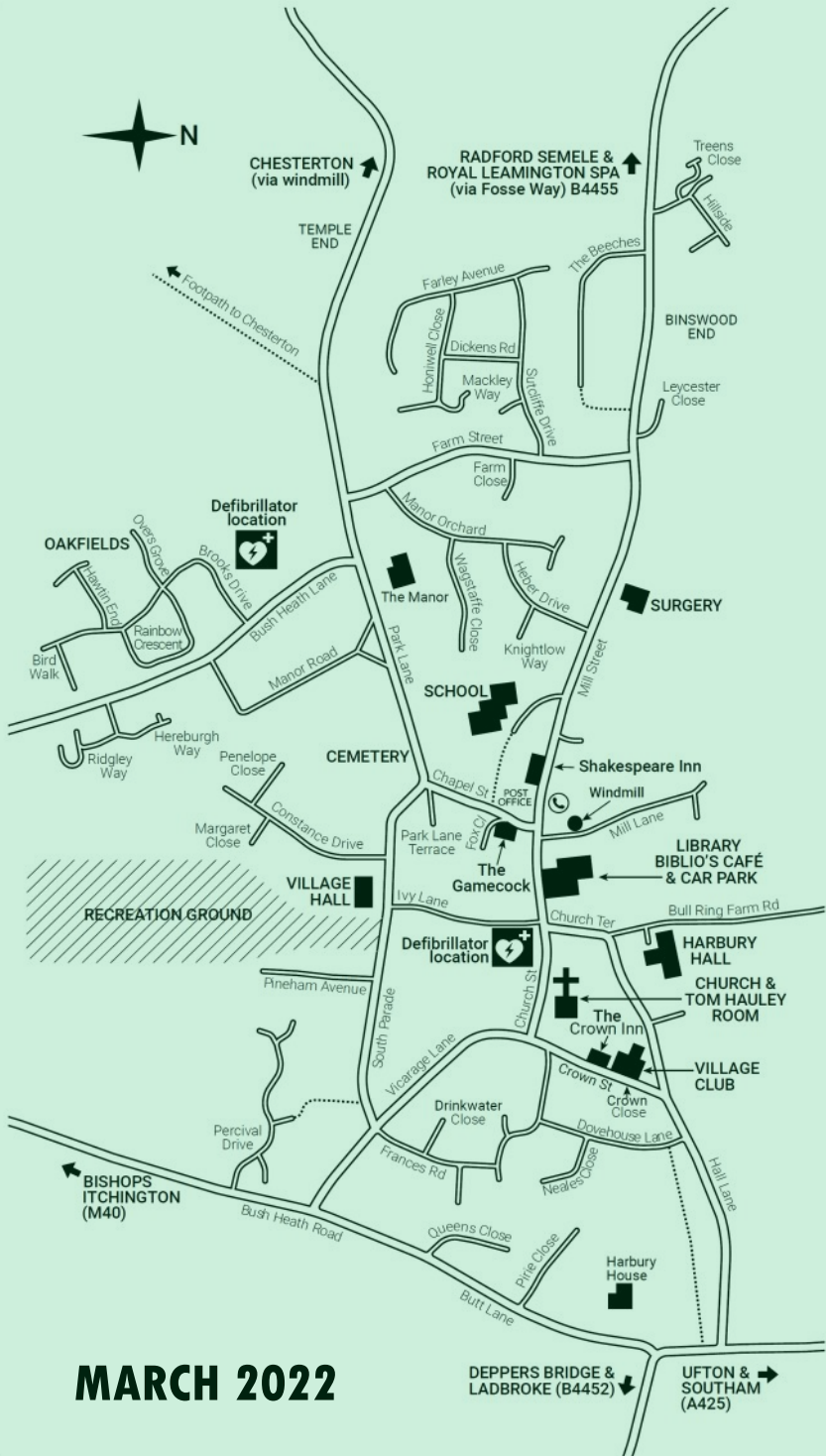


# Harbury & Ladbroke News

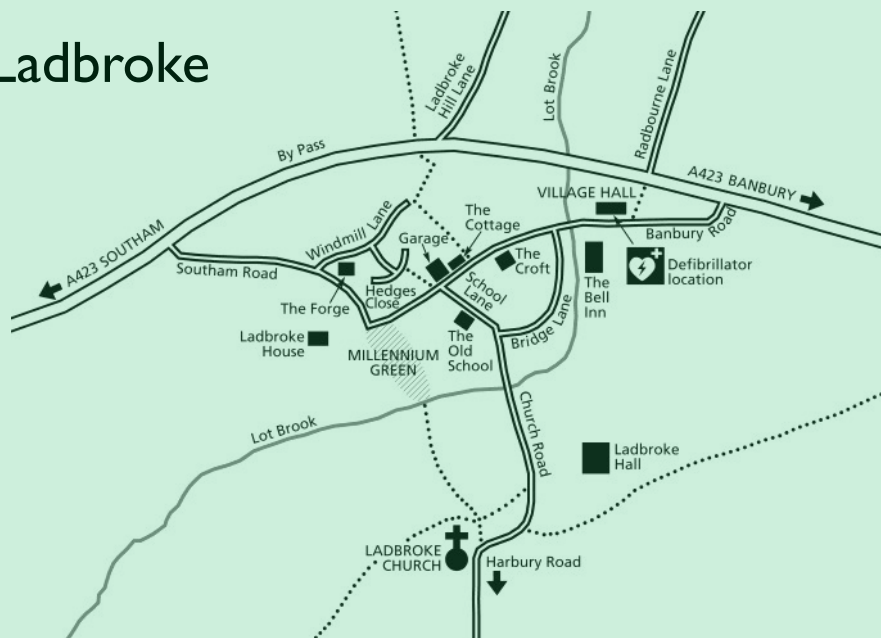


**MARCH 2022**

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This magazine is available by subscription and delivered within Harbury, Deppers Bridge and Ladbroke. Telephone 01926 612009 for details.

# Harbury & Ladbroke News

Is published monthly and reflects all aspects of local life.

**March 2022**

**No.576**

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Inserts by prior arrangement  
with the Distribution Manager

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## Editorial Team

Chris Barber - Paulette Kavanagh - Peter McDonald  
Daralyn Warren - 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

As Covid restrictions have now been lifted, one village event which we will all be glad to see back in the calendar is Harbury Carnival on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June. Do think about entering the parade, or if you want to get involved with helping, please contact the committee.

With the Queen celebrating her Platinum Jubilee this year, the extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, will provide an opportunity for the local community to come together to celebrate this historic milestone. Harbury Library will be collecting information to share regarding activities, events and parties which may be being planned in the village. Do let the library know if you are organising something.

We were very sorry to hear the sad news of two deaths in February. Both ladies had been involved with the Harbury & Ladbroke News. Betty Winkfield for many years was the main distributor of the magazine in Ladbroke and she was the Ladbroke representative, writing articles and attending committee meetings for over 23 years. Many former Harbury Primary School children will remember Betty as a much loved dinner lady at the school. Beryl Checkley was our PCC representative for around four years. She had also been a Church Warden and took part in plays with Harbury Theatre Group. They will both be much missed by family, friends and the communities of Harbury and Ladbroke.

Ladbroke recently welcomed new owners and manager Dani Mitovia to the Bell Inn. We are sure that they will be getting involved with village events and welcome customers to visit the pub for food and drink.

The magazine's annual subscription is due next month. Despite rises in paper and printing charges, we are very pleased to be able to hold the subscription rate at £6, the cost that it has been for the last ten years. With this edition you should find an insert detailing three ways of how you can make your payment. To pay by electronic transfer please visit our website [hlnews.co.uk](http://hlnews.co.uk) and click on the 'Subscriptions and BACS Payments' tab - **please note we have a new bank account**. Alternatively, you can deliver the money yourself to your distributor or wait for your distributor to call.

From the April edition we are very excited to be able to tell you that the Harbury & Ladbroke News is moving to a new printing process and it will be published in full glorious colour! The basic layout will be exactly the same but we hope you will agree that the use of colour in artwork and photographs will enhance the appearance of the publication.

We look forward to your continued support and hope you feel that the magazine is a valuable contribution to village life.

Finally, we extend our condolences to the families of Beryl Checkley, Christine Gore, Richard Nealon and Betty Winkfield.

# Harbury Diary

## MARCH

- Sat 5 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of All Saints Church, Ladbroke
- Sun 6 LENT 1**  
Holy Communion, 9.00am  
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 7 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall  
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 8 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 9 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park - Fenny Compton with optional pub lunch (4 or 5 miles)  
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.30pm, experienced 8.30pm, Village Hall
- Thurs 10 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
Harbury WI, 7.30 for 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room - Resolutions and 'Life in Surabaya East Java by Peggy King
- Fri 11 Ben and Soph's Jazz, tickets - 07515 275655, 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Sat 12 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Twinning Association  
Harbury Village Cinema presents, "Hope Gap" doors open 6.15pm, film starts 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Sun 13 LENT 2**  
Holy Communion and Children's Church, 10.30am  
Messa Church, 3.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall  
Icon Youth Club, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Mon 14 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall  
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 15 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room  
Harbury Society talk, doors open 7.30, talk 8.00pm, John Smith - 'A Jungle Adventure'
- Wed 16 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park - Edgehill from Radway (4 miles - hilly)  
Connections (Dementia) Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.30pm, experienced 8.30pm, Village Hall
- Thurs 17 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
Talk about the work of the Dogs Trust, 7.30pm, Harbury Village Library
- Sat 19 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of RNLI L/Spa & Southam
- Sun 20 LENT 3**  
Holy Communion, 8.00am  
All Age Worship with Baptism, 10.30am  
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall  
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury School - (Park Lane entrance)  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD,  
HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Mon 21 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall


- Mon 21 Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall  
 Tue 22 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room  
 Wed 23 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park -  
 Hampton on the Hill with coffee at the Canalside Café (4 miles)  
 Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
 Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.30pm, experienced 8.30pm, Village Hall  
 Thurs 24 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY,  
 HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM  
 Harbury Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm, Village Hall  
 Fri 25 Harbury Library - Live at the Village Hall, 'A Ghost of a Smile',  
 7.30pm, Village Hall  
 Sat 26 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid  
 of Church Pastoral Aid Society Ventures  
 Harbury Local Market: 10.00am - 12.30pm, Village Hall  
 Repair Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury Village Library  
 CPR Training, pm, Harbury Village Club  
**Sun 27 LENT 4**  
 Holy Communion and Children's Church, 10.30am  
 Icon Youth Club, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room  
 Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall  
 Mon 28 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall  
 Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall  
 Tue 29 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room  
 Wed 30 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park -  
 Hatton to Haseley (4 miles)  
 Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.30pm, experienced 8.30pm, Village Hall  
 Thurs 31 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room

**APRIL**

- Fri 1 WCC Road Safety Education Team, 1.30pm, Harbury Library  
 Sat 2 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid  
 of Harbury WI

**Dates for inclusion in the Harbury Diary please to:**  
 The Editorial Office, 31 Binswood End, Tel: 612155 or email [articles@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:articles@hlnews.co.uk)

### Refuse Collection Rota

	Deppers Bridge	Harbury, Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge outlying properties	Collection Week
<b>March</b>	Wednesday	Friday	
	9	11	Grey Bin
	16	18	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	23	25	Grey Bin
	30		Green & Blue Lid Bins
<b>April</b>		1	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	6	8	Grey Bin
	13	15	Green & Blue Lid Bins



## From the Rector

**Rev Andy Batchelor**

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury ☎ 01926 714295 ✉ rev.andyb@gmail.com

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, and we will mark that day with a service at Ladbroke church at 7.30pm to which all are welcome and where we will symbolically receive a cross of ashes marked on our forehead. It's interesting how many people engage with Lent in one way or another even if they might not be regular churchgoers. Some take the opportunity to give up alcohol, or chocolate, others take a break from social media or even switch to a vegetarian or vegan diet. There are good health related reasons for all of these, but in the church, Lent offers us an opportunity to assess where we are in our relationship with God, to acknowledge where we have not lived up to our calling as disciples of Jesus and, by adopting spiritual disciplines and a more generous approach to others, to prepare ourselves for Easter. Lent reminds us of the importance of recognising our need of God and the dangers of anything that may have an unhealthy hold on us. Lent challenges us to assess what are the priorities in our lives, and what we might be left with if we had to give up what is important to us. Our society does not place much importance on spiritual wellbeing, but actually many studies confirm that this is an essential element of who we are, as an individual, but also as a member of a community who can support and care for each other. So may Lent be a blessing to you this year, wherever you find yourself, and may you discover the value and importance of your spiritual health.



## From the Churchwardens

**Liz & Michael**

The first of the new format, less formal All Age Services was held successfully in February, and will continue on the third Sunday of each month for the foreseeable future. The service uses acoustic guitar and electronic keyboard accompanying modern hymns and songs, does not include Communion and last month included a short dramatization of the story of Jesus calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee. If this style of service sounds your cup of tea, please do come along on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March and we look forward to welcoming you! For those folk wishing to take Communion on the third Sunday, this is provided earlier in the day at the 8.00am service.

We are hopeful that our Heat Light Stone Faculty proposal will be accepted in March by the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC). This will mean that the legally required 30 day period of public consultation can then commence, after which any comments received from the public and the DAC will be submitted to the Chancellor for his consideration and formal decision on the project - hopefully giving us the legal approval to proceed! We will then be able to submit applications to grant funding bodies and assess what further local donations and fundraising will be required to fund all elements of the

project. We still aim to be able to install new heating before winter this year, but recognise that some other elements might take a little longer to finance.

It was with great sadness we learnt of the death of our sister in Christ, Beryl Checkley. She was a long-standing member of the church and we will miss her. Beryl served as a churchwarden for eight years from 1987-1995 and always supported those of us who have served as churchwardens since. She served on the PCC and was a voice of common sense and deep faith. Her funeral service will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, before this article is published.

## From the Registers

### *Funeral:*

4<sup>th</sup> February

Richard Ewart Nealon (75 years)

	<h2>Mothers' Union</h2>	<p><b>Gillian Hare</b></p>
---	-------------------------	----------------------------

February ended on a note of sadness, lightened by many happy memories, as we said farewell to Beryl and Betty. We had been so pleased to see Betty at our last meeting, very much her old self, and will miss her happy smile and interesting comments.

As you read this, we shall have hosted the coffee morning, which I am sure will have raised a welcome amount for our funds. One of our projects is to gift a Bible to each of the couples married at our three Churches, and, after a bleak couple of years, there are several scheduled for this summer.

We are glad that the speaker for our cancelled meeting has kindly agreed to come in April instead. Gian Clare is secretary to the Warwick district of the United Nations and will speak on the Christian View on climate change. Anyone interested in this very topical subject is welcome to our meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April. We meet in the Tom Hauley room at 2pm, starting with a communion service before the talk at about 2.30pm.



**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. Please bring donations to the Wight School (library) car park on Mondays between 11.30am and 12.30pm, one of the e-Wheels drivers will be there to receive your items. Alternatively, donations may be dropped off at the library foyer during its normal opening hours.

Thank you.

---



# Ladbroke News & Diary

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

## MARCH

- Sun 6 LENT 1**  
Family Communion, 10.30am, followed by refreshments
- Tue 8 WI, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- Wed 9 Parish Council 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 13 LENT 2**  
Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am
- Wed 16 Lent Lunch, 12.30pm, 3 Hedges Close
- Sun 20 LENT 3**  
Holy Communion (BCP), 9.00am  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD,  
HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Wed 23 Lent Lunch, 12.30pm, Chapel Ascote Farm
- Thurs 24 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY,  
HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM
- Sat 26 "Thanks to you" guided tours of stained glass (must book) and  
refreshments, 10am – 4pm, Ladbroke Church
- Sun 27 MOTHERING SUNDAY**  
Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am

## APRIL

- Sun 3 LENT 5**  
Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments and annual  
church meeting
- Tue 5 Photography Club meal, details to be confirmed
- Thurs 7 Lent Lunch, 12.30pm, The Old School
- Sat 9 Coffee Morning in aid of Millennium Green, from 10.00am, Village Hall



## Ladbroke Church News

**Peter Rigby**

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

We were unable to report on our service on the last Sunday in January in last month's edition as it came after the publishing deadline but it would be remiss to let the occasion pass without mention. Instead of our normal 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday said service, we held a special service of Evensong, the first in Ladbroke for a number of years. The purpose was to celebrate the ministry of two of our Readers, Peter and Gemma Took, as they have now retired from ministry. We welcomed church members from Harbury and Ufton who helped swell our congregation to almost 60. A big thank you to Bill and the choir for all their hard work in preparing for and leading the service and our best wishes to Peter and Gemma as they now take a back seat (or pew).

Just a week later, we were all saddened to learn of the death of Betty Winkfield. Betty lived in the village for much of her life and will have been known to many of our readers. She was a true stalwart of the Church and will

be greatly missed. Her funeral, which I am sure will be well attended, will take place before this article is published but please read the tributes to her elsewhere in this edition. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be for her family at this time.

We are now almost into the season of Lent and we are delighted that with the pandemic now mostly behind us we are able to restart our Lent lunches again after two years. We will be offering home-made soup, bread and cheese and good company! All are welcome.

These will be on:

- Wed 16<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30pm at 3 Hedges Close (hosted by Sue Lord and Joan Perry)
- Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 12.30 at Chapel Ascote Farm (Sue Moore and Jenny Barrett)
- Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> April at 12.30 at The Old School (Carol Lane and Margie Bosworth)

Looking ahead, we shall be holding our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (our 'AGM') on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April after the morning service. So please make sure your Electoral Roll membership is up to date, to entitle you to vote and stand for election if you wish.

#### **Future Services:**

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am	Family Communion
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Holy Communion (and Mothering Sunday)
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	10.30am	Family Communion (followed by APCM)

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

[ladbrokechurch@gmail.com](mailto:ladbrokechurch@gmail.com)

	<p><b>Ladbroke &amp; Deppers Bridge Women's Institute</b></p> <p>Carol Lane</p>
---	---

The February meeting was held in Ladbroke Village Hall on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup>. This month saw a demonstration of painting on glass. Vanessa Cooper, folk artist and crafter, had set out a table with painted bottles, planter pots, decorated note books and a lovely kettle covered in the traditional canal style art which is so recognisable.

She explained that each country has its own version of Folk Art and showed the styles from Holland, Norway and Germany. The biggest display of Folk

Art is at Compton Verney and Vanessa encouraged anyone who had not seen it to do so.

In a demonstration which covered so many different aspects of the paints and finishes used in her work, Vanessa managed to structure her talk so that each technique could be appreciated. Folk Art started when people wanted to make their homes more decorative so used paint on the outside of houses and on furniture.



Using glass jars she showed us the methods she used to create different effects, and cards showing what the finished article would look like were passed round. Finally, using different brushes, paints and a flip chart, she demonstrated the strokes which are used in very specific ways to produce the stylised flowers such as roses and daises. Unlike a still life painting, the flowers depicted in folk art are representational.

Vanessa has a studio in Whitnash from which she runs workshops suitable for children to adults, from beginners to advanced. From watching and listening to her, I'm sure these sessions will be relaxing and fun as well as informative. You can see more about her work at [www.thearcshed.co.uk](http://www.thearcshed.co.uk) or she can be contacted on [thearcshed@gmail.com](mailto:thearcshed@gmail.com) or on 07523 959822.



The business meeting started with our thoughts of Betty who had been a long standing and much loved member of the WI. We then helped Lesley to celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with a lovely chocolate cake and small glasses of bubbly – or a rhubarb and raspberry fizz for the drivers.

Dianne had attended a zoom meeting with the Warwickshire Federation. Due to changes in staffing, there are now fewer people to deal with queries so Dianne urged members to try to get problems solved locally before calling Corunna House. The Corunna News will now be distributed quarterly instead of monthly.

It has been very difficult to produce programme cards this year because of the Covid changes so Dianne gave us the plans for the remainder of the year:

- March: Maggie's Musical Grandchildren on classical guitar and in song.
- April: Puddings fit for the Queen
- May: AGM

June: Jubilee celebrations  
 July: Studio potter  
 Aug: Outing to the National Arboretum  
 Sept: Hill Close Gardens  
 Oct: 50<sup>th</sup> birthday  
 Nov: Sustainable Living  
 Dec: Christmas meal

In any other business, members were informed that talks are beginning about Ladbroke festivities for the Queen's Jubilee which will probably be held on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. As The Bell has just changed hands and they are keen to be involved in the village, it is hoped that this can be a joint venture?

Carole Rhodes finished the meeting with a hilarious joke.



## Ladbroke Matters

David Wright

The Ladbroke Matters team looks after the Village Hall and the Millennium Green. To help with this we organise regular fundraising events so that we can continue to offer both facilities for the benefit of our community.



### Save the Date - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022

As I mentioned last month, to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee we are planning a lunchtime event for the village on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. It's still in the planning stage, but is likely to be a meal with some fun activities. More details will be available soon, but put the date in your diary now.



The play area in the Millennium Green is becoming a little worn and tired so we would like to give it a makeover by buying new equipment to replace the old. This will cost a sizeable sum but we feel it will be worth it. Therefore we are planning events to raise funds for this project. There will be a coffee morning at Ladbroke Village Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April from 10.00am to raise money towards new play equipment on the Millennium Green. Come along and enjoy a drink, read the paper and have a chat. Children and dogs welcome.

After its refurbishment, our Village Hall is looking welcoming and fresh. If you would like to book your special celebration in our hall contact Debs (tel 07779 225105 or email [debs.dptv@gmail.com](mailto:debs.dptv@gmail.com)). The rates are still £15 per hour with a generous 20% discount for Ladbroke residents.



If you would like to join the Ladbroke Matters team, have any suggestions for future events, or any other comments please contact the Trustees (details on the Ladbroke website).

## Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Draw for January 2022

£50	Joan Perry	£50	Bill Bosworth
£25	Jo Rose	£25	Russell Griffith
£25	Derek and Colette Batty	£10	Margaret Bosworth
£10	Sheena Healey	£10	Mike Connon

**Margaret Bosworth**



## Ladbroke General Section

### Betty Winkfield - The 'Mother' of Ladbroke



So many of us have memories of Betty sitting on the bench in her garden last year while we all celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on the first beautiful day of the year. The tributes from the whole village and beyond were evidence of the love and high esteem with which she was regarded. She will be sadly missed.

Betty's memories were serialised in the Harbury and Ladbroke News in the Summer of 2018 which many of you may remember.

Born in 1931, Betty left school at the age of 14 and after working for two years in children's nurseries, she trained as a nurse at the Central Middlesex hospital and then followed this up with midwifery training in the Midlands.

She met Charles at a Young Farmer's Club and they married in the late 50s, starting their farming together in a two up/two down house with eight acres, 1000 hens, eight pigs and two cows, selling most of their produce from the farm.

They moved to Hall Farm in Ladbroke in 1969 where Betty immediately became a staunch member of Ladbroke Church, the WI and the Woman's Fellowship.

Church warden from 1985 to 2001, there seemed to be nothing Betty didn't know about the day to day running of the church services. For many years Betty was instrumental in starting and running a very successful Children's church. She presented bibles at weddings, made Christingles, organised Christmas crib services and much, much more. In her self-effacing way, she taught so many of us what needs to be done at different times of the church calendar.

She also ran whist drives in Ladbroke Village Hall over ten years when players from many of the surrounding villages attended which put about £10,000 into Village Hall funds over the years.

Betty looked after Charles with the greatest care until his death in 2017. She continued to help at the altar for most services in church until her health started to let her down just last year.

Betty used to say 'I don't know why I am still here when my friends have gone to Heaven. I don't think He wants me!' Our reply would be that we needed her more than He did. Betty had such a profound faith - Jane (Rutherford) used to say that Betty was the nearest person to a saint that she had ever met. Betty loved the village but it was her dedication to the church that always shone through.

### **Memories from David (Rutherford)**

Betty was a remarkable woman. To my family she was a warm and caring neighbour for nearly fifty years. Always interested, nothing was too much trouble. Each child, and in due course each grandchild, would eagerly trot across the road before breakfast to help(?) Betty collect the eggs from her hens, or in season, bottle feed a lamb. As Churchwarden, with typical modesty a position only accepted after much encouragement, Betty shone. She proved the adage "To get a job done well, give it to a busy person." Beyond that in any situation Betty's opinion was invaluable. With her wide experience and no nonsense approach she cut through at once to the heart of the matter. Betty was a dear and valued friend; she remains a shining example.

Betty died at home on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> February and we send our condolences to Trish and Doug and family.

### **Betty's Many Friends in Ladbroke**

## **Ladbroke Heritage**

### **Repairs**


It was the time for smaller but essential jobs last month: replacing the tiles that storm Eunice took from the chancel roof (thank you Mark) and working on some longer term issues. I'm starting to think that my next repair talk should be called "The wrong sort of mortar....and other disasters waiting to happen". First off was to fix the floor in the centre of the





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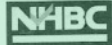
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nave where it was lifting causing the tiles to break. As suspected, the cause was rust jacking from pipes buried underneath from an old heating system.

A second investigation discovered that the cause of the splits in the south aisle roof was the way it had been installed 22 years ago. Each piece had been fixed down the whole length so it cannot not slide over the next one as it expands, instead it buckles up which leads to stress fractures. The National Lottery Heritage Fund have kindly agreed to support the remedial action which we hope will be done before summer arrives and the splits open wide again.

### **What's on in Ladbroke this year?**

Despite Covid restrictions, we managed to deliver a wide range of successful activities last year; talks and tours, our Archaeology Day, Birdsong event, Graveyard Geology, Rock Detectives and our Alice Dudley Drama in particular. After a well deserved break over Christmas, our team has been beavering away over the past few weeks to put together our Activity Programme for this year. So here is a taste of what is to come for 2022.

### **Book your talk and/or guided tour**

We have seven trained guides ready to take you on a **tour** of all Ladbroke has to offer; church history, village history, stained glass, geology, nature, and of course the story of Alice and Robert Dudley. These tours have been very well received with excellent feedback. So if you would like to bring friends, relatives or even a group to Ladbroke to see for yourself what we have to offer, please contact me on 01926 815196 or email to [nicolalewis1958@gmail.com](mailto:nicolalewis1958@gmail.com)

Two groups have already booked their tour for 2022, including the Harbury Society on 20<sup>th</sup> May.

We have new management at The Bell Inn who would welcome you for lunch or an evening meal.

Jackie has now given many **talks** to local organisations: Women's Institute, History Societies and a Friendship Group to name a few. She has a range of talks on offer: Stained Glass, Church Repairs and Alice and the Adventurer always get excellent feedback; her presentation on Ladbroke Village still awaits its first audience. If you would like to book a talk, please call Jackie on 810331.

### **Thanks to you, Lottery Players - Sat 26<sup>th</sup> March - Tours of our fabulous stained glass windows**

As a thank you to National Lottery Players, there are special free events 19<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March across the country from organisations who have received Lottery grants. Here in Ladbroke we will



be offering special guided tours of our fabulous stained glass windows, including the magnificent east window by Hardman and Co. These have been carefully repaired as part of our project, and only now are we able to offer tours to tell the story of the windows and how our expert craftsmen repaired them.

Come and see for yourself and spend some time learning about our windows – or just sit and enjoy their beauty over a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake. Open from 10am to 4pm.

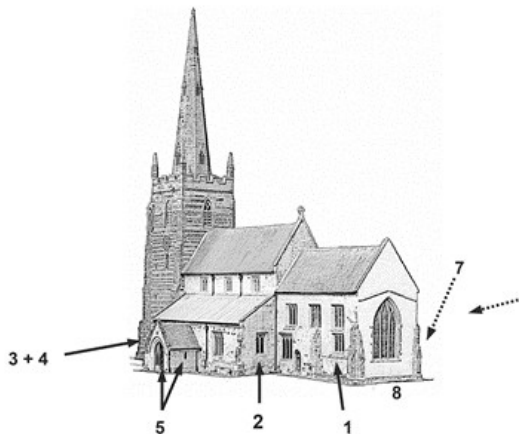
There are limited spaces on the guided tours so you must book in advance on Eventbrite - search for Ladbroke Church.

### School Visits - at last!

School trips have been a big casualty of Covid restrictions, and many children have missed out on days out and adventures. Our plan was always to share our heritage and history with local school groups, so we are looking forward to welcoming them to Ladbroke at last this year. We have devised resources for Religious Education and Rocks to KS2 and will be putting them to the test for our first school visit on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

We hope this will be the first of many visits as teachers eventually have time to take children out of the classroom and let us entertain them with something different and fun.

ROCK SURVEY DIAGRAM - OUTSIDE



### Children's Art Workshop – Wed 13<sup>th</sup> April



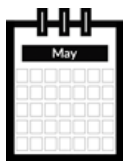
**Hosted by Jessica Hartshorn, experienced illustrator and provider of children's workshops.**

We are excited to announce our Children's Art Workshop on 13<sup>th</sup> April - the first Wednesday of the Easter School Holiday and a great opportunity for children to get creative and help design the illustrations for the village treasure trail that we are launching later in the year. We would like to involve as many young people as possible in this fun workshop for 7 - 14 year olds. Tickets are free but we suggest a small donation per child towards costs.

The event is in Ladbroke Village Hall. Each session will last an hour with morning start times of 9.45am and 11.15am. There may be one or two more sessions in the afternoon if the morning slots get over booked. Book tickets on Eventbrite, just search for Ladbroke Heritage.

Refreshments will be available for accompanying adults.

### Watch this space.....coming up in 2022



**A picture a day in the month of May** - following on from our successful online Advent Calendar, we would like to receive and share more photographs of our lovely village - this time in spring. To include our famous lambs of course! Watch this space on Facebook and Instagram.

**Inside Geology** – as a follow-up to the fascinating workshop last year on Graveyard Geology, we will be welcoming back Philip Powell and Nina Morgan who will talk about geology inside the church.



**Our phone box comes to life**....with an exhibition devised by our Duke of Edinburgh volunteer(s). More details to follow.

**Trip to Loughborough where our bells were made** - Taylors, the foundry where our bells were made/recast almost 150 years ago gives tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. See <https://loughboroughbellfoundry.org/visits/> and click the full foundry tour option for details. We haven't decided a date yet - it could be May, June or July. If you are interested in this please contact Joan on 813856.



**Jackie West & Nicky Lewis**

## The Bell Inn

We welcome Dani, the new manager and the Freespirit team to Ladbroke, thank them for their hospitality on opening night and look forward to them becoming another pillar of the local community. I hear they are on the lookout for staff - full time, part-time and also freelance for special events. If you or anyone you know is looking for this type of work locally, I suggest they get in contact with The Bell. See their new website [bellinnatladbroke.co.uk](http://bellinnatladbroke.co.uk) for contact details.

**Jackie West**



## Report from your District Councillor for Ladbroke Council Budget

After an interesting debate, Stratford decided its budget at the Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February. The result was a rise in the district council element of council tax of 3.35% which is the maximum permitted. A number of measures are to be taken to control expenditure and income. The controversial green bin charge is to rise to £42 and thence add

£2 per year every year going forward. The Lib Dem opposition proposed a number of measures within the total expenditure figures, including an advice service to residents to help with home energy, and this latter suggestion was accepted by the Conservative administration. The resulting figures (Band D properties) for all Councils are:

	2021/22	2022/23	Increase
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	£149.12	£154.12	3.35%
Warwickshire County Council	£1,533.51	£1,590.93	3.74%
Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner	£252.96	£262.71	3.85%
Sub-total	£1,935.59	£2,007.76	3.73%
Town and Parish Councils (average)	£65.17	£66.08	1.40%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,000.76</b>	<b>£2,073.84</b>	<b>3.65%</b>

A significant part of Council income comes from central government. One big problem for the Council is the Government will only say what they will provide over the coming year rather than declaring their finance grants over three or four years as they used to. This uncertainty constrains financial planning for the council.

### **Energy Price Rises**

You may be aware of that the government intends to give help with energy prices by means of £150 Council Tax rebate for properties in Bands A-D. The District Council will have to administer the scheme, but at the time of writing the council staff who will have to do this have no actual details of how this might work. There was also the announcement of a £144 million Discretionary Scheme to help those who are not included in the £150 Rebate. Also, there are no details as to how this might operate, what our share of the pot is or how it is to be paid. At the Council meeting I challenged the way these announcements are made (like some of the Covid grants last year) before the operation of the scheme has been decided. The government working like this is unfortunate to say the least, but hopefully more details will come out over coming weeks.

### **Waste Collections**

A new waste collection will be coming in during the year. Details can be found at <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/123-waste-collections.cfm>

### **Covid**

At 17<sup>th</sup> February the seven day infection rate per 100,000 for the District was 590. Our local area had similar rates of just over 600 cases per 100,000 which has more or less halved in two weeks. To put this in context, the

District rates from September to mid December fluctuated around 490, rising to peak about 1600 at the beginning of January, before falling back now be just above the prevailing infection rate over the months before peak at the new year peak. Rates seemed to have taken more time to fall back in rural areas than some of the metropolitan areas of the West Midlands.

The Government has decided the trends are sufficiently positive to release all control in coming days.

Although it is reported the Omicron variant is fortunately a bit less serious, the health service locally has still to recover from the challenge. At University Hospital Coventry 26% of ambulance patients waited more than 30 minutes to be handed over to A&E staff (figures for the week to 13 February). For ambulance waits at Warwick the figure was 18%. These A&E waits are broadly double what they were at equivalent dates two years ago, but we are finally seeing a positive trend. I repeat the many thanks to our health and care workers, and personally I shall continue to be cautious to protect them and others as much as I can in my behaviour despite the lifting of government restrictions.

**Cllr Nigel Rock**  
nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk



**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*

## **February 2022 Meeting Report**

Strange times for our Parish Council with many of the “old hands” leaving to be replaced (sometimes fleetingly) by new councillors. However, we still have the amazing Janet Thornley, advocate for our young people. There is an agenda for the meeting which gives an opportunity, at the beginning, for residents to speak, as you will see later when two couples gave reasons for their planning applications.

**Community Grants:-** Council agreed to give £1,773 to the PTA for an artist’s time and materials for the School’s Jubilee Project.

**Library:-** Chairman Tim Lockley reported that the Library was pleased to see more visitors. Library volunteer, Richard Fowler, said they hoped to replace the gas boiler and improve the heating. Harbury was already set up as a “Community Hub” and had been used - by the County Council - as an example for other villages.

**School:-** Was to elect a new Governor. The PTA was thriving. There was no update available on Southam School.

**Village Hall:-** This was, said Andy Rutherford, going well with children's parties and other events. They had a £2,600 Grant from Stratford District and had installed air filters at £900 each and now also had a bike rack.

**Stratford DC:-** Chris Kettle reported that, at their budget meeting, the County Council had agreed a 3.75% Council Tax increase, had also pledged not to cut Social Care Services and allocated more money for schools and Special Care needs.

**Planning:-** Councillors had no objection to Burgess Care erecting a sign at their entrance off the Fosse, nor for the erection of a porch at Lorne Cottage on Crown Street.

The creation of a new access to the Paddock by the Church and its change of use to "domestic garden" was discussed for some time, with concerns that, at a later date a new owner might wish to build upon it. The owners said they wanted to grow things of "aesthetic value". The Paddock was in the Conservation Area. They were trying to improve it, repair the walls, trim back the trees, tidy it and improve the land.

In response the Chairman said this relied on the owners' goodwill and he hoped that perhaps in future there could at times be access for the school children. The Parish Council made "No Representation", having satisfied themselves that the Paddock was an asset to the village.

**Environment:-** Paul Quinney had sought £6,500 for tree planting on the Recreation Grounds, now reduced to 2K, but planned to plant some of those trees on the inside of the paths. But, despite the possibility that this might mitigate flooding, the PC had concerns they could eventually be too dense if on the inside. As the Council's tree surgeon had suggested better areas for the planting in different parts of the Parish, more careful thought was needed.

**Electric Vehicle Charging Points:-** A resident had suggested that the Council install commercial chargers now. The Chairman did not want to undermine the future energy project and noted that, at present, it was not clear what the demand for charging points would be. They would need to understand the demand before deciding now many of these points would be needed.

**Traffic:-** The benefits of slowing down traffic to 20mph in villages, which the County Council was considering, included - reduced pollution, noise and safety, but any changes to the status of roads would be costly. The Chairman suggested that the County was better placed to deal with this than our Parish Council.

**Properties:-** The Cemetery memorials had been inspected and the storm damage in the allotments had been cleared.

**Climate Change:-** The Working Party had circulated a report of the actions needed. The Parish Council's website was to be updated so that residents could find the information they needed more easily. There would be street theatre and an eco fair at the village Carnival, which would be set up for

village organisations who were “doing something about climate change”. The Council approved money for the hire of a marquee.

**Platinum Jubilee:-** The Parish Council wanted people to organise their own events and approved plans to buy 500 metres of bunting. They also agreed to provide 100 metres of calico for the School Children to use for the event.

**Finance and General Purposes:-** This is the boring bit where the Council has to approve things like bank reconciliations, budget updates, signatories to bank accounts, agreeing Councillors’ allowances, etc. But it also dealt with some amusing things like:- getting the Percival Drive bollards mended; paying for the electricity costs of street lighting (which has more than doubled) and the street lighting maintenance contract which apparently proves not to be “good at mending lights”!

**Reports and Questions:-** Here Cllr Julie Balch was pleased to announce that, at last, the “terrible mess and stink” of the sewerage running down Mill Street was being tackled!

**The Next Meeting:** 24<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

## Parish Council News

### Budget & Parish Precept 2022/23

The parish council has approved its budget for 2022/23 and the precept has been set at £119,677. This represents a 0.42% increase on the current year for a band D property. The precept is raised via the council tax and all the money is spent within the parish of Harbury for the benefit of Harbury and Deppers Bridge residents.

Harbury Precept	Precept	Band D	Band D %	Precept %	Band D #
2013/2014	£77,460.00	£75.53	14.70%	8.10%	1026
2014/2015	£78,966.00	£74.63	-1.20%	1.90%	1058
2015/2016	£95,250.00	£88.21	18.20%	20.60%	1080
2016/2017	£97,664.00	£90.18	2.20%	2.53%	1083
2017/2018	£104,952.00	£94.34	4.60%	7.46%	1112
2018/2019	£107,027.00	£91.42	-3.10%	1.98%	1171
2019/2020	£110,618.00	£93.89	2.70%	3.36%	1178
2020/2021	£113,378.00	£94.98	1.20%	2.50%	1194
2021/2022	£116,683.00	£99.16	4.40%	2.92%	1177
2022/2023	£119,677.00	£99.58	0.42%	2.50%	1202

### MAIN AREAS WHERE MONEY HAS BEEN ALLOCATED include:

- £10,000 for drainage work in the playing field.
- £10,000 towards a skate park and BMX track replacement/upgrade project.
- £10,000 for the community grants budget.

- £10,000 towards the new cemetery project to provide burial facilities.
- £8,000 for the street lighting budget, including electricity and repairs.
- £5,000 towards new play equipment, including surfacing.
- £3,000 towards small items – benches and Seasonal light replacements.
- £3,000 towards a community wellbeing allotment project.
- £2,800 for councillors' allowances (7 elected councillors)
- £1,700 to support community transport and the Harbury Local Market.
- £1,000 for a new noticeboard at the cemetery.
- £1,000 for Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

### **CONTINUING COSTS**

- Public litter bin collections within the parish.
- Play equipment inspections and maintenance.
- Grounds maintenance – allotments, playing field, cemetery, verges/greens, car park.
- Tree, hedge and verge upkeep including long term enhancement plan.
- Contribution to tennis and netball courts maintenance.
- Parish office running costs.
- Training for councillors.

### **Cemetery Tree Planting**

This spring we will be removing the old and misshapen trees which line the edges of the path at the far end of the cemetery. These trees, not to be confused with the yews which line the main path, are in poor condition and are nearing the end of their life span. We will be replacing them with a mixture of wild pear, Himalayan birch and Japanese cherry. Not only will the new trees enhance the cemetery landscape, making it lighter and airier, but they will also be good for the environment as the blossom will encourage pollinating insects.

### **Memorial Safety Inspections**

A full safety inspection of all memorials in the cemetery will be carried out on or after 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The inspection is necessary to ensure that the cemetery is a safe place for all visitors, staff and contractors.

The inspection will include a full visual examination of each memorial to



identify any obvious defects and a hand test to check for stability. Any memorial identified as unsafe will be cordoned off while the council attempts to contact the owner.

A formal notice has been placed at the entrance to the cemetery and on our website. For further information, please contact the parish council office on 01926 614646 or email [clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk)

### Allotments Project


The allotments well-being project is the brainchild of one of our allotment holders and is being supported by the parish council. The idea is to create an accessible plot for use by anyone who would benefit from time spent outdoors while having a go at growing some fruit and veg and the chance to meet other people. Many people enjoy the physical and mental benefits of gardening but not everyone is able to look after a garden or allotment of their own. We're hoping this plot will help those people.

With funding from the parish council, and a grant from the Co-op's Helping Hearts scheme, we hope to install some raised beds, paths, and a shelter where people can sit and rest while having a tea break. At the moment, the plot is still being cleared so we have some way to go yet before we can invite people along to try their hand at growing anything. If you would like to help in any way, either with the preparation work or working alongside people once the plot is up and running, please contact us.

**Alison Biddle**  
Clerk to Harbury Parish Council

### Current Parish Council members contactable via the Parish Office are:

Tim Lockley (Chairman), Keith Thompson (Vice-Chair), Samantha Allen, Julie Balch, Jess Dominick, Steve Ekins, Alan Knowles, Alex Potter, Andrew Rutherford, Janet Thornley

<b>THE HARBURY SOCIETY</b>		<b>Harbury Society</b>	<b>Sue Turner</b>
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Many thanks to everyone who supported the coffee morning held in the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February. As a result, a very useful £160 was raised on behalf of the Society. If the person who made the almond cakes is reading this, I have your cake box! Please contact me on 07917 055920 so I can return it to you.

Jackie West's presentation 'Alice and the Adventurer', given to members of the Harbury Society on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February, is a story which is part of local, national and even international history but which has been lost in the passing of time. It was brought dramatically to



life by Jackie who held the audience spellbound as they learned about Alice and Robert Dudley's (the Adventurer in the title) life together and apart. A short historical novel, in which Alice recounts the story of her long life, was originally published in the Harbury & Ladbroke News and is now available from Ladbroke Church and Harbury Library for £2.

The next Harbury Society meeting is on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March in the Tom Hauley Room at 7.30pm. John Smith is giving a presentation entitled 'A Jungle Adventure' which will give a fascinating insight into his life and time spent in Borneo. Refreshments will be available. Harbury Society members FOC, guests £1. To reserve a seat please contact Sue Turner, Secretary, on 07917 055920 or email [sue@turners.co.uk](mailto:sue@turners.co.uk).

If you would like to become a member of the Harbury Society, please contact Sue Turner on 07917 055920 or email [sue@turners.co.uk](mailto:sue@turners.co.uk).

### How the Harbury Society Was Formed



The Harbury Society is initiating a new award for any significant improvement in relation to the village's environmental or conservation heritage called the Heritage Medal. It is concerned with a specific enhancement rather than an award for an individual.

However, we intend that the recipient(s) should be the prime mover(s) of such an enhancement.

Linda Ridgley has accepted our first Heritage Medal for her and others' efforts that went into saving the Manor House. This must be one of the most worthwhile achievements as the loss of the Manor would have deprived the village of something incredibly special.

We have managed to get her to tell the story as follows.

*"I came to the village in the early 70's with my husband John, and two small children, to a semi-detached house on the Manor Orchard Estate, that looked out onto the rear of the Manor Gardens and its lovely walnut tree.*

*It seemed no sooner had we arrived than we discovered that the then owners of the Manor House, intended to further facilitate development of the site by demolishing the very important historic house itself.*

*(It would have been utter vandalism, especially as much later, the house was owned by a renowned architect who discovered that the middle section of the house was in fact a very early 'Medieval hall house' of about the 13<sup>th</sup> century!)*

John suggested that I contact other residents who were appalled by this vandalism. There were plenty who were ready to fight to save the Manor House, and we began to work out what we could do.

As I had passed my driving test, I got the job of talking to all the farmers in the outlying areas, who were most likely not to have known of the proposed demolition. It was a very interesting project, as farmers and especially their wives then, really enjoyed having someone to talk to about the proposed development, and anything else! And they were a fount of knowledge about, not just the village, but the other farms too.

In the end the demolition project was rejected by Stratford, but the nascent Harbury Society was then formed to try to ensure that we could learn more about the village, its past and heritage and the important village buildings which needed to be protected.

At first the group that had founded Harbury Society, realising that they needed more professional help on many levels, **including how the planning system worked**, and an understanding of the protection afforded to Historic Buildings, looked for advice from experts.

It became clear that we needed to be able to persuade Stratford District Council to protect the most historic areas of the village by having Conservation Areas set up. So we invited them to send us one of their officers to explain what we needed to do to get this protection.

As a result we embarked on a survey of village buildings so that we could attempt to have the most important of them listed and so protected. It was a fascinating project which eventually led to further work, including use of the County Archives, which, thanks to the work of our volunteers, eventually led to the production and sale of "Hungry Harbury" - a **Guide to a Warwickshire Village** - launched at Christmas 1980. This included a Village Walk, which Chris Finch had undertaken. It highlighted the important buildings, giving details of their history.

1980! Dutch Elm Disease had devastated the Midlands. We had monitored its spread and though we tried to save the elms, the most important trees on the Feldon, it was heart-breaking and impossible. So, along with others, we replanted with different species. We had already planted a large plane tree on the Old New Inn Green for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

All this time we had been helped by the many speakers who had given us further insight into village history, and planning officers who helped us understand how historic buildings could be protected for future generations".

Linda Ridgley - January 2022





## Harbury Women's Institute

Mary Thompson

The meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February started on a note of sadness as we remembered Chris Gore who died recently. A number of members will be attending her funeral at the beginning of March.



February is traditionally Members' Night and this year we were entertained with a Royal Jubilee Quiz designed by Julia Fowler and shown on the computer by Chris Rutherford. This proved to be most enjoyable - some questions tested our memories and others required a bit of guessing! This was great fun which apparently the Queen said about her audiences with Winston Churchill in the 1950s.

Peggy King will be the speaker at our meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March describing her life in Surabaya, East Java. Covid has thwarted two previous attempts for Peggy to visit so we are hoping she will make it this time. Visitors are very welcome.

The film "Dream Horse" proved to be very enjoyable. The last cinema of this season will be showing "Hope Gap" on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March. This is a story about hope, persistence and hard work for the things that matter most - starring Annette Bening, Bill Nighy, Josh O'Connor and Aiysha Hart. Tickets are available from the Pharmacy - £11 with fish and chips or £6 for film only. The Pharmacy staff are grateful if you can have the correct change - tickets should be purchased by lunchtime on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March as we have to order the fish and chips during the afternoon.

WI plan to start running the cinema again in September.



## Harbury Twinning Association

Ron Temple

The Twinning Association has been busy organising various social events in this year's calendar after a couple of years of curtailed events!

This month we have a coffee morning at Biblio's Café and a skittles evening organised for April.

On Bastille Day we are all going to the French café and restaurant, Eleven, in Leamington Spa for an evening meal. Eleven will be a lovely venue for a traditional French evening.

Unfortunately, our proposed visit to Samoia in June this year coincides with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Understandably, the majority of our members have said that they would prefer to stay in Harbury to join in the celebrations with friends and family. We are working with our friends in Samoia to find an alternative date for our visit.

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## Harbury Heritage Centre

Bill Timson

We are looking back this month to forty years ago, March 1982, to see what was happening in Harbury. Articles in The Harbury and Ladbroke News for that month included:

- The Easter Spring Fair was due to take place - in aid of Church funds. It was due to be opened by Sam Glassey, TV weather forecaster; does anyone remember him?
- There was mention of Major Rupert Kettle, local councillor, tragically killed in a car accident. There is a road in Bishop's Itchington named after him.
- There was concern about the lack of support for events being organised in the village hall in Ladbroke, with a threat of possible closure.
- Class 10 of Harbury School had been on a residential trip to Marle Hall in Wales. The experience is recorded by Paula Kelly.
- The competition for that year's Carnival Queen was advertised with £10 as the prize and £5 each for the two attendants. Hopefully the carnival will take place in June this year, the first one since 2019.

'Who knows?' last month asked for anyone who went to the Wagstaffe School to share their experiences.

Thomas Wagstaffe was a London Lawyer; in 1610, he purchased land on the north side of the churchyard and erected a school on it. It was built of squared limestone; the west wing was of two floors, probably to accommodate a school master and the east wing formed one large school room.



Wagstaffe kept the building in repair; William Spier, a clerk, was appointed as master, with an allowance of £20 per year.

Wagstaffe died, without endowing the school, but his grandson, another Thomas, was willing to continue the endowment. On 6<sup>th</sup> February 1637, it was ordered that lands "of better value" than £20 per year should be settled for

the payment of salary and repairs. In consequence, the £20 was paid yearly out of tithes of Harbury and the school was kept in repair until 1738.

In 1738, Elizabeth Oughton discontinued the support for the school, but in 1759 the Court ordered that the charity should be established for ever: - *"for instructing boys, children of the inhabitants of Harbury, having first learned their letters, in reading, writing and accounts"*. The annuities of £20 and 20 shillings were paid by the owners of Harbury Fields Farm.

The £20 was paid to the schoolmaster, who resided in the school house, and the 20 shillings was used for repairs. In the middle of last century, the average attendance was 50, when the master was Joseph West. The school became disused in 1860 but was re-opened in 1866 *"for the children, whether boys or girls, of all present inhabitants of the Parish of Harbury who shall apply for admission"*.

The 1841 census lists George Walton, aged 30, as the School Master; he 'lived in'. Ten years later Joseph West was in charge, the school was known as 'The Free School'. The 1913 Land Survey describes the school, address Pump Street (later Crown Street), as 'a building of good style, consisting of two store rooms on the first floor and two class rooms on the ground floor, plus two cloakrooms. Outside there was an old shed and an asphalt playground. The market value was £530. By this time the school was for infants up to the age of seven, after this they would go to the Wight School in the High Street. M R Thornicroft tells us that Miss Bird was a teacher there for 50 years! Starting as a pupil teacher, at the age of 16, she taught the babies how to thread beads and tie their shoe laces, then they progressed onto Miss Scarlett's class and then to Miss Johnson who was head teacher and taught 'letters'. Mr Alick Cleaver, another former pupil in the 1920's also fondly remembers Miss Bird and Miss Johnson.



Miss Rainbow was the headmistress in 1942, when the village schools would have taken in evacuees from the large cities. Frances Mann in her book 'Kecks, Cowpats and Conkers' recalls how these children had to adapt to village life. In the 1950's and 60's Mrs Watts was the Head Mistress; Neville Sheasby, Heritage Committee member, recalls that she was the wife of the church organist Peter Watts. He remembers a teacher called Miss Endall and also Floss Harris's mother served as Headmistress too.

The expansion of the village in the 1960's led to the demand for a bigger school and a 'new' school was built off Mill Street and 70 children (infants) transferred there for the start of the Summer Term in 1968. The Wagstaffe School finally closed its doors on 12<sup>th</sup> April 1968. In a newspaper article Mrs Watts commented



*'I'm sad to be leaving; the new school is wonderful, all clean and hygienic.... but it will be another hundred years before it has a bit of soul'.*

The Wagstaffe School building was put up for sale in January 1971 by the Trustees of the Harbury Charities. Today, it is a private residence. It was bought by 'The Woodruffs' and converted into a lovely character home. It is also one of Harbury's Grade II Listed Buildings.

We have a scary 'ghost story' about the Wagstaffe School which may or may not be true. Come along to the Heritage Centre and read about it. Our next opening times are:

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2- 4pm, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 7- 9pm and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2 - 4 pm.**

This month's 'who knows?' asks what happened to Harbury Station? If you have any information or recollections contact us via email at 'harburyheritage.org.uk'.

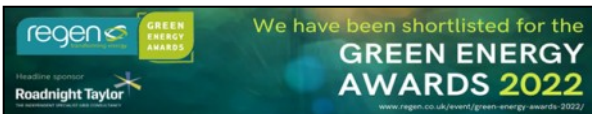
Finally: A BIG thank you to all of you who supported our coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on 29<sup>th</sup> January. We raised £160 for the Heritage Funds. Pictured are 'Victorians' Janet Thornley and Bill Timson at the event.



## Harbury Energy Initiative

**Bob Sherman**

☎612277 ✉info@harburyenergy.co.uk



We were delighted to hear in February that we had been shortlisted for these prestigious Awards (which you have probably never heard of!). Back in January we were invited, to our surprise, to nominate ourselves. We did so with no expectations of being shortlisted given how many organisations there are in the country working on energy and climate. Now we find ourselves in a list of five, a village group rubbing shoulders with cities and regions. The winner will be declared at the Awards Event in Bath on 30<sup>th</sup> March. Which means that I won't be able to tell you in the April edition because I will have had to submit copy before then. If you follow HEI on Facebook, however, you'll be sure to know. I don't intend to keep it to myself.

## Heat pumps

Last month, as I am sure you recall, I told you how I was looking into the mysteries and merits of heat pumps, since they appear to be being promoted as the panacea for all home heat problems. I am not so confident. Given the absence of any deluge of requests for information I am tempted to assume that you have already made up your minds, have already got one, don't know what they are or meant to contact me but never got round to it. But I looked into heat pumps anyway and received some interesting advice. In addition, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February I joined an online Q and A on heat pumps in the hope of absorbing as much information as possible. Here are some tips from experts for starters:

- Heat pumps are going to be an important contributor to future heating needs.
- Heat pumps operate at lower temperatures to achieve best efficiency
- Very few existing houses are suitable for a heat pump without additional insulation and larger radiators.
- Heat pumps are particularly suitable for new build highly insulated homes.
- Electricity is currently about three times more expensive than gas for heating so, if you were to just swap a boiler for a heat pump, you might pay a lot more for your energy.....whilst, of course, reducing CO2 - good thing. The minimum level of efficiency (Coefficient of Performance or CoP) should be higher than three (that means producing three times more energy than it consumes).
- Some Local Authorities have had to strip out heat pumps from social housing due to the fact that residents could not afford the heating. To be fair, that isn't all that common.
- The supply chain is under prepared and under skilled in terms of design, specification, installation and maintenance!
- Air source heat pumps are installed outside and some can be noisy.
- The current proposal for the Government grant is misleading. £5K for the heat pump to change a boiler might be the tip of the iceberg when you take into account the necessity of more insulation and larger radiators.
- Ground source heating is more efficient but also generally more expensive although, if you have a large garden (mainly of grass), a horizontal array in trenches can be cost effective. Another option is using boreholes but installation costs are high.
- Also you will need as big a cylinder as you have space for.

## Ted's Tech Trawl

(continuing Ted's occasional series of interesting technology advances)

Photovoltaic panels are at the moment made using a silver compound to carry the electricity from each silicon flake. Many companies have tried to use cheaper conductors but so far without success.

A young Australian university graduate was sure that it could be done. He left university and set up research in a domestic garage in Wollongong near Sydney. After about five years he and his business partner have finally produced a world beating solar panel using copper instead of silver. SunDrive Solar was born!

The significance of this innovation is that copper, which is readily available and lower in cost, could reduce panel costs by as much as 30%. Copper is also easier to recycle.



centre for  
sustainable  
energy

### Do you need support? - From CSE website

We are living in tricky times financially with many already anxious about the rapidly rising cost of energy and fearful of how they will manage their family purse in future. If you know of people in this position, you might like to direct them to some potential help.

The Centre for Sustainable Energy provides support for Western Power Distribution's customers through a tailored advice hub. 'Power Up is a programme aiming to fight fuel poverty and give everyone the joy of a warm and happy home.'



## Guides and Scouts Support

Laura Harris  
G.A.S.S. Committee

The search for Beaver and Cubs leaders is ongoing and it is our top priority to get these groups up and running again after many months of closure.

We have had interest in the Cub leader role and already have experienced helpers so we are really close to getting our 8-10 year-olds back into sessions. The support from leaders in other sections and the district is already there so all we need is one or two people to offer some of their time and we can make it happen. Please get in touch if you can offer even a few hours a month and the Harbury Cubs could be up and running again as soon as the summer term.



Likewise with Beavers, there are a couple of people who have expressed interest so it's just a matter of pooling time and energy from a few willing parents, grandparents or anyone over 18 who might enjoy doing scouting activities and helping 6-8 year olds during term time.

Please talk to us if you have any questions, call Rosanna 07770 704056 or email [g.a.s.s.harbury@hotmail.com](mailto:g.a.s.s.harbury@hotmail.com). Volunteering as a Cub or Beaver leader or helper might be the best thing you do in 2022!

### Session times for our current uniformed groups

<b>Brownies</b>	Monday 6.15 - 7.15pm
<b>Guides</b>	Monday 7.30 - 8.30pm
<b>Rainbows</b>	Tuesday 5.30 - 6.30pm
<b>Explorers</b>	Wednesday 7.30 - 9.00pm
<b>Scouts</b>	Thursday 7.00 - 8.30pm



### Jerry Birkbeck

Jerry Birkbeck, a long serving former player, life member, and committee stalwart of Harbury Rugby Club has died aged 75. Never a week went by without a match report for the local paper from Jerry. Big boots to fill.

Jerry, known to many as “Birkers” was associated with the club for over 50 years and much loved by all his colleagues. Harbury was established in 1962 under the name of Whitnash RFC. After moving to Harbury in 1966, a name change took place and games were played on Harbury playing fields. In 1979, Jerry was very much involved with the move to its present grounds at Waterloo Fields and it was his dedication that helped establish Harbury Rugby Club as one of Warwickshire’s premier sporting venues.

It was with Harbury that Jerry spent most of his rugby time on and off the field. Jerry was a true dedicated clubman, a real rugby person and over the years became great friends with so many within the club.

His funeral is at Oakley Woods on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00pm going onto the “Wild Boar” in Warwick.

### Eva Nicholls

Just before the first Covid lockdown in March 2020 unfortunately saw the passing of Eva and limitations at that time only allowed a handful of people to attend her funeral. Two years on and restrictions have been lifted such that Keiron is hosting a Charity Disco in aid of Cancer Research UK at the Rugby Club on Friday night 11<sup>th</sup> March - all are welcome to attend.

**1<sup>st</sup> XV:** Two home matches, the first against Pershore produced a win (32-14) before losing against Upton-on-Severn the following week (17-29). Next up, saw Harbury travel over to Rugby Welsh on a wet and very windy Saturday, the conditions suiting the home side winning 37-10. The following week, Harbury bounced back with a stunning home performance, beating Bedworth 31-11.

The Minis and Juniors have had a busy few weeks including a coaching day delivered by Coventry Rugby Club who arrived one Sunday with their community coaches and some of their players. The U6s played their first match amid lots of chaos but everybody had loads of fun! The last few weeks have been nice and muddy, with everyone leaving with a bit of Waterloo Fields!

### Vice Presidents' Lunch

Following on from the very successful pre-match lunch last October, we are looking forward to another enjoyable event on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Hosted by Club President Ian Holroyd, we shall sit down to a roast dinner; entertained by comedian Bob Webb, before heading out to watch the game against Chaddesley Corbett.

### Comedy Night



On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March, the Club is holding a "Comedy Night" with a programme of five comedians performing their own particular brand of comedy. Doors open at 7.00pm with the show starting at 8.00pm. Tickets are available online before the night from [comedyatwork.com/harburyrfc](http://comedyatwork.com/harburyrfc). The event is open to all - guaranteed to be a good night out.



### Harbury Tennis Club

Colin Mercer

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

The February storms caused some minor damage to the fencing, but tennis carried on!

The Junior coaching was disrupted, and we hope conditions will be better as we move towards spring. We are delighted that our link with Harbury School resumes after half-term when coach Scott continues sessions with year 4 pupils, and we hope to run this through the spring and summer terms. Something to look forward to is a **She Rallies Fun Day** on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. This is an LTA initiative in partnership with Judy Murray with the aim of creating more opportunities for women and girls in tennis. We'll be one of numerous clubs taking part in the regional festival and it will concentrate on fun!

We had a couple of postponements in the leagues but still managed to complete five fixtures. In the floodlit league Division 2, the A team of Helen Cooper, Eira Owen, Ben Fish and Adam Crossling suffered a heavy 1-7 defeat against a strong Banbury West End B. Ben and Adam played well to win our only point. The next match, against Brackley B also finished 7-1 but this time Harbury were the winners, with Emma Brangwin, Sue Panton, Josh Marshall, and Ben taking the honours. This was our third win of the season and with two matches to play we should manage a mid-table finish to the season.

In Division 3 the B team took on Middleton Cheney A. Jane Minchin, Sue Johnson, Ash Chand, and Steve Attridge enjoyed a very close match,

and after the first two rubbers the score was 2-2. Steve and Jane kept it on level terms halving their mixed doubles, but the home pair edged out Sue and Ash to secure a 5-3 win. With five matches to go Harbury sit in sixth place, just above the relegation place.

The floodlit C team suffered two defeats in Division 4. In the first against Deddington C, Sue Panton, Jeunine Crabtree, Ash Chand and David Bristow lost a hard-fought match. It followed a similar pattern to the B team match, all square at half-time, but the visitors won three of the four sets in the mixed doubles and an overall 5-3 win. Jeunine and David were joined by Lucy Ewen and Craig Lenton for the next match against Byfield D, yet another match that was level after the first two rubbers. The mixed doubles were very close with a tie-break set in both, but Byfield won both and went home with a 6-2 win. That leaves us bottom of the league but six matches to play, so there is still hope!

The weekend team started with the short trip to Warwick for Sue Panton, Sue Johnson, Maka Kandola and Colin Mercer. Surprise, surprise it was all square at half-time! In the mixed doubles Sue P and Colin drew theirs but Warwick made the most of home advantage winning both sets against Sue J and Maka who were playing on AstroTurf for the first time. Next came Kings Sutton B on our familiar hard courts, but in dreadful weather. For this one Sue Johnson, Jane Minchin, Nigel Eaton and Ash Chand adjusted to the windy conditions better than the visitors and chalked up an excellent 6-2 win taking us to second place in Division 2.

	<h2>Harbury Toddler Group</h2>	<p><b>Lynne Barton</b></p>
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### **Hello from everyone at Toddlers**

We are now getting into the 'swing' and Toddler numbers are gradually increasing again as more families hear about us and feel confident to come along. Everyone is welcome and there is no longer any need to book in advance. We remain Covid cautious and still take sensible precautions. We thank you all for your support on this matter, we are in touch with Warwickshire County Council and Public Health and continue to follow guidance given via this source.



## Well what have we been up to?

**Lots of Celebrations: Chinese New Year** was a distinct favourite with lanterns, noodles and tiger face paints. Our thanks go to Emily Robinson, whom many of you know for her creative flair in combining sensory play, sharing cultures and acting like lions with a certain panache.



### Happy Valentine's Day

We never miss the chance to decorate biscuits and these gingerbread hearts, kindly made by Laura, meant we could indulge in one of our favourite pastimes, I wonder how many made it safely home, just so very tasty. Just in case and for good measure we made Valentine cards and heart window decorations so everyone had a little gift.

### Kindness of Others

So many lovely people live in the village and are happy to share their talents with others.

We were delighted to receive a fabulous box of freshly knitted handmade jumpers, scarfs and cardies for children under four, donated as a gift to parents coming to Toddlers. Daphne Bench you are a STAR. We just loved them and even had some little ones modelling them straight away, a super surprise all round.



### Yes, we are back so...

...please do spread the word that we are running our regular Monday morning (9.30-11.15am) Toddler sessions at the Scout Hut located at the rear of the Library. There is always plenty to do, a warm welcome, a nice cuppa and the opportunity to make new friends, all this for just £1.50 per session. With much affection, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all very soon. Love from Lynne, Selina, Reg, Debbie, Suzi and Judi xx



## Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

**Chinese New Year:** This month, people in China have been celebrating the year of the Tiger. We have been using books and the iPad to learn all about China and how people celebrate Chinese New Year.

We have been looking at some Chinese artefacts and thinking about how they differ from ours in Britain. The children have been fascinated looking at some Chinese clothes, Chinese prints, chopsticks and Chinese decorations.



We have been using props to recreate the river, Jade Emperor and thirteen animals to re-enact 'The Great Race' to find out how the different years came to represent different animals. We have also discovered why there is no year of the cat!

The children especially enjoyed eating their Chinese stir fry. They chopped their vegetables carefully and enjoyed them with

noodles, soy sauce, honey and prawn crackers on the side. We had a try at using chopsticks and we were really impressed with the children's efforts and persistence!

Chinese New Year would not be complete without a dragon and our homemade dragon made his annual appearance this week.



The children have been producing some fantastic representations of our dragon using paint, carefully looking at his many features.

We have also been doing lots of singing, dancing and beating of the drums with our newly-decorated dragon to make our very own Chinese dance!

Outside and inside, the children have been given a variety of bricks and have been building their very own versions of the Great Wall of China!

**Goldilocks and the Three Bears:** We love our traditional tales so we have been reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears with the children.

We have told the story with props and some of the children have chosen to dress up as Goldilocks or as a bear and re-enact the story in our role play 'three bears' cottage', complete with chairs, bowls, porridge and bears!





The exploratory tray was filled with oats and bowls and spoons for the children to explore and practise scooping and pouring.

As it was cold outside, we have also been enjoying eating porridge for snack and finishing it before Goldilocks gets there first!



**Looking forward:** After half term, we are looking forward to eating some yummy pancakes for Pancake Day and celebrating World Book Day. The children will be asked to bring in their favourite book to share and invited to dress up as their favourite book character.

*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 Village Hall

**Andy Rutherford**

It's great to see people using the Hall again. We have seen a good number of bookings for children's birthday parties, wedding parties, Jazz and other musical events, and of course the Village Cinema is back.

The seven HEPA filters we have positioned around the Hall are removing dust and killing airborne virus, but they do need to be switched on at the beginning of each event. It seems they are being referred to as "The Daleks". Exterminate! Exterminate!

The bike racks have now been installed at the front of the Hall. I don't think they have been used yet, but the sun is due to come out soon.





## Harbury Village Library & Biblio's Café

Rich Fowler

**Covid:** Although there is no longer a legal requirement for people to wear a face covering, we will continue to encourage our visitors to do so.

**Opening Hours:** From Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February we will be staying open for an additional 30 minutes on weekday afternoons. Opening hours are now 10am to 4.30pm on Mondays and Tuesdays, 9.15pm to 4.30pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and from 10am to 12 noon on Saturdays.



**French Classes:** From Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March French classes will resume in the library. There will be two levels of class, Improvers and Conversation, which will take place on alternate weeks. The classes start at 4.30pm. If you would like to join one of the classes, please send an email to Andrew Patrick at [andrewpharbury@gmail.com](mailto:andrewpharbury@gmail.com)



**Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations:** Harbury Parish Council has asked us to collect information about the village's plans for celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee: events, activities, street parties, and more. Collected information will then be made available online so that we'll all know what's being planned and

when, which will:

- Help to avoid clashes
- Give people ideas for their own events
- Allow people to volunteer
- Allow people to ask for volunteers
- Help us all to make the most of this special occasion

Please tell us about your event by sending an email to [platinum@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](mailto:platinum@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk) with details.

**New Events:** The following newly announced events will be taking place at the library:

- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March - A talk by Helen Barlow of the Dogs Trust
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April - A road safety event with Warwickshire Road Safety Education team to include a specially written story, followed by a bike marking event with Warwickshire Police
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April - Meet Bella Osborne, a Warwickshire author
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June - Hanson's Antiques Valuation event

Don't forget, you can hire the library for your own event. Rates are £5 an hour for community or social events, £10 an hour for commercial or profit making events. For more information email us at [events@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](mailto:events@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk)

**Live at the Village Hall:** Dates of the events we're presenting "Live at the Village Hall":

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2022** - A Ghost of a Smile - Two ghost stories from Charles Dickens (spooky but with a comic twist).

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2022** - Ma Bessie's Prohibition Party - The very best of 20s/30s blues and jazz.

More information, and tickets, available at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hvlbc>



**Biblio's:** Please remember that customers are able to book tables in advance for Biblio's Cafe. To make a booking email [bookingsbiblioscafe@outlook.com](mailto:bookingsbiblioscafe@outlook.com). Tables are restricted to a maximum of six people.

On arrival customers are asked to wait to be allocated a table, where their order will be taken.

### Opening Times

Library - Monday and Tuesday - 10 am to 4.30pm; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 9.15am to 4.30pm; Saturday - 10am to 12 noon.

Biblio's Café - Wednesday to Saturday - 9.15am to 12 noon, Saturday - 10am to 12 noon.

Please note that it will be table service only in the cafe, apart from takeaway items.



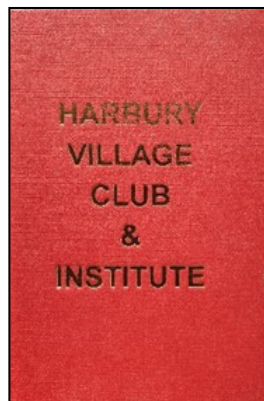
**Harbury Village Club & Institute**

**Judy Morrall**

Thank goodness February is almost over. Today 22<sup>nd</sup> is sunny and the awful stormy weather of the last few days has abated. If March comes in like a lion it will go out like a lamb - we will see.

February has been another busy time for all at the club. More societies are returning and we will be welcoming back the lovely WI ladies who come and play darts. Many more meetings are on the calendar - fantastic. We have had two parties, an adult one and a children's one and both were enjoyed by all who came. The children's games room is a great hit too. As you know, there is no charge for the hire of the concert room and we look forward to many more bookings.

The loyalty card scheme for buying pints has now finished and been replaced. All paid up members who produce their red membership card at the till are now entitled to 10% off all drinks and snacks bought. This



has been very much appreciated by our members. Plus, new beers and ciders and lagers, come and see for yourselves for a sample or two and of course meet our very friendly and helpful bar staff. You will not be disappointed.

I hope that you spotted the deliberate mistake in my last article about the return of the bingo. It has been revamped and is now bingo and a buffet. The one we held on 29<sup>th</sup> January was a huge success - the room was full. I was able to pay £10 for a line and £20 for a full house with the last game for a full house only paying £50. The winnings were spread equally around the room. The bumper raffle too was very well received as was the buffet at £2 per person. Our new caller Rachael was brilliant so, all in all, a successful evening. All proceeds were paid into the bank and will go towards repairs. The next one is Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February which I will report back on in my next article.

Once the weather has improved we will hold another car boot sale on our car park. We only charge £5 per pitch and it was on a Sunday last time. A good opportunity to clear out unwanted items that are taking up a lot of space.



On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March in the afternoon there will be CPR training. Please come along and support a good cause and it is such a worthwhile skill to learn. We wish Ann Lynch much success as she has achieved so much already. In the evening Stone Meadow will be performing live music if you like rock and roll you will not be disappointed. It will be the first of many such events. Look out for Eazy Street who use our concert room to practice weekly. We have been asked for live music so happy to oblige.

One more Sunday (27<sup>th</sup> February) at the club for processing membership renewals. Not many left now and it has been a delight to meet members who have come along and paid. Nice to put a face to the name. There are probably about a dozen who will not be renewing as I have spoken to many members over the last month. We completely understand that circumstances change and thank them for their support over the years. I will let you know the total of paid members in my next article. Best news though is that over the last two weeks I have processed ten new memberships.



We will now be able to get the repairs that need doing urgently to the flat roofing over the foyer. Donations are still trickling in and, as I said previously, your support and generosity is very much appreciated.

Despite the very high winds the stones on the rockery did not relocate anywhere else. I tidied up some leaves last weekend and today, driving past, the crocuses are looking so cheerful, yellow, white and mauve. The daffodils and narcissus will soon be in flower too. The hellebores, herbs, grasses and violas are showing off and why not. Plans are being made for further planting in the Spring. The four pots are looking very colourful and I will soon need to

water them, I know - after all this rain, but it doesn't penetrate very far below the surface. I will probably pot up a couple of hanging baskets this year either side of the main entrance.

Due to weather conditions I've not been able to do any digging at my allotments. I have planned where I will put my seeds and the strawberry plants will need dividing this year too. Herbs are always a good stand-by and still making vegetable soup from anything left to dig up. Curly kale is amazing, it can stand anything that Mother Nature throws at it! Even pulling out beetroot and it is edible. Can't wait to get started. John has finished cutting down to a manageable 4 feet my bay tree in the garden. Enough bay leaves for the whole of Warwickshire!



Still fairly cold at Upton and we had to close for three days from a Saturday to a Monday due to high winds and the clearing up of trees that had been brought down. At least the house, shop and garden are now open and looking forward to my Wednesdays and Saturdays volunteering. All of the paintings have now been examined by the conservators and luckily no lasting damage. The Tintoretto in the Picture Gallery Passage will be undergoing a facelift over the next few months and visitors will be able to see conservation in action.

The four conservators recently had to undergo training in putting up and taking down a scaffolding tower. Necessary in the Picture Room for a deep clean because of the double height. They all completed the course and have certificates to prove it. When I first started there they merely put ladders across planks and crawled along them! How things have changed.

Not sure if Sam Waley-Cohen will be riding at Cheltenham next month but he told us that he will be taking part in the Grand National. Stroked Long Run, the horse that Sam rode to victory in the Cheltenham Gold Cup ten years ago as he is in a paddock at the back of Upton Viva. Such a gentle horse. I also spoke to Robert Waley-Cohen who has recovered from his bout of ill health.

The guide books for Upton House and Gardens are now in place in the lounge at the club alongside the latest issue of Harbury and Ladbroke News.

Thank you for all your nice comments and feedback. I look forward to seeing everyone at the club now that we are emerging from many more restrictions. There are some really colourful spring flowers in many gardens as you walk around our village and the nights are getting lighter too. We are so lucky to live in such a caring village. My very best wishes to you all.





## Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

Signs of spring are visible today (mid Feb) - snowdrops, hellebores and primroses are flowering well and the days are lengthening. There are also some other things to look forward to this year because Mandy is now in charge of growing the alpines and she has introduced some new plants which will be for sale soon. Also, there is Nicola who is busy growing a wide range of flowers for cutting and these will be available possibly as early as April. Sarah is doing a lot of the garden work which leaves me free to produce more plants for sale for all you lovely people. Oh, and I've just put an order in for two pallets of planters and containers.

### Reminders of seasonal jobs:

- Prune buddleia, roses, late flowering clematis.
- Sow hardy annuals, broad beans, parsnips and peas.
- Continue to plant any bare root trees and shrubs.
- Lift and divide congested clumps of perennials and re-plant.
- Plant onions and shallots.
- Finish cutting back grasses and perennials.
- Some houseplants might need refreshing by potting into a larger pot.
- Shrubs grown in containers might need similar treatment to encourage new healthy growth.



**Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton**

[www.bridge-nursery.co.uk](http://www.bridge-nursery.co.uk)



## Nature Notes

John Hancock

On a breezy day in early February Sharon and I drove down to the Ridgeway near Hungerford. We had arranged to meet with some of our family and took the chance to explore sites along the ancient track. One of these is known as Wayland's Smithy. The name is intriguing and refers to a Saxon God, a blacksmith called Wayland. At the site lies a long barrow which has been dated to approximately 3500BC. This is four millennia earlier than the Saxon farmers who eventually settled this part of their new kingdom. Legend had it that a horse, tethered there overnight, in need of shoeing, would be shod by morning as long as a certain sum of money was left in the hollow of a rock.



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**Email: [rosemary@braesidebb.co.uk](mailto:rosemary@braesidebb.co.uk)**

**Website: [www.braesidebb.co.uk](http://www.braesidebb.co.uk)**

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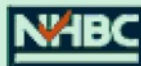
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## HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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Tel: 614646

Website: [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk)

Open: Monday - Thursday  
10.00am - 12.00pm

### CHAIRMAN:

**Tim Lockley**

Email: [chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk)

### CLERK:

**Alison Biddle**

Email: [clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk)

Parish Council meetings are  
open to the Public.

To speak on any issue, please  
contact the Parish Clerk.

## Harbury Village Library & Biblio's Café

### Harbury Village Library

Browsing & Borrowing, Click and Collect, Home Delivery and Takeaway Shelves for Children's and Adults' Books, Audio Books, Jigsaws, and Board Games. Public Access Computers, WiFi access and Printing Facilities

### Biblio's Café

A selection of hot and cold drinks, cakes and baked goods either as takeaway items, which can be consumed in an area of the car park, or served at your table inside the cafe, depending on current Government regulations.

Please check in the Harbury Ladbroke News, on Social Media, [www.HarburyVillageLibrary.org.uk](http://www.HarburyVillageLibrary.org.uk) and village notice boards for information about current opening times



Harbury Village Library, The Wight School, High Street,  
Harbury CV33 9HW 01926 258776  
01926 258776 - [library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](mailto:library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk)





Further along the Ridgeway is the oldest hill figure in England. This is the Uffington White Horse cut in the turf and considered to be from the late Bronze Age making it around 3000 years old. It is featured on Belgic coins imported from Gaul before the first coins were struck in Britain.

Today (Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February), the third storm of the present series is rattling through though, luckily not as violent as we have had. I spent the morning at the Tom Hauley Room with the U3A Natural History Group now led by Alison Hodge. A good number of members had turned up to hear Tricia Scott give a presentation, and field questions, on 'rewilding'. The term refers to conservation efforts aimed at restoring and protecting natural processes and wilderness areas. The book 'Rewilding' by the aptly named Isabella Tree gives a flavour of what could be in store for parts of the country where farming in the traditional way becomes uneconomic. The farm where the experiment takes place is The Knepp in West Sussex. Rare species such as the Nightingale, Turtle Dove, Peregrine Falcon, and Purple Emperor butterfly are now breeding at Knepp. Taken to its logical conclusion, we will have a return of Beaver, Lynx and Grey Wolf to this country but, for many, this may be a step too far.



With progressively more daylight, we are seeing leaf burst in trees such as hawthorn and elder. I am looking forward to visiting Bishops Hill where soon butterflies such as Small Tortoiseshell and Brimstone will be flying on warmer days, tempted out of hibernation. The Brimstone is a leaf mimic. Its caterpillar's food plant is Buckthorn. With a long proboscis it can feed on Teasel flowers unlike the Gatekeeper for instance which with its short proboscis feeds on Ragwort.

The hill is, as many will know, a recently acquired nature reserve located off Ladbroke Road in Bishops Itchington, (CV47 2UT). When we first came to Harbury, the cement works were still active. Waste from the quarry was being dumped from tubs onto a substantial slag heap which, when quarrying ceased, became a wildlife haven and has been described as a relict piece of chalk downland with flora and fauna to match.

Among other 'specials' located here is the Small Blue butterfly (*Cupido minimus*). The caterpillar's food plant is Kidney Vetch. I remember once when climbing the south-west side of the hill coming across a student looking for eggs of the Small Blue. I was told where to look but failed to find one myself and relied on the student's superior eyesight to lead me to the spot. This is our smallest butterfly which uses its size to survive being able to apparently disappear when at rest. Climb the hill from mid-May to the end of June to see for yourself.



## General Section



## Save the Date - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June - Harbury Carnival 2022

We are pleased to announce that, after a break of two years, we have started planning for Harbury Carnival 2022. Please put Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June in your diaries and start thinking about your fancy dress or float for the parade. Let's make this year a carnival to remember!

If you would like to get involved with the organising, we would love to have you on the Harbury Carnival Committee. Nearer the date, we will be looking for people to sell raffle tickets and, on the day, we will be looking for marshals. If you can help in any way, please contact: [harburycarnival@gmail.com](mailto:harburycarnival@gmail.com)

**Harbury Carnival Committee**



## Harbury District Councillor Update

Yet another month has gone by! Where does the time go?

You may have seen the Stratford upon Avon District Council residents survey; it is posted to 6000 households, there is also an online version. The electoral role is used by the Council to give a random, geographically spread sample and address the questionnaire to the occupier.

This way, one in ten households in the District will receive the questionnaire. The survey is sent out ideally every two years, it is a key piece of public consultation which the Council undertakes. It last took place in November 2019.

It is used to benchmark results against other local authorities and the Council uses the Local Government Association guidance document "Are you being served" to benchmark residents' satisfaction. Experience shows that the Council will receive about 2,000 responses and allows the Council to undertake locality analysis. It is not promoted as the sample gives the important random spread in line with national best practice. Please return it, if you receive one, it is important and of great value.

I am working in our community not only as your Councillor but as part of the local District Nursing Team. Quite a few of you have stopped me to say hello and have a chat, it is good to see you. I am also a VP at Harbury Rugby Club. It is a great club to support, it gives so much to our community, especially our youth. Pop along and see them play. They are always pleased to see you!

I continue to work hard for local people, especially with the ongoing issues with Orbit Housing. Thankfully most cases have been brought to a successful conclusion quite swiftly and, in some cases, residents have been awarded money for the inconvenience they have endured.

Best wishes.

**Jacqui Harris - Ward Member Harbury**  
**Jacqui.harris@stratford-dc.gov.uk**



## Repair Café Harbury

Our next Repair Café will be on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March, from 2pm to 4pm at Harbury Village Library.

We don't just have a team of volunteer repairers, we also have glue, string, tape, lubricants, and a range of tools available so that you can carry out your own repairs.

We will hold a Repair Café on the fourth Saturday of every month, with the exception of December. But if you need something repairing, and the next Harbury Repair Café is still a few weeks away,



please look out for other local Repair Cafés which may be able to help.

We have a monthly email newsletter which we send out in the week before each Repair Café as a reminder, with extra information about any special repair skills we'll be offering that month. If you'd like to receive a copy, email us at [repaircafeharry@gmail.com](mailto:repaircafeharry@gmail.com)

**Rich Fowler**



## Bumps and Bundles

I am happy to say that Bumps and Bundles has started again, and we are sorry that we have missed a whole set of little ones because of the pandemic.

We meet every Tuesday morning in the Tom Hauley Room from 10.30am to 12 noon. It is run by a group of volunteers who prepare the rooms and get a selection of toys ready for the children. At the moment the members are very young but we have toys suitable for babies and toddlers. As people arrive they are offered a drink and a biscuit (sometimes even a piece of cake!)



It is an opportunity for young mums to meet with others in a similar situation and they discuss all sorts of things. Of course, it is not just mums and dads; grandparents, foster carers and childminders are all very welcome.

There is no need to book in advance, please just turn up. If anyone reading this would like to join the rota of helpers, they would be made very welcome. Just contact me as below, or pop into a session and talk to whoever is on the rota that day.

**Carol Jackson - [cjackson32@gmail.com](mailto:cjackson32@gmail.com)**



## Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

Many thanks to those people who braved the wet and windy weather to support our fund-raising coffee morning on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February in the Tom Hauley Room. Our next fund-raising opportunity will hopefully be at the carnival. Meanwhile, we are discussing a potential summer outing, so watch this space in the coming months for more details.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

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



## Harbury Garden Group

With Spring upon us, everything in the garden is starting to grow and there's always plenty to do!

If you are interested in gardening, whether you have a large garden or simply a window box, we would love to hear from you.

We are two sociable people who love to be outside in the garden whenever we can, whether that's cutting the grass, planting, pruning, digging or simply sitting in it! Consequently, we are inviting people from Harbury to join us in coming together to form a gardening group. The aim of the group would be to simply get together, once a month, in members' gardens during the summer, to chat about, for example, what to do in the garden in that particular month, problems encountered, projects to create etc and to share ideas and possibly spare cuttings. Coffee, tea and biscuits are usually welcome with the discussions in general, not to mention, a look around the garden too!

In the colder months it is not practical to sit outside but, for instance, the Village Club could offer an indoor meeting place where we could continue some of the summer subjects and on some occasions a short talk on related subjects would also be welcome

We need to be flexible and most importantly it will be the members themselves who determine the likely format of the meetings. If you are interested or would like to know more, please get in touch by emailing Jacqui Temple at [jacquitemple.jt@gmail.com](mailto:jacquitemple.jt@gmail.com) or Bryan Reid at [reids222@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:reids222@yahoo.co.uk) or call us on telephone 07729 381293.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Jacqui Temple**



## Wednesday Walks

This month has seen winter ending with a sting in the tail, but our Wednesday mornings have escaped the rain and the fiercest winds. We have enjoyed snowdrops and aconites, listened to skylarks, watched the buds swelling on the trees. Now we can look forward to daffodils and lambs, as well as an occasional pub lunch! If that sounds good to you, or you just fancy getting to know a bit more of the local countryside, do give us a try. Just turn up at the village hall car park before 9.40am, any Wednesday. Or ring me, Gillian, on 614809 for more details.

**Gillian Hare**





## Harbury Local Market

Harbury Local Market was set up 4+ years ago with the intention to support and raise money for local groups and charities.

History: The market started on my drive with a few producers most of which are still with us today and due to licence restrictions, moved to the Shakespeare Pub, our home for nearly two years and then moved onto Harbury Primary School.

We outgrew the school and, with Covid in our midst, the market came to a bit of a standstill however, with the support of Harbury Parish Council, we came back with vengeance to Harbury Village Hall with even more local producers!

The market offers a fabulous range of local products including buffalo, lamb, honey and cheese with fabulous bread as well as amazing handmade items including soaps, gins, art, knitted items to name a few.

We continue to look for new and exciting local producers to come along - we might have a local goat meat company one day even!!

All monies raised from this market go to local groups and we split the monies raised now so that two/three groups can benefit (tea/coffee - raffle - table charge) depending on who can attend. Otherwise, all monies can go to one charity.

We ensure that any producers are within a 15 mile radius and have a local connection as far as we can.

If you are a local group or charity, do contact us, we may be able to support you.

We look forward to seeing lots of people at the market!

Dates for the markets do appear in the Harbury diary though for the rest of year they are: 26<sup>th</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 25<sup>th</sup> June, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 29<sup>th</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> December. 10am - 12.30pm.

All the best.

**HLM Committee**  
**Jane, Steve, Mandy & Karen**



## Harbury Village Show

This year's show will be held on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> September in Harbury Village Hall. After a couple of years of slimmed down events we are hoping to be running at full strength this year.

For those that are new to the village, the show is an annual event which showcases all the skills and talents of the people of Harbury. There is a large vegetable and fruit section and an equally impressive flower section (one of the best in the area). So, as you make your sowings for this year, why not plan an entry to the show too.

We also have an impressive photography section, craft, flower arranging and art. There is also a large baking and cooking section much enjoyed by everyone.

We are reviewing the show schedule at the moment so please watch this space for when it becomes available.

## Village Show Committee

### Napton Art Group - Art Exhibition



**Easter Art Exhibition:** After missing a year due to the pandemic, Napton Art Group is back this year with their even bigger and better Easter Exhibition of members' work at Napton Village Hall (CV47 8LS) on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April between 10am and 5pm.

There will be about 200 paintings in all mediums including oils, watercolours, acrylics and pastels and greetings cards of some of these will be available. Admission is £1 with free entry for children and there will be light refreshments in the pop-up café. Everybody who comes can vote for the Best in Show.

The nominated charity this year is Myton Hospice. The art group has a growing membership that now stands at over 60 and meets every Thursday afternoon at Napton Village Hall and has a programme featuring a wide range of demonstrations and weekend workshops.

**Howard Collerson**

### Time to Get Walking Again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Warwickshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/warwickshire> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.



John Harris (the custodian of the website) said *'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Warwickshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you.'*

With walks from half a mile to 12 miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So, home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

**John Harris**  
[www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)  
[john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)



## Rogue Traders Take Advantage of Recent Storms

Warwickshire Trading Standards has received complaints from North Warwickshire residents after they were approached by rogue traders on the doorstep. The rogue traders were falsely claiming that damage had been caused to resident's roof, guttering or in some cases trees or fences, that required immediate attention. Rogue traders exaggerate or lie about problems to people's homes in order to encourage them to make a quick and ultimately unwise decision. They may for example claim that a tree is about to fall on a neighbour's property! Rogue traders also charge high prices for unnecessary or non-existent work.

Trading Standards advises residents not to employ unexpected doorstep traders, whatever they may claim. Use traders you know and trust and ideally go on recommendation or consider using a Trading Standards approved trader: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/approvedtraders>



## Seven out of ten people have experienced potential rip-offs online

The Government has launched a new campaign "The Online Rip-Off Tip-Off" to help shoppers spot and avoid misleading online practices that could result in them being ripped off.

Shoppers were surveyed and their biggest concern was about hidden charges (85% of respondents), followed by subscription traps (83%), fake reviews (80%) and pressure selling (50%).

The aim of the Online Rip-off Tip-Off campaign is to make consumers aware of these misleading online practices and provide tips on how to avoid them. Find out more at [www.gov.uk/ripoff-tipoff](http://www.gov.uk/ripoff-tipoff)

## Bogus tax refund

Residents have reported receiving bogus HMRC telephone calls. The callers state that based on their National Insurance contributions, the residents are owed a tax refund. Given that National Insurance rates have been in the news recently, it's very likely that criminals will seek to reference the tax in any scam emails or phone calls.

It is unlikely that you will receive a telephone call from HMRC that you were not expecting. Treat all such calls with extreme caution.

If you are unsure if a communication from HMRC is real or not, you can contact HMRC via the official Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-hmrc>



## **Bogus 'green' companies**

More Warwickshire residents have reported receiving unexpected phone calls from bogus 'green' companies, falsely claiming to be able to offer free or discounted loft insulation via a Government scheme. They may claim that your current insulation is no longer fit for purpose or that theirs is of a higher standard. In reality, these bogus companies want to sell you loft insulation that is usually overpriced and unnecessary.

It can be hard to tell a good trader from a bad one over the phone or at the doorstep. Don't buy from unexpected doorstep traders or those who contact you unexpectedly. Try to use businesses you know and trust or consider using a Trading Standards approved traders scheme: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/approvedtraders>

For accurate advice on energy saving, visit this Government endorsed website: <https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/> or phone: 0800 444202.

**Simon Cripwell - WCC  
Senior Trading Standards Officer  
Warwickshire County Council**



### **Dear Editors**

*Thank you to all our friends and family for the beautiful and thoughtful messages, cards and flowers following the recent loss of Christine Gore. She was a popular, witty and charismatic lady who will be sadly missed by all.*

**Best wishes the Gore/Gore Jones/Jones families.**

### **Dear Editors**

#### **Wanted Please**

*Does anyone please have any of the following items they are giving away? We are looking for the following items for our new allotment.*

*Picnic bench, garden bench, garden storage chest, garden shed, pallet collars, wooden pallets, weed control membrane, gardening tools, wheelbarrow.*

*They would be very much appreciated.*

*Thank you.*

**Isobel Clarke**  
**[isobeldclarke@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:isobeldclarke@yahoo.co.uk)**

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## HARBURY SURGERY

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>AM</b>		Dr H Parkinson	Dr D Lewis	Dr K Panting	Dr D Lewis
	Dr R Collins	Dr M Wood	Dr S Chard	Dr S Chard	Dr M Wood
	Alice Woodward (Phlebotomy)	Rachael Pearson (HCA)	Rachael Pearson (HCA)	Rachael Pearson (HCA)	Janette Robson (Practice Nurse)
	Dawn Gibbs (Practice Nurse)	Dr D Lewis			Rachael Pearson (HCA)
<b>PM</b>	Dr D Lewis	Dr D Lewis	Dr M Wood	Dr S Chard	Dr M Wood
	Dr R Collins	Dr H Parkinson	Dr S Chard	Dr H Parkinson	Dr H Parkinson
	Rachael Pearson (HCA)	Dawn Gibbs (Practice Nurse)	Rachael Pearson (HCA)	Janette Robson (Practice Nurse)	Janette Robson (Practice Nurse)
	Dawn Gibbs (Practice Nurse)	Rachael Pearson (HCA)		Rachael Pearson (HCA)	

### For Harbury ring 01926 612232 during their opening hours

(doors open Monday - Friday 8.30am to 12.00pm and 1.30pm to 6.00pm)  
(Telephone lines open Monday - Friday 8.00am to 12.15pm and 1.30pm to 6.15pm)

For the practice dispensary please email [harburysdisp@harburysurgery.nhs.uk](mailto:harburysdisp@harburysurgery.nhs.uk)  
or call 01926 612232 and select dispensary (Lines open Monday - Friday 2.00pm to 5.00pm)

Prescription collection hours from Harbury Surgery dispensary are  
Monday - Friday 9.00am - 12.00pm and 3.30pm - 6.00pm

## BISHOPS ITCHINGTON BRANCH SURGERY

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>AM</b>	Dr D Lewis	Dr K Panting	Dr M Wood	Dr H Parkinson	Dr S Chard
	Rachael Pearson (HCA)	Dawn Gibbs (Practice Nurse)	Alice Woodward (Phlebotomy)	Janette Robson (Practice Nurse)	
<b>PM</b>	Dr K Panting	CLOSED	Dr D Lewis	CLOSED	CLOSED
	Dawn Gibbs (Practice Nurse)		Rachael Pearson (HCA)		

### For Bishops Itchington ring 01926 612232 during their opening hours

(doors open Monday - Friday 8.45am to 12.00pm and on  
Monday and Wednesday afternoons 3.45pm to 6.00pm)  
(Telephone lines open Monday - Friday 9.15am to 11.45am and on  
Monday and Wednesday afternoons 4.00pm - 6.00pm)

## April Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News

**Adverts to:** 36 Manor Orchard, Harbury or e-mail to advertising@hlnews.co.uk by 20<sup>th</sup> March

**Articles to:** Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to articles@hlnews.co.uk by 5.30pm, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March



### BOOKINGS FOR

HARBURY SCOUT HUT	HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB CONCERT ROOM	HARBURY VILLAGE HALL
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HARBURY VILLAGE LIBRARY	TOM HAULEY ROOM HARBURY	THR COFFEE MORNINGS
Peter Walshe Tel: 612477 events@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk	Sally Stringer Tel: 613214 ss74hby@outlook.com	Sarah Brooke-Taylor Tel: 883651 brooketaylor@hotmail.co.uk



## Meeting Point

*We meet on the **First Tuesday** of every month at  
**The Crown Inn, Crown St., Harbury**  
Lunches start at 12.30pm - cost £6.00*

### *Dates for this year*

*5<sup>th</sup> Apr – bookings please by 1<sup>st</sup> Apr*

*3<sup>rd</sup> May – bookings please by 29<sup>th</sup> Apr*

*7<sup>th</sup> June – bookings please by 3<sup>rd</sup> June*

*More details from Fliss Harris 612395  
or Gemma Took 614193*



THE BELL INN  
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## A NEW BEGINNING

We are in! and we are incredibly excited about this new edition to the Freespirit Family! February has been such a great experience, as we meet new faces and become a part of the local community.

The Bell Inn will champion the traditional British steak house – familiar, unpretentious and above all else, welcome to all. We will be serving delicious cuts, sourced from the best, small farm suppliers (local of course!) No fuss, no fanfare– just simply cooked, delicious flavours. We think it best to let the cuts speak for themselves!

Not a steak lover? No problem. We will also be offering an array of delicious pub classics and meat-free mains (we love the best of British veg too!)

As we do across all of our sites, we will offer friendly, yet professional, service. In fact, if our sites are well known to you, there may be a couple of familiar faces!



Scan to view our latest menu or head over to [www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk](http://www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk) and book your table.

Contact us on  
[bellinn@freespiritpubs.co.uk](mailto:bellinn@freespiritpubs.co.uk)  
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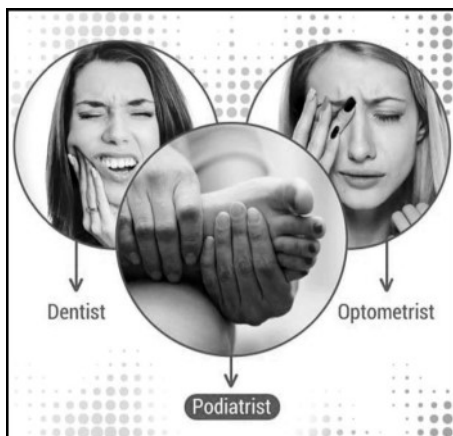
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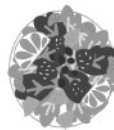


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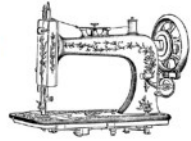
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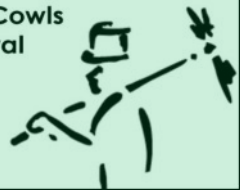
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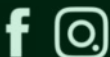
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