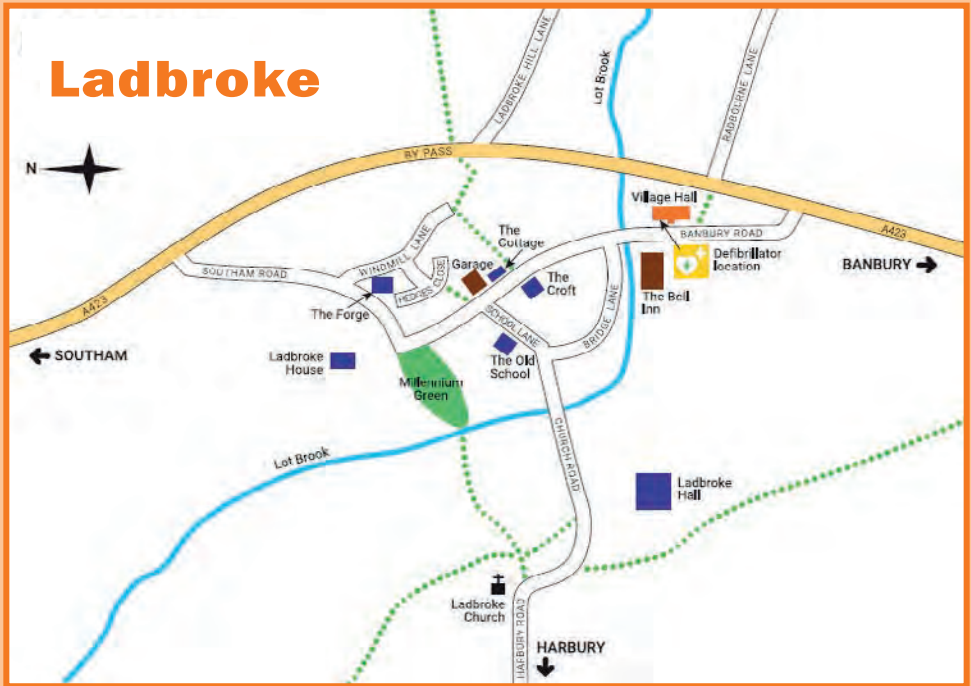




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# HARBURY & LADBROKE News

*Published monthly to reflect all aspects of local life*

**February 2023**

**No. 587**

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*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

*A round up of local news*

As we move into February there are signs that the daylight hours are beginning to lengthen. Although if some predictions of a 'Polar Vortex' – a really cold spell of weather – for the country comes true, it remains to be seen!

It is good news that the long awaited renewal of the church heating system is now underway. Hopefully the work will keep on schedule and the Easter services can be held in the church.

There are changes to the Stratford District Council Ward boundaries planned to come in place this May. The present Harbury Ward will be expanded to include Ladbroke and Ufton with one councillor. Some outlying areas of Ladbroke will be in a larger Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton and Napton Ward, this new large area is to be shared by two councillors. Another change is, from the May local elections onwards, ID will need to be shown when voting in person. More details on both are in Councillor Rock's report in the Ladbroke section.

The South Warwickshire Local Plan is currently out to consultation. The Plan will set out a long-term spatial strategy for housing, jobs, infrastructure and climate change for Stratford and Warwick Districts. The consultation runs to the 6th March and can be viewed online at [www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/issuesandoptions](http://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/issuesandoptions)

Councillor Harris has for some time been pushing the need for a Health Care Facility to be built at the large Upper Lighthorne housing development. The local Integrated Health Board has finally agreed to this and congratulations to Jacqui on her involvement.

The magazine is looking for a distributor to deliver to households on Thwaites Estate and Chesterton, further details are on page 49. Do contact us if you are interested.

Finally, we extend our condolences to the family of Colin Such.



### March Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News

**Adverts to:** 36 Manor Orchard, Harbury or e-mail to [advertising@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:advertising@hlnews.co.uk) by Monday 20th February

**Articles to:**  
Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to [articles@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:articles@hlnews.co.uk) by 5.30pm, Monday 20th February





# HARBURY DIARY

For local events

## FEBRUARY

- Sat 4 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Hereburgh Morris Dancing
- Sun 5 **CANDLEMAS**  
Holy Communion, 9.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 6 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall  
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 7 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room  
Chair based exercise class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall  
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School - (Park Lane entrance)
- Wed 8 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Upton House (4.5 miles)  
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 9 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
Harbury WI, 7.30 for 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room - Members' Night
- Fri 10 Ben and Soph's Jazz, tickets - 07515 275655, 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Sat 11 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Heritage Centre  
Valentines Evening, 7.00pm, Village Club
- Sun 12 **SECOND BEFORE LENT**  
Holy Communion, 10.30am, Tom Hauley Room  
Messy Church, 3.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall  
Icon Youth Club, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Mon 13 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall  
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 14 Chair based exercise class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall  
Bumps and Bundles Party, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 15 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Brandon - Coombe Abbey (4.5 miles - Flat. No stiles)  
Connections (Dementia) Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 16 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room

- Fri 17 Bingo, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Sat 18 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Senior Citizens  
Harbury Village Cinema presents 'Ticket to Paradise', doors open 6.15pm, film starts 7.00pm  
Quiz, 7.30pm, Village Club
- Sun 19 FIRST BEFORE LENT**  
Holy Communion, 8.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
All Age Service, 10.30am Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall  
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury School - (Park Lane entrance)
- Mon 20 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall  
ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM  
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Tue 21 Chair based exercise class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall  
Harbury Theatre Group, 7.00 for 7.30pm, Village Club  
Harbury Society Talk - Hedgehogs, 7.30pm, Tom Hauley Room  
The Collective - First Meeting, 7.30pm, The Shakespeare Inn
- Wed 22 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Priors Marston - Priors Hardwick (4 or 4.5 miles - Flat)  
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 23 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
Parish Council, 7.30pm Village Hall
- Sat 25 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Southam Guide Dogs  
Harbury Local Market: 10.00am - 12.30pm, Village Hall  
Repair Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library  
Rooters, 8.30pm, Village Club
- Sun 26 LENT 1**  
Holy Communion. 10.30am, Tom Hauley Room  
Icon Youth Club, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 27 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall  
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 28 Chair based exercise class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall  
Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room



## MARCH

- Wed 1 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Ashow - Blackdown (4 miles)  
Mothers' Union Communion Service and Tea, painting Ukrainian Pysanky Eggs, 2.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 2 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Fri 3 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn
- Sat 4 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Embrace
- Tue 7 Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School - (Park Lane entrance)
- Wed 8 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Long Itchington (4 miles with opt Pub Lunch)  
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

### Dates for inclusion in the Harbury Diary please to:

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### Refuse Collection Rota

Week Commencing Monday	Thursday Collection - Harbury Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge	Wednesday & Friday Collections - Ladbroke
6 Feb	F - R - G	F
13 Feb	F	F - R - G
20 Feb	F - R - W - G	F - W
27 Feb	F	F - R - G
6 Mar	F - R - G	F
13 Mar	F - W	F - R - W - G

F = Food caddy - R = Recycling (blue bin) W = Waste (black bin) G = Garden (green bin)  
Wednesday Collection - Parts of Ladbroke - Thursday Collection - Harbury  
Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge and Parts of Ladbroke

As I write this article we are still making our way through the Sundays of Epiphany, with the Christmas celebrations just a few weeks ago, but the season of Lent will be here before we know it, bringing with it a time of reflection and possibly self-denial for those who decide to give something up during Lent.

Advent and Lent are similar in some ways, but at advent we prepare for Jesus' arrival - God coming to us in that vulnerable and mysterious way. In Lent however, the emphasis is reversed - we begin that journey of returning to God, recognising that he is our ultimate destination.

Like the story in Exodus, it is about moving from slavery to freedom, the 40 days of Lent corresponding to the 40 years God's people spent in the desert before returning to the promised land. It was hard for them to leave Egypt; despite their captivity they began to look back with rose-tinted spectacles to the relative security they had enjoyed. It can be the same for us – we are held back from a life-giving relationship with God by the unhealthy attachments that hold us captive.

In Lent God calls us home, that return journey made possible because he first came to us. Like the prodigal son it doesn't matter what a mess we may have made of our lives, how badly we might have treated him, God longs to welcome us back and surround us once again with his love. Are you prepared to set out on that journey again this year?



## FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

*Liz & Michael*

Well, it's all very exciting as the new heating system is starting to be installed in church. This will take some time as it is a large job with the first step being putting up scaffolding throughout the interior of the church so that the radiant panels can be fixed up in the roof. It is expected that the work will take circa three months to complete and so we hope that we will be able to resume holding services back in church in time for Easter celebrations. The church is now a declared building site and no-one is allowed inside without the contractor's permission.

The new radiant heating system was successfully installed in the Tom Hauley room before Christmas, and the room is now back to being fully operational. We recognise that there have been a few initial teething problems as the new system beds in, including with some unwanted air in the system and the timer and thermostat controls, and these should have been fixed by the time you are reading this article. Going forward, we would appreciate if people using the room have any problems or compliments to please feedback direct to either of us so that we can monitor experiences and address any issues.



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For the next couple of months whilst the church is closed, all Sunday and midweek services are being held in the snug and cosy Tom Hauley Room, with many people saying how nice the set up is with people closer together. Last week (mid- January) we had a particularly enjoyable Sunday service, with 60 adults and 14 children.

Children's activities will be provided during the Sunday services as usual – either in the hall or the lobby depending on numbers. And we still have coffee, if a little chaotically, after the service. All are very welcome. Messy Church continues as usual but all activities will take place in the hall.

A new informal discussion group, seeking to appeal equally to village folk who do not usually go to church and to those who do, will be meeting every third Tuesday in the month in the Shakespeare Inn in Harbury. This is called the Collective and there is further information on this elsewhere in this magazine.

If you have any questions or want to join in and find out more about what goes on then please contact either of us. Liz McBride (612421) or Michael Vincent (614806).

## FROM THE REGISTERS

---

### *Funeral*

13th January    Colin Such (84 years)



### **MOTHERS' UNION**

*Gillian Hare*

---

Our New Year party was a very cheerful event, shared with nearly 20 friends. Relaxed by a glass of sherry, we groaned at the cracker jokes whilst “passing the parcel”, puzzled over Trisha's quiz, and quickly guessed Sally and Gillian's charades. Then time to enjoy a tempting tea.

Jo told us that our recent coffee morning raised an excellent £175.76; thank you to all who supported it.

Chris gave out the new programmes. If you missed out, do ask us. Sally has booked some very interesting speakers.

As you read this, we shall have had our February meeting, with the intriguing title “It shouldn't happen to a Vicar!”

We next meet on 1st March, when member and friend Kath Ching will be showing us her wonderful skill of painting Ukrainian Pysanky eggs. The thinking behind these is especially relevant to this time of Lent. As ever, visitors will be more than welcome; we meet in the Tom Hauley room at 2pm for a communion service followed by the talk.



# LADBROKE NEWS & DIARY

## FEBRUARY

### Sun 5 CANDLEMAS

Family Communion, followed by refreshments, 10.30am

Tue 7 Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall

### Sun 12 SECOND BEFORE LENT

Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am

Tue 14 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

### Sun 19 FIRST BEFORE LENT

Holy Communion (BCP), 9.00am

Mon 20 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST  
OR EMAIL TO [ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK) BY 5.30PM  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD,  
HARBURY OR EMAIL [ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK)

Tue 21 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 22 Ash Wednesday Service, 7.30pm, Church

### Sun 26 LENT 1

Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am

Tue 28 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

## MARCH

Thurs 2 WI, 7.30pm Village Hall

### Sun 5 LENT 2

Family Communion, followed by refreshments, 10.30am

Tue 7 Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 8 Parish Council, 7.45, Village Hall

Sat 11 Guitar Concert, 7.30pm, Church



## LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

*Peter Rigby*

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

January has been a quiet month, but as the days grow longer and warmer we look forward to the new life we are reminded of each spring. Easter is earlier this year, and hopefully spring will be too!

During February we continue with our normal cycle of Sunday services with the season of Lent which precedes Easter beginning on Wednesday 22nd February (Ash Wednesday) when we shall be holding a special service.



Looking ahead to March, we shall be welcoming William Hudd back to the church for another guitar concert on Saturday 11th March. More details in the Ladbroke Heritage report.

### Future Services:

Sunday 5th Feb	10.30am	Family Service
Sunday 12th Feb	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 19th Feb	9.00am	Holy Communion
Wed 22nd Feb	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday service
Sunday 26th Feb	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 5th Mar	10.30am	Family Service
Saturday 11th Mar	7.30pm	Guitar concert

[www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk](http://www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk)      [ladbrokechurch@gmail.com](mailto:ladbrokechurch@gmail.com)



## LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL

Jackie West - HGL News Correspondent

**Official minutes can be viewed on the noticeboard by The Bell Inn and the parish council's website - [www.ladbroke-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ladbroke-pc.gov.uk)**

All five of our Parish councillors and our District Councillor, Nigel Rock, were present. He introduced Susan Ostrander, the Lib-Dem candidate for our new ward. Boundary changes mean that Ladbroke will join Harbury Ward at the District Council elections in May.

**Highways** - the drainage work on Church Lane is not yet complete, hence the missing top surface where they have been. Repairs will not restart until the new financial year.

**SDC** - Planning consent for the the Gaydon/Lighthorne settlement included a requirement for GP provision but the NHS don't want to provide this and so residents are registering at existing surgeries including Fenny, Southam and Kineton which is putting strain on these. Our MP, Jeremy Wright, has been asked to get involved in the issue. As well as the immediate impact, it is of concern that this may set a precedent for future new settlements which are being suggested as an option in the South Warwickshire Local Plan (*out for consultation until 6th March*).

As reported previously, at the May elections residents of Chapel Ascote, and Hodnell will have to vote at Fenny Compton, unless they have a postal vote. Everyone voting at a poll station in May will need to bring appropriate photo ID (eg driving licence card, passport, some bus or rail cards). This should not be much of a problem for Ladbroke residents as most people have at least one of these. You can apply for a special voting ID card but publicity about this, or even about the need for photo ID at all, seems conspicuous by its absence.

**Planning** - Cllr Copley had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council at the planning meeting discussing Brock Farm Stud. There was a unanimous decision to approve the application. This pleased everyone, including the Planning Officer who had only proposed it be refused on the advice of the appointed expert, advice which was flawed! Our councillors wanted to know how much it had cost and if the process would be improved to prevent something similar happening again.

The outcome regarding more fill on fields at Follyfields Farm was awaited, the parish council had made no representation about an agricultural storage building at Starbold Farm but had commented about the proposals at Cornerstones.

**HS2** - Lighting at night has been a general issue, but less so around Ladbroke and they respond quickly to complaints. There will be traffic lights on the A423 when Ladbroke Hill Road is surveyed. The diversion on the A425 is making progress; as part of these works there will be one way flow with traffic lights from mid January and it is expected the A425 will be completely closed some nights (8pm - 6am) during February.

**Draft Budget and Precept** - In April the supplier of electricity for the street lights will change and the costs are expected to triple! Cllr Morton will investigate how the proposed charge is calculated as the supply is unmetered and we have low energy LED lights. The parish precept will be increased by 10% and it's proposed there will be no capital investments in the next financial year until it is clear what reserves will be left after the cost of street lighting and other increases are met.

**Defibrillator** - Following an enquiry from a resident whether there could be a team of defibrillator responders in the village, the parish council clarified that it is a community asset that they maintain to be used in specific circumstances. While someone gives the patient CPR, another person, under the instructions of the 999 operator should bring the defibrillator (they will be given the code to open the box it is in) and then follow the instructions given verbally by the machine itself. At the same time, paramedics will be on their way.

*Note: a few years ago we had defibrillator awareness training in Ladbroke which was reported in the September 2018 magazine. It is repeated in the article below.*

**Forthcoming Parish Council Elections** - Ladbroke Parish Council has five councillors, and two of the existing ones will be standing down in May, so we need at least two new ones. If more than five people stand, there will be an election but usually they come to an amicable agreement, saving the effort and expense of an election. If you are interested, or might be persuaded to stand, have a word with one of the existing councillors - Derek Batty, Martin Neal, Val Copley, Erica Kemp or Steve Morton. If the parish council is not quorate, we lose having a local voice in local issues, including planning, HS2, budget and spend etc and Stratford District Council will make decisions for us.

**Ladbroke History Booklet** - the updated version has been distributed to residents.

**Next meeting** - Wednesday 8th March at 7.45pm





# DEFIBRILLATOR AWARENESS

Jackie West

(from September 2018 edition of Harbury and Ladbroke News)

An excellent session was held by Wendy and Ivan from Community Heartbeat Trust ([www.communityheartbeat.org.uk](http://www.communityheartbeat.org.uk)) on Saturday 28th July. If you weren't able to come and someone has stopped breathing, you would still be able to use the defibrillator on the outside of Ladbroke Village Hall or anywhere else for that matter.

The key points are:

## **Generally, if you see someone has collapsed:**

1. Ensure the place is safe, don't become another casualty yourself.
2. Check the casualty needs help.
3. Shout for help, do not leave them.
4. Ensure their airway is open and clear.
5. Look, listen and feel for normal breathing, if OK put in recovery position, if not call 999 (or 112 from mobiles, this is a Europe-wide number which allows them to find your GPS location).
6. Begin heart compressions at a rate of 2 per second, ideally do 30 then 2 breaths.
7. Get someone to fetch the community defibrillator while you continue heart compressions.

## **Defibrillator**

1. This is in a locked cabinet, the Emergency Services will give you the location and code when you call them and then stay on the phone to help you through.
2. Take the defibrillator to the casualty, open the case, switch on and follow audio instructions which will repeat until you have done each step:
  - prepare the chest area (there are scissors and a razor if needed): remove clothing and anything metal, ensure it is dry and place the 2 pads on the skin where indicated.
  - move clear of the casualty, the machine will analyse and, provided defibrillation will help, give a shock and then analyse to see the effect.
  - when instructed move back and continue heart compressions (defibrillation stops incorrect electrical pulses in the heart but it is the compressions that get them back to a regular pattern).
3. Continue to follow the audio instructions until the patient recovers or the Emergency Services take over.

A defibrillator doesn't need much maintenance but if you hear ours beeping tell Cllr Martin Neal.

There were quite a few absences for our first meeting of 2023 on 5th January due to illness but this meant that those who were there had more of Heather's time as she went from table to table checking the progress of the cards we were making. She must have spent hours in preparation.

As well as all the card packs she had ready for us, each table was given a board with strips of masking tape already cut so that we could easily (well Heather made it look easy) use tiny pieces to secure our folded strips of ribbon. These when attached in the right order, formed the centrepiece of each card. By chance the picture of the rose which I had chosen was all one colour. I didn't realise how much easier this made the construction and Heather had endless patience individually showing us the next step or righting the wrongs!



In the business meeting which followed, we were all really pleased to see Joan back in her place as secretary. Dianne sent good wishes to all who had sent apologies and thanked Heather for the work she had put in to make this evening such fun.

The lunchtime Christmas gathering at Draycote had been a great success and some people felt that it worked better than an evening function.

Dianne read out a list of Warwickshire Federation events which can be accessed on line at The Warwickshire Federation of Women's Institutes.

This year's resolutions were published in the last WI Life magazine. The topics are Save our Water; Women tea workers; Online gambling harm and Clean rivers. More information can be found out about these in last month's WI Life and a vote will be taken at the next meeting.

The Leamington and Warwick Musical Society are staging 'Our House' at the Spa Centre between 14th and 18th March. If you are interested to join other members, please contact Sue Moore as soon as possible.

Guests are welcome to join us on 2nd February to hear Trevor Langley's 'If Warwick Walls could Talk' which sounds fascinating.

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# 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.



March sees the 100th anniversary of the opening of our village hall and we hope to present a centenary celebration in the hall on Saturday 25th March. Our planning team is currently working hard to make this a special extravaganza with a 1920s feel. More details will be announced very soon.



A reminder that our table tennis sessions have moved to Tuesday evenings in the village hall from 7.30pm. All are welcome to come along and join the fun.



We will be holding a boules tournament during the summer, and a quiz night in the autumn. Watch this space for more events too!



To book your special celebration in our village hall, or if you wish to hold regular classes or meetings, contact Debs (07779 225105 or email [debs.dptv@gmail.com](mailto:debs.dptv@gmail.com)).

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

## LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL MILLENNIUM DRAW FOR DECEMBER 2022

£50	Beverley Bradley	£25	John Lowman
£50	Carol and Chris	£10	Joan Perry
£25	Miranda Lowman	£10	Carol Locker
£25	Carol Lane	£10	Simon and Jackie

Margaret Bosworth



## LADBROKE PHOTOGRAPHY

Kip Warr

Do you ever feel that your photographs would be better if only you had a more expensive camera? If so, consider this story. One day the author Jack London went to have his portrait photograph taken by his friend Arnold Genthe.

Jack London, impressed by Arnold's art, said: "You must have a wonderful camera. It must be the best camera in the world. You must show me your camera." Arnold said nothing and used his normal camera to take a picture of Jack London which became

a classic. When the sitting was over, Arnold said: "I have read your books, Jack, and I think they are important works of art. You must have the best typewriter in the world. You must show it to me."

Last month we enjoyed our annual winter dinner at the White Hart in Ufton. On 7th February we are looking forward to the Lewises' description of their visit to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Past experience tells us that this will be lavishly illustrated and a welcome contrast to the dark evening outside. In March we shall have our AGM\* and a competition and photopic on the theme of 'Sparkle'. In April we shall go to the Batsford Falconry and in May we shall be visiting Chedhams Yard in Wellesbourne. Visitors, guests and new members are all welcome to our meetings which are usually in Ladbroke Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month. For more information please contact [ladbroke.photoclub@btinternet.com](mailto:ladbroke.photoclub@btinternet.com)

\* The AGM was previously advertised as being held in February



## LADBROKE GENERAL NEWS



### LADBROKE HERITAGE

*Nicky Lewis & Jackie West*

Heritage is a hit! Well it certainly was in January for 180 school children and their teachers and also for a lady investigating her family tree. It's great to be able to share some of our discoveries since starting our Lottery Funded project to repair the church and share our heritage.

### Schools

Jackie packed her car with rocks and fossils twice last month for lessons at primary schools in Walsall and nearer to home in Coventry. The children aged seven to eight were fully involved from the start, listening attentively and hands in the air as they recognised Warwick Castle and buildings local to them, or could name the three main rock types.

Then it was time to get practical.... and excited .....with tasks such as learning to recognise various rocks found in Ladbroke church and churchyard, to conducting simple tests on them using eyes, fingers, 5p coins and pipettes. Despite many reminders as the water was handed out "It only needs **one** drop", "How many drops [one]; can everyone on this table count to one?", saturated samples and small puddles on





desks indicated that such instructions were not universally followed. Never mind, the children had great fun as they learnt, and they loved handling original fossils and seeing the rubbing of the huge ammonite that lives in church and is too heavy to take into schools.

## Family History

The lady investigating her family tree, Rachael, contacted us on Facebook after seeing a relevant headstone on the Billion Graves website. Photographing and uploading images of all the gravestones so anyone anywhere can see them was one of the Project Activities, so it was very satisfying to get direct feedback on its use, "Through your website I have already found a picture of my great great great grandparents grave which is fabulous."

Rachael's ancestors were members of the Fearn family who lived in Ladbroke for about 150 years, and we knew that several Fearn appear on our War Memorial. We were able to point her to the baptism, marriage and burial registers held at Warwick Record Office, and checked through other records we have copies of, to see if any Fearn were mentioned.

The Church Warden accounts, which includes pest control payments, said Charles Fearn paid a shilling for 12 magpies on 30th May 1849, and the school log book reported that on 4th May 1876 Emma Fearn was one of the children absent picking cowslips (which the school master later explained was to get money for clothes!). The auction catalogue for the sale of much of Ladbroke in 1918 advised that Mrs Geo. Fearn was paying 6d 8d per month rent to live in one of the three properties in Lot 29 (now combined into Whiteways, Bridge Lane).

She would have had to draw water from the shared well, and used the earth closet in the garden; there were no WCs then as there was no mains water in the village. These colourful facts, fleshing out names and dates on her family tree, were thrilling to Rachael, "That's all so amazing. Definitely brings them to life". If you would like to read more about farms and houses in Ladbroke in 1918, take a look at the auction catalogue yourself. It is downloadable from the discover/village page of our website, [www.ladbrokeheritage.org.uk](http://www.ladbrokeheritage.org.uk)

## Dates for your Diary

On the evening of **Saturday 11th March**, Ladbroke church will be full of the sound of beautiful guitar music. William Hudd who gave a concert here in 2019, is returning with another blend of classical pieces down the ages and some of his own compositions. The concert starts at 7.30pm. We are not selling tickets, just come along, enjoy the concert and donate as generously as you like to the retiring collection, in aid of Ladbroke Church.

The following week, **Saturday 18th March** we are saying "Thanks to you" to Lottery Players who have made our project possible by inviting them to see the repairs and discover more about the stained glass, rocks and fossils or village history. More details next month.





### **Local Plan**

A Local Plan that sets out planning policies for coming years is presently out for public consultation (albeit in a very large document).\* The first stage of this local plan includes the possibilities of new settlements with full infrastructure. If recent events are an indicator, this may not be straightforward. The concept has turned out to be a current problem for the new settlement at Lighthorne.

Presently, residents in the new homes at Lighthorne are having to register with GP practices in existing neighbouring areas adding to the pressure on those practices. The Lighthorne development's plans always included a new NHS GP practice based within this new large village. There has been confusion about the full commitment from the NHS for this. Representations to ensure that provision would go ahead were jointly made by a consortium formed by a cluster of parish councils, with support from a number of district councillors in the wider area affected as well as the MP. Although it now seems there is an agreement with the NHS for a permanent provision eventually, it still leaves a problem in the short term. I am concerned that the difficulties encountered call into question the effectiveness and process of planning new communities as we go forward.

\* The best way to view the consultation document and supporting evidence is online at [www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/issuesandoptions](http://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/issuesandoptions)

### **Boundary Changes & Voter ID**

You will be aware that the Boundary Commission has changed the District election boundaries locally. This has now been ratified by parliament. The existing Napton and Fenny Compton Ward is otherwise assimilated into new Ward called Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton and Napton, this new large area to be shared by two councillors. It covers: Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton, Farnborough, Warmington, Shotteswell, Napton, Shuckburgh, Priors Marston & Hardwick, Avon Dassett and Wormleighton.

The next election will be at the beginning of May, so some residents might wish to apply for a postal vote in good time. For those that decide to vote in person, they should also know that the government has controversially introduced the requirement for photo ID at polling stations. Supposedly this is to address voting fraud by 'personation'. However, there is zero record of such fraud having occurred locally and only one case documented at a polling station (in 1997). What fraud there has been nationally, were mostly by postal votes but even so, there have been only nine convictions for postal vote fraud since 1998. There is considerable concern about this change amongst election officers across the country and the government is having to provide extra funding for more staff.

Voters at polling stations will be turned away unless they produce a form of photo documentation. Acceptable Voter ID documents include: Passport, Photo Driving

Licence, Older Persons or Disabled Bus Pass, Blue Badge, Voter Authority Certificate that has to be specially applied for and is issued by the District Council.

## HS2 Road Works

I have received a notice of upcoming works on the A425 at the Polo Ground near Southam. This finally will bring the temporary diversion road into use, with connection to the existing highway. Works will be carried out between 16th January 2023 and 17th February 2023. Single lane closures with temporary traffic lights will be required. Additionally there will also be overnight closures. The closures are currently planned to be the on nights of 13th, 20th and 27th February between 8pm and 6am. However, the weather may affect timings again, so do check what HS2 publish on-line. A fully signed diversion is promised.

[www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/notice-of-upcoming-works-a425-southam](http://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/notice-of-upcoming-works-a425-southam)

There are other road works coming between Wormleighton and Boddington, which will close the road for extended periods in the summer. A bit sooner than that - from 13th to 19th February there are some daytime closures near Boddington.

[nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Tel: 07971 343065



## HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

*Alison Biddle*

### Parish Council Elections 2023

Harbury Parish Council has 10 seats and they are all up for election in May 2023. **Nomination forms will be available from early March** so if you are interested in being a councillor, now is the time to give it some serious thought.

The parish council provides a range of local services and is regularly consulted on all planning matters, transport and highways issues and many other things, too numerous to mention here. Being a councillor can be a very interesting and satisfying way to serve your local community.

No special qualifications are necessary as basic training is provided but you will need access to email and the internet and you must be able to regularly attend parish council meetings on the 4th Thursday of the month. Applications from all members of the community are welcome regardless of age or how long you have lived here.

The ward councillor for Deppers Bridge is not standing for re-election, so we are especially keen to find someone to represent this ward.

To find out more about what being a parish councillor entails, please come along to a **free event on Monday, 13th February 2023 at 6.30pm at The Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa**. Speakers will include senior officers from Warwick District Council as well as experienced parish councillors and clerks. This event is free to attend but prior registration is required via this webpage [www.walc.org.uk/events/upcoming](http://www.walc.org.uk/events/upcoming). Alternatively, please call in to the parish council office for an informal chat. We will be very pleased to meet you!



# HARBURY SOCIETY

*Sue Turner*

John, Amanda and their staff at The Crown, Harbury, provided a delicious New Year Feast for 25 members of the Harbury Society on 17th January with two quizzes providing some entertainment. It was a very convivial and social gathering and a great way to start our 2023 programme.

## **Forthcoming Events**

**Tuesday 21st February:** 'Hedgehogs' - a presentation by Philippa Arnold of the Warwickshire Wildlife Trusts. Meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Doors open 7.30pm. All welcome - free to Harbury Society members - guests £1.

**Tuesday 21st March:** AGM followed by a talk by David Howe '100 Years of the BBC'. Meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Doors open 7.30pm. All welcome - free to Harbury Society members - guests £1.

**Tuesday 18th April:** Presentation by Catriona Rollason entitled 'Remote Sensing of the Sea Floor'. Meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Doors open 7.30pm. All welcome - free to Harbury Society members - guests £1.

**Tuesday 16th May:** Tour of the medieval village and church of Wolfhampcote. Full details will be sent to members nearer the time.

**Tuesday 4th July:** Talk/Tour of Lighthorne. Full details will be sent to members nearer the time.

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



## **HARBURY WI**

*Chris Rutherford*

In January the WI were treated to a fascinating talk on Medical Detection Dogs by Emma Watson, her daughter Abi and accompanied by two-year-old black Labrador Narla. The charity is based near Milton Keynes but has branches around the country.

Emma explained that the charity had begun because a friend of Dr Clare Guest, (a Scientist and Animal Behaviourist) had a dog which kept worrying a mole on her leg. An examination showed a malignant melanoma. In 2003 Dr John Church who researched various methods (including using maggots to clean wounds) appealed on the radio for people who had experience of dogs "smelling a disease". Dr Guest's friend immediately got in touch.

Emma showed another example of a dog detecting breast cancer by continually pushing at a woman's breast, so she went to the doctor. This would have been very serious had it not been diagnosed so early.



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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, Events & Activities, Food Bank Collections, Recycling Boxes, Art Gallery, Books & Greetings Cards by local artists for sale.

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Offering a selection of hot and cold drinks, cakes and baked goods either served at your table inside the café or as takeaway items

Please check 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  
 - [library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](mailto:library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk)



The company has a strict “no kennel” policy. The dogs are donated or purchased and the charity has now started a small breeding scheme with their first litter in November 2021.

It takes two years to train a dog at a cost of approximately £29,000. All breeds of dogs are used although spaniels and Labradors are used the most. A dog has 300 million biosensors in its nose compared to a human who has 5 million. At the end of their training they must be 75 per cent accurate.

Research discovered that disease causes biochemical changes and each disease has its own smell. Trials cost £500,000 and the charity is dependent upon public donations and fund raising, as there is no Government help. Dogs are trained to smell one disease. They work for 20 minutes three times a day - the rest of the time they are family pets. Research continues especially in the development of technology where one day your smart phone may be able to alert you to a problem!



The other side of the charity's work is training Medical Alert Assistance dogs - aimed at detecting early diagnosis of episodes. When a person with diabetes, for instance, or POTS (a condition where the person loses consciousness without warning) who therefore cannot leave the house, can have their lives transformed when they have a dog who can alert them in time to find a safe place.

Everyone present was thoroughly impressed and showed their appreciation with resounding applause.

Next month is members' evening with judging of various puddings!



## HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

*Celia Stockdale*

Hello Theatre lovers! Plans within the group are underway for another year comprising two full productions. One in May, 18th, 19th and 20th and the other, 23rd, 24th and 25th November. Look out for further updates about these two. In addition, please note that the special fund raising performance in Harbury Church to support their Heat, Light & Stone Campaign is postponed as the work within the Church will not be completed in time for March. However, don't feel too disappointed as we plan to hold this in early September instead.

In other news, the group is considering expanding to include a youth group and are interested to know whether there are any budding young thespians in the village who may be interested in joining so we can best cater to the community's needs. We are considering either a weekly group, two week summer project or a combination of the two depending on interest. This would be run by members of Harbury Theatre Group on a volunteer basis, but will require some additional volunteers to make it possible. No previous experience is needed, just some passion and enthusiasm. If you are interested, please fill out our questionnaire via the the QR code on next page.

Finally, we are always looking for new people to join us - not only on stage, but there are many other supporting roles to help our performances be a success. If you think this could be you, please email [harburytheatregroup@gmail.com](mailto:harburytheatregroup@gmail.com). With the May production not too far away, this could be a good time to find out more and get involved!



## HEREBURGH MORRIS - 35 seconds of Fame

Peter McDonald

*"Wednesday night in Warwickshire and it's a regular practice session for Hereburgh Morris. As well as regulars, they're also inviting new members to try Morris dancing for the first time. It's not just a pastime here, it's a tradition that they're keen to uphold."* - so said the reporter on ITV Central News on 20th January. You may have seen those 35 seconds of Harbury's colourful Morris team on TV. It was brief but very apt.

Our traditional 'Hangover Tour' on 1st January saw us dancing at various spots around the village (including Hereburgh Way) in agreeably mild weather. Four people who saw us that day said they'd like to have a go and they have already joined our weekly practices. If you're tempted to try Morris dancing, or just curious to find out what we do, now would be an excellent time to join our friendly team as we teach our newcomers. We'd love to welcome new members, men or women, young or old, as dancers and/or musicians.

Morris dancing is an ancient English village tradition, going back hundreds of years. We're proud to be able to preserve this tradition but, above all, we enjoy the exercise and an excellent social life. In the summer months, we perform at local pubs and events such as fêtes and festivals.

We practise every Wednesday at 8pm in Harbury School Hall. You can find us on Facebook or look at our website [www.hereburghmorris.org.uk](http://www.hereburghmorris.org.uk).



**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.



# FOLK CLUB

Ian Hartland

5th January 2023 was the 432nd meeting of the Club and the theme chosen was "Times Of The Day". It seemed as though all of the performers had made New Year Resolutions to provide ideal material for the evening and we were treated to two halves of excellent entertainment.

The Harvesters kicked off the evening with a couple of traditional American songs, "Lazy John" and "Railroad Bill". Peter Mason followed with Jez Lowe's "Cursed Be The Caller" and then "The Wisdom Of Standing Still". Rik sang Joni Mitchell's "Our House" (better known for being one of Crosby, Stills & Nash's more famous hits) and then the classic "Stardust". Pete and Liz were next to perform, playing The Strawbs' song "Another Day" followed by a Trunch Wassail song. Bob Clucas then sang Cat Stevens' "The Blackness Of The Night" and then an early Paul Simon song, "Red Rubber Ball". Michael Luntley was in form with a single offering, his self-penned "Devon Tide" which he performed a capella. Dennis is a relative newcomer to the club but is growing in confidence and sang "Four Things In One Day" (I think) and then Bruce Springsteen and Patti Smith's "Because The Night". Right Side Of The Grass (Robin, Sally and Sue Harris) treated us to a "Cold, Haily, Rainy Night" and "When Tomorrow Comes". The first half was rounded off in fine style by Peter McDonald with his excellent version of "Pillowcase Blues" and Tom Paxton's "I Give You The Morning".

The second half was opened in his inimitable way by the ever-popular Keith Donnelly. "My Sister and Laura And Me" is a sweet little song and he followed that with his "The Salmon Are Back In The Coaly Tyne Again". Richard had the challenge of following that but did so splendidly with a Bill Meek song about a fisherman's life. He then sang a familiar love song from the North East, "Sally Wheatley". Dave Carvell was up next with Burl Ives' popular song "Big Rock Candy Mountain" and then gave us Buddy Holly's "Words Of Love". Pete Grassby took to the floor next with John Denver's "Goodbye Again", followed by the traditional song "The Painful Plough". Des can always be relied upon to find an ideal choice of material and his song of the Three Kings celebrated the approach of Epiphany. (There is some debate about whether the 5th or the 6th January is Twelfth Night). He followed that with a humorous Wassailing song from the fictitious village of Trunch, home of the fabled Kipper Family. Peter Mason was happy to perform another song and sang the appropriate "January Man". Right Side Of The Grass sang a delightful song called "Innocent New Year". The evening was completed by The Harvesters with "Four Strong Winds" by way of commemoration of the passing of its songwriter, Ian Tyson, at the end of 2022.

The raffle raised an impressive £80, which has been donated to Myton Hospice. Looking for seasonal chocolates for a raffle prize wasn't easy so I had to settle for Easter eggs instead. Oh well...

Sue is running next month's club and her chosen theme for the evening is "Romance", and we meet in Harbury Village Club on Thursday 2nd February 2023, starting 8.00pm. Make it a date in your diary to come along and hear some excellent music and support your local Social Club.



# HARBURY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

*Ron Temple*

On the 7th January we held our Fête des Rois (Celebration of Kings) party where many of us had a very pleasant evening meeting up and chatting with friends. Looking to the coming year we now have a date at the end of May for about twenty of us to visit Samoie-sur-Seine for a weekend. This will be the first time that our two villages have been able to come together since before the pandemic and we are very much looking forward to it.



## HARBURY HERITAGE CENTRE

*Bill Timson*

The road safety improvements on the Fosse Way at the crossroads with Chesterton Road and Harbury Lane are well under way. The scheme to introduce traffic signals should hopefully make it much safer for all concerned. The project is due to be completed by the summer.

Local people will know the landmark as the 'Bendigo Mitchell' crossroads. Why you may ask? Bendigo Mitchell was a highwayman, the most notorious villain in the area in the 18th century and his name has become part of Warwickshire legend. It was said that 'Highwaymen ruled the highways' during the 17th and 18th Centuries. Stagecoaches would be held up by a masked horseman at gun point. The rich passengers would then be robbed of their jewellery and money.



Arguably the most famous highwayman of all in the 18th Century was Dick Turpin. Over the years, Dick Turpin's life has become legendary with tales of the gentleman highwayman.

At one time, Turpin lived in an old cottage just seven miles north of Hinckley; he would often frequent Watling Street and stop at the Harrow Inn that used to be located where Watling Street crosses the Harrow Brook. He would hide at The Cock Inn at Sibson, just over the Warwickshire border and the second oldest Inn in the country. He would pay the local villagers in the pub to be quiet by buying their ale.

Over the years Turpin would become a notorious poacher, burglar, horse thief and killer, but his time would come to an end when he was captured and sentenced to death for his crimes.

Bendigo Mitchell was our local highwayman. Legend suggests that in the 1770s he terrified travellers along the Warwick to Banbury Turnpike (Toll Gate) and The Fosse Way. To this day the intersection near Harbury is known locally as 'The Bendigo Mitchell Crossroads' and the police even used this name in a recent appeal for witnesses to an accident.

Local stories say he eluded capture for years. On one occasion, to escape a pursuing mounted posse of constables, he spurred his horse across a frozen pond at Chesterton Water Mill. The brave horse slipped and skittered on the ice but didn't fall, so from then on the stallion was known as 'Skater'.

The Black Horse Inn, Saltisford in Warwick records the exploits of highwayman Bendigo Mitchell and has a large painted scene on its courtyard doors.

His luck ran out in 1776. Bendigo was found by the constables, arrested, and put on trial at the Warwick Assizes in Northgate Street. It is told locally that he was hanged just down the hill, next to the racecourse, on ground that is now Sainsbury's car park. 10,000 people turned up to watch.



However, his name lives on, not just in local legend, but also in the name of Bendigo Mitchell Limited in Kenilworth. They sell and hire out fork-lift trucks. The reason they used his name? The company originally leased a warehouse just down from the crossroads but decided that it was too small for their needs, so moved to Kenilworth.

*Information from - [www.ourwarwickshire.org.uk](http://www.ourwarwickshire.org.uk) and [www.unlockingwarwick.org.uk](http://www.unlockingwarwick.org.uk)*

### ***A little background to the traffic signal road safety project.***

In 2008 WCC Planning and Development group considered imposing a speed limit on this stretch of the Fosse.

The project was again discussed in 2015 and the cost of building a roundabout to improve safety but WCC did not have the £1m to £1.8m budget required.

In June 2018 Project C43 Fosse Way / Harbury Lane was finally given the go ahead when Land Promotion and Development company, 'Commercial Estates Group', responsible for the Lighthorne Heath and Upper Lighthorne residential and business developments) agreed to fund the road safety improvements. Cost £600,000.

Information kindly supplied by Councillor Chris Kettle shows that in all four directions there will be two lanes at the traffic lights. The left hand lane in all cases will allow vehicles to turn left or go straight on. The right hand lane will be the filter for a right turn. **On completion we should all have a safer passage at the crossroads; and I don't just mean from highwaymen!**

### **Other News**

***Heritage Coffee Morning - Join us at The Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 11th February for cakes, raffle, etc! 10am until midday 12.***

**Heritage Centre opening times:** Tuesday 7th February 7-9pm, Sunday 19th February 2 - 4pm and Tuesday 7th March 7 - 9pm.

**Visit our NEW website [www.harburyheritage.org.uk](http://www.harburyheritage.org.uk) or contact us by email on 'group@harburyheritage.org.uk' if you would like to get involved with protecting Harbury's Heritage.**



# HARBURY ENERGY INITIATIVE

*Alan Guy*

## House Energy Saving Fair, Saturday 11th March 2023

### 'Hot Tips for Practical Solutions'

A reminder of this forthcoming FREE ENTRY event, to be held in the Village Hall. Doors will open at 12 noon. You can drop in at any time but the overview presentations and slides will be given twice, at 12.15pm and 2.00pm. The Fair will close at 3.30pm.

The aims of the Fair, which is sponsored by the Parish Council's Climate Working Group are:-

- To give Harbury, Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge residents an overview of how their houses or flats could be made more energy efficient and, where applicable, what grants might be obtained.
- To give a brief introduction to specific energy measurement and energy-saving items, including potential benefits and costs: it will cover everything from draught excluders and plug-in power meters through to hybrid heating systems, incorporating heat pumps!
- To share information which will help residents decide which measures might be suitable and cost-effective for their circumstances.
- To give residents, if they wish, the opportunity of arranging at least one quote for those measures.

A number of speakers covering each area of potential energy saving in your house, or your rented accommodation, will give a brief description of their product area and how they can be used to save energy.

Each speaker will then be available at a table with further information and where residents can put technical questions to them face-to-face.

It is emphasised that HEI is not promoting, nor will benefit financially from, any of these speakers, who have agreed to provide their time and knowledge. HEI is not recommending their companies to residents; however, in most cases, we have heard from one or more local resident(s) who have had a successful service provided by each of the companies present.

Tea and cakes will be available to maintain people's personal energy levels! If you know you're fairly likely to come, perhaps you could drop us an email, so we can gauge probable numbers. Thank you. [info@harburyenergy.co.uk](mailto:info@harburyenergy.co.uk)

We are confident that you will find plenty of useful information, and inspiration, to help you save energy, money and the planet. We look forward to seeing you there!





**THE BELL INN**  
at  
**LADBROKE**  
VILLAGE PUB & STEAKHOUSE

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas with the family and welcomed 2023 in style! We would like to say a huge thank you for all of your support over the last year, and we can't wait to see what 2023 will bring! We are still planning a busy schedule for the year ahead but here are a few dates to pencil into the diary, with more information coming soon!

### **NEW MENU**

January 18th see the launch of our new menu

### **MID WEEK OFFERS**

Beginning 11th January our midweek deals are coming back to The Bell Inn

Wednesday Night is STEAK NIGHT

&

Thursday Night is PIE NIGHT

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!**

It's our 1 Year Birthday on 10th February!

### **VALENTINES**

Tuesday 14th February

### **MOTHERS DAY**

Sunday 19th March

### **KINGS CORONATION**

Saturday 6th May

### **FAMILY FUN DAY**

Sunday 29th May - tbc

### **FATHERS DAY**

Sunday 18th June

### **BELL INN GIN FESTIVAL**

Saturday 24th June - tbc

Keep up to date with all the latest on our social media pages or website.

[www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk](http://www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk) / @bellinnatladbroke

Contact us on

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

01926 811224

The Bell Inn, Banbury Road, Ladbroke, Nr Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 2BY



# The Pod is hiring

Harbury School's popular wrap around care facility is looking for fun loving staff to join our afternoon team.

You would need to be available 3-6pm on  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

If you are interested contact Liz Kitchener

[harburypod@welearn365.com](mailto:harburypod@welearn365.com) for an informal chat.

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## HARBURY E-WHEELS

Bob Sherman

harburywheels@gmail.com www.harburyenergy.co.uk

### Harbury e-Wheels - how it works

Many in Harbury know - and occasionally use - Harbury e-Wheels volunteer transport scheme but not everyone may be familiar with how it works. This can lead to misunderstandings. One of our volunteers suggested to me that we should perhaps write an explanation for Harbury and Ladbroke News for those less familiar with it. So I am.

e-Wheels is not an 'on demand' service, similar to a taxi. We do need a referral or registration, partly to have a contact in case anything goes wrong on the trip, partly to protect our volunteer coordinators from having to cope with an unmanageable stream of calls for free transport. Our aim is to help those that need it rather than be available for anyone. We do not restrict our help to journeys for medical appointments.



We use two simple forms, both completed and sent digitally by the surgery or agency referring the person. For the majority of cases we use a registration form. The other form is for single journeys and is mainly used by agencies supporting young families or people needing a higher level of care. The registration process is done by an agency (Citizen's Advice, local authority, church or similar) - or most usually your surgery - for you. You just have to ask them. Once registered you can request our help by email or phone but preferably by email. It is unwise to rely on us completely. We will always do our best to help but we only have two cars and, if demand is high, we may not have a free car or driver.

We manage to offer it as a free service through the generosity of a number of Harbury residents who donate monthly by standing order. We also run events and apply to trust funds. There are no paid staff, which means that our overheads are tiny. We have a constant need, however, to maintain an income stream. **If you feel that you could support us with a regular donation please do get in touch.** You will find a donation form on our website - [www.harburywheels.co.uk](http://www.harburywheels.co.uk) - or you can contact me on 612277.



## HARBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Steven Kittendorf

December's cold spell ruled out Harbury's games against Pershore and Rugby Welsh, both being rescheduled in February. However, the cold weather did not stop the Christmas Party going ahead and suffice it to say that it was one of the best social events held in 2022.

## Harbury 36 Stoke Old Boys 5

It had been five weeks since Harbury's last match due to December's cold spell and the Christmas break so perhaps they were taken a bit by surprise when the visitors executed a nice strike move from a centre field scrum to score in the corner and lead 0-5. That was just the wakeup call needed. An attacking lineout saw Joe Talamini drive over for a converted try. One quickly became two as Joe "Cupcake" Cummings, Ant Tate, and Jeff Foster ploughed over the top of Stoke's scrum, winning the ball against the head, leaving Milburn to pick up and grab his third try of the season from five metres out. Harbury asserted dominance in the scrums providing Luke Winchester with his third try in as many games. Whilst the home crowd were entertained by Seymour Smith collecting the restart; skipping out of one tackle then galloping 50 metres up field, they quickly became frustrated by a number of penalties that followed. However, things did settle down and from a line out twenty metres out, a driving maul was set up giving teenager Cummings his first try for the Club. Steve Alford added another stunner to his own try collection to move to 6 for the season. With the clock ticking down, Talamini crashed through a hole and found Joe Hunt back on the inside who gratefully finished the move off.

## Bedworth 7 Harbury 27

Monsoon-like weather in the lead up to this game meant for a muddy pitch. Bedworth started the stronger of the two sides, but some stoic defence kept the home side out before a midfield scrum provided an opportunity for Winchester and Harry Holland to put Ricky Alford away down the wing, allowing him to chip and chase, gather and dot down like only Ricky can. Playing a more expansive game, Talamini burst onto a perfectly timed pop pass from Hunt to run through and score a converted try. This was quickly followed with Milburn turning the ball over and giving Chris Woodhams the ball at full tilt, beating the fullback and scoring his first try of the season. Bedworth started the second half much like the first but this time managed to break through the visitors defence and dot down for a converted try. Harbury dominance up front provided the backs with a platform that allowed Ricky and Toby Whelan to score a try apiece to close the game out. With four wins on the bounce (three away from home) Harbury look forward to the remainder of the season.

January's cold snap saw the game against Birmingham and Solihull postponed to 18th March.



## HARBURY TENNIS CLUB

*Colin Mercer*

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

The traditional New Year Muffler Social Tournament was played On Sunday 8th January, and 17 keen club players turned out on the cold and windy morning to compete for The Dave Brown trophy. Two group rounds were played to whittle the contestants down and in two closely fought semi-finals, Ed and Helen took on Nigel and Jeunine, and Dan and Karen faced Ian and Andy. In the final Ed and Helen overcame Ian and Andy, finishing the day victorious and taking the first club trophy of 2023. Many thanks to those who came to spectate, socialise, and cheer on fellow



club members, and special mention to Mary and Keith for keeping the mulled wine and hot cuppas flowing, and to Jane for doing a great job of her first tournament in Peter's absence.

In the winter leagues the freezing and/or wet weather has meant only two matches have been completed so far. In Floodlit Division 2 the "A" team of Eira Owen, Emma Brangwin, Ben Fish and Josh Marshall went to Byfield for a top of Division 2 clash. Unfortunately, the home team edged it with a 6-2 win but Harbury still hold on to top position. The only other match was in the Weekend league, and a short trip to top of the table Warwick Tennis Club for Sue Panton, Wendy and Andy Lewin and Joe Robson. Warwick took full advantage of playing on their fast Astroturf courts and secured an 8-0 win. Harbury are fourth in Division 2 but as both matches have been against Warwick there's a good chance of moving up the table in the second half of the season.



The floodlit "B" Team is currently 4th in Division 3 but not far off the promotion places and with home advantage for all but one of the remaining six matches, things are looking good and we are confident of some good results. The floodlit "C" team has made an excellent start and currently occupies first place in Division 4. Overall, plenty to play for in the coming months and hopefully some promotions!

The coaching programme delivered by *Coolsportz* offers sessions on Mondays and Fridays for all age groups. There are still spaces on the Monday session for Rusty/Beginners so if you're interested, please contact Lianne Candappa on 07919104093 or [lianne@coolsportz.co.uk](mailto:lianne@coolsportz.co.uk)



## HARBURY TODDLER GROUP

Lynne Barton

### ***Hello from everyone at Toddlers***

Happy New Year! We started back on Monday 9th January with a 'full house' of wonderful children and parents. We are so lucky to have such lovely support in the village and surrounding areas.

Our funds were given an unexpected boost a few days into the New Year with a £50 donation courtesy of our super Harbury Carnival Committee. Thank you so much, the funds will be put to very good use supporting the Group with its running costs. We have kept our contribution to £1.50 per session for parent and child with an extra £0.50 for a second child of 9 months and above for at least eight years. The cost of living crisis makes it all the more important to have a warm space to come to on these bitter cold days and we can guarantee a warm welcome.



## The Year Ahead

We always have a Calendar for the year, sharing details of all the brilliant guests we have coming to delight us and enrich our Monday morning. 2023 is no different with our great partnership with Love Ballet Dance Company, Rhythm Time, Deb and Secret Dens, Princesses and Super Heroes and much more.

We were very pleased in our first session back to welcome Jessica Hartshorn, Children's Author and Illustrator. She signed copies of her latest book and here she is reading the children her story about the adventures of Super Panda, complete with Panda ears.

The first hour of Toddlers is usually free play and exploration, we always have art activities to encourage children's creativity and development and following Jessica's visit we made our own books for our future budding writers.

Deb came with her large easels which are always a firm favourite with all of the children and by the end of the morning bright colourful paintings cover the walls.



## And Finally

With much affection, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all very soon.

**Love from Lynne, Selina, Debbie, Suzi and Judi x x**



## **A New Term**

It was lovely to welcome all the children back fresh from their Christmas break. We have enjoyed hearing about the presents they have received and what they have been up to during their holidays,

We are especially delighted to welcome some new faces to our Pre-School family. The new children have made themselves at home and we hope that they enjoy their time at Harbury Pre-School.

## **Chinese New Year**

2023 is the Year of the Rabbit and people around the world have been celebrating Chinese New Year. We have been using books and the iPad to learn all about China and find out 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 and trying on some Chinese clothes, looking at Chinese print, chopsticks and Chinese decorations.

We have been using props to recreate the river, Jade Emperor and thirteen animals to re-enact 'The Great Race' and find out how the different years came to represent different animals. The children have really enjoyed acting out the story and some were quite worried about the poor cat so chose to adapt the story so he was rescued by the Jade Emperor!

Our Pre-School dragon made his annual appearance much to the children's delight. They have been producing some fantastic representations of him using paint, carefully looking at his many features.

Our learning continues next week when we will be preparing and chopping vegetables to make our very own Chinese Stir Fry with noodles and prawn crackers. The children will be having a try at using chopsticks.

## **The weather**

As well as Chinese New Year, we have been looking at the weather. We have been learning about the seasons, making winter collages and, last week, we brought some of the outside in by adding ice to the water tray. We have added some arctic animals, an igloo, and have experimented by adding food colouring to the ice.



The children have been fascinated by the ice and have been exploring its texture and temperature and looking at how and why it melts and turns into water. We have been investigating how we can speed the process along by rubbing it in our hands or using brushes.

This week, we replaced the ice with cornflour and water which the children have loved playing with and watching how it changes as they manipulate it.



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



## HARBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lucy Bosley - Headteacher

***To love, learn and grow together.***

***"Let us not love with words and speech but with action and in truth" 1 John 3:18***

At Harbury CE Primary School we use January to refresh our learning about Growth Mindset. Work has already started in each year group and growth mindset displays are popping-up in every classroom. Last year, the pupils participated in African drumming workshops to apply their growth mindset attitude to learning a new skill.

This year, we have linked our learning to World Braille Day. The children will be learning all about Braille and practising their new skills by exploring activities designed by the Royal National Institute of Blind People. We will also be visited in assembly time by Southam Guide Dog volunteers. We wonder if you would like to extend this and learn some Braille too!

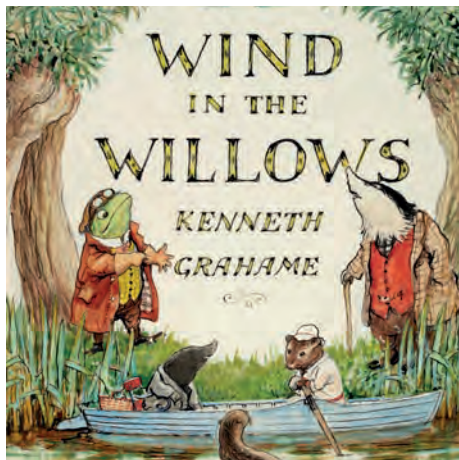
A new Inclusion Charter has been created by Warwickshire. It is a shared vision for schools across the county using the four cornerstones of 'Welcome and Care', understanding that every child is an individual; 'Value and include' remembering that inclusion is everyone's responsibility; 'Communicate' and 'Work in Partnership', working together to recognise need and support families on their journey. These are





important values that link very closely to our own school values.

Our topics this term include: Why did elephants live in Leamington Spa? Wind in the Willows and On top the World. The children have already been asking lots of great questions linked to these.



## HARBURY VILLAGE HALL

Andy Rutherford

Another busy period at the Village Hall, with quite a few interesting events. Our Village Cinema (run by the WI) ran a well-attended showing of "Fishermen's Friends 2", and we had a large event held by Southern Indian Cultural Society based in Leamington. There is also a new regular Seated Exercise Class on a Tuesday morning, funded by Stratford Council.

We have found it necessary to bring in a new pricing structure at the Hall, which particularly reflects increased energy costs during winter months - the new Winter Fuel Surcharge applies from November to the end of March. The last time we changed pricing was in January 2016.

The Village Hall Committee is again looking for more help. Our Booking Secretary has filled that role for some years, but needs to spend more time on her full-time employment. The role of Booking Secretary would suit somebody retired or semi-retired, and involves a lot of contact with people hiring the Hall - quite sociable. Many thanks to Pam Keane for all of her help.

Users of the Hall will have seen the free-standing air filter units around the Hall. They filter dust and destroy virus by using uv light. They are still worth switching on when a lot of people are using the Hall.

### Warwickshire Schools' Inclusion Charter

**Inclusion is Everyone's Responsibility**

**Our Vision:**  
For schools to be places where everyone feels valued, included, safe, supported and welcome. We will work together to make all our children and young people in Warwickshire to lead a fulfilling life and be part of their community.

**The Charter:**  
This charter sets out what all children and young people and their families should expect from schools in Warwickshire to live with the SEND Code of Practice.

**Welcome and Care**

**We will:**

- Understand that every child is an individual
- Recognise the value of inclusion
- Make time to get to know you and what is important to you and your family
- Establish and build on positive relationships
- Make time to respond to all needs
- Work closely with all relevant people to ensure successful transitions
- Ensure children and young people's voices are at the heart of all we do

**Communicate**

**We will:**

- Listen calmly and respectfully, with patience, ensuring you feel heard and understood.
- Establish how to provide and seek information in a way you can action and understand
- Explain what can be done and any limitations
- Communicate in a way that means you can participate in planning and decision making
- Provide clear guidance on who to contact and respond promptly
- Make you comfortable by using positive and helpful language
- Create and maintain communication friendly environments

Developing and nurturing each of these commitments to build

**TRUST**

**Value and include**

**We will:**

- Remember inclusion is everyone's responsibility
- Be proactive in providing reasonable adjustments
- Ensure our SENDCo is able to support families and staff before and support you of any present changes as soon as possible
- Ensure that children and young people with SEND are valued and included in all your activities
- Identify needs early and assess, plan, do, review with support from appropriate agencies
- Ensure our children and young people have a trusted person who checks in with them at least weekly
- Have a can-do attitude and build on everyone's strengths
- Recognise and meet the training needs of our staff

**Work in Partnership**

**We will:**

- Give you opportunities to share your views
- Do our best to understand and consider your ideas
- Involve you in developing shared plans for you and our school
- Value you as an equal partner and recognise your experience and knowledge
- Understand that every family is different and has different resources
- Engage with community groups
- Collaborate across settings to share good practice
- Work together with you and other people to recognise need and support you on your journey as a family

**Signatories:**

*Elaine*  
Chair of Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice

*John*  
Chair of Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice

*John*  
Chair of IMPACT (Parent Practice Forum for SEND)

Warwickshire SENDCo Network



# HARBURY LIBRARY & BIBLIO'S CAFE

Rich Fowler

## Children's Area

We have reorganised the space in the library to create a larger and more easily accessible children's area. This allows us to add more books and improve and increase the display space.



## Activities and Events

*Tunes and Tales* continues on Thursday mornings from 9.15am to 9.45am. Stories, songs and a re-enactment of the Grand Old Duke of York's march to the top of the hill and back.

## Board Game Fridays

Come along with friends to play some of the board games in our collection, or bring your own. Board Game Fridays will now start at 1.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits available.

## Harbury Repair Cafe

Takes place in the library on the 4th Saturday of every month from 2pm to 4pm.

## Classic Book Group

Our group meets in the library on the 3rd Thursday of every month. We aim to read, and discuss, those "classic" books you always meant to read, but never did. If you're interested in joining us please email [BookGroup@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk](mailto:BookGroup@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk).

**Sheep Dip Sessions** at Harbury Library will resume from March 2023. Friday 24th March 2023, Harp & Monkey. Friday 21st April 2023, Jim Crawford. Friday 19th May 2023, Owen Spafford and Louis Campbell.

## Art, Artists, and Authors

We have more than books and coffee. Original works by local artists are displayed on the walls and we have greeting cards created by local artists and books written by local authors available to buy.



## FindMyPast

Interested in researching your family history? *FindMyPast* is now available on the public access computers in the library. *Findmypast* is a searchable





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**Refreshments in aid of the NSPCC**

online archive of over 10 billion records, covering everything from parish and school records to migration and military collections from across the globe. Subscriptions also include access to the 1921 census and to the 1939 Register. Our subscription also includes access to the British Newspaper Archive.

### **Biblio's**

Why not meet friends for a hot drink and homemade cake? Our friendly volunteers will be waiting to serve you in Biblio's Cafe on any of the days and times when the Cafe is open, as stated in this article.

### **Regular Opening Times**

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

*Biblio's Cafe:* Wednesday to Saturday - 9.15am to 12 noon, Saturday - 10am to 12 noon

Bookings can be made via the following email: [bookingsbiblioscafe@outlook.com](mailto:bookingsbiblioscafe@outlook.com)



## **HARBURY CLUB & INSTITUTE**

*Club Committee*

### **Dates for the diary:**

Fri 3rd Bingo £70 - Snowball!!

Sat 11th Valentines weekend Order/BYO takeaway.

Sat 17th Bingo... double the chance, double the fun.

Sat 18th The quiz is back. Test your knowledge. £30 prize

Sat 25th The Rooters live!!

Well what a busy month January was! With membership renewal and an influx of new members, new beers and cellar improvements, parties and group meets, its been non stop, a wonderful start to 2023, thank you.

We've got something for everyone this February including our DIY valentines evening. Have a night out with staying in prices. Order your choice of food from your favourite takeaway, have it delivered to you at the club. Take advantage of our wine and prosecco offers, use your members discount and enjoy the music, maybe you'll be lucky enough to have an end of the night slow dance with your sweetheart or an admirer ♡ if you let us know if you'll be taking advantage of this, we can set up a table for your arrival.

It won't be long before the weather brightens and the days get a little longer. We have already had lovely hanging baskets donated to us by our very own village garden centre - the Garden Pantry. We're looking forward to their help and expertise in the spring with the flower bed.





Thank you to all of our members who have taken the time to pop in and say hello whilst renewing their memberships. We appreciate things are a little different this year. It will soon be a lot easier to communicate with you all and you us. As I was always taught, you can't make an omelette without breaking a few eggs, and a lovely omelette it is turning out to be. Cheers 🍷 see you all soon.



## GARDEN JOTTINGS

*Christine Dakin from Bridge Nursery*

I'm writing this on a cold, wet and windy day early in January and want to cheer myself up by thinking about colours and how we use them in the garden. Those of you who have visited the garden here will know that I have a 'hot' border. This is where I plant all the reds, yellows and oranges mainly because these are strong colours which can be hard to mix in with the more subtle pastel shades of pink and purple.



I have heard quite a few people who shudder at the thought of yellow flowering plants but I bet they have some daffs and a few primroses, we are all full of inconsistency. All the other borders are a bit of a mish mash of plants which I like to think look good together (when I'm at the planning stage) but in reality don't always achieve what I was hoping for.

Pinks and purples seem to be very popular among my customers but I do find some shades of pink to be not to my taste. I once supplied plants for a design which used acid green, yellow and white which is certainly a bit different from most colour schemes. Using white flowers can help provide some contrast and some relief in a busy colourful border.

With this in mind I'm planning to group plants together by colour in the sales area which I hope will make it easier for plant buyers to find the right plant for the gap (gaps?) they have.

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



## NATURE NOTES

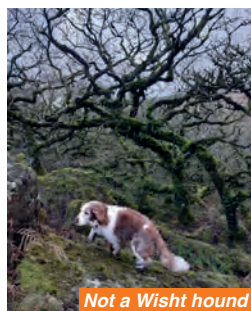
*Martin & Amanda Randall*

Over the Christmas break we visited a rainforest. It was fascinating to see the moss-covered trees and boulders as well as the encrusting lichens falling in grey-green curtains from the branches. But this wasn't a trip to the hot, humid tropics. Much closer to home, this was on Dartmoor, where we spent a day exploring to look at Wistman

Wood, a remote, high altitude oakwood. This oakwood is a pocket of a globally rare habitat, temperate rainforest. Yes, we have rainforests in the UK!

Like tropical rainforests, temperate rainforests grow in areas of high rainfall. In fact, with our maritime climate, up to 20% of Britain possesses the conditions for temperate rainforests. In the past, they covered large areas of western and upland England, the west coast of Scotland, Snowdonia and the Elenydd upland area in Mid Wales. However, Britain's temperate rainforests now only remain in tiny, fragmented pockets, including in Dartmoor National Park. To compare, just 10% of England and 13% of Britain is currently covered by woodland of any kind, and the majority of this is conifer plantations.

British 'temperate rainforest' used to be called 'Atlantic oakwood', being predominantly (but not solely) oak woodlands found along the Atlantic seaboard. Unlike the sturdy lowland oak, whose mighty trunks historically provided timber for England's navy, the oaks in temperate rainforests are stunted and twisted, and were useless for building, good only for fuel or charcoal. This led to the destruction of many of our rainforests.



Wistman's Wood has been mentioned in writing for hundreds of years. In the nineteenth century it was renowned as one of the 'seven natural wonders of Devon'. Its name may derive from the Devonshire dialect word "wisht", meaning "eerie/uncanny" or "pixie-led/haunted". The legendary Wild Hunt in Devon, whose hellhounds are known as Yeth (Heath) or Wisht Hounds in the Devonshire dialect, is particularly associated with Wistman's Wood. We didn't see any of those hounds, just our own dog snuffling in the undergrowth near the woodland border.

As these woodlands are now only isolated fragments some of the associated plants and animals unique to those habitats are equally rare. For example it is the home of the incredibly rare Horsehair Lichen (*Bryoria smithii*), which is critically endangered and is now known to only occur at two places in Britain, both on Dartmoor. Also found here is the Pendulous Wing-moss (*Antitrichia curtipendula*) whose hanging stems can grow up to 30 cm long.

These damp, deciduous, ancient, woodlands are home to the Blue Ground Beetle (*Carabus intricatus*). It is one of the rarest beetles in the UK and is a globally threatened European species. Once thought to be extinct in the UK until it was rediscovered in Dartmoor in 1994, this rare beetle is restricted to ten sites in Devon and Cornwall and one in South Wales. It is a large distinctive species that grows to nearly one and a half inches (28mm) and has long legs and a distinctive metallic blue colouring.

They climb trees at night following slime trails in search of slugs on which they feed. The adult beetles hibernate under moss-laden dead bark and are thought to live for

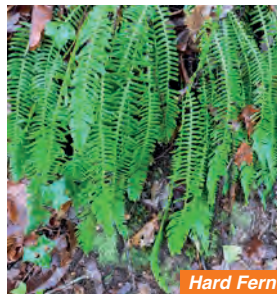


2 to 3 years. Unlike many beetles, they are wingless and cannot fly, which accounts for their very localised distribution. Unfortunately as it was a winter's day when we visited, we were not able to see them.

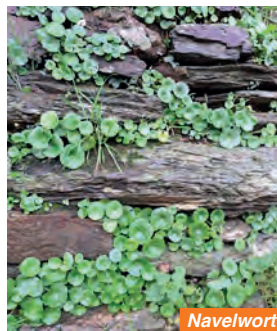
Elsewhere on our walks around the Tamar valley, we were pleased to see other plants growing in profusion along the river banks and lanes. As it is an area with high rainfall, the ferns were quite spectacular. The Hart's-tongue ferns (*Asplenium scolopendrium*) were particularly large, growing in the damp, shady woodlands, as well as on rocks, walls and mossy branches.



There were also many Hard Fern (*Blechnum spicant*) plants. In winter Red Deer feed on the fronds of this evergreen fern when there are few other green plants available. Hard Fern is an ancient-woodland-indicator plant, so if you spot it while you're out exploring, it could be a sign you're standing in a rare and special habitat. It is interesting that both these species are sold as garden plants, yet here we saw them in abundance and much better than in a garden.



The old stone walls had many leaves of Navelwort (*Umbilicus rupestris*) protruding from between the crevices. Again, this distinctive plant is one mainly found in South West England and Wales, where it grows in shady or damp places. Each leaf has a shallow central depression - hence its name. Navelwort's other common name is Wall Pennywort, which refers to the shape and typical size of the leaves, being similar to a pre-decimal penny. It has straw-coloured flower spikes that do not appear until June to August - perhaps we should return to see them in the summer.



## HARBURY GENERAL NEWS



### HARBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Jacqui Harris

Following Friday's meeting at Stratford District Council, 20th January 2023 chaired by District Cllr Jacqui Harris, Ward Member for **Upper Lighthorne** Parish Council, who convened and called for the meeting which was attended by Sir Jeremy Wright, Integrated Care Board, representatives of Parish, District and County Councils, years of anxiety fell away as the Integrated Care Board agreed that **Upper Lighthorne** Parish should have its own health facility on site.

This is excellent news not only for the **Upper Lighthorne** Parish area but for surrounding villages who are under pressure with their own building commitments and influx of new residents, putting demand on overstretched services. Long term this will help remove some of the pressure from satellite surgeries. Although the business case is yet to be prepared, this is excellent news for this end of Warwickshire.

Cllr Jacqui Harris and Cllr Zoe Dandridge-Brown Chair of **Upper Lighthorne**, would like to take the opportunity to thank Parish, District, County Councillors and our local MP in supporting this ambition, it was a resounding success reflecting the years of hard work by Cllr Harris and Upper Lighthorne PC since the planning permission was granted in 2015, being supported through collaborative working by the other parties to reach such success, shows what can be achieved and what local representation can do.



## MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR REQUIRED

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*John Holden*

Our long serving distributor who delivers around 12 copies of the magazine to some of the houses on the Thwaites Estate and in Chesterton wishes to retire. The round could suit a cyclist, runner or walker, who would be able once per month to deliver the News to these outlying households.

If you are interested in this, please contact our Distribution Manager Gordon Robbins by email - [distribution@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:distribution@hlnews.co.uk) or 01926 612155.



## HARBURY LOCAL MARKET

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*Steve Ekins*

Is normally held on the last Saturday of the Month in the Village Hall 10am until 12.30pm.

The next Market is Saturday 25th February, up to 30 stalls selling local Produce, Food, Art and Crafts.

Free admission, Tea Coffee and Bacon Rolls available.

We are also on Facebook @Harbury Local Market join for regular updates.



## HARBURY BALLROOM & LATIN AMERICAN DANCING

---

*Amanda Randall*

**Harbury Village Hall Wednesdays - Beginners 7.15 pm Improvers 8.30 pm**

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**Contact:** Jacqui Powell: 01926 612887 or 07769 683888

Email: [harbury.ballroom.dancing@gmail.com](mailto:harbury.ballroom.dancing@gmail.com)

Follow us on Facebook (Harbury Ballroom Dancing Group) or Instagram @harburyballroomdancing for further updates.

**“KEEEEEEP Dancing”!!**



## SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE UPDATE

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*Mike McBride*

After recovering from the Christmas Party, just a brief update this month.

As part of our ongoing fundraising, we are due to host the THR coffee morning on Saturday 18th February. We look forward to seeing many of you then where you can also meet members of our committee.

Thank you all for your continuing support.



## HARBURY SWIFT VILLAGE - UPDATE

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*Amanda Randall*

It's not easy in gloomy February to imagine summer skies and the sight of soaring swifts, but it won't be long before our visitors arrive! It has been exciting that so many people want to help these endangered birds by hosting swift nest boxes.

It has been a challenge to fairly allocate the boxes, but this is being done with strict regard to the exacting requirements of the swifts. Swifts are very particular about where they like to nest, preferring an aspect between north and east, with boxes 5m (15 feet) above the ground, and an unobstructed flight path. Additionally, swifts like each other's company and prefer to nest near other swifts, so it is also important that the boxes are sited fairly close to each other, either on one property, or adjacent properties.

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Consequently, properties have been assessed with regard to the following criteria: aspect, proximity to records of past swift nests, and/or past records of low-flying swifts at roof height and also the proximity of adjacent properties with nest boxes. We have used the RSPB's SwiftMapper website to locate past records of nests and sightings. (Scan the QR code at the end of this article to go to their website).

With a generous but limited number of boxes available, not everyone who wanted a Parish Council box has been able to have one, so thank you to those of you who have decided to join the Swift Village project anyway and purchase your own boxes. Many thanks, too, to Phoenix Craft Creations for making them! ([phoenixcraftcreations.co.uk](http://phoenixcraftcreations.co.uk)).

Please don't expect all the boxes to have nesting swifts in the very first season! Providing nesting boxes is a long term initiative and patience is needed. However, one way to lure swifts to new boxes is to play them recordings of their social calls! I can testify that doing this at the end of the breeding season last summer got swifts flying low investigating our new nest boxes, so we are hoping for visitors again this summer and maybe even a nest! Some commercial swift nest box manufacturers (e.g. Peak Boxes) sell these sound systems but we purchased ours from Andrew Porter ([swiftcallboxes@gmail.com](mailto:swiftcallboxes@gmail.com)) who makes them to order. (They cost about £30). The unit comes with the calls pre-installed so you can just plug it in and play. I believe that the unit can also be powered by a phone charging power bank.

We have ours connected to a 24hr timer plug, so we can set the on and off times. From when the swifts arrive in May, the best times to play the calls are first thing in the morning and again in the evening, towards dusk. We put ours by the open window closest to our boxes. These call boxes are weatherproof but not waterproof. They will stand some adverse weather but will need protection from extreme inclement weather. An alternative suggestion would be to put it in a sandwich bag and hang it outside. It's definitely worth trying this strategy to attract swifts to investigate your box.

The distribution of nest boxes will be confirmed in the new few weeks, and (after consultation with the Parish Council), you will be contacted to discuss delivery and fitting.

In the meantime, do let me know if in previous years you or your neighbours have had nesting swifts on your property. This is really useful information that can help us put the boxes in the best possible locations to attract swifts.

If you have any questions, please contact me:

Call Amanda on 01926 613871 or email [a.l.randall0657@gmail.com](mailto:a.l.randall0657@gmail.com).

**RSPB SwiftMapper**  
[www.swift-conservation.org](http://www.swift-conservation.org)



**Swift Conservation group**  
[www.swiftmapper.org.uk](http://www.swiftmapper.org.uk)





## THE COLLECTIVE

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Rev. Andy Batchelor

Events in today's world trigger a multitude of questions on issues to which our modern society is wanting answers. All Saints Harbury is planning to respectfully engage in discussion on such issues from both a secular and Christian perspective by meeting on a regular basis in the Shakespeare pub.

The first meeting of THE COLLECTIVE will take place on Tuesday 21st February at 7.30pm, and monthly thereafter. Our first topic for discussion will be 'Under Pressure - how do we cope?'

The aim is to get to know each other better, hear a short presentation on a hot topic, and spend time discussing it together over drinks in an informal setting. Everyone is welcome and questions and challenges are encouraged! Please do come along.

Any questions beforehand, please contact me: [rev.andyb@gmail.com](mailto:rev.andyb@gmail.com) 01926 714295.



## WEDNESDAY WALKERS

---

Gillian Hare

Yet again, the weather on Wednesday mornings has been kind to us. All the wetness was under foot, not on our heads! The countryside is still beautiful in its winter rest. Even now with patches of fresh growth and the birds more visible in the bare branches. The walk to the café at Hatton locks was particularly popular; on a frosty, sunny morning, 21 of us were revitalised by hot drinks, toasted tea cakes, and (don't tell) pork batches! It was a pleasure to welcome two new folk to the group; we hope we shall see them again.

On a more sombre note, we are so sad to hear of the death of Jan Thomas. She and Lyndon shared the leadership of the group since its start, 12 years ago. They led us on many interesting and carefully planned routes; she was a lovely, brave and gentle lady. We send our condolences to Lyndon and their family.

This month we hope to see snowdrops in flower; such an encouraging sight. Anyone is welcome to join us; we meet in the village hall car park leaving at 9.40am. For more info, ring Gillian on 01926 614809. See you there?



## REPAIR CAFÉ

---

Rich Fowler

The next Repair Cafe will be on Saturday 25th February, from 2pm to 4 pm at Harbury Library. You can send us information about items you're interested in having repaired by filling in the form on our website: [sites.google.com/site/repaircafeharbury/visit/repair-details](https://sites.google.com/site/repaircafeharbury/visit/repair-details)

**Wanted!** Volunteer Repairers, for two hours a month to help prevent broken household items ending up in landfill. If you're interested in helping, please email us at [repaircafeharbury@gmail.com](mailto:repaircafeharbury@gmail.com).

## Dates for your Diary

May *The Big Fix (all month)* 10-18 Jun *Great Big Green Week*  
4-8 Sep *Zero Waste Week* 21 Oct *International Repair Day*



### HARBURY GARDEN GROUP

*Jacqui Temple*

Now that January is out of the way we can look forward to spring and, for me, one of the nicest times of the year as a gardener, albeit, probably the busiest! The gardening group will start again this month with a visit to Evenley Wood Garden, near Brackley. This wooded, 60-acre garden is famed for its snowdrops. Once the weather improves we will meet in group members' gardens to discuss the topic of the month, chosen by the host and enjoy the garden over a cuppa!

We meet up on the last Thursday of each month from February to November, If you would like to know more about us, please email me at [jacquitemple.jt@gmail.com](mailto:jacquitemple.jt@gmail.com)

Happy Gardening! 🌱



### EASTER ART EXHIBITION

*Howard Collerson*

Napton Art Group are holding their Easter Exhibition of members' work at Napton Village Hall (CV47 8LS) on 8th and 9th April between 10am and 5pm.

There will be about 200 paintings in all mediums including oils, watercolour, 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 cafe. Everybody who comes can vote for The Best in Show. The art group has a 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.



### THE CLOSURE OF THE OLD GATED ROAD IN CHESTERTON AND KINGSTON PARISH

*Andy Turner - Chair, Chesterton & Kingston Parish*

As most neighbours and friends in the mid Fosse Parish and Harbury communities will know, site preparation work has started along the Old Gated Road to build the motorway noise bund and 1000 new houses.

As a result, The Old Gated Road is closed until the middle of this year.

The Old Gated Road is a single track road between the Banbury Road and Chesterton village. There are only two passing places along this 1.25 mile stretch of road. To compound the problems for road users there is an unmarked bend and a blind summit. As a result, this is a dangerous road for all users.

Chesterton village has a recent history of road safety problems. There are no

pavements, no street lighting and the two access roads to the village, Church Road and The Old Gated Road are single-track roads.

Following a long campaign going back over five years, warning signs were erected on Church Road and the Old Gated Road in August 2022 paid for by WCC to alert drivers to pedestrians and equestrians on these single track roads.

Traffic levels have continued to be an issue through the village and in particular on the Old Gated Road. The issues can be categorised as follows:

- Excessive traffic levels on The Fosse Way leading up to the B4100/ Fosse Way roundabout backing up to Harbury Lane/ Fosse Way crossroads lead to traffic diverting through Chesterton.
- A small but significant number of regular JLR/AML employees have continued to ignore the “No Access to JLR/AML” signs that were erected to discourage use to the Gaydon sites.
- A larger number of regular JLR/AML employees use Chesterton as a cut though from Gaydon location from 1600hrs onwards.

As a condition of planning permission (15/04200/OUT) to build 1000 houses on The Old Gated Road, a section 106 (17/01017/S106) was agreed and paid to WCC by the developer in 2019 for the permanent closure of the Old Gated Road. This was done:

- To prevent traffic from an additional 3600 new houses with an estimated 8800 new residents in Upper Lighthorne using Chesterton’s single track roads as a “cut through” to Harbury and Leamington Spa.
- To protect the ancient structures at Chesterton Green and sensitive archaeological verges/landscapes along Church Road.
- To acknowledge the local resident need. Parishioners of Chesterton & Kingston voted 4 to 1 in favour of closure in a ballot of all residents in May/June 2015.

In order for closure of the Old Gated Road to become permanent, a period of consultation will start in the next few weeks.

The Old Gated Road will be a dedicated cycleway following permanent closure as part of the Feldon Cycleway. The design of the type of closure will be sensitive to cyclists, pedestrians & equestrians. The parishioners of Chesterton and Kingston welcome cyclists, equestrians and walkers to continue to use The Old Gated Road and access the historic assets of Chesterton & Kingston. Chesterton & Kingston is still open for “business” with a 1.2 mile detour from the B4100 via Windmill Hill Lane. We as a Parish consider ourselves an active member of the broader South Warwickshire community and will continue to participate in all important issues affecting the area.

Landowners, utility companies and emergency services will continue to have vehicular access to the “closed” part of the Old Gated Road to carry out their required activities.

Discussions on the precise location of closure and types of closure have been going on for over eight months and they will continue to prevent fly tipping and illegal traveller occupation.

Any comments would be welcome. Please e-mail; [chestertonandkingstonparish@gmail.com](mailto:chestertonandkingstonparish@gmail.com)

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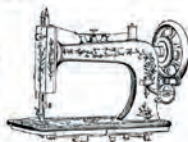
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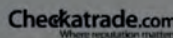
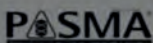
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