to events in the Village Hall or on the playing fields may also require the opportunity for a top up charge in the future.

**Harbury e-Wheels needs the help of all residents and local businesses to determine the likely demand for EVs and therefore the need for public access EV charging - now and in the future. This will determine the likely level of use of a village-located charging station going forward and therefore ensure that the size of charging infrastructure installed meets that likely demand. Your help is needed therefore to support this demand study and help to realise this exciting local green energy project. Please respond to this online survey and add comments in the spaces provided.**



**The deadline for completion is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020.**

**You can find the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/M5GN896>**

1. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-51366123>
2. <https://www.gov.uk/plug-in-car-van-grants>
3. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/873887/evhs-guidance-for-customers.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/873887/evhs-guidance-for-customers.pdf)
4. <https://www.zap-map.com/locations/warwick-charging-points/>



## **Harbury Tennis Club**

**Colin Mercer**

**<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HarburyTC>**

First of all, I hope all the Harbury News regulars, families and friends are in good health and coping in these unprecedented and worrying times. My daily permitted exercise usually involves a stroll around the village and includes a lap of the playing field and of course a visual inspection of the courts and clubhouse! This has only reminded me as to how fortunate we are to have such great facilities in Harbury with the playground, the football pitches, tennis and netball courts and the perimeter footpath. The whole area looks particularly good at this time of the year and it's a great shame we can't use it all at the moment but let's hope it won't be too long before we can all make full use of the opportunities for exercising and relaxing.

Our AGM scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> April was cancelled, and I would have been reporting another very successful year on all fronts. Membership numbers are up again and Coolsportz are now in their fourth year, delivering our Junior coaching programme which continues to be popular thanks to our coaches Elizabeth Holding and Rob West, with around 30/40 children taking part during the year. In March Lianne Candappa started a 7-week "She Rallies" course for year 4 and 5 girls in Harbury School on Tuesday mornings, with around 30 girls taking part. We were funding this after obtaining a £350 grant from Warwickshire County Councillors' Fund with the support of our local Councillor Bob Stevens. Lianne had completed two weeks with some really good feedback when the school closed. We hope to carry on with this when the schools go back

It's been a really good year for the Harbury Tennis Teams and many thanks to Caroline Morland who has again taken on the role of Match Secretary and done a great job, and to Steve Stark and Nigel Eaton who have taken on team captain duties.

The 2019-20 Banbury Winter and Floodlit leagues were suspended two weeks before the end of the season, but Harbury Floodlit teams had completed all their matches and the Weekend team only had one match unplayed. Harbury Floodlit A had a fantastic season winning all matches to top Division 3. Harbury Floodlit B with three wins, eight losses and one draw finished sixth out of seven in the same Division. Harbury Weekend team were third in Division 2 and that was very likely to have been their final position.

The Summer Leagues are on hold indefinitely, having been due to start in April. Before tennis was put on hold, we had added a fourth team for this summer, our first men's team in about 10 years, which shows how enthusiastic and competitive the club is! The current hope is that the Winter and Floodlit Leagues will run as normal from the end of September. Our big event this year was going to be our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration but that's obviously off although I'm sure we'll be doing something to celebrate on and off court when we get back to normality.

I hope that by the June edition of Harbury News I'll have some more positive news about when we can start playing, but in the meantime, stay safe and well!



## Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

### **Pre-school remains temporarily closed as per government guidance.**

However, our Facebook parent page has been a hive of activity with our parents posting and sharing photos and activities that our Pre-Schoolers have been engaging in at home. What a variety! Here is a selection. Keep them coming, Pre-Schoolers! We are missing you!



*We did hide and seek dinosaurs. I hid the dinosaurs in the garden and we hunted for them and then put them in the small world tuff tray to play in.*



*We went for a nature walk with a list of things to see and collect.*



*We went for a walk and found a rabbit hole!*



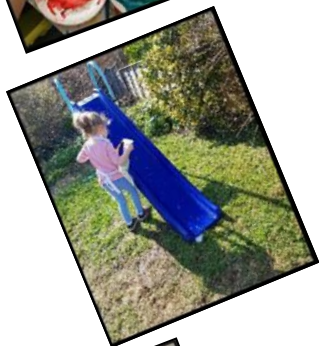
*We made Snail and the Whale themed shoebox aquariums.*



*We've been painting and seeing how you can mix colours to make new colours.*

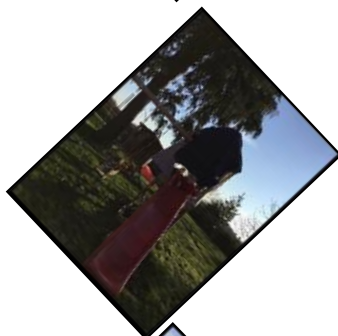


*We did some baking.*

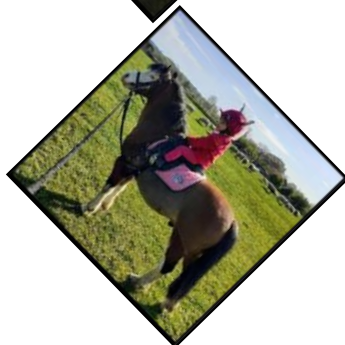


*We cleaned the garden toys.*

*We have had fun making a den and sliding toy cars down the slide.*



*We have been busy playing memory games.*



*We have been pony riding*

*We have walked miles!!!*



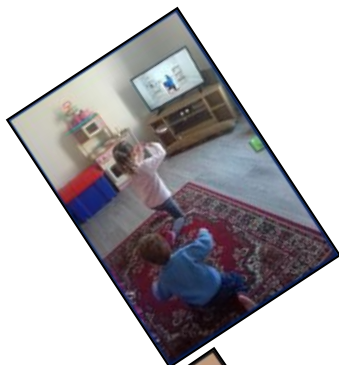
*We made a Mr Cress Head.*



*We have been soap making.*

*We had to find numbers which I had drawn all over the garden in chalk. We then sprayed the number out with a bottle of water.*

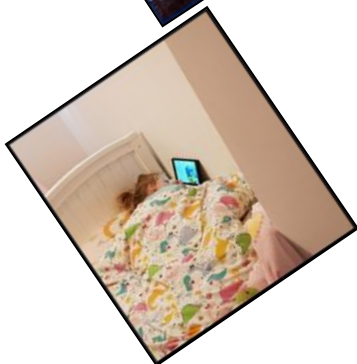




*We have  
been doing  
Joe Wicks.*



*We have  
been doing  
letter work.*



*We had story time with Nanny.*

*If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please e-mail [enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk) text 07907 598461 or look at the web site [www.harburypre-school.org](http://www.harburypre-school.org) You can also find us on Facebook.*



**Harbury Primary School**

**Kate Guymer**

### **Harbury Community “Stage under the Stars”/Outdoor Classroom**

With thanks to Harbury Parish Council, Section 106 and Harbury School PTA grants, we have raised the money to build an outdoor multi-purpose space in the grounds on Harbury School (in the amphitheatre which used to house the swimming pool).

The village will be able to book the “Stage under the Stars” using the current method for hiring the school hall (out of school hours) and the children will benefit from having an outdoor classroom to aid learning. The wooden building will have a living roof and will recycle rain water for use by the Earthworms school gardening club and classes who will be responsible for planting and maintaining raised beds.





We would not have been able to progress with this project without the support of several village members, particularly Peter Bones who prepared the detailed structural drawings of the structure, enabling us to gain several quotes.

To prepare the site, all the shrubs needed to be removed to prepare for the building of the raised beds. I would like to thank John from the Village

Tree Surgeons, who spent eight hours solid on a Saturday clearing the bushes - it was not all plain sailing as many stones had found their way into the bushes over the years, and so several chainsaw blades had to be sharpened! The wood chippings were all put to good use as mulch for the school orchard, where pear, apple trees and raspberries are grown and enjoyed in the school kitchen.



We originally hoped to build the outdoor space over the May half term, but depending on COVID-19 this timing is likely to be pushed to the summer holiday. I will provide an update when we hope to open the new school/ community facility.

Thank you to you all for your continued support of the school, through PTA events, direct donations or supporting your child with home schooling in this challenging time. The school corridors are empty with the few children who join us, and I miss the cacophony from the playground during breaks. We hope to welcome the children back sooner rather than later when it is safe to do so.





## Harbury Village Library & Biblio's Café

Janice Montague

### Harbury Village Library and Biblio's Café - new home delivery service for books

Sadly, as a result of Coronavirus, we have been obliged to close Harbury Village Library and Biblio's Café since 18<sup>th</sup> March in line with government instructions. We know that many villagers thoroughly enjoy their regular trips to the library to change their books and peruse the bookshelves for old favourites or to discover new authors, and will be missing this opportunity. There is nothing quite like a good story to take you somewhere else in time and space: think of Narnia, Middle Earth, Gilead and Discworld, for example. So, during these difficult times we have been working on ways to help you pass the time in as enjoyable a way as possible by giving you access to a variety of reading material.

You will now be able to order from the **4000 or so books from our own Blue Label Collection (BLC)** for **home delivery**. You can find out which titles we have available by going to our website and clicking on the link to the BLC:[http://www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk/library/hvl\\_harbury\\_collection](http://www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk/library/hvl_harbury_collection) Once you have chosen your book, just click on **Request Book** alongside the title and you will get a form to fill in. You can also request a favourite author or a particular type of book, eg romance, crime, thriller, or biography.

If you do not have access to the internet, just ask someone to send an email on your behalf to **library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk**, or put a note through the Library door, giving your name, address, phone number and request for a particular book, author or genre and we will endeavour to match something to your requirements.

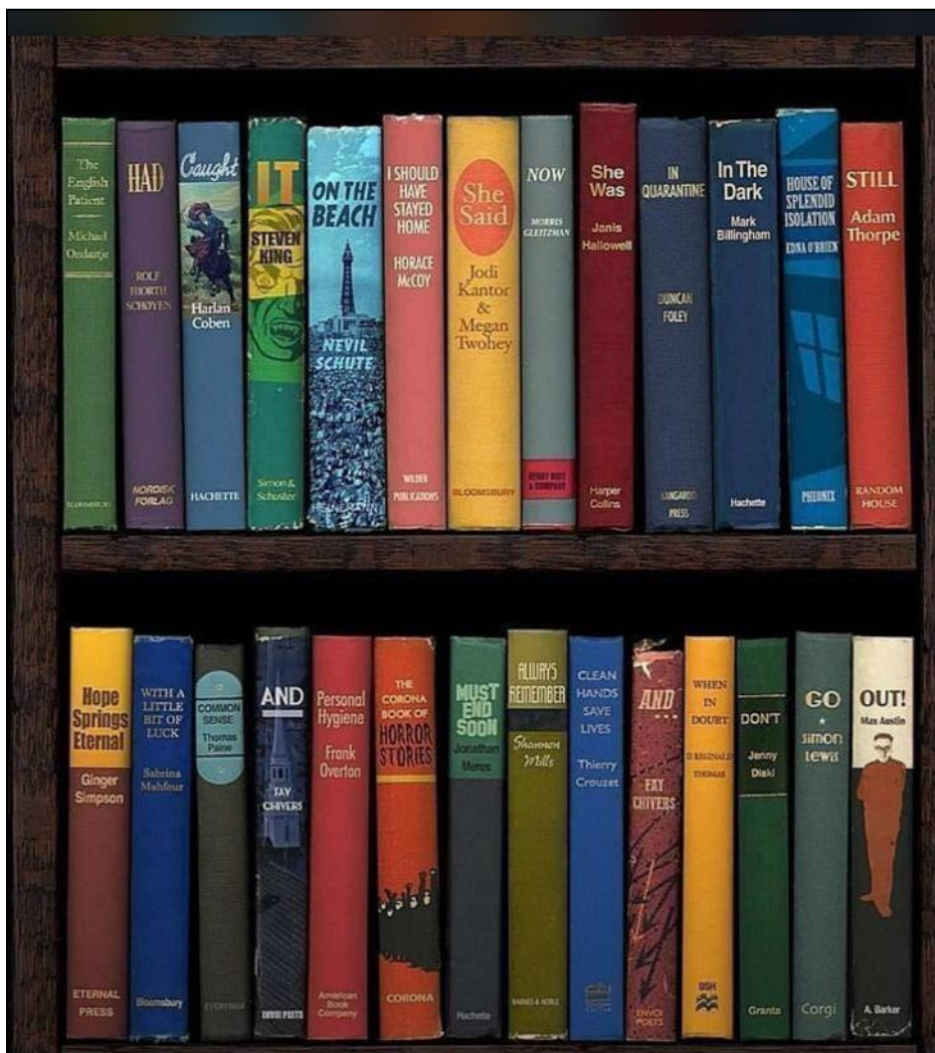
**In these unprecedented times, we are offering this service to everyone, whether they are a member of the Harbury Library already or not.**

Your chosen book(s) will then be delivered to your door: a maximum of two at a time or up to five children's books. They will be in some form of wrapping (e.g. paper or a plastic bag), and will have been handled in a manner which uses all reasonable precautions to ensure they are virus free. For instance, no books will have been loaned to another reader for at least a week before you receive it. However, to reassure yourself about your personal safety, we recommend that you leave the books in the wrapper for at least 72 hours before opening them. This is officially the maximum length of time it is believed that any contamination can survive on paper, plastic or board (source: DCMS).

As the situation is uncertain, we will not be putting a set time limit on how long you can keep the BLC library books for at the moment, but it will be at least three weeks. All we ask is that you keep the books safely in the interim period, and we will devise a way for books to be returned in due course.



No fines will be charged for any books that are currently in your possession from either the BLC or the Warwickshire Library stock, although we would like them all returned eventually, of course.



*You may have seen this already: if you read the titles from top left onwards, this is an anonymous librarian's contribution to lightening the mood during lockdown.*

Additionally, there will be an opportunity to **select books to take away** from our 'giveaway' shelves on Monday mornings from 27<sup>th</sup> April between 10am and 12 noon, weather permitting, as the available books will be **outside** the Library. There will be instructions to ensure social distancing and

restrictions on numbers etc. The books chosen do not need to be returned, but could be exchanged at a later date if desired.

On our website welcome page you will also see the tab for **Online Library Resources** such as e-magazines, e-books and music that you can access for free through the links included there: [http://www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk/hvl\\_online\\_library](http://www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk/hvl_online_library) In addition, on our Facebook page you can find links to a wide variety of material that is available online and which will be added to and updated regularly. See <https://www.facebook.com/HVLBC/> There are also recipes from **Biblio's Café** for those of you who are missing their delicious cakes.

**HVL online** - apart from the Online Library Resources mentioned above, HVL has taken to the virtual world to continue with the *Classic Book Club* and the successful *Spanish lessons*. The next meeting of the former will be discussing *I Know why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou, online at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May. For more information, please email [BookGroup@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](mailto:BookGroup@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk) If you want to join in language lessons in future, please refer to the Events page of our website: <http://www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk/events>

I am also aware of at least two virtual Biblio's coffee morning meetings taking place at the regular time each week courtesy of Zoom - bet the coffee and cake isn't as good, even though the chat may be!

We hope you will feel able to take advantage of these offers, and we very much hope to welcome you back to the library and Biblio's Café in the not too distant future.



**Harbury Village Club & Institute**

**Judy Morrall**

A big hello to everyone, I have just come back from the Club after watering the four pots and the plants either side of the drive. They all look stunning so that when we do reopen you can be sure of a colourful welcome. We are ensuring that all is OK inside the Club too and we can't wait to see everyone again.

I never thought that I would say this but I am enjoying the lockdown. Everything is so much quieter and less hectic. Along Mill Street there are dog walkers, joggers, people out for a walk as their exercise and many horse riders clip clopping up and down the street. With the absence of aircraft too, so peaceful and relaxing. Not that I am doing much of that as I go to my allotments several times a week and the other days I spend in the garden. We do actually now need some rain, mad isn't it as we had so much earlier on when all the fields were flooded. We gardeners are never satisfied but it is so pleasant to be able to enjoy the warmth on our backs as we finish our Winter digging which we couldn't do due to bad weather in Winter and so are doing it in Spring. I have six plots of assorted size and am finally on plot

number six and managing to dig out loads of the dreaded bindweed which I thought I had eliminated last year.

After doing that I go indoors and tackle another 1000 piece jigsaw - now that is a sort of relaxing. John and I also play Scrabble which we haven't played for ages not that we are in the least bit competitive....much! The last task I did in the garden was to completely empty my pond which had become overgrown with the plants in the baskets and full of leaves and other debris. After trimming the plants I emptied the pool by filling buckets then emptying them, as we are on a slope it then meant walking down the slope to dispose of the water - after several journeys though I finished it. There are quite a few frogs in the pond and each time I carefully placed one of them in the garden they leapt back into the debris at the bottom of the pond. But as I filled up the pond again I think they realised why I had to remove them! The water has settled down now and it looks so much better.

We moved the tender plants from our utility room last weekend back outside. No mean task as the huge green and yellow agave is very prickly and it got its revenge several times. The other plants too are heavy, banana plant, tree fern and lots of money trees plus many aeoniums. They all look really fabulous and they too are enjoying the good weather. Of course, I then had to tackle cleaning out the utility room, however it was worth it as we can sit there and imagine we are in an exotic country.

A good opportunity too to catch up with some reading in the evenings. I love Ann Cleves' books and my ex-colleague and friend from my working days in Oxford, Keith, used to live near Whitley Bay where Ann Cleves lives and knows her. So I have several of her books signed by her when she came to the library in Abingdon to give a talk. There I go name dropping again! Keith was at the same university as Kevin Whately of Morse and Lewis fame. The last time I met up with Keith and another ex-colleague Andy in Oxford, they were filming Endeavour another excellent programme. So, as you can see no time at all to get bored.

Below is a quiz plus the answers on page 56 which is similar to the one I did for the Guide Dogs at the Club last year. I hope that you will find it interesting and hopefully challenging. Whatever you are doing please keep safe and well and I really do mean it when I say that I can't wait to meet up with our members hopefully not too far away now. I send you all my very best wishes and thank you for reading this.



## General Knowledge Quiz

- 1) Which chain of convenience stores was founded in the Netherlands in 1932
- 2) What classic race apart from the Derby is held at Epsom
- 3) Who played James Bond in Casino Royale

- 4) What is the World's third largest island
- 5) What US baseball legends first names were George Herman (4,4)
- 6) Which famous WW2 bomber was made by Avro
- 7) What was Fleetwood Mac's No.1 smash hit
- 8) Which Swiss mountain overlooks Zermatt
- 9) Which 1988 film starred Dustin Hoffman and Tom Cruise
- 10) Which 1950/1960s comic featured Robot Archie
- 11) Which type of drum has wires stretched across it
- 12) What is the third highest rank in the peerage
- 13) What is the North American term for a reindeer
- 14) Which Sunday newspaper was founded in 1791 by W S Bourne
- 15) Which Carla Lane comedy featured the Boswells
- 16) Which London avenue is the main theatreland thoroughfare
- 17) Which well-known UK based charity was founded in 1942
- 18) Which famous racing car make is named after five Italian brothers
- 19) Which 1970 Eurovision winner is an Irish former MEP
- 20) What is the name of the gigantic South American water snake

**Answers on page 56.**



## Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

**Christine Dakin**

We will be in the fifth week of lockdown when you see this. Our lives have changed dramatically, many of you might have adapted, others will find it difficult. Everything is different, some of it is good, with many acts of kindness and people helping others when they can.

It took me a few days of feeling a bit lost before I realised that I needed to keep working somehow. Luckily my daughter came up with new ideas of how to keep the business going. I put some photos of bundles of plants on the Bridge Nursery Facebook page and am now offering a 'click and collect' system. Unfortunately, I don't have veg plants or seeds which is what everyone wants, maybe you could do some swapping with others via Facebook. We just have garden plants. I'm also offering appointments so that one person can look round the nursery on their own.

The weather in April (so far) has been perfect for gardening, those of you forced to stay at home are keen to get out in the garden. It's wonderful to see

so many novice gardeners who are eager to learn more and maybe involve their children.

Please contact me if you need any advice or help via our website [bridge-nursery.co.uk](http://bridge-nursery.co.uk)

Keep well, keep safe, all best wishes.



## Nature Notes

**John Hancock**



I have just been in contact with Warwickshire Badger Group. In early February, the U3A Natural History Group had a presentation on badgers at the Tom Hauley Room given by Steve Hawker and Denise Taylor. One of their messages was the need to report sightings of these elusive creatures. Unfortunately, most are found dead at the side of the road, run down as they go about their

nocturnal foraging trips. I was cycling back towards the village on the 19<sup>th</sup> April along the lane between Bascote and the Welsh Road when I found a dead badger on the verge. Report similar sightings by completing a simple online form. This will help the group pinpoint badger setts and sometimes rescue cubs which would otherwise starve.

Since the change in all our lives forced on us by the coronavirus pandemic, we have had plenty of time to observe the natural world. The weather has been generally bright and the sunshine has brought out a good number of butterfly species. Last month I reported seeing Peacock and Brimstone. Since then I have added Comma, Small Tortoiseshell, Holly Blue, Speckled Wood, Orange Tip, Small White and Green Veined White to the tally. I make that 9, so some way to go yet to find all 59 on the



**Holly Blue**

British list. I recommend reading Patrick Barkham's book 'The Butterfly Isles' (published by Granta). He recounts spending a year trying to track down every species. In the case of the Scotch Argus he had to travel to



distant parts of our archipelago. Such a journey is just a dream at present but this will end and life as we knew it will start again.

Looking back as one is inclined to do at this difficult time, it was good to have the May 2019 copy of the Harbury & Ladbroke News to consult. Sharon and I had visited Ufton Wood to drink in the blue vista created by bluebells *en masse*. I had already seen my first swallow of the year on Easter Monday, flying over a wheat field at Chesterton. This year, I have yet to see one but Martin and Amanda Randall reported their first sighting of this enigmatic bird at Ufton on 5<sup>th</sup> April and then house martins in Manor Orchard on 11<sup>th</sup> April.



Lady's Smock (Cuckoo Flower) was in bloom on top of Bromson Hill in the roadside verge yesterday (21<sup>st</sup> April). It is the food plant of caterpillars of the Orange Tip butterfly. They concentrate the mustard oils in the plant and this makes them distasteful to birds. The male Orange Tip's colouration serves as a warning to predators. The tiny eggs are orange and laid singly on the flower head.

They are reasonably easy to find but to see the exquisite architecture, a hand lens is necessary.

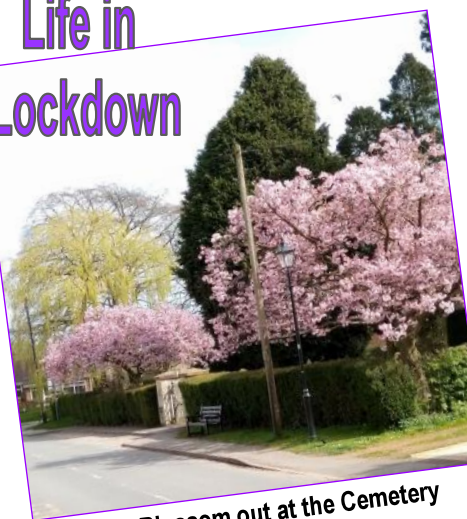
In today's paper I read about that elusive creature, the Slow Worm. Although snakelike, it is in fact a lizard with residual ears. It reminded me of the time, probably 12 years ago, when walking with my four youngest grandchildren home from school in Bath. A car emerged from a drive, hit a rock and disturbed a Slow Worm which ended up writhing in the road. I went to scoop it up and it proceeded to shed its tail. The tail kept moving whilst the creature escaped to the nearby shrubbery. This phenomenon is called autotomy. Perhaps some readers have similar tales to tell (or should that be tails?) It certainly enthralled the children. Shakespeare was a great observer of nature in his home county with lines like 'Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,' (second witch in Macbeth Act 4, Scene 1.)

Chris Barber reported two red kites being mobbed by a lone crow. John and Pat Smith have a good number of Common Newts in their garden pond. Please keep reports of the natural world on our doorstep coming. A friend in Leamington emailed me with news of an unusual sighting. She was having her supper and heard a crash from her patio door. Expecting to see a dead pigeon she was surprised when she saw a disorientated Peregrine Falcon sitting on the back of a garden chair. Shortly afterwards it shook its feathers and flew off, apparently none the worse. She lives half a mile from the Town Hall so the bird could have been one nesting there. It's possible to see pictures on a webcam of activity at this nest site. Two eggs have been laid I'm informed.

I can't finish without praising the editors of H&L News for their efforts to get the magazine printed electronically, keeping our villages connected. Well done. The pictures are good too. Stay cheerful.



# Life in Lockdown



Cherry Blossom out at the Cemetery



Sheila tending her allotments



Rosemary and Sheila on their afternoon walk



Peter Bones repairing a style behind the Trice's farm



Imogen, Amelie and Karim enjoying the sunshine



## General Section

### Helping People on the 'Front Line' During the Coronavirus Pandemic

Having had a week at home when the schools closed, I received a phone call from Rob, one of my colleagues in the Design Technology Department at King Henry VIII Senior School, Coventry, asking if I would like to help make face shields for frontline workers battling to save lives during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Despite the long list of jobs to do at home (which could wait, sorry Judy), I decided it was right to help where I could. The first day of production for me was on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Rob and Stuart, Head of Department had already made 70 shields on Saturday when Stuart, prompted by a 'tweet' from a company called 'Kitronik', suggested that schools were ideally placed to get involved. All that was needed was some 0.8mm thick polypropylene sheet, A4 Clear acetate sheets and a laser cutter.



We quickly realised that there was a big demand for this PPE after Rob had advertised on his Facebook page and orders started rolling in. We tried to keep things local which meant that people could come and collect their orders once they were ready. Stuart spoke on CWR radio about what we were doing and this triggered a surge in orders!



Local schools were contacted to see if they would donate their stock of PP (polypropylene) so that we could continue manufacture. A lady called Emma from Coventry Building Society also came to our aid by donating boxes of 250micron acetate sheets as did Geri from Ricoh Telent. We found a supplier of PP (polypropylene), who generously sold the material at less than cost price; Antalis delivered it to school so production could continue. To get us moving we used money donated by some of our wonderful school parents. As time passed we set up a 'Go Fund Me Page' and this money enabled us to purchase more materials and parts for the laser machine which was running flat out!

Production was soon in full swing and by the end of the week, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April lunch time, we had made and distributed nearly 2000 shields. We returned on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> hoping that our 'Boxford Laser' would keep working as orders continued to flood in. Not only hospitals but care homes, carers, **GP surgeries including Harbury where I dropped off 20 face shields, chemists including our own, where I dropped off 10** and many other organisations around Coventry, Warwickshire and even further afield. To date we have had over 200 customers. The total made when we left on school on Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. Day 12 of manufacture was a staggering 4,781.



We thought that things would quieten down but returning on Easter Monday (13<sup>th</sup>), with four of us now involved, we made a record 1042 shields. On Day 14 our last full day of production we made a further 988 and had made and distributed a grand total of 6811 face shields. I am proud to have been involved and I know that many other schools and companies around the country have been doing exactly the same. Well done to you all!



Pictured above: me, Rob, Al and Stuart.

**Bill Timson**





## Protecting the Protectors

I'm sure everyone has found the last few weeks challenging and none more so than those who are expected to fight on the front lines of a medical war in which they never expected to be soldiers. The availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been constantly in the news as the rising number of people with COVID-19 strains the NHS and those within it to a point not previously seen in our lifetime.



What started out as a small group of volunteers looking to plug the gap in the provision of face shields has grown to a nationwide call to arms. People with 3D printers at home, in schools and in the workplace are being asked to print the plastic parts that are then attached to the clear visors and sent to hospitals and other organisations to help save lives. If you want to see for yourself go to [www.3dcrowd.uk](http://www.3dcrowd.uk) where you can sign up to donate money, print visor parts or request PPE.

3D printers are able to take rolls of plastic string and heat them up, to then reform the plastic into a shape that has been programmed. Unlike our paper printers, which can only print flat pictures, they are able to build up layers of plastic to form a 3D shape. The programme for making the face shields has been created and approved centrally so everybody makes the same one. These are then bundled up and dispatched in packs of 10 or more via the courier DPD who deliver them to a hub. The hub will use the plastic shapes and a clear visor already readily available to create face shields. These are then delivered to signed up organisations.

It's not going to be easy. There are a long list of rules as to where you can print (not near pets, not in a thoroughfare, not near food or drink, etc.) and what you need to do (wash your hands thoroughly, wear uncontaminated clothing, not be in self-isolation due to a person with symptoms in the house) as well as having to make an initial face shield for you to use when manufacturing. Ideally these would be made in laboratory conditions BUT given a choice between no face shield and one of these there have already been 340,000 requested and 80,000 in production.

Why am I telling you? Well, as it happens my son turns 15 this month and has



asked everyone to band together and get him a 3d printer. It's in our house and is going to be set up tomorrow. ever before has a birthday present seemed such a responsibility as well. We've signed up to 3D print for the group. We've talked about the fact that the plastic we already have will probably all need to be used to print parts and save lives. We are part way through a 14-day quarantine after having symptoms and once it is over and we are clear of symptoms in the house we are ready to go into production. Wish us luck!

**Carolyn Murray**

## **'Warwickshire Scrubbers' - Harbury Hub**



Just two weeks ago a group called 'Warwickshire Scrubbers' was set up as a community initiative to offer help to NHS workers on the frontline in the battle against Coronavirus. In such a short time it expanded rapidly to beyond 1000 members across Warwickshire producing Scrubs, laundry bags (to contain

scrubs for home laundering) and headbands. At the time of writing almost 4000 items (including 510 sets of scrubs) have been produced and distributed to not only Warwick Hospital but also to other hospitals in the County, plus GP surgeries and NHS Trust care establishments. This came about following a requirement for staff to wear scrubs instead of their usual uniform due to pandemic guidelines.

Within a week of the launch of this initiative, a group of Harbury sewers was formed and they have produced a prolific amount of items - Scrubs in a variety of colours and sizes, (made out of fabric paid for by donations), plus laundry bags, using their own fabrics, and headbands to make the wearing of masks and visors more comfortable for NHS staff. A round of applause is due for this group of dedicated sewers who have worked tirelessly to produce high quality garments and other items. Well done Ann, Carol, Chris, Gill, Gill, Joan, Karen, Lin, Nicki, Sally, Sally and others who have also donated resources. This initiative is community spirit in action at a very difficult and unprecedented time.



**Anne Greenwell**

### **‘Reflections at Breakfast’**

The streets and lanes eerily quiet,  
Cars, what cars on their journey to work?  
Villagers walking, keeping their distance,  
Nodding, waving with a cautious smile.

Our heroes unselfishly doing their jobs,  
Proud, resilient yet openly vulnerable,  
Aware that the enemy is out there lurking,  
Globally, individually, the fight goes on.

Our everyday language and daily routine,  
Turned upside down by this killer disease,  
Stay safe and well, look forward to happiness,  
Can this really be 2020?

Admire the resolve and determination,  
To win this ‘war’ against the invisible enemy,  
A new spring fashion, gloves and masks?  
Waiting for good news, hoping it comes.

**Bill Timson**



### **High Sheriff of Warwickshire 20/21**

Harbury resident, Joe Greenwell has been appointed High Sheriff of Warwickshire, a voluntary role he will hold for one year.

The Inauguration Ceremony took place on Maundy Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> April via Zoom video conference, probably a first for the County. It was presided over by retired High Court Judge Sir John Saunders, Resident Judge, His Honour Judge Andrew Lockhart QC and the Lord Lieutenant Mr Tim Cox.

Traditionally the ceremony takes place in Court No 1 at Shire Hall in Warwick but this was not possible due to the restrictions associated with Coronavirus.







There have been High Sheriffs for over 1000 years and in the past they had extensive powers on behalf of the monarch. Nowadays the role involves supporting Royal visits, the Judiciary, Emergency Services and local charities.

With a background in the motor industry, Joe has decided to focus too on initiatives associated with Employability, particularly for those with special needs.

He sees his immediate priority as helping to support the agencies and volunteer groups operating on the front line against the virus.

More details are on the website: <https://highsheriffwarwickshire.co.uk/#>

**Joe Greenwell**



## Harbury Seed Share

Harbury Seed Share has been running for about a month now and although it's been harder work than we initially thought, we think it's been pretty successful. We've entered information about 87 types of seed in our online register, received and dealt with 53 requests, and distributed around 164 packets of seeds.

Harbury Seed Share is a project which has been set up to help our community "Grow your own!" The Group will coordinate seed donations, seed requests and seedling swaps.

The project is a collaboration between Earthworms, the Harbury School Gardening Club, and Harbury Village Library. We are supported by Harbury Parish Council and form part of their efforts to help our community during the current Coronavirus pandemic. In the last month we have "grown" our team of dedicated volunteers who now help to assemble and distribute orders.

The scheme only serves the parish of Harbury, although we have received requests from as far away as London. While we can't provide seeds for communities outside our own, we're happy to talk with other groups who might want to set up a similar service.

From 1<sup>st</sup> May we're starting the next stage of the project, the **Seedling Swap**. People who have grown excess seedlings will be able to drop them off at a central point in the village where they will be recorded in our online register, placed in "quarantine" for an appropriate period of time, and then be made available for people to collect, or if they are self-isolating or sheltering, have them delivered. We plan to bring another team of volunteers onboard to help with this phase.



In order to control the flow of people to the collection point people will be asked to submit a request for seedlings using an online form and they will then be advised when their selection is ready for collection.

We still need more donations of seeds and postage stamps, we're using Royal Mail to reach the remoter parts of the village, which you can either post through the Harbury Village Library letterbox, or mail to

Harbury Seed Share, c/o Harbury Village Library, The Wight School, Harbury, Works CV33 9HW.

We're also more than happy to accept cash donations which will be used to support the work of Earthworms, the Harbury Primary School Gardening Club.

You can contact us by emailing [SeedShare@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](mailto:SeedShare@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk)

**Cllr Julie Balch, Wendy Crowder, Rich Fowler**



## Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

Normally we would have been talking about the Carnival and the summer outing in this month's article but as you are all aware these events will not be happening. We thought we would remind you of times past.....

Listed below are the places that we have visited since 2000. There were outings before this but we don't have the information readily to hand but if some of you have better memories, maybe you can help? The theory is that we alternate between visiting somewhere where we can see water and other places where we may not (rivers excluded). We hope that the list will bring back memories for those who came with us.

2000	York	2001	Poole
2002	Weston-super-Mare	2003	Chester
2004	Skegness	2005	Bath

2006	Minehead	2007	Poole
2008	Weston-super-Mare	2009	Windsor
2010	Southport	2011	Windsor
2012	Bournemouth	2013	Gloucester Docks
2014	Southsea	2015	Cardiff
2016	Cambridge	2017	Poole
2018	Lincoln	2019	Weston-super-Mare

We could bore you with the work that goes on behind the scenes and that happens on the day to make these trips happen, but we won't. Suffice to say that those of you who have been with us in recent years have been involved in some exciting trips that may long be remembered. If you have any stories or photos that you would like to share with us, please let us know.

Meanwhile, we hope you all stay safe.

**Mike McBride**

**On behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association**



## **Harbury Village Show**

We hope everyone is keeping well. As a group we, like many others, have been considering what will happen to the Village Show this year. It is due to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> September. We have been trying to assess the viability of a show this year bearing in mind that we don't know

what sort of restrictions will be in existence in September.

However, we are also aware that people are spending much more time at home and in their gardens and therefore will have lots of produce that would be suitable for a village show!

Other restrictions on us, are the difficulty in circulating a paper schedule in the coming months and we have also been informed that judges will not be available as all judging has been suspended.

So, at the moment we are planning for the possibility that we can have a scaled down show (if restrictions allow). That is, no entrance fee, no prize money! Exhibits would be judged by a people's vote and stickers/certificates awarded. Just an opportunity for people to show what they have been up to in the great lockdown. We will put a simplified schedule on line. (No baking!)

If we can't hold any sort of gathering then we would like to try and host an "Online Village Show". (I believe Chelsea are doing the same thing!) People could upload pictures of vegetables, fruit flowers, crafts, photos and artwork.

We will post information as we have it on our website ([harburyvillageshow.uk](http://harburyvillageshow.uk)) and on our Facebook page and through Harbury News.

Enjoy your gardening and crafts.

**Sheila Burt**



## Wednesday Walks (lack of!)

No doubt you have noticed that Wednesday's weather continues to be dry and bright, and aren't we lucky to have the countryside on our doorsteps? Using the same route for my solitary permitted walk has been a great opportunity to observe the speed of this season. Since this started, coltsfoot has changed to cowslips, blackthorn to bluebells, catkins to keck. The fields on Bush Heath Lane still had last year's stubble and are now cultivated, harrowed and sown. In a few days tiny shoots developed into a haze of green - I think a field bean.

We are so lucky in this country to have this network of field paths, from the days when folk walked to work, market and church and Warwickshire Council do a good job of maintaining gates and stiles. But a gentle reminder: right of way is not right to roam, the fields are private land producing much needed food. So, for those who are new to the area and taking their exercise, please look for the arrows (yellow for footpaths, blue for bridleways) or check the OS map (can be found online).

Keep safe, we will walk together again one day, and enjoy this lovely place!

**Gillian Hare**



## The Harbury News – 1974 Revisited

I was pleased to discover that the April issue is available online, so thanks for that.

It prompted me to start reminiscing, since we all have enforced time on our hands at present.

My husband (John Moore) was one of the original editors in 1974, along with Diana Holt, Marian Millington and Alan Lord. Diana and I took turns to type the magazine, and I wrote a poem, explaining how I felt about my involvement. That can be found on page 36 of the July 1979 issue, if anyone fancies looking it up. For several years, H&L News was collated on our dining table, before the Tom Hauley Room was available.

How time flies, and how good it is to see the magazine is still so full of interest and so well supported.

**Anne Moore**

***The poem Anne refers to is reprinted below - Editors***

## A Typist's Lament

*(or "The Joys of Producing the Harbury & Ladbrooke News")*

Oh no! I don't believe it, it's typing day again.

It's washday too, but that's no use, it's pouring down with rain.

So, on with the blinkers, get to work –

No time for coffee, no time to shirk!

I heard those editors late last night –  
 Adding on pages with great delight.  
 "Thirty two! - Hey, that's a bit much" –  
 (I might be complaining in Double Dutch!)

"Let's buy a typewriter", Oh what fun!  
 I didn't realise just what we'd done.  
 Poor old typewriter bought for a song,  
 Five years later, still going strong.

I typed all day and into the night –  
 Please, please make everything fit in just right!  
 They've worked it out on the calculator –  
 so of course it will fit (sooner or later).

Add a bit here, chop a bit there,  
 Carry on typing - don't despair.  
 There'll be room for that photo, I suppose –  
 I'm sure he won't mind if I cut off his nose!

Now it's gone to the printers - sigh with relief,  
 "Stapling's on Friday", says the chief.  
 It's surprising how many friends you can lose  
 Saying "Come round on Friday, we're stapling the News"!

Saturday morning it's distribution –  
 (So many folks make their contribution).  
 "Get these delivered as fast as you can"-  
 That's the plea from the editor-man.

Then it's Sunday and all is done.  
 Let's say once more, "Oh isn't it fun?"  
 Just wait for that 'phone call - it can't be long –  
 "Do you REALISE - you've spelt my name wrong?"!!!!

**Anne Moore**



## A Sensory History of Harbury

We use our senses to interpret the world around us. The five physical senses, sight, hearing, smell, touch and taste, provide information to our brains to allow us to decide what to do, where to go, and how to solve problems. To those five we might add three other 'senses', memory (what we did in the past in a similar situation), imagination (what might be a possible solution) and common sense (what's the most practical thing to do). Today we tend to think of sight as our most important sense as it is now the main one we use to gather information. We watch TV, we read the paper or a book, we navigate visually (or by using a satnav). But it has not always been the case and previously Harbury residents almost certainly used their other senses as much, if not more than sight.



If we went back two hundred years, to 1820, then the primary sense was probably hearing. Most residents of Harbury worked on the land. Few had been to school and while some might have been functionally literate in that they could write their name, they would not have been able to read. So how did most people learn about what was going on in the world? Almost certainly by word-of-mouth. People who had been to market day in Southam or Leamington might bring back news of significant local, national,

or international events. In 1820 that included the scandal of the new King, George IV, excluding his estranged wife from his coronation. The news would have been passed around in the village pubs or workplaces and so people heard rather than read the news. Even people's everyday routines were decided by sound, whether it be birds heralding the dawn, the bells of All Saints ringing to indicate church services (where people would listen to a sermon), or a visit to a pub to enjoy live music (played from memory or improvised with skill, rather than being read from printed music).

The most common occupations in the village made use of the full range of senses. Butchers would use smell or taste to see if the meat was good; carpenters used touch as they worked wood; seamstresses made use of their nimble fingers, operating as much by touch and routine as sight. If you wanted to find the local blacksmith you would simply listen for the sound of hammering, while the local tannery would be easily found by the smell. No need for google maps! The most common occupation involved working on the land as a farmer or market gardener. Touch would tell you when the earth had the right texture and temperature for planting, while touch, taste, smell and memory would tell you when the crop was ready. The land itself would smell quite differently from today since before mains sewerage most people simply used the contents of their chamber-pots as a free fertiliser.

Today we live in a different sensory world. In normal times we hear cars, planes and trains passing by and few of us work on the land. But with much of modern life on pause during lockdown many of us are walking the local



footpaths during our daily exercise and are hearing and smelling nature in new ways. In so doing we have a chance to experience something of the world of our forebears.

**Tim Lockley**



## **Warwickshire Trading Standards**

Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards are aware that criminals are trying to exploit the national coronavirus crisis and take advantage of innocent people.

Fraudsters purporting to be from the police or your bank are targeting elderly and vulnerable people to try and steal money from their accounts. The callers will often seem genuine, offering you the opportunity to call them back to prove their identity. They establish their trust with you by confirming some of your personal details and will then make up a story in which money in your bank account needs to be transferred or withdrawn.

### **The police or your bank will never:**

- Contact you out of the blue and ask for your personal details, including your PIN number, password or account details.
- Ask you to transfer money into another account to 'protect' your money from fraud or for other fraud reasons.
- Ask you to withdraw cash to hand to someone for safe keeping.
- Send someone to your home to collect cash, bank cards, account details or PIN numbers.

### **Protect yourself**

- If you are unsure whether someone on the phone is genuine, hang up and then use a different line to call the organisation they are purporting to be from using a number from the phone book or internet, to verify their identity.
- Don't give out your personal information to anyone over the phone, including your PIN number and bank account or card details.
- If you have given out your personal banking details to someone over the phone or have given someone your card details, contact your bank immediately to cancel your card.

### **Where to go for help**

- If you receive a call from someone purporting to be a police officer and asking you to withdraw or transfer money, call Warwickshire Police on 101 - the more intelligence we receive, the more likely we are to catch those responsible.
- If you have been a victim of a telephone scam, please report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via their website: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>
- For help and advice on scams, contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

Warwickshire Trading Standards is also warning residents and businesses to beware of COVID-19 'smishing' and 'SMS spoofing' scams. 'Smishing' is where a fraudster will send out a bogus text message purporting to be from a genuine organisation or business. 'SMS Spoofing' also involves the sending of fake text messages using specialist software. However, in this case the messages appear in the chain of texts, next to genuine messages the mobile phone user has already received, making them harder to spot and appear more plausible. 'Smishing' and 'SMS spoofing' text messages may also be followed up by phone calls from the fraudsters! The bogus text messages usually ask recipients to phone a number connected to the fraudsters or follow a link to a bogus copycat website. In doing so the fraudsters attempt to steal personal or financial information or trick people in to making payments to them.

**Latest scam text messages to look out for include those that:**

- claim to link you to a GOV.UK website to claim COVID-19 relief payments, council tax or business rate 'holidays' or free school dinner funds or similar.
- suggest you have been seen leaving your home on multiple occasions in breach of lock-down laws and levying 'fines'.
- offer "health supplements" that falsely claim to prevent you becoming infected with COVID-19.
- appear to come from your bank and relate to mortgage holidays or other financial support (business or consumer).

**Advice for residents and businesses**

- Be wary of any text message you receive, even if it appears to come from an organisation you know and trust.
- Don't follow links in text messages or phone any numbers provided.
- If you believe a text message is genuine and require more information, contact the organisation via their website by typing their genuine web address into your browser.
- For more advice visit The Money Advice Service: <https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/blog/how-to-spot-and-report-fake-text-message-and-smishing-scams>

**Simon Cripwell, Trading Standards Officer**

## **Life Gets Tee-Jus, Don't It**

*These are the lyrics to a song written by Carson Robison in 1948, although it has been recorded by a number of other artists including Hank Williams Jr. Betty Winkfield feels that in these troubled times the words are most appropriate.*

The sun comes up and the sun goes down. Hands on the clock they just keep  
going around.  
I just get up and it's time to lay down. Life gets tee-jus don't it?

My shoes untied but I don't care. I really ain't figuring on going anywhere.  
I just have to wash and comb my hair, and that's just wasted effort.

The water in the well it's getting lower and lower can't take a bath for six month's  
more.  
But I've heard it said and it's probably true, that too much bathing it'll weaken you.

I open the door and the flies swarm in. I shut the door and I'm sweating again.  
I move too fast and I crack my shin. It's just one darn thing after another.

Old brown mule he must be sick. Jabbed him in the rump with a stick.  
He humped his back but he didn't kick. Something cockeyed somewhere.

A mouse a-chewin on the pantry door. Fool's been at it for a month or more.  
When he gets through he sure going to be sore. There ain't a dang thing in there.

Hound dog howlin' so forlorn. Laziest dog that was ever born.  
He's a-howlin' 'cause he's a-settin' on a thorn. An' just too tired to move over.

The tin roof leaks and chimney leans. An' there's a hole in the seat of my old blue  
jeans. And I ett the last of the pork and beans. Just can't depend on nothin'.

The cows gone dry and the hens won't lay. Fish quit biting last Saturday.  
Troubles pile up day by day. Now I'm getting dandruff.

Grief and misery, pains and woes, debts and taxes and so it goes.  
Now it seems I'm getting a cold in the nose. Life gets tee-jus don't it?



## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

### ***Dear Editors***

*We would like to express our thanks to the many people who have shown us such kindness and support following Ted's unexpected death in early April. In this difficult time of lockdown, the spirit of the village has really shone through. We were so lucky to have moved here and to have been so warmly accepted into the community. I am sure we shall be staging an event to celebrate Ted's many musical talents in the future.*

*Best wishes to you all, keep safe.*

***Sue, Joe, Matt, Annabel and Toby Crum***



## Sixties Music Quiz Answers (Page 9)

1960 a) Russ Conway b) The Queen announced that she was expecting her third child (Prince Andrew)

1961 a) *O Sole Mio* (subtract one point if you said 'Just One Cornetto!')

b) *Wooden Heart*

1962 a) The Tornados b) The first communications satellite launched by the USA

1963 a) *Twist and Shout* b) Brian Poole & the Tremoloes

1964 a) The Bachelors b) Pirate Radio Caroline adopted the song as their theme tune.

1965 a) The McCoys b) Andrew Loog Oldham (the Rolling Stones' manager and producer)

1966 a) *Paint it Black* by the Rolling Stones b) *Good Vibrations* by the Beach Boys

1967 a) *The Last Waltz* b) Arnold George Dorsey (no points for his other stage name Gerry Dorsey)

1968 a) Spain b) *Congratulations*

1969 a) *Je T'aime.....Moi Non Plus* by Jane Birkin & Serge Gainsbourg

b) *Si Tu Dois Partir*. (A French version of Bob Dylan's *If You Gotta Go, Go Now*)

### How did you do?

**20** - Don't That Beat All

**15-19** - Almost There

**10-14** - Halfway to Paradise

**5-9** - In the Middle of Nowhere

**1-5** - Down in the Boondock

**0** - Wipe Out

## Answers to General Knowledge Quiz (Page 37)

- |                 |               |                 |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1) Spar         | 2) Oaks       | 3) Daniel Craig |
| 4) Borneo       | 5) Babe Ruth  | 6) Lancaster    |
| 7) Albatross    | 8) Matterhorn | 9) Rain Man     |
| 10) Lion        | 11) Snare     | 12) Earl        |
| 13) Caribou     | 14) Observer  | 15) Bread       |
| 16) Shaftesbury | 17) Oxfam     | 18) Maserati    |
| 19) Dana        | 20) Anaconda  |                 |
-