

# Harbury & Ladbroke News

Is published monthly and reflects all aspects of local life.

**September 2020**

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## IN THIS ISSUE

## Page

EDITORIAL .....	2
HARBURY DIARY & REFUSE ROTA .....	3
FROM THE RECTOR & CHURCH NEWS .....	4
LADBROKE NEWS .....	8
CLUBS & SOCIETIES .....	20
SPORTING ACTIVITIES .....	29
LIBRARY & CLUB .....	31
GARDENING & NATURE .....	36
GENERAL SECTION .....	38
ADVERTISING.....	42

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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

Hurrah!! Welcome back! We are very happy to finally get the magazine back to a full print run and delivered to our subscribers. We know that many of you have missed receiving the printed copy preferring this to reading it electronically. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, our printers, who we had been with for 16 years closed back in March and, as they still do not know if they will open up again, the only answer for us was to move to another company. We hope our new relationship with Warwick Printing will enable us to develop the magazine over the coming years.

We do like to receive photographs to accompany articles as we feel they make the content more interesting. To ensure that the print quality is of a good standard, can we ask that when sending in photos they are of a high resolution and not too dark in colour or blurry. Hopefully this will make all the difference.

Of course, now we are back to some normality, we really do need to collect the annual subscription for 2020/21. The magazine relies on its advertising income to help keep our subscription rates low, but unfortunately because of the pandemic we will have lost five months advertising revenue. However, we have managed to keep the cost of the magazine down for this year and it will be at a discounted rate of £5.00. With this edition you will find a flyer explaining that there are three ways to pay. However, if you have any queries with these arrangements, please call the Distribution Manager or the Editorial Office - telephone numbers are on page one of this issue. If you are one of those households who over the last five months has already paid the subscription electronically, you should have received an email acknowledging this.

With lockdown restrictions having been eased and more villagers being able to get out and about, the Volunteer Network that Harbury Parish Council set up is winding down its activities. We would like to acknowledge what a brilliant community effort this has been, literally a lifeline to some of those needing help. Well done to all involved in Harbury and also to those in Ladbroke too who organised a Covid community support group.

Do make a point of reading the article about the Ladbroke Heritage Project and the amazing repair work being done to All Saints Church. One of the requirements of receiving the grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund was that the church is required to hold a number of events and activities. The article gives details of how to help with 'Who's in the Churchyard project', building a bird box with younger members of the family or taking part in the online Heritage Open day.


Finally, we were saddened this month to hear that County Cllr Bob Stevens has passed away. Bob served the communities of Harbury and Ladbroke as a district and county councillor for many years, as well as being involved in a number of local armed forces charities including Galanos House. He will be greatly missed.

# Harbury Diary

## SEPTEMBER

- Sun 6** Holy Communion, 9.00am, at Church  
Church is open for prayer from 1.00pm - 7.00pm
- Tue 8** e-Wheels Online Quiz, 7.05pm, register at  
[www.virtualquizevents.com](http://www.virtualquizevents.com) (see article)
- Wed 9** Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park  
Church is open for prayer from 1.00pm - 7.00pm
- Thurs 10** Harbury WI Meeting, 7.45pm, Harbury Village Club (TBC)
- Sat 12** Harbury Village Show Walkabout, 11.00am - 4.00pm,
- Sun 13** Church is open for prayer from 1.00pm - 7.00pm
- Wed 16** Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park  
Church is open for prayer from 1.00pm - 7.00pm
- Sun 20** Church is open for prayer from 1.00pm - 7.00pm  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD,  
HARBURY OR EMAIL [ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK)
- Wed 23** Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park  
Church is open for prayer from 1.00pm - 7.00pm
- Thurs 24** ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY,  
HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO [ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK) BY  
5.30PM  
Harbury Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, on zoom
- Sat 26** Harbury Local Market, 10.00am - 1.00pm, Harbury School  
field and playground (entrance in Park Lane)
- Sun 27** Church is open for prayer from 1.00pm - 7.00pm

## Refuse Collection Rota

	Deppers Bridge	Harbury, Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge outlying properties	Collection Week
	Wed	Fri	
September	9	11	Grey Bin
	16	18	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	23	25	Grey Bin
	30		Green & Blue Lid Bins
		2	Green & Blue Lid Bins
Oct	7	9	Grey Bin
	14	16	Green & Blue Lid Bins



## From the Rector

**Alison Abbott (Reader)**

### Hope

A few weeks ago our news was full of the shocking news of an enormous explosion in Beirut. Over 200 people died, thousands were injured and tens of thousands made homeless. The explosion also destroyed most of Lebanon's grain stores meaning that food shortages in the country are likely. This is on top of a failing economy, an influx of many refugees from Syria, Iraq and Palestine, and the impact of Covid 19.

Amongst all this suffering my eye was caught this week by the story of Maya Hussein. She is a glass artist who has spent the last 20 years restoring the historic stained glass in Beirut destroyed in the civil war. On 4<sup>th</sup> August all her work was reduced to dust in the explosion. Her reaction was to say that Beirut will survive and that she would recreate all that had been destroyed. She had done it once, and could do it again (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c88p951myv0t/beirut-port-explosion>). This demonstrates amazing resilience and set me off thinking about what make us resilient in the face of both minor setbacks and major disasters.

Maya reflected how heartbreaking it was, and that is important. We shouldn't gloss over our pain, disappointment and grief in a hurry to get to an answer. We need to acknowledge it, sit with it, feel it and not rush on in our haste to get over it. Our emotions have important things to tell us. We need to ask what am I feeling? What's driving it? How am I responding to it? And listen to the answers. But mixed in with the heartbreak was hope.

Sometimes we have rather poetic, romantic ideas of hope, but hope is more than a fuzzy wish and longing for things to be better. Maya said that she had hope, strength and a will. This was not just a vague wish for things to be different, this was a steely determination to make it better. As Anne Lamott said, "Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: You don't give up." Hope is a reaching out for something that is good, but not yet here; something that is hard to get, yet possible to get. Hope is the product of failure and disappointment, not of easy solutions. If achieving something is fast, fun and easy you probably will not need to draw on hope. Hope is born out of a goal, a plan to get there and knowing that you have the means to do it. If we have hope for the future we can bear the discomfort of today.

Having a dream is easy, once we start making a plan to achieve our dream it becomes a goal, but sometimes believing that we can achieve it can elude us. We may need the encouragement and support of friends to help us.

When we hope in God we can be confident that God will not let us down. Often when we use the word hope it is because we are uncertain about the outcome. When we hope in God we can be confident that it will happen because we hope in God who has been faithful in the past and will continue to be faithful. A God who keeps promises and does not disappoint.



## From the Churchwardens

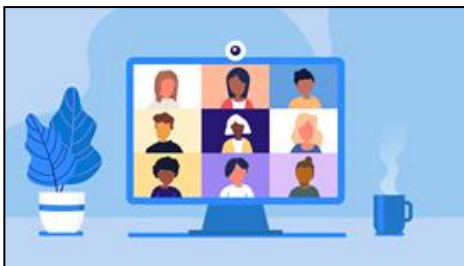
**Liz & Michael**

We're back in church!

We held three services in Harbury Church in August. Two communion services were led by Rev Ann Mulley and a morning service by Rev Bob Clucas. It was a joy to be back to have services especially as we have not met in the church building since the end of December 2019. We are socially distanced in church, take bread only for communion and sadly don't sing hymns. There will be a communion service on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00am - further services in September will be notified via the pewsheet and the website <https://allsaintsharbury.org>

Should you wish to come please call Liz a day or so before the service so we can best plan the seating to accommodate a maximum of about 60-65 people. If you see Liz outside church before a service with a clipboard she is "taking the register" and desperately working out who is who behind the mask.

On the two Sundays we did not meet in church we met by Zoom. Alison Abbott led one service and Bob Clucas the other - both ably assisted by members of their family plus others. We have also been having "coffee after church" by Zoom which gives a chance to chat. Details and links to these are sent out by email so if you wish to be added to the list please email: [communication@allsaintsharbury.org](mailto:communication@allsaintsharbury.org)



It looks as though the licensing service for our new vicar, Andy Batchelor, may be held mid-October but where and what format this takes is yet to be decided.

A big thank you to those who have been maintaining the churchyard throughout this "time" (You know what I mean). Thanks to Bob, Ron, Heather, Gillian, Alice and Izzy for all their grass cutting and weeding and also to Bob, Bob, Gillian, Tom, Reg, Michael and June for raking up the long grass recently.

The church is still open on Wednesdays and Sundays from 1pm to 7pm should you wish to visit or just to get out of the rain - but avoid the bit by the door as a few drops land there. Roofers have been called.

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

Liz McBride (tel: 612421) and Michael Vincent (tel: 614806) or email us on [warden@allsaintsharbury.org](mailto:warden@allsaintsharbury.org)



And still it goes on! Another month without our meeting, when normally we start our year with a service. The committee are consulting on ways to get together, and at least there are some services back in Church if you feel comfortable to go. We are indebted to Rev Ann and the wardens for all their efforts to keep us safe, and we are really looking forward to welcoming Andy, our new rector, and his family. Meanwhile, let us continue to pray for everyone affected by this situation, and give thanks for our blessings living here.



## What Harbury Church Means to You

A piece in the newspaper about house sales caught our eye. It reported that estate agents found it easier to sell properties, and at higher prices, in villages and towns which had an active church. Apparently, the presence of a church gave the settlement a centre and a sense of community - not just to church-goers, but to anyone looking for a place to live.

I suppose that's not really surprising. A church building gives a material focus. If the church is old, it gives a sense of history and continuity. It says that people have chosen this place to live and raise families for years - maybe centuries - and were happy to worship here with their neighbours.

It's also not surprising that the Heat, Light and Stone appeal for All Saints Church in Harbury has been so successful. It isn't just the Sunday Regulars, or even the four-wheel attenders (pushchair, wedding car and hearse!), who have dug deep and supported the repair and restoration of the building. There are moving stories here - people donating to the church where they married decades before, working people with time on their hands offering their skills - and the result has been an unparalleled community effort.

When the appeal started, we invited people to write anonymously about what the church meant to them. Over the next few months, we shall feature their words. Some are amusing; some, moving. Here are the first two:

***"Harbury Church has been part of my life since I moved to the village nearly 50 years ago. I was dubious at first that it would be full of pious people. How wrong! Nearly everyone was warm and welcoming. As a woman with a young child I never felt pressed into doing anything. But I found I did want to help, and I learnt some new skills and made some good friends I still have today. One introduced me to church embroidery, and that has been wonderful to do, even though recently we have had to repair robes as the church mice found them tasty!"***

*When my first husband became seriously ill and eventually died the church community was a great support. Only there when I needed them and never intrusive.*

*Five years later I met my present husband and five years after that we were married. We were so pleased that Father Roy Brown agreed to marry us. It was a celebration with all our friends and family. We held our reception in the Tom Hauley room, and it was catered by a village company.*

*After Father Mackley retired the diocese couldn't afford to re-decorate the vicarage, so a crowd of us got together. We spent the whole of the school summer holiday painting, wallpapering and making the home a welcome place for Canon Rowe and his family. Fliss Harris's father Reg said he was too old to help, so he came over every morning and afternoon and made us all coffee and tea. Happy days!"*

***"My little granddaughter, age 4, often comes to stay with me over weekends. Her mum and dad (my son) do not live locally and are not church-goers. (Both have had interesting histories with faith-based experiences.) Without fail, the first thing she asks me is 'Are we going to church today, Grandma?' irrespective of whatever day of the week it is. Her mum and I often joke that she must think church is my second home - which is what it sometimes feels like.***

*I would like to think that she is so keen on coming with me because she really wants to learn about Jesus - but somehow I think the playing, the activities, the other children and, of course, the chocolate biscuits after the service also play a large part in her enthusiasm. It matters not. It's a precious moment when she is eager to show mummy and daddy what she has made at Children's Church and she reflects back to them what she has learned in very simple terms, as only a child can. I know that she feels welcomed and at home as soon as she comes through our doors."*

**The appeal is not yet over.** And there is still money to be raised and work to be done. Liz McBride, our treasurer, will be happy to accept donations of any size and in any form.

And I shall be happy to receive brief stories like those above on 'What Harbury Church means to me' for publication in Harbury and Ladbroke News, at [john23stringer@gmail.com](mailto:john23stringer@gmail.com)

Thank you.

### **All Saints Harbury Parochial Church Council**



**LOCAL FOODBANK** - there is a facility in the village to donate non-perishable food to your local Foodbank, which supplies the surrounding area, including Harbury. 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 your donations. Please observe all the usual safety advice and distancing. Thank you.

# Ladbroke News & Diary

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

Church Services and other events may change at short notice, please check relevant websites for up to date information.

## SEPTEMBER

### Sun 6 TRINITY 13

Family Communion 10.30am

Church Open for private prayer 11.30 - 4.00pm

Wed 9 Pause and Pray, 7.00 - 8.00pm, church

Zoom Parish Council meeting 7.30pm, online. If you wish to attend, email [ladbrokeparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:ladbrokeparishcouncil@gmail.com) for the link

Sat 12 Discover Ladbroke Church webinar, 2.30pm, online

### Sun 13 TRINITY 14

Holy Communion 9.00am

Church Open for Private Prayer 10.00am - 4.00pm

### Sun 20 TRINITY 15

Zoom church service 10.30am, on-line

Church Open for Private Prayer 2.00 - 4.00pm

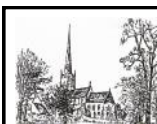
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY OR EMAIL [ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK)

Thurs 24 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO [ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK) BY 5.30PM

### Sun 27 TRINITY 16

Holy Communion 9.00am followed by Annual Church Meeting

Church Open for Private Prayer 11.00am - 4.00pm



## Ladbroke Church News

**Peter Rigby**

[www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk](http://www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk)

The go ahead to reopen the Church for Sunday worship came just too late for last month's edition but thank you to Martin at Ladbroke e-news for circulating the details which meant that we have had good attendances at our first three services.

Our services are going ahead subject to a number of Covid secure procedures, including mask wearing and social distancing. The latter means that our normal capacity of over 100 is reduced to about 30. We do not intend to introduce a booking system at the moment, although this may be necessary on occasions. However, if you are an occasional worshipper or are bringing visitors, it would be helpful to have some advance notice so that we can plan accordingly - please email [ladbrokechurch@gmail.com](mailto:ladbrokechurch@gmail.com) if this applies.



We are conscious that not everyone yet feels comfortable attending Church in person and so for the time being we are continuing with a combination of services in Church and on-line services, using Zoom. The programme for September is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30am	Family Communion
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> September	7.00pm	Pause and Pray
<i>Sun 13<sup>th</sup> September</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>
<i>Sun 20<sup>th</sup> September</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Online Service (no service in Church)</i>
<i>Sun 27<sup>th</sup> September</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>

Please note that the schedule for the end of the month (those services in italics) is still provisional at the time of writing and is therefore subject to change.

The Church is now open for private prayer on Sundays from the morning service until 4.00pm and from 2.00pm - 4.00pm on those Sundays when the service is on line.

The repairs to the building are continuing apace with stonemasons working on the tower and six windows in the Chancel have now been taken out for repair. As a consequence, the Chancel is currently full of scaffolding but sheeted off to enable us to continue to use the rest of the building.

Our Community Activity programme that formed part of our Heritage Lottery Funding application is also now getting underway. This includes an online webinar for the Heritage Open Day on 12<sup>th</sup> September - details are on the church website at

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13118/page/62009/view/>

Don't be put off that the first set of tickets say sold out, more have been released!

Please read Nicky Lewis' article in this edition about all the other activities that are planned.



Finally, we are hoping that Rev Andy Batchelor, our new Priest in Charge, will be licensed early in October. Details next month!

During this period when we can't meet as normal, a number of our members have been joining online classes. These are organised both at local Federation level and nationally from our college at Denman.

Although Denman is likely to have to close, it is good to know that online classes will continue. These are available to everyone, not just WI members, so do have a look at the programme of events at <https://www.denman.org.uk>.

Meanwhile our committee members are discussing how and when we might be able to meet again in person. This is slightly complicated as our village hall is unavailable because of work starting in September. However, our Federation office opens again in September and it is hoped to offer regular events from October. You might like to have lunch with Richard Coles, enjoy



a poetry workshop or grand day out at Windsor; or perhaps a taste of Italy, Indian block printing or visit to Manchester Christmas markets might appeal, rounding off the year with a 1940s themed Christmas celebration. Details are available on the Federation website.

Our members are enthusiastic about the WI but don't get the idea that this poem reflects the full range of our interests; you will appreciate that it is very much tongue in cheek!

### **My Mum's getting pickled with the WI**

Our Mum has joined an army and it's happened late in life,  
It's an army just for ladies, Dad now feels he's lost his wife.

He was told "just Tuesday evenings" so that's what he assumed,  
But our Mum now eats and breathes it, she is totally consumed.

She called it Women's Institute that first night that she'd been  
She said they sung Jerusalem and ate scones with clotted cream.

Her excitement was intense and I felt happy for my Mother  
Though a lot of what she said went in one ear and out the other.

All that was 15 months ago so I thought I'd write this ditty  
To say that Mum's now quite involved and sits on the committee.

She makes jam, she knits and crochets and also pickles onions  
And last Tuesday they were lectured on the best way to cure bunions.

So Tuesday evenings in our house will never be the same  
It's all so very different now, yet no one is to blame.

While Mum exchanges recipes and discusses currant jelly  
Dad sits by the fireside with his feet up watching telly.

**Author Unknown**



**Ladbroke Photography Club**

**Kip Warr**



Our online gallery of photographs continues to grow as members continue to upload their images. We started the site in February, when lockdown began, and now have more than 150 pictures, of which a selection is shown here. The website is still open and we expect that our members will contribute yet more (our current theme is any photos taken this year).

**Left: Early Bird at Boddington Reservoir by Richard Bedwell**

**Right: Resting Up by Tom Burnell**





## Scarecrow weekend, Long Itchington by David Hannan

The gallery is open to the public and everyone is welcome: <http://kwarr.co.uk/photography>

If you would like more information about the club - and hopefully contribute your own photographs (it is optional!) - please contact [ladbrokephotoclub@btinternet.com](mailto:ladbrokephotoclub@btinternet.com)

## Waiting for the Peacock to open by Barbara and John Bicknell



## Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Draw for July 2020

£50	Carol Lane	£50	Mike Todman
£25	Chris Ennew	£25	Steve Moreton
£25	Keith Archer	£10	Joley Malby
£10	Betty Winkfield	£10	Laura Taylor
£10	Russell Griffith	£10	John Liverton

**Margaret Bosworth**



## Ladbroke General Section

### Bob Stevens

Bob Stevens, our county councillor died last Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July aged 79 and his funeral service was held at St Mary's Church, Warwick on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

Bob, who was one of the Warwickshire County Council's longest serving members, represented Feldon area, which included Ladbroke. He had been a County Councillor since 1997 and the County



Council's deputy leader from 2005 to 2013, serving also as chairman of the council from 2015 to 2016. Prior to that, Bob had served two terms from 1992 to 1996 and 1999 to 2011 on Stratford District Council during which time he was also leader.

Bob spent a long career in the Royal Navy where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He retained a strong interest in the armed forces and was heavily involved in the work of the British Legion as president alongside his county council duties. He also represented Warwickshire County Council, chairing the Coventry Solihull and Warwickshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Joint Committee, where public sector agencies pledge support and help armed forces personnel and was also president of the Warwick Royal Naval Association. Bob was closely involved with Galanos House in Southam, a care home for those with connections to the Forces as well as Poppy Lodge, a similar facility specialising in care for ex-Armed Forces personnel and their spouses with dementia.

Besides the Armed Forces, Bob had a passion for sport, particularly cricket and rugby and he encouraged many young people in his ward to get involved while giving his time to help officiate rugby matches.

Although he had not been in the best of health for some time, Bob continued to serve the County Council and Warwickshire with pride and distinction. His work as chair of the Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee saw him represent Warwickshire in a national scheme, establishing a more secure pension for Warwickshire's workforce. Abiding memories of Bob, however, will be of a sociable gentleman who was at home in the convivial atmosphere of a pub, notably The Blue Lias which was fortuitously close to his home in Stockton. It has been said by many that much wisdom and kind support was dispensed there, along with the beer. Bob will be sorely missed by all who

had the good fortune to work with him in his many and varied roles. Bob is survived by his sons Peter and Michael and his two grandchildren Corin and Tilly.

Derek Batty, Chairman of Ladbroke Parish Council said *"As a member of Ladbroke Parish Council I have known Bob for over 20 years and his support for our village was always appreciated. He enjoyed the commitment and enthusiasm from the Ladbroke Councillors and villagers and provided enthusiastic support to improvement and assistance whenever he could. Bob was a great supporter of the British Legion, Galanos House, The Royal Navy, and other armed services, but also a close friend of Ladbroke. He was an excellent link to Warwickshire County Council which will be greatly missed."*

I was always impressed that Bob, who's ward covered many villages, most of them bigger than ours, always came to Ladbroke Parish Council meetings (unless there was a clash with another of his council duties), to make sure we knew what was going on at WCC, with HS2, who was the best contact to discuss issues and when grants were available.

**Jackie West**



### **Ladbroke Heritage Project**

Last month we posted photos showing the start of our repair works. The clock has been taken down and sent off for repairs. I hope you will come and look at the fancy scaffolding wrapped around the church tower and Chancel. Look closely and you will see highly skilled stonemasons beaver away as they start to repair the tower's lovely striped stonework. It'll take them the rest of the year to finish it. We hope to be able to offer hard hat tours when and if Covid regulations permit.

Some of our windows were removed last month and the beautiful East window will join them soon at a specialist stained glass workshop for repair; it'll be a while before they return. Have a look at previous editions of the Harbury & Ladbroke News for articles on the stained glass windows by Jackie West; they really are very special. Once the work has progressed more, we hope to offer short video sessions of the repair work (unfortunately trips to the workshop are a Covid casualty).

But that is only part of the story. The National Lottery Heritage Fund may have granted us £339,000 to repair the church stonework and windows, but in return, they require us to deliver a programme of activities to share our heritage with a wide range of people, and leave a lasting legacy. These activities will run over the next two years, and will involve Talks and Tours, Workshops, Family Events, a Photography Competition, study of 'Who is in the Churchyard?' (a project to document the gravestones) as well as a Village History Trail, Nature Activities and more. And of course, the fascinating story of Alice and Robert Dudley.....we will be bringing this to you in later editions!

So please join with us in this exciting programme by volunteering, coming to our events or supporting us online and/or social media. To launch our activity programme we have devised Covid friendly events which we can run right now.

## Calling all Graveyard Sleuths!



First up is our 'Who's in the Churchyard Project' led by Caryl Thompson. This entails taking photographs of the gravestones in the churchyard and uploading them, along with information about the person, onto a National Database. It is a big job – we have about 300 graves to catalogue, and so far we have processed about 25! **Help!!** If you fancy a bit of sleuthing, have a couple of hours to spare, and a smart phone, please come along and help out. Our first workshop is/was on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 10am – 12 noon** and we will be running many more, but it is something you could do, in your own time (check with us first for access).

Please let us know if you are interested or want more information, we will give you full training and help to get going. Contact:

Caryl Thompson

carylthompson123@gmail.com

Nicky Lewis

nicolalewis1958@gmail.com



## Fancy a Snoop Around the Church From your Armchair?

### Then why not join Heritage Open Days Online?

This is the weekend when churches and other heritage sites all over the country normally open their doors to visitors. For the past five years Ladbroke Church has taken part and Jackie West and Linda Doyle have put on some great exhibitions on a range of themes. This year Heritage Open Days has gone online. If you would like a virtual guided tour of our church on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 2.30pm, Jackie will be giving a guided tour. This is a free event, but you will need to book. Tickets are available from:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-ladbroke-church-webinar-tickets-113874102506>

## Coming up next.....

**Build a bird Box.** A perfect fun family activity for October half term. We provide the materials, you just turn up and build a bird box to put up around



Ladbroke. Watch out for further details in the next edition of the Harbury & Ladbroke News.

And finally....we are pleased to announce that Harbury based Richard Marshall-Hardy will be joining our team as our Graphic Designer, and Rory Pickin has kindly volunteered to set up and run our Social Media. So, find us at on our Ladbroke Heritage page on Facebook and @ladbroke\_heritage on Instagram.

**Nicky Lewis**  
**Activities Co-ordinator, Ladbroke Heritage Project**



## **From Your District Councillor for Ladbroke**

As some people may know, I suffered a heart attack on 16<sup>th</sup> July. I would to thank the very many people who have expressed get well messages towards me in various forms since then. I owe a great debt to the NHS and in particular St Wulfstan Surgery in Southam, the emergency ambulance service and UHCW/Walsgrave Hospital.

Rapid intervention and excellent care appears to have averted substantial damage and I understand my prospects for recovery are good, but this will take a little time.

Messages of support have come from many directions across communities and the local government and political spectrum. The leader of the Lib Dem Group Dr Susan Juned has arranged cover for District Council matters. My colleague Louis Adam, the District Councillor for the adjoining ward of Long Itchington and Stockton will guide you with any queries where he can. [Louis.adam@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Louis.adam@stratford-dc.gov.uk). Other councillors nearby have also offered to help out for the time being. I am so grateful for these offers.

In the midst of my own difficulties I was most distressed to hear that County Councillor Bob Stevens had died unexpectedly.

I have known Bob for about 24 years, living in adjoining villages well before I was elected. For a time he was my county councillor while I was his district councillor. During my first eight years as a district councillor he was also a district councillor as well, and we occasionally shared lifts to meetings and planning site visits. Although we were in different political parties our views and interests often aligned in getting the best for our part of the world in the east of Stratford district. When I was first elected we successfully worked together as a team to constrain excessive quarrying around Stockton. Over the years, we both did our best to resist and make the best of HS2, I as a former parliamentary candidate and Bob latterly in a formal role at the County.

Since May 2019 our areas of representation overlapped, with about 65% of my ward falling with Bob's county division. We saw one another every few weeks at the parish councils and meetings for Fenny Compton, Ladbroke, Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick and Marston parishes. Quite often, issues



crossed county and district responsibility areas such as speed limits and flooding around new developments and we collaborated to address these, speaking on the phone most weeks.

Although he had been ill on and off for a while, just lately he had seemed somewhat better. He told me he had been having some problems with his circulatory system. He approached that with humour. Having been a Royal Navy engineering officer he told me he asked the medics if they could not just flush the pipework out a bit.

On the weekend of his death, I phoned round the village parish councils where we shared responsibility. Whilst not easy for me with my own situation as I recover from a heart attack, it was something I wanted to do as we have worked together for those communities over the past 15 months or so. The feedback from there and elsewhere was, of course, reflective of the esteem in which he was held - a gentlemen with a long service to the community.

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

## Orphaned Bat Returns to Ladbroke



A young pipistrelle, found by Harrison and Morgan inside their house in Hedges Close has come back to Ladbroke. For two weeks it was cared for by Tricia of the Warwickshire Bat Group, in the company of another

pipistrelle found on the same day. First of all she fed them special milk, then chopped up mealworms. They could practice flying inside a large netted cage in her attic but the youngsters still had lots to learn and so it was important they were released where they could join other bats.

Ladbroke Church recently put three bat boxes up as part of its All Saints for All Generations project, supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, as the repairs to the stonework will fill in a crevice used as a bat roost. So, on a warm dry evening Tricia brought the orphans to Ladbroke churchyard and climbed a ladder with the bats inside an old tea towel. She opened it by the entrance slit to the box and the bats instinctively scurried inside. Later that evening they would have left the box and joined other bats foraging for dinner. Did you know a single bat can eat a thousand midges a night?





Tricia also had a Whiskered Bat with her for release in Southam later that evening; this had been found at one of the new show homes. If you find a grounded or injured bat call the National Bat Helpline on 0345 1300 228.

**Jackie West**

## **HS2** Archaeology Along the HS2 Route

Nick Finch is the lead archaeologist for Fusion, doing the preparatory works for HS2 as far north as Southam. At a webinar on 26<sup>th</sup> August Nick told us about the findings of their investigations so far. It was fascinating to hear about the techniques used and that the section between Brackley and Southam appears to have been well populated during the late Iron Age and then busy producing food for Roman towns.

The archaeologists started with geophysical studies using ground penetrating radar. This found a number of areas of potential interest with clear indications of clusters of man-made features such as trenches, part of stock control systems, walls and trackways. More detailed studies of key areas are now in progress. The next step is machine dug trenches, 2m wide and 50m long, these have revealed ditches containing with pottery fragments, post holes, pits etc. The trench results lead to decisions about areas for "mitigation" i.e. a more detailed study. We heard how one lucky archeologist has found a lady buried wearing hair pins, with a coiled silver ring on her finger and an amber bracelet. Near Boddington/Wormleighton they have found evidence of a "banjo enclosure" where stock would have been funnelled into a circular area surrounded by a ditch, dug using antler tools!

Near to Ladbroke, the next few months will disclose more about the deserted medieval village of Radbourne and at least one Romano-British site. As land round here has not been disturbed much over the intervening centuries (we still have visible ridge and furrow in the fields) Nick is hopeful that there will be high quality finds. Next year Fusion will tell and show us what they have found and learnt. Covid permitting this will be face to face, maybe even viewing platforms at one or more local dig sites.

**Jackie West**

## Classical Music Quiz

September sees the 'Last Night of the Proms' which recently ran into controversy as to whether or not to sing the lyrics to 'Rule Britannia!' and 'Land of Hope and Glory'. In Ladbroke we were due to screen the concert in the Village Hall but the ongoing Covid restrictions have not allowed it to go ahead. However, to compensate here's a classical music quiz.



Listed below are musical descriptions of 20 well-known pieces of music and their composers. However, each of these pieces has another name by which it is commonly known.

### How many can you identify?

1. **Beethoven:** Symphony no. 6 in F major op.68
2. **Mozart:** Symphony no.41 in C major K.551
3. **Britten:** Variations and fugue on a theme of Purcell op.34
4. **Clarke:** Prince of Denmark's March in D major
5. **Vivaldi:** Violin Concerto no.1 in E major
6. **J. S. Bach:** Orchestral suite no.3 in D major (second movement)
7. **Beethoven:** Symphony no.9 in D major op.125 (fourth movement)
8. **Haydn:** Symphony no.94 in G major
9. **Chopin:** Waltz in D flat major op.64 no.1
10. **Schubert:** Symphony no.8 in B minor D759
11. **Mendelssohn:** Symphony no.4 in A major op.90
12. **Dvorak:** Symphony no.9 in E minor op.95
13. **J.S. Bach:** Cantata in B flat major BWV208
14. **Schubert:** Quintet D667 op.114
15. **Mendelssohn:** The Hebrides Overture in B minor op.26
16. **Elgar:** Pomp & Circumstance March no.1 in D major op.39
17. **Shostakovich:** Symphony no.7 in C major op.60
18. **Tchaikovsky:** Symphony no.6 in B minor op.74
19. **Mozart:** Serenade no.13 in G major K.525
20. **Saint-Saens:** Symphony no.3 in C minor op.78

Answers on page 41.



## Love in a Box Christmas Shoebox Appeal

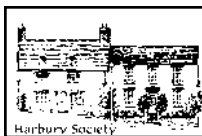
This is an early notice that this year's local shoebox collection for Teams4u will be a little different. The appeal is still going ahead but because of current restrictions I will be happy to receive only completed shoeboxes. Dates will be confirmed nearer the time, but likely to be the beginning of November. However, if you would like ideas of what to start gathering to put inside your shoebox or craft ideas of things to make to go inside please see their website <https://teams4u.com/shoebox-appeal/> This also has a useful step-by-step guide to completing a shoebox. As usual it is suggested that each box comes with a donation of £2.50 to cover transportation.



Many thanks in anticipation of your support for this worthwhile project. Each shoebox makes a huge difference to the life of children and their families. Any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Sue Wright: mobile - 07768 333675 / email - [suewright21@gmail.com](mailto:suewright21@gmail.com)

**Sue Wright**



## Harbury Society

**Linda Ridgley**

### Harbury Society 1979

Mr Geoffrey Fuller, Assistant County Architect explained the history and restoration of Chesterton Windmill. The Mill last worked at the turn of the Century when Bert Haines was the Miller. It had always been difficult to turn the sails into the wind, for the whole of the cap with its six tons of lead roof and the sails, had to be winched round by hand from inside. The cap rotated on an oak beam set at the top of the stone walling and when this gave way the Mill became inoperable.

The Mill slowly decayed, but this deterioration became more rapid after 1962 when thieves stripped the remaining lead from the roof. In 1965 experts from the Ministry of Works who were engaged on repairs to Kenilworth Castle, tried to interest Warwickshire County Council in undertaking remedial work to make the Mill weatherproof. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) then became interested, for they wanted the Mill put back in working order and promised expertise and money for this purpose.

In 1965 the Chairman of the Wind and Watermill Section of the Society was Mr Derek Ogden. He surveyed the Mill and estimated that the Society would need £3,500 for its part of the work. He began a National Appeal for the money, but the Society was always short of cash and work was frequently held up for lack of funds.

Derek Ogden's commitment to mills began to become greater during the 1960's until by 1970 he had given up his job as an engineer to be a fulltime millwright. He bought Great Alne watermill and set up business there.

WCC, having persuaded the Planning Department to part with more money for the restoration work, asked Mr Ogden to tender to finish the job. Even then it was not possible to do everything that was thought to be necessary to make it a safe WORKING mill. Longer sails had been fitted and these gave more power and coupled with the rather inefficient braking system, the suspect connection between the pole and wind-shaft and the difficulty of winching the cap out of the wind, raised fears that the mill could “runaway” and the cap spin off.

The architects had had problems with the main structure of the mill. They obtained detailed architectural drawings from the students of the RIBA and from those of Professor Denis Hinton of the Birmingham School of Architecture and a detailed photographic record of the mill was made, but the work was frequently held up. Repairs to the internal mechanisms did not keep up with the work on the structure and, by 1969, WCC was beginning to despair that the mill would ever work. It was at least weatherproof, but further work was held up by strong winds, bad weather and outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease, which delayed work for almost 12 months!



One of the major structural changes was to the cap - the cause of the mill's failure in 1910. The oak beam which supported it was replaced by reinforced concrete and the weight of the cap was decreased by the use of aluminium, which was also considerably cheaper and less of an attraction to thieves. The aluminium was donated by the Aluminium Institute and although it looked very tinny at first, it soon weathered to a matt finish almost indistinguishable from lead. Despite these modifications the cap remains difficult to winch round, for the mechanism is very crude.

In 1971 the sails were brought up and fixed and in late September 1971 Chesterton Mill had its first Open Day when tremendous crowds saw the sails turn for the first time in scores of years. It was not possible to grind corn then because of the defects and there was not enough room inside for visitors when the machinery was in operation.

In October 1971 Mr Tonkin and his wife made over the mill to the guardianship of the County Council, who in exchange arranged for the extinguishment of the right of way from the Fosse past the mill to the watermill.

In 1972-3 Mr Ogden made further modifications and extra fixings to the windshaft, but it is still necessary for the cap to be turned at least twice a year or uneven wear of the bearings results, due to the wind pressure on the sails and cap.



## Harbury Women's Institute

Mary Thompson

### Shall we meet again?

The speaker at our September meeting should be Jane Barnes from Melton Mowbray who was going to talk about her life on the family farm. Sadly we have decided to postpone the talk but Jane will be visiting us in September 2021.



We know that a number of members are out and about now and the committee wants to create some chances for members to safely meet. On 31<sup>st</sup> August we hope the weather will have allowed members to get together on the village playing field for a socially distanced picnic.

The village club has kindly offered us the use of their concert room for a socially distanced informal meeting on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7.45pm**. We need to gauge the interest of members before we confirm this. We hope to have done this during the picnic on 31<sup>st</sup> August - if you weren't at the picnic please let one of the committee know if you are intending to go to the club on 10<sup>th</sup> September.



## Harbury Twinning Association

Tony Thomas

Another month has passed with us not having had any meetings or social gatherings.

Many of you will have seen on the Harbury sign posts; "Twinned with Samois-sur-Seine," but where is Samois-sur-Seine? Members of the Twinning

Association, having been there, know very well where it is. This article is therefore intended for those who know nothing about the village in France with whom we are twinned and may be interested in joining the Association.

Samois-sur-Seine is a delightful village on the banks of the river Seine about 36 miles south of Paris, four miles from Fontainebleau and approximately 418 miles from Harbury. It has a similar population to Harbury i.e. around 2,500 and extends over five miles along the Seine.

Samois is famous for being the town where Jean Reinhardt retired and is buried. Jean was a famous Belgian-born Romani-French Gypsy jazz guitarist who was better known by his Romani nickname Django. Every year the village hosts a week long jazz festival in the honour of Django Reinhardt.



It is the birthplace of French jazz singer Cyrille Aimée who this year was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Arrangement Accompanying Vocalist(s).

The development of Samois was mostly due to it having the forest of Fontainebleau at its head and the river Seine at its feet which made it an obvious location for a harbour where firewood and sandstone cobblestones could be shipped to Paris.

It has a lively community, with a primary school, a weekly market, a baker, a butcher, two café/bars, several restaurants and hotels.

Boules is played throughout France and those of us who have played boules when visiting Samois quickly realised that there is a vast difference between the social game we play and the skilled game played by their local players.

Being located on the banks of the Seine, rowing is naturally a very popular recreational activity.

We have always found the residents of Samois to be friendly and welcoming and if anyone wishes to learn more, I recommend the numerous photographs and informative publications about Samois-sur-Seine that are in Harbury Library.



## Harbury Heritage Centre

Bill Timson

### Living in Harbury 100 years ago from the memoirs of Millicent A. Stock

Milly moved to Harbury from Leamington with her mother, father, four sisters and two brothers in 1917. The family lived at 'Kintyre House' now called 'Homestead', the stone house opposite the Crown Inn,

*"In the house there was a coal fire, a cast iron range to cook on and paraffin ceiling lamps. A brass table lamp was used for additional lighting. Paraffin could be bought from Mr Mole the grocer in Church Street at one penny a gallon.*

*There were three bedrooms on the first floor and three attic rooms above them. Candles were used for lighting in all of these rooms. The kitchen was cold and draughty with a brick built copper for washing clothes and a stone sink.*



*The garden at the side and rear was a good size with stables, a piggery and an orchard. There was also a greenhouse. In terms of outbuildings there was a brick built coal house and a closet (WC). The closet contained a wooden*



seat and a galvanised bucket underneath it. Late every Friday night men would come with a special cart and empty the buckets from every garden closet in the village. This in turn was emptied on Mr Gurden's field in Ufton Road.

We had a well but the water was not fit for drinking so we had to fetch all of our water from the pump on the green by the Wagstaffe School. In 1922 the hot summer caused the well to dry up so a water cart brought water to the village and a bucket of water cost one penny.

In 1919 my father died; the following year my mother decided to open the pantry of the house which had a window facing the street, as a sweet shop. Mrs Beardworth (the vicar's wife) helped to set it up and Mr Meredith from Regent Street in Leamington delivered the goods to be sold in his Ford van, similar to the one opposite. In the summer we hung a large sign with 'TEAS' on it outside the house. My sister and I helped to serve the teas on our lawn".



Read the rest of this fascinating story – it appears on our website [www.harburyheritage.org.uk](http://www.harburyheritage.org.uk) under sample articles. It is also available to read in the New Heritage Centre based on the Park Lane side of the Primary School.

If you do read it perhaps you could answer the following question: was the family wealthy? Did they live a better life in those days? Has Harbury changed much in 100 years? How long did they live in Harbury?

## Harbury Heritage Village Treasure Hunt

It managed to stay dry for the Treasure Hunt on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and 22 families turned out to solve the clues to win the 'treasure'.

Heritage Chairman, Bill Timson praised his committee who turned out in force to run the event and generously contribute to the prizes. There were several correct entries but first out of the hat was Isobel Clarke, daughter Helen and her daughters who won a large treasure chest of luxury food and drink items.

In second place was the Grubham family from Deppers Bridge and in third place the Burden family. They too received some goodies to enjoy. No one went home empty handed though: children dipped into the treasure bin for a chocolate bar and the adults received a scroll with the answers to the quiz and some historical information on the clues they had solved.

The lucky prize winners are shown opposite together with Vice Chairman David Turner and Bill Timson trying their luck in the treasure bin and the families arriving at the Heritage Centre.





Heritage Treasurer Mary Thompson reported that £130 was raised to go towards the running costs of the new Heritage Centre. Thank you to all those who took part.

We are planning to re-open in October, look out for our Facebook page 'Harbury Heritage Group' for more details.

**LOOK OUT next month for details of how to buy the perfect Christmas gift!**



## Harbury Energy Initiative

**Bob Sherman**

☎612277 ✉info@harburyenergy.co.uk

Your time has come. I don't mean that the end of the world is nigh - although it feels like it today, as another gale rattles the back door for entry and rips at the trees. What I mean is that you will now get your chance to see the detail of our plans for the village electric car charging station.

### Showing you our plans

**On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September at the Local Market in the school grounds Harbury Future Energy will reveal its hitherto shy face by displaying the plans that have now been the subject of a lengthy feasibility study.** Please come and let us know what you think.

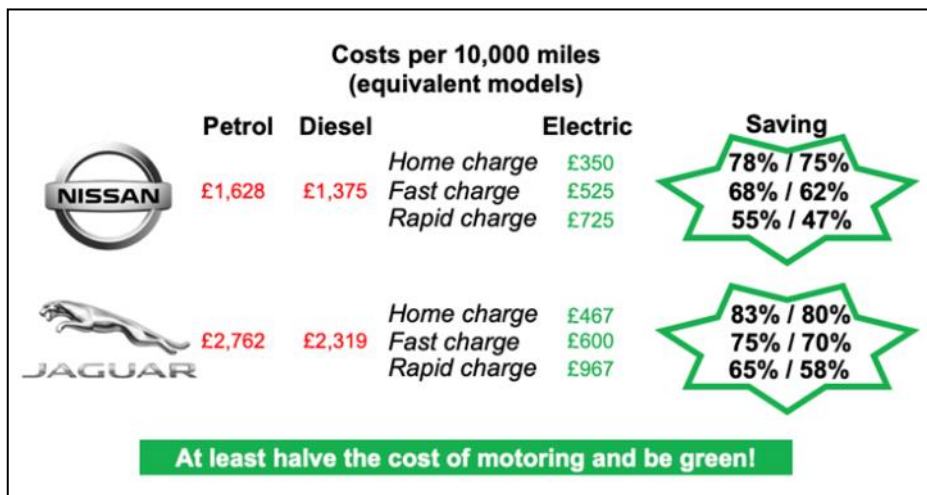
We received a Stage 1 Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) grant to complete this and now have 153 pages of detail from Greenwatt Technology, our consultant for the project so far. You don't have to read all 153 pages on the 26<sup>th</sup> but anyone interested can contact me for a digital copy. There is also an Executive Summary (much shorter) which is available to you on request too, even if you are not an executive.

We have now been approved by RCEF to apply for a Stage 2 grant of up to £100,000 for the Development Phase. It would be nice if it was as easy as just asking. For some reason they expect a detailed application with many hours of work involved. We have started. We may need people with expertise in business planning and financial projections, although we have made some approaches to people already. If you think you can help do tell us.

### Switching to electric - some things you should know

You will know by now that by 2035 there is to be no more production of petrol and diesel powered vehicles. It may happen sooner if Shell manages to persuade the government to bring it forward by five years. This incentive for change to electric vehicles (EVs) will be preceded by a number of urban authorities instigating 'Clean Air Zones', affecting the cost of any commute into town for vehicles with exhaust pipes. Warwick District Council is already providing free EV parking for its residents; other local Councils may well follow suit.

The Harbury EV Demand Study headline results that I showed you a couple of months ago in Harbury and Ladbroke News reveals that, whilst only about 7% of Harbury residents own an electric car now, over 60% of you expect that your next car will be electric. The price of an EV is still on the high side but this will come down with demand and the running costs are very much lower. In the first place you pay no road tax for an EV. The other major costs are fuel and servicing. EVs have few moving parts and so need less servicing. Now have a look at these comparative running costs per 10,000 miles for a couple of models and see if you can work out how the maths might stack up for you. There are many other EVs now on the market but the savings still work out at well over 50%.



### Green Homes Grant

From sometime in September you will be able to take advantage of a new government Green Homes Grant voucher to enable you to improve the energy efficiency of your house. This doesn't apply to new builds, only to the retrofitting of older houses. You can access up to £5,000 per household towards your costs for specific measures. This doesn't mean that the work will be free. You are expected to contribute but the government will give you on application a voucher for upwards of two thirds of the cost of the work, installed by a Trustmark approved installer, to the maximum figure. If you are on a very low income you can apply for a voucher up to £10,000.

This is an important offer not to be missed if you have plans to improve your home energy efficiency but there is a slight catch. The scheme defines Primary and Secondary Measures. A Primary Measure is insulation of walls, roof, floor, attic room etc or a low carbon heat source such as a heat pump. A Secondary Measure might be double or triple glazing, smart heating controls, thermostatic radiator valve controls or hot water tank insulation. You cannot apply for a Secondary Measure if you are not putting in a Primary Measure and your Secondary Measure can't attract a grant value of more than the Primary Measure. What I haven't been able to discover yet is whether you can claim a voucher for secondary works if you have already thoroughly insulated your home.

You can find a simple explanation of the scheme at:

<https://restless.co.uk/money/government-benefits/could-you-claim-up-to-5000-to-make-your-home-more-energy-efficient/>

The Simple Energy Advice Service is now available to help you understand how it works and to advise you on what you could do to improve your home's energy efficiency. Take a look at: <https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk>



## Harbury e-Wheels

**Peter Walshe**

✉harburyewheels@gmail.com 🌐 [www.harburyenergy.co.uk](http://www.harburyenergy.co.uk)

### Back up and running - e-Wheels



We have been back driving people to get to appointments for a month now. Of course, that means that we do need your continuing support to enable us to provide this free service for those in need. A simple way for you to help is to take part in our **MONTHLY ON-LINE QUIZ** (on the second Tuesday of every month). Just register (if you have not already done so) at:

[www.virtualquizevents.com](http://www.virtualquizevents.com)

Then either search for 'e-Wheels' under 'Available Quiz Events', pay your entry fee (£3) and you will be set for 25 minutes of fun at 7.05pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Or you can go directly to <https://www.virtualquizevents.com/quiz/e-wheels-monthly-fundraising-3/>

We would also like to thank those who are generously giving to the FOOD BANK (please carry on doing so and maybe get a friend or neighbour to do likewise). Unfortunately there has never been such a need. Harbury e-Wheels collects your donations every Monday between 11.30am - 12.30pm behind the Library.



## Harbury Scouting & Guiding Groups

**Paul Quinney**

We hope everyone is well and was able to take some time out over the summer.

As you may appreciate, the lockdown has restricted face to face meetings and a number of sections tried virtual meetings with varying levels of participation but those engaging did have some fun. We also set a series of challenges that could be undertaken at home to enable continuation of the movement's ethos and towards award programmes. The scouts also had a virtual camp!

Going forward, the overarching youth organisation for guides and scouts moved the status from red to amber to enable a move to face to face outdoors in groups up to 15. The scouts quickly took advantage and arranged a kayak down the Leam just before the summer holidays. As we move into September we will be looking to reintroduce subs and a mix of face to face



and virtual meetings whilst on amber. The leaders are preparing suitable programmes and risk assessments to recommence from mid-September.



We also require additional help in all sections particularly cub leadership... has lockdown given you the urge to try something new? Please contact me to discuss further.

We hope the world can open up further and look forward to when we can offer a wide range of scout and guide activities.

Stay safe and watch this space.



## Harbury Rugby Football Club

Steve Kittendorf

Good numbers continue to attend **Pre-Season fitness sessions** on Thursday nights whilst Tuesday nights are given over to **Training sessions** delivered by Club Coach Hendry Rheeders. Sessions start at 7.00pm and are carried out in accordance with RFU guidelines on social distancing. New players can expect a warm, safe and friendly environment. In the first instance contact the Club Secretary at [tomkittendorf@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tomkittendorf@hotmail.co.uk) for details of what is planned during the coming weeks.

For the last twelve months, Wellesbourne Ladies Touch Rugby have been based at the Club, holding fitness/training sessions every Thursday night from 7.00 to 8.15pm in accordance with England Touch guidance. They play in a

tournament once or occasionally twice a month from March - October. Events are family friendly and the girls welcome all new players aged 14 to 60+. For more information contact Claire on 07506 309821.

Richard Carr - AKA The Major - relentlessly maintained the cricket square since early April and had to wait until August before he saw the fruits of his labours come to fruition when cricket matches finally started back up.

We have not been idle during the lockdown. The grounds and pitches have been aerated to reduce compaction. The 2<sup>nd</sup> team goalposts were taken down, repaired off site and re-erected. Overhanging trees have been lopped and three grain sized trailer loads of branches disposed of off site. Around 40 perished tyres were collected up and responsibly disposed of off site. Rabbit holes backfilled and seeded.

Network Rail contractor J Murphy and Sons are currently stabilising the Harbury Railway cutting. The Club approached Site Manager Mark Cowper to see if they could help with our pot hole riddled driveway. They came up trumps sending down a team of men armed with a tracked excavator and a 13 tonne vibrating road roller. A big vote of THANKS to Murphy for such a great team effort - it's almost up to motorway standard!



**Before**



**After**

Phil Sheepy (M&J Chairman) set out the plan for starting the 2020/21 season under the current restrictions. From Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September, training will be split between Mini Rugby (10am to 11.15am) and Junior Rugby (age groups u13s to 16s – 11.30am to 1pm). It is essential that training is limited to 1hr 15mins for Mini Rugby to allow the Juniors to start 15 minutes later at 11.30am. Training times will be subject to review to ensure we comply with social distancing during the transition phase. Evening training will still be

available to those squads wishing to continue subject to coordination with the Ladies touch rugby and the Senior Squad.

Existing players should register on the RFU's Game Management System (GMS) from 1<sup>st</sup> September. Any new player should also register on GMS - using the link <https://www.englandrugby.com/gms>

Whilst a full schedule of planned fixtures is in place, these are currently held in abeyance due to restrictions imposed by the RFU Covid-19 guidance. In the meantime, it is hoped to start playing **Ready 4 Rugby** in October with intra-club matches based around a league system.

**Keep safe.**

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Harbury Village Library &amp; Biblio's Café</h2> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Janice Montague</b></p>
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As we go into the Autumn, with the nights drawing in and the increasing attraction of curling up in front of the fire, remember that you can order great books from our Library catalogue, or come into the Library and remind yourself of the delights of browsing for previously unknown authors. Children's favourites, including *Horrid Henry*, *Harry Potter* and *Jacqueline Wilson* titles, among many others, are available in age appropriate packs or to order from the catalogue. Currently, the Library is open twice a week, on **Mondays from 10am - 12.30pm and Thursdays 2pm - 4pm**, but you can order from our catalogue which you will find on our website (see below) at any time and collect the books during our opening hours, or choose a home delivery.

You may have read about the project to create a book documenting the experiences of Harbury residents during the Coronavirus pandemic, and you will find details below of an additional art project that Harbury Village Library will run in parallel with this. Together they will create a unique written and visual record of these 'unprecedented times' for future generations.

Thank you to everyone who has supported Biblio's Cafe since it reopened for Take-Away service on the 8<sup>th</sup> July. This continues to operate for the time being on **Wednesdays from 10am - 11.30am and Saturdays 10am - 12 noon**. With the change of season, we are pleased to announce that we are planning to **reopen the café indoors from the beginning of October for both take-away and table service on three mornings a week**.

We look forward to welcoming you back to a Covid-compliant environment. We hope to have timed slots of 45 minutes for table service, which can be booked for tables of two or four on a dedicated email: [bookingsbiblioscafe@outlook.com](mailto:bookingsbiblioscafe@outlook.com) If customers are unable to book or prefer not to, there will be a limited number of tables available for 'walk-ins'. If you have any questions about the reopening please send them to the above email address and we will respond as soon as possible.

In the meantime, you can sample some of Biblio's delicious recipes yourself, such as this one for *Toffee, Apple and Pecan Cake*, and others which are available from our website under Biblio's Café/ Recipe of the Week.

***Cuts into 10 slices - Prep 15 minutes - Cook 1 hour***

### **Ingredients for the Cake**

175g / 6oz unsalted butter, softened, plus extra for greasing

200g / 7oz Carnation caramel

50g / 2oz light muscavodo sugar

3 large eggs at room temperature

175g / 6oz plain flour

1 tsp baking powder

1 tsp vanilla extract

1 tangy eating apple, peeled, half chopped, half thinly sliced

50g / 2oz pecans, half finely chopped, half roughly broken

### ***For the Frosting and Drizzle***

50g / 2oz icing sugar

25g / 1oz unsalted butter, just softened but not greasy

2 tbsp Carnation caramel

### **Method**

1. Grease and line a 900g loaf tin with a strip of parchment. Heat oven to 180c / 160c fan / gas 4. Using electric hand beaters, beat the caramel, sugar and butter until smooth and even. Add the eggs, flour, baking powder and vanilla and then beat again until even. Fold in the chopped apples and chopped pecans.

2. Spoon into the loaf tin, then poke the sliced apples into the batter and scatter it with the broken pecans. Bake for 30 mins, then cover the top loosely with foil and return to the oven for 30 mins more, until risen and a skewer inserted into the middle of the cake comes out clean. Cool for 10 mins in the tin, then transfer to a rack to cool completely.

3. For the frosting, cream the icing sugar and butter together with electric beaters until pale, then beat in 1 tbsp caramel. Split the cake into 2 and sandwich with the frosting. To finish, warm the remaining caramel with 1 tsp water until runny, then drizzle over the cake.



Please keep an eye on the website or village noticeboards and our Facebook page for up to date information on opening hours and the services that are on



offer, both from the Library and Biblio's, which are subject to change along with the prevailing conditions.

**Website:** [www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](http://www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/HVLBC/>



## Harbury Lockdown Art Project

In parallel with the project documenting the lockdown experiences of local residents in poetry and prose, Harbury Village Library is inviting Harbury artists to create a piece of work reflecting their own experiences of the Coronavirus pandemic. The project is open to anyone living in Harbury, of whatever age or artistic ability.

We'll hold an exhibition at the end of September, or beginning of October, to coincide with the publication of the Harbury Lockdown book. If you are interested in taking part please let us know by sending an e-mail to [LockdownArt@HarburyVillageLibrary.org.uk](mailto:LockdownArt@HarburyVillageLibrary.org.uk)

The venue for the exhibition will be announced later, once we're clearer about the regulations which will be in effect at the time. We'll make sure that it's possible for professional artists to offer any of their exhibited works for sale.

**Richard Fowler**



## Harbury Village Club & Institute

**Judy Morraill**

Another month has passed and it has been such a joy to welcome back our members and visitors. It was obviously slow to start but, once everyone could see that all the necessary precautions were in place and perfectly safe, we are attracting more footfall. Thank you to everyone for your loyalty, it means so much.

We had our first function in the concert room on 1<sup>st</sup> August when a family of 30 held an 18<sup>th</sup> birthday party and all who came had a thoroughly good time. The food was provided by J C's Pizzas from Harbury Fields Caravan Park. Now that a lot of restrictions have been lifted why not hold an event in the concert room? We have loads of space and, now that Spotify has been updated and we have the new amplifier etc plus the rather good spotlights and glitter ball, please come along to see for yourselves. Hire of the room is free.



You may have seen the posters around the village and on our Facebook page that we have had the new 65 inch TV installed in the concert room and we also have Sky sports. Once the football gets underway again we plan to open from 12.00 noon on a Saturday and keep open until 10.30pm in the evening. As I said before we have listened to what

our members would like to happen and acted accordingly. Everyone, including non-members, are very welcome to come and enjoy the experience.

Regarding the pizza van, Steph has been let down when people have booked the van and only a few have turned up to buy the pizzas so they have made a loss. Understandably, they have now said that when booking the van a payment of £250 is to be made up front to cover the sale of 30 pizzas. As we could not guarantee that 30 customers would turn up we have decided not to go ahead with the planned pizza Saturdays.

Instead more exciting news...drum roll.....from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September we will have the G Van at the club who will be selling Indian takeaways. All who have used this service at other clubs, Stockton, Napton and Birdingbury have thoroughly enjoyed the food. It will be there from 5.30pm to 8.30pm and the club will open from 5.30pm so that you can have a drink whilst waiting and eat your food inside the club if you wish to. We will provide paper plates and disposable cutlery. I have obtained a huge gazebo from Plant Heritage which we can put up on the lawns as well. Please give it a try. The van will be at the club every other Friday at the same times.



We have taken on more staff so that the workload is spread more evenly and I know that you will make Kim and Emma very welcome. The darts players have been making good use of the boards in the concert room. There is a dartboard in the TV lounge but it is full with tables and chairs at present but we have three boards in the concert room. Good to see the pool and snooker tables being used too. Great also to see families. Of course, the balls are wiped down after they have been used.

At our recent committee meeting we discussed future events etc and Peck made a very good observation that, although live music performances are not a goer, practice sessions are OK. So we will hopefully host the orchestra and the ukulele group very soon. We also discussed at length staffing, ie cover when events are on and extra staff needed, cleaning and the need for vigilance still and the fire door not to be used as an entrance or exit. The beer will be discussed when one of the representatives from Hook Norton contacts us. We all agreed that smaller barrels were the answer so that the beer is fresh and the choice available is excellent. The problem in the past has been

that with the larger barrels and beer only having a short shelf life, we have been wasting quite a lot.

I applied for a grant from our local Parish Council towards the cost of the Covid preparations. We were awarded £500 and we owe a huge vote of thanks to the council; it has helped us enormously. We are looking at ways to raise capital for all of the remedial work needed to preserve your club for future generations and I will let you know what course we decide to follow. A big thank you to Lisa for all her postings and videos on our Facebook page.

We have had to clean the area at the rear of the property where the beer is delivered as it is very slippery in the wet and has blocked drains too. Our thanks to Peter and Beckie for undertaking this not very pleasant task. There is still much to be done - a lot of muscle and brawn needed - so we will be contacting Murphy's to see if they can help us. So, a very positive meeting and everyone contributed to a lot of discussion. We will be holding the next one on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September. If any member wants to raise any matter which may be of concern please speak to any committee member.

Either John or I have been taking courgettes to the club for anyone to have. I have had so many this year at my allotments, green, yellow and even stripy ones. Trouble is, if you miss one they have a habit of turning into huge marrows! All of the dwarf and climbing French beans are so delicious. I have grown a variety called purple tepee and they really are purple. They turn green when cooked but are extremely tasty. Climbing French beans, two types of runner beans, peas, carrots, lots of herbs and fruit and much more. It is a labour of love and so good to be able to share with others too. I spent yesterday afternoon (Monday 24<sup>th</sup>) making fruit crumbles with Victoria plums and apples from my allotments. I made four large ones which are now in the freezer. Later today I will be making ratatouille and freezing runner beans. At last the tomatoes are ripening up and they too are delicious.

We may even be back volunteering at Upton House soon. If you have been reading the press reports these last few days about the way the Trust is moving forward, then like me and my fellow volunteers you will be concerned. Dumbing down our heritage and turning us into theme parks. I never thought that when I first became a volunteer 21 years ago it would be like this. We will have to see what happens.

I am continuing to keep the four pots watered and dead-headed along the wall of the club and also the plants along either side of the drive. When I was doing this yesterday lots of people walking by said how good they looked and, now that the conifers have been cut down, are looking so much better.

I look forward to another month and meeting new members too. Thank you for taking the trouble to read my articles and your lovely comments. My very best wishes to everyone.





## Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

I am sitting here melting in temperatures of 30°degrees plus and hoping for rain. There are lots of leaves falling from the trees, many plants are looking stressed, watering is time consuming and monotonous and our water bills will be high.

There is a new (ish) threat to some of our much-loved plants which has taken an absurd turn. *Xylella fastidiosa* is a bacteria which is rife in parts of Europe and is killing olives, rosemary, lavender and many other plants. So far it is not in this country. Although it has been known about for some years it was just earlier this year (in April) that DEFRA introduced stricter controls for these imported plants. BUT, the EU has overturned the decision saying words to the effect that the measures are disproportionate. To find out more visit <https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/articles/preventing-pandemics-in-plants>

Please, please, when buying plants ask where they have been grown. There have already been many pests and diseases imported from abroad, (vine weevil is one of them), we really don't want this one too.

New opening days at Bridge Nursery now include Sundays as well as Fridays and Saturdays. A big thank you to those of you who have visited the garden, we are slowly getting some donations to send to the National Garden Scheme.

**Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton**  
[www.bridge-nursery.co.uk](http://www.bridge-nursery.co.uk)



## Nature Notes

John Hancock

There is plenty of wild fruit about at the moment. I say 'wild' but often the best places are old gardens attached to ruined properties. One of these is down Mill Lane and on by the footpath towards the railway cutting. You can read about Childyke Cottages which were originally built for the engineers of the cutting on Page 17 of the Harbury Society booklet 'Hungry Harbury'. Walking that way at the moment you will have to duck under the branches of a line of plum trees. These are Warwickshire Droopers, a delicious yellow plum. A blue plaque records that Harry Gardner lived here. It is poignant to think that he would have worked in the cottage garden and picked similar plums before joining the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and being killed in action in France in November 1914. Now, nature has taken over as it does if left unchecked.

Of course, the Great Western Railway as it was being constructed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, didn't plan to come through the limestone ridge at Harbury. For proof of this, look at a copy of Ordnance Survey Map 206, 'Edgehill and Fenny Compton 1:25,000. Find Holmes House on the gated road between

Bishops Itchington and Knightcote. A byway leads to the east over the railway and from the bridge you are able to glimpse something of what happened. The navvies digging the line were taking it towards Ladbroke and Rugby where it was due to join the London Midland and share the track into Birmingham. You will be able to see on the map and on the ground about a kilometre of the original line. I have heard various versions of what happened including a confrontation with an irate armed landowner. More likely is that the city fathers in Birmingham invited a separate line in the knowledge that competition was likely to cut prices. Perhaps a reader can supply the full story.

Today (25<sup>th</sup> August), as I write, summer seems over with rain and a rising wind speed. Yesterday it was shirt sleeves, shorts and sunhat when I walked through Tasker's Meadow and Stockton Cutting. Meadow Brown, Common Blue, and various species of White butterflies fluttered through the grasses and took nectar from flowers such as Bird's Foot Trefoil, Hawkweed, Traveller's Joy and Creeping Thistle. Near the Grand Union Canal where damper conditions prevail, the last Meadowsweet flowers were still in bloom but the majority had seeded. At the Stockton end of the cutting is a line of cherry trees probably having spread vegetatively, rather like Elm does, from a single tree years ago. Perhaps the original cherry stone had come from a passing passenger train before the line closed under the Beeching axe. As I prepared to leave, a shower heralded a change in the weather. With the sun still shining, I was treated to a magnificent rainbow arching across the sky towards Rugby.

Most readers will not have missed the reports of a Bearded Vulture seen in Derbyshire recently. This magnificent bird has a wingspan of some three metres, dwarfing our largest raptors. It's a native of the Alps, and as with some of our larger birds of prey, such as the Red Kite, was hunted to extinction. Reintroduced, there are now over 200 birds. The Derbyshire bird seen at Shining Clough Moss was previously seen in Belgium. One theory was that, as the bird can soar to 7,000 metres, its keen eyesight could see the crags of the Peak District and headed that way.

I've been struck for some time by the fact that, despite an open window, lights and a warm night, very few moths come into the house. Windscreens and headlights previously splattered by the insects are clean. David Brown told me that whilst a third of moth species were increasing, two thirds were declining. This is almost certainly due to loss and mismanagement of habitats. Use of herbicides,



insecticides and urbanisation have played a large part in this trend. Moths are important, though largely unseen, pollinators. We lose them at our peril.



## General Section



### Harbury Parish Council Volunteer Network

The Covid-19 pandemic has seen a time where communities across the UK have come together to support each other and the people of Harbury have been doing some wonderful work.

The Volunteer Network was formed in March and the Parish Council asked houses to complete a form stating whether they would need support or be able to offer it. This resulted in 171 houses volunteering to help 159 vulnerable households that were self-isolating. Harbury was sectioned into eight zones, each with a Volunteer Coordinator ensuring that houses within that zone had a volunteer to assist them. Volunteer Coordinators provided support and advice to volunteers and households in isolation with Tim Lockley coordinating the overall effort.

The pandemic has brought many people sadness, worry and anxiety but through this time we have also seen the very best in people. We would like to share some of the lovely things that have taken place and comments that we have collected across the village during this time.

#### Those needing help:

- “It’s been wonderful to meet my volunteer, we’ll be friends for life.”
- “I have felt really cocooned and risk free during all the months when my shopping was done for me. We are very fortunate in Harbury to have so many caring people willing to give their time and energy to ease the situation.”

#### Volunteers:

- “It’s so good to be able to do something to help.”
- “We learned the lady we were looking after had a birthday - we loved brightening her day with a card and flowers.”
- “We are very fond of the gentleman we are helping, and are going to have him over for lunch after this is over.”
- “It has been an absolute privilege to get to know our neighbour even more during lockdown. As well as doing the shopping, we have had cups of tea in each other’s gardens and also shared home baked goods. Harbury at its best.”
- “Once we were able to go out and about a bit more, I took the lady I’d been helping for a walk in Jephson Gardens and another time helped

her do some shopping. It really helped her gain the confidence to go out again."

As lockdown restrictions start to ease, the Volunteer Network will begin to wind down its activities. All involved have been happy to support and we are confident that it will quickly rally to support the village again should the situation change.

We would like to thank everyone who has been involved in this effort, and also recognise those who have supported friends and neighbours outside of it. As a community it is something to be proud of.

**Cllr Julie Balch**

## **Thank You to Volunteers!**



Terry and I just wanted to acknowledge how much we appreciated the support we had from the village during the lockdown.

When the form was delivered to our home in March I was fully prepared to tick the box saying we could help in the village. However, my husband received the NHS letter identifying him as a "shielded" person so I ticked the other box!

We were immediately contacted by a member of the Parish Council and assigned a lovely, friendly lady who lives around the corner. She came every day with the newspaper and collected prescriptions when necessary. Also, she would kindly get me flowers which we couldn't get on our online supermarket delivery and any other odd bits and pieces we needed.

Once lockdown was over we quite missed her daily knock on the door.

This all shows what a good village Harbury is and reinforces how pleased we are that we moved to Harbury. So "thank you Harbury".

**Pam & Terry Furnivall**

## **Harbury Village Show**

Show day is fast approaching – Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2020 (next Saturday!)

As you know, from our posts this year, arrangements for the show have had to change from month to month but we were keen to keep it going when so much in the village has had to be cancelled. So, this year's show is different.



All crafts, artwork and photography will be displayed under cover but OUTSIDE the village hall. If you have fruit, vegetables or flowers we are asking you to display them outside your house or allotment. We are hoping that people will walk around the village to view your produce.



To add a little more interest we would love you to make/display a garden gnome for families to find as they walk.

Judging will be by committee members for the produce and by the public for displays at the village hall. Your chance to pick your favourite!



Calling all children! Your entries will be displayed at the village hall too. Bring along your entries on Saturday morning - bet you've been busy creating this summer.



We are very grateful to Biblio's Café who have agreed to stay open until 3pm so that you can get tea or coffee and a slice of delicious homemade cake as you wander around the village (located at the side of the library at the moment).

We are hoping that the day will be a celebration of our summer. There are no entry fees this year but if you would like to make a donation any money raised will be split between eWheels and GASS.

We have a very slimmed down schedule which you will find on our website [harburyvillageshow.uk](http://harburyvillageshow.uk) or a paper copy can be obtained from the library (just inside the door).

Route available from village hall on the day.

Fingers crossed for a dry day and look forward to seeing everyone.

**Village Show Committee**



## Wednesday Walks

Good news - we have started to walk again together, albeit in a managed way. We shall meet as usual, (9.40am each Wednesday), split into groups of six, and go off in different directions from the village hall. Today, 26<sup>th</sup> August, six of us did the quarry route towards Bishops. Surprisingly, after a lot of rain, it was firm under foot and lovely to catch up with each other's news. And the walk, through fields of stubble, was really pleasant! So we hope to see more of you when you feel ready.

**Gillian Hare**



## Heritage Open Days

Despite Covid, this free national festival of heritage will go ahead on 11<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 with both in person and online events, all free and listed on [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)

At the time of writing it shows 13 events for Warwickshire including small group guided walks, museum openings and on-line guided tours. Most need to be pre-booked; many operate waiting lists or can issue more tickets for on-



line events if oversubscribed, including the Discover Ladbroke Church webinar on 12<sup>th</sup> September which has a second tranche of tickets available.

**Jackie West**

## Answers to Classical Music Quiz

1. The Pastoral Symphony
2. The Jupiter Symphony
3. The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra
4. The Trumpet Voluntary
5. 'Spring' from 'The Four Seasons'. (No points for just 'The Four Seasons' as they comprise concertos nos. 1 to 4. Spring is Concerto no.1)
6. Air on a G String
7. Ode to Joy
8. The Surprise Symphony
9. The Minute Waltz
10. The Unfinished
11. The Italian Symphony
12. The New World Symphony
13. Sheep may Safely Graze
14. The Trout
15. Fingal's Cave
16. Land of Hope and Glory
17. The Leningrad Symphony
18. The Pathétique
19. Eine Kleine Nachtmusic
20. The Organ Symphony



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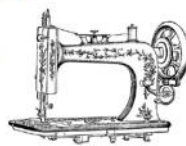
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