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APRIL 2024

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HARBURY & LADBROKE News

Published monthly to reflect all aspects of local life

April 2024

No. 601

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Daralyn Warren – Jackie West

The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team.

The Editors reserve the right to amend articles as they see fit.

Cover Photo: Samois-sur-Seine Town Hall (Mairie) taken by Peter McDonald



EDITORIAL

A round up of local news

Our cover photo this month shows the Town Hall (Mairie) in Samois-sur-Seine, which is south east of Paris in the Forest of Fontainebleau. Harbury has been twinned with Samois since March 1998. Many Harburians, through the Twinning Association, have visited the pretty village of Samois and in return our French friends have stayed in Harbury. A lot of friendships have been made and numerous trips around both local areas (and further afield) have taken place. The good people of Samois will be visiting us again next month, we hope they enjoy their visit.



*Photos of Samois-sur-Seine taken by
Peter McDonald and Tony Brunton*



Hopefully the protracted work to install traffic lights at the Harbury Lane/Fosse Way crossroads will soon be completed. A reminder that the crossroads will be completely closed to traffic between 6pm and 6am on Monday 15th April to Friday 19th April.

Harbury e-Wheels are looking to boost its driver numbers to ensure they can cover more requests. If you think you fit the bill, please get in touch - see article on page 35.

The organisers of the Harbury Garden Walkabout which will take place over the last weekend of June are looking for volunteers to open their gardens. Please make contact with Peter Walshe if you are interested, see page 49.

Ladbroke's Photography Club welcomes visitors, guests and new members. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month.

If you fancy an early start on Wednesday 1st May, Hereburgh Morris will be holding their traditional Dancing up the Dawn at Chesterton Windmill at 5.00am!

We were sorry to learn of the death of Joe Van Hoorebeek. Joe was for many years the Harbury & Ladbroke News distributor in Mill Street. Our condolences go to the family.



HARBURY DIARY

For local events

APRIL

- Mon 1 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 2 Free Chair-based Activity Class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)
- Wed 3 No Wednesday Walk
Mothers' Union, Service 2.00pm, meeting starts 2.30pm - Cllr Sydney Syson talks about 'Nights in Leamington', 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
- Thu 4 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Fri 5 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn
- Sat 6 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of St. Giles Church, Chesterton

Sun 7 EASTER 1

- Said Communion, 9.00am, Church
Little Saints, 10.30am, Church
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 8 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 9 Free Chair-based Activity Class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
Tennis Club AGM, 7.30 for 8.00pm, Village Club
- Wed 10 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park - Norton Lindsay (5 miles)
Quiet Space, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Knitwits and Pleasant Pastimes, 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
- Thu 11 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury WI, Heather Wilson - Every picture tells a story, 7.30 for 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 13 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Agnes Court - Leonard Cheshire Care
Litter Pick, 10.00 - 11.00am, meet Village Hall car park
Southam Indoor Market, 10.00am - 12.30pm, the Grange Hall, Southam

Sun 14 EASTER 2

Holy Communion with Children's Church, 10.30am, Church
Messy Church, 3.00 - 5.00pm, Church
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall

Mon 15 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

Tue 16 Free Chair-based Activity Class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
The Collective - 'Who do you think you are', 7.30pm, Shakespeare Inn
Harbury Society, presentation by Mark Newbold 'An insider's view of the NHS',
doors open 7.30pm, Tom Hauley Room

Wed 17 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park - Flecknoe (4.5 miles)
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

Thu 18 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room

Sat 20 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury
Environmental Group
Harbury Repair Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library

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Sun 21 EASTER 3

Holy Communion, 8.00am, Church
All Age Service followed by Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 10.30am, Church
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)

Mon 22 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR
EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM

Tue 23 Free Chair-based Activity Class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Theatre Group, 7.00 for 7.30pm, Village Club

Wed 24 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park - Wormleighton (4 miles - 1 hill,
optional pub meal)
Knitwits and Pleasant Pastimes, 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

Thu 25 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sat 27 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Twinning Association

Sun 28 EASTER 4

Holy Communion, 10.30am, Church
Muddy Church, 10.30am, Meet Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall

Mon 29 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

Tue 30 Free Chair-based Activity Class, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room

MAY

Wed 1 Hereburgh Morris Dancing the sun up, 5.00am, Chesterton Windmill
Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park - Wilmcote (4 miles flat)
Mothers' Union, Service 2.00pm, meeting starts 2.30pm, "A Glimpse of the Eternal",
Tom Hauley Room
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

Thu 2 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Police and Crime Commissioner election, 7.00am - 10.00pm, Village Hall
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 Myton Hospice
Litter Pick, 10.00 - 11.00am, meet Village Hall car park
Councillors Corner, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Harbury Local Market, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall

Sun 5 EASTER 5

Said Communion, 9.00am, Church
Little Saints, 10.30am, Church

Tue 7 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)

Wed 8 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall car park - Fawsley to Badby Bluebell
Wood (3.5 miles - hilly)



May Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News

Adverts to: 36 Manor Orchard, Harbury or e-mail to
advertising@hlnews.co.uk by Saturday 20th April

Articles to: Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to
articles@hlnews.co.uk by 5.30pm, Monday 22nd April



Refuse Collection Rota

Week Commencing Monday	Thursday Collection - Harbury	Wednesday & Friday Collections - Ladbroke Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge
1 Apr	F - R - G	F
8 Apr	F	F - R - G
15 Apr	F - R - W - G	F - W
22 Apr	F	F - R - G
29 Apr	F - R - G	F
6 May	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		



**All Saints
HARBURY**

FROM THE RECTOR

Rev. Andy Batchelor

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

As I write this, from my vicarage window I can see the spring flowers bursting into bloom particularly the daffodils which will cover the churchyard very soon. I'm sure many of us are looking forward to warmer (and particularly drier weather) as spring sets in.

I know our local farmers have really been struggling to plant their crops as we have been inundated by the fourth wettest February on record. Whatever your views may be on how our climate is changing, we can rest assured that the seasons continue their familiar cycle year by year, and that the cold and barren conditions of winter will be replaced by the balmy winds of spring and the signs of new life all around us. We, too, can hold firm to the hope and the promise of spring. There are times in our lives when things may seem desperately bleak with no hint of change to come, but then God brings about a transformation.

Nature is God's creation, and, in many ways, it is a metaphor for how he works. Solomon remarked on the connections of nature and the ways of God several times in Ecclesiastes, including how there is nothing new under the sun. From season to season, we can see that God is indeed faithful and unchanging. He offers us a firm foundation, an ever-present hope, a father who keeps every promise given to us.

He kept His promise when Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday, and He keeps His promise to us as each winter comes to an end so that spring will inevitably rise. So we can celebrate the coming of spring, for the One who promises that spring will come is worthy of our trust.

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FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Liz & Andy

We're writing this two weeks before Easter, but Easter will have been by the time you read this! So, we hope you enjoyed joining us for any of our services during this special time for the church!

Heat, Light & Stone

We remain incredibly grateful for the new heating and lighting and it has made such a difference in recent weeks. Philip Mayer reported at our recent PCC meeting that he estimates our gas usage has reduced by 25% compared to that used with the old heating system which has assisted in sheltering the church from the impact of the price rises.

In relation to the remaining works, we have the stonework repairs and a new Audio-Visual system. Whilst previously it had been assumed that we would undertake the stonework first, the faculty that we require from Coventry Diocese is still to be approved. With the money already raised we estimate that we need another c. £12k, to get to 50% of the total cost for the Audio-Visual work in order to obtain matched funding. The new Audio-Visual system will include a permanent projector and pull-down screen, along with a number of television screens which will have a number of benefits including greater flexibility in the service wording and songs as we won't be reliant on printing, also leading to environmental benefits from less printing.

Following that we will be focussing on the stonework. We cannot get updated quotes for this work until the faculty is granted but we are working on the assumption that the works will cost £100,000+. Whereas, as previously, we will look to grants, it is normal that you need to raise 50% of the cost in order to obtain grants. So there will no doubt be plenty of fundraising events in the near future!

(If you have any questions, we can be emailed on warden@harburychurch.org or phone us - Liz McBride 01926 612421 or Andy Dean 07753 497967)



MOTHERS' UNION

Gillian Hare

At our first meeting in Lent, we welcomed Rev Christine Pollard. Now retired, she reflected on her recognition of the season as a time of self examination, penitence and self denial. Many of us agreed that the idea of "giving to" was more positive than simply "giving up", as has been shown at the Friday lunches. She made us smile with some stories of her early time in ministry, and also wondered how, in some countries, Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day to us) had changed from a time of confession into a riotous festival! And pointed out that, for Christians, every day is a celebration both of Good Friday and Easter Day.

On Mothering Sunday, we had the pleasure of giving out daffodils to the congregation, with some left for Messy Church mums.

As you read this, we shall have hosted a Saturday coffee morning - thank you in anticipation

of your support. And had our April meeting when Councillor Sidney Syson will be talking about Nights in Leamington.

Then, on 1st May, we look forward to our dear friend Gemma describing her visit to Iona which she calls "A glimpse of the Eternal".

Visitors are always welcome to join us: we meet in Tom Hauley Room at 2pm, starting with a said communion service.



LADBROKE NEWS & DIARY

MARCH

Sun 31 EASTER SUNDAY

Holy Communion, 10.30am (note later time)

Easter Trail continues around the village today and Monday, then relocates to the church

APRIL

Tue 2 Easter Trail continues at Church, 10.00am - 4.00pm daily until Sunday
Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 3 Heritage & Friendship Group, 10.30am - noon, The Old School

Thu 4 WI, 7.30pm Village Hall

Sun 7 EASTER 1

Family Communion followed by refreshments, 10.30am

Tue 9 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 14 EASTER 2

Holy Communion, 9.00am

Tues 16 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sat 20 ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY
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Sun 21 EASTER 3

Holy Communion (BCP), 9.00am

Mon 22 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST
OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM

Tue 23 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 28 EASTER 4

Holy Communion, 9.00am

Tues 30 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

MAY

Wed 1 Heritage & Friendship Group, 10.30am - noon, The Old School

Thu 2 Police and Crime Commissioner election, 7.00am - 10.00pm, Village Hall
WI, 7.30pm, venue to be announced

Sun 5 EASTER 5

Family Communion followed by refreshments, 10.30am

Tue 7 Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 8 Ladbroke Parish Council, 7.45pm, Village Hall



LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

Peter Rigby

www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk

At the time of writing we are in the run up to Easter (the period known as Lent in the Church) and have just celebrated Mothering Sunday which by tradition is on the fourth Sunday of Lent. Our service was well attended with a number of visitors and posies were given out to all the ladies present; thank you to Rosemary Allington who kindly provided these again.

During the month we have also held two Lent Lunches which have proved as popular as ever, our thanks to Jenny Barrett and Carol Lane for hosting these.

By the time this edition is published Easter will have been and gone and a report on these services will feature in next month's edition.

On Sunday 28th April we shall be holding the Church's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (equivalent to its AGM) following the morning service. This will be an opportunity to hear about what has been going on during the year and also to vote for PCC members and other church offices. You will need to be on the Electoral Roll in order to vote; forms to join it (if you are not already signed up) are available in the Church.

Future Services:

Sunday 7th April	10.30am	Family Service
Sunday 14th April	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 21st April	9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 28th April	9.00am	Holy Communion followed by APCM
Sunday 5th May	10.30am	Family Service

www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk ladbrokechurch@gmail.com



LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL

Jackie West, H&L 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

Four of our five parish councillors made the meeting on 13th March and both our district and county councillors.

Annual Village Meeting - As in the past, our councillors will arrange one of these meetings for us to share information about everything going on the village; date to be advised.

SDC - Cllr Ostrander reported that parishes can have community crime prevention events, marking items etc. She had also given the clerk a list of contacts for different types of flooding that may occur. Both the UK and Rural Shared Prosperity Funds are open for applications; although SDC's Climate Change Fund is now closed, applications could be started as there will be another round next fiscal year. SDC have agreed their budget; it includes money for rural crime advisors, community activities, cost of living support (if anyone is in need of this they should contact Cllr Ostrander), climate change emergency and new council plans. The SDC portion of council tax will rise 3.1% in April.

WCC - Cllr Kettle reported their element of council tax will raise by 2.99% plus a further 2% for adult social care. Their total budget is around £623M, over half of which is spent on adult social care which is not optional. WCC must provide this support though they can and will try to deliver it as efficiently as possible. Support for children and young people is similarly demand-led. With an overspend of £36M expected, this also must become more efficient and control expenditure without stopping the support WCC provide, including for SEND pupils. This year 95% of families had obtained one of their first three choices for secondary schools, almost all that did not, had failed to put their local catchment school as one of these and as a consequence were too low in the selection priorities of all three schools they had chosen. WCC councillors' community grants will restart in April.

HS2 - Cllr Kettle was very concerned about huge delays to work in the Wormleighton/Priors Marston/Priors Hardwick area linked to planned road closures. The A425 will be closed for three weeks for re-routing the water supply to Southam which requires not just work by the HS2 contractor but Severn Trent who also have to clean and test the new pipework before the switch. Our Cllrs re-iterated that they want to know what are all the options for linking in the A423 overbridge, including those ones EFKB/HS2 do not want to do because higher cost. Cllr Kettle was asked if the traffic monitors (black tubes across the road) near church were linked with HS2. He was unaware of them and did not think they were. Apparently anyone can request monitors like this, they don't need permission from WCC or even to be installed by them. As well as counts, monitors that determine average speed can provide data to define the visibility splay needed at a junction or driveway.

Planning - No representation was/would be made for underpinning and wall plates at Sarah's Cottage, subsidence repairs at The Old Rectory nor felling a pine in the spinney off Bridge Lane or treeworks at Dovecote. Kernon Countryside Consultants have visited the triangle of land off Windmill Lane and issued their report which can be read on the SDC e-planning website (application 23/01027/FUL). The consultants did not support the application but the applicant can respond to the points they raised.

Housing Needs Survey - Five needs were reported, some for small houses, at least one for large. Sarah Brooke-Taylor will be invited back to a future meeting to explain the implications if the survey is adopted.

Street Lights - these are now recognised as LEDs, credits for overpayment sent and future costs will be lower than previously advised but the council did not yet know the revised charges.

Rights of Way - WCC are asking for public feedback about using footpaths, bridleways etc, - how important they are and what WCC should include in their new Rights of Way Improvement Plan. The consultation is at ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/warwickshire-rowip/ and closes on 7th April.

Millennium Green - The trustees have decided not to spend several thousand pounds fixing the wooden trail. They will focus all funds available on the main resurfacing project; maybe they could get sponsorship to replace the trail in future. The Parish Council have no money for grants this year, but could be asked again next fiscal year, although the decision will be very dependent on the cost of street lighting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 8th May



LADBROKE & DEPPERS BRIDGE WI

Dianne Surgey

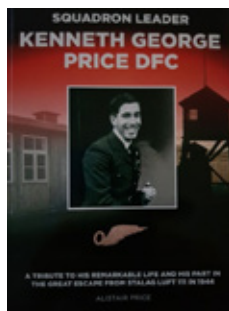
In March we had a most interesting speaker when Alistair Price told us about some of his father's experiences in the Second World War. From humble beginnings he won a scholarship to King Henry VIII School in Coventry and his interest in writing led him to a job as a reporter on the Midland Daily Telegraph (now the Coventry Evening Telegraph).

With war imminent he joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve and was called up in 1939. He took part in the Battle of Britain and went on to become a Wing Commander, awarded the DSO and bar. He played a part in the famous Bomber Command Pathfinders and completed 58 missions before being shot down. Listed as missing, his twin was convinced that he was still alive and tracked him down through the Red Cross. He spent nearly two years as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft where he edited the camp newspaper and perfected his German so that he could barter with the guards. Ken was involved in the Great Escape, made famous in the 1963 film. Prisoners drew lots to decide who would 'escape' and Ken was fortunate not to be selected as so many were caught and shot.

In January 1945 prisoners were given short notice to evacuate, taking only what they could carry and so began the 'Long March' in temperatures of -20°C. With little food, water or accommodation many didn't survive the 70 mile trek in these dreadful conditions. In practice it was later estimated that many of the POWs had walked over 500 miles. Ken ended up in Trenthorst with very poor conditions which had a serious impact on his health. After the war he went on to marry and returned to writing, producing an extensive study on Air Traffic Control in the UK. Plagued by ill health he was diagnosed with bowel cancer at the age of 60 in 1979. Just before he died his family took him to the Henley RAF Museum where he had one last opportunity to sit in the Lancaster navigator's seat that was so familiar to him.

Alistair has written a book about the fascinating story of his father, Kenneth George Price and for anyone who might be interested the ISBN is 978-1-7399438-0-6.

Information about forthcoming events was shared. For our next Food and Friendship lunch we will join the Ladbroke Lenten lunch on Wednesday 13th March. Orders are being taken for WI diaries and members were reminded that subs are due in April. The table top sale was very successful once again. The meeting concluded with another of Dianne's humorous readings. Our next meeting is on Thursday 4th April when we will learn about Burton Green honey with Alan Deeley. New members are always most welcome. To visit or for more information please telephone 817904/813856.





LADBROKE MATTERS

David Wright

What We Do

The 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.

The Village Hall Website

Our village hall website is now up and running at www.ladbrokevillagehall.org.uk. It contains photos of the interior and exterior of the hall and general information. You can get in touch with us via the form on the contact page.

New Chairs

We have purchased 40 new fabric chairs to replace our tired old chairs. Consequently we have some of the original chairs to dispose of. Contact us through the village hall website if you can make use of any.

The Millennium Green Play Area

The wooden activity centre in the play area is once again functional. We are actively seeking funding to be able to overhaul, replace, or add other items in the playground. Proceeds from this year's events (listed below) will go towards this.

Forthcoming Fundraising Events

We are aiming to hold the following events this year:

- A wine tasting event in May
- A supper and film night in July
- A boules tournament in September
- A quiz night in October

There is also the possibility of a sixties music evening.

Hall Bookings

To book your special celebration in our village hall, or if you wish to hold regular classes or meetings, contact Debs through the village hall website or telephone her on 07779 225105. Despite rising costs we have been able to keep our hourly booking rates at £15 per hour, or £12 for Ladbroke residents. Non-residents may be asked to pay a £50 deposit on booking.

Contact Us

If you would like to join the team, have any suggestions for future events, or any other comments please contact us through the village hall website.

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Draw for February 2024

£50	Kate Todman	£25	Gennaro and Tina Varriale
£50	Martin and Debra Neal	£10	Richard Hampton
£25	Scott and Siobahn	£10	Bev Bradley
£25	Kip Warr	£10	Carol Locker

Margaret Bosworth

TONY'S ROOFING

Roof repairs - Tiles/Slates,
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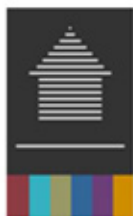
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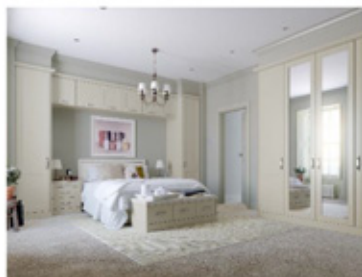


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LADBROKE PHOTOGRAPHY

Kip Warr

It was AGM time in March. We reviewed another active year with events outside (not least a visit to Chedhams Yard and the display of birds of prey in the churchyard) and in the village hall (lectures on colour and 3D photography). We had also enjoyed a journey through the high Andes with David Hannan. Nicky Lewis and Jackie West rallied to the call for additional committee members and Mike Todman reported that our finances are in good order so we are well set for the coming year.

We followed the formal meeting with a competition on the theme of Smoke and Mirrors. Mike had provided coloured smoke bombs for the December meeting together with an eerily creepy figure that managed to appear in the background of the pictures. The car park filled with smoke but fortunately there was not enough to alarm the neighbours.



Smoke (Sally Simmons)

In April we shall have one of our famously unscary competitions and phototopics on photos taken at a museum. Then we shall have a presentation on 7th May on photography in churches. 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



Mirrors (Steve Gale)

Photographs are © the photographer



LADBROKE HERITAGE

Jackie West

March saw people discovering our stunning stained glass at church and 70 or so children enthusing about local fossils - two classes of six year olds in school and more than a dozen kids at our Tours and More the following Saturday. It was great to hear from one Mum that her son had come home buzzing with enthusiasm after my lesson and was so keen to see and hold more fossils, the whole family had come to Ladbroke a few days later.

Giving the tour I felt a bit like the pied piper as I handed out fossils for everyone to hold and then led the large group around outside to see the brachiopods, belemnites, crinoids etc in the church walls. Once again I was delighted by "new" fossils being spotted by the youngsters and that several of them came with fossils they had found elsewhere to show me. William brought the largest gryphea I've ever seen!

The Heritage and Friendship group chatted about radios and radio programmes last month and at our next meeting, on Wednesday 3rd April, we will be sharing Easter memories. The Old School suits the current group well as a venue, so the plan is to meet there until further notice. If you would like to come along or just want more information please contact Carol on 814715.



LADBROKE EASTER TRAIL

Jackie West

Our trail is running throughout the Easter school holidays so if you have not seen it yet there is still time to do it alone, with friends or as a family. Just pick up a leaflet in the church porch and follow the instructions. Until 4pm on Easter Monday, 1st April, the trail takes you on a stroll around the village, then from Tuesday 2nd April it will all be based in the church and churchyard, so less far to walk and you can nip inside if there are April showers! At each point on the trail there is something to remind you of a part of the Easter story and a very simple question or activity to do if you wish. The trail is available from 10am - 4pm daily and you can do it all in one go or visit each point on a different day. Tick off each one when you find it and show us your completed leaflet for a small Easter gift.

For those that can't walk the trail in person, you will be able to do it virtually on ladbrokechurch.org.uk and on the Ladbroke Heritage Facebook page too.



HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Nicola Thompson – HGL News Correspondent

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

Meeting of the Parish Council held on 22nd February 2024

Grant Applications - The Council commenced the meeting by considering two grant applications from local groups, the first being from Harbury Junior Football Club for £1300 for the cost of trophies. Cllr Lockley expressed concerns that this was an ongoing yearly expense for which the Council does not normally advance grants. A representative from the club explained that the costs of training had temporarily risen due to facilities at Southam being out of action at the moment and there had also been a rise in the number of children attending training. The club was keen not to pass on the rise in costs as they wanted to keep the activity at a feasible level for all families. Councillors agreed that they could, provisionally, agree a grant for this amount for a one-off increase in costs but not for ongoing expenses - it was agreed that the Football Club would resubmit the application.

Next the Council considered an application from Harbury PTA for £2000 towards the cost of an outdoor well-being space (summerhouse) at the school, the remainder of the costs being paid for by the school itself. The building will be used as a quiet space and as an outdoor classroom. This application was agreed.

Harbury Library - Cllr Lockley reported that the library had run into problems with its plans to apply to larger funding bodies for grants to replace the heating system due to the slightly complicated lease agreement in place on the building (the library sub-lets from the parish council which in turn leases from the parochial church council). It was hoped however that a number of smaller grants could be applied for which did not have such stringent conditions.

Southam College - It was reported that the College has launched a JustGiving page to fund raise for some of the costs of furnishing the new building.

Village Hall - The hall committee is looking to replace some of the chairs in the hall and is also monitoring a number of cracks that have recently appeared in one wall in the green room.

Stratford District Council - Cllr Ostrander highlighted the Climate Change Fund to which parish councils can apply. The district council had also recently issued guidance on what to do in the case of flooding and is currently going through its budget cycle. The chairman asked for a breakdown of figures on the charge for removing green waste as this has risen again this year to £46. He suspected that this was now subsidising other services; Cllr Ostrander agreed she would find out more about this.

Planning - There were, unusually, no planning applications to be discussed. The Council had returned a response under delegated powers on planning ref 24/00028/REM, land off Bush Heath Lane, which related to reserved matters of the details of the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of Plot 5.

Future Energy Project - The project to extend the village hall car park to accommodate

electric charging points was progressing well. Part of the hedgerow had been incorrectly removed but this will be restored. Councillors considered various points in connection with the work. They agreed to permanently remove the crocodile teeth from the entrance to car park as drivers will need 24 hour access to charge their cars and CCTV appears to be doing a good job of deterring unwelcome visitors. The council were also asked to consider what colour they would like the bollards at the end of car park (black), what signage was necessary (appropriate wording to be decided) and the location of bat boxes at the site. This last caused some hesitation - would the bats have a preference on location? It was agreed to leave the final decision on this to the Future Energy Project. With regard to tree planting, Cllrs said that they would prefer this to be carried out in the autumn but will leave the precise locations of the trees to Future Energy.

Properties - The extremely wet winter has caused problems on the playing fields; due to the heavy rain at the time of the village bonfire. Damage was caused to the field on the approach to the bonfire site despite the best efforts of the organising team (GASS) to prevent this. The council also heard that the area was still roped off and some debris including nails remained on the site - GASS will be asked to make sure that these are removed. Another effect of the weather is that, unusually, the tennis courts have been flooded at one end stopping players from using them on some occasions.

Wellbeing Project - The new trees have been planted and all the raised beds have been numbered. The council is now looking for a greenhouse and shed for the plots.

Allotments at Hall Lane - The council has acquired ownership of the allotments at Hall Lane and agreed that a structural survey was necessary on the wall at the front of the site. The council is also considering creating a new entrance but acknowledged that this might need planning permission.

Environment

Stiles: Two stiles had been ordered for Bridge End Farm; the cost of installing them - £195 - was approved. Cllr Mulley suggested that two stiles on footpath SM62a - the footpath near to the doctors' surgery - should be removed as they are in a poor state of repair and not serving any useful purpose. The clerk will talk to the Rights of Way Officer about this.

Climate Change: The working party will meet soon to discuss this year's eco-fair.

Finance: Cllrs approved various finance related matters such as reviewing their internal audit controls and approving the schedule of standing orders and direct debits. They also approved the payment of councillor allowances for this year although this applies to elected members only; co-opted councillors do not qualify.

Seasonal Lights: The lights had now been taken down and Cllr Allen has already bought some new stars for next year. Some new spheres may also need to be bought and around 100 bulbs replaced. It was agreed that all the lights would be checked and PAT tested during the summer months to avoid a last minute rush next Autumn.

Reports & Questions: Cllr Mulley asked if the Village Hall would like a free photograph of the King which is available to parish councils and this was agreed. Flooding was again discussed as three drains in Mill Street are blocked - these will be reported.

The meeting closed at 9.07pm. The next meeting of the parish council is on **Thursday 28th March** in the Village Hall.

Current Parish Council members contactable via the Parish Office are:

Tim Lockley (Chairman), Julie Balch (Vice-Chair), Samantha Allen, Jess Dominick,
Kate Gard, Alan Knowles, Ed Mulley, Alex Potter, Keith Thompson.

Would you like to become a Parish Councillor? Call 614646 or email clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk for details.



HARBURY SOCIETY

David Turner

Tricia Scott, who chairs the Warwickshire Bat Group, visited the Harbury Society to speak about the amazing characteristics of this diverse species.

Bats are warm blooded and are the only flying mammals and, contrary to common perception, they are not related to mice or any other rodent. They evolved as a distinct species about 50 million years ago and their wings are developed forearms with a membrane that is supported by a framework of spread out 'fingers'. Their agility in the air surpasses that of most birds, enabling them to manoeuvre at speed, avoiding obstacles and negotiating small spaces with great precision. Tricia dispelled some myths relating to bats stating that they are not blind nor do they live in belfries (too noisy), they don't build nests and they don't get caught in people's hair. The majority of bats are insectivores, most of the rest are frugivores - (fruit or pollen eating) but there are five species of vampire bats that drink the blood of animals.

There are 1400 species of bats worldwide, which represents about 20% of all mammal species. The smallest is the bumblebee bat which weighs about 2 grams and the largest are the flying foxes which weigh about 1.6kg with a wingspan of two metres.

Tricia described several species, such as the horseshoe bat - so-called because of the horseshoe marking on its face.

There are 18 bat species in the UK, all of which are insectivores, and 14 species of bats can be found in Warwickshire. The common pipistrelle is amongst the most numerous in the UK and the greater mouse-eared bat is the rarest. There are only two individuals of this species here - it is also much larger than any other bat in the UK.

Bats mate in the autumn and the female stores the sperm until the weather gets warmer in the spring. Females usually give birth to a single baby each year, which they suckle for 4 to 5 weeks until they are old enough to fly. The babies are pink when they are born and they sport



Common Pipistrelle



Bumblebee Bat

a grey suede like appearance after a few days before their full fur grows after about three weeks. Unfortunately, 50% of the babies don't survive the first year, but the survivors can live for 20 to 30 years.

All UK bats hibernate from November to January and they start to be active in February. They feed on warmer nights in March and in April they start looking for maternity roosts and by May the pregnant females are in the roosts. The babies are born in June and in July they start suckling. By August the young are flying and they leave the roost in September. They start mating in October and lay down fat necessary to survive the winter and hibernation.

In the 18th century it was discovered that bats that had been blinded could still negotiate objects whilst in flight, but they couldn't do so if their ears had been plugged with wax. This led them to conclude that they were able to see using their ears. In reality, bats use echolocation or sonar to navigate and seek food. They emit pulses of sound at frequencies that are inaudible to humans and by processing the returning echo they can form an accurate image of objects within their vicinity. The precision of this sense enables them to detect something as fine as an insect moving its leg. Bats are able to detect sounds between 20kHz and 120kHz (the human range is limited to 20Hz to 20kHz).

Bats in the UK will inhabit old or new buildings, usually within the structure itself, such as under tiles, in soffits, or any gap they are able to negotiate.

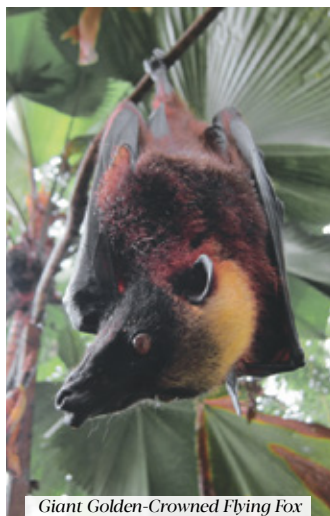
Bat populations in the UK are in decline caused by a number of threats:

- The fibres of breathable roofing membranes pose a serious threat of entanglement to bats and people are encouraged to seek alternative materials.
- A reduction of insects, which the bats rely on for food, caused by the use of pesticides and intensive farming practices.
- Cats pose a serious risk causing the majority of bat casualties. They don't eat bats, but they will injure them as they like to play with them. It is suggested that people keep their cats in at night.
- Additionally, bats are indirectly threatened by the fragmentation of habitats, ambient lighting, removal of hedgerows, obstacles in their flight paths, farming practices and wind turbines.

They are protected by law and it is illegal to damage a bat roost, but it is possible to obtain a licence to do so if it can be considered to be essential work with the proviso that mitigating actions are taken. The Bat Conservation Trust is able to advise on mitigation at no cost.

At the end of the talk Tricia encouraged us to look out for bats, take pleasure in seeing them, to go on a bat walk, keep our cats in at night and try to get involved in monitoring these amazing bats.

Chairman Ed Wilson thanked Tricia for a very passionate presentation and after she had answered several questions she was warmly applauded.



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HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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Church Terrace, Harbury CV33 9HL

Tel: 614646

Website: www.harbury-pc.gov.uk

Open: Monday - Thursday
10.00am 12.00pm

CHAIRMAN:

Tim Lockley

Email: chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk

CLERK:

Alison Biddle

Email: clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council meetings are
open to the Public.

To speak on any issue, please
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- library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk

Some Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 16th April: Presentation by Mark Newbold entitled 'An Insider's View of the NHS'. Meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Doors open 7.30pm. All welcome – free to Harbury Society members – guests £2.

Friday 24th May: Leamington History Walking Tour (approx. one hour). Guided tour of part of Leamington Spa. Meet inside Leamington Visitors Centre, Pump Rooms, 10.20am (Toilets and Café inside too).

Saturday 8th June: Harbury Carnival

Tuesday 16th July: Tour of Avon Dassett followed by tea (of course!).

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, email sue@turners.co.uk or visit the website www.harburysociety.org



HARBURY WI

Alison Lewis

Harbury WI had their monthly meeting on Thursday 14th March. Appropriately for the welcome approach of spring, the speaker for the evening was beekeeper Alan Deeley of Burton Green Honey.

Alan gave us a fascinating talk about bees and his experiences with bee keeping, which he started nine years ago after retiring. He has 25 hives in four locations around Warwickshire.

The facts he presented about bees were amazing! It takes bees 50,000 miles of flight and two million flowers foraged for nectar to produce 1lb of honey. Each bee produces just a teaspoon of honey in its lifetime.

We were amused to hear that it's the female worker bees that do all the work in the hive, from tending to the solitary queen and cleaning the hive, to feeding the male drones who like nothing more than just 'hanging out' with their fellow drones!

The workers live for six weeks, spending two weeks working in the hive and four weeks foraging for pollen and nectar.

They do a 'waggle dance' which tells the other bees exactly where the best flowers are!

The skill of the bees in constructing a hive of hexagonal cells of an accurate size is incredible, and Alan passed around examples of honeycomb for us to marvel at, along with propolis, a resin like material used in the hive as a sealant with antibacterial and antifungal properties.



Truly amazing and busy bees!

A honey tasting was enjoyed by all after Alan's talk- delicious!

March 17th saw the last Rural Cinema until September.

The film was *The Great Escaper* starring Michael Caine. The cinema evenings with optional fish and chip supper are most enjoyable and raise funds which are returned to the community so support is worthwhile. We hope to see you at the next one in September. Information to follow, tickets available from the library after the break.



The WI meets on the second Thursday of the month in the Tom Hauley room, 7.30 for 7.45. There are lots of events and activities to join in with and we are a friendly bunch and welcome new members so why not pop along to our next meeting? Hope to see you there.



HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Wendy Lewin

Since our last post, a play has been chosen, the cast selected and rehearsals are underway as we speak! We are excited to be able to announce the title of our May Production "Murder in the Choir" by Jane Page. This will be preceded by a range of individual performances including songs and poetry by our very talented actors. For this production, Celia Stockdale and I have our debut as directors (ably supported by Andrew Lawrence) and Brittany as first-time producer is storming her way through all the tasks that a producer has to accomplish! Everyone is working very hard, so please get your tickets to come and see what I am sure will be a fun evening, with snacks in the interval so that you have time to guess who the murderer is! We are always happy to welcome anyone who would like to get involved in the theatre group, on stage or off, so look forward to seeing you on 16th, 17th and 18th of May!



FOLK CLUB

Sue Hartland

The Harvesters set the theme of "American/American't" by opening the 446th Folk Club with Ian singing "City of New Orleans" followed by "Deep River Blues". Martin followed with a Bill Caddick song "One Hand on the Radio, one on the Wheel" and then continued with "Rikiti Tikiti Tin". Rik was next with "Sixteen Tons" and "I Never Thought You Would". Hugh delivered a poem about Donald Trump and guns entitled "That Man and His Mantras" continuing with a poem called "Slogans". Bob gave us "Dear Mr President" and "The Great American Novel" by Larry Norman. Dave Fry performed "Dr. Jazz" and "Georgia". Peter McDonald closed the first half with a Tom Paxton song "I Thought You Were an Arab" and a Nancy Griffith song about the great depression entitled "Trouble in the Fields".

The second half was opened by Peter Mason who gave us "Can't You Dance the Polka" and a lovely song called "Kilkelly, Ireland". Michael was next with "Send You Back to Your Mama" and "Sugar Cane". Mat delivered a poem called "Texas" then Dave sang about the Atom Bomb "Made in Tennessee" followed by "The Battle of New Orleans". Des was next with

"As the Alabama Rolled" and then a Gospel song "Talk About Following Jesus". Don gave us "Blind Willy McTell" and "Still Crazy After All These Years". Keith closed the evening with one of my favourites "Jesus At The Airport" and "Like a Bat Out Of Hell".

We had 13 acts entertain us and the raffle raised £50 for Macmillan.

The next Folk Club will be hosted by Maureen, Steve and Sue and the theme is "Deja Vu".



HARBURY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Ron Temple

From Henri Boizette, Chairman of Samoï-sur-Seine Twinning group

Such a long friendship

I'm talking about a time that those under twenty years of age cannot know: 1998, more than a quarter of a century passed, five chandeliers and dust have passed, Samoï was then twinned with Harbury, a charming little English market town in Warwickshire, a wild moorland across the Channel, close to Shakespeare's town, Stratford-upon-Avon, and one of William the Conqueror's castles, Warwick Castle, near the Fosse way. We found a scroll from the time proclaimed by the olifant ringer to celebrate the arrival of the first troop from proud Albion.



In the year of grace *MCXCXVIII* (1998), *XXVII* (27th) day of March, long after vespers had been sounded, the English were there within our walls. From their dashing palfrey of machinery, grazing near the Samoïsienne, they dismounted. They spoke a strange language and were greeted with a generous welcome by Dame Nelly Renaud Touchard, Grand Officer of the Twinning, Dame Annick Irlinger, Alderman of our Free Village and Messire Jean-François Robinet, Grand Regional Councillor. Ken Stephenson, alderman of Hereburgh (Harbury) and James Turner, councillor, offered the Breton estandard, the Union Jack, and the English gonfanon bearing the red Cross of St. George as a token of peace and friendship. These strange visitors came from a Saxon village, in a happy mood, bringing their ardour and their words, to participate in the jubilation of the Twinning of Harbury and Samoï.



The Twinning Ceremony held in Samoi-sur-Seine in March 1998. Left to Right: Jean-François Robinet (District Councillor); Annick Irlinger (Mayor of Samoï); James Turner (District Councillor); Nelly Touchard (President of Samoï Twinning Society); Ken Stephenson (Chairman of the Parish Council & Harbury Twinning Association)



The unveiling of one of the European Union village nameplates at the entrance to the village - October 1998

More than twenty-five years of exchanges, meetings and friendship followed with their procession of memories, joy and emotions. From castles to museums and sumptuous festive meals to natural sites, we have appreciated and enriched each other. Between the Seine and the forest, the twinned Samoians keep the Harbury mills in their hearts.

Time travellers, our friends came back to us on May 26-28, 2023 and after their reception on Friday evening by the Mayor, Michel Charriau, we visited, under the theme of Robert Louis Stevenson and his work, the inns where the Scottish writer stayed on the edge of the forest of Fontainebleau, the Hôtel Chevillon in Grez-sur-Loing (transformed into a place of residence to support the creativity of mainly Scandinavian painters, Les Artistes du Bout du Monde) and the Hostellerie du Bas-Bréau in Barbizon, where we attended a conference on the writer given by the association 'Sur les pas de Robert Louis Stevenson'.

The Twinning ceremony was recorded in the Samoio-sur-Seine Municipal Bulletin, March 1998.



HARBURY HERITAGE CENTRE

Bill Timson

So, what is history? Did you study it at school or even university? Is it only for older people? No, history is yesterday and today will be history tomorrow.

I think what is very rewarding is when we find out things from people who are still alive and they can tell you first hand that they were there at the time and what they remember. Recent posts on our Facebook page (Harbury Heritage Centre), incidentally, we now have nearly 600 members, lead to much discussion about people and place names. The thread (comments) can be copied and added to the photograph. This in turn can be archived into the Heritage Group collection for future generations to find out more about the history of our village.

Below is a view of Chapel Street looking towards the cemetery chapel (P2-0268), dated 1906 it shows the Fox Inn in the foreground on the left. On the right is Thornicroft's the bakers. I was interested to know, for our records, when the Fox Inn was demolished. Today there is a modern house in its place and the land behind it forms Fox Close. We have found someone who actually lived at the pub commenting on Facebook, who thinks it would have been knocked down in the early 1980s.



The 1906 photograph is shown above and the one on the right after demolition circa 1980.

Comments made on Facebook are precious and help to build a picture of life and times in the village. Please encourage friends and relatives to join in; if they do not have the skills get someone to do it for them.

The Wight School Football team from 1952-53 was another photograph that caused some interest on our FB page. Once again, after much discussion, (21 comments to date), the whole team was identified Ted Bowell is the captain, seated with the ball; thanks go to Phil Bowell for the full list of names.



Scanning the collection continues on a weekly basis in the Heritage Centre. Thanks must go here to John Guilford who joins me on Monday mornings to undertake this mammoth task. We came across a folder full of colour photographic negatives which had us baffled! Thankfully John Holden, another kind gentleman, offered to scan them with a special device he has and then returned them so we now have another one hundred images of the village, again around about the 1980s. Have a 'butchers' at this one and tell me what you can remember about it.



I will post it on Facebook too for those who like to add information that way. I have also seen 'old friends' reacquainting themselves via this platform.

So social media is not all bad, is it?

Other News

Village Tours: during the summer months we will be taking visitors from other local history groups and societies around the village enlightening them about the history of 'Hungry' Harbury as it was once known.

Open Days: In **April** we will be open to the public on Tuesday 2nd 7-9pm and Sunday 21st 2-4pm. In **May** we will be open on Tuesday 7th 7-9pm and Sunday 19th 2-4pm. Tea/Coffee and biscuits are available so bring along your old photos, documents, house particulars or anything related to Harbury - we can copy them there and then.

Presentations/Talks

On Tuesday 12th March a Victorian school master turned up to teach members of the 'Harbury Friends' group about the history of the schools in Harbury. A photograph of the gentleman in action



is shown on the right. If you have a group who would like to know more about the history of the village, get in contact with us.

Email us at group@harburyheritage.org.uk or visit our website, harburyheritage.org.uk and don't forget we are also on Facebook – Harbury Heritage Centre.



HARBURY FUTURE ENERGY

Bob Sherman

Despite the appalling weather, work on the village hall car park extension, the first phase of the Harbury Future Energy (HFE) EV charging station project, is complete. The contractor managed to work through rain and wind to complete on time. At times the site was flooded from end to end.

By the time you are reading this the six new parking spaces, wider than those in the main car park, should be complete with new bollards and signs and ducting in place should we ever need more charge points in this section. The surface is a material called Grasscrete. This creates a concrete matrix to offer a stable strong surface for traffic. The gaps visible in the photographs are filled with soil and seeded with grass to give a



more natural look and reduce any need for maintenance - we will not be doing any weeding! Gaps in the hedge will be filled with new hawthorn and two trees planted just beyond the end of the Grasscrete surface.

We apologise for any inconvenience while the work has been going on and hope that the new smart wider tarmac footpath and extra parking provides compensation for any disruption. There will now be a considerable pause whilst Warwickshire County Council go through their procurement process to appoint a contractor for the main project.

CONGRATULATIONS, THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



If you would like to include:

- * A birthday message
- * Congratulations to anyone for their achievement
- * Wedding or special occasion wishes
- * Thanks to someone



We will be more than happy to include your message in the magazine.

There is no charge for this, just email your message to articles@hlnews.co.uk or drop it into Harbury Pharmacy by the advertised deadline date.



FREE ANTIQUES VALUATION DAY

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HARBURY E-WHEELS

Bob Sherman

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

Looking for new drivers

Harbury e-Wheels is looking to boost its driver numbers to ensure we can cover more requests. If you are retired and think you could spare some time as a volunteer driver, we would love to talk to you. You will be using the two electric cars parked at the back of the library, which we insure, and the rental company service and repair.

There is an induction process, which includes a DBS check - but it isn't that complicated a process - and you will get plenty of support. We cover an area much wider than Harbury but the majority of our passengers are from the village. The service, for which we make no charge, has a good reputation and is greatly valued. Other communities are envious!

If you think you can help local people who need transport to get to important appointments, housebound people who want to meet others at social events or need to go shopping, then please get in touch with Nic Burt on naburt@yahoo.co.uk.



HARBURY JUNIORS NETBALL CLUB

Abi Watson

It has been an intense month of netball leading up to the tournament, however the girls have been continuing to put in maximum effort and it is clear in the matches. Starting with our under 13s who, despite the heavens opening, played an amazing game, with the end score being 53-8.

They showed great teamwork, and they were strong in both their attacking and defending. Next our under 14s have had a cracking end to the season with a close win of 20-19, where they showed some fabulous teamwork which helped them hold tightly onto the lead. As well as smashing a game against the rivals, with an excellent score of 34-4.

Our under 15s last match was a triumph, with it securing their 2nd place in the league table. They had a strong lead of 32-7, the girls showed great teamwork as well as adaptability. We were fortunate to take a large squad which meant we could combine different strengths allowing us to secure the win.

Finally, our under 16 A team had a mixed end to the season, unfortunately down several key players, they were outplayed by a strong team. Despite the missing players, they still fought hard and showed a great practise of resilience. We had a fun match between our A and B team, with them showing the best netball of their respective seasons. It was a fiercely fought match, but the A team beat them to win 24-18. Unfortunately, our under 16 As lost the last match however they still showed some great netball skills in both attacking and defence. A special mention to our players of the matches who have played some cracking netball which includes Ruby, Evie, Elissa, Ioney, Erin, Pheobe, Sophie, and Jenna.

Despite matches ending, the girls are still working tirelessly for the tournament in April. We are really impressed and cannot wait to see the hard work hopefully pay off.



Hope everyone has had a lovely Easter!



HARBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Steven Kittendorf

The return League match against Pinley was played on the last Saturday in February. Everything clicked on this occasion and Harbury ran in 18 tries; converting 11 of them to leave a final score of 112-0. We think that might be the biggest win in the Club's history.

The following week the second VPs Day of the season was held; attended by 75 VPs, Members and Friends. A lunch of Chicken Chasseur; Cheese and Biscuits and the customary glass of Port was served before being well entertained by after dinner speaker Paul Boardman. Despite the rain, several of the guests donned their overcoats to watch the 1st XV take on Old Yardleians and the 2nd XV take on Daventry 3s. The 1s worked hard for their win 33-3 whilst the 2s fought a hard match to close out the win 16-13.

Next up, our furthest away trip in the calendar to Hereford. This match was seen as one of the toughest games on paper and Harbury would have to do it without 4 of the starting XV from the previous week. Despite the line outs not functioning as well as we were wanting them to, Harbury ran in 4 tries but conceded two well created tries by their forwards during the first half. The visitors then took control of the second half, securing a try bonus point win 14-32.

Thursday nights see the colts and current U16s training together, with an eye on next season when the age groups will come together to form a very healthy and talented squad.

Minis and Juniors

We had a surprise onlooker at a recent fixture at Long Buckby with Courtney Lawes giving up some time to have photos taken with our players.

The U16s hosted Birmingham and Solihull Bees who were on tour. The conditions were far from ideal, but we were keen to give them some rugby. We played an adapted game of 10 a-side, no scrums and 10 minutes each way. Great fun and some superb open running tries scored. The Bees were great visitors and were all in good spirits, despite two nights camping in Harbury!!!

Over at Old Leamingtonians, the U16s played out a very evenly matched game eventually taking the win 10-13.

Our U14s, U15s and U16s have all been in Warwickshire Cup and Plate action. Our U16s did well in the group stages progressing into the Cup competition where unfortunately they met their match against a strong Stratford side. Our U15s and U14s continued their Plate run into the Semi - Finals against Shipston and Alcester respectively.

If you have kids that are interested in getting involved we run age groups from U5 (Reception school year) to Colts (U18s) including a junior girls touch team. Give our Chair, Chris, a call on 07834 972999 or drop us an email on harburyrfc.enquiries@gmail.com.



Birmingham and Solihull Bees - on tour



Chinese New Year

After half term, we continued to learn about Chinese New Year. Our favourite activity is Chinese New Year Dragon Dancing! We split into three groups and alternated. The first group processed across the room holding up the dragon, a second group waved some flags and the last group beat a rhythm on the drum. Everybody wanted to join in!

Our homemade dragon, which has been in the Pre-School longer than all of us, is getting a bit bedraggled so the children made a brand new one! They had access to boxes, collage materials, glue and paint and between them made a spectacular dragon! We look forward to seeing him re-emerge for Chinese New Year next year!



Spring

It hasn't looked much like Spring outside but that hasn't stopped us embracing it at Pre-School. We have been looking in the Pre-School garden at all the bulbs that are growing. We have been talking about animals that are born in the Spring and have been learning the names of their offspring.

We have also been learning all about life cycles; of butterflies, chickens and frogs. We are hoping to be getting some frogspawn thanks to one of our lovely parents.

We have been learning about the weather and used instruments to recreate some of the sounds we hear, for example rain, thunder and wind. The children used paper to make some streamers to take outside to blow in the wind.

Mothering Sunday

At Pre-School, we have been celebrating the people that look after us, including mothers and carers. We have been reading books around families and kindness. The children were very proud to make a card using collage materials and decorate a mug for their mother or carer.

Pebble Point Treat

Children earn 'pebble points' at Pre-School. The children place their pebble in a jar and when the jar is full, everyone gets a treat. Children can earn pebble points for helping



a friend, being kind, achieving something new or tidying up to name a few. Although it has been a shorter term this Spring, the children have still managed to totally fill the jar!

For a treat, we will be making Easter Crispy Cake Nests. We will be talking about what we need to do to the chocolate before we start, crushing some shredded wheat and counting out little mini eggs to place on the top.

Places Available

We are booking now for September 2024. Due to changes to government funding, we can now accept children from two and a half.

If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please contact e-mail enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk text 07907 598461 or look at the web site 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

Science Week

A mystery has happened at Harbury CE Primary School during Science Week- our hall computer has vanished! All the pupils had to use forensics to uncover what had happened. Year six used chromatography to try and discern which pen was used to write the shopping list. Year five completed a soil analysis of the soil left in the hall using Universal Indicator paper. They matched the soil in the hall with soil samples from each suspect's trainers. Year four learnt about fingerprints and decided which of our suspect's fingerprints matched the one in the hall. Year three used magnifiers to look at the fibres and decided whose hair it was. Year two looked at samples of handwriting from all of the suspects and decided which one looked most like the writing on the shopping list. Year one measured the footprint in the hall and the suspects trainers to decide whose footprint it was and Reception class looked at the footprints and noticed the different patterns before deciding which one is a match.



During all of this, the important scientific skills of problem solving, research, pattern seeking and identifying, classifying and grouping were used.

World Book Day 2024



Staff and pupils all enjoyed World Book Day. The focus this year was on The Wonder of Words - The Power of Pictures

Each child and adult decided to represent a word, examples included- cosy, futuristic, incognito, onomatopoeia, furious, brave. Alongside this, each year

group shared reading time with younger children. In class, we shared wordless fiction and graphic novels.

International Women's Day

As part of International Women's Day and alongside #LETGIRLSPLAY, we involved as many girls as possible in football across KS1 and KS2 for 'Biggest Football Session Ever Day!' This is a National initiative through the FA to try to get as many girls as possible playing football on one day.



iPad Fund Raising

We are really keen to increase our iPads across the school. Currently we have 14 iPads for over 200 pupils. We are ambitiously aiming for 60! The PTA are busy supporting us with this initiative. If you feel you are able to support in any way please contact our wonderful PTA for more information. www.harburyschool.com/about-us/pta



HARBURY LIBRARY & BIBLIO'S CAFE

Michael Luntley

We are a community library, run for the community by the community. In March we bade fond farewell to Sharon Hancock who has served on the Library Steering Committee for many years, most recently as its Chairperson. On behalf of all the Library and Biblio's volunteers and the whole community - Thank you Sharon.

March turned out to be a busy month in the Library with two special days to mark in the first week: World Book Day and International Women's Day. Each day saw special displays of books and, for International Women's Day, some new art pieces hung, including three embroidery hoops by acclaimed Leamington artist and embroiderer Kate Larkin.

On World Book Day, Michael spent the afternoon with the Year 3 class at the school reading to them and fielding questions in an energetic and lively Q&A session. The following week, we welcomed Year 1 for a library visit. Visits from the remaining year groups will continue after Easter.



Young readers are our future. We look forward to welcoming new young readers. Children can have their own library card. To make an application for a card they need to be accompanied by an adult with a reader's card. We are still clearing stock out of the library and have gathered together a number of good quality children's books which we plan to make available for children to take away and keep.

We are launching some taster poetry readings in the library: 'pop-up poetry' - 15 minutes on a Saturday morning at 11.45. Grab your last coffee of the morning and listen to a reading. Our first reading is on Saturday 6th April - 11.45. Our pop-up poet that day is Emily Hunt, Warwickshire Young Poet Laureate 2023, winner of Best Nature Poem in the Betjeman Poetry Prize 2019 and multiple awards since.

Thanks, as ever, to all our volunteers and welcome to new volunteers Anne Bowden and Aaron Wilson. And thanks to Gill Barber for organising our children's craft sessions over the Easter holiday, the last of which is on Tuesday 2nd April.



It was lovely to see you all for Mother's Day and thank you all for your continued support. 2024 is set to be a big year with new projects including the revamp of our restaurant area. We are also super excited for our upcoming events!

WHATS COMING UP

EASTER WEEKEND

March 28th - 31st

A weekend celebrating Easter with Good Friday Fish Specials, Easter dishes over the weekend and of course our family Easter Egg Hunt, running the whole weekend.

QUIZ & A CURRY

April 8th Bradley will be revving up the mic and ready to test your brain matter with the new Bell Inn pub quiz! Start the evening from 6.30pm with a pre-game curry! £12.50pp, book direct with the team.

COMEDY NIGHT & TAPAS

May 13th, Ryan is back with a new group of comedians to tickle your funny bone! Enjoy Tapas at 6.30pm and pre-drinks followed by a live comedy set at 8pm. £19.95pp

D-day 80TH ANNIVERSARY

June 6th we will be hosting a vintage evening with era music, themed menu and more. Save the date in your diary!

www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk

Contact us on
bellinn@freespiritpubs.co.uk
01926 811224
The Bell Inn, Banbury Road, Ladbroke, Nr Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 2BY

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Lastly, we're pleased to note that visitor numbers for January and February this year are back to the level we had pre-pandemic in the first two months of 2019. Lovely to see so many of you back. If you've not been in the library recently, call in, have a coffee (or tea) + cake and see what's going on.



GARDEN JOTTINGS

Christine Dakin from Bridge Nursery

I'm not a huge fan of forsythia but it is very welcome this year as a shouty contrast to all the grey days we've had this winter. In fact any early flowering yellow plants including daffodils, primroses and doronicum are bright and cheerful and help add some colour to the garden. But as the year goes on it falls out of favour, perhaps because it isn't easy to combine with other colours? I overcome this problem by having a 'hot' border which is a gaudy blend of yellows, oranges and reds.



When the forsythia has finished flowering you can cut out some of the older stems, do the same with flowering currants.

Finish pruning roses then add some rose fertiliser, hard prune fuchsias, buddleias and shrubby salvias, plant potatoes, sow parsnips, carrots, cabbage, spinach, beetroot, peas and dwarf beans. That will keep you busy.

A recent discussion about plant pricing in a group I'm in was very heated. My prices are very competitive, some are less than half the price of garden centres because I grow almost everything from seed, cuttings and division. Also this means I know all about the plants I grow and can offer help and advice if needed.

Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton | www.bridge-nursery.co.uk



NATURE NOTES

Martin & Amanda Randall

At the time of writing this edition of Nature Notes, we are spending some time with our daughter and her family in Spain, just south of Barcelona. Here we can visit different areas to look at the wildlife in the new locality, and our walks through the nearby vineyards and pine forest always provide something of interest.

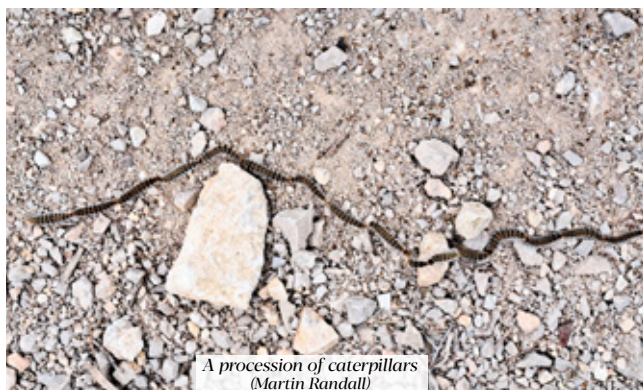
At the beginning of March we noticed a large Swallowtail butterfly feeding on some yellow flowers. It appeared to have newly emerged from its overwintering chrysalis because its brightly coloured wings had not quite fully expanded when we first spotted it. The Swallowtail butterfly is relatively common in this part of Spain, whereas it is one of the rarest of Britain's butterflies, being limited to only about sixteen sites in the Broads of East Anglia. We were

fortunate to see this one so early in the year here, since mostly they are first on the wing in late May and June. As a large and very brightly coloured species, it is vulnerable to predation by birds. However the forked tail, from which it gets its name, and the bright red spots on the hind wing are said to trick birds into thinking that is where the butterfly's head is located. The predator would then try to peck at this part of the insect rather than the actual head or body. That's a reason why many butterflies have rather ragged wings later in the season, though they can still survive to fly, mate and lay eggs



Swallowtail Butterfly
(Martin Randall)

On another walk along a forest track we saw what we thought was a sloughed snake skin but then noted that it was moving slowly along the path. On closer inspection we found that this



A procession of caterpillars
(Martin Randall)



Pine Processionary Moth caterpillars
(Martin Randall)

was a line of about fifteen caterpillars crawling head to tail. These were Pine Processionary Moth caterpillars. They are covered in very many fine hairs that can cause extreme discomfort to the skin on contact. This toxic effect has been known since ancient times; the Roman philosopher and naturalist Pliny the Elder wrote about them in his encyclopedia 'Naturalis Historia'. In the UK we normally expect insects to be most active in the warmest months of the year and inactive during the winters.

However in Southern Europe the opposite is sometimes the case because it can be too hot in the summer for some species to be active. The Pine Processionary Moth illustrates this quite well. The adults lay their eggs on the shoots at the top of pine trees in the summer and the caterpillars feed on the pine needles through the autumn and winter. In order to survive through these colder months, the caterpillars form a group and together make a 'nest' of silken threads. This nest is usually located at the top and south side of the tree so that it gains the most available heat from the winter sun. Once they have finished feeding the



Processionary moth caterpillar winter 'nest'
(Martin Randall)

caterpillars crawl down the tree in a line and then disperse to seek out somewhere in the soil to burrow underground. They then spin a silken cocoon within which they pupate. In this way the species avoids being exposed to the hottest months of the year.

The Pine Processionary Moth is a pest species and in some locations the population of caterpillars gets so high that they cause severe damage to the pine tree on which they are feeding, often removing most of the pine needles. This defoliation also weakens the tree and makes it more susceptible to other pests and diseases. This species of moth used to be restricted to southern areas around the Mediterranean but is now more widespread in Europe as it has been expanding its range northwards and to higher parts of mountains. This is because its distribution is limited by cold temperatures during the winter months. As the climate is warming this has enabled the moth to spread and it has now been found breeding near Paris, but is not currently thought to be present in the UK.

There are various predators of the Pine Processionary Moths. Bats will catch and eat the adults

flying at night. The eggs on the pine shoots are sometimes eaten by crickets and birds like Blue Tits and Great Tits are able to eat the caterpillars. These birds deal with the poisonous hairs by stripping off the skin and eating the inner parts.

Another important predator is the Hoopoe; an unmistakable bird about the size of a thrush with a pinkish-brown body, striking black and white wings and a black down-curved bill. It also has a spectacular, crest with pinkish-brown feathers which it raises when excited. They feed on the ground, using the long bill to probe the soil in search for insects such as cockchafers, beetles and moths, especially their larvae and pupae. The Hoopoe digs up Pine Processionary Moths that have pupated underground to eat the chrysalis, which it removes from the moth's protective cocoon.



Hoopoe breed as far north as Estonia in Europe, but only very occasionally in Britain; the last time being in 1996. Mostly we just have a few visiting individuals recorded in the south of England each year, typically spring-migration overshoots. The Hoopoe gets its names from its distinctive "hoopoopoo" song, which we often hear from across the valley near to where we are staying.



HARBURY GENERAL NEWS



HARBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Susan Ostrander (Cllr Harbury Ward)

Happy Easter to all. I hope that you can get some rest and have a chance to reflect over the Easter weekend, as well as perhaps enjoying some chocolate eggs! But for now, straight into some quite big issues.....

Stratford District Council Budget

In February the budget for 2024/25 was agreed at Full Council. Some highlights include:

For rural communities and vulnerable residents:

- £28,000 for Rural Crime Advisors, working with Community Safety Team, to improve response to rising rural crime.

- £85,000 to maintain support for the UBUS service, to protect the vital connection between isolated communities and public services. See below for more details.
- £5,500 for a new pilot scheme in Southam (and Alcester) for Customer Access Terminals in rural communities to enable face-to-face communication with the District Council.

Staying healthy and active

- £25,000 for a new Leisure Community Instructor to provide targeted support for people with long term health conditions. In collaboration with parish councils, they will offer classes for the local community in local community centres – seated exercise classes, walking groups, teen fitness classes, etc. The objective is to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities who do not live close to the leisure centres whilst also combatting rural isolation.
- Reduction in hire fees for use of public playing pitches in Stratford-upon-Avon to incentivise more sporting activity.

Cost of Living Crisis support

- £250,000 to continue to protect residents from the ongoing cost of living crisis, providing grants for those most in need of support with energy bills. Please see below for more on this.

Climate change emergency

- £500,000 extra funding to enable the Council to achieve its carbon reduction targets.
- £250,000 to change the current refuse collection vehicles to the use of HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) fuel to reduce harmful emissions by nearly 100%.

Council Plan and Change Programme

- £2.2million to implement the new Council Plan, benefitting residents within six areas of focus, including delivering better homes, boosting the local economy, increasing green spaces, encouraging alternative modes of transport, supporting Town and Parish Councils and their local communities and improving the overall effectiveness of the Council

UBUS Service

This is one of the services that is being supported in the new budget. For those unaware of this service, UBUS is for anyone who is stuck for transport to travel locally on Mondays to Fridays. The service is for you if you:

- Cannot access public transport because of mobility problems or other health issues; or
- Live in an isolated location with limited public transport or no bus service at all.

UBUS can be used for any prebooked journey between the hours of 10am and 7pm, except between 2.30pm and 5.00pm on school days. People who wish to use the UBUS service must register. There is no registration fee and when you register, we will send you further details of the service and your membership number. To register with UBUS call **01789 264491**.



Further details can be found here: tinyurl.com/37px6wra

Cost of Living Support

As stated in the budget details above, £250,000 has been set aside to support people struggling with the cost of living. Many people in the district will be experiencing financial

hardship. Government figures suggest that 21% of children under 16 in the district are living in poverty (2021/22 figures). The Trussell Trust, one of our local foodbanks, saw a 48% increase in people being fed in 2023 over 2022. Furthermore the latest data, for 2021, suggests that 15.6% of households in Stratford DC (8000 homes) are in fuel poverty. This suggests that some readers of this may themselves benefit from this support or know someone else who would. If you fall in the latter group, then please could I urge you to share this information with them.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is committed to helping everyone access the right information and services. They know these are difficult times for people and that many people worry about their money, the cost of living and not being able to pay bills, which can impact on wellbeing.

This link will take you to the page on the District Council's website where you can complete a referral form to access free help and support with money or housing issues, training, finding a job and general wellbeing. There are also links from this page to many other useful sources of help and support for different specific needs.



www.stratford.gov.uk/benefits-support/cost-of-living-support.cfm

Council Tax

Stratford-on-Avon District Councillors set the district element of the Council Tax at a meeting of the Council at the end of February. The amount residents will be asked to pay for a Band D property is £164.12, an increase of £5. This is an increase of 3.1%, which for an average home represents just an additional 42p per month to the District Council next year. This means that all the services provided by the District Council cost £3.16 a week for a Band D household. This contributes to meeting the cost of providing a wide range of services including recycling and waste collection, planning, street cleaning, housing, housing benefits, leisure services and children's play areas.

Although the District Council acts as the collecting agent for Council Tax, it only receives 7.2% of the Council Tax paid by residents. Warwickshire County Council receives the lion's share of 76.7%, the Police 12.8% and Towns/ Parishes 3.3%. This means the District Council only retains 7.2p of every £1 paid in Council Tax to provide its range of services.

If you would like to contact me please do so at: sue.ostrander@stratford-dc.gov.uk



In the meantime I hope you enjoy the spring and perhaps a few hot cross buns or Easter eggs!



LITTER PICK IN HARBURY

Ian Reynolds

April's litter pick will be on Saturday 13th April at 10.00 - 11.00am starting from the village hall car park. Pickers, hoops and bags provided! All welcome but not too suitable for young children as we do the roadsides.

Our May litter pick will be on Saturday 4th May also between 10.00 - 11.00am.



THE COLLECTIVE

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 engages in discussion on such issues from both a secular and Christian perspective by meeting on a regular basis in the Shakespeare pub.

The next meeting of THE COLLECTIVE will take place on Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 7.30pm. Our next subject for discussion is - *'Who do you think you are'*

Do come along, have a drink and engage in interesting debate.



HARBURY LOCAL MARKET

Steve Ekins

Please Note!

There is no market this Month, we have had to move back a week to the 4th May.

The Charity being supported by the Market, will be GASS.

Councillors Corner will be there from 10.00 - 11.00am to answer any questions you may have.

Join us for a Tea or Coffee and a Bacon Roll.

If you would like to contact us, you can email us harburylocalmarket@gmail.com and also on Facebook @Harbury Local Market, please join our group for regular updates.

Thanks to our Sponsors.



HARBURY GARDEN WALKABOUT SAT 29TH & SUN 30TH JUNE 2024

Peter Walshe, Trustee, Harbury e-Wheels

This is a call for volunteers to open their gardens for this major fundraiser for Harbury e-Wheels, our charity that transports those in need for no charge within a 15 mile radius. Other local charities will also be supported by some garden owners.

Some people have already kindly volunteered, and we would like to get 20+ gardens to open from 11am - 6pm on Saturday 29th June and 12 noon - 6pm on Sunday 30th June. Gardens that have not previously opened are welcome, plus all the many favourites that have helped us in the past.

It is two days when the village buzzes with a true community spirit as hundreds stroll around.

We are also listed in the National Open Gardens website (www.opengardens.co.uk). SEARCH Harbury Garden Walkabout. Last year this brought many visitors to Harbury to add to the fun atmosphere over the two days.

Please contact Peter Walshe if you can help out on 07446 779879 or peterdouglasswalshe@gmail.com.



BOOKINGS FOR THE TOM HAULEY ROOM

Sally Stringer (for All Saints Church Harbury)

In April I shall (with great delight!) be handing over the Tom Hauley Room bookings to Moira Rollason. In order to book, the new email address is:

thr@allsaintsharbury.org

Nothing else is changing but I shall be contacting all the regular users to inform them of the change.

NB This does not affect bookings for the Saturday coffee mornings - contact Sarah Brooke-Taylor as usual.



BUMPS & BUNDLES

Carol Jackson and the Bumps Team

Bumps has continued to grow since Christmas and it is great for us volunteers to see how the children are flourishing. We regularly have about 10 little ones who enjoy all the toys that are available and the Mums, Dads and carers can have their tea/coffee and biscuits in peace.

There is no need to "join" just come along every Tuesday morning from 10.30am until noon in the Tom Hauley Room (behind the church). We are there each week during term time - so not in the school holidays. Come along and join us.

We are a friendly bunch and new Mums are able to pick up lots of tips and wrinkles!



WEDNESDAY WALKERS

Gillian Hare

It's now official - February was the wettest on record, and March is looking like a close second. In spite of more juggling with our programme, we didn't avoid the mud, although the weather on the days has been quite pleasant and very mild. Lots of lambs and the blackthorn in the hedges and blossom in gardens we passed have been lovely.

We have a two week break over Easter so hope it will be drying up. We are always happy to welcome anyone to join us; just meet in the village hall car park before 9.40, any Wednesday. We usually take about two hours to walk four miles, so take time to enjoy the countryside as we go.



GALANOS HOUSE – REGULAR MONTHLY EVENTS

Shelley Fardon

For a full list of events please follow us on Facebook @RBLCommunityHub

Chatty Café Table - FREE

Every Tuesday, 10.00 - 11.30am.

Our cafe is warm and welcoming every day, but we are privileged to have wonderful volunteers who will be hosting our chatty table on Tuesday mornings.

You can find our 'Chatty' table over on our comfy chairs by the window. Our Chatty Table volunteers will be wearing yellow. Why not drop-in, have a cup of tea with us, stay five minutes or an hour. We have a real community feel here and everyone is welcome.

Armed Forces Veteran's Breakfast Club

Last Wednesday and Saturday of every month, 10.00am.

Come along, purchase your own Hub Breakfast, and join in with the banter.

Musical Memories - FREE

Last Friday of every month, 2.30 - 4.00pm.

A dementia friendly music café with support, music and refreshments.

Open to everyone, come along on the day.

Sporting Memories - FREE

2nd Wednesday of each month, 10.30 -12.30pm.

Reminisce about all thing's 'sport' and some gentle exercise with guest speakers. Open to everyone, come along on the day.

Silver Sunday - FREE

Second Sunday of each month, 2.30pm.

Join us, bring a friend, and have a dance. Everyone is welcome to come along. Please telephone 01926 812185 Ext 5365 to book your place.

Every other month.

Nosh and Natter

Cost £10.00 - Two course homemade hot lunch and dessert.

Everyone is welcome to come along, booking is essential.

First Wednesday of every month. Please telephone 01926 812185 Ext 5365 to place book your place. *Free transport available from Southam library to the Community Hub - Please book.

Collection outside Southam Library: 11.45am Return to Southam Library: 2.00pm.



READERS' LETTERS

Dear Editors

The family of Joe Van Hoorebeek would like to extend grateful thanks to everyone for their messages of sympathy and support. We especially appreciated the memories of Joe they shared. These have all been a great source of comfort to us all.

Thank you.

Sue, Mark, James and Sally

Harbury & Ladbroke News

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2024/25

The Annual Subscription is due this month, the cost of this will be £8.00 covering the year up to March 2025.

If you would like to continue having the magazine delivered and you have not already paid your subscription. You can still pay in one of three ways.

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- You can put the £8 subscription in an envelope marked with your address and deliver to your distributor. If you are unsure who your distributor is please call 07900 852236.
- Alternatively, if neither of the above is an option for you, your distributor will call for the money when delivering a future edition of the magazine.

Many thanks and we look forward to your continued support.



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between 11.30am - 12.30pm

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