

**December 2001**

**No. 333**

Both villages were successful in the recent Village Ventures competition. Ladbroke Millennium Green took third place and has £125 for their hard work. The Harbury & Ladbroke News came second in the runners up with special recognition of our website. Thanks to Gordon Robbins for his continued endeavours with updating the site each month.

The village has been threatened on two counts. Firstly by the landslip in the railway cutting neat the Water Tower, and secondly by the highly invasive Japanese Knotweed. Whilst the bank has been stabilised, a plan to destroy the rampant rhizomes is still being prepared – further details will appear in the next issue.



Cutting a track beside the railway line

Sadly there have been repeat incidents of vandalism in the centre of Harbury. A car was badly damaged and estates agent's signs wrecked at a recent weekend.

This month will see many villagers bringing evergreen trees indoors for the festive season. By then maybe the deciduous ones will have shed all of their leaves!



The Jubilee Plane tree in leaf at the end of November on the Old New Inn green

The Editors would like to wish everyone a **Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Finally, we extend our sympathies to the families of Margaret Bowie, John Lewis and Phyllis Rig.

The Harbury & Ladbroke News is delighted to offer its readers the chance to enter our exciting drawing competition.

We are looking for reproducible line drawings of scenes in and around the villages of Harbury and Ladbroke to brighten up the pages of our magazine, and possibly appear on our Web Site.

We will be judging entrants in three age groups: 5-10 years, 11-17 years and Adult. Drawings should be no larger than A4 size.

So for a chance to win one of our fantastic prizes - get those pens busy and pop the masterpieces into:

The Editorial Office  
31 Binswood End  
Harbury  
By 31<sup>st</sup> January 2002

# Harbury Diary

## DECEMBER

- Sun** 2 **ADVENT SUNDAY** Sung Eucharist 9am, Evening Worship 6pm
- Mon 3 **G.A.S.S.** Christmas Post starts. Post box in Muggleston's Countryfayre
- Tues 4 Beat Buddies in Village Hall 2-3pm  
Horticultural Society 8pm in Tom Hauley Room  
Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 5 Holy Communion 2pm, Mothers Union 2.30pm  
Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
- Thurs 6 Holy Communion, 9.45am  
Storytelling in the Library 10am  
Harbury Nursery School Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room 10am  
Harbury Juniors Football Club Christmas Bingo for all the family at the Village Hall from 6.30pm (refreshments and raffle)  
Men's Society meeting in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm – Talk: *Star & Garter Homes*  
Folk Club in The Dog Inn 8.30pm
- Fri 7 Beat Buddies 9.30-11.30am & 2-3pm in Village Hall
- Sat 8 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Air Ambulance  
Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner in Village Hall  
Under 5's Disco in Village Club, 5.00 – 6.30pm, proceeds to Harbury Pre-School
- Sun** 9 **SECOND OF ADVENT** - Holy Communion 8pm, Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 11 Beat Buddies in Village Hall 2-3pm  
Village Hall Committee in Village Hall 8pm  
Toddlers' Service 2.15pm; Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 12 *Talk it Through* at 33, South Parade 8pm
- Thurs 13 Holy Communion 9.45am  
Thursday Club Carol Service 2.30pm  
Myton Hospice Line Dancing at Village Club 8pm  
WI in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
- Fri 14 Recycling Collection  
Beat Buddies 9.30-11.30am & 2-3pm in Village Hall  
Harbury Nursery School Christmas Service in School 10am  
School Christmas Service 2pm in Church
- Sat 15 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am in Tom Hauley Room  
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church Flowers  
Christmas Party Pieces in Tom Hauley Room, 7.30pm  
Harbury Juniors Football Disco in Village Hall
- Sun** 16 **THIRD OF ADVENT** - Holy Communion 8am; Family Communion, including Christingle 10.30am; Evensong 6pm
- Tues 18 Beat Buddies in Village Hall 2-3pm  
**ADVERTS 31, Binswood End by 5.30pm**  
Holy Communion 7.30pm  
Folk Club and Hereburgh Morris go Carol Singing round the village pubs, starting at the Great Western, 7.30pm  
Senior Citizens' Committee in Village Hall 8.30pm  
**G.A.S.S.** Christmas Post. Last posting date.
- Wed 19 Tea in Tom Hauley Room 3-4pm  
Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
- Thurs 20 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 21 **SHORTEST DAY**  
Beat Buddies 9.30-11.30am & 2-3pm in Village Hall
- Sat 22 **FREE** Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room
- Sun** 23 **FOURTH OF ADVENT** - Holy Communion 8am, Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** - Dressing of the Crib 2.30pm, Village Carol Service 6.30pm  
Midnight Mass 11.15pm
- Tues 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** - Sung Eucharist 11am
- Wed 26 **ST. STEPHEN'S DAY - BOXING DAY** - Holy Communion 10.30am
- Thurs 27 **ST JOHN** - Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 28 **HOLY INNOCENTS** - Holy Communion 10.30am

Recycling Collection

**ARTICLES** to Harbury Chemist, High Street by 5.30pm

Sat 29 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room run by Cricket Club  
 Sun 30 **FIRST OF CHRISTMAS** - Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am  
 Mon 31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

## JANUARY 2002

Tues 1 THE NAMING OF JESUS - Holy Communion 7.30pm  
 Hereburgh Morris' Hangover Tour around the pubs of Harbury, starting at The Crown, about noon  
 Wed 2 Prayer Meeting in Church 8pm  
 Thurs 3 Holy Communion 9.45am  
 Storytelling in the Library at 10am  
 Harbury Folk Club at the Dog Inn 8.30pm  
 Sat 5 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room run by Harbury School PTA  
 Sun 6 **THE EPIPHANY** – Sung Eucharist 9am; Evening Worship 6pm

## All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

1st Sunday in the month:	9.00am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Evening Worship
2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> (and 5 <sup>th</sup> ) Sunday in the month:	8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sung Eucharist
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month:	8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion 6.00pm Evensong
Every Sunday:	10.30am Sunday School (in Term Time)
Rector: Father Roy Brown, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel.: 612377	

## From the Rector

Seeing hot cross buns on sale recently in a local supermarket my next thought was to have a good moan by saying: *Isn't it awful to see seasons being pre-empted before they arrive?* Christmas is a typical example.

I agree that Advent is a time of preparation, so it is necessary to get ready both spiritually and materially by following the Advent themes in prayer and worship, and in buying presents and food in time for the Christmas festivities. But I am inclined to grumble about it becoming a mini Christmas in itself.

So I said to myself: *No, rector's comments are meant to be positive, not negative.* I also realised that my moans about celebrating Christmas are not only tiresome, but also illogical, because, although there is a season of Christmas in the church calendar, the message of that season is valid throughout the whole year.

The important fact we celebrate at Christmas is that God Himself "Came to this earth and walked about among us". That is how humanity came to be shown that God is a Person, not a face, and that this Person is not a vengeful thunderbolt-throwing being, nor is this Person another guise for Father Christmas.

Through the birth of the Man for all Seasons whom we call Jesus, the God of us all has revealed Himself and has shown Himself to be stern against evil, but full of love towards all that is good.

On Christmas Eve we celebrate that event. It's a celebration that is valid through the year, including the weeks leading up to Christmas. So when, during Advent, you are in some shop or motorway service station and hear "While Shepherds watched" being played for what seems like the hundredth time, instead of running dementedly out of the building, console yourself with the thought that the meaning of Christmas really does last throughout the year.

Although you will read this during Advent, you will realise from what I have written that I can say with a clear conscience:

**A Joyful, Happy Christmas  
and a Peaceful New Year with every blessing**

**Fr. Roy**

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## From the Registers

### Holy Baptism – All Saints' Harbury

11 <sup>th</sup> November	Jodie Maria Draper
18 <sup>th</sup> November	George Anthony Cree
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Poppy Joy Whittaker

### Funerals at All Saints' Harbury

12 <sup>th</sup> November	Phyllis Rig, 92
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### Funerals at Oakley Wood

13 <sup>th</sup> November	John Lewis, 73
16 <sup>th</sup> November	Margaret Bowie, 88

## From the Churchwardens

The Family Service in October featured John Stringer and 'Ronnie'. This time, Ronnie ventured onto the golf course and learned about giving something back to his father. As always, light hearted, but with a serious message. At the end of the service we were pleased to welcome Fr. Michael Peteman, Diocesan Stewardship Advisor, who together with our treasurer Liz McBride, talked about the responsibility of giving and the fact that - as we have mentioned previously - our current income is less than the expenditure of the church. Everyone was asked to look at their level of giving - in keeping with their circumstances. The Gift Aid scheme is a means of increasing the value of any gift by the amount of standard rate income tax that has been paid. This does not involve a commitment for any period of time, only a signature on a form - they are available in church. There are leaflets in church which explain the situation - see also last month's H&L News.

The Remembrance Service was, as always well attended and even more relevant at this time of conflict in the Middle East. The collection raised just under £300 for the British Legion. Earlier in the month, we celebrated our Patronal Festival - All Saints' Day - with a Eucharist service and a very pleasant faith supper.

**Felicity and John**

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Harbury Augmented Choir in rehearsal for their Gilbert and Sullivan evening

## Mothers' Union

Afternoon meeting: Pam Clarke's subject was 'Behold, I am doing a new thing' and she reminded us that the new Millennium was the ideal place to make a fresh start. Our Lord is constantly bringing challenges into our lives, and we must be prepared to face these tasks, whatever they may be, and carry them out to the very best of our ability.

Over the last 20 years, Pam and her husband, David have been faced with many life-changing decisions and have had the courage to let go and let God show them where their skills were most needed. From helping to build a school in India, requests have come to visit Israel, Rwanda, Tanzania and Albania. Always they have prayed and received clear answers as to whether they should accept or not. God has protected them through some very difficult encounters, and they feel privileged to have made some marvellous friendships along the way. Pam showed us a most attractive basket, made from 'recycled' aid sacks in Tanzania. Nothing is wasted – the sacks are taken apart, the fibres boiled, then dyed to be woven into various designs. Mothers' Union had sent gifts to the Tanzanians, and they felt they must give something back – a precious memento indeed.

Evening meeting: *Praying with Colour* was Barbara Hodge's chosen title. She brought along a selection of coloured paper squares and members were asked to choose the colour which most reminded them of God – certainly challenging, and most enlightening! Gold and Yellow seemed most popular – depicting bright light, sun and the welcome of God's love; orange reminded us of Autumn sunsets and warmth, and hope for next year; green – the calmness of nature all around us in mountains and valleys; blue for Mary and Jesus; pink for gentleness, but most thought-provoking colour is black – when we are at our lowest ebb, God is always there to lift us up.

### Next meetings:

Wed	5 Dec	2:00pm Service, 2.30pm Sue Boniface Prospects
		No evening meeting in December.
Wed	2 Jan	3:00pm Party (No service that day).

**Anne Moore**

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## Toddlers' Service

The November service was about St. Andrew, and led by Mrs. Ingrams. After our 'Thank You' prayer we marched and sang: *Oh, when the Saints go marching in*. Mrs. Ingrams then told us the story of St. Andrew the fisherman, who took his friends to meet Jesus.

We finished by making a picture of St. Andrew with a net full of fish. On each fish was one of our names.

The next service is on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** at 2.15pm.

**C. Mary Catt**

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## Christmas Coffee Morning

Once again Christmas is almost here and we are looking forward to our pre-Christmas Coffee Morning, which will be held on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** in the Tom Hauley Room from 10.00am to 12.00noon. As usual there will be mince pies etc. that, together with the coffee will be free. We will, however, be running a raffle – the proceeds of which will be divided equally between Myton Hospice and the Macmillan Nurse Fund.

We all hope that we will not need the services of these organisations, but there are many people in this village and elsewhere who do, and have been very grateful that the services are there to help when needed. We ask you all to come along and enjoy what is on offer and to give your support to these two worthy causes.

**Joyce Windsor**

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## Drop-in Tea

We are hoping to start a *drop-in* tea, on the fourth Wednesday of each month, at 19, Farm Street, beginning on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2002. This is especially for those who have been bereaved and we shall warmly welcome anyone of any age who feels this might be helpful.

We aim to offer friendship, a chance to chat, share, or just listen, while enjoying a cup of tea. This will not be for bereavement counselling. We hope it will be just an informal group where people can drop in any time between 2.30pm and 4.30pm to stay for as short or as long a time as they wish. If you would like to know more, please contact either Pam Brown at the Rectory or Jill Winter.

**Jill Winter 612585**

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## Laugh Line

At the end of his sermon the vicar told his congregation that Jesus had called him to another church. The congregation then sang lustily: *What a friend we have in Jesus*.

# Ladbroke News

## DECEMBER

- Sun 2 ADVENT SUNDAY - Sung Eucharist 9am; Evensong 4pm  
 Sun 9 SECOND OF ADVENT - Sung Communion 9am  
 Mon 10 WI Carol Service at Long Itchington Church; Celebrations at The Nickelodeon, Ashorne  
 WI Short mat bowls match against Marton 8pm  
 Tues 11 Millennium Prize Draw at The Bell Inn 7.45pm  
 Wed 12 Holy Communion 2pm; Women's Fellowship 2.45pm  
 Sat 15 **ADVERTS to 31, Binswood End, Harbury by 5.30pm**  
 Sun 16 THIRD OF ADVENT - Sung communion 9am  
 Sun 23 FOURTH OF ADVENT - Sung Communion 9am  
 Children's Church 10.30am  
 Mon 24 CHRISTMAS EVE – Dressing of the Crib 3.30pm  
 Tues 25 CHRISTMAS DAY – Sung Communion 9.30am  
 Wed 26 ST. STEPHEN'S DAY – BOXING DAY  
 Fri 28 **ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist, High Street, Harbury by 5.30pm**  
 Sun 30 FIRST OF CHRISTMAS - Sung Communion 9am  
 Village Carol Service 6pm  
 Mon 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

## JANUARY 2002

- Tues 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY  
 Sun 6 THE EPIPHANY - Family Communion 10.30am

## Ladbroke Flower Rota

No flowers in Advent; Jean Clews is doing the Altar flowers for Christmas and the usual flower Rota members are doing the other arrangements around the Church.

Christmas Day falls on a Tuesday this year.

## Ladbroke Church News

The Christmas Fayre was, I think, the best ever. We made £632 if my mathematics is correct. We know by the number of tickets sold at the door that more than 90 people visited the Fayre. Thanks once again to a band of enthusiastic helpers and our generous supporters.

P.S. The Christmas Day service is at 9.30am.

May I wish the Editors and their merry band of helpers a

Really Happy Christmas with thanks for all their hard work.

**Betty Winkfield**

## All Saints' Church Ladbroke Development Plan

Members of the PCC have set up this fund raising scheme.

The main object of this plan is to raise enough money to build an extension to the north elevation of the Church, to house toilet and pantry facilities that we, at All Saints' Church, do not have. We do not even have water connected to the Church, so when we serve refreshments at our services we have to bring water in and take home all china to be washed.

We have already been very busy raising funds and are very grateful to receive any donations towards this purpose large or small. We had a very successful Cheese and Wine evening at the home of Catherine and Cyril Spence and raised over £258. Our thanks to you both.

If you feel that you could help in any way then feel free to contact.

**Jo Sowerby (811749)**

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## Women's Fellowship

Many, many thanks to all the ladies who have been knitting garters for our stall at the Bazaar at Tysoe Manor, held on November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Ladies from Harbury, Southam, Deppers Bridge and Ladbroke took part in the knitting marathon; we made about 90 pairs altogether! I'm very sorry to say that we only sold about 35 of them, but we've made many contacts so I'm very hopeful.

After all that we had a talk by Bill Davies at our November meeting – would you believe – we've now started knitting hats for the Mission to Seafarers (no peace for the wicked)? Bill's talk was very interesting. What a hard life it really is for some of the people who work on these huge tankers – sometimes leaving the scorching sun in one half of the world and not seeing daylight again until they meet the freezing temperatures in Scotland. That's where Bill's hats are very welcome. Thank you very much Bill for a thought provoking talk.

December's meeting will be our special service (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, as usual) in Church with Readings and Carols, with Christmas tea afterwards at Jo Sowerby's, Archer's Rest.

**Betty Winkfield**

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## A. Funny

Young pupil to dinner lady: *Are you old?* Dinner Lady: *Yes.* Pupil: *Are you as old as my gran?* Dinner Lady: *I don't know, how old is your gran?* Pupil: *21.*

**Somebody's fooling somebody!**

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## Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I.

The meeting, held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Village Hall, was very well attended by members and visitors - in fact the car park was full. The President welcomed everyone.

The Carol Service will be held at Long Itchington Church on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December**. Programmes have been distributed. Betty will read a lesson.

Our Christmas celebrations will be held at The Nickelodeon, Ashorne on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December**. Sheena has organised the transport, so we hope for a smoother journey than last year!

There will be a Short mat bowls match against Marton on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December** at 8pm at Harbury Club. Supporters needed.

Deposits were taken for the County visit to Kensington Palace in February 2002.

The speakers and demonstrators for the evening were 'Ladies in Pigs', known as LIPS. Ten years ago, when the trade in pigs reached rock bottom, the wives of some pig farmers felt they had to do something to promote British pig meat. Hence a national organisation called LIPS was formed.

Christine and Marion from Atherstone and Hinckley, cooked Moroccan style mince pork with curry sauce, apricots and red pepper, and Thai pork. The aroma, as they cooked, made us all feel hungry and we were delighted that they had enough for us all to sample. The samples were delicious and quite quick and easy to cook. They told us later that this was their first demonstration as they are usually behind the scenes. British pork today is much leaner and most members will be making certain that the pork they buy is British. We were all given recipe books and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Jenny gave the vote of thanks.

Julia and Stella won the raffle prizes.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2002** when Mr. Winterburn will tell us about *little known Warwickshire*.

Best wishes to all for a peaceful and happy Christmas  
and a happy 2002.

**Hazel Sharples**

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## **Ladbroke Village hall**

The tenth draw of the Club for 2001 was held on November 9<sup>th</sup> at The Bell Inn. The winners were: Mary Coley £80; K. Tancock £50; and Beryl Ross £25. Susan Moore, Pete Edgar, Mike Todman, Jo Elliott and Kim Ryan each won £10.

The next prize draw will be held on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.45pm at The Bell Inn.

Please remember that payments for the next six months (for those not using standing orders) become due from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2002.

**Catherine Spence**

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## **Ladbroke Millennium Green**

*The Millennium Green has been awarded third prize in the overall winners' section of the Warwickshire Village Ventures Competition.*

Supported by Warwickshire County Council, North Warwickshire and Rugby Borough Councils, Warwick and Stratford District Councils and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council the competition, with over 80 entries, sought to highlight and reward voluntary effort that seeks to improve community life in Warwickshire's small towns and villages.

The Award Ceremony was held at Shire Hall Warwick on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. A cheque for £125 and a certificate were presented by the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Mr. Martin Dunne J.P. to the Millennium Green Trust's representatives: Peter and Christine Baker, Sue Halsall and myself. The money will help towards maintenance costs.



Left to Right: David Halsall, Chris Baker, Sue Halsall and Peter Baker

The competition was very well organised by Linda Ridgley, Warwickshire Rural Community Council who through her enthusiasm made the awards' presentation particularly enjoyable.

### **David Halsall - Chairman**

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## **Ladbroke Parish Council Report Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>**

Three villagers joined the 4 parish councillors, district councillor, parish clerk and footpath officer at the above meeting in the Village Hall.

Unfortunately District Council Chairman Les Topham was not able to be present.

Restorative work in the village: The dead branch that was overhanging Church Road by the bridge has now been removed.

It was noted that the kissing gate over the bridge between Farnyard Field and the Millennium Green needed to be re-hung.

Planning Matters: Parish Councillors were very disappointed to learn that the Appeal in respect of the removal of hedges had been allowed and three hedges already been removed.

Drainage: Work has been carried out by many of the owners of property, which includes the stream banks.

Financial matters: There was much discussion regarding the summary of receipts and payments that had been prepared by the Responsible Financial Officer (Elsa). We also discussed the money which we feel will be needed in the next financial year. This will be finalised next month.

Footpath report: Michael Boden Pritchett and Sarah Manchester (Stratford District Council Footpath Liaison Officer) had walked the

majority of the footpaths in the village. The temporary diversion on the walk from Chapel Ascote has been lifted. Sarah promised to organise a 'Rangers' team' to clear some of the bridle ways.

District Councillor's Report (Jim Taylor): The new cabinet structure of local government is now fully working and is being evaluated. Elizabeth House, the central offices of the District Council in Stratford, is to be moved to an out of town location. This will release Elizabeth House and its environs for other use.

The new refuse collection has started and most villagers appear to have received their boxes. However, anyone not in receipt of a box can contact the District Council.

There are ongoing discussions regarding the flooding in the district, which includes Ladbroke, at the Area Community meeting.

The Stratford on Avon Draft Local Plan for 2001 – 2011 is now out for consultation.

Any Other Business: Bev Bradley took the opportunity to urge all present not to miss the Arabian Evening, including belly dancers, on November 23<sup>rd</sup>! I'm sure the Village Hall committee members have tickets available .....if you're quick.

**Carol Lane**

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*Apologies – due to the wanders of the internet, we mislaid the following article. The Editors*

## **Ladbroke Millennium Green Trust**

Nominations are invited for the position of Trustee on the above charity. There are 6 other Trustees, each serving a 4 year term of office and we meet approximately 3 times per year, plus the AGM and the occasional working party!

Expressions of interest should be made to Carol Lane on 814715 by 31<sup>st</sup> December.

**Carol Lane**

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## **Harbury Parish Council Meeting - Nov.**

There was no policeman present but a crime report was emailed to the Clerk detailing three burglaries, criminal damage and thefts from and to cars. Quick-witted village children reported one incident and as a result an arrest has been made.

Chairman Dutch Van Spall, safely returned from military duty, remarked "the police seem to be getting a grip on crime". Neighbourhood Watch may go ahead without an overall Co-ordinator, but even if we get someone his or her identity will remain secret!

Deppers Bridge is to get its Traffic Calming and Play Area improvements at long last. Dutch railed at length about the iniquities of EU regulations claiming they vastly increased costs to the Parish. They were obliged to use approved contractors and year on year were subject to more regulation.

The Clerk is securing quotations from local contractors for Play Equipment repairs in the hope they are cheaper. Stratford District Council has offered quarterly safety inspections for only £150 and the Parish Council has expressed an interest. Stratford also sent details of Youth Shelters.

The Youth Project on Harbury Playing Fields is proceeding. The Tarmac is laid, and the "Fun Box" ordered. The area is already being well used. Several helpful suggestions were made about the availability of grants to complete the project.

The Tennis Club gave notice that they are downsizing their improvement scheme (abandoning plans to build a new area of hard-surface). They intend to apply for grants for the rest of the scheme including the lighting and storage building. They will need to remove the conifers planted to the south of the Tennis Courts, which are overshadowing the playing areas and encouraging the growth of moss. *(Such trees grow rapidly – they have no other virtues!)*

Planning: Stratford D.C. approved the felling of Leylandii and a Eucalyptus at 8, Farm Street, and three Leylandii and a Rowan at Temple Cottage. *(See!)*

They granted permission for the extension at Sharmer Fields but with conditions on adequate separation from other premises. They refused permission for an extension at Compton House, High Street and expansion of Bellringer House in Mill Street. The appeal against refusal for internal alterations at Harbury House has been withdrawn.

The Parish had no comments to make about the proposed Swimming Pool at Heron's Cabin in Bush Heath Lane.

The County Council's solicitors have asked Harbury Parish Council whether they want to complete the footpath along the eastern side of Crown Street, but having started the hare Councillors wanted nothing to do with the chase.

They protested that it was purely a legal matter of ownership for the County to determine, although several Councillors, who had been absent from previous meetings, asserted that they recalled there being no path in front of the Homestead.

County Councillor David Booth said he had received more letters about this issue than any other. It was often the case that a householder owned up to the middle of the road but with a right of access in front of his house. What the County Council were asking was whether the Parish Council favoured the "nice anomaly in Crown Street" remaining or wanted the footpath extended. The Parish Council refused to commit itself!

Alan Guy gave a presentation on the invasiveness of Japanese Knotweed, a fascinating single sex introduction that has nevertheless spread rampantly and now threatens to engulf Bull Ring Lane!

Gardeners are aghast and Alan offered to help eradicate the weed if the Parish would pay approximately £300 per year for the materials. As usual the Parish tried to pass the expense on. They want the County Council to do the job or pay for it. Dutch wanted to use the media to

expose their lack of action but the plant is deciduous and there would be little to see at this time of year.

Asked about progress on the boundary changes the Clerk replied that there was no news but at the last meeting District Councillor Daly had said that Bishops had “a very good case” for claiming the Quarries.

**Linda Ridgley**

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*The Parish Council has an old 386 computer which is surplus to requirements and is free to a good home. Please contact the Clerk on 614646.*

## Planning – What Is It All About!

Enforcement: There are a surprising number of things you can do to your property that do not require Planning Permission: small additions, extensions etc, but this “Permitted Development” is complicated and the exact limits are different for Listed Buildings, those in Conservation Areas and buildings which have already been extended. Talk to the Planners is the best advice and remember whether you need Planning Permission or not you will probably need to satisfy the Building Regulations.

Surprisingly there are quirks and loopholes in Planning Law. You do not need to own a site or property to be able to apply for Planning Permission for it! And, in theory, it is not illegal to make changes without applying for Planning Permission.

However, if you are found out the Planners take “enforcement action” and can demand that you do apply for Planning Permission, often termed “a retrospective application”. If you refuse or if you submit an application, which is subsequently turned down – then you are in trouble.

It is possible for the law to demand that you undo all you have already done and in extreme cases fully completed homes have been demolished. On the other hand if your development is not brought to the attention of the authorities or they do not take action against you within ten years, in many cases you will then be exempt from prosecution!

Another loophole is the claim of “Existing Use” where land has been used without Planning Permission, but that use predates the Planning Legislation. Much of the development at the Airfield along Harbury Lane is covered by this clause. In such cases if the applicant proves his point that use is deemed permissible - however anti-social it may be.

Next time: the development plan process.

**Linda Ridgley**

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## Harbury Society



Harbury Society

David Howe, an ex-English teacher, inspector and lecturer was our most entertaining speaker to date. He took us through the pitfalls, intricacies and idiocies of English with examples of the difficulties for both native speakers and foreigners.

Ours is a rapidly developing, mongrel language that has borrowed extensively from others. Dr. Johnson fixed many of our spellings.

Others sought to codify the grammar and prohibited such horrors as split infinitives and prepositions ending sentences. But it is usage that dictates what is and is not acceptable. The plural of computer mouse is still being fought over (mice or mouses?).

Mr. Howe ended with humorous one-liners: *five gaoled in cigarette case; March planned for August; Anonymous letter writer gets long sentence.* He must return!

John & Ed are planning another of their famous post Christmas Walks and the Society Dinner will be at the end of January.

**Linda Ridgley**

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## Generations Apart

In "Generations Apart" the Theatre Group is aiming for warmth and humour shared by a closer and more involved audience than is possible on a conventional stage. It's not just the Royal Shakespeare Company that wants to get the action closer to the audience!

*Paul meets Anne at the 1969 Isle of Wight Pop Festival and falls in love. He is torn between Anne and his sensible fiancée Maureen. The conflict causes his father, Albert, to have a heart attack and Paul returns to his family and family business.*

*A present day encounter with Anne rekindles old flames. Romance blossoms between Paul's son Al and Anne's daughter Julie, but the events of one week in 1969 affect the whole family.*

Alison Hodge, the Director comments "Peter Gordon has written an amusing gentle comedy, and periods and characters smoothly shift and change. Music will set the scenes and take you back to the era of free love, and bring you forward to the present day".

Enjoy it on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>, Friday 25<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2002 in Harbury Village Hall.

Why travel for live theatre when live theatre will come to you?

**John Stringer - Harbury Theatre Group**

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## Harbury Folk Club

At the 204<sup>th</sup> Harbury Folk Club the theme was Fire and Rain in celebration of Bonfire Night! This was obviously a very popular theme as there was an amazing 18 sets of performers.

True to form The Harvesters had great difficulty sticking to the theme, but they did manage to find two songs that mentioned both elements.

Peter McDonald had far more success with *Captain Swing* and hit the nail right on the head with *Fire and Rain*. Brian stuck to the theme with 2 fiddle tunes and Pete & Liz followed with *The Loch Tay Boat Song* and then Pete went solo with *Dog in the Microwave* (Liz didn't seem keen to join him in that one!) Des closed the 1<sup>st</sup> half with a song about Bonfire Night.

Band of Folk opened the 2<sup>nd</sup> half with 2 tunes, but I can't spell them! It was good to see Rick back at the club singing *Jolly Wagoner* and *Butter & Cheese & All*. Margaret sang a lovely version of *I think it's gonna rain today*. John Black followed with *Joan of Arc*. Janny and Maureen gave us some great harmony singing with *Two Brothers*. Newcomers, Dave

and Bruce, had us all joining in with their songs. Keith Donnelly finished the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and managed to play guitar even with his injured arm!

The 3<sup>d</sup> half commenced with Keith and Jonathan from Warwick Folk Club followed by Ron in excellent form with *Wine & Water*. Pete Grassby gave a fine rendition of *The Oggie Man*. Gilly gave us *Can't let Go* and Stan followed with *All the friends I ever had are gone*. Ruth finished the evening with her lovely singing of *100 Tears Away*.

The raffle raised £42.50 for Macmillan Nurses. Thank you to all the performers and the audience for being there! We had a great evening.

**Sue Hartland**

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## Hereburgh Morris

Compared with other years, it feels that 2001 has not been one of our busiest years. We did visit Sidmouth Folk Festival where we enjoyed dancing with hundreds of other Morris dancers on the sea front in glorious sunshine. Apart from that, most of our dancing was confined to the Midlands. Perhaps our busiest weekend was the Warwick Folk Festival, and the highlight of this event must have been dancing at the Festival Service in St. Mary's Church, Warwick.

One of the reasons why we have not been more adventurous is that a number of events we would have considered had to be cancelled owing to the foot and mouth disease.

In spite of the limited amount of travelling we have still enjoyed the year, and our membership continues to be about 26. Numbers attending the weekly practice sessions usually exceed 20.

We will be rounding off this year in our usual way by joining forces with the Folk Club to go Carol Singing round the village pubs on the evening of **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. We will also be welcoming the New Year with our customary "Hangover Tour" **over lunchtime of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2002**. On both occasions we will be collecting for charity, so if you see us, please give generously.

Next year promises to be busy and exciting, with an itinerary which includes a cycle and dance tour of a central area of The Netherlands. In the longer term we have been invited to dance at Palmerstone, New Zealand in 2003, and to Brittany to dance at the Brest Maritime Festival in 2004.

We are always keen to welcome new members, so if you are interested in taking part, please contact me or any other member of the side, or just turn up at one of the practices, which take place every Wednesday evening at 8:00pm in Harbury School hall.

**Peter Bones - Squire**

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## Harbury 1<sup>st</sup> Beavers

Who are we? We are a group of energetic, enthusiastic, lively and sometimes quite loud (?) six to eight year old boys who meet once a week in the Scout Hut.

What do we do? We like doing lots of different activities including games, sports, crafts, hikes, playing with our friends and occasional outings.

What do we need? We need a committed, interested person – or better still, two to share the work – who can give up 1 to 2 hours per week to organise and lead our meetings and be our new warranted leader. We have several nice Mums and Dads who would be prepared to help the new leader on a rota basis and generally in giving support.

Harbury 1<sup>st</sup> Beavers have been forced to close due to the lack of a new warranted leader. Beavers provide an important introduction to the scouting movement for young boys and the children enjoy and appreciate their weekly meetings.

If anyone, male or female, feels that they could take on this commitment (you don't have to be a parent just have an interest) please contact either Janet Hoskins (614349) or Nicola Thompson (614452) to find out more. If a new leader cannot be found soon, Beavers will remain closed, which will be a shame and a loss for the whole community.

**Janet Hoskins**

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## Bonfire Night



**Bonfire Builders 2001**



### Rocket Science

L to R. Ron Grey, Rick Evans, Mike McBride, Brian Ingram



The Clifton Twins Enjoying Hot Dogs

## Remembrance Sunday



British Legion Flags Dipped in Respect of the Fallen



**Two Minutes Silence at the War Memorial**

## Harbury Nursery School

The Nursery children have been exploring colours. Their response has been very enthusiastic and Henry has impressed us by insisting he wears the 'right colour' clothes for each week. The children listened to the story of *The Blue Balloon*, made blue collages and told us some of the places they would like to go if a blue balloon carried them away.

Holly: *I would like to go to the zoo to see pelicans, goats, giraffes, elephants and some little white things in the rocks - you know, penguins!*

Lucy: *In my blue balloon I would go to Nanny Bobby's to have some tea.*

The Nursery children are looking forward to an exciting Christmas. They have been practising their singing for the Tom Hauley Coffee Morning on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December**, 10am – 12noon. Tina Varriale and Kate Smart have been implementing some new ideas they learnt on a recent singing and music course given by Sue Nicholls, a music teacher who is often working for the BBC to promote a love of music in the early years. The Nursery shares Sue's belief that music should be fun and relevant to the children and we hope that many of you will come along on December 6<sup>th</sup> to hear the results. There will be a giant raffle, cakes, calendars, posters and cards to buy as well. Please do come and support us.

Family and relations are invited to the Nursery Christmas Concert on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December**, 10.00am in the School Hall.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about the Nursery or booking a place, please ring Kate on 612656.

**Marie Kennedy**

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## The Pre-School - Learning Through Play

November has been an extremely busy month for the Pre-School children with the many autumn themes to explore and learn from.



The children made wax pictures of bonfires and fireworks, which were extremely colourful and 'firey'. They also went walking into the fields to collect autumn leaves and to see how the trees and shrubs change into such wonderful colours at this time of year. With their collection of leaves, the children made collages and did leaf printing with paints, which looked rather splendid.

To celebrate the Hindu festival Diwali, the children made clay lamps for Lakshmi the Goddess of Wealth, and made beautiful sand pictures to welcome in the new year – the children learnt how many Hindus in India create sand pictures and put them outside their front doors to welcome visitors.

The Pre-School have purchased some amazing brand-new tractors and prams for the children to play with – which are most certainly developing the children's skills at sharing and taking turns!

Whilst the children already enjoy the indoor climbing/gym equipment with great big red crash mats, we have just added to this some hoops, beanbags, etc., to introduce even more fun into our gym and balance activities. Most of our youngest feet can now jump onto the mat with two feet together, and some of our older feet have already mastered hopscotch and skipping! Olga Korbett would be proud!

To help extend the children's learning through role-play, we will be introducing some group drama sessions in the New Year. We are also looking forward to Mme. Julie Tourigny visiting the Pre-School to sing French songs with the children.

In November, Yvette Tanner, the Pre-School Leader, completed a training course on Outdoor Play, which has already made Yvette start planning some interesting water experiments for the children to do outside. Yvette has also started a course on Behavioural Management.

Government funding (free Nursery sessions) is available for all 4 year olds for up to 5 sessions per week. The funding still applies if your child attends more than one Nursery. We have just heard some good news from Warwickshire County Council (W.C.C.) who has decided to fund Nursery places for 3year-old children born before 31<sup>st</sup> August 1998. This means that children will receive funding earlier than previously. The Pre-School welcomes all children from 2 years 9 months old up to

school age, and welcomes this move by the W.C.C. to fund even more free Nursery places for young children.

Parents, staff and children of the Pre-School are extremely grateful to the Wagstaffe Education Foundation who has given a generous donation to fund the construction of our classroom shelving. Everyone – whether they be past or present supporters of the Pre-School – are thankful to the Trustees for the continued and loyal support they provide.

In response to great demand, the Pre-School is holding another Under 5's Disco on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December** from 5.00 – 6.30pm at the Harbury Village Club, so kids, tell all your little friends to come along. Entrance is £2.50 on the door, which includes drinks, crisps, games and a Christmas present from the one and only Father Christmas. Also, the very popular and rather trendy glow-in-the-dark jewellery will be for sale; earrings, necklaces and glo-wands, all at £1 each. Face painting is on offer at 50p per child. For the parents, the Village Club Bar will be open for business – need we say more?

## **Pre-School Committee**

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## **Harbury Primary School**

**Vandalism** – There seems to be more anti-social behaviour around the village and the school than any of us can remember. We are told that some of this relates to others coming into Harbury from further a field. Could we ask everyone to be especially vigilant and nosy even, and if children from our school, past or present, are involved in any way please let us know. We feel that we have a duty to try to support the whole community and we are perfectly prepared to contact parents on the village's behalf. This reduces the chances for possible conflict between families and can resolve the anti-social behaviour of some of the younger element. We are regularly finding beer cans and bottles thrown onto the premises from Park Lane and Back Lane. These have obviously been consumed by under-age drinkers and then disposed of. They could cause a danger to people entering school and we'd like to find out who is doing it and try to put a stop to it.

**Sponsored Walk** – Many thanks to everyone for yet another year's fantastic support, children, parents, friends, relatives and neighbours. Collection is an unbelievable £1,100.00.

### **Sports**

Soccer – Recent results have been an away win for Harbury at Bishops, a home win against Stockton and a fantastic match away to St. Mary's which resulted in a 1 – 0 win for them – just!

Cross Country – Well done to both boys' and girls' teams in the recent event. They each scored the best (i.e. lowest) scores we've ever had in a cross country match and both teams came higher up the table than any other team we've entered. Boys came in 4<sup>th</sup>, girls in 5<sup>th</sup> place. Final races will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2002.

Netball – The girls played a thrilling game against St. Mary's but didn't quite manage to win. Prior to that they drew against Stockton. Practices for soccer and netball finish this week and the girls have one last game next Wednesday. Both resume sometime in early February, weather permitting.

**Quiz Night** – This was judged to be a great success with everyone thoroughly enjoying themselves. Many thanks to the PTA and especially

to Mr. Mark and Mrs. Linda Casement who did such a tremendous job setting the questions. There was an enormous number of teams and, apparently, a visiting group of “professionals” took the winner’s prize. Let’s hope this didn’t dampen spirits.

**Discos** – After some considerable thought the PTA and staff have decided that the school’s discos are for Harbury School pupils only. Older and/or ex-pupils are not going to be allowed in as this creates extra responsibility for the adults who are helping. Children of PTA members working on the evening are an exception.

Christmas Disco to be held on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December** usual times and prices.

**Paul Milner**

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## Harbury PTA

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November saw the PTA run their annual Quiz Night in the Village Hall. The turnout was tremendous with 32 teams squeezing into the Hall. The first position went to ‘Break like the Wind’ and a tie for the wooden spoon between ‘Start Kicking’ and ‘Diagonal Dash’.

Many thanks to Mark Casement and Ian Panton for the evening’s entertainment. Special thanks also must go to their wives Linda and Sue and to Ruth Thurogood for all their hard work. Everyone I have spoken to thoroughly enjoyed the evening and an enormous £672 was made for the school funds. Thanks to all who attended.

We still have 2 events this term. We will be helping out at the Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December** and we are holding a School Christmas Disco (for children who presently attend Harbury School) on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December**. Infants from 6.15 to 7.15pm (£2 per child) and Juniors from 7.30 to 9.00pm (£1 per child). We will also again be selling luminous jewellery at £1 per item. Hopefully this time we will have a lot more earrings.

The PTA is hosting the Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2002** – donations of raffle prizes (can be taken to school this term) and cakes would be appreciated on the day.

Planning for next year is already under way. Events include: an 80/20 Sale for School children’s books/toys in early February; Family Line Dancing, possibly in March; hopefully our Annual Beer Walk, and the School Summer Fayre. Details to be announced nearer the time or contact me on 612479.

**Susan Graydon**

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## Harbury Cricket Club

The season is now long past and we are looking forward to the Annual Dinner. Nearly all the teams enjoyed some level of success.

The averages for the Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> XI led by John Wilkinson are now available and show a very fine all round performance by John Clifford and Adrian Clack. Perhaps the most encouraging aspect is the appearance of Greg Neale and Stuart Muggleston in the bowling averages. The averages are given below and demonstrate that there are some very good cricketers in the Harbury Club.

The Sunday Occasionals had a rather limited season but succeeded in encouraging some good young players through the father/son policy. The most notable match was when Harbury's 221 for 8 was overhauled by Kenilworth Wardens with 223 for 4. In that game fine individual batting performances came from Ian Brierley (32), Ian Jackson (40, retired exhausted) and Richard Montague (49, but would have scored twice as many had he not been batting with an exhausted Ian Jackson). The two league teams had good seasons.

Tim Clayton who pursued a firm youth policy that led to some success and great enjoyment ably led the Evening League side.

The combined Harbury/Southam side, which continues to be disparagingly called Southam III/Harbury by Southam CC, was certainly no third team side in its division. There were some outstanding performances from Ed Russell with bat and ball. Ed is clearly playing well below his class because he is selflessly determined to keep Harbury in competitive cricket, but there were also some fine knocks from Will Russell, and some good cricket from Tim Clayton and the two youngsters Stuart and Greg mentioned above.

The Club ran its successful annual coaching scheme from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August this year. The attendance was around thirty boys on most days and senior coach, Mike Daniels, produced a really good atmosphere in which enjoyment was the predominant element. The older age group had more intensive net coaching with John Clifford. The week ended with two exciting matches against Long Itchington CC. The younger age group won with 63 for 3 off 12 overs against Long Itchington's 62 for 4 off 20 overs. The older side could only score 76 all out in reply to Long Itchington's 104 for 4, but the man of the match – playing in completely the wrong age group – was young Philip Mugleston with 15 runs and two wickets. The future looks bright.

#### Averages Sunday Team 2001

Played: 16      Won: 7      Lost: 6      Abandoned: 3

Batting Averages: (Qualification – 5 Innings – Average 10.0)

	Innings	Not Out	Runs Scored	Highest Score	Average
John Clifford	12	1	330	61	30.0
Adrian Clack	11	1	254	63	25.4
Ian Lowe	10	1	217	52*	24.1
John Wilkinson	14	0	336	68	24.0
Tim Clayton	7	2	102	29	20.4
Phil Linnett	6	0	117	69	19.5
Richard Carr	7	3	60	19	15.0
Les Sollis	10	2	98	32	12.3

Scores above 50: Adrian Clack, 63, 61, 54; John Wilkinson, 68, 53; John Clifford, 61, 52; Phil Linnett, 69; Ian Lowe, 52\*; Will Russell, 50\*.

Bowling: (Qualification – Bowled in 5 Matches – 5 Wickets)

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
John Clifford	87.4	6	286	21	13.6
Adrian Clack	21.5	2	97	7	13.9
Greg Neale	95	9	304	20	15.2
Ian Lowe	76.5	10	248	12	20.7
Simon Mugleston	45	4	199	9	22.1

Tim Clayton	39.1	3	149	5	29.8
Richard Lowe	54	5	248	8	31.0

Best Bowling: John Clifford 4-17, 4-19, 4-21; Greg Neale 4-18, 4-25.

Catches: (Qualification – 3 catches) Richard Carr, 5; John Wilkinson, 4; Adrian Clack, 3. (There were 10 unrecorded catches out of 32 taken.)

Stumpings: Richard Car, 1; Brian Tegg, 1; Darren Papworth, 1.

## **Ian Jackson**

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## **Harbury Junior Football Club**



The Harbury Junior Football Club is holding a Christmas Bingo for all the family on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December** at the Village Hall from 6.30pm. Eyes Down at 7 o'clock! There will be a raffle and refreshments.

## **Harbury Junior Football Club**

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## **Do You Know the Origins of**

The Village Bonfire Party?

The Garden Walkabout?

The Christmas Fayre?

The Harbury & Ladbroke News?

The Saturday Coffee Mornings?

The Library, Scout Hut and Play Group Facility?

The Monthly Afternoon Teas?

The Saturday Lunches?

All these functions are an accepted part of village life in Harbury. We have just watched the fireworks (part of the Bonfire Party) from the comfort of our armchairs as seen from our sitting room window in Constance Drive and we remember the early days when we annually fed 700 people with Hot Dogs, Soup, Crisps and drinks. The soup was made in a wash boiler and needed stirring constantly to stop it sticking to the bottom.

The Harbury & Ladbroke News speaks for itself and us all and is put together by a dedicated team of people month by month.

The Coffee Mornings now make somewhere around £7,000 a year for a variety of different causes.

The Lunches provide a good meal and pleasant company at a reasonable price and are an important social function.

The Afternoon Teas have now been running for a year and the numbers are growing steadily. Where else can you get a cup of tea and a piece of cake for 50p?

The Garden Walkabout has been organised for many years by the Horticultural Society and amazingly, is still as popular as ever.

Have you answered the question? The answer is that Harbury Church initiated them all, and indeed, still underwrites some of them. It is gratifying to think that our ideas were good enough to survive, some of them for 25 to 30 years, and we are grateful that in some cases they have been carried on by other people and organisations.

## Read About a Village

After its mention in last month's editorial, the Editors have asked me to explain how a Swedish teacher came to be writing a children's book about Harbury!

I first met Lars Nilsson and his wife Kickie at an exhibition in London. They invited me back to Skara, near Gothenburg, to give in-service training to Swedish teachers. The teachers enjoyed both the science and the English language! I met Mia, their daughter, also a teacher now, and their son Micke, then six years old. He proudly took me to school and showed me to his teacher as a kind of curiosity. *He can't speak Swedish!* he explained.

Lars is an anglophile who visits the UK frequently and follows both the football and the music scene. He is a devotee of the folk group 'Fairport Convention' which is based just across the Oxfordshire border in Cropredy. He also writes – notably a regular news sheet for Swedish head teachers that keeps them up-to-date with national and international education news. He also writes schoolbooks about England. His 'Read About' series has books on football – featuring Micke and his beloved Manchester United – Kings and Queens and the Tower of London. The text is aimed at young Swedes, and the unusual English words are translated at the back.

Lars and Micke visited for the book during the flower festival last year. They met village people and took photographs. 'Read About a Village' features Jonathan Guy from Mill Street. It places Harbury on the map, and tells about some village events and people. There are copies in the library.

Lars is now Chief Education Officer in Mellerud. I'm sure he will be visiting Harbury again soon, when he may sing at the Folk Club once more. His English is impeccable – and he knows a few words of Welsh. On a visit to a folk club in Swansea, he was the only contributor to sing in the national language.

**John Stringer**

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## Harbury Village Hall

After many years of diligent service Mr. and Mrs. Pratt have decided that they wish to retire as Village Hall cleaners at the end of this year and the Committee is faced with finding a replacement.

They will be a hard act to follow, but the Hall is a valuable asset to our community.

If any of our readers can offer their services for this essential, worthwhile and paid position, will they please contact the Chairman, Brian Ingram (612418)? He will be happy to give further details including salary.

**W.H. Middleton on behalf of the Committee**

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## Pensioners' Patio

First things first: my apologies to the entire robin family and also to William Wordsworth. Last month I wondered why on earth the poet had

described the pugnacious little bird as 'pious'. I didn't have long to wait for the answer – a reader, to whom I am truly indebted, soon rang to remind me of the legend which relates that the robin, unhappy at the sight of Christ on the cross, did his best to remove the crown of thorns, thereby tearing his own breast. Moved to explore further, I soon found rival explanations – the most seasonable one attributes the red patch to the scorching caused when using his wings to fan the embers of a dying fire lighted to warm the newly-born Christ child.

Skins of wild geese flew overhead the other day, prompting once again that sense of wonder at the mysteries of migration. Inherited memory and sensitivity to the earth's magnetic field no doubt provide part of the explanation but whether it's a case of great flocks flying as one, or an individual setting off for the first time and following by instinct its ancestors' traditional route, there's something involved known only to the creatures themselves.

Another instinct seemed to be at work the other day in one of the regular starling visitors. After inspecting a sizeable feather dropped by a collared dove, he picked it up, balancing it carefully in his beak, and flew off with it. A gift for some lady starling he's already got lined up in his sights? Or does he know this is the season for present giving?

And also for good wishes: may there be enough true magic around at midnight on Christmas Eve for you to hear the animals conversing – the gift of speech, this legend tells, is conferred on all beasts once a year, the reward for the warm breath of the ox and ass which warmed the baby Jesus in the manger.

And, of course, may all your universal pansies keep their heads held high no matter what weather the winter throws at them!

The compliments of the season to you all.

**Edyth Algar**

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## Horticultural Society

It seems that the last time Mr. Bob Sherman talked to the Society about *Potagers* was eight years ago. Unfortunately, Gremlins had got amongst the slides but the talk was still interesting and informative.

Judy managed to squeeze the AGM in before the talk, our new committee is as follows: Chair, Mrs. Judy Morrell; Treasurer, Mr. John Clifford; Secretary, Mrs. Daphne Clifford; Show Secretary, Mrs. Janice Sidde. We welcome Mr. Alan Barr to the committee and say farewell to Mrs. Vivienne Neill (with our sincere thanks for all the work that she put in during her time with us), otherwise the committee remains as it was.

A Bursary will again be awarded at the next meeting to one of our members to cover the cost of one of a selection of courses at Ryton, Moreton Morell or Pershore. Anyone wishing to take part should contact Judy Morell before the next meeting.

Please will everyone submit their seed orders (and monies) to Mrs. Heather Turner no later than the next meeting, on December 4<sup>th</sup> – the last meeting of this year, so that she may do the necessary processing and send off our orders in time for an early delivery?

When shopping at Garden Centres that offer discounts, please remember that if you wish to claim your discount to produce your current membership card before the sale is rung up on the till.. If you have not

paid your subs yet, I am sure that Mr. John Clifford will be pleased to see you and issue the necessary card. Participating nurseries are:

**Bridge Nursery** (open April to October) 10%;

**Beatty**, plants only;

**Charlcote**, plants and flowers over £5;

**Charlcote Garden Centre**, under negotiation.

I mentioned the Ryton Garden ticket in the last issue however, with the school holidays coming, it is somewhere else to visit (open every day except Christmas Day). Tickets from Mrs. Zonik, Childyke, Mill Lane.

Please note: *The January meeting is not on the first Tuesday of the month, which is New Year's Day – it is deferred to January 8<sup>th</sup> and will be held in the Tom Hauley Room.*

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish the hardworking Editorial Staff and all our members a

Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

**Muriel Grey**

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## Gardening Notes

The week ending the second of December was the 27<sup>th</sup> National Tree Week, so if you saw bedecked trees around the countryside it was not someone playing a joke, but upholding the ancient custom of tree dressing. Was this another old custom which was transferred to the Christian calendar by the Victorians with the decorated fir tree? Do any of our readers know?

Decorating apart, it is a good time to plant deciduous trees and shrubs during mild weather. Check any which were planted earlier, firm the soil and check stakes. Remove any dead or untidy growth and any branches, which may rub in the wind, as this gives a site where disease can enter. Roses should be planted now and when this very mild weather changes to something more seasonal prune floribunda and hybrid tea roses. Prune apple and pear trees and give them a winter wash to kill moss and over-wintering pests. Feed and mulch currant bushes and inspect black currants for big bud. Cut out branches bearing these swollen buds and destroy them.

In dry weather rake lawns and aerate badly drained areas, apply moss killer if necessary. Clear leaves from ponds and float a ball on the water to keep an ice-free spot. Hoe any weeds and watch out for nettles, which can go on growing all winter. This is a good time to prepare the ground for new beds by digging in rotted compost. If turf has to be removed stack it upside down, out of the way, and leave it for a year to rot down into good fibrous loam. Mulch Christmas roses with bark chippings to protect the flowers from mud splatter. Look around for seed heads, which can be used as Christmas decorations, bring them in before the weather spoils them.

Continue to dig vegetable plots adding manure where root crops will not be grown. Place cloches over winter lettuce and parsley. Lift beetroot and a few root crops in case the ground becomes frozen. Before the end of the month garlic should go in and covering with black plastic for early planting can warm the soil.

Check outdoor taps for leaks and lag both pipes and taps.

Put out food and water regularly for the birds. Hang a feeder in a fruit tree and whilst they wait their turn tits will forage amongst the branches

seeking out over-wintering pests. On really awful days look through gardening books and seed catalogues and dream about how beautiful your garden will be next year!

Plant of the month: Ivy

Often ignored through the rest of the year the shiny leaves of this evergreen can make a huge impact. Virgil and Pliny both wrote of this plant under its Latin name Hederá. It was held sacred to Bacchus, the god of wine and was connected with his revels, but in the Victorian language of flowers Ivy stood for fidelity.

Native to countries ranging from the Azores through Europe, North Africa and into Northern Asia it has a variety of colours and leaf shape. The fine leafed Helix types such as Buttercup can be garden or houseplants. There are many leaf sizes from the dainty to the large waxy ones of the Colchica juvenile or runner growth with aerial roots, which will attach to any surface. The leaves on this growth are usually lobed. The adult or arborescent growth has no aerial roots and bears small yellowish flowers and the black or yellow fruits.

Cuttings taken from this growth retains the leaf shape and the fruits and can be trained into rounded bushy shrubs. Cuttings from the juvenile ivy will thrive in any soil or situation although the variegated types prefer a south or west aspect. Plant them from September to March, prune them to shape or to restrict their size in March and again in mid summer.

**Pat Smith**

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## Letters to the Editors

**Dear Editors**

**We would like to express our sincere thanks for all the overwhelming messages of sympathy received for the sad loss of our mother and Nan Audrey Tebaldi.**

**Thanks, especially to Father Roy whose service was a wonderful tribute to a lovely lady. Also to John and Mary at the Crown Inn for the splendid buffet.**

**Thank you to all who attended the Church service, and for the generous donations received for Myton Hospice.**

***Ernie, John and Families***

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**Dear Editors**

**My Dad, Jack, and my husband, Dan, join me in thanking everyone who sent messages of sympathy, beautiful floral tributes and attended the funeral of my Mum, Betty. Because Mum loved flowers we asked for tributes suitable for the hospital and after the funeral we took the majority to Warwick Hospital and several residential homes – one where an elderly**

uncle lives and several where Dan's Mum went for respite care. We still had two beautiful bouquets left and we were very pleased that these were accepted by Harbury Church.

My Mum and Dad moved to Harbury just over 5 years ago from Bishops Tachbrook and during this relatively short time made many friends in the village, especially among their neighbours in Farley Avenue. The kindness shown to Mum during her illness and the support given to Dad following Mum's death has been overwhelming and very much appreciated. Mum said that she wished they had moved to Harbury sooner as she loved the community spirit and friendliness of Harbury people and which has certainly been apparent during this sad time.

Two people to whom we would like to extend special thanks are Dr. Snowdon and Father Roy who both gave us much needed support and, also to Father Roy for the very moving service. Lastly, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the District Nurses, particularly Frances and Barbara, whose kindness and professionalism is absolutely second to none and who showed Mum such tender loving care during her last few days at home - we just can't thank you enough!

***Julie Killian***

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Dear Editors

Would anyone be able to give me a lift to Warwick University on all or any Tuesday of this term or next? I would be very grateful and would pay substantially towards petrol costs.

If you think you could help, please phone 613497.

***Sylvia Burdett***

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Dear Editors

At our Coffee Morning for the Save The Children Fund on October 27<sup>th</sup> we raised £363, which included a donation of £70 for The Afghanistan Appeal from Pam Brown and her Harbury Children's Choir.

We would like to thank everybody for their generous support.

***Gunde Walshe***

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Dear Editors



L to R: Jeanne Beaumont, Rhian Kelsall and Pam Sperling

**The R.S.P.C.A. Coffee Morning raised £453.40 – a great total. Thanks to all supporters and many helpers who make it possible.**

***R.S.P.C.A. Committee***

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**Dear Editors**

**When it seemed unlikely we would be able to purchase a bungalow in the area we wanted, we were really moved by the number of friends and acquaintances who expressed disappointment at the prospect of our having to leave the village.**

**As many will have heard by now, we have been successful and shall be staying here after all! Many thanks to those who have been so supportive and for their good wishes.**

***Bill and Peggie Middleton***

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**Dear Editors**

**The following letter, sent to me by Robert Waterman, gives details of the profit made by our Village Video and the manner in which they have been distributed. The project was a success and the profit far exceeded our expectations. As promised, all monies earned were returned to the village for our mutual benefit.**

**“HARBURY CHRONICLES**

Thanks for your recent notes. The final amount for distribution is £689.31 and this has been shared amongst the following: Harbury Youth Group Project; Harbury Surgery; Village New Year Celebrations; Harbury C. of E. Primary School, and Harbury Senior Citizens' Committee.

Last year at about the same time, a sum of £700 was distributed to the benefit of various village organisations, a further sum of £250 was recently passed to the Church and now to finalise matters, another sum just short of £700 is again passed out to benefit the village.

Of course, the project was to create a record of Harbury on film, which was successfully achieved, and the availability of funds to benefit the village was not the main aim of the project. Given that a quality film was provided of and for the village as a permanent record and so many people obtained a copy for themselves at reasonable cost it must be a measure of the overall success of the project that the considerable surplus funds mentioned above were subsequently available to put back into the village. You and Anne must be congratulated on working so hard throughout and particularly at the difficult times and for your fortitude in seeing the whole project through to the successful conclusion. Thank you for your kind words about my role in keeping the accounts but that has not been at all arduous and has been relatively straightforward.

Best Wishes

Robert Waterman”

**May I take this opportunity, once again, to thank everyone who participated in the event, and gave us their support.**

**The original film is deposited in the Records Office in Warwick for posterity. Our financial accounts are held by Robert Waterman and open to all members of the public who may wish to see them.**

***Mary Shelley***

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**Dear Editors**

**Thank you everyone who supported our annual Mission to Seafarers Coffee Morning on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Your kindness and generosity realised the sum of £206.14.**

**Please contact me for information about the Mission to Seafarers. The woolly hat locker is still open in Church?**

***Bill Davies 614104***

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**DO YOU NEED HELP WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?**

*Harbury Helpline is for you!*

**EMERGENCY TRANSPORT:** Call Tim Millington 612808 or Charles Catt 612864.

**HELP WITH FORM FILLING:**

- **Job Applications, CV's, Council Tax Forms, etc.:** Call Joanne Cooper 613859 or Jeff Bedford 612753.
- **For University/Job Applications, interviews, CVs:** Call Philip Bushill-Matthews 612476.
- **For Personal Tax Claims, Rebates on Tax Paid to Building Societies or on Shares:** Call Jim Chapple 612044.

**HOME VISITING:** Caring for a sick or elderly relative and need a break for a few hours, or you would like someone to call on you.  
Call Sue Dormer 613254.

**HOUSEHOLD BUDGETING ADVICE:** Call Tony Brunton 612191.

**VISITING:** Hospital. If you are unable to visit a parent or relative, or parents would like support with a child in Hospital: Call Fr. Roy Brown 612377 or Keith Dormer 613254.

**DATES FOR INCLUSION IN THE HARBURY DIARY PLEASE TO:  
LINDA RIDGLEY - TEL. 612792.**

**Bookings for:**

<b>Scout Hut</b>	<b>Mr. R. Flanagan</b>	<b>613612</b>
<b>Tom Hauley Room</b>	<b>Mrs. W. Stubbs</b>	<b>612782</b>
<b>T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning</b>	<b>Mrs. J. Windsor</b>	<b>612504</b>
<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Mr. P. Winchester</b>	<b>614466</b>
<b>Wight School</b>	<b>Mrs. L. Hayes</b>	<b>613488</b>

**REGULAR DIARY DATES**

**BABY CLINIC:** Surgery, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2:00-4:00pm

**BADMINTON:** Village Hall, Monday mornings (613174) 10:00am-12:00noon  
Mondays (612627) (Seniors) 7:00-9:00pm;  
Tuesdays (613413) (Club) 8:00-10:00pm;  
Friday (612029) (Juniors) 2:00-3:00pm;  
Sunday (613340) 7:00-10:00pm

**BEAVERS:** Scout Hut, Tuesdays 6:15-7:15pm

**BEAT BUDDIES:** Village Hall, Tuesdays 2pm

**BELL RINGING PRACTICE:** (613605) Church, Fridays 7:30pm

**BROWNIES:** Scout Hut, Mondays 6:15-7:30pm

**CHOIR PRACTICE:** Church, Fridays 6:30pm

**COFFEE MORNING:** Tom Hauley Room Saturdays 10:00am-12:00noon

**CUBS:** Scout Hut, Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm

**DANCING CLASSES:** (01789-842242) Farley Room of Village Hall, Children & Adults  
Wednesdays 4:00-9:00pm

**GYMNASTICS:** Harbury School, Mondays 6:00-7:00pm

**HARBURY FOLK CLUB:** Dog Inn 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month 8:30pm

**HARBURY FRIENDS:** School, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in the month 8:00pm

**HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB:**

**Under 9s:** Training: 9.00am Saturday at Harbury School Pitch  
Coaches: Jim Farrell 612396 and Reno Varriale

**Under 11s:** Training: 10.30am Saturday at Harbury School Pitch  
Coaches: Jim Ward 612401 and Adrian Hawley 614353

**Under 12s:** Training: Playing Fields 10:30am  
Coaches: Steve Darby 613330

**Under 14s:** Training: 10.30am Saturday at Playing Fields Top Pitch  
Coaches: John Wilkins 612115; Steve Wilkins 614574,  
and Dave Hudson 613958

**HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL:** School, Monday-Friday; 9:00am-12:00noon;  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 12:45pm-3:15pm

**HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL:** (612781 or 613780) Wight School (behind the Library) Tuesday-Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm

**HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB:** (612498)

**HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS:** (613402) School Hall, Wednesdays 8:00-10:00pm

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:** Village Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in the month (Oct. to May) 8:00pm

**KICK START APPALACHIAN STEP DANCERS:** (612734) Scout Hut, Saturdays, 10:00am-12:00noon

**LIBRARY:** (613297) Mondays 2:00 - 5:00pm and 5:30 - 7:00pm;

Thursdays 10:00am - 1:00pm; 2:00 - 5:00pm & 5:30 - 7:00pm;

Stories, Rhymes for U5s, 10:00am 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month; Term Time only

**MYTON HOSPICE LINE DANCING:** Harbury Village Club, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays in the month 8:00pm

**MARTIAL ARTS:** Village Hall, Wednesdays 6pm

**NETBALL CLUB:** (613239) Village Hall Car Park, Training Thursdays 6:30pm;

Matches on Saturday Afternoon

**SCOUTS:** Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00pm

**TAI CHI:** (614730) Village Hall, Wednesdays 7:30pm

**TENNIS CLUB:** (614614) (Apr-Sept) Tues & Thurs 6:30pm onwards (6:00pm for April);

Saturday 2:00-5:00pm, Monday & Wednesday 1:45-3:00pm

**THEATRE GROUP:** (612610) The Dog Inn, last Tuesday in the month 8:00pm

**THURSDAY CLUB:** (612273) Farley Room of Village Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in the month 2:30pm

**TODDLER GROUP:** Wight School, Monday 10:00-11:30am & Wednesday 1:30-3:00pm

**W.I.:** Tom Hauley Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month 7:45pm

**YOGA:** Wight School, Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm Diane Surgey Tel. 817904

**YOUTH CLUB:** Village Hall, Thursdays 7:00-9:00pm

**Please note:**

**Adverts to 31, Binswood End by Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Articles to Harbury Chemist by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December**