Harbury & Ladbroke News



JUNE 2026



Chauffeur Service

Ensure that you reach your destination on time and relaxed.

Reliable
Comfortable
Discrete

Events
Meetings
Days Out
Airport / Seaport

07817897813

Fully qualified and licensed chauffeur

BCD
B CHAUFFEUR DRIVEN

West Midlands
Based in Harbury

Email Derek on: nykamps@gmail.com

Refuse Collection Rota

Week Commencing Monday	Thursday Collection - Harbury Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge	Wednesday & Friday Collections - Ladbroke
8 June	F - R - G	F
15 June	F	F - R - G
22 June	F - R - W - G	F - W
29 June	F	F - R - G
6 July	F - R - G	F
13 July	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

This magazine is available by subscription and delivered within Harbury, Deppers Bridge and Ladbroke. Telephone 07900 852236 for details.

HARBURY & LADBROKE News

Published monthly to reflect all aspects of local life

JUNE 2026 No. 627

EDITORIAL 4
HARBURY DIARY 4
FROM THE RECTOR AND CHURCH NEWS 7
LADBROKE NEWS 10
HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL 24
CLUBS & SOCIETIES 29
EARLY YEARS & SCHOOL 40
LIBRARY 46
GARDENING & NATURE 46
GENERAL SECTION 53

Editorial Office
31 Binswood End
☎ 01926 612155
✉ articles@hlnews.co.uk
Article drop off point:
Harbury Pharmacy,
High Street

Advertising Office
36 Manor Orchard
☎ 01926 612687
✉ advertising@hlnews.co.uk

Distribution Manager
49 Mill Street
☎07900 852236
✉ distribution@hlnews.co.uk
Inserts by prior arrangement with the Distribution Manager

Andy Goss – Paulette Kavanagh – Peter McDonald – Sue and David Turner
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.



July Edition Deadlines

Adverts to: 36 Manor Orchard, Harbury or e-mail to advertising@hlnews.co.uk by Monday 22nd June

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



Cover Photo: Annual Wheelbarrow Race by Ian Hartland



EDITORIAL

A round up of local news

It's Carnival time – Saturday 13th June! Join the parade, enter your float or walk the route in fancy dress. If that's not for you, please do turn out to watch the procession and spend your spare money at the fete on the playing fields – see diary for timings. Before then, you will have the opportunity to gather your teams together and compete in the Wheelbarrow Race on the 7th and/or the Carnival Games during the week leading up to the Carnival.

During the last weekend of June the Harbury Garden Walkabout will be held, with over 20 gardens opening up for the public to look around. Usually a lovely weekend to admire the hard work gone into tending some beautiful gardens. Following on from the success of last year's visits you can also book for a tour of Harbury Windmill on the Saturday only. If you fancy a swim in a pool in one of the gardens, then you can book for this too. You can even have a go at ringing the church bells - they are after more volunteers to join the group.

Two musical events coming up in Ladbroke. Book your tickets for the Summer Breeze evening and the concert in the Church. If you fancy a guided tour of the church, either as a large or small group, contact Jackie West.

For Harbury & Deppers Bridge residents, enclosed with this month's magazine is a copy of the 2026-28 Harbury Directory which provides a range of information about local services, groups and organisations. We hope you find this useful and you will keep for future reference. We would like to thank Harbury Parish Council for providing financial support to enable this to be printed.

Finally, we extend our sympathy to the family of Joyce Windsor.



HARBURY DIARY

For local events

JUNE

Sat 6 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Stone, Sound and Vision
Litter Pick, 2.00pm, meet Village Hall Carpark

Sun 7 1ST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Said Holy Communion, 9.00am, Church
Muddy Church, 3.00 - 4.30pm
Youth Group, 5.00 - 7.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
RCCG Holy Ghost Zone Royal Leamington Spa Sunday Service, 10.30am - 1.30pm, Village Hall
Harbury Wheelbarrow Race, 12.30 for 1.00pm start, starting at the Shakespeare Inn

Mon 8 Badminton, 10.00am - 12.00 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
Pub Games - Aunt Sally, 7.30pm, Harbury Rugby Club

Tue 9 Everyone Active Fitness, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Pub Games - Table Skittles, 7.30pm, The Crown Inn

Wed 10 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, behind Village Hall - Welcombe Hills (4 miles)
Quiet Space, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Knitwits and Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library
Spellbound Dance Classes, 1.45 - 2.30 & 4.30 - 6.30pm, Village Hall
Pub Games - Horseshoes, 7.30pm, The Gamecock Inn
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

Thu 11 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury WI, Hula Hooping for all ages - John Parnell, 7.30 for 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
Pub Games - Quiz, 7.30pm, Harbury Village Club

Sat 13 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Zoe's Place
Harbury Carnival - entrants for parade assemble in Sutcliffe Drive, 12 noon, procession starts at 1.00pm, Fete opens 2.00pm on Playing Fields

Sun 14 2ND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Sung Holy Communion, 10.30am, Church
Messy Church, 3.00 - 5.00pm
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall
RCCG Holy Ghost Zone Royal Leamington Spa Sunday Service, 10.30am - 1.30pm, Village Hall

Mon 15 Badminton, 10.00am - 12.00 noon, Village Hall
New! Tom's Teas. Free Tea, Cake, Coffee, Friendship and Chat, 2.30 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

Tue 16 Everyone Active Fitness, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall

Wed 17 Senior Citizens trip to Shrewsbury, leaving 8.30am from Village Hall
Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, behind Village Hall - Hampton Lucy (4 miles)
Spellbound Dance Classes, 1.45 - 2.30 & 4.30 - 6.30pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

Thu 18 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Classic Book Group, 7.30pm, Village Library

Sat 20 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of RABI (the Farmers charity)
Harbury Heritage Centre open 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)
Summer Music Concert and drinks - Organ masterpieces and Harbury School choir, 6.30pm (doors open 5.45), Harbury Church

Sun 21 3RD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Said Holy Communion, 8.00am, Church
All Age Service, 10.30am, Church
St. Giles, Chesterton, Holy Communion Service, 10.30am
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall
RCCG Holy Ghost Zone Royal Leamington Spa Sunday Service, 10.30am - 1.30pm, Village Hall

Mon 22 Badminton, 10.00am - 12.00 noon, Village Hall
Programmes available for Garden Walkabout from today, Village Library

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

ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK

Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

Tue 23 Everyone Active Fitness, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall
Ponder in the Pub - 'Do Not Be Afraid' debate, 6.45 for 7.00pm, the Crown Inn

Wed 24 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, behind Village Hall - Thurlaston (4 miles)
Spellbound Dance Classes, 1.45 - 2.30 & 4.30 - 6.30pm, Village Hall
Knitwits and Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

Thu 25 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Fri 26 "We buy Vintage" Valuation event, 10.00am - 5.00pm, Village Hall (webuyvintage.co.uk)

Sat 27 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church Funds
Harbury Garden Walkabout, 11.00am - 6.00pm, tickets available from Harbury Library or TicketSource
Harbury Swifts Project - Swift Awareness Afternoon, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library

Sun 28 4TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Sung Holy Communion, 10.30am, Church
Informal Evening Service, 7.00pm, Church
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall
RCCG Holy Ghost Zone Royal Leamington Spa Sunday Service, 10.30am - 1.30pm, Village Hall
Harbury Garden Walkabout, 12.00 noon - 6.00pm, tickets available from Harbury Library or TicketSource

Mon 29 Badminton, 10.00am - 12.00 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

Tue 30 Everyone Active Fitness, 10.00 - 11.00am, Village Hall

JULY

Wed 1 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, behind Village Hall - Bubbenhall Woods (4½ miles)
Mothers' Union, afternoon visit to MU Knowle
Spellbound Dance Classes, 1.45 - 2.30 & 4.30 - 6.30pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

Thu 2 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Society visit to Warwickshire Lavender Farm, Bubbenhall, 11.00am (Bookings in advance)
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Library

Fri 3 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn
Stegastomp Dance Weekend, starts 6.00pm, Village Hall - stegastomp.co.uk for tickets

Sat 4 No Coffee Morning
Stegastomp Dance Weekend, continues, Village Hall - stegastomp.co.uk for tickets

Sun 5 5TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
Said Holy Communion, 9.00am, Church
Muddy Church, 3.00 - 4.30pm
Youth Group, 5.00 - 7.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Scout Hut
RCCG Holy Ghost Zone Royal Leamington Spa Sunday Service, 10.30am - 1.30pm, Radford Semele Village Hall
Stegastomp Dance Weekend, finishes 4.30pm today Village Hall - stegastomp.co.uk for tickets
The Refuse Rota can be found on the inside of the front cover.

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

All Saints HARBURY

FROM THE RECTOR

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

As we welcome the arrival of June, and the transition to warm summer days, the world around us is in full bloom. The fields are vibrant, the days are at their longest, and our gardens are demanding our full attention. In the life of the Church, June marks our entry into a new liturgical season known as Ordinary Time.

After the celebrations of Easter, Ascension, and the dramatic fire of Pentecost last month, the church colours switch to green. It is a visual reminder that we are entering a season of spiritual growth and cultivation. The word "ordinary" doesn't mean boring or mundane. It comes from the word ordinal, meaning ranking or ordered. It represents the rhythmic, day-to-day living out of our faith. High spiritual mountain-top experiences are wonderful, but real life is lived in the valleys. Growth happens in the quiet consistency of daily prayer, the routine kindness shown to a difficult neighbour, and the steady commitment to our local community.

June invites us to find God in the ordinary routines of our days. Summer gives our church congregations an opportunity to step outside the walls of our church buildings and engage with the wider parish. Whether it is through upcoming village fetes or fairs, school sports days, or simply chatting over the garden fence, we can be intentional about being a presence of warmth and grace in our neighbourhood.



FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Andy & Bez

The Bells, The bells…!

All Saints Church has eight bells and we need more volunteers to ring them. During the Garden Walkabout there will be an opportunity to give it a go in what some campanologists regard as one of the finest sets of bells in Warwickshire. What an opportunity! And it's free to try.

All Saints Church has a variety of opportunities on offer. Not only will you be able to ring the bells, delight in homemade cakes and refreshments, cool off in the church if temperatures soar, check out the Memorial Garden, but you can also participate in the first ever teddy bear parachute drop from the bell tower! For a small donation beloved teddy bears will have an adventure. Pop in and enjoy one or all of these activities on offer.

All Saints is not just a sacred space but a safe and special one. There is a re-vamped children's area in church – space for children to play during the church services and anytime you chose to pop in.





It's special because of the many volunteers that contribute in different ways and we need more. We do need help with gardening. Could you consider helping, as the new internal church doorway has made the Memorial Garden, behind the Church, more accessible and also more visible. Is there anyone who would enjoy helping to keep it a peaceful, reflective and respectful place? It is quite small and densely planted, so it does not mean a big commitment. To learn more, please contact Rev Andy or a Churchwarden.

Don't forget there is also the chance to come and enjoy cake and refreshments in Tom's Teas (3rd Monday of each month); you will be warmly welcomed in the Tom Hauley Room.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.



MIDSUMMER MUSIC CONCERT

Phillip Mayer and the Church Fundraising Team

We have a magical midsummer music concert here in Harbury Church on Saturday 20th June at 6.30 that you will not want to miss. It has two highly enjoyable and contrasting elements.

First, the concert features fabulous **Organ Music Masterpieces**, played by a leading cathedral organist - John Wilderspin. John, who is the Organist at Worcester Cathedral for their Voluntary Choir, will include the famous JS Bach Toccata and Fugue in D Minor.

Second, you will be treated to a range of songs by the Harbury Primary School Choir, including

songs from the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat - which was originally written in 1968 for a school concert!

Tickets are only £10 and are available at the Harbury Library, from All Saints' Church, by telephone on 01926 613488 and online at:-
www.ticketsource.com/harbury-church/midsummer-music-concert/2026-06-20/18:30/t-vxxlano

(Or just go on to Ticket Source and search for "Harbury Church" and the concert will show as it's the only event we have on the site.)

Also, to complete your enjoyment for a lovely evening , there will be red and white wine and soft drinks available for a donation, before the concert, during the interval and afterwards.

So, please put the date in your diary- Saturday 20th June at 6.30 (doors open 5.45) - and get some tickets, have some fun and support the Stone, Sound and Vision fundraising appeal for the church building improvements.



MOTHERS' UNION

Gillian Hare

At our May meeting, Rev Ann presided over the communion, followed by an interesting talk by Paul Morris. Paul is a diocesan trustee, and married to Karen, the MU diocesan president. He was speaking to us about the various projects with which MU is involved to support homeless people in Coventry. He made clear how easily people can find themselves without a home, for so many reasons; quite a minor crisis can lead to debt, to no money for rent, to eviction, family breakdown, mental worries, health issues, PTSD following military service and many more contributory factors. There is hostel accommodation available for some; this is quite basic. MU supports this with food, clothing, bedding and sometimes household items. Though so modest, we were impressed by Paul's initiative in this; he personally has approached many supermarkets and arranged regular collections of food items which are snapped up. He is now encouraging Churches in the area to house a blue bin, with a list of needed items, which will be regularly collected. Will we see one in Harbury? Watch this space!

We were also interested to hear that the Salvation Army shop in Coventry will gladly accept household items not wanted by other charity shops, and may arrange collection.

May marked 150 years since the founding of Mothers' Union, and four of us went to Berkswell to celebrate with a service and a lunch. A very happy occasion.

Our June meeting was about the ministry for reconciliation, the Cross of Nails, based at Coventry Cathedral.

In July, as usual, we desert Harbury for a visit to Knowle (near Solihull). There will be a tour of that interesting church and their MU will entertain us to tea. Details and offers of lifts to follow.



FLOWERS IN CHURCH

Gillian Hare

We have been asked if we would ever be able to do the flowers in church as a commemoration or celebration? Maybe a birthday or anniversary of someone dear. The answer is YES; if this interests you, please call Gillian on 01926 614809.



LADBROKE NEWS & DIARY

JUNE

Sun 7 TRINITY 1
Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments

Tue 9 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 14 TRINITY 2
Holy Communion, 9.00am

Tue 16 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 21 TRINITY 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

ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK

Tue 23 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Fri 26 Seventies Summer Breeze Night, 7.00pm, Village Hall

Sun 28 TRINITY 4
Holy Communion, 9.00am

Tue 30 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

JULY

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

Thu 2 WI, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 5 TRINITY 5
Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments

Tue 7 Photography Club Summer Buffet, 7.00 for 7.30pm, Hallsfield

Wed 8 Parish Council Meeting, 7.45pm, Village Hall

Sat 11 Concert by Kantorei Prenzlau, 3.00pm, Ladbroke Church



LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

Peter Rigby

www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk

Summer has now arrived and as I write we are in the middle of heatwave. So if you are looking for somewhere pleasantly cool, a reminder that the church building is open every day between 10.00am to 4.00pm. All are welcome to pop in to look around and maybe spend a little time in prayer or reflection.

There is a prayer table next to the lectern and we are very grateful to Sue Wright who keeps it regularly updated with pictures and resources which you might find helpful if you are


SEAL
ROOFING SOLUTIONS
Contact Terry
07506535419
sealroofing@outlook.com
Our services include
Pitched roof repairs & replacements
Traditional & modern finishes
Flat roof replacements
Fascia & guttering replacements
RECTORY FARM COTTAGE, HARBURY ROAD, LADBROKE, CV47 2DF

Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service of individual items through to complete property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or email **info@leauction.co.uk**

SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED

www.leauction.co.uk

LOCKE & ENGLAND
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

01926 889100

18 Guy Street, Leamington Spa, CV32 4RT

Green Chameleon

HOMEBUYER SURVEYS, BUILDING SURVEYS & VALUATIONS

If you need **honest and pragmatic advice**, but also appreciate a friendly face and heaps of enthusiasm, then **Karena** is the lady to go to for all your surveying solutions.

- RICS Chartered Surveyor
- RICS Registered Valuer
- RICS Level 2 & 3 Property Surveys
- Short Property Reports
- Party Wall Awards
- Valuations for Help to Buy, Shared Ownership & Probate
- Over 33 years' experience

RICS

Please contact Karena for more information.
01926 612121 / 07752 134874

admin@greenchameleon.net
www.greenchameleon.net



Frank Mann Farmers



- Commercial & domestic mowing
- Fencing
- Landscaping & more

"Attention to detail"

Michael Mann or Emma Mann
Tel: **07759863269 / 07931491417**
michael.mann1@btinternet.com
www.frankmannfarmers.co.uk

visiting. Please take a look and leave a prayer request on the prayer tree if it's helpful.

By the time this edition is printed we will have held our rearranged Annual Church Meeting. Details of the officers elected will be given in next month's H&L News.



Future Services and events:

Sunday 7th June	10.30am	Family Communion
Sunday 14th June	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 21st June	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 28th June	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 5th July	10.30am	Family Communion

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

All of our councillors were present and there were two meetings for the price of one on Wed 13th May, not because the March meeting was cancelled but the usual one was preceded by a short annual meeting. At this, Cllr Judy Groves was elected as chair for the coming year, Cllr Carl Holloway as vice-chair and other admin matters were agreed. The main parish council meeting then started with an update from EKFB, the HS2 contractors for civil engineering works south of Southam.

HS2 Road Closures for bridge tie-ins

Learning points and agreements from last year will be in place, so better communications, better signage, Ladbroke only accessible from southern junction of the bypass (when the A423 is closed). etc.

The closures should happen during the summer, though precise dates were not available at this meeting *(nor when the HS2 community engagement van came to Ladbroke on 21st May)* but the plan is first to close the B4451 Kineton Road for four weeks then have a gap for a couple of weeks followed by the A423 closed for four weeks. Completing these bridges and road tie-ins are major milestones for EKFB/HS2 and as much as possible is being done before they start the road closures, eg laying tarmac to the fence lines.

The parish council will be notified as soon as start dates are confirmed. Both of these closures are expected to start on a Monday morning and the roads will re-open as soon as work is complete. During discussion EKFB stated that BBV (contractor north of Southam) should finish their utility works on the A425 verge by end of May, so off-peak A425 closures would not clash with these EKFB ones.

A temporary 20mph limit through Ladbroke while the roads are closed will be investigated. It is unrealistic to expect any police resources to prevent HGVs ignoring 7.5T limit signs into Ladbroke at the start of the A423 closure, but could another group come under the guise of

vehicle compliance checks? I requested, and by the end of May should have, a couple of **temporary signs warning drivers of pedestrians** for use when there are church or heritage events on in the village.

SDC

The "big reveal" on the **South Warwickshire Local Plan** will be later in May and will have short public consultation to check it is "sound". With the need to locate a further 50,000 new homes by 2050 (about half in Stratford and half in Warwick District areas), inevitably some people will be disappointed by which areas are proposed for development but until the plan is formally approved by the Government Planning Inspectorate, speculative development without infrastructure can continue, despite lack of infrastructure being the biggest issue raised during the preferred options consultation last year. In the concurrent call for sites for development, no land had been offered at area F2 (on the edge of Ladbroke). However, the whole of F3 (between Chapel Ascot and Fenny Compton) had been offered. But an offer by landowner(s) did not mean it would be developed, as there were multiple reasons why these were less suitable for new settlements.

The new draft version of the local plan, over 400 pages(!) was available on-line on 20th May. Good news, neither F2 nor F3 are included, but land to east of Southam is listed as a strategic development site to have approx 3080 new homes between 2028 - 2045 plus schools and community facilities etc. There are also four areas on the edge of Southam identified for employment growth. For Ladbroke itself, like most villages both large and small, "Small-scale development proposals will be supported in principle within the built-up area boundaries of the settlement"

The Government's decision about the **Unitary Authority** covering this area (one for the whole county or two: north and south) is expected in July, leading to elections to a shadow authority in May 2027 with the new unitary council coming into effect April 2028. SDC's **Community Climate & Nature Fund** is open for the 4th round of grants, applications must be in 27th July. There is new legislation to provide **stronger protection of livestock from dogs** with unlimited fines, enhanced powers to seize dogs and an expanded definition of livestock worrying. Parish Councils and residents can request visits, advice and leaflets from rural crime officers and farmers can request "Dog on Lead" signs. SDC had the **highest level of recycling in England** at 63.9%, thanks to residents, the district council, Biffa who collect the waste and the recycling facility at Sherbourne. For info regarding what can be recycled see www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/our-recycling-collection.cfm.

The new Social Housing Allocations Policy will start later this year, with priority to those in greatest need and increased emphasis on local connection, members of Armed Forces, carers and those experiencing domestic abuse.

WCC

A written report had been sent to councillors and the only issue discussed at the meeting was fires on farmland; what to do in event of seeing one will be notified to residents by Enews.

Planning

It was agreed that the clerk would send on notifications to councillors when received, so decisions on the response can be made between meetings, if necessary. There was no representation for treeworks and modernising the look by changes of windows and rendering at Skiddaw on School Lane. SDC had approved one set of proposals at Dovecote and a further submission had been made (but not come through on the list yet).

It was noted that the outline permission for building on the triangle of land north had finally come though, matching the decision made last year but information about what's happening there had "dried up".

There were some other planning applications and approvals listed on the agenda, also available on SDC's e-planning website (select Advanced search and just enter "Ladbroke" under "parish" to see all the applications for here). They currently include ones for treeworks at Old School House, Ladbroke Hall and Lodge House, notifications (not requiring approval) for agricultural buildings, one in the corner of the field in front of Ladbroke House and another on the far side of the by-pass, a variation to the application at Cornerstones and a check if a planning application is needed for a large extension to Grove Farm Bungalow at the end of Ladbroke Hill Lane.

Next meeting: Wednesday 8th July at 7.45pm

LADBROKE & DEPPERS BRIDGE WI

Carol Lane



At Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge WI on Thursday, 7th May, Sue Wright – with her husband David, her techie, spoke about the charity Teams4U. This small charity has been in existence since 1990 and was formed to give people the opportunity of working with and supporting vulnerable children and their families. They work in partnership with local individuals and organisations such as the Red Cross to identify families and communities most in need of support.

Their annual shoe box appeal is just one strand of their work and provides Christmas gifts to vulnerable children and families in Eastern Europe who are identified by linking with schools, nurseries, churches, hospitals and orphanages. Their aim is that each box is given in relationship with the local community as part of a long-term commitment to impact and change the lives of these children and their whole families.

As an ex children's nurse, Sue felt that this was something she could do to show God's love to children in need in other countries. Thus she started spreading the word in Ladbroke about 10 years ago and this has grown to include people from Harbury (the Knitwits have provided numerous hats, gloves and soft toys) Southam (Tesco donated items and Acorn charity shop was a source of small gifts), Warwick and further afield with friends and family. Last year she and David took a record number of 85 boxes to the local collection point in Stretton on Dunsmore. Sue showed pictures of their garage, loaded car, collection point and the lorries which take the boxes for distribution.

Dotted throughout the presentation were videos showing the children receiving boxes and I know I wasn't the only person in the room with tears in my eyes to see the wonder on their faces.

Participation can take a variety of forms: cover and fill boxes; provide items like toothbrushes and pastes; knit hats and scarves; provide empty shoeboxes; attend the Tom Hauley Room coffee morning on 18th July or donate money to help towards the cost of transportation.

I know the dedication Sue gives to this project and the hours she spends, covering and filling boxes and I could see that members were inspired to help. She deserves it and can be contacted at suewright21@googlemail.com

After a break for wine and cheese, the AGM continued with annual accounts from the President, Secretary and Treasurer. There has been a full year of good speakers, crafting, curling and outings. Sue expressed thanks to Carole as secretary, Alison, as treasurer and the committee - particularly Carol Locker for arranging speakers and notifying us all of birthdays and Heather who continues to organise a monthly raffle and look after the register. An excellent addition has been the bring and buy table which raises about £35 each month. The Food and Friendship group continues to meet on a monthly basis at a variety of venues.

The committee comprising Sue Moore, Carole Rhodes, Alison Pollitt, Sue Lord, Carol Locker, Heather Brooks and Maggie Watts was re-elected. Sue Moore was voted to remain as president for her third term of office.

For the Group meeting in Harbury Village Hall on Wednesday 10th June, all will be needed to help and tray-bakes will be welcomed. There will be a raffle and entry is £10 per head.

This year's August trip will be to Sezincote House & Gardens, Moreton in Marsh on Thursday 6th August.

Maggie has suggested starting a craft group which will be discussed further.

The next meeting will be on 4th June starting at 7.30, when Jennifer Rigby will lead us through classic comedy monologues. We are a very friendly group who welcome new members. Come along and see if you like us.

LADBROKE MATTERS

David Wright

We are looking forward to our seventies summer breeze evening later this month. In anticipation of this each paragraph heading of this month's article is the title of a hit from the seventies. Can you remember which year it was a hit and who recorded it, without resorting to Google?

Who are You?

Our website www.ladbrokevillagehall.org.uk contains photos of the interior and exterior of our village hall and general information. Please use the contact form on the website to get in touch with us for any reason.

Rock on

Bookings for our 1970's evening in the Village Hall on Friday 26th June are rolling in nicely. So, if you want to join us in the Village Hall for an evening of fun, memories, food, and especially music and dancing from the seventies, you will need to get in quick. We will even throw in a nostalgia quiz and stories behind some of the songs we play. Food will be served from 7pm and there will be a bar.

Tickets at £15 each can be bought by emailing our dedicated booking line: ladbrokesummerbreeze@gmail.com. Every ticket bought entitles you to request one seventies song for the evening. Please mention your song requests in your email.

Get in the Swing
Phase two of the upgrade to the Millennium Green play area has been completed. Do take a look at the smart new trim trail and swings. Thanks to Helen Morten, Alan Lord and all who helped to successfully complete this project.

Telephone Line
The mobile phone signal in the village hall has always been weak to non-existent. Not any more! A signal booster has been installed free of charge courtesy of Warwickshire County Council. Thank you Kip Warr for arranging this.

What's Going on?
We are looking forward to holding more events this year. Possibilities are a quiz night; a celidh evening; and a live music evening. Let us know through our website if you have any other ideas, or which of our events you especially enjoy.

I Want to Break Free
After 10 years of faithful service to our group, our current chair, Alan Lord, has decided to resign with effect from this month. Many villagers will know Alan (as well as his wife Sue and their two dogs); and his immense and tireless contribution to village life is greatly valued. He has been an inspiration to us all on the Ladbroke Matters team past and present and will be sadly missed as he and Sue move out of Ladbroke to pastures new later this year.

Changes
With Alan's resignation our new chair is Debs Brown, and Mick Moore will take over managing the hall bookings from her.

Come on over to my Place
Our hall has a small kitchen, a hearing loop, a performing arts music licence and a stage area with sound and lighting. We can accommodate up to eighty people, so to book your special celebration, or if you wish to hold regular classes or meetings, contact Mick through the village hall website which has more details about our facilities including our revised booking terms and conditions.

Our summer booking rates are £15 per hour, or £12 for Ladbroke residents - applicable from April to September inclusive. Non-residents may be asked to pay a deposit on booking.

Knowing me, Knowing you
The village hall and Millennium Green are separate registered charities whose admin and finance are overseen by a group of trustees. However, because the upkeep of the village hall and Millennium Green is the responsibility of all who live in Ladbroke we have a larger Ladbroke Matters team which takes care of maintenance and organises fundraising events. We also have a dedicated team of volunteers who bake and supply tasty food for some of our events.

The more you support us with your skills, time, and/or money, the more we can continue to maintain these facilities for the benefit of us all. We are always on the lookout for new team members, so if you would like to join us get in touch via our website, or have a word with one of our team.

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Draw for April 2026

£50	Richard Walker	£25	John Liverton	£10	Carol Lane
£50	Chris Ennew	£25	Geoff Lane	£10	Emma Hampson
£25	John and Jenny Barrett	£10	Nick Timms		

Margaret Bosworth

LADBROKE MILLENNIUM GREEN

Helen Morten, Trustee Ladbroke Millennium Green





Strangely enough, stage two of the Ladbroke Millennium Green play area has happened very quickly! We were very lucky to receive two generous donations towards a new trim trail and replacement of the older children's swings which we are absolutely delighted with. I think this can be borne out by its use already from children in the village and beyond. Many thanks to you all for your continued support with Ladbroke Millennium Green and be on the lookout for a working party coming your way in October! Come and have a look at the revamped Green if you haven't already done so!

LADBROKE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Nicky Lewis

The theme for our meeting in early May was Yellow, which inspired a wide range of interesting and often amusing photographs. As you might expect, many were of flowers and the prolific oil seed rape around this year, but many of us saw yellow in different contexts. These included an all yellow hotel, a montage of the ubiquitous road signs diverting traffic (to who knows where!), a golden wedding card, HS2 diggers, footpath signs, poached eggs, a teapot, a plane. Look around and you'll see yellow everywhere! It's a fun colour and usually makes us smile (road diversion signs excepted!).



So instead of photos of flowers, I've chosen three impactful photos with no flowers in sight! The first is Clogs (my photo) taken in Amsterdam at the Keukenhof Tulip gardens…… there were plenty of tulips of course, but these caught my eye. Sally Simmonds entered her photo of a Yellow teddy and helpers to cheer us up, and the rusty tractor on the beach by Steve Gale show how the colour yellow keeps its impact long after the tractor!



Thank you to everyone who entered and to Mick for scoring in David's absence.



Our next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd June when Gray Lewis will give us a talk on local canals, in

Ed's Music Tuition

- Do you want to learn keyboards, guitar or ukulele with a qualified teacher with a passion for music?
- Lessons available for all ages.
- Learning an instrument is rewarding and great fun, and I can help you on your way.
- Fully DBS checked.
- Competitive rates and flexible timetable with lessons tailored to your own individual learning style and needs.
- Tuition in playing, reading music, performance and theory.
- Give me a call to discuss your musical future!



Ed Hudson, Harbury.
Mob: 07801 430029
email: eddhudson@me.com

FENCES & TREES



All types of fencing and gates

Tree felling and reduction

Hedge laying and trimming

Patios

Seasoned logs available

Call Adrian Dollar on 01926 817077 or 07914 623989

Qualified and Insured

GREENSPACE INTERIORS

Where Style Meets Sustainability

Thinking about transforming your home in 2026? You've just found the people who love the details as much as you do.

WHAT WE DO BEST

Find us on

- Kitchen Design & Fitting
- Bathroom Installations
- Bespoke Wardrobes & Storage
- Understairs Solutions & Boot Rooms
- Carpentry, Flooring & Internal Doors
- Full Internal Refurbishments

www.greenspace-interiors.co.uk

TEL: 01926 930 698 | MOB: 07933 652476

Modern Homes

for everything inside your home

CELEBRATING 55 YEARS IN BUSINESS 1968-2023

Call to book a free consultation on 01926 883 338







As a family business in our 56th year of trading we are proud of our exceptional levels of customer care and quality of service.

Let our award winning team manage the planning, design and installation of your new kitchen, bathroom and bedroom.

We will guide you at every stage from concept to completion, ensuring a stress free experience that delivers the room of your dreams.

We have a fantastic team of quality tradesmen from bathroom and kitchen fitters to plasterers, plumbers, builders, carpenters, tilers, decorators and many more. Whatever your project involves we can provide the help you need.

With a wide range of products from market leading British suppliers, quality and value for money is guaranteed.

No matter what your style and taste we can come up with a design perfect for you.

Which? Trusted trader

Kbsa THE HOME SPECIALISTS ASSOCIATION APPROVED

Find us on Facebook and Twitter

www.modernhomesleamington.co.uk

info@modernhomesleamington.co.uk

37 Longfield Road, Leamington Spa, CV31 1XB

preparation for our summer project. Location to be advised – if it's a nice evening, we'll be out and about on the Oxford Canal at Claydon.

We are a small friendly club and welcome anyone with an interest in photography. For more information email me on nicolalewis1958@gmail.com

LADBROKE GENERAL NEWS

LADBROKE HERITAGE

Jackie West & Carol Lane

Heritage and Friendship Group

Shops and shopping was our topic last month and many tales were told. The best by far was from Diane who used to own two ladies' clothes shops in Watford, one sold ladies' wear, the other lingerie. A regular customer at the latter was Mrs W, a lady of very generous proportions, who, each year, purchased three pairs of enormous "grandma's bloomers" in different colours. Then her shopping habits changed and she bought several pairs of small, skimpy knickers. Diane sought clarification, "Mrs W, I've noticed you are buying these rather than your usual underwear, do you have a niece staying with you?" "Oh no dear," Mrs W replied, "They are for me. I peg them my washing line as I couldn't let the neighbours see what I actually wear, what would they think? I have to dry my bloomers inside by the fire!" We will have met already for our June meeting by the time you read this but we extend a warm welcome to any newcomers as well as our regulars at the next one on Wednesday 1st July 10.30am-noon at the Old School. Please contact Carol on 814715 if you would like to join us for some gentle reminiscing over a cuppa and cake.

Guided Tours Large and Small

On Sat 20th June you may notice a lot of visitors wandering round the village soaking up its historic atmosphere, they are from Warwickshire Local History Society, here to discover more about Ladbroke church and village. We don't just give guided tours to clubs and societies; they are available free of charge (though donations to church always welcome) to individuals, families or small groups of friends. Just have a word with Jackie or email ladbrokechurch89@btinternet.com to agree a mutually convenient time.

A Concert Not To Be Missed

Saturday 11th July, 3pm at Ladbroke Church



We are expecting around 30 singers from Kantorei Prenzlau together with their musical director and organist, Hannes Ludwig, and several other musicians. I've seen on Facebook that their musical festival in Prenzlau last month was a resounding success and Hannes has written to say, "We are looking forward very much to coming to your fine church and the 150th birthday of the Hill organ. We will perform works including Bach's Toccata in D-minor, "Swan" and "Fossils" by Saint-Saens and other pieces by Vivaldi, Elgar and Mendelssohn." It sounds brilliant, so put the Wimbledon ladies' tennis final on record and

come along for some live action at Ladbroke Church! All welcome, no tickets required; there will be a retiring donation which the performers wish to go entirely to Church Funds, so please be generous.

1876 - 2026 Celebration

The next instalment of events in the village 150 years ago, as seen through the eyes of Charlotte Errington, the Rector's wife.

Ladbroke Church is restored.

At the same time as the school was built and the children began lessons in Ladbroke, Sir Gilbert Scott had designed the restorations to the church, which had been approved and when the work began, the church had to close. The parishioners had to make their way to Harbury or Bishops Itchington church each Sunday but it was all in a good cause. As we lived so close to the church John, despite suffering an ongoing illness, was deeply involved in everything which was going on and would fetch me to see the latest change – often it was to show me that the state of the building was worse than first thought and was going to cost more to put right.

When the builders removed the plaster from the roof of the nave they thought the structure laid bare was beyond repair. Sir Gilbert Scott came and looked carefully at every rafter and crosspiece and declared that it must be repaired however slow and difficult it was. I don't think the builders were very pleased but even they agreed the results justified all their work. On one exciting day the builders found the life size statue of a recumbent priest under the floor. There was much discussion about which priest it was and the eventual decision was that it represented Roger de Ladbroke who was the rector in 1320. There was much speculation about where it could best be displayed and Sir Gilbert Scott designed an alcove on the South aisle wall for Roger to spend the rest of his days.

The roof of the chancel was flat, hidden behind a parapet, but Sir Gilbert Scott wanted it to be raised. Beams were added with battens to which tiles were attached and the new brick gable on the East end is asymmetrical to hide the fact that the chancel and nave are misaligned.

John came in on another day quite upset about the floor laying. He had been having a very courteous correspondence with Mr Hill, the organ expert and Mr Watson, the main contractor. However, somehow or other, the message that Mr Hill wanted the floor nine inches lower where the organ was to be installed was not relayed to the floor layers and it all went in at the same level. Mr Hill was very good about it and made some modifications so that the organ worked as designed.



There were so many memorials on the walls of the chancel that one was even in the space of a bricked up window. These were moved into the tower which is now separated from the nave by an eight foot high oak screen with intricate carving on the upper portion. The memorials will still be seen by ringers on their way to the steps up to the ringing chamber

and the lime-washed walls of the chancel look so much more dignified now without the clutter of so many memorials to Mr Palmer Morewood's ancestors.

When all the building work was eventually done, there was great excitement when the pews were delivered. Before this the pews had been oblong, ugly things with narrow benches for the working men and women. Now they are made of such beautiful oak with square ends, embellished with tracery panels which are continued along the fronts and backs of each set. This tracery is echoed in the pulpit which is octagonal and stands on a stone base. Then, in the chancel there are two rows of stalls for the choir, the back a bit higher than the front and carved finials on the ends. The altar rail, such an important part of our communion service, is also carved with octagonal shafts.

For many weeks I have been embroidering an altar cloth, from a pattern which Sir Gilbert Scott designed. It is my gift to the church and I wanted it to be as perfect as it could be made.

Lots of other people had given too, probably the most handsome gift was the big East window depicting all the saints for our All Saints church given by Mr Palmer Morewood. This was dedicated to his mother and her father, Admiral Lord Byron (who inherited the title from Byron the poet). Lady Byron gave the Bible, prayer and service books and Mr and Mrs Fawcett gave a handsome brass cross and candlesticks. Mrs Topham has worked a lovely altar kneeler which she presented to us. Obviously, we still had the magnificent communion plate which was presented to the church by Duchess Alice Dudley, two and a half centuries ago.

At last everything was ready for the church to be opened so we set about drawing up the list of all those to be invited to the opening which was to be on Thursday, 6th July. The Bishop and many of the clergy from the surrounding villages were the prominent visitors but the village had much to do with the preparations. The bell ringers pronounced the bells splendid when they came in to practise. The choir were to lead the procession of Bishops and clergy from the Rectory and their surplices had to be laundered to perfection. All the ladies who regularly took part in the flower arranging were consulted for their ideas and we spent the whole of the previous day making the church look beautiful. We were so pleased when our efforts were described as 'the choicest of flowers artistically arranged.' We felt we had not let Sir Gilbert Scott down.

The school had been given two days holiday to recognise this important occasion. The Bishop came early and took the first communion service at 8 o'clock but the main event was at 11 o'clock. The choir boys were very excited as they got into their robes and lined up at the Rectory with the robed clergy and the Bishop in his mitre behind them. They had learned the 66th psalm which starts 'Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious' and they chanted it as they walked across the garden into the church where the organist from our old parish played until everyone was in their places. John took the service and the Bishop preached on a text from Leviticus, 'Observe my Sabbaths and have reverence for my sanctuary'

John and I then led about 50 guests – picked from donors, friends, clergy, Sir George Gilbert Scott, the clerk of works, Mr Hannford, as well as the church wardens - along the road to the new school building where luncheon was served.

The serving of a well-cooked meal was much appreciated. John, who was leading the proceedings, gave the toast of "Church and Queen Victoria". We then toasted the health of the Prince Edward and Princess Alexandra and the 'Health of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese' which was followed by loud applause. He praised the Bishop, thanked him for bringing Mrs Philpot with him and toasted both of them. Everyone cheered at this.



The Bishop expressed his warmest thanks to all present for their kindness in drinking the health of himself and Mrs Philpot. He mentioned that in this area for some years, the work of Church restoration had been carried on most zealously. Indeed, there was hardly a church in this neighbourhood that had not been restored. Southam church was the first that was taken in hand then came, he believed, Upton, Priors Marston, Shuckburgh, Napton, Stockton, Frankton, Priors Hardwick, and Birdingbury. Now they had to add Ladbroke to the list; and from what he could observe and hear, the work had been a difficult and a very costly one. It had been carried out under the careful direction of Sir Gilbert Scott - everybody clapped loudly at that – then he heartily congratulated John on its being brought to its perfect completion that day, and he felt sure that God's blessing would attend it.

To be continued



HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

John Holden – H&L 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

Parish Council Report - Thursday 23rd April 2026

With no items raised under public participation, the meeting was quickly on to discussing two community grant applications. The Library was seeking a grant of £550 to meet half the cost of a new coffee machine. This was quickly agreed to. The other request was from the PTA for bicycle racks and shelters. The total cost of the project was around £12,000 and far beyond what the PC could fund. The PTA representative did say that they had some funds already, had fundraising events coming up and were exploring other grant opportunities. Councillors were sympathetic towards this project. They did wonder if the cost of the project could be reduced, particularly with the cost of the concrete bases and suggested asking the PC contractor for a price. The Chairman proposed funding the cost of one of the shelters which was £2040 which was agreed to. They also suggested a number of organisations to approach for further funding.

Other Organisations

Liz Ball the Library lead who had been present for the cafe grant application gave an update on the Library. The cafe is facing challenges, firstly with the long serving cafe lead retiring and no replacement coming forward. Also a number of regular volunteers have recently retired.

Susan Ostrander in her report gave an update on the South Warwickshire Local Plan. During May the draft plan will go to both District Councils for ratification. The plan will then be published with a final public consultation period. She stressed the importance of having a plan in place as without one, developers can have a free rein in making planning applications. There was then a discussion of what the status of an adopted plan would be on a re-organised



A much-loved and carefully managed place of peace and natural beauty where loved ones can be laid to rest in growing native woodland and wildflower meadows.

01295 688488
sunrising.co.uk



W. Goodwin & Sons
Funeral Directors
38 Coventry Street, Southam
CV47 0EP
Telephone: 01926 812445
Private Chapels of Rest
Monument Service provided

Generations of Care

R.Locke & Son
Independent Family Funeral Directors – Est 1853

As a family owned business serving our local area, we take great pride in offering a dedicated and compassionate service.

For more information about our services, to view our funeral announcements and online donations, please visit

www.rlockeandson.co.uk

Traditional / Simple services - Direct Cremation
Natural burial - Pre-paid funeral plans

No 6 The Precinct, Wellesbourne, CV35 9NL
t. 01789 840744
Offices also at Brailes, Kineton & Shipston

GOLDEN CHARTER FUNERAL PLANS

MEMBER SAIF



T.M. & J.M. GREY BUILDERS
NHBC

KITCHENS - BATHROOMS - WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES
EXTENSIONS - ALTERATIONS - RENOVATIONS
GREY GABLES, 46 BANBURY ROAD, SOUTHAM CV47 1HJ
☎ Southam 01926 817744 Mobile: 07885 495384
Email: tmgrey@tiscali.co.uk

HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Unit 2, Bull Ring Business Centre
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 contact the Parish Clerk



Warwickshire, particularly if a single unitary Authority for all of Warwickshire was the Governments decision. Cllr Ostrander thought it may well be binding (but would check), the Chairman and Cllr Kettle thought less so.

The District Council is still looking at identifying its five years supply of housing development. At present the Council was finding it difficult to resist some planning applications. She cited Cotswold DC where they were withdrawing from an appeal for a large housing development at Moreton in Marsh, as there was little prospect of the Council winning the appeal. Also Warwick DC was under threat of special measures, as it was losing too many planning appeals on applications that they had initially refused. Special measures would mean the Council would lose control of determining planning applications!

Cllr Kettle said that for the first time WCC Highways had commented on a large scale planning application at Bishops Itchington. This application had been linked with another large application in Bishops and the Highways Department was seeking an assessment of the projected increase in local traffic for these two applications together. He also advised that the streetlights on the pavement near to Henry's in Bush Heath Lane would be installed soon. The Chairman raised the issue of potholes! Cllr Kettle advised that WCC now had 14 teams in south Warwickshire repairing potholes. A resident then raised the question of the state of repair of the pavements in the village. The response was that basically WCC after meeting its statutory obligations has limited funds to allocate to roads and pavement maintenance. However specific areas of damaged pavements should always be reported.

Planning

There was no representation to applications for extensions at: 5 Deppers Bridge, Hazebrook at the Pound and at Pans Garden in Farm Street. On the application for an extension to Pool Cottage the Council felt this was an improvement on the previous one, which was for demolition of the cottage and construction of two town style houses. The PCC would submit an objection on the basis that they felt the proposed garage was too tall and also there was little detail on the type of materials to be used.

Properties

Work to regularise the size of the plots at the Hall Lane allotments has started. Also a review of the water storage and harvesting system has been undertaken to see what repairs would be necessary. The repairs to the wall on Hall Lane should commence in May.

Climate and Biodiversity

A local nature action plan is going to be developed. This initially will record significant trees in the Parish which are not subject to a Tree Preservation Order. Then the ownership of public spaces will be recorded. Some of the swift boxes that were installed are delaminating and the Council agreed to replace these.

Finance & General Purposes

The Council general purposes reserves are at the top end of the recommended limits. It was agreed to move £50k to the Skate Park renewal reserve.

Finally, requests have been received asking for permission to metal detect on parish council owned land. It was felt that permission should not be granted to detect on the playing fields but could be done on the village greens.

Next Meeting – Thursday 28th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Annual Parish Meeting - 7th May 2026

This is the meeting where the Parish Council Chairman and the Chairs of the various Council

sub committees give a report on their activities over the last year. Also a number of village organisations (some who have received grants from the Council) provide a report on their activities. Sadly there were only seven members of the public at the meeting to hear all this.

Chairman Tim Lockley started proceedings with his report concentrating on two themes Firstly Planning and the threat from planning applications already submitted and some on their way. Tim felt that it was likely that at least some of the applications would be approved. If that was so, the village infrastructure and services would not be similarly upgraded. The issue with Southam sewage works being at capacity and the requirement on Severn Trent to connect to new developments was concerning.

There was also the upcoming issue of local government re-organisation. The PC favoured the two authorities option – a south Warwickshire and separate north Warwickshire authority, over a combined Warwickshire wide authority. This would fit in with the soon to be finalised South Warwickshire Local Plan.

Properties

The main activity over the year was the Hall Lane allotments – confirming which plots were rented and looking to get the boundary wall repaired and at the same time provide an access to the plots. The working party members undertake weekly checks on the playground equipment which is also a requirement of the insurance policy. Then the Cemetery is nearly full, whilst there is no requirement for the PC to provide a new cemetery. The Council is looking for a new site and is building up a reserve fund to meet the establishment costs.



Repairs underway to the allotments boundary wall

Environment

The PC programme to replace footpath stiles with gates has continued helped by the Footpath Group. The Council owns about 120 streetlamps in the Village (WCC owns the lights in Deppers Bridge). This year the Council will commence a programme to replace the bulbs with LED ones. This saves money in running costs and they will last longer.

Planning

The Council is appreciative of those who make comments to planning applications. Also it is reliant on members of the public to report noncompliance of planning regulations.

Finance & General Purposes

The Council is building its earmarked reserves for two main projects. Replacement of the Skate Board Park and for a new cemetery.

Climate & Biodiversity

This working party was re-launched in March 2025 and the main objective over the next few months will be the establishment of a Local Nature Action Plan.

Cllr Kettle – WCC

Although not able to attend the meeting, Cllr Kettle had submitted a report. One of his main focus had been with surface water flooding. Cemetery Corner now sorted and does not flood. The corner of Church Terrace and Bull Ring Farm Road is still an issue with flooding despite the drains having been jetted.

Village Organisations

A number of clubs and societies had submitted reports to the PC and these are included in the Annual Parish Meeting booklet. These included: Library and Biblio's, Village Show, Heritage Group, e-Wheels, Swift Project, Village Hall, Primary School, Harbury RFC, Harbury Society, GASS, Harbury & Ladbroke News and the Twinning Association.

Current Parish Council members contactable via the Parish Office are:

Tim Lockley (Chairman), Julie Balch (Vice-Chair), Samantha Allen, Kate Gard, Michael Goodman, Alan Knowles, Ed Mulley, Robert Stockdale, Ashley Sylvester, Keith Thompson.

HARBURY SOCIETY

David Turner

Knowing One's Place: rural crime & punishment in the late 19th century



Michael Luntley is very well-known in the village and he kindly stepped in on the 21st April for the advertised speaker who had suffered a health problem. He explained he had come across a story about a woman, Mary Taylor from Chipping Camden, who had been sent down for seven days hard labour because of a disturbance at the church. The charge was riotous, violent and indecent behaviour. The evidence was not great. He said the story was a depressingly familiar one and understanding her situation – knowing one's place! Michael said there are two interpretations for this; one is not getting above yourself, a form of oppression. The second is belonging somewhere, home is where the heart is, attached to a place that holds the stories that matter to you.

Michael found out about Mary Taylor quite by accident – he was researching the life of Joseph Arch. Following a meeting in 1872 at Wellesbourne, where Arch addressed some 2000 agricultural workers, the National Agricultural Labourers Union was established with Arch as its president. He was also a Primitive Methodist preacher. The services of Primitive Methodists were far less elaborate than for conventional Methodists and was more suited to agricultural workers. Harbury had once had a Primitive Methodist chapel in Mill Street and the minister was a close associate of Joseph Arch.



Joseph Arch

Michael discovered that the Museum of English Rural Life in Reading held the records of the Agricultural Workers Union, which had incorporated Joseph Arch's union, plus two of his notebooks. He couldn't resist the temptation to pay them a visit to see what Joseph Arch had written in his notebooks. So he sent them an email and arranged to have the notebooks brought out from the archive and drove to Reading. He sat at a desk, with baited breath, waiting for them to be delivered. When they arrived, Michael was dismayed to discover how boring they were – apart from two items they contained pages and pages of his travelling expenses, listing his fare for getting to villages, what he paid

for his supper etc. One item was about a young woman who he came across by the name of Mary Ann Morrgeston, she was 17 years old and had been at work for two years. Discovering she was rather clever, Arch felt compelled to improve her prospects. He made a memo to get his wife, Annie, to find her something better. Michael said he has no idea how that ended.

The other item was about Mary Taylor of Chipping Campden. In July 1876 she was sent to Gloucester Gaol for seven days hard labour for going into Campden Church to take her daughter from the altar to prevent her marrying a Roman Catholic. She was summonsed by two church wardens. It stated that the mother, Mary Taylor, had borne 21 children and was 66 years of age with no previous stain on her character. The magistrates were Rev. Bourke of Western Subedge who was the chairman, Mr Bartletts and Mr Johnson. Mr Bartletts and Mr Johnson begged hard for her release but the chairman insisted upon a conviction without the option of a fine even though her husband, 71 years of age, also begged for one.

Michael thought that, even for the time, seven days hard labour was a harsh outcome. He wondered why Joseph Arch had noted it and also why was Mary protesting about the marriage and what was the nature of the protest? He was also intrigued by the fact she had been summonsed by the church wardens and decided to investigate.

He discovered that the Evesham Journal of Saturday May 20, 1876 had reported the case of 'disgraceful conduct in a church' at the Petty Sessions where Mary Taylor, of Campden, pleaded guilty, and expressed sorrow for her conduct. The curate of Campden, Rev. T. B. Champney, stated that he was performing the rite of matrimony between Mary Taylor's daughter and a Michael Keough, when the defendant entered the church and interrupted the service but stated that he did not hear her use bad language.

The Chairman asked whether either of the parties were under age to which Rev. Champney replied that Mary Taylor (the daughter) was 24 and the bridegroom 28.

A police sergeant, Rose, had been present at the service at the request of the vicar because he had an idea that there would be a little unpleasantness. He followed close up behind the defendant, and heard her make use of very bad language towards the bride. She also caught hold of the bride, and using very disgusting expressions towards the bridegroom, tried to get the bride to come away.

When the sergeant took hold of the defendant to remove her, she used language towards him which he said was 'unfit for publication', and he had to use force to remove her from the church.

Michael found in the 1871 census Mary Taylor, the mother, aged 56 at the time, is listed as living at Watery Lane Campden with John Taylor, a drover, aged 56. The daughter, Mary Taylor, aged 19 at the time, who was a gloveress (glove maker). At the time of the case, this would make Mary the mother 60 (not 66), John, the father 61 (not 71) and Mary, the daughter, 24 (as stated in court).

The Parish Register of May 15, 1876, lists Michael Keough, also as a glover aged 28 who is a widower, with two young children, from Chipping Norton and Mary Taylor, aged 24, a spinster of Chipping Campden.

Michael then went on to discuss 'how the law works, who prosecutes and sentencing norms'.

We looked at some of the cases that were reported in the Evesham Journal around that time.

William Lyddiat, an old man of Broad Compton, convicted of stealing 17 eggs, sentence: ten days hard labour.

Anne Cartwright a labourer of Oldbury, convicted of stealing a pair of boots, sentence: six months hard labour.

Henry Pooler, a hawker, was sentenced to one month hard labour; Thomas Yarnold, a labourer with previous convictions for felony, was given jail for 12 months together with seven years police surveillance; Richard Dadford, a labourer, was convicted of stealing a duck at Hartlebury and was sentenced to six months hard labour.

In 1876 the weekly wage of a labourer was 12 shillings and the cost of a dozen eggs was 11 pence the equivalent of 7.7% of the weekly wage of a labourer. A duck was worth five shillings in 1876 which was the equivalent of 41% of the weekly wage of a labourer. Michael made the point that if someone went in to the Co-op and came out with a dozen eggs without paying it hardly deserved a custodial sentence even though a dozen eggs cost proportionally more then. Even so, the sentencing at petty sessions, the forerunner of the magistrates court, was extremely harsh for people of no property. Michael explained that, prior to 1879, there was no state prosecution, it wasn't undertaken by any official and that the complainant was the prosecutor. The only role of the police was to give evidence. A petty session is a bit like a tribunal in that the person who'd lost 17 eggs prosecutes the defendant and the police may or may not give evidence with no state function in the case whatsoever, leaving the bench to decide the matter. After 1879 the police set up their own legal departments and they prosecuted cases. That situation remained until the Crown Prosecution Service was established. In the case of Mary Taylor the prosecutors are the church wardens – they complain and prosecute Mary for violent behaviour in church. The only evidence against her is the policeman who, in close proximity, claimed she had used bad language, though the curate who was also in close proximity stated he had not heard her use bad language.

Was this why Joseph Arch had shown interest in the case? Michael said that in 1876 these people didn't really count for very much, they weren't people of property and, in the 19th century, this mattered.

Michael quoted John Adams, one of the authors of the American Constitution, who asked 'why do we restrict the vote to people of property?' He said that 'those without property are dependent on the will of others'. In other words if you don't own property, you are beholden to others and you don't have the will to contribute to the common purpose politically. Michael then made the point that this idea would not have been so compelling were it not for the enclosures. Mary, and the other people in court, would once have held land in common and it was taken off them when the commons were enclosed, thus depriving them of status within society. Michael said that we don't often think about enclosures in England and in a way Mary Taylor was a refugee in her own country, with no sense of place. He said that this story matters as a reflection of what society did to people who once knew their place but had it taken off them.

That concluded Michael's talk and, following answering a number of questions, he was thanked by Chair Ed and warmly applauded by the audience.

Harbury Society Programme

Saturday 13th June – Harbury Carnival.
Thursday 2nd July – A visit to Warwickshire Lavender Farm, Bubbenhall.
Tuesday 18th August – Visit to the Court Barn Museum, Chipping Campden.

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

Mary Thompson

Our meeting on 14th May proved to be a very well attended and lively affair – maybe something to do with it clashing with World Cocktail Day. Fiona created and served a delicious selection of cocktails and mocktails with names such as Vodka and Cranberry Blush, Aperol Spritz and Passionfruit and Elderflower Spritz. There was plenty of fun and laughter throughout the evening with a quiz provided by Lin and a game of "Pin the Tail on the Donkey".

As well as enjoying ourselves we continued to raise money for the Esther Project through a plant and material remnant sale.









The more serious part of the meeting left us discussing the two resolutions which will be voted on at the National AGM which will be streamed in the Village Hall at a picnic party attended by Harbury members and members from local WIs on 4th June.

Chris ably led us through the discussion. The first one being about the need for increased public toilet provision. In 2004 there were 6,600 public toilets but in 2026 there are 3,300. Local authorities have reduced budgets and there is no legal requirement to provide them.



What's Coming Up at...

THE BELL INN, LADBROKE

QUIZ NIGHT

Monday 8th June | £15pp

Food served at 6:30pm | Quiz starts at 8pm

Get your thinking caps on and round up your team for another evening of fun, friendly competition, and great prizes. Delicious Buttermilk Chicken Burgers will be served at 6:30pm with the first round of the Quiz starting at 8pm.

FATHER'S DAY AT THE BELL

Sunday 21st June | Booking Essential

Save the date and get booked in to spoil Dad with a delicious hearty Roast and a Pint or two this Father's Day.

ITALIAN NIGHT

Friday 26th June

Join us for a delicious Italian-inspired menu, featuring our house Negronis, refreshing summer spritzes, and a carefully selected range of Italian wines.

bellinn@freespiritpubs.co.uk

01926 811224

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



ADVERTISING IN THE HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

EMAIL: ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK

	¼ PAGE	½ PAGE	FULL PAGE
1 MONTH	£13.75	£25.00	£45.00
3 MONTHS	£37.00	£65.00	£119.00
6 MONTHS	£67.00	£120.00	£218.00
12 MONTHS	£124.00	£218.00	£406.00

Adverts with payment to:
Sue Dronfield,
36 Manor Orchard, Harbury
See Diary for deadline dates

Cheques payable to 'Harbury & Ladbroke News' or BACS details upon request



Simons Systems



Available for all your computer requirements including:
PC's & Laptops, New & used systems, Repairs & upgrades
Virus/Malware Removal, Data back & Windows re-installation
Upgrading memory/Hard drives/Rom drives/Graphics, etc
Internet - modems fitted, wireless.
Any repairs or computer problems. ***No call out charge***

T: 01926 316 119 E: sales@simons-systems.co.uk
M: 07751 811 097 W: www.simons-systems.co.uk

There is a Public Toilet Scheme where local businesses partner with local councils to allow the public to use their toilet facilities free of charge. Such businesses display a sticker and receive a small payment from the council to cover costs. Women use public toilets more frequently than men for a variety of reasons so very important that members support the resolution.

The second resolution concerned the problem of Women's Homelessness. Women are often the hidden homeless; sofa surfing, sleeping on a night bus or A&E waiting room, hiding in woodlands. It is said that if you sleep on the streets, you may not be an addict at the start but after a short time you may well be, because life is so appalling. This resolution links with our support for the Esther Project in Leamington.

Needless to say our members unanimously voted to support both resolutions.

June is going to be a busy month for our members. 19 ladies will be attending the WI Group meeting which will be hosted by Ladbroke WI in Harbury Village Hall on 10th June at 7.30pm.

At our monthly meeting in the Tom Hauley Room on 11th June, John Parnell will be talking about Hula Hooping for all ages. Visitors always welcome.

Finally look out for our Walking Tableau at the Carnival on 13th June and support the Cake Stall which will be raising more funds for the Esther Project.

WI Community Grants

Harbury WI use the profit they make from the Rural Cinema to create a Community Fund. We have used this fund in the past to give grants to local organisations such as Playgroup, PTA, Harbury Library, Tom Hauley Room, Heritage Centre, Swift boxes. Toddler group and the Village Hall.

We would now like to invite Harbury organisations to apply for a grant for a specific project. Application forms and details can be picked up from Harbury Library and should be returned to Lin Hayes, Corner Cottage, Bull Ring, Harbury by 31st July.



FOLK CLUB

Michael Luntley

Our theme was 'dance'. Well, it was May. Time for a spring in the step and everyone found they had something that spoke to the theme.

I opened with 'Keep on dancing', a protest song inspired, in part, by Bill Tidy's 'Cloggies' - dance as a form of unarmed combat! But inspiration came in all sizes and forms including: Rik with 'waltzing for dreamers', a gentle and touching 'Ladies go dancing at Whitsun' from Sue and Maureen, Terry with 'Queen of the May', Kim with Sandy Denny's 'Dancing tonight', Pete and Liz with 'Can you dance the polka' and a totally unforgettable, joyous and hilarious rendition of Les Barker's 'You're in the Morris Team' beautifully sung by the 'Daft Dames'. And that's just a taste of the first half.

We refreshed, bought raffle tickets and then launched into more dance related music, highlights of which included the Choir's 'May song', Peter McD's 'sing me a song Mr Bloom', Jason's 'She took off her shoes and danced in the rain', Peter's 'Whisky on a Sunday', and a lively performance from 'Rumble O', a six piece outfit, but five on the night as their guitarist was marooned at Euston! And yet, with their harmonies and four instruments on show, a great act to take us towards the end. But there was still more...

We concluded the evening with a set of dance tunes played by too many to mention around the room joining in. (Just a thought, has anyone ever formed a band called 'too many to mention'? If not, why not?)

Joyous stuff. And while enjoying ourselves with 'dance' related music, we raised £79 for Cancer UK. Well done everyone! Let's do it all again next month, when the theme is flora and fauna.

HARBURY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

John Stringer

French Twinning Weekend 2026

Another twinning weekend has passed in a whirl of events. Old friendships were renewed; new friendships made. About seventy people from Harbury and from Samois sur Seine engaged in shared activities in the village; next year we shall be hosted in turn by our French partners.



Our visitors assembled for Pimms and nibbles on Friday 15th May, and our French friends were warmly and wittily welcomed by the Chair of the Parish Council, Tim Lockley, before retiring to people's homes for dinner or to one of the local pubs. Malcolm Tanner's photograph shows many of us filling the restaurant at the Shakespeare Inn.

On Saturday, our guests walked the village, led by guides from the Heritage Centre, before lunching in Wendy's beautiful garden in Hall Lane. We gathered together on Saturday night to be despatched on a safari supper, planned by Sharon Hancock and Sally Stringer, in the homes of members, finally reuniting to enjoy cheeses (significantly mostly British) in Mill Street.

Sunday saw our guests go on outings around Harbury, and then enjoying a petanque (boules) competition with tea and scones at Jenny and Andrew Patrick's.

Finally, we all came together at the Village Hall for a bring and share dinner, with entertainment from the Harbury Morris Side led by Peter Macdonald, who then bravely directed a motley and merry international collection of dancers and amateurs in an impromptu folk dance.

Huge thanks are due to Celia Neill and Sue Crum, our co-chairs, to all the committee, to members and non-members, to Bill Timson and the Heritage Centre, to Wendy's catering, to Harbury Morris, and everyone who contributed to the success of the weekend.

Reluctantly, we bid our visitors farewell on Monday the 18th. Next year in Samois!



'French Farewell' taken by Bryan Reid

To find out more about Harbury Twinning Association, to share in our activities and maybe join us, search Harbury Twinning Association on Facebook, or try harburytwinning.org.uk. French speaking is not required; you'll be surprised how much comes back to you from schooldays, or from 'Allo, 'allo…

HARBURY HERITAGE CENTRE

Bill Timson



Another year has gone by and it's carnival time again! In the Heritage Centre there are hundreds of photographs of Harbury's carnivals, wheelbarrow races and even some of the pub games, like the one shown opposite in 2014 which take place in the week leading up to the carnival.

The first mention I could find relating to a fete, not a carnival was in 1957 on the village playing fields, organised by the Village Hall Trust Committee which was given permission to go ahead by the Parish Council. The date was June 8th (the second Saturday in the month) a date that has become a regular one for recent carnivals to traditionally take place. The profit made on that day in 1957 went towards the building of the new village hall opened in 1962. I understand that Sutcliffe Pastures, where Sutcliffe Drive is now, had also been a venue for Harbury Carnival or Summer Fete. Indeed I was also told that land beyond the old police house in South Parade was yet another venue at one time.



Traditionally, the carnival parade starts in Sutcliffe Drive, where the judging of the floats and walking entrants takes place prior to parading around the village en route to the playing fields behind the village hall. A band often leads the parade closely followed by a vehicle carrying the carnival king and queen.

In our archives we have a list of all of the carnival kings and queens dating back to 1972, there may have been more before this date and we would welcome your help in updating the list if you know of any. In 1972, Yvonne Smith, shown opposite, was carnival queen but with no attendants, the following year it was Rose Clarke with one attendant, Susan Hitchman. After that each queen had two attendants until 1995 when a major turning point happened which even made the national newspapers. By breaking with the long-standing tradition of having only a carnival queen, who was Gillian Kerr, she was now joined by the first Carnival King, Dean Merrick. *The Daily Telegraph* ran a story about Harbury's politically correct Youth Club where twelve girls and nine boys stood for election by the membership; Gillian and Dean being selected as the eventual winners.



Tom & Jess

The pattern was now set and every year following 1995 both a king and queen was elected, no attendants though. Today the king and queen are referred to by their first name only, for safeguarding reasons. The king and queen from 2003 are shown opposite.

As in recent years Harbury Heritage will be joining with the Harbury Society in running a stall at the carnival. Come and say hello and have a go on our games, try to answer our quiz and have your photograph taken holding the FIFA World Cup Football Trophy! **Yes**, **amazingly**, it will be there, on show! 😉

SEE YOU THERE!

Other News

Presentation of the Harbury World War Memorial Book

On the 21st April a copy of the Harbury World War Memorial Book was presented to All Saints Church by the Harbury Heritage Group. The photographs shows Bill Timson and David Turner presenting the book to the Reverend Andy Batchelor in front of the War Memorial inside the Church.





The 48 page, spiral bound, hard back book was designed by David and contains biographies of all of the servicemen listed on the village's war memorial. Harbury Parish Council kindly donate half of the funding for the book which will sit by the War Memorial board inside the church.

There is also a copy in the Heritage Centre and a copy was gifted to Sharon Hancock who carried out much of the research included in the book.

The Parish Council website has all of the details included in the book including information taken from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

Tour de French!



On Saturday 16th May our Twinning visitors from Samois-sur-Seine arrived at the Heritage Centre for coffee before setting off on a tour around the village to find out more about its history. The tour party was split into two groups of around twenty plus in each group, starting at the Manor House and ending at 'Wits End' in Hall Lane where they were served with a buffet lunch. Lesley and Steve Garrison, David Turner and myself conducted the tours spoken in French! We had a lovely morning with our guests despite a light shower of rain. They were

each presented with the gift of an A3 colourful map of the village to take home as a memento of their visit.

Heritage Centre Opening Times

In June: Tuesday 2nd 7 to 9pm and Saturday 20th 2 to 4pm.
Please note the Saturday opening in June due to Father's Day on the 21st.
In July: Tuesday 7th 7 to 9pm and Sunday 19th 2 to 4pm.

If you haven't been yet, why not pay a visit to our award-winning Heritage Centre, entrance via the school gate in Park Lane?

HARBURY E-WHEELS

Bob Sherman

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

Volunteer Coordinators needed for e-Wheels

Harbury e-Wheels is looking for one or more volunteers to join our small but (almost) perfectly formed team and help process email requests for transport. The award winning charity has been providing free transport since 2015 to people referred to us and we cannot do it without our essential volunteer coordinators. We will provide a full induction and plenty of support. Coordinators do a week on and five or six off (depending how many coordinators we have), so it's not too onerous. Time commitment in your duty week will vary but isn't normally more than a few hours.

If you would like to know more or think you can help, please email me: shermanbob55@gmail.com

HARBURY TENNIS CLUB

Colin Mercer

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

As I'm writing it's the first heatwave of the year and thoughts naturally turn to Wimbledon which often inspires people to try tennis or get back to playing after a break. To encourage this, we're offering free courts for the Wimbledon fortnight, Monday 29th June to Sunday 12th July. They can be booked online at: clubspark.lta.org.uk/HarburyTC/Booking



We played our first social tournament of the new season, the Chequebook/BACS, organised by Maka Kandola. It took place in lovely spring sunshine with 13 competitors participating starting with the fun 'one point slam' with David Bristow triumphing. The main competition saw many evenly matched games in the 'round robin' stage with Nigel and Eira defeating Sandy and John in the final to become BACS champions 2026.





In the Banbury Summer League, the "A" team started its Division 1 season with a home match on a cold, wet and windy evening. Eira Owen, Jeunine Crabtree, Lucy Ewen, Ben Fish, James Cattrell and George McGowan took on last year's runners-up Byfield "A". There were some close games, but Byfield went home with a 7-2 win. The "B" team chalked up its first win against Banbury "B" in a hard-fought match. Ian Reynolds, James Edge, and Jordan Pratt won the 3 men's doubles and then partnered Helen Cooper, Jane Minchin and Clare Callaghan to win the mixed doubles for a 6-3 win.

It was also a first win for the team in the Warwickshire Seniors League. Eira Owen, Sue Johnson, Nigel Eaton and Colin Mercer went to Snitterfield and enjoyed a 5-3 win. The first 3 rubbers were all halved, but Sue and Nigel won their mixed to clinch the overall win.

Friday coaching is in full swing and *coolsportz* coach Ian Shorrocks is running sessions for Juniors (4.00-6.00pm) and Adult Beginners/Improvers (6.00-7.00pm), Lianne Candappa is taking the Ladies' group from 9.30am – 10.30am. All sessions are open to non-members, and you can come along for a free trial. Ian also runs a Pickleball session from 3.00-4.00pm, a cross between tennis, badminton and pin-pong. It's fun and social, easy to pick up and low impact.

For more details of any of the sessions, or individual lessons, please contact Lianne at: Lianne@coolsportz.co.uk or phone/text her on 07919 104093.

The Club offers affordable tennis and welcomes players of all ages and standards and offer a 4-week free trial. For more details contact Colin at sucolmercer@me.com

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL

Staff and Committee

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Author Visit

It was very exciting to welcome to our Pre-school Helene Phillips, author of 'Bog and the Paper Boat', visiting last week. We split into two smaller groups for the session and Helene read her book to all in attendance.









The children loved the wonderfully imaginative story about the adventures of a man called 'Bog'. Helene helped to make the story come alive using her props for Bog and paper boats that we had made ready for the event. The children helped with other props during the story by using their hands to create a 'rock' and then an 'iceberg'. Many of the children wanted to use scissors to bravely reshape their paper boat as happened in the story, creating something new that was perfect for the giant!

After the story the children used coloured pens and crayons to decorate some more paper boats, then following discussions about what we thought could happen, we all went outside to test the boats (at creator's risk!) floating them on water in our large water tray.

We will be revisiting this lovely story in future weeks.

Nifty Needle

Curtains and Soft Furnishing

Nifty Needle specialise in creating stylish custom curtains, blinds and soft furnishings, individually designed to create beautiful solutions.
Free measuring service.

At our shop in Kineton we now stock a range of home wares, including lamps, cushions, footstools and other items to accessorise your home.

We're open Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm
and Saturday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Nifty Needle Curtain Workroom, 1 Banbury Street, Kineton, Warwickshire, CV35 0JS
Tel: 01926 641741 E-mail: info@niftyneedle.co.uk Website: www.niftyneedle.co.uk



The Hide by SQUAB

Great coffee, tasty food, and a cosy place to meet, work or unwind.

EAT IN OR TAKE AWAY • LUNCH BUFFETS AVAILABLE

The Hide Away – a peaceful seating area at the back, perfect for a quiet escape or catching up with friends.

The Hide Away

Book The Hide Away for... private dining, afternoon teas, creative workshops, markets, book clubs, community meet-ups, or even intimate music and poetry sessions.



Pop in, grab a coffee, and make yourself at home!

Squab Hall Farm, Harbury Lane, Leamington Spa, CV33 9QB
Mon-Fri, 8.30am-3.00pm
thehide@squab.co.uk | thehide_bysquab



ESTATE AND LETTING AGENT

Harbury's trusted, top rated estate agency

Local, family-run business

Bespoke marketing package

Drone & cinematic video

No sale, no fee

BOOK YOUR FREE VALUATION

01926 919553
enquiries@hawthornandco.co.uk
www.hawthornandco.co.uk

CHRIS HILL M.C.I.A.T

LOCAL DESIGN PRACTICE TO PREPARE PLANS FOR YOUR IDEAL HOME

EVER THOUGHT OF EXTENDING YOUR HOME?

DOES IT HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CHANGE?

DO YOU NEED MORE SPACE?



CONTACT
CALL: 01926 613780 (EVENINGS)
07772199266 (MOBILE)
EMAIL: CHRISHILL100@BTINTERNET.COM

GardenAid Services

Our services include

- Lawn mowing & edges
- Borders and beds
- Hedges & shrub trimming and pruning
- Leaf clearance
- General garden maintenance

Contact Aid:
Aidsgarden@gmail.com
07447967861



Tadpoles



We have been learning all about frogspawn, tadpoles, froglets and frogs. We then met the preschool tadpoles! We are going to observe them over the next few weeks and see how they grow and develop before we set them free.

The children helped set up some props to create a 'pond' with a log for five little speckled frogs.

We sang the song together and each child had a turn to make a frog jump into the pond at the appropriate moment. We then all counted together to see how many were left. The children did some great counting and used their fingers to represent numbers.

After singing the song we looked at a set of models showing the lifecycle of a frog, identifying together the changes at each stage from frogspawn to fully grown frog.

Ladybirds

As part of our learning around life cycles, we have been looking at ladybirds. The children have been looking at their features and painting some lovely representations.

They have also enjoyed painting 'ladybird' pebbles, adding spots and eyes to their pebble stones.

We are looking forward to some real life ladybirds and caterpillars being delivered to our Pre-School after half term.

If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please email enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk, text 07907 598461 or visit www.harburypre-school.org.uk 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

OPAL Play

Outdoor Play and Learning has begun at Harbury, and we have made excellent progress since January. We now have a variety of new resources, including a sandpit, ride-on toys, small world play areas, a mud kitchen, and several digging pits.

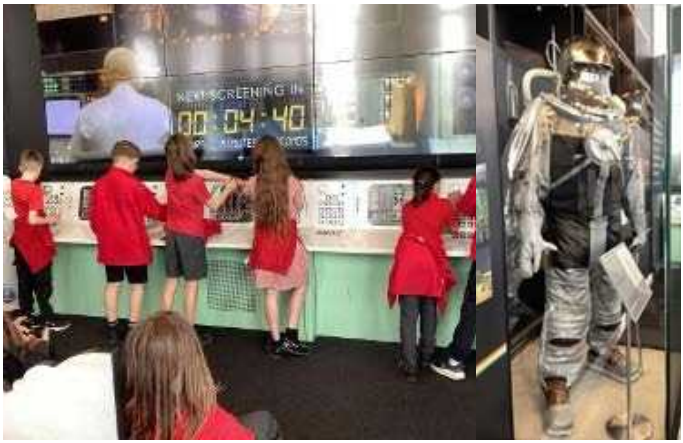
These additions have transformed lunchtime play, providing children with more opportunities for creativity, exploration, and active learning in an engaging outdoor environment







Year 5 visit to The Space Centre



Year 5 recently enjoyed an exciting and memorable trip to the National Space Centre in Leicester, where pupils had the opportunity to bring their learning to life as part of their Science topic on Space.

From the moment they arrived, the children demonstrated our school values of being Ready, Respectful and Safe. They were eager to learn, listened carefully, and behaved impeccably throughout the day, making the staff incredibly proud.

The trip provided a fantastic hands-on experience, allowing pupils to explore fascinating exhibits, deepen their understanding of space exploration, and discover more about planets, astronauts and the universe beyond our Earth. It was clear to see how engaged and enthusiastic they were, with many exciting stories to share on their return. This visit provided a brilliant enhancement to the Year 5 Science curriculum and will no doubt inspire continued curiosity and learning in the classroom.

Swift Assembly



We had a fabulous presentation from Amanda Randall in assembly this morning all about the Superstar Swifts project.

It was full of WOWs (swifts can travel up to 500 miles a day!), OWs (swift numbers are sadly declining), and NOWs (the Harbury Swift Village Project helping to protect them). It linked beautifully to our spirituality windows of WOW, OWS and NOWS, encouraging the children to be amazed by the world around them, reflect on challenges facing our environment, and think about how they can make a difference through Love in Action — actually doing something to help others and our world.

Your child will be bringing home a swift fact file, which includes ideas for how families can help swifts locally. There is also a competition to write a SWIFT acrostic poem. If your child would like to take part, please return their poem to Harbury Library before 24th June

Let's hope the sunny weather continues so we can make the most of our amazing school grounds.

Fundraising

Our school community has continued to benefit from valuable experiences and improvements this term. Recent spending included £1,523 on the OPAL set-up to enhance outdoor play and learning opportunities, £100 for coaches to Southam Athletics competitions, £400 for coaches to the Ashmolean Museum for Year 3, and £250 for the Reception trip to Ryton Pools, which either subsidise or entirely pay for these experiences for the children which enrich their life experiences.

Donations to the PTA!! Wow!!

We are also delighted to share that we received a fabulous donation of £2,430 from the Parish Council towards a new bike shelter for the school. We are incredibly grateful for their support as we need to raise £10K to be able to complete our project.



We are running a design your own bike shelter to raise more funds, the winner will be announced in school on the 8th June and the **winner receives a £25** voucher for **Rockinghams Southam**!!! Good Luck!!!

Sponsored Walk

We have just completed our annual **Sponsored Walk**, which was a really successful event enjoyed by all. If you would still like to support our fundraising efforts for the bike shelter, donations can be made easily by scanning the QR code:







Dates for the Diary

- 19th June – Father's Day Event
- 27th June – Open Gardens
- 3rd July – Sports Day Brunch!

Lottery

Please email harburypta@gmail.com for more details. You could win up to £88 each month and even more the more people that get involved!



HARBURY LIBRARY & BIBLIO'S CAFE

Michael Luntley

Ch..ch...ch...ch...ch...ch...ch...changes...

Changes are moments to stop, reflect, say our farewells, re-group and then move on. We've said goodbye to a number of wonderful volunteers who have helped run and care for Biblio's cafe over many years. But now we need to pick it all up, dust it all down and keep Biblio's moving on.

We are looking for new volunteers to help run Biblio's. We are flexible. There is scope for morning shifts that need not start until 9.30. There is scope for shifts that finish before final wipe-down. If you've got a spare couple of hours in the morning - Wednesday through Saturday - drop your name in to the cafe, or to the volunteers on the Library desk. Alternatively you can contact Ruth - trustee for Biblio's - at bibliostrustee@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk

Regulars will have noticed we have had a screen installed on the end wall. We're still setting up the arrangements for display, but this will soon be carrying notices about our events - both regular and one-off bookings and, once it is up and running, we might include listings for other happenings around the village. Watch this space

It's Garden Walkabout on Saturday & Sunday 27th & 28th June. Garden guide books will be available from the Library both days, In addition, we have a new initiative this year. The Library will be hanging a poem in each of the gardens that are open. For the main part, these will selected from poems shared at the Library's monthly 'poems and a pint.' At the time of writing, all gardeners approached have enthusiastically embraced the idea of having a poem on display amongst their flowers. Some of us will be wandering around over the week-end and giving readings of the poems. In addition, members of Harbury Theatre Group have volunteered to take part in the readings.

On the afternoon of 27th, Amanda Randall will be running a Swift Awareness Session in the Library. In conjunction with the Library, Harbury Swifts Project is running an acrostic competition for primary school children - an acrostic on SWIFTS. We will be awarding prizes for the best acrostic from Key Stage 1 and from Key Stage 2 pupils. A display of all the entries will be in the Library at the Swift Awareness Session and the prizewinners announced then.



GARDEN JOTTINGS

Christine Dakin from Bridge Nursery

There have been three good things to report. The warmer weather means that plants are growing well, some are flowering much earlier than usual but at least the sales area is beginning to fill up. There have been a lot of new people coming to buy plants, in turn they are saying they will tell their friends and family about me. And last but not least, there was a cuckoo to be heard for a week or so. It's been many years since I heard one.



The not so good news is that there seems to be fewer bees around this year. I've been told that many were wiped out during the long wet winter. There has been hardly any rain for a couple of months which means I'm having to water more than I usually would at this time of year and that seedlings such as Verbena

bonariensis are just not germinating in the garden. And the roe deer are back brazenly munching their way round the garden.

A few reminders of things to do.....

You might need to support some taller plants with stakes before they start to flop, this is a job I tend to leave until it's too late. Sow sweetcorn, more carrots, peas and beans so you get crops for a longer period of time, dead-head flowers to encourage more new buds, water containers and feed with either a slow release fertiliser or maybe tomato feed. Speaking of tomatoes, pinch outside shoots unless you have bush tomatoes and feed regularly. Prune shrubs which have finished flowering such as Viburnum tinus and ceanothus. Take soft wood cuttings of Sambucus, Philadelphus and Weigela.

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



NATURE NOTES

Martin & Amanda Randall

Harbury.nature@gmail.com

You may recently have enjoyed watching the David Attenborough 'Secret Gardens' programmes about garden wildlife in the UK. It features was some spectacular photography exploring the hidden biodiversity and spectacular wildlife thriving in ordinary British gardens. Or perhaps, like us, you were inspired by a visit to Wellesbourne Open Gardens for Wildlife last month.

Wildlife-friendly gardening is crucial for creating vital habitats that support and increase biodiversity, providing food, water, and shelter for many declining species. Incorporating even just one or two of the features below can boost both the abundance and the diversity of a variety of species in your garden, many of which offer beneficial services such as pest control, as well helping you to connect with nature even in small outdoor spaces.

Ponds

A pond can attract a greater variety of wildlife than perhaps any other single feature in the garden. It boosts local biodiversity by providing a breeding space for dragonflies and damselflies and beneficial, pest-eating amphibians like frogs, toads and newts; as well as a habitat for many other animals including pond skaters and water snails. A pond that is shallow at one end will also provide bathing areas for birds and a safe watering hole for hedgehogs.

Compost bin or heap

Aside from recycling organic waste into nutrient-rich compost, a compost bin or heap can provide a refuge and feeding area for hedgehogs, beetles, toads, birds, grass snakes, small mammals and slow-worms. Many of these eat insects and slugs and therefore act as natural pest controllers, replacing the need for pesticides and other chemicals in the garden.

Insect hotel or hibernaculum

An insect hotel or a hibernaculum provide safe, dry habitats for insects to nest and hibernate. These habitats help support pollinators and other beneficial species, enhancing local biodiversity and improving the health of the garden ecosystem through increased pollination and natural pest control (e.g. ladybirds and wasps eating aphids).

Log Pile

A log pile provides shelter and breeding places for insects, frogs, and small mammals, including hedgehogs. Many of these animals are beneficial predators that help control pests. As the wood slowly decays, it also becomes a food source and habitat for other insects and fungi, helping to increase garden biodiversity.

Nest Boxes

Nest boxes help boost wildlife diversity in areas where natural nesting sites may be limited, compensating for the loss of natural habitats such as old trees. They offer year-round benefits by providing safe, insulated, and dry shelter for birds and some small mammals to nest and raise young in spring and summer; and roosting places during harsh winter weather.



Garden Woodpile (Martin Randall)

Hedgehog Boxes

Hedgehog boxes help boost local hedgehog populations. They provide vital, year-round shelter and offer safe spaces for breeding, day-time sleeping, and winter hibernation. Hedgehog feeding stations provide reliable food sources at times when food may be scarce, whilst highways – gaps in and below fences - enable access between gardens, often called 'Hedgehog highways'.

Unmown Grass

You do not need to leave the whole of your garden untended in order to help wildlife. Even a small area of unmown lawn is an easy way to boost local biodiversity. It provides vital food and shelter for pollinators like bees and butterflies, conserves water by keeping the soil moist, and saves you time and energy on garden maintenance. Leave the edges, corners, or a designated patch to grow; while trimming a narrow border around your unmown patch creates a "managed" look, showing visitors that the wildness is a deliberate, wildlife-friendly choice.


Unmown Lawn Area (Martin Randall)

Garden Hedge

Garden hedges are vital for biodiversity, supporting over 2,000 species by providing essential food, shelter, and nesting sites. They act as wildlife corridors, connecting habitats and allowing safe movement for insects, birds and mammals, including hedgehogs and bats. Native hedges are particularly valuable, offering year-round sustenance and protection. The Woodland Trust offer free native hedgerow species for winter planting.

Wildflowers and Butterflies



Jack by the Hedge
(Martin Randall)



Honesty
(Martin Randall)



Orange Tip Butterfly
(Martin Randall)



Green-veined White Butterfly
(Martin Randall)

Some wildflowers can look attractive in gardens whilst also providing nectar and food for butterflies. Jack-by-the-Hedge, also known as Garlic Mustard, and Honesty plants provide favoured food sources for the caterpilars of Orange Tip and Green-veined White butterflies. The Orange Tip males are unmistakable; white butterflies with bright orange wingtips. The females are white with black wingtips. Both have mottled green underwings, a feature which distinguishes the females from other species of white butterflies. Their caterpillars primarily consume the developing seedpods, flowers, and upper leaves of their host plant. The Green-veined White is a delicate and often-overlooked butterfly that's commonly found in meadows, woodland clearings, hedgerows, and damper, shady gardens. It can be mistaken for the Small White butterfly, but a closer look reveals the fine greenish veins on the undersides of its wings, which give the species its name. These veins help the butterfly blend into leafy surroundings when resting. Unlike some of the other white butterflies, the Green-veined White, is not guilty of being a pest to cultivated cabbages.

Top Spots

A number of people have been in touch to tell about their recent 'top spots'. Both Isobel Clarke and Sarah Smith were excited to see a Bullfinch in their gardens. It must have been a male because both of them commented on its brilliantly bright pinkish-red breast. Bullfinches are secretive birds, making them an uncommon sight. Their numbers have significantly declined since the 1970s.

Jacqui and David Powell shared a photo of a magnificent May Bug on their fence. You can see the photo in the Harbury Nature Gallery. The Maybug (also known as the common cockchafer) is the UK's largest scarab beetle. Recognisable by its rusty-brown wing covers and fan-like antennae, these harmless insects are famous for clumsily bumping into windows on warm spring and early summer evenings.



May Bug (Jacqui Powell)

Geoff Thorpe saw a Yellowhammer on the path between Temple End and Beggars Lane, near Whitegates Farm. The Yellowhammer is a striking, sparrow-sized bunting famous for its distinct song often described as sounding like *"a little bit of bread and no cheese"*. Due to the loss of hedgerows and changes in agricultural practices, their population has severely declined. They are currently on the UK's Red List of Conservation Concern.

Please keep reporting your 'Top Spots' and sending in your local wildlife photos for the Nature Gallery.

WIPE-OUT WASPS

Family-run business since 2005

Fast response
Competitive rates
Full pest control service

For a local friendly service call

Alan or Dawn Whyte

07867 768533
01926 889711

enquire@wipeoutpestcontrol.co.uk
www.wipeoutpestcontrol.co.uk

Health First Foot & Gait Clinic

We are proud to have more
5 ★★★★★ reviews
than any other Foot Care / Chiropody / Podiatry service in the area, which confirm that:

"We fix the feet that others can't fix"



Call us on - 01926 811272
Or book online at
healthfirstsoutham.co.uk



RFK Rugby
Cottage Leap,
Rugby, CV21 3XP
01788 547647

RFK Warwick
47 Coten End,
Warwick, CV34 4NT
01926 419165

RFK Market Harborough
Studio 3, Welland Business Park,
Market Harborough LE16 7PS
01858 798533

KITCHEN RETAILER OF THE YEAR



- Stratford District Council Licensed
- Enhanced DBS
- First aid trained via Warwickshire Search & Rescue

Nicholson's

Executive Transfer and Chauffeur Service

07470 504 178

07470 504 178

simonnicholson1@outlook.com

24/7

- Private hire
- Airport transfer
- Wait and return

Get in touch today for a quote!

TONY'S ROOFING

Roof repairs -Tiles/Slates,
Re-pointing, Ridges,
Leadwork, Chimney repairs,
Flat roofs (torch on felt),
Velux windows fitted,
UPVC Soffits, Fascias & Guttering,
Gutters cleaned

We won't be beaten on price.
All work guaranteed
Tel: 07881 411265



HOUSE PARTY FLOWERS

FLOWERS FOR ALL EVENTS
Weddings, Parties, Special Events,
Bespoke Workshops & Funerals
Studio located in Harbury
Contact: Katy 07470 180 220
www.housepartyflowers.co.uk
email:info@housepartyflowers.co.uk

JOYCE WINDSOR 20/11/1927 - 09/05/2026

Chris & Ann Windsor

It is with great sadness we announce the loss of our dear mother Joyce Windsor on the 9th May 2026 at Devonshire House Care Home, Cavendish, Suffolk at the grand age of 98. Mum and dad moved to Harbury in the early 1970's and after dad passed away in 2007 mum moved to Suffolk to start a new life and be near Ann. For the last six years she lived in a care home in Cavendish where she was very happy and extremely well cared for. She passed away peacefully after a short illness.

Mum was always active in the Harbury community and for all the time she lived there was very involved in Church events. She initiated the Saturday coffee mornings in The Hauley Room with a few others which has become something of an institution. She was a very good singer having been in The Bach Choir in her younger days and also loved her gardening. She was very proud of her five grandchildren and two great grandchildren and was always interested in what they were doing. Indeed when she was in her late eighty's she bought an Ipad and learnt to use it so that she could keep in touch with everyone which impressed us all!



Ann, Harry, Joyce & Chris at Buckingham Palace when Harry was awarded the MBE in 1994

The cremation will be held at Grantham Crematorium on Monday 8th June at 1.30pm.

After that her ashes will be interned in Harbury Churchyard next to dad's resting place on Saturday 11th July at 12.00 mid-day with a brief dedication. If anyone from the village or surrounding area who knew her would like to attend myself and Ann would love to see you there.

May she rest in peace.

HARBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

District Councillor Susan Ostrander (LibDem)
(susan4harbury@gmail.com or sue.ostrander@straford-dc.gov.uk)

As I write this the country is anticipating a wonderfully sunny bank holiday weekend running into half term week for those of you with children or, like me, teachers! I hope that for all of you it was a chance to get outside and enjoy some time to relax.

The big event that has come to pass over the last couple of weeks is the release of the pre-submission (to the government's planning inspectorate) stage of the South Warwickshire Local Plan.

The South Warwickshire Local Plan: Where We Are Now

Over the past five years, Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils have been jointly preparing the South Warwickshire Local Plan, a long-term framework that will guide development across the area up to 2050. This plan is intended to shape where new homes, jobs and infrastructure will be located, responding both to local priorities and to national planning requirements.

The scale of development proposed is significant. The Government has set a target of around 54,000 new homes across South Warwickshire over the plan period (up to 2050), with approximately 28,000 of these expected within Stratford District alone. While these figures are not universally supported, local authorities are, nonetheless, required to plan for them and to demonstrate how they will be delivered. In practice, this means that the key question is not whether development will take place, but how it can be managed in a co-ordinated and sustainable way.

The approach taken by Stratford District Council has been to work constructively within this framework. Experience from elsewhere indicates that where local plans are delayed or absent, speculative development is more likely to succeed on appeal, often without the infrastructure communities expect and need. By contrast, a comprehensive local plan like this provides an opportunity to secure investment in roads, schools, healthcare, drainage, employment land and community facilities, while also protecting the character and environment of the wider district.

The emerging plan sets out several clear proposals. Chief among them is the creation of a major new settlement at Long Marston, where around 4,500 homes are planned by 2050, with potential for further expansion beyond that date. In addition, growth is proposed around several existing centres, including Stratford-upon-Avon, Bidford-on-Avon, Henley-in-Arden, Wellesbourne and, in our immediate vicinity, Southam.

Importantly for our local area, the proposals do not include new settlements in some of the previously considered nearby locations. Earlier options identified as F1, F2 and F3 have not been taken forward, which will be seen by most of us locally as a positive outcome.

The selection of Long Marston for a new settlement reflects a combination of factors, including the level of development that has already taken place in the area and the opportunity to create a more complete and sustainable community over time. The intention is not simply to add housing, but to support a balanced settlement with appropriate services, facilities and employment opportunities.

A central part of this strategy is the proposed western relief road linking the A46 to the B4632 near Clifford Chambers. This infrastructure is intended to improve connectivity to Long Marston and the southern side of Stratford, reduce traffic pressure within the town – including heavy goods vehicles passing through the centre – and open up wider environmental improvements. It would also safeguard the former railway alignment should future rail reinstatement become viable. However, given the scale, complexity and cost of the project, delivery is not anticipated until around 2035, meaning that

much of the development at Long Marston would take place later in the plan period.

Alongside these strategic allocations, the plan emphasises higher environmental standards, including a move towards net zero development, and makes provision for affordable housing, custom and self-build opportunities, employment land and traveller accommodation. Infrastructure provision is a consistent theme, reflecting the recognition that growth must be supported by the necessary services and facilities.

In terms of process, the Local Plan has now reached an advanced stage. Following earlier rounds of consultation, including the Preferred Options stage in early 2025, the plan is now being finalised for what is known as the Regulation 19, or "Publication", stage. This represents the formal draft of the plan before it is submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

Town and Parish Councillor briefings have already taken place in May 2026, and a Joint Committee of Stratford and Warwick councillors is scheduled to consider the draft plan on 28th May. Both district councils are then expected to consider approval in early June. If agreed, this will be followed by a six-week public consultation in summer 2026. This is an important stage, as it provides the final opportunity for representations on legality and 'soundness' to be made before the plan is submitted.

Submission to the Secretary of State is currently planned for December 2026, after which the plan will be examined by an independent Planning Inspector. Adoption could follow in 2027, although this will depend on the outcome of the examination process.

There remains an element of uncertainty, particularly given the Government's evolving planning framework and the risk of delays. Failure to meet the required timetable could result in the need for a replacement plan under revised national rules, with potentially reduced local influence and higher development requirements.

As the plan moves forward, it is inevitable that there will be differing views, particularly in communities directly affected by proposed allocations. Concerns about infrastructure, traffic and the impact on local character are understandable and will continue to be part of the discussion.

Nevertheless, the central issue remains clear. Development across South Warwickshire is not optional; it is a national requirement. The Local Plan represents an effort to manage that growth in a way that secures infrastructure, maintains local control and supports sustainable communities over the long term. While no plan of this scale will satisfy everyone, it provides a structured and considered approach to shaping the future of the area.

By-election Result in Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton and Napton:

You may know that a by-election was held in our neighbouring two-member ward after long-serving District Councillor Nigel Rock (Lib Dem) stepped down for health reasons. Nigel set a high standard as a District Councillor and was respected across the council, regardless of political affiliation. He has also been an excellent mentor to me, and I hope I can, in some measure, live up to the example he set.

Details of the by-election are indicated below but I am delighted to be joined by Jake Beavan as our adjoining ward member who will be joining Natalie Gist (Lib Dem) in this two-member ward.

Five candidates contested the seat for the by-election for the Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton and Napton Ward of Stratford-on-Avon District Council on Thursday 7th May 2026.

- Jake Beavan - Liberal Democrats - 1,104 Elected
- Julie Ann Folkes-Skinner - Green Party - 273
- Jacqui Harris - Reform UK - 751
- Jacob David Simon Hill - Labour Party - 53
- Christian Francis Reeve - Conservative Party – 715

Turnout: 49.40% (c.f May 2023 at 38.44%

The current political make-up of the District Council's 41 seats is now:

- Liberal Democrats - 25 seats
- Conservatives - 9 seats
- Green - 3 seats
- Independent - 2 seats
- Reform UK - 2 seats

And finally……some money is available…

Community Climate and Nature Fund – Now Open for Applications

I would like to draw residents' attention to the District Council's Community Climate and Nature Fund, which offers grants to local councils, community groups and charities for projects that help reduce carbon emissions and enhance biodiversity.

Since launching in November 2023, the fund has already supported 53 projects across the District, with a total of £250,000 awarded. These projects reflect the wide range of practical steps communities can take to improve their local environment.

Recent grants have supported a variety of initiatives, including solar panel installations at village halls and community buildings, energy efficiency improvements, wildlife conservation work, and projects to promote more sustainable living.

A new round of funding has now opened, with £200,000 available. **The deadline for applications in the first appraisal round is Monday 27th July 2026.**

I would strongly encourage any local groups, organisations or parish councils with suitable ideas to consider applying. Even if you have applied before without success, it is well worth trying again, particularly if your project has been refined or developed further.

This is an excellent opportunity to secure funding for initiatives that can make a real difference locally, whether through improving energy efficiency, supporting wildlife and nature, or helping communities respond to the challenges of climate change.

Further details, including eligibility criteria and examples of previously funded projects, can be found on the District Council website: https://www.stratford.gov.uk/climate-change/community-climate-and-nature-fund.cfm

Alternatively, you can get in touch directly by emailing:
climate.emergency@stratford-dc.gov.uk

HARBURY AGENTIC BUILDERS CLUB

Mark Harris

A new generation of AI technology is starting to change how people work, study, and run their businesses — much faster than schools, colleges, or workplaces can keep up. **Most people will only encounter this technology when it's already a problem**: on the job, in a job hunt, or watching their peers or competitors race ahead.

We'd like to offer Harbury an approachable, sociable head start - hosted at the Harbury Village Library, for anyone 16 or over - **commencing early June**.

Simply scan the QR code to express your interest via an email. Please let us know if you are able to bring your own laptop.

LITTER PICKS

Ian Reynolds

Join us this month for the litter pick on Saturday 6th June and next month on Saturday 11th July. Meet at the Village Hall car park, 2.00pm, litter pickers, hoops and bags provided.

HARBURY CARNIVAL

Harbury Carnival Committee

Saturday 13th June

It's Carnival time

Come along and join the fun!





At 12 noon on the day the floats will start to assemble at Sutcliffe Drive ready for judging.

At 1pm they will travel through the village to the playing field.

At 2pm the fete opens and all the fun activities start.



There are plenty of fun things to do and see for all the family with a wide variety of stalls offering a range of arts, crafts, music, food and drink.

In the main arena you will be able to watch the dog show along with a performance by the Shirley Pipe band and the Royal TKT Cheerleaders.

Then why not try the fun fair, say hello to the stilt man and look out for the cute alpacas or watch the animal magic or balloon modelling show.

And don't forget to buy your tickets at the raffle stall and be in with a chance to win £100 cash along with many other great prizes. You can also now buy tickets online just scan the QR code and follow the instructions.

All the money raised will be shared out between local charities and groups in the village.

ZOE'S PLACE

Gillian Hare

Zoe's place is the only hospice in our area catering specifically for babies and young children with life limiting conditions. Their support is immeasurably valuable to families as they try to negotiate a path through the most devastating situation of their lives.

But it is not a sad place; their mission is *"To support children and their families to live life to its fullest."* Crucially, siblings are included in many of the activities.

As a contribution to their work, there will be a coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 13th June, 10 - 11.30am - yes, I know it is Carnival Day, but there is plenty of time for both.

Donations of cakes, raffle prizes and bric a brac also welcome; for collection ring Gillian on 01926 614809. Thank you.



NEW! TOM'S TEAS

Elaine Barnden, Michael Vincent & Team

The free cakes are fabulous! And the conversation and friendly chatter make Tom's Teas a lovely way to spend an hour or so once a month. Why don't you drop in and see what you are missing.

This is a new community activity being put on in the Tom Hauley Room, at All Saints' Church, and you are invited to come along for a free cup of tea, cake, coffee and chat.

Perhaps you don't know many people in the village, maybe you are new here or just a bit isolated and would like some companionship.

Tom's Teas are held on the third Monday of every month, from 2.30 - 4.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room, and are well attended with 35-40 people coming each month. So the next three Tom's Teas will be on:

- Monday 15th June
- Monday 20th July
- Monday 17th August

It's a great opportunity to meet new friends or catch up with old ones. You can be sure of a warm welcome.



HARBURY SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE UPDATE

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

Everyone who requested a seat for the trip to **Shrewsbury** will be going, unless we have contacted you to say that we have sold out. So, please turn up at the Village Hall on **Wednesday 17th June**. The coach will be leaving at **8.30am**.

Please remember that when you get to Shrewsbury it is up to you what you do as it is not a guided tour.

There is plenty to see and do in Shrewsbury but you can visit the tourism website at originalshrewsbury.co.uk/ to get up to date information of what is happening and copies of maps and so on.

We hope that you enjoy Shrewsbury. You will be told when and where the return pickup point will be when you arrive.



PONDER IN THE PUB

Rev Andy Batchelor

An opportunity to discuss life's big questions from a secular and Christian perspective.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, 6.45pm for 7pm (close at 8.30pm) at the Crown Inn, Harbury.

The topic for the 23rd June: 'Do Not Be Afraid'. Everyone is welcome. Please do join us.



HARBURY GARDEN WALKABOUT
SAT 27TH & SUN 28TH JUNE 2026

Peter Walshe, Trustee, Harbury e-Wheels



This year we have not only the gardens open (thanks to over 20 supportive gardeners) but also coinciding with Warwickshire Open Studios, some pop-up Poems (organised by Michael Luntley), the iconic Windmill (thanks to Jeremy Atkins) and, new this year, Harbury Swimming (thanks to Jane & Luke Kempton).

The Walkabout

It is a special weekend which will include 20+ gardens and:

- **Swift Awareness Week** in the Library. A drop-in activity to find out about Super Swifts, birds with amazing powers! (SATURDAY 2-4pm ONLY) Children's craft activities.
- **Harbury Heritage Centre**, Protecting Our Past, winner of The Heritage Medal, and Harbury World War Memorial Book (by David Turner, Vice-Chairman).
- **Earthworms Garden Area** at Harbury Primary School. A pond refresh, forest school creation, children-planted vegetables, flowers and hedgerow. Tour guides will take you around, plants to buy and earthwormy activities!

Harbury Windmill



GUIDED TOURS on the hour. Pre-booking only via TicketSource (search What's On 'Harbury Windmill') Additional Ticket donation to e-Wheels £5 per person SATURDAY ONLY.



Harbury Swimming

Open 2-4pm both days.|

TO BOOK A SWIM (AT YOUR OWN RISK) GO TO TICKETSOURCE (SEARCH What's On 'HARBURY SWIMMING'). PRE-BOOKING ONLY. Supporting e-Wheels

Walkabout Tickets

Entry is by Programme and these will be available in the Library from Monday 22nd June (cash or card, £5 an adult, valid for the same person both days) with proceeds to Harbury e-Wheels. If you need to book before that you can use TicketSource (search What's On 'Harbury Garden Walkabout 2026') and collect your programme from the Library on the day.

Any questions please contact Peter Walshe on 07446 779879 or peterdouglaswalshe@gmail.com.

HARBURY SWIFT VILLAGE

Amanda Randall

Contact Harbury Swifts: swifts.harbury@gmail.com

Welcome Home, Harbury Swifts!

Across the UK, the swifts have kept us all waiting this year. Although a small number did pass over Harbury at the end of April, we had to wait until 20th May before any significant numbers were seen. Thank you to everyone who has contacted me to let me know of their sightings, especially to Mrs Joy Lewis who took the trouble to telephone me about the swifts she saw over Binswood End. This is an area of Harbury where not many swifts are spotted, so it is good to know they are flying over that end of the village, as there are some nest boxes waiting for them there!

Swift Nests

If you know of any natural swift nests, please email me. There have been some recent distressing incidents in Surrey where swifts have been prevented from accessing their nests because the home owners have put up scaffolding to carry out roof work, and destroyed the swift's home forever. Swifts will often injure themselves attempting to enter their life-long nest site and they may even die trying. So it is important to know where their nest sites are located, to ensure they are protected.

Acrostic Poem Competition

Calling all children in KS1 and KS2, put on your creative writing hats and enter the Harbury Library / Harbury Swift Group competition to write an acrostic poem using the word SWIFTS. The competiton was launched last month at Harbury School, during an assembly about swifts and I was impressed by the children's knowledge about these birds with super powers! You can find information on the Library's Social Media and DOJO, and entry forms are available at the Library reception desk. The deadline for entries to the competition is 24th June, so there's still plenty of time to get composing! The acrostic poems will be on display in the Library during Swift Awareness Week, and the winners will be announced on 27th June at the Craft event.

Harbury Carnival

Come and talk about Harbury's Swifts at the Harbury Parish Council marquee at the Carnival on 13th June. Find out more about how YOU can help them!



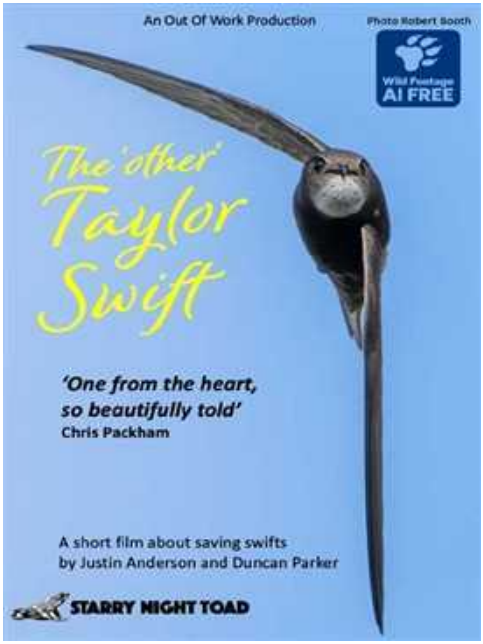
Swift Awareness Week June 27th to July 5th

There are two events planned to celebrate swifts in Harbury during Swift Awareness Week:

Children's Swift-themed Craft Activity

A free drop-in session for children and their accompanying adults at Harbury Village Library on Saturday 27th June 2-4pm

Come and see the Acrostic Competition entries and discover more about these amazing birds. Make a swift badge or a model life-sized swift & try the quiz. You might find that you know more than your accompanying adult!



A Swift Half @ the Shakespeare Inn - Monday 29th June 7.30pm

Come and buy yourself a 'Swift Half' at The Shakespeare Inn, Harbury, then join us to discover more about superlative Swifts. There'll be an opportunity to watch a newly released film called 'The Other Taylor Swift", a short film about saving swifts, by Justin Anderson & Duncan Parker. There's no charge

for us to screen this film, but the filmakers would greatly appreciate donations to their swift fund. Details on how to do this will be available on the evening.

Then, weather permitting we will take a stroll around Harbury to watch the swifts soar, and maybe even spot a nest site!

We'll return to the pub where you can buy yourself another Swift Half and relax, with the opportunity to ask further questions about swifts if you wish.

There's no charge for this event, but it would be helpful if you register your interest by emailing swifts.harbury@gmail.com so that we have an idea of numbers.



WEDNESDAY WALKERS

Sheila Burtt

We are looking forward to a fine summer of walking. Upcoming walks include wildflower meadows, woods, hills and rivers! We are a friendly group who meet weekly to walk on Wednesday mornings, usually between three and five miles. We always have a "coffee break" halfway round and share lifts to destinations.

It is open to everyone - no booking required. Just turn up to the village hall car park for 9.40am on any Wednesday morning. Hope to see you soon.



HS2 ROAD CLOSURES

John Holden

The contractors working on HS2 have given notice of two upcoming road closures in the area. The B4451 - (the road from Deppers Bridge round to Southam) will be closed for four weeks in July in the area where the new road bridge is being constructed close to Southam Rugby Club. Then following on from this the A423 the Southam to Banbury Road will be closed in August again for four weeks. Exact dates are yet to be announced.



HARBURY VILLAGE SHOW

Yvonne O'Neill

The Harbury Village Show Committee is already hard at work preparing for this year's Village Show, which will take place on Saturday 12th September 2026 at 2pm at Harbury Village Hall.

The Village Show has been at the heart of Harbury life since at least 1910, when it was organised by the "Harbury Horticultural Society". Looking back through the original 1910 show flyer has been both fascinating and reassuring: villagers were just as serious about their flowers, fruit and vegetables then as they are now. In fact, the 1910 rules firmly stated that "quality, not size, will be specially considered" — wise words for anyone anxiously comparing their onions with a neighbour's this summer.

The old programme also reveals that exhibitors in 1910 could compete with everything from gooseberries and dahlias to fruit cakes and fruit tarts, proving that Harbury residents have always been a talented and competitive bunch. Best of all, once the judging was done,

HARBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

AUGUST 1st, 1910.

PATRONS:

Captain Osborne (Harbury Hall), Rev. J. F. Bramhall, Rev. and Rev. W. W. Verney, A. Yate-Sayer, Esq., J.P., M. C. Lane, Esq., T. Lillingston, Esq., Dr. Pope, Major Wellman, Dr. Sutcliffe, Lord Willoughby de Broke, W. Cartwright, Esq., C. B. Gayer, Esq., M. Jeffreys, Esq., H. E. Tennyson, Esq., Messrs. Hunt, Edmeades & Co., Messrs. Lloyd & Co., Messrs. Flowers & Sons, Messrs. Fryers & Co., Messrs. Bowser & Cheatwood, Ltd., Leamington Gas Works Co., J. Lawson, Esq., J. Tennyson, Esq., Mrs. J. Hewitt, T. S. Stanley, Esq., H. Skinner, Esq., Mrs. Watchhorn, Mrs. Randell, Cheesemonger Leicester, &c., &c.

COMMITTEE:

Captain Osborne, President. Major Wellman, Vice-President
Mr. F. E. Jones, Treasurer. Mr. T. F. Hobbins, Secretary.
Messrs. C. Fields, A. Bird, A. Fenton, G. Adcock, J. H. Gardiner, W. Bayliss, T. Wilkins, J. Watchhorn, H. Haynes, H. Cartwright, T. Rose, A. Verney, W. Wood, and E. J. Whitehead.

Dancing to commence at 4 o'clock.

RULES.

I.

The OBJECT of this Society is to encourage civil and peace in the Cultivation of Gardens and Allotments by giving Prizes for Flowers, Fruits, and Vegetables.

II.

OF MEMBERS there shall be two CLASSES:—

1.—RED TICKET CLASS, subscribing not less than Two Shillings and Sixpence. The Class is intended for those who usually cultivate their own Gardens.

2.—BLUE TICKET CLASS, subscribing annually One Shilling. No person may compete in this Class who is a Gardener, or whose annual rent exceeds £10, or who is a tradesman. No Gardener is allowed who who or who exclusively as such, or who grows a livelihood entirely by the sale of garden produce.

Subscriptions are due in July.

III.

The ANNUAL SHOW shall be held on a day to be fixed by the Committee. It shall open at two o'clock at night, and the grounds shall be finally closed at 6.30 o'clock. No Exhibits to be removed until the tents are closed to visitors, and in charge of the Committee, who will remain till 8.45 p.m.

IV.

The EXHIBITION shall be OPEN for the reception of Flowers, Fruits, and Vegetables, at Seven a.m. on the morning of the Show.

All Flowers, Fruits, and Vegetables entered for Competition must be brought before 10 a.m.

Each Exhibitor shall have FREE admission. ADMISSION to Visitors, One Shilling before 2 p.m., and Sixpence after. Ditto to schoolchildren after 3 p.m.

V.

The JUDGES are appointed annually by the Committee. Unless they consider the articles submitted in collection worth Awarding, they are instructed to award any PRIZES otherwise. They may recommend additional PRIZES to be given in every case, in cases of exceptional merit.

VI.

All Flowers, Fruits, and Vegetables must have been really and truly the PROPERTY of the EXHIBITOR at least two months previous to the Show.

VII.

Every Exhibitor is requested to NAME, as far as possible, the particular kinds of Flowers, Fruits, or Vegetables sent to the Show, and their botanically correct names.

VIII.

All ENTRIES to be made to the Committee at the Schools, on Friday the 29th July, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. After that time no entry will be received on any pretence whatever.

IX.

The Committee will be glad to take charge of specimens of Flowers, Fruits, or Vegetables NOT INTENDED FOR COMPETITION, which may increase the attractiveness of the Show.

X.

All matters of DOUBT or DISPUTE are to be immediately referred to the Committee, whose decision shall be final.

XII.

No Exhibitor shall be allowed to receive more than £1 from the Society.

XIII.

First Prize will not be awarded unless two or more articles be presented.

PRIZES.

The exact quantities to be strictly observed in Vegetables. Quality, not size, will be specially considered.

FLOWERS.

FOR THE BEST—	Red Ticket Class. 1st Prize	Red Ticket Class. 2nd Prize	Blue Ticket Class. 1st Prize	Blue Ticket Class. 2nd Prize
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 Greenhouse Plants, best collection of six	5 0	3 0	3 0	2 0
2 Pelargonium, new three trusses or more than four	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
3 Geraniums, cluster	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
4 Balsams, cluster	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
5 Greenhouse Plants, single	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
6 Petunias, three	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
7 Pelargoniums, Zonal, three	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
8 Fuchsia, single Plant	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
9 Stocks, six cut blooms	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
10 Collection of Hardy Annuals	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
11 Collection of Herbaceous Plants, six varieties	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
12 Basket of Cut Flowers	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
13 Phlox, five	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
14 Zinnias, not less than 6 or more than 12 blooms	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
15 Asters	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
16 Dahlias	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
17 Cactus Dahlias, Decorative	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
18 Pansies	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
19 Asters	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
20 Best Bouquet, in vase	5 0	3 0	3 0	2 0
21 Six varieties Sweet Peas, for mixing of each, large foliage may be used	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
	1st Prize	2nd Prize	1st Prize	2nd Prize
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
22 2nd Prize Tart, open to both Classes	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
23 Best Fruit Cake	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0

By Greenhouse Plants are meant such Flowers as Geraniums, Fuchsias, &c., which can be easily kept alive through the winter in a room window.

FRUITS.

FOR THE BEST DISH OF—	Red Ticket Class. 1st Prize	Red Ticket Class. 2nd Prize	Blue Ticket Class. 1st Prize	Blue Ticket Class. 2nd Prize
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 Apples, Cooking, eight on a dish	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
2 Ditto Dessert, eight	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
3 Apricots, eight	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
4 Currants, Twenty-four	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
5 Currants, Red, best plate (not exceeding 10s.)	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
6 Currants, Black	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
7 Currants, White	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
8 Gooseberries, Red, Twenty-four on a dish	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
9 Ditto, White or Yellow	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
10 Ditto, Green	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
11 Raspberries	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
12 Plum, Dessert, eight	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
13 Plums, Cooking	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
14 Strawberries, twenty-four	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
15 Collection of Open-air Fruits, not less than 6 varieties	5 0	3 0	3 0	2 0

VEGETABLES.

	Red Ticket Class. 1st Prize	Red Ticket Class. 2nd Prize	Blue Ticket Class. 1st Prize	Blue Ticket Class. 2nd Prize
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 Beet, six roots	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
2 Beans, Broad Windsor, twelve	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
3 Ditto Long Pods, twelve	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
4 Ditto Kidney Runners, twenty-four	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
5 Ditto Dwarfs, twenty-four	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
6 Cabbage, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
7 Ditto Pickling, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
8 Cauliflower, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
9 Carrots, six	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
10 Celery, three roots	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
11 Collection of Garden Herbs	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
12 Cucumbers, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
13 Cucumbers, ridge-four	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
14 Lettuces, Cos, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
15 Ditto Cabbage, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
16 Onions, Spring roots, six	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
17 Ditto Winter roots, six	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
18 Parsley, best root	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
19 Parsnips, Spring roots, six	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
20 Peas, Sub of twenty-four	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
21 Ditto three sorts, twenty-four of each sort	2 6	2 6	2 0	2 0
22 Potatoes, Ashleaf Kidney, eight on a dish	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
23 Ditto Puritan ditto	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
24 Ditto Beauty of Hebron ditto	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
25 Ditto Snowdrop ditto	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
26 Ditto Table of York ditto	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
27 Ditto Round, any sort ditto	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
28 Ditto Kidney, any sort ditto	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
29 Ditto Round Potatoes, collection of Each sort	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
30 Ditto Kidney ditto ditto	2 6	2 6	2 0	2 0
31 Radishes, twelve	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
32 Rhubarb, four stalks	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
33 Tomatos, six	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
34 Vegetable Marrows, white, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
35 Ditto ditto green, two	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
36 Tomatoes, six on a dish	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0
37 Collection of Vegetables, not less than 8 nor more than nine	5 0	3 0	3 0	2 0

Collection to consist only of Vegetables shown for competition, and by the same exhibitor.

38 Best Plate of Coloured Potatoes	2 6	1 6	2 0	1 0

Special Prizes for six Exercised Onions, Spring sown (3s 6d each given by Messrs. Bowsers, Cheatwood and H. Bird).—1st Prize, 3s. 6d.; 2nd Prize, 2s. 6d.; 3rd Prize, 1s. 6d.; open to both classes.

Special Prize, given by Messrs. Bowsers and Wm. Haynes, for collection of Sweet Peas: open to both Classes. 1st Prize, 3s.; 2nd Prize, 1s.

Special Prize, given by Messrs. W. Bartholomew and Farrow, six distinct varieties of Roses; 1st Prize, 3s.; 2nd Prize, 1s.

Special Prize, given by Messrs. J. Hanby and E. J. Whitehead, for the three best strains of Celery, 1st Prize, 3s.; 2nd Prize, 2s.; open to both Classes.

Money, not less than 2s.—First Prize, 3/-; Second Prize, 2/-; Third Prize, 1/-.

Collection of Wild Flowers and Grasses, made and arranged in the National School by any Child in attendance at School.—First Prize, 3/-; Second, 2/6; Third, 2/-; Fourth, 1/-.

All specimens should be neat clean. Vegetables (as Cabbage, &c.), should be sent with their leaves, except any damaged or decayed ones. Roots (as Carrots, Turnips, &c.), should have their tops shortened, but not their roots. Potatoes should be washed but not scraped.

All Fruits or Vegetables must be sent on plates or trays, or in baskets. All Collections of Vegetables, Fruits, Potatoes, must be shown on separate Trays.

PRIZES.

OFFERED BY THE

Agricultural and Horticultural Association, Limited,

92, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.



FIRST PRIZE:

Bronze "One and All" Medal, engraved with the name of the winner, together with funds or other Garden Requisites to the value of 5s., to be selected from the Association's Catalogues.

SECOND PRIZE:

Handsome "One and All" Floral Certificate, beautifully printed in colours, framed and enclosed with the name of the winner. To this Prize will be added funds to the value of 2s. 6d., to be selected from the Association's Catalogues.

These Prizes to be awarded to the most successful exhibitors of produce grown with the "One and All" Seeds, and "One and All" Fertilisers. In estimating winners, each first prize taken will be counted three; each second prize, two; and each third prize, one.

Winners of Prizes may at their option also choose bound volumes of the Association's publications. They may also choose as a prize if they with a subscription for a year as an Associate of the "One and All" Association. This subscription (value 5s.) entitles the holder to receive all the publications issued by the Association during twelve months, also participation in annual distribution of experimental lots of Seeds and Fertilisers; also privilege of free Advertising of "Wants" in the "Agricultural Economist and Horticultural Review," and other advantages.



"Dancing to commence at 4 o'clock" — a reminder that the Show has always been as much about community spirit and enjoyment as it is about prizes.

We are proud to continue that tradition in 2026, with competitions for vegetables, fruit, flowers, food, art and craft, alongside dedicated children's classes for ages 7 and under and 8–12 years. The children's entries remain one of the highlights of the day — often imaginative, occasionally baffling, and usually involving a generous amount of glitter.

Whether you are an experienced grower with greenhouse ambitions, a keen baker, a secret painter, or simply someone who thinks "my tomatoes are doing surprisingly well this year", we would love you to enter. The Village Show is for everyone, not just experts. Some of the most memorable entries each year come from first-time exhibitors who decide to "have a go".

So now is the time to start planning: nurture those pumpkins, perfect that Victoria sponge, finish that craft project lurking in the cupboard, or encourage the children to get creative over the summer holidays. You may even earn yourself a coveted prize — and, perhaps even more importantly, some village bragging rights.

More details are available in the schedule which can be found in the Milk Shed, the Post Office and the Library, and online at www.hlnews.co.uk/harbury-village-show.html. So please save the date, spread the word, and help us keep this wonderful Harbury tradition thriving for another hundred years.

HARBURY LOCAL MARKET

Steve Ekins

We are taking a break of three months for the Summer.

Our next Market will be Saturday 26th September 10.00 until 12.30pm.

This September's local Community Group we are supporting, is Harbury Junior Football Club.

Up to 30 stalls selling everything from curries, cakes, meat, dog treats to art and craft.

Free entry, buy a raffle ticket, come and join us for a tea or coffee and a bacon roll.

Councillors Corner will be there 10.00 – 11.00am to answer any question you have.

Facebook @Harbury Local Market, please join our group for regular updates.

Our Sponsor

SOUTHAM GARDENING CLUB

Emily Jamieson

From September we will be meeting at the Graham Adams Centre on the first Wednesday of each month. Our first meeting back there will be on Wednesday 2nd September at 7.15 for 7.30pm start.

Southam Open Gardens 2026

Southam's keenest gardeners are excited to take part in the Open Gardens national event again on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th July.

Once again there will be the amazing opportunity to visit a selection of spectacular private gardens. Details for map purchasing and timings will be published on our Facebook page, and there will be posters on notice boards across town.

As an added bonus, this year Southam First and St James Church are running a Summer Fayre in the Church over the weekend: a vibrant mini-market packed with local vendors and crafters in the beautiful venue of the Church, who will be selling excellent wares, and make a fabulous added reason to come along.

This is a great opportunity for floral fun, and a chance to explore the beautiful gardens hiding behind the street facades – the perfect recipe for a great day out.



VILLAGE POET

Deborah Ellis (Doo Daa)

Anna Harper is a writer and artist who lives in the village. When she was very young she experienced an acquired brain injury. One of the side effects of this was that using her voice was limited. Through local connections I was asked if I would like to audition to be Anna's voice at her first book launch back in September 2024. So I auditioned and got the honour. Then we took her book to her local PHAB club last year in April. We have since built a fabulous friendship with conversations about poetry and art.

Now Anna has written a second book titled, "Blooming Without Permission - A Second Diary in Poetry" and she has asked me to give you my review of it. From the off the book has continued in the same way as her first. Her artwork is on the front cover and then continues throughout the book. The font and titles building upon her 'brand' and the layout being similar.

So now I am going to work methodically through Anna's book and the poems contained within. Sometimes the forward doesn't get the credit it deserves in books but I found "I use poetry like my first aid kit" in Anna's spot on. How many of us use creativity just like this, a first aid kit? I know that I do.

The book starts off with an insight into how people react to Anna's presence and how they engage with her. But what I do like about the Anna's poems is that a lot of them are not about disability at all! They are about her observations and feelings as a human being and not just about someone confined to a wheelchair. There are poems about love, falling in love and heartbreak. One of the Annerisms that you will pick up on is how Anna can write about a particular subject manner and, then with very few words, she can round it up and take the poem on a completely different direction of thought. "We created a picture of sound," "Weaving wishing into my rhymes," and "So I may learn your tune of love," are examples of this.

One minute you are reading about PTSD then you are reading about her observations of a Robin. There is a rich seam of nature throughout the book. Especially birds, butterflies and

horses. Another Annerism is where Anna can write poems 4-6 lines in length that creates so much feeling and images inside of you.

The poem "Dancing on Four Wheels" is delightful as I have seen Anna take to the dance floor and the smile on her face is wonderful to see. "Write Me A Poem About A Castle" reminds me of the many children I have seen exploring ruins and playgrounds. As I have grown older I have had to remind myself that imagination and play is not just for the young. The poem "Protecting Myself" ends with "When I am ready, I will let you in." Four lines that talk about self respect.

I found reading Anna's book more than just words. It gave me an insight into a world where the use of the written word has been a release when the spoken word struggles to be heard. To find other ways of communicating and engaging through art and poetry is what makes us all human, and some, more human than others?

Anna's second book launch is on 20th June, 2026.

POETRY BOOK TO BE LAUNCHED

Blooming without Permission; a Second Diary in Poetry by Anna Harper

You're invited to celebrate the launch of Anna Harper's second poetry book.

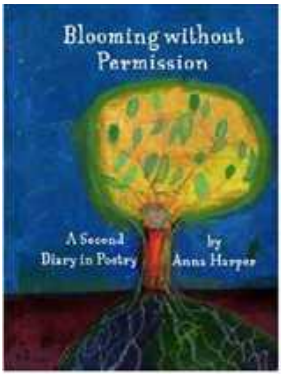
Saturday 20th June, 2.30pm

Tom Hauley Room, Harbury Church, Harbury CV33 9HE

There will be entertainment and refreshments.

Cash only when purchasing Anna's book. All welcome.

R.S.V.P. Anna on 07486 354189 or email Annaish87@gmail.com



CARERS4CARERS – YOUR LOCAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR FAMILY CARERS

Lisa Barnett

Your local support group for family carers. We usually meet on the fourth Friday of the month (except December when it's the second Friday) from 10.30 to 12 noon at Kineton Village Hall. Loved ones are welcome too – they can join our Companionship Group during the meeting.

Friday 26th June. Come along and try Laughter Therapy, a practice which is said to boost mood, reduce stress and increase energy.

Friday 28th July. Speaker to be confirmed.

For further details about our group or help with transport arrangements to/from our meetings, please contact Gillian on 07947 893504, send an email to kcarers4carers@gmail.com, or explore our website www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk (new website under construction).



WHEEL TAKE YOU – COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Andrew Emm - Trustee

Aiming to fill the gap left by WRCC Back&4th.

Where does your group want to go?

16 seats plus driver. Tail-lift for wheelchairs or avoiding steps. Experienced DBS checked volunteer drivers.

Register your group's interest now. See more at: WheelTakeYou.org.uk

Spread the Word!

££££ BANK ACCOUNT PAYMENT ££££

We have received a payment of £10 on 7th May to the magazine for an annual subscription. The description on our bank statement is 605114, which we know is the sort code from a Natwest account. We are unable to match this to a name or address on the Google form as this has not been completed. Our bank will not divulge any information about this payment.

If you think this may be your payment, please email us with your name and address at articles@hlnews.co.uk to ensure that you continue to receive your magazine.

foodbank

LOCAL FOODBANK donations of non-perishable items as listed below which supplies the surrounding area, including Harbury, can be left at:

Harbury Village Library Foyer	e-Wheels driver	Harbury Co-op
(Wight School when open)	Wight School car-park on Mondays between 11.30am - 12.30pm	Tall basket by door

• Potatoes - tins and packets of instant mash • Tins of meat • Jars of pasta sauce
• Tins of spaghetti in sauce • Tins of fruit • Sponge puddings • Custard • Small bags of sugar
• UHT milk • Toiletries such as: shampoo, shower gel, soap, toilet rolls and cleaning products.

Function Rooms and Premises AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

HARBURY RUGBY CLUB	HARBURY SCOUT HUT	HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB
Leah Wallington Tel: 07736 804904 *hrfc.roomhire@gmail.com*	**Naomi Moir** Tel: 611966 *nandpmoir@googlemail.com*	Tel: 241566 - evenings *harburyvillageclub23@gmail.com*
HARBURY VILLAGE HALL	**HARBURY VILLAGE LIBRARY**	**TOM HAULEY ROOM**
Booking Secretary Tel: 07563 044772 *harburyvillagehall@googlemail.com*	**Michael Luntley** *communityhub@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk*	**Moira** *thr@allsaintsharbury.org*

Greenlight
WINDOWS & DOORS







Let more light in. Keep the cold out.
Upgrade your home with confidence.

Thinking about improving your home this year? New windows and doors can completely transform the look, comfort and energy efficiency of your space — and that's where Greenlight Windows & Doors come in.

Whether you're replacing tired old windows, upgrading your front door, or planning a bigger home improvement project, we'll guide you from first chat to final fit — smoothly, professionally, and stress-free.

Windows • Doors • Aluminium • Timberlook •
Bi-folds • Sliding Doors • Energy Efficiency •
Porches & Conservatories • Sky Lanterns •
Fascia, Sofits & Guttering • Garage Doors

CERTASS iwa Solidor TIMBERLOOK

TEL: 01926 930 698 | MOB: 07749 058731
www.greenlightwindows.co.uk

WARWICK
ROOFING

New Roofs • Roof Repairs • Flat Roofs • Guttering
All repointing • Dry Ridge & Verge systems
Fascia & Soffit fitted

CALL STEVE
07974918098



www.stratfordlandscapes.com

(We live in Harbury)

Small garden experts | Garden Design | Porcelain & other types of Paving
Real & artificial lawns | Stunning plant collections | Decorative Pergolas & Fences
Privacy Solutions | Low Maintenance Gardens

"Let Dave & the boys work their magic & you won't be disappointed"

Contact David Lewis on 07990975158 or visit our website

ej

Emily Jayne's

Hair & Beauty Unisex Salon



All types of Hairdressing Services
Brazilian blow dry,
Luxury facials & pedicures
Hot stone massages
All types of waxing
Individual lash extensions
Acrylic nail extensions
Sunbed

Bella U Aesthetics are holding clinics in the salon every Wednesday evening

Opening hours:

Monday - Thursday 9am til 7pm
Friday 9 am til 6 pm
Saturday 8.30 am til 3 pm

Poplar Road, Bishops Itchington CV47 2RQ - Tel: 01926 611944

SUNILMEHRA
PAINTING & DECORATING

PAINTING IS AN ART. YOUR SPACE IS OUR CANVAS.

T: 01926 613158 M: 07976 241949 E: s.mehra@btinternet.com

The Shires Sweep

Your Local Professional Chimney Sweeping Service

Full Range of Chimney Sweeping Services
Open Fires, Stoves, Rayburn and Aga's Cowls
& Bird Guards Fitted. Bird Nest Removal

Please contact Martin Jakeman
07816 337962
Email: theshiressweep@gmail.com
www.theshiressweep.co.uk

GUILD OF MASTER SWEEPS



Domestic Gas Services

MARTIN EVANS – 07980 740720

admin@domesticgasservices.co.uk

40+ years experience, British Gas trained

CENTRAL HEATING - SERVICE AND REPAIR
LANDLORD CERTIFICATES - POWERFLUSHING

Powerflushing – removes sludge build up which is preventing your radiators getting hot and working efficiently.

THE NEXT BEST THING TO A NEW HEATING SYSTEM!!

gas safe register

WORCESTER
Bosch Group
Accredited Installer

A LOCAL RELIABLE LEAMINGTON COMPANY

DOOR & KITCHEN STORE

Making your space a better place

Quality Fitted Kitchens – Internal & External Doors - Supply & Fit.
T. 01926 888806 or E. doorandkitchenstore@gmail.com
Alveston Place Oxford Street Leamington Spa CV32 4SN
More! Service - Expertise - Quality - Range - Value

Southam Carpets

Carpets, Vinyl flooring, Karndean, Blinds and Curtains. Free quotes and advice. Professional installation.

45 YEARS

01926 814944
www.southamcarpets.co.uk
39 Coventry St. SOUTHAM

Quality, Value & Service since 1979.

THE SALON

LADIES & GENTS HAIRDRESSERS

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT CALL 612400 & 07778 454528
CHAPEL STREET HARBURY

STEAMING SAM
CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANERS

Tel: 01926 889 691
Email info@steamingsam.co.uk
www.steamingsam.co.uk

Which? Trusted trader

10% DISCOUNT WITH THIS ADVERT

DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL HIGH QUALITY CLEANING FOR CLIENTS WHO DEMAND THE BEST



Quality Assured

STEAMING SAM specialise in professional cleaning, work is carried out by fully trained, trustworthy technicians and we are insured for your peace of mind.
Call us or check out our website for further information

WHAT WE DO:

- deep 'van mounted' carpet cleaning
- stain removal
- fabric protection
- specialist oriental rug cleaning
- hard floor, tile and grout cleaning
- upholstery cleaning
- leather restoration
- end of tenancy cleaning

...AND MORE!