

Harbury & Ladbroke News

THE HARBURY AND LADBROKE NEWS, reflecting all aspects of local life is published monthly and produced with the assistance of the All Saints' Parochial Church Council.

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July 2005

No. 376

The fine weather brought out the crowds to join the Carnival celebrations. The parade of floats was the usual very high standard, and the originality of the walking display was truly amazing. (Did you see Horatio Nelson?). The pub games in pre-Carnival week were also well supported. Our thanks go to John Broomfield, Dan Killian and everyone who helped to make the whole week a success.



Looking forward, this month sees the Garden Walkabout and Art Exhibition in Harbury and Ladbroke's Midsummer Madness. We hope the fine weather will continue and ensure that these events are well supported.

Some villagers may not be aware that an armed robbery took place as the Harbury Co-op was opening on Monday 20th June. If anyone has any information, please contact the Alcester Police CID on 01789 762207.

We are sorry to record the death of John Drinkwater, who served on the Harbury Parish Council for forty years. His contribution to village life over many years is an example to us all. Finally we extend our sympathy to the families of John Drinkwater, Evelyn Wilson and Louis Zonik.

Harbury Diary

JULY

- Sat 2 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of the W.I
10am – 12noon
- Sun 3 TRINITY VI
Sung Eucharist 9am
Evening Worship 6pm
- Tues 5 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 6 Mothers Union Garden Meeting and AGM 3pm at Rectory
"Talk it Through" at 33 South Parade 8pm
- Thurs 7 Holy Communion 9.45am
Art Group in Tom Hauley Room 10-4pm
Mens' Society AGM 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club 8.30pm in Shakespeare Inn
- Fri 8 RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION
Art Exhibition in Village Hall
- Sat 9 GARDEN WALK ABOUT
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church Flowers
10am 12noon
Art Exhibition in Village Hall
Light lunches in Tom Hauley Room 12-2pm
- Sun 10 GARDEN WALK ABOUT
TRINITY VII
Cricket 1st Home to Solihull Municipal
Holy Communion 8am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Art Exhibition in Village Hall

- Tues 12 Toddlers Service 2pm
Bus vouchers in Wagstaffe Room in Village Hall
Holy Communion 7.30pm with laying on of hands
- Wed 13 Bus vouchers in Wagstaffe Room in Village Hall
- Thurs 14 Holy Communion 9.45am
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 15 **ADVERTISEMENTS to 31 Binswood End Harbury, by 5.30pm**
- Sat 16 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Brownies
10am– 12noon
Men's Prayer Breakfast in Tom Hauley Room 7.30am
Summer Fund Raiser Dance, Harbury Hearts in Village Hall
- Sun 17 TRINITY VIII
Holy Communion 8am
Family Communion 10.30am
Evensong 6pm
- Tues 19 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Julian Meeting 8pm
Senior Citizens Committee 8pm in Village Hall
- Wed 20 Tea in the Tom Hauley Room 3-4pm
"Talk it Through" at 33 South Parade 8pm
- Thurs 21 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 22 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**
SCHOOL ENDS
- Sat 23 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Mothers Union
10am –12noon
Councillors Surgery outside Post Office 10am -12noon
- Sun 24 TRINITY IX
Holy Communion 8am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 26 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Clothes Sale, All Day – Village Hall
- Wed 27 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30-4.30pm at 19 Farm Street
- Thurs 28 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
Parish Council 7.30pm Village Hall
- Fri 29 **ARTICLES to Harbury Pharmacy, High St, Harbury & Email**
Article deadline by 5.30pm
- Sat 30 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Scouts
10am –12noon
- Sun 31 TRINITY X
Holy Communion 8am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- AUGUST**
- Tues 2 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Thurs 4 Holy Communion 9.45am
Art Group in Tom Hauley Room 10am - 4pm

- Thurs 4 Folk Club 8.30pm in Shakespeare Inn
 Fri 5 RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION
 Sat 6 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Youth Project
 10am – 12noon
 Summer Lunch in Village Hall in aid of Senior Citizens
 12-2.30pm
 Sun 7 TRINITY XI
 Sung Eucharist 9am
 Evening Worship 6pm
 Cricket – Sunday Occasionals home to Henley in Arden

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- Sat 10 Village Show in Village Hall
 Sun 18 Harbury Hash

From the Rector

We are now into the "holiday season" and it leads me to write on the purpose of holidays. The real function of holidays is so we may recharge our batteries for another year. For many people in the modern world holidays seems more of a necessity than a luxury.

This is common sense humanistic stuff but the Church in her discipline recognises the same need. Hence her emphasis on worship and prayer. They are meant to do two things for us; to lift us out of the drudgery of our routine and to alert us to the dangers of a materialistic routine.

So, at this holiday season, will you think of worship as fulfilling a function for the soul parallel to that which your holiday achieves?

First there is a change of scene. There is a delicious sense, on the first morning of a holiday, of waking up in new surroundings. It is good not to see the same curtains, the same houses, and the same road. Worship opens our eyes to a new scene. It is a climbing of the hill of the Lord from which we see a view of the city of God. It is like the experience of Christian in the palace called Beautiful.

"When morning was come, they led him to the top of the house and bid him look south. So he did and, behold, at a great distance he saw a most pleasant mountainous country – very delectable to behold. He asked the name of the country. They said it was Immanuel's land....."from here" said they, thou mayest see the gate of the celestial city." Worship helps us to see that to which we are often blind in our daily routine. It opens our eyes to the beauty and love of God. It gives us vision.

Then, when on holiday we meet new people. In worship we ought to experience Christian fellowship. We are part of the Communion of Saints. One meaning of that phrase suggests the departed: we worship alongside all God's people in every age, the great, the wise and the good and the veil between us is thinner than we suppose. But the phrase also refers to the here and now, to our fellow Christians as we meet together.

Again, when we go on holiday we eat different food. For many a housewife this is the best part. In worship, too, we have a different kind of fare. Our souls are fed. New ideas are put into the mind, new sources of strength are offered to us to enable us to face life more positively, more imaginatively and more courageously. This is what the Ministry of Word and Sacrament can do for us.

By such means we are rescued from the tyranny of routine. We are rescued from the idolatry, which sees material things as the sole end of life. We realise our stature as people with a purpose, people on pilgrimage, people of God. We become what we were created to be.

Fr. Roy Brown

From the Registers

Holy Matrimony, All Saints' Harbury

June 18 Dean Walton to Ruth Thurogood

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

June 19 Benjamin James Keane Gowland

All Saints' Ladbroke

June 26 Emma Joanne Andrews

Funerals at Oakley Wood

June 3 Evelyn Wilson (87)

Funerals at All Saints Harbury

June 21 John Drinkwater (94)

June 24 Louis Zonik (68)



Thought for the Month

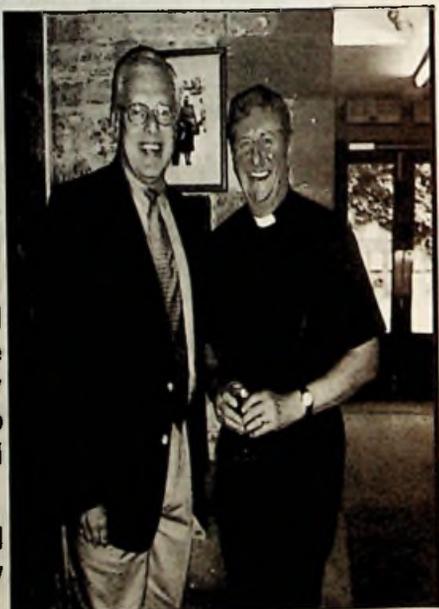
A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of their opportunities and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of their difficulties.

From the Churchwardens



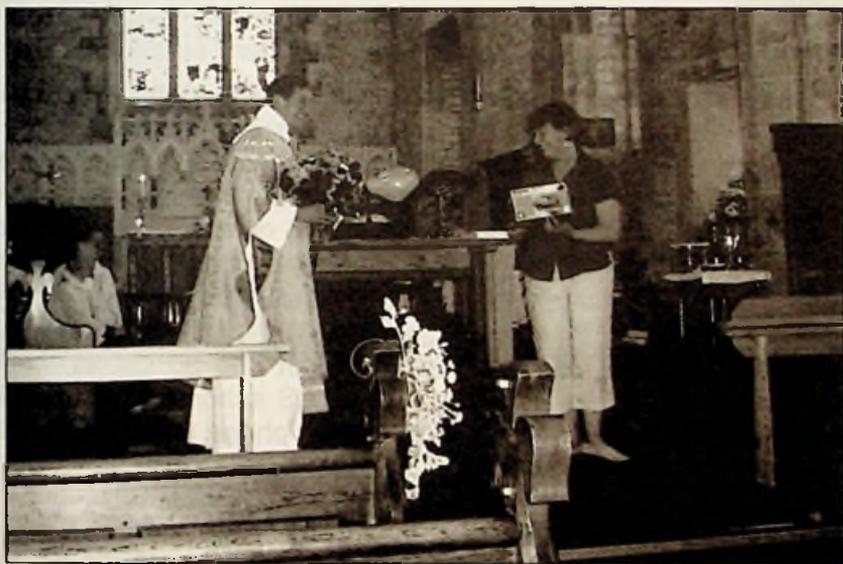
On Sunday, June 12th we were delighted to welcome twenty-seven of the Wells family cousins from all parts of the USA. Their ancestor, Richard Wells, was baptised here at All Saints' in 1618 and left for America in 1635. The family joined us for the 10.30am Eucharist, which they found very moving, and afterwards we shared an enjoyable Faith Lunch in the Tom Hauley Room. It was a great pleasure to welcome them and we look forward to their next visit.

This month's Family Communion fell on Father's Day. The Rollason family



gave the presentation, not surprisingly on the theme of fathers. Peter, in the dock, was charged with the heinous crime of embarrassing his children who were called as witnesses and gave their testimony; we are bound to say, with considerable relish and energy. There was, of course, a serious side to it all. We were reminded, through reflection and scripture, that nowadays we are sometimes embarrassed to acknowledge our Heavenly father: that however much our earthly fathers love us – and they do, even when we are naughty – their love cannot compare with the love of God, our Father: that our great prayer, given to us by His Son, begins, “Our Father.”

At the end of the service, Father Roy made a presentation to Lesley to thank her for all that she has done during her three years as Church Warden. We were very pleased that there was a large congregation to reflect everyone's real appreciation of her quiet, thoughtful, conscientious service.



Tony and Felicity



Mothers' Union

Afternoon meeting

Jeanne Clarke entertained us at our June meeting with an account of her trip to Iona with a friend and a group from Norfolk.

The group stayed in the Abbey where Jeanne shared a room with Emma, a Swedish girl, with whom she became firm friends. Everyone shared in the work of the Abbey. All the guests were given their tasks. Jeanne's was to clean two lavatories.

There were services twice a day, for those who wished to attend, and in between there were talks or excursions such as a trip to Staffa and Fingal's cave. One evening Jeanne went to a ceilidh in the village.

On the Tuesday there was a walk, a pilgrimage to the places connected with St Columbia who founded the first monastery on the island. In the Middle Ages there was a Benedictine Monastery. Then in 1938 the Rev. George Macleod renovated the ruined Abbey and started the Iona community – "An ecumenical Christian community committed to new ways of living the gospel of Jesus Christ in today's world."

Jeanne enjoyed her stay very much and said that it was a wonderful experience.

Evening Meeting

Sue Wurr, an almost retired district midwife, told us about her work in the Health Service. After setting out to train in general nursing, she quickly found her forte working with pregnant mums and the newborn. Her reminiscences of working in the late sixties and seventies struck a chord with most of the members there, and on the whole we agreed with her that most changes are for the better. However, she did warn of the dangers of women thinking they could be "super mums" – as she put it, putting on their make-up the minute they are home with the new arrival. Her advice: look pale and wan and accept all the help that's going, which ties in with our M.U.M.S scheme to offer help to any mother who would like it. For details, phone 614809, this is for ANYONE in the village, not just churchgoers.

Coming next

Wednesday 6th July – Garden meeting at the Rectory, 2.30pm (no service first).

Wednesday 13th July – An opportunity to meet the President of the Indian Ocean Province, Mrs Maud Patten. This will be at a Bring and Share Lunch in the Tom Hauley Room at 12noon.

Wednesday 20th July – Walk around the village, meeting outside Church at 6pm followed by a meal at the Crown at 7.30pm. Cost £10, friends are welcome but names must be given to Ann Moore as soon as possible.

Saturday 23rd July – Coffee morning and lunch in the Tom Hauley Room. Cakes, Bring and Buy, raffle prizes and **lots of help** needed, please.

Next year's diaries can now be ordered and ideas for next year's speakers will be welcome.

C. M. Catt & G. Hare

Toddlers' Service

Mrs Mary Catt led our June service. After an opening prayer, Mrs Catt introduced us to a very naughty glove puppet called Squeak who was often in trouble! Squeak did, however, learn that if he said sorry, he would be forgiven. Mrs Catt then told us a simple version of the parable of the prodigal son.

We sang two action songs, "Clap your hands" and "Jesus' love is very wonderful" accompanied by Mr Charles Catt on the clarinet. We coloured a picture to illustrate the theme and then had refreshments and played till home time.

Our next service will be on Tuesday 12th July at 2pm at the church. If you have a baby or toddler in your care please do come along. We do not have a toddler service in August.

Lorna Bedford

Ladbroke News

JULY

Sat	2	Ladbroke Midsummer Madness from 2pm onwards
Sun	3	TRINITY VI
Sun	10	TRINITY VII Sung Communion 9am
Mon	11	Millennium Club Draw 7.30pm in Village Hall
Wed	13	Holy Communion 2pm Women's Fellowship Meeting 3pm
Fri	15	ADVERTISEMENTS to 31 Binswood End Harbury, by 5.30pm
Sun	17	TRINITY VIII Sung Communion 9am
Sun	24	TRINITY IX Sung Communion 9am
Thurs	28	W.I.Meeting – memories revisited

Fri 29 **ARTICLES to Harbury Pharmacy, High St, Harbury and email article deadline by 5.30pm**

Sun 31 **TRINITY X**
Holy Communion 9am

AUGUST

Sun 7 **TRINITY XI**
Family Communion 10.30am

Ladbroke Flower Rota

July 10th Margaret Bosworth

July 17th Valerie Copley

July 24th Valerie Copley

July 31st Jane Steenstra

August 7th Pat Kennedy



Jane Rutherford

Ladbroke Church News

We made £136 at our coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on June 4th. Many thanks to all who came, gave prizes for the raffle, made cakes and helped. The proceeds go to Church funds.

Betty Winkfield

Women's Fellowship

Our outing in June, which was originally planned for the Bygones museum in Claydon, ended up with us going to Farnborough Hall.

We all enjoyed our lunch at the Avon in Avon Dassett, before our short journey to Farnborough. The weather was glorious and the house and gardens well worth the visit and the views from the gardens were wonderful.

The July meeting – Wednesday 13th at 3pm – will be in the gardens of The Folly, Ladbroke Road, (between Ladbroke and Bishops Itchington) by kind invitation of Stella Douglas and family. Anyone who would like to join in with us is very welcome. Try your hand at Boules or Croquet!

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I.

Our meeting on June 23 was certainly a hot one - with all windows and doors open to let in some air! The Speaker was Brenda Brewer who gave us a delightful insight into her very brave 6 months of being a holiday rep in Cyprus. She brought along her husband who manned the slide show. He was not the only gentlemen present, we also had 4 guests two of whom were also gentlemen, John, husband of Lesley Jeffries won one of the raffle prizes. The other prizes were won by Christine Baker and Mary Entwistle.

Our next meeting on July 28th. Memories revisited: The Why, What and How of Photo Restoration - Steve Jenkins.

Tea hostesses Sue Rayner and Heather Mainsford-Payne.

Could members bring a photo of themselves taken when they were between 20 and 30 years old to either the Strawberry Fayre or give to a member of the committee as soon as possible? Also, please bring an old photo on the 28th July that you would like to have restored and they can give you a quote for the cost.

Dates for your diaries;

June 30th - Strawberry Fayre 7.00pm

July 2nd - Ladbroke Midsummer Madness from 2pm onwards.

Sue Halsall

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

Here are the results of the May Draw.

£70 - Sheena Healey

£25 - Mary Coley

£25 - Kim Bendzak

£10 - Catherine Spence

£10 - Alan Court

£10 - Richard Walker

Would cash members please remember that their subscriptions (£30) for July to December are now due. It could be easier for you (and also for us), if you changed to Standing Orders for your future subscriptions - details are available from the Village Hall Committee or from me on 814362.

Next month's draw will be held on Monday July 11th 2005 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Catherine Spence

Harbury Parish Council Annual Meeting – May 2005

Nothing much changed at the Annual Meeting (not to be confused with the Annual Parish Meeting two weeks before). Jenny Patrick remained as Chairman and Councillor Kevin Biddle replaced Ann Winchester as Vice-Chair.

Tim Lockley reported that parents were investigating "Safer Routes to School" and wanted a crossing in Park Lane and Mill Street. The School will arrange a joint meeting of parents and Parish Councillors to co-ordinate their improvement plans. Meanwhile the Parish Council wants the yellow lines outside the school repainted and the "School" sign placed higher on its post.

The Twinning visit was judged a success and now the group is fund-raising to pay for it.

Concerned residents and Parish Councillors had met to talk about local housing needs for the elderly and those with younger families. They would look at all potential sites.

Deppers Bridge residents wanted vegetation cut back from the footpath to the railway bridge. Dutch Van Spall said the damaged bollards had not been repaired and he reminded the Council that two young people had volunteered to refurbish the milestone and were still waiting for the County's permission.

PLANING MATTERS

Harbury and Bishops Itchington Councillors had held a joint meeting to discuss development at the Quarries and will seek the help of Planning Aid. They will investigate the legal position over responding to the Inspector's Report on the Local Plan Inquiry, to ensure that they don't jeopardise District Councillors' ability to comment on any plans submitted for the site.

Cllr Hancock wanted the Enforcement Officer to have the site round "The Bungalow" in Mill Street tidied up, even though Harbury is not entering the Best Kept Village Competition this year.

Stratford Granted permission for a loft conversion at 1 Constance Drive; a single storey extension and garage at 35 South Parade and a front extension at 30 Manor Orchard. Permission for extensions at Laurel Cottage, Hall Lane was granted with conditions.

The Parish Council made no representation on a proposed conservatory at 24 Mill Street or a new boundary fence for Roundhill, 35 Binswood End. They did, however, have concerns about the proposals for Laurel Cottage.

Cllr Thornley reported that she was making progress on the BMX Track and converting the Kick Wall to a Youth Shelter. When proper plans were available she would consult residents and hold a public exhibition.

Lesley Jones was forming a Committee for the Youth Project and had a volunteer for Treasurer, but following the "Detached Youth Worker" experiment it was clear young people did not want a formal Youth Club.

Unfortunately a minority element of 10 -11 year olds had caused trouble and £200 worth of damage to the Depot vehicle. Pc Hill had spoken to their parents. Janet warned that this age group was causing trouble in other areas – the Scouts had had problems too.

The Council agreed to instruct their contractor to clear overgrown vegetation from the South Parade Sub-station on security grounds, even though they were unsure of the ownership there.

New lights are to be installed at Binswood End Green in the lay-by further along and on the opposite side of the road near the village entrance. Another would be positioned on the western corner of Manor Road Green. Cllr Thornley warned that the exposed wires on the Hall Lane light had not been repaired.

Agents for the vendor of Merevale Cottage on South Parade deny any knowledge of the whereabouts of the Ivy Lane sign, which "went missing" during its refurbishment, but the PC will invoice them for the replacement.

Colin Sheasby will undertake a full survey of all the trees in Council ownership to allow maintenance to be properly planned and costed.

There is still no definitive answer about the parking spaces in Drinkwater Close although it is likely that there is no restriction on who can use them. Kevin Biddle agreed to explain the situation to the resident who had complained.

Jenny Patrick reminded Cllrs of the request from the Annual Parish Meeting that Chevrons be replaced on Treens Hill and Cllr Hancock complained about the dire state of the carriageway on Middle Road where the edge was falling into the ditch. Anyone can report road defects to the County. The Call Centre number is 01926 412515.

There was a great deal of anger at the unilateral decision by Stratford District to cease repaying Parishes under Section 136 of the Local Government Act for the maintenance work they undertake (greens

mowing and play equipment upkeep etc). MP John Maples had added his support to the protests.

Cllr Mancell reminded Councillors that Section 137 gave Parishes the right to offer small grants to local groups and that there was £1,000 in the kitty awaiting applications.

The next Councillors' Surgery, outside the Post Office in Harbury, will be from 10 -12noon on Saturday 23rd July.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury Parish Council Annual Report -2004/5

Chairman's Report

This council year began with the excitement of a council election. Councillor Drinkwater retired and 12 candidates put up for 10 places. Karena Ellis was congratulated and welcomed on being elected as the new councillor. All other existing councillors were re-elected.

The Council's main success has been the completion of the Parish Plan which will be used when considering future housing, employment, and leisure developments in the parish.

Many councillors have taken up offers of further training in a wide variety of subjects including auditing, policing, planning, youth and sheltered housing. Our Parish Clerk successfully completed her training, which, with our official reports now appearing in the Harbury News, will allow us to apply for Quality Parish Status later this year.

Vandalism has cost the Parish Council in the region of £10,000 this year, which is money that could have been put to better community ventures. We sincerely hope that with an active Neighbourhood Watch and our Community Safety Officer this will be stamped out. It does mean that the public need to accept responsibility for reporting miscreants to the police, which can be done anonymously on the Crime stoppers number- 0800 555111. We note that not all vandalism is done by our young people!

The Harbury Twinning group were thanked for all their efforts in maintaining the entente cordiale. They welcomed visitors from Samois sur Seine for the weekend May 13th-16th when several events took place including a musical evening in the Village Hall and a visit to London.

On your behalf, Cllr Biddle and I met with a representative from South Warwickshire Housing Association to discuss concerns over letting policies and the state of housing stock when new residents took them

on. Certain changes have been brought about by this action and I would like to point out that SWHA do hold regular meetings with their residents, when concerns can be raised directly. The District Council regulates the letting policy and advice on this can be obtained from your local district councillors.

The Councillors surgeries outside the Post Office are still popular and will be maintained. Holes in the road, bin emptying, flooding, cemetery issues and lighting are all problems you have brought to our attention over the last year. If you do encounter problems sometimes a call to the Parish Clerk may help to get a result quickly as she can pass information onto the correct authority.

Jenny Patrick

Deppers Bridge

The main concerns of the year continue to be the development proposals for Bishop's Bowls lakes and Bishop's Hill. An application for planning permission for a large restaurant/retail outlet/bar/café/clubhouse structure next to the lakes was opposed by the Parish Council and refused by Stratford District Council. The land owners now own most of the land between Bishops Itchington, Deppers Bridge, and Harbury – and have revealed their plan to build another village, industrial estate, retail park and freight distribution centre – along with 100+ bed hotel and country club. Along with Bishops Itchington - we are very concerned at the massive impact this would have on the local environment, existing businesses and character of this rural area.

The application to run a new power line through Deppers Bridge on poles was refused. The inquiry directed that the line should be 'undergrounded' in line with government policy on this matter. The applicant is appealing against the decision.

The milestone is still waiting to receive a facelift. Two local young people are still awaiting instructions from the County Council and have volunteered to carry out the work under supervision.

Dutch Van Spall

Environment Working Party

Lights

The programme of replacement of concrete lamp posts with either 'Windsor' or straight metal posts has continued. It is hoped that this programme will be complete by 2008. An additional light was placed in Mill St near the surgery and the light in Temple End was replaced after it was damaged.

Traffic Management

A traffic survey demonstrated that there was a significant problem with speeding traffic at Temple End, Binswood End, and Mill St. The Environment Working Party is currently investigating a number of possible changes that might be made to the road surface to reduce traffic speeds. It is likely that the attempts to reduce traffic speeds will coincide with 'safer routes to school' and the Parish Council will work together with the school and Warwickshire County Council to ensure any developments have the widest possible community benefit. The Parish Council remains acutely aware of the poor parking that continues in parts of the village. It is working together with the new parking enforcement regime at Stratford District Council, to ensure that traffic wardens continue to visit the village at regular intervals, to take action against motorists who park their cars on pavements and on double yellow lines.

Village Improvements

The Parish Council intends to use the money won in the Village of the Year competition to smarten up the centre of the village. Various meetings have taken place with Warwickshire County Council about possible changes to the road layout at the junction of Chapel St and Mill St/High St. It is clear that any scheme will be expensive and the Parish Council is therefore seeking additional funding towards any improvements that might be made.

Maintenance

Problems with blocked drains, potholes and pavements have been regularly reported to Warwickshire County Council, but given the limited nature of their funding the Highways Department has not always been able to undertake maintenance to the standard that we would like. Major programmes, such as the complete resurfacing of Mill St/Binswood End/Middle Lane to the Fosse, will only be undertaken when sufficient funding becomes available. We have requested that a number of dropped kerbs be installed in the village to assist with disabled mobility, but this is also reliant on funding from WCC.

Percival Drive

The working party has been told by the Road Adoption Unit at WCC that hopefully the adoption process for Percival Drive should be complete by the end of this year. Once adopted, the responsibility for regular maintenance will pass from the developers to the Parish Council and WCC.

Tim Lockley

Planning Working Party

The Planning Working Party has again had a relatively quiet year. It has dealt with the usual steady flow of house extensions and improvements, most of which have presented no problems.

We joined with Bishop's Itchington Parish Council to oppose excessive development at the Bishop's Bowl site.

The land to the rear of Wissett Lodge has been offered as a possible site for sheltered housing and affordable homes. The Council is in the process of setting up working parties to involve the local residents and will keep everyone informed of the progress with any planning applications that are put forward.

Ann Winchester

Properties Working Party Report

Tennis and Netball Courts

The Tennis Club has held discussions with the Parish Council with regard to extending the floodlighting to a second court and has received permission to make a planning application. The clubhouse now has a water supply from the nearby allotments and repairs have been carried out to the surrounding nets. Talks are at an early stage with Tennis & Netball Clubs about setting up a formal lease.

Village Hall Car Park

The gate has now been installed and after some initial opposition and vandalism it seems to be working quite well. The gate is closed and locked each evening by volunteers (anyone interested in helping out should contact Cllr Winchester).

Boundary – Manor Orchard Play Area

The exact boundary of this play area has now been established, and a new Hawthorn hedge has been planted. The wall on one side of the play area is in a poor condition and will be repaired shortly.

Cemetery

We have initiated a three-year maintenance programme on the trees. Emergency maintenance works to the Chapel will start shortly.

BMX Track

Talks are ongoing with members of the Harbury Youth Project about a BMX Track. Members of the Youth Project committee have held talks with a specialist BMX Design and Build Contractor with a view to establishing costing and a sympathetic design for the area.

Youth Shelter

The youngsters of the village are looking for a shelter that they can use, as a meeting place and the PC are sympathetic to their needs. The design and location will need a great deal of discussion, as both of these projects will require planning permission.

Play Equipment

This year we have replaced the seats to the cradle swings, installed a new seat on the Sputnik and removed the protruding roots on the Aerial runway with another £2000 worth of works due to start shortly. At present the Clerk has sent out enquiries to replace the large swings as they are now beyond repair. Our thanks go out to the Thwaites family who donated them to the village many, many years ago.

Kevin Biddle

Finance and General Purposes Working Party (F&GP)

For the second year running the tight budgetary controls that we have maintained over the last three financial years meant that the Precept was not increased.

We increased spending in the following areas;

- The concessionary travel scheme was extended to include men, aged 60 – 65
- A fund for the on-going maintenance of the Netball & Tennis clubs pitches was started.
- A gate was installed in the Village Hall Car Park.
- The rollout of the street lighting improvements was continued
- Urgent maintenance was carried out on the Cemetery Chapel

A summary of last year's accounts is shown below;

Precepts	42670.00
Agency Services Reimbursed	55.00
Interest Received	441.84
Allotment Rents	442.00
Burial Ground Fees	1551.00
Playing Field Hire	195.00
Maintenance Fund	-
Wayleave	33.38
Village of the Year Competition	10.00
Parish Plan Grant	1849.64
Other Contributions	9504.39
TOTAL INCOME	56752.25

Copies of the full accounts are included in the Parish Council Annual Report package.

The Clerk at Bishops Itchington, using the local Parish Internal Audit procedures, will audit Harbury Parish Council accounts. In parallel to this process, Harbury Council are providing a 'check & balance' to this local procedure by employing an independent professional accountant to verify our internal audit.

Members of the Finance & General Purposes Working

party have been closely involved with finalising the Village Plan, which has now been adopted by the village and Stratford District Council. The funding for our Harbury Village Plan was obtained from the grants provide by the Warwickshire Rural Community Council.

The Harbury Parish Council web site provides the Parish with another communication path with the Council, giving easy access to the minutes and information about Harbury Parish Council.

<http://www.harbury-parish.co.uk>

As the Council moves towards Quality Council Status, the web site is an important way for us to communicate with parishioners, along with the Quarterly Council Reports that are published in the Harbury News and on our web site.

Tony Mancell

Council Membership

K Biddle, K Ellis, Dr M.S Hancock, Dr T J Lockley, J.M Patrick (Chairman), A Mancell (Treasurer), K.E Thompson, J Thornley, C A Van Spall, A Winchester (Vice-Chairman)

General Administration	9410.40
Section 137	185.00
Concessionary Travel	3070.50
Running Costs:	
Allotments	742.14
Burial	2454.60
Open Spaces	5858.00
Playing Fields & Car Park	15150.10
Non-Estate Roads	1440.00
Street Lighting	12925.57
Other Purchases	500.00
Contribution to Sports Clubs'	
Repair Fund	1100.00
Parish Plan Costs	2999.28
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	55835.59

Clerk to the Council: Mrs N Thompson (Tel: 614646)

Follett Property Holdings Plans For Bishops Bowl Lakes

Many residents of Harbury attended the public meeting put on by Follett Property Holdings in the Village Hall on Sunday 19th June. Many have told us about all kinds of concerns they have with these proposals, and want to know what they can do about it.

The fact is, that these ideas are just unofficial proposals at this stage. The Inspector in his report for the Stratford Local Plan Review recommends a master plan, to be prepared as a result of consultation with the local community.

The real consultation has not begun, and won't begin for some time yet.

Stratford District Planning Office have said they will set up the consultation process, but not until the Inspector's Report has been approved by the Council (in September?).

In the meantime, any apparent "consultation" is just a public relations exercise. If you want to let Folletts know your feelings for or against their proposals, by all means do. (And tell your Parish and District Councillors too – they will be interested to hear your views), but the real consultation will start after the summer.

I write this because I recently attended a meeting between some Councillors and a group of Stratford District officers. One of the officers present was Colin Staves, Acting Head of Planning and Building Control. He is in no doubt that Follett Holdings are "jumping the gun".

Eric and I want you to know that we both share your concerns about these proposals, and will do all we can to make your concerns known, when the time comes.

Best wishes, Andrew Patrick.

PS. Our next "Surgery" will be outside Harbury Post Office on Saturday 23rd July, 10am – 12noon.

County Councillor: Bob Stevens 01926-814031

Cllrstevens@warwickshire.gov.uk

District Councillors: Andrew Patrick 01926-614359

andrew.patrick@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Eric Dally 01926-651478

eric.dally@stratford-dc.gov.uk

South Warwickshire Housing Association

Following up comments in our last issue of Focus, SWHA management invited a group of Councillors to meet them at their Stratford office on Monday 6th June.

As one of the District Councillors present, I found the meeting extremely positive and helpful.

We covered a wide range of issues that have been raised by residents in Harbury and elsewhere.

Some of the detailed responses have already been given to the residents concerned, but there were some more general issues, which I would like to draw to your attention:

1. Response to repair requests. As from 1st April 2005, if you report a problem needing repair, SWHA will send you a letter within 3 days, confirming what the problem is and giving a date for completion of the repair work.
2. Help with derelict gardens.

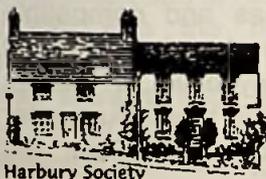
Another piece of good news is that if you move into a property with an unmanageably overgrown garden, SWHA will now accept responsibility for getting the garden into a reasonable condition.

3. Housing waiting list

And – for people who unfortunately feel there's no point in going on the list because they will never get considered – SWHA say you should put your name forward because the waiting list is what drives their new building programme.

As always, if you have any questions, complaints or comments on SWHA matters, please ring 01789-404400 (or for repairs 01789-404444) or speak to your local Tenants' Representative or contact your District Councillor.

Andrew Patrick



Harbury Society

Harbury Society

I am getting to like delegation! To be fair, I am not really delegating – others are offering to do things for me.

This year John Hancock devised the Carnival Quiz and took the pictures. He says we had a select but knowledgeable group of entrants. The winner was Alan Geere of

11
Farley Avenue. He got 15 out of 18 questions right, as did David Thompson and Dominic Travis, but as his answer to the tie-breaker was nearest he was adjudged to have won the prize. Seven people got 14 out of 18 answers correct so the competition was very tight.

The answer to the question, "When was the Dunchurch to Kineton Turnpike Opened?" was 1851. Yes, it was very late. It seems that, having missed out on the Canal boom and then Railway Mania, Dunchurch, Southam and Kineton decided that a Nineteenth Century Tollroad might bring them prosperity.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury Society - WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE QUARRIES?

Follett Properties has a problem. It purchased the quarries and objected to the Local Plan for not including the site. The Inquiry Inspector agreed to include the land but added strict conditions:

1 Follett must work in consultation with the local authorities and the local communities to formulate a "Masterplan" for the whole area before it can develop any of the site.

2 The Inspector was clear that most of the development would be unlikely to be considered without the freight and/or passenger station.

The Inspector's 278 page report is on SDC's website www.stratford.gov.uk - click on the link or you can look at the copy I will put in the Library. You can see the developer's view of the site's potential and advantages at <http://www.theharburyestate.co.uk> but you do need the whole address - put theharburyestate in Google and you get their publicist's website!

Harbury has a problem - the site is split between Bishops and us with most of the wildlife and recreation elements in Harbury and most of the housing, industry, hotel and distribution in Bishops Itchington.

The development most likely to proceed would be on our side of the B4451 and whilst it could include wildlife areas and compatible activities such as fishing and bird watching, the developers tried to get permission for a large restaurant and can already build 21 Fishing Lodges. They suggest other buildings for recreation there plus water and jet skiing and we have already experienced the noise and disruption from them.

But it is the development in Bishops that poses the greatest threat.

Follett wanted to build hundreds of market sale houses. The Inspector said No! but the potential remains in the longer term (these are developers and they own more land than they admit). Their planned hotel, industrial estate and leisure complex would generate more traffic on our roads and through our villages.

Follett argue that if they build the station (it's a big "if") traffic will be taken off the roads. But this would only be some of the extra traffic and it would have to go by road to get to the station. This, together with the effect of more pressure on our school, doctors, shops, High Street is of most concern.

Follett can offer a number of benefits to Bishops Itchington (affordable homes, new Village Hall, traffic calming etc) but there is little in it for us and much that would be damaging. However, our Parishes are working together and will keep everyone informed.

We must be PROPERLY consulted. Follett's recent Exhibition was not a consultation - it was a fishing expedition to see what our opposition was. Despite what Follett said, their drawings are not the "Master plan". That has to be agreed by community consultation. They have to court us!

Linda Ridgley

Parish Paths Partnership

Just a quick update on recent events. Over 50 people had a go at our carnival game. The correct height of the signpost point was 169cm or just over 5ft 6in. Mal Eaton was first out of the hat from the three correct adult entries and Isabelle Davies, Sheila Parker's granddaughter, was the nearest young person with 170cm. Congratulations to both of you.

Over 40 people, some from as far away as Solihull, joined our Warwickshire Walking Festival guided walk over the paths to Chesterton and back. The weather was just right. Clive Taylor gave an insight into the history of Humble Bee Cottages and local archaeologist David Adams described the fascinating history of the lost Manors and Mansions and the recent archaeological finds. Hopefully all our paths are now clear and usable. If you notice anything that needs attention, please contact me on 612792.

John Ridgley



Harbury's Women's Institute

Carnival Day was a great success with the weather in our favour. Nine members formed the Harbury Marathon; an idea thought up and designed by Celia. She even made a Paula Radcliffe to head our procession. We came first in the Adults Walking Tableau, first in the Adults Fancy Dress on the field with Doreen Bloxham coming first with her Adults Individual Costume (a work of art). Thanks to Bill Middleton for his help and Dorothy and Jane for the use of their homes.

The cake stall is always a winner and sold out quickly. Our thanks to the helpers and all who provided the lovely cakes.

On Saturday 2nd July there is the W.I Coffee Morning, which should have been mentioned in last month's Harbury and Ladbroke News.

A reminder to members who are going to dinner on the Countess of Evesham on Monday 11th July. **Please arrive at 7pm.**

The speaker was Mr David Howe who spoke about British Prime Ministers. Although I was not at the meeting I understand that the talk was interesting and amusing too.

Walpole was the first Prime Minister, Blair being the 51st. In 1878 "Prime Minister" first appeared on official papers when Disraeli was P. M. Twenty P.M's went to Eton, half of all P.M's went to Oxford and seven went to Harrow. Callaghan, Major and Churchill did not attend University. Wilson and Eden got a 1st at Oxford and Eden was Prime Minister three times. Eden used the same speech around the country. Churchill's family forged his signature on documents when he was ill.

Quotes by Prime Ministers:

Eden – "Sincerity's the thing, if you can fake that, you're made."

Lloyd George – "Body of 500 men chosen at random from amongst unemployed."

Disraeli – when asked if Queen Victoria should be informed of his death, "No, better not, she'll only want me to take a message to Albert."

Wilson on Tony Benn – "He immatures with age."

Ramsey MacDonald - "He died as he lived, at sea."

Churchill – "An empty taxi pulled up outside No.10 and Attlee got out." (He was very small).

July's speaker: Sharon Hedges – Operation Christmas Child.

Harbury Folk Club

There were so many interpretations of the theme 'The Meaning of Life' at the Folk Club on June 2nd and so many people to perform them. No fewer than 25 singers, musicians and poets created a scheduling challenge for the MC and there was no time for anyone to perform more than two numbers each. The sheer variety of musical styles was amazing and the topics included love, lust, friends, work, love, a new accordion, parents, reproduction, love, folk singing, death and love!

The nine-strong Folk Club band (Janny, Celia, Pete, Liz, Ian, Sue, Margaret and I with Des on percussion) started and finished the evening with tunes connected with life and death, though the Barbecue Hornpipe's connection to cremation needed a little explanation.

It was good to see Mike Putnam again with one of his Jake Thackeray favourites, 'Brother Gorilla' and regular duo, Janny & Maureen, sang 'Cupid's Garden' in harmony. From Brackley, we were pleased to welcome Ren and Don for the first time and they both proved themselves to be very accomplished solo singers. Debbie read her own thoughtful poem, 'The Journey', and somewhere amidst all the philosophy, barbershop quarter Bianco brought us a complex arrangement of 'Sam, the accordion man'!

The Joy family dispensed with the English language when they sang songs from Cape Breton in Gaelic and French, and Jenny accompanied their second with some foot percussion. Rik was on good form with his version of 'The Folksinger', itself a skit on 'The Boxer', and the Harvesters sang 'To the ends of the earth' about the disappearance of the Marie Celeste. Martin told us the story of the 'Lonely Glow-worm' (called Reg), Ron gave us a jolly number called 'The Bells of Hell' (including that memorable line "Death, where is thy sting-a-ling-a-ling?"), Peter Mason sang the excellent 'Wings', Double Up were 'Friends like these', Des was 'Down among the dead men', I sang Bruce Springstein's 'Work Song' and Barbara played 'Dark Island' on her shiny new accordion.

The raffle raised £39 for the Oncology Ward at Birmingham Children's Hospital. Ian will host the next session, on July 7th, and the theme is 'Light'. As usual, we'll be in the Garden Room of the Shakespeare, at 8:30pm.

Peter McDonald

Harbury Tennis Club

Not surprisingly June has been the Club's busiest month of the year and luckily we've had good weather. This was definitely the case when we held our Midsummer BBQ Tournament! It was a lovely evening enjoyed by players and spectating families alike with Jane Parker and Paul Crowton winning the tournament.

The next event is on Sunday 10th July when the Club is holding an open day to celebrate its 25th Anniversary. On court there will be a variety of activities over 2 sessions between 11.00 and 1.00 and 1.30 to 3.30 for all ages . Events planned for the morning include Raw Tennis; Beat the Ball Machine, and various Mini Tennis activities. In the afternoon you can try and beat the coach, there will be sessions where parents can partner their children to play other pairs and an opportunity to play with the wooden rackets that were in use when the Club was formed in 1980! Rackets will be available if you don't have your own. The day is not just for tennis players and anyone is welcome to come along and join in or have a look at our facilities, and have a chat with some of the founder members who are still around!

The Club was invited by Warwickshire LTA to send a group of children to one of the coaching "clinics" at the DFS Classic, one of the leading pre-Wimbledon tournaments for ladies, held at the Edgbaston Priory Club. This year the 2004 Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova was there defending her DFS title. It is now a very popular annual event for the Club and this year the lucky 8 were Millie Evans, Thomas Conway, Callum Panton, Taisia Shuttleworth, George Hendry, Bethany Campion, Robert Rollason, Hannah Baldwin, Rebecca and Sam Casement.

After the clinic the children (and accompanying parents) got passes to watch the main tournament. Everyone enjoyed the day and Callum Panton set out his thoughts as follows:

"When I first found out that I had been chosen to go and play some tennis on a Friday my first thought was "fantastic, a day off school!" Then I thought Ya Hoo! I get the chance to be taught by professional coaches and get to watch some tennis with my friends.

We got a bit lost getting there but all 4 cars arrived at the same time. We went straight into the coaching where we had to go on different sets of equipment that tested our tennis skills. The one I liked best was called "Jailbreak" where we had to pretend to be hooligans behind a

net while someone hit a ball at us! We then had free strawberries and ice cream and got key rings with tennis balls on.

Some of the mums were cheeky and got us centre court tickets free. We sat and watched proper tennis, which was really exciting as the final match was Maria Sharapova. She is taller than my mum and dad. Mum explained to Robert and me how to score at tennis, as it was weird that it got to 40 all! Mum said it was "Deuce" and I said does Sharapova prefer apple or orange juice!

We all had a fantastic day and we can't wait until next year".

The Club's allocation for Wimbledon this year was 7 pairs of tickets. They were available to adult members through a ballot and by the time you read this the lucky winners will have enjoyed a long day (hopefully!) of world-class tennis.

In the Banbury Summer league The "A" team are in second place in Division 2. Their last match against Kings Sutton "B" was an extremely close match despite the 8-1 overall win! Carol Best, Gill Thorpe, Sheila Young, Andrew Rendell, Geoff Prince and Steve Stark took on the visitors from Oxfordshire and of the 9 rubbers 6 finished with the closest possible score of 6-5. Thankfully Harbury had the better nerves and won 5 of them!

The "B" Team had a good month winning 2 of its 3 matches despite late changes due to holiday commitments and last minute injuries. Linda Casement, Tim Lockley and Kevin Moffatt joined regulars Caroline Morland, Angie Dean and Steve Stark to record an emphatic 7-2 home win against Banbury West End "D". This was followed by another 7-2 success this time against Brackley "C". Ed Wilson and Keith Thompson teamed up "seamlessly" with Steve, Caroline, Angie and Linda to keep the winning run going. The run ended with a very narrow 5-6 defeat against Byfield "D". Colin and Sue Mercer were back from holiday to join Caroline, Angie and Steve with Richard Harding (complete with plaster cast on left hand!) stepping in at short notice. The score was 3-3 going into the last round of matches but an away win was denied when Angie and Colin lost a tiebreak in the mixed doubles. Richard won all of his matches so we were pleased to find out his plaster cast has to stay on for another month!

The "C" team has also had a good month recording its first win against Hook Norton "E". Tracey Hagan, Lucy Dean, Debbie Radford, Bob Dean, Kevin Moffatt and Alan Guy (another league debutant) made up the winning combination!

In the Stratford Men's Doubles league the team is in a mid table position after Geoff Prince, Andrew Rendell, David Lauder and Bob Dean completed a convincing 4-0 win against Claverdon. This was followed by defeats against Whitnash and runaway leaders Snitterfield.

Juniors

The successful 10-week Junior coaching programme has now finished but we have the summer camps to look forward to. The Club has teamed up with Shipston and Kineton to provide an exciting summer holiday programme that runs from 25th July until 25th August. There will be 55 sessions spread between the 3 venues to suit all age ranges from 4 years to 16 years. It is open to all, not just members. Leaflets have been distributed through local schools but if you haven't seen them contact Linda Casement (614734) or Sue (613284). Details are on the Club notice board by the main gate.

The South Warwickshire Junior doubles League is proving to be a steep learning curve for our teams who are coming across some very experienced opponents but already there are definite signs of improvement. In the Under 15s group Sam Wright and Gareth Shuttleworth suffered defeats against Kenilworth and Warwick Boat Club. In both matches nerves and lack of match play experience showed in the first sets but they settled down and gave their opponents a hard time in the second. It was a similar story in the Under 13s for Adam Whitty and Richard Howell against Shipston. The visitors ran away with the first set but Adam and Richard stuck to their task and battled well before losing the second set 3-6.

However, pride of place goes to Jonathan Guy and Josh Fitzgerald who took on Snitterfield and won 7-5, 6-2 to record the Club's first ever Junior victory!

Colin and Sue Mercer 613284 Email: sucol-merc@tiscali.co.uk

Colin and Sue Mercer

AUGUST EDITION – HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to 31, Binswood End by 15th July
Articles to Harbury Chemist by 29th July

WHEELBARROW RACE 2004





2005





Windmills

Nursery School

This term we are exploring the jungle theme, which has already proved very popular with everyone. Each day the children have eagerly brought

in jungle books, animals and other items to 'show and tell'. Mrs Casement took small groups of children on a jungle expedition into the school grounds, armed with handmade binoculars and sticks, to look for the toy animals that she had previously hidden. They returned full of excitement and bursting with comments:

Tim – "we feel like real explorers"

Sandy – "It's scary – I saw lots of animals"

Danny – "I saw monkeys swinging in the trees"

This activity enabled the children to develop skills in all the six areas of learning, particularly knowledge and understanding of the world.

The highlight of this month was winning 1st prize in the children's section in this year's carnival with our fairy tales themed float. All the children had great fun creating some beautifully painted and collaged butterflies, fairies, toadstools, and flowers which were used to decorate the float; some children also helped to produce the 3 little pigs houses, collecting sticks and printing bricks.



A huge thank you to everyone who helped with this year's float, particularly Ian Bembridge, Paige's dad for building and assembling the framework enabling us to keep the children safe; John Barrett (Ellen's granddad) for supplying 3 'real' little pigs, and Alistair Brookes for allowing us to use his trailer and providing a driver for us. All the children's parents on the float looked amazing in their costumes and everyone commented on how happy and enthusiastic the children were.



It has been a very busy term with lots going on:

- On Monday 13 June we joined the school for the class/group photos.

- On Tuesday 14th June we went to the monthly toddler service in church.

- On Monday 20th June we were pleased to welcome the new Reception teacher Miss Noreen Maher together with Mrs Harris and a teaching assistant. They spent the morning getting to know the children who will be starting in the reception class in September.

- On Wednesday 22nd June Chris Thompson, our early years advisor, visited us for the morning. She joined in playing with the children then later acted out the story of 'Who Sank the Boat' with her story sac props.



- On Thursday 16th June Tina and Marie attended a course about the changes in OFSTED registration and inspection which they found extremely valuable.

On Monday 20th June Tina and Cassie attended the Southam branch PLA AGM which included a presentation entitled PEGS. covering physical education games and skills. They both found it a very enjoyable but energetic session, and hope to introduce some of the ideas to the children before the end of term.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 13th July, at 11.00 am – our sports day (weather permitting), when the emphasis will be on taking part and having fun.

Wednesday 29th June – we will be taking the children who start school in September to visit their new classroom and teachers

Saturday 16th July – Summer Dance at the Village Hall from 7.30 – midnight. There will be a live band, disco and raffle. Tickets cost £10.00 and include a light supper, available from Marie or Tina in the nursery, Mugglestons and The Salon.

Thursday 7th July – Parents' evening in the nursery class room from 7.00 pm until 9.00 pm

Wednesday 20th July - Fancy Dress Day and Safari Party during the morning session.

If you have any general questions or require information on Windmills Nursery you can email us at info@windmills-nursery.co.uk or call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.

Windmills Nursery School Staff



Harbury Pre-School

The Pre-School year seems to be marching on at a frightening speed, with only three weeks to go to the end of term, but we are making the most of the time left to us before the summer holidays and the move of our older children to Primary School in September.

June at Pre-School - During June, we had lots of visits to and from Pre-School.

Firstly, the new Reception Class teacher, Miss Maher, together with Mrs Harris and Mrs Johnson, came to see the children who



will be moving on to Harbury Primary School next term. The children enjoyed showing them around the Wight School and we are very grateful to them for taking the time out to get to know the children in their familiar environment.

Next we were very pleased to welcome Evie's dad, Fire Fighter Tony, who captivated the children with his chat and video about fire safety and they loved colouring in the pictures that he handed out before he left.

Our third visit was to see Delsa and her nine delightful three-week-old puppies. Delsa is the lovely black Labrador belonging to the Lintott family, who has just produced her third and final litter for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. The children were each able to hold and stroke a puppy before Delsa was brought in to meet them and show them how the puppies are fed. We are very grateful to Kelley, Richard and Helena for letting us have this privileged view of the puppies who will be taking on such an important task in life.



Finally, the children who will be moving on in September were invited to Harbury Primary School to see their new classroom. They had a lovely time meeting the teachers again and taking part in the activities that had been set out for them. They then joined the other school children in the playground and it was delightful to see last year's Pre-Schoolers taking care of the little ones and showing them around.

Hot and Cold – The weather during June made our “hot” and “cold” collage projects very appropriate. The children had great fun and were very skilled at layering fabrics and paper with different textures in cold colours (blues, whites etc) and hot colours (reds, oranges, bright yellows etc) to produce some lovely collages.

Fun in the Sand – During the hot spell, we got out the sand, tipped it onto a large plastic sheet, provided some diggers and dumper trucks and let the children take charge. They loved it and spent ages digging up the sand, flattening it out and moving it around the sheet. With the huge parasol to keep the sun off them, it looked like a mixture of the

beach and a building site.

New Starters – We are very pleased to welcome Tamara to Pre-School. She has already settled in very well and is making lots of new friends.

First Aiders – We are delighted to reported that all the Pre-School staff are now qualified First Aiders since Cassie and Bud completed their two-day course recently.

Carnival

The Pre-school children had great fun being involved with another successful Carnival afternoon. The float was filled with an assortment of 'very excitable' farmyard animals. The procession through the village was so exciting for the children, it was lovely to see them all involved – they particularly got into the swing of collecting money for the village charities and their recognition of the various coins was quite impressive (which had been helped by previous shopping trips made from Pre-School to the local shops).

We were very pleased to have been awarded the 2nd place rosette for the float for which we have the children to thank for all their lovely pictures of the animals in the farm.

Pre-school would also like to thank Rob Hadley for lending us his trailer and helping to secure some of the decorations on the float. We would also like to thank Sean Mansell for his help on the day and particularly for towing the trailer and animals around the village. The help that parents were able to give to decorate the float and organise the afternoon was also greatly appreciated.



Fundraising Update

Pre-school were able to raise £438 on the Carnival Hot Dog stand. Thank you to all the parents who helped on the stall and also many thanks to Jane McCluskey and her employer Calor Gas who supplied us with the large barbeque and the gas supply which enabled us to

also sell beef burgers.

The children's sponsored bike ride raised an unexpected but very welcome £220.

Pre-School are using some of the fundraising money to put up some new shelving to keep the lovely books accessible to the staff when needed. We would like to thank Jonathan Jennings for lending us his DIY skills and expertise and his employer Plumbing and Trade Supplies for kindly donating the wood for these shelves.

If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jane Kempton, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 613786.

Harbury Pre-School Staff and Committee

Harbury Primary School

New Appointment



I am delighted to inform parents that the Governing Body recently appointed Miss Noreen Maher to the teaching staff at the school. From September, Miss Maher will be taking the Reception class.

The Governors have also agreed that Miss Fowler's maternity leave, which starts in the summer holidays will be covered by Mrs. Booth.

PTA School Fete

Many thanks to all who were involved in making such an outstanding success of the fete on 20th May. Despite the rather unkind weather forcing us indoors, a wonderful time appeared to be had by all and an excellent profit of £899.27 was made. Well done, everyone.

Forest of Dean Trip

Many thanks to all involved in the organisation of the Year 5 residential trip to the Forest of Dean, which took place a few weeks ago. In particular, may I thank the staff involved, Mr. Chapman, Mrs. Sykes, Mrs. Linforth and Mr. and Mrs. Bones, who were down for the whole week, and Mrs. Shepherd and her daughter Alison, who shared the remaining spot between them. Special thanks also to Mrs. Linforth's mum, Sue, who travelled up from Monmouth each day to help with the catering. Mention must also be made of the catering committee of parents, who bought all the provisions in the days leading up to the trip and ensured that Mr. Chapman didn't lose any weight while they were

away!!! The children are full of the trip, and obviously had a wonderful time - everybody's hard work has clearly paid off. Well done and thanks.

K'Nex Challenge

Congratulations to Callum Lines and Thomas Kennedy, who finished 4th in the finals of the K'Nex Challenge last week, having already qualified through the area rounds. This was a Design and Technology problem solving challenge, and over 800 teams started out. To make the final was an excellent achievement - to finish 4th was outstanding - well done, boys.

Southam Area Sports

We had an excellent afternoon at the sports last week, despite the clash of dates with the Year 5 trip, and produced some outstanding performances - so many children finished in the first 3 in their event that it is impossible to name them all, but special congratulations go to our Southam Area champions - Ella Woolley (Y3 Girls' Long Jump), Robert Rollason (Y3 Boys' Long Jump), Millie Evans (Y4 Girls' Long Jump), Savanna Williams (Y4 Girls' Throw) and Taisia Shuttleworth (Y4 Girls' Sprint). These five have been selected to represent the Southam Area in the Central Warwickshire Sports at Edmondscote on 30th June. Well done, everyone.

Sainsbury's and Tesco Vouchers

These schemes are now nearing the end could you please send in any vouchers you have lurking at the bottom of your shopping bag.

Denis Daly

Harbury Cricket Club

Player recruitment

As you may be aware, the cricket season for Harbury Cricket Club has started and has started fantastically well, losing only one match and winning seven. Looking back at the 2004 season, we had little success, mainly due to the lack of regular players. Unfortunately, this may happen in the future and it will be a great shame for the Cricket Club and to Harbury as a village if the Cricket Club is not sustained for the future.

The Club is financially sound, providing a solid base for the club to grow and build for the future. There are a number of young, talented players, who all have a range of skills on the Cricket pitch, as well as

the more experienced team members who help the youngsters to be disciplined and improve their all round game.

The Club is based at the Middle Road ground, more famously owned by Harbury Rugby Club. The cricket pitches at the ground are always in excellent condition, fantastic to bat on, but there is always something for the bowlers. The top score this season at the Middle Road ground was by Harbury, which was 276 for 7 off 40 overs. With the hard work of Richard Carr and some assistance, the Club has cricket pitches that are the envy of many village clubs in the area.

The games (social but competitive matches), are played every Sunday afternoon starting at 2pm, and it is a very relaxing way to spend a Sunday watching or playing. For the less competitive, there is an "occasionals" side which welcome fathers and sons, experienced or those who want an enjoyable game every so often.

Also the ground is available for hire; contact Ed Russell (Chairman) for more details.

It would be fantastic to recruit more players, whatever the ability, to join a successful and social club. For further information, please contact:

Ed Russell – Club Chairman. Tel: 01926 612684.

Paul Bennet – Club Captain. Tel: 01926 813854.

Ian Holroyd – Club Secretary. Tel: 01926 614443.

Harbury Cricket Club

Harbury Rugby Club

Harbury begin their pre-season training at 7.00pm Wednesday 6th July at their Middle Road ground on the edge of the village.

It will be an interesting and very challenging season ahead as they find their way in Midlands 4 West (South). Their promotion to a new level of rugby follows back-to-back championships from Warwickshire 1 and the previous season Warwickshire 2.

The success has been hard earned and has been developed through the coaching skills of Tony Cowley, the captaincy of Matt Knight and the support of a highly committed squad. The success of the second team last season under skipper Graeme Burgess has brought new players into the game. The structure is underpinned by a well-established Junior and Mini Rugby Structure and this season the under 17's will be exposed to competitive rugby through a small number of matches in the Warwickshire Under 17's league. The Club

is keen to strengthen its squad and is looking to encourage new players to join. Interested players should come along on the 6th or contact Tony Cowley on 01926 747435. They will be made more than welcome and will be very much aware of the changes that are occurring to the Clubhouse. Only two seasons ago, Harbury committed themselves to new training lights, that meet RFU standards, with help in funding from Stratford District Council. A small gym was installed and the focus was very much based on improving standards for the players from under 7's through to the senior level.

A key part was the improvement to the clubhouse and new heating has helped. However, with the use of their own funds Harbury have radically enhanced access to the club, through an external stairwell. This has provided additional clubroom space and changing facilities as well as storage. It is hoped that all decorations will be completed by mid August before the start of the new league season on Saturday September 10th when they are away to Droitwich (3.00pm), whilst the seconds entertain their counterparts from Droitwich (3.00 pm) at Middle Road. A number of trial matches have been arranged against neighbours Southam, Coventry Welsh and Stoke Old Boys.

Harbury are keen to encourage new players at all levels, with Junior and Mini Rugby registration commencing on 4th September and subsequent Sundays in September at the Clubhouse from 10.00 am onwards. All age groups are represented from under 7 through to under 17. Contact can be made with Mike Connon (01926 811169) or e-mail on mike.connon@virgin.net. Girls and boys are very much encouraged to play mixed mini rugby until the age of 12. But also Harbury are also keen to encourage Womens Rugby - any interest in developing this aspect of the game should contact Club President Ian Holroyd (01926 612527) or e-mail him on ian@look-whos-talking.co.uk

We also have an active and growing Vice President's Association, run by Ian Holroyd. Through this VP's are able to:

- watch some decent rugby through the mini and junior level and to the seniors
- be able to apply for International Rugby tickets
- enjoy the warmth and conviviality of an excellent clubhouse

In this day and age, sponsorship is all-important and Harbury have some excellent opportunities available to encourage local businesses and individuals to assist on this. Interested parties should contact John French by e-mail at John.A.French@jci.com

For further information please contact me by phone on (01926 424053 / 01926 412640) or by e-mail at jerrybirkbeck@aol.com / or jerrybirkbeck@warwickshire.gov.uk

Jerry Birkbeck

15th Annual Harbury Hash

This event for all the family will be held on **Sunday September 18th**. The details of the start location will be given on posters around the village nearer the date, and by signs on the day. Please visit our Harbury Hash web site <http://www.actionability.co.uk/hh/> for the latest information, and photos of previous events.

The Hash is for walkers and runners and is loosely based on a paper trail, but the trail is marked in flour. It is for all ages, levels of fitness, or lack of, and short cutting is actively encouraged.

Registration begins at 2.30pm for a start time of 3pm. There will a BBQ after so bring your own meat, veggie, drinks, salads, drinks, etc. We will provide bread plus some drinks for the down downs (penalties). Dogs on a lead with well-behaved owners are most welcome.

The cost is £2 an adult or child, or £8 a family.

Doug Freeman (612002)

John Beaumont Drinkwater MBE. 1911-2005



John Drinkwater, who died suddenly on June 11th, made such an enormous contribution to the life of our village, that it is amazing to recall that he did not come to live here until he had retired from the Warwickshire Constabulary.

Born in Birmingham, John joined the Police as a young man and though he could have aspired to higher rank preferred to remain in the job he loved - being a village 'Bobby'. For many years,

he was stationed in Long Itchington, where he is still fondly remembered. Soon after he settled in Harbury he was elected to the Parish Council and served it for 40 years, only retiring last year. He also served for several years on Stratford District Council.

John's integrity, wisdom, and willingness to serve will be long remembered and was nationally recognised with the award of the MBE. His interest in the life of the village never waned and he remained active right to the end of his long life.

At the centre of John's life were his family. He and Rene were married for 63 years and we extend our sympathy to her, and to Sheila and Peter, and to Emily and Grant.

Sharon Hancock



The Editors are grateful to Mr Linnett of Wagstaffe Close for lending us this photograph of Long Itchington Boys Football team, who were winners of the Leamington League in the 1946/47 season.

The team was founded and managed by John Drinkwater (back row - right). Mr Linnett is standing back row third from left.

Summer Lunch in aid of Harbury Senior Citizens

A brief note from the committee to let you know that this years Summer Lunch, in aid of the Harbury Senior Citizens, will be held in Harbury Village Hall on Saturday 6th August. We would like to remind you that this is a fund raising event in aid of the senior citizens of Harbury and as such is open to anyone who wants to attend, subject

to ticket availability. For ticket enquiries, please contact either Marie Wallington on 613205 or Margaret Taylor on 612903. We look forward to seeing you there.

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

Harbury Goes The Extra Mile To Help People Living With Cancer

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Harbury I have sent the grand total of £433.25 to the Macmillan Cancer Relief Charity.

To those who willingly gave their time monitoring the line of coins along the footpath in the centre of the village on Friday and Saturday May 27th / 28th, a very big thank you.

The money raised provides:

- Specialist Macmillan Nurses and Doctors who deliver the best in cancer care
- Vitally needed treatment centres
- Financial help for those who need it most
- A range of information both locally and nationally



For cancer information and support contact the Macmillan Cancer Line (Monday – Friday, 9am – 6pm) by freephone: 0808 808 2020, textphone: 0808 808 0121 or email: cancerline@macmillan.org.uk or log onto www.macmillan.org.uk

Ann Mayer

Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund

Thank you, thank you, and thank you to everyone who supported our stalls at the Harbury Carnival Fete. We were able to hand over £500 to this very worthwhile cause.

The winner of the bottle of whisky was Mrs Wilson of Southam, with lucky label number 27.

Our next event for this charity will be a Halloween Family Disco, to include fancy dress, on Saturday 15th October at Harbury Village Club. Further details will be on posters and in the Harbury and Ladbroke News.

Please keep this date free for an enjoyable night out for all the family. We look forward, once again, to your kind support. Many thanks.

Mary Revitt

Carnival Week – 2005

Wheelbarrow Race

This year we had 9 entries for the beer race and the winners were Trevor Gibbs and George Simpson who completed the course in a time of 8 minutes and 57 seconds (the record still stands at 8 minutes and 2 seconds) but an extremely good effort. They were presented with the Scandrett Trophy and £25. We had an all ladies' team comprising Jenny Thomas and Dayle Adams and a mixed team comprising Jim Beechey and Lynn Cooke, our friends from Milton Keynes, and we were very pleased to see Lynn had fully recovered to do her share of pushing!

We had 5 entries for the water race which was won by Trevor and Francesca Gibbs in a time of 10 minutes and 43 seconds. They were presented with the Wallington Trophy and £10. Yes, this was the same Trevor Gibbs who ran with George Simpson in the beer race! George also ran both races, as did Peter Rollason - it must be something in the Harbury water (or perhaps the beer).

We must also mention the junior teams of Ryan and Rhys Overton and Peter French and Billy Bench who completed the course in very good times. Next year we are hoping to introduce a junior trophy and will keep everyone informed via The Harbury & Ladbroke News.

We had a new trophy this year, a lovely silver tankard, which was kindly donated by Peter Rollason and was for the team with a combined age of over 80!! To everyone's surprise this was won by the dynamic duo of George Simpson and Trevor Gibbs - how do they do it?

Once again, our grateful thanks to all the licensees for providing the beer and water and to everyone who supported the event. We hope to see you all again next year and can I please ask anyone who is

thinking of entering a team to let me have their entry form at least a few days before the event as it makes the organisation much easier when we know how many entries we have to cater for on the day.

Pub Games

We maintained our number of teams at seven again this year - The Gamecock, The Crown, The Fosseway Fossils, The Twinning Association, The Old New Inn, The Shakespeare and The Dog - and the winners of the individual events were as follows: Aunt Sally - The Twinning Association, Horseshoes - The Twinning Association, Skittles. The Fosseway Fossils and The Shakespeare, Quiz - The Twinning Association. Although the Twinning Association came first in three events, they failed to accumulate enough points in the Skittle event to become overall winners and were beaten into first place by The Fosseway Fossils who were the defending champions. The winning team were presented with the trophy and many congratulations.

Yet again, we are extremely grateful to all our licensees for allowing us to use their premises and also for entering teams. As we have said before, the 'games' are open to anyone - all you need to do is get together a team of friends, neighbours, village organisations, etc. with a maximum number of 12 in your team with 4 team members competing in each event and team members can play in more than one event.

Dan Killian

Harbury Carnival June 11th 2005

Well, another great Carnival Day. The procession was excellent, lots of people lining the streets; a horde of people on the field in the afternoon and the weather wasn't bad either. All in all a grand day. Thanks to everybody who participated and supported the event in one-way or another. You make it what it is.



Adam and Hannah were fabulous as our King and Queen and our special thanks to them.

The prizewinners on the day were:

Procession

Decorated Float 1st The Winchesters "The Wild West" 2nd Barratts and Darlisons "Pirates of the Carribbean"

Decorated Float (Trade) 1st Old New Inn "The Wizard of Oz" 2nd Shakespeare Inn "Shake Saloon"

Children's Float 1st Windmills Nursery "Fairy Tales" 2nd Harbury Pre School "Old McDonald's Farm" 3rd Harbury Toddler Group "Deep Blue Sea"

Decorated Bike/Pram/Car 1st John and Linda Ridgley "Nelson and Hardy"

Walking Tableau Children (2-8 persons) 1st Bethany, Naomi & Vicky "Pink Ladies" 2nd Bull Family "Chinese Girls" 3rd Paige & Sophia "Cinderella & Sleeping Beauty"

Walking Tableau Children (more than 8 persons) 1st Harbury School "Toy Box"

Walking Tableau Family 1st The Cliftons, Coopers and Eastons "Harbury State Circus" 2nd The Rollasons "Dr Who" 3rd The Hunts "Famous Five"

Walking Tableau Adults 1st WI "Harbury Marathon" 2nd Harriet, Hayley, Juliet and Jenny "Punks"

Walking Child 1st Thomas "Jake the Peg" 2nd Daniel "Star Wars" 3rd James "Star Wars"

Child Best Original Costume in Parade (Tim Percival Cup) Henry "Alien"

Adult Best Original Costume in Parade (Sue Andrews Cup) Isobel Grimes "The Good Fairy"

Fancy Dress

Under 5yrs 1st James "Diver"
2nd Finn "Pig"
3rd Adam "Baseball Player"

5-7yrs 1st Sam "Ninja Turtle"
2nd Indianna "Winnie the Pooh"
3rd Joshua "Captain Hook"

8-10yrs 1st Thomas "Jake the Peg"
2nd Alana "Amadala - Star Wars"
3rd Beren "Dennis the Menace"

- 11-17yrs** 1st Vicky, Bethany & Naomi "The Pink Ladies"
2nd Katherine "Dick Whittington"
3rd Jack "Pirate"
- Adult Group** 1st WI "Harbury Marathon"
2nd The Hunts "The Famous Five"
3rd The Rollasons "Dr Who"
- Adult Individual** 1st Doreen Bloxham "Emu"
2nd Rob Darlison "Pirate"
3rd Chris Davis "Wicked Fairy"

All the entries were so good we owe our thanks to the judges for a difficult job well done, so thank you to, Andrew Patrick, Jenny Patrick, Felicity Harris, Dave Andrews, Margaret Sherrington, Sharon Hancock, Midge Keen and Gill Thorpe (Procession) and Roy Brown and Brian Ingram (Fancy Dress).

Also thanks to Tony Ceney, who as usual did a great job as MC, to Mugglestones for supplying the King and Queen's flowers and to all those who helped on the day - setting up, on the gate, clearing up - and beforehand, selling raffle tickets and programmes. Thank you all very much.

We expect to have had another good year in the fund raising department and I will give you the details next month. In the meantime, if your organisation/charity is in need of some funds, please contact me by July 19th (614258) and we will see what we can do to make a contribution from our proceeds.

Lastly, there was one item of lost property, a butterfly hair clip. Please contact me on 614258 if it is yours.

John Broomfield
On behalf of the Carnival Committee

Senior Citizens Outing

This years outing was to the beautiful City of Bath. With so many attractions and with limited time here, a visit to the Tourist Information Office for maps and advice was a must.

A City sightseeing open top bus tour was an excellent way to find out and view Bath's celebrated Roman and Georgian history and architecture. By use of individual earphones a commentary in one of several languages was available as the bus negotiated its way around the city. Bath Abbey, the Roman Baths, Queens Square, the Jane Austen Centre, Pulteney Bridge and the Railway station. The station

was designed and built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, probably the greatest engineer of his day; the stone being quarried from the construction of the nearby Box Tunnel the longest rail tunnel in Europe at that time (2miles long), another of Brunel's great achievements.

Mention of the city's experience in the Second World War when it was badly damaged by enemy action invited a visit to the Victoria Art Gallery where a 60th anniversary exhibition of government sponsored War Artists work was on display.

The artists had recorded scenes of bomb damage to many buildings and churches in the City. Static displays of memorabilia including A.R.P helmets and gas masks provided nostalgic reminders of childhood life in wartime England.

Once again our thanks must go to the Senior Citizens Committee and their helpers and particularly this year for the surprise "brown envelopes" which were much appreciated.

Ralph Swadling

Wanted: Hanging "Posse & Deputies"

Our Art Exhibition this year to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th July requires a great number of "hands". It promises to be great fun. All the proceeds go to our Church. Please help if you can by popping into the village Hall during the times below or give Bill a call (614104) to fix a time.

Friday 8th – (2pm) Receive paintings, assemble tables, hanging/ setting up display panels.

Saturday 9th - 10am – 5pm, raffle/brochure, note card sales, stewards.

Sunday 10th - 10am – 5pm, raffle/brochure, note card sales, stewards, clear up.

Over 300 paintings are to be hung and a small working party is required to help clear up on Monday 11th July, please meet in the Village Hall about 9am.

Bill Davies

Life in Spain

As the saying goes, "it's a funny old world". Just over a year ago I was on death's door given either two days to live if I didn't have the operation or it could be half an hour if I did. Luckily the half hour was the better choice. Not the same in Spain though, Wendy was brought

into the operating theatre to help make the decision. Since then I have certainly had better health and we are continuing to enjoy life out here.

We are both doing well on the sporting front. Both of us have got into the Spanish Nationals Squads for the bowls and I have gone on to get my first International Shirt when I played against Wales last December on the Costa Almeira. Since then having won one of my games against Wales I was picked to play for my adopted country again - this time away in Zimbabwe in an International Tournament. We all know about Mugabe but I have to say the people were so friendly and pleased that we had gone to the trouble of going out there. It still gets better as I have now been chosen to play for Europe against Asia this July in London so if any of you are round and about the area, we would love to see you. The Tournament is from 28th July - 31st July at Winchmore Hill Bowling Club, Radcliffe Road, Enfield, Winchmore Hill, London N21 2SD.

Having said we wouldn't get involved with any committees, Wendy is our Federation Representative at the Club and I am now on the National Executive for Bowling in Spain. So much for the quiet life.

We still have plenty of visitors, both family and friends, and are kept informed of the activities in Harbury through the Harbury and Ladbroke News. Nicki is out here at present enjoying the sunshine. It is getting hotter now with the temperature regularly 30+ C each day. We have certainly become more Spanish in our ways and make the most of the siesta times. The language still frustrates us at times but we can manage to make ourselves understood on most occasions with the exception of the hospitals, where we always take an interpreter. I can explain noises in the car engine but my friendly mechanic always insists we have a test drive. I can never understand why he laughs at me !!

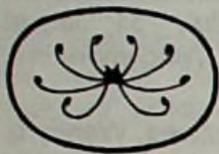
The complex we live on is maturing and people here have in the main settled down to a way of life that suits them. It doesn't suit everyone as our next door neighbours found out. They have



U
sold up and gone back to England to live. Apparently NOT because they lived next door to us. The gardens have certainly developed over the last three years and at long last we can hear and see birds coming back to the area, which is great. We did have a tremendous ice storm that only affected the La Marina "urbanisation" (complex) which virtually wrecked all the gardens and a fair few businesses but nature is very resilient and most of the plants and trees are nearly back to normal.

Well in November we celebrate four years of living in Spain and although we miss our family and friends, especially Bronte, we know we made the right decision for us.

Wendy and Barry Latham



Horticultural Society

Although I didn't go on any of the trips I understand they were all successful, even the weather was reasonable which is something, as so far this year it has been somewhat unusual! Thank you Judy for organising them. On the subject of weather, we thought the second week in June would be safe to plant the tomatoes in the garden. I suppose we shouldn't have been surprised at the strong north wind and cold nights! As I looked through past articles spring has rarely been ideal, even so most plants seem to be all right, and what wonderful displays we have had from the shrubs and now the roses. At the risk of making myself most unpopular we could certainly do with some nice warm rain, but NOT the weekend of **Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th July** – the annual OPEN GARDENS. This is the best opportunity I shall have to plug the event, anyone not currently involved who would like to help in any capacity, please phone either Judy on 613103 or me on 612515. Please support us in any case, as other village groups as well as the society benefit from its success. Programmes are on sale at Mugglestons priced £2.50.

July is the month to collect cups and trophies for engraving. If you are going on holiday please take them to Janice (35 Percival Drive) before you go – she will really appreciate it – then they can be engraved ready for the Show in September.

This leads us to the Village Show on Saturday 10th September. If you require an early schedule please phone Janice on 614459. When in the schedule for the handicrafts and photos etc. section it states **MOUNTED NOT FRAMED**, it means just that. It seems the handicraft side is shrinking, so get those paintbrushes out and knitting needles clicking!

The holiday season is nearly here, how about a trip to Ryton gardens, the season ticket admits 2 people FREE 364 days of the year but not Christmas. Should the weather be bad the Vegetable Kingdom is under cover with plenty of buttons to push with a lot of information. This ticket is available from Daphne (612829) Judy (613103) or me (612515).

Muriel Grey

Nature Notes

First, an apology and a lesson learned. After last month's article, in which I mentioned the Hobby as our smallest hawk, I was informed by Rex Humphreys that there are only 2 British hawks - the Sparrow hawk and the Goshawk. The Hobby, which I have yet to see, is a falcon. Thanks Rex.

I visited a railway cutting near Flecknoe, rich in butterflies on May 26th. It was warm, with some sunshine, although rather breezy and the cutting gave the butterflies and us some shelter. With experts from Butterfly Conservation, together with the local farmer, we repaired from 'The Old Olive Bush Inn' to the site on the old Great Central Railway; Grizzled Skipper, Small Copper, Green Hairstreak, Peacock, Large White and Brimstone were all seen, but the 'piece de resistance' was finding a Grizzled Skipper's egg on the underside of its food plant - a wild strawberry. To see the architecture of the egg, a hand lens is required as it is pinhead in size. The Grizzled Skipper has a black and white chequered appearance and hence early entomologists named it variously Marsh Fritillary (James Petiver 1696) and Dark Fritillary (Dandridge), as any chequered animal or plant was called a Fritillary (from the Latin for chequer board). As I write, (22nd June) the weather has flipped from almost wintry to tropical. We are now enjoying temperatures of 30c - higher than the Caribbean. Thunderstorms are forecast - we shall see. Today at the Spoilbank Nature Reserve, I saw my first Marbled White butterfly, so high summer has arrived.

June is Bee-Orchid-time locally, so I trawled round the usual sites. Perhaps there is no greater thrill for the nature lover than when they see this flower for the first time. It is becoming more rare, but can still be found in abundance in a particularly 'good' year, often followed by years when only one or two flowers are seen. It is strikingly like a bee with its lip mimicking the velvety body of a bumblebee. The sepals are a glorious pink. It has a generally southern distribution, being rare further north and extremely so north of the border. It is chiefly

restricted to calcareous soils, so this part of Warwickshire is ideal. The mimicry cries out for explanation. A male bee must surely mistake the flower for a female bee and so achieve pollination. Unfortunately, for this theory insect pollination seems to be very rare and self-pollination is the norm.

On June 18th, I hit the trail, - high pollen count notwithstanding - what are sore eyes and a sniffle when there are interesting wildlife sites to visit. I found the greatest number of Bee Orchids close to the village - the flat rock platform at the Harbury (West end) of Bishop's Bowl Lakes. There were about a hundred, together with some Common Spotted Orchids, thus confirming the usual rule of thumb - where one species is growing; it is highly likely that other species are present, so a good search is worthwhile.

Next to the wide verge and bank on the north side of the B4100, close to the entrance to Redlands village (Grid reference 335574-sheet 151), I found only one Bee Orchid though Cinquefoil was making a brave show. The council mowers may have removed some, but as a recognised wild life site, they are supposed to mow sympathetically. A short pull up the hill to the Lighthorne turn and there is another site where Bee Orchids are hanging on. Beside the fishing pool, close to ground churned up by cattle, again only one plant. Down into Lighthorne village, and memories of the pile of horseshoes, which used to stand outside the smithy, I took the minor road to Moreton Morrell, which is a favourite cycle route of mine, and has now been resurfaced. At the disused quarry on a shelf of the hill dropping down to the Fosseway, I found two specimens near some seasonal pools. Despite the moonscape appearance, the area is rich in wildlife with a patchy covering of grasses and many flowering plants including Yellow Iris in the damp hollows.

Now, a jump to the roundabout near Ettington at the junction of the A429 and the A422. The road is busy, but this helps conservation. There were Bee orchids on the roundabout and more on the sides of the road cutting, together with the yellow flowered Wild Parsnip and Meadow Cranesbill.

Hay making is now in full swing and the wheat is growing sturdily on the Thwaites Estate. I've seen several Red Admiral butterflies and it's time to search Ufton Woods for the much less common White Admiral. The White Admiral likes sunny glades with plenty of blackberry flowers and lays its eggs on Honeysuckle. Enjoy summer while it lasts!

John Hancock

Gardening Notes

Wimbledon on the T.V. is bringing us in from the garden, but the very hot sun may mean that the traditional strawberries may be scorched by the end of the contest. Although the grass on the courts will have to be watered, do not use our precious water for your own lawn, but do keep annuals and anything newly planted damp, to give the riot of colour for which we plan. Research done at Harlow Carr by the RHS showed that there is no need for daily watering in the borders, once a week is enough, but give 1 gallon per sq. ft at the roots, to encourage deeper rooting.

Continue to deadhead all flowering plants regularly to keep the blooms coming. Cut to the ground, flowered stems of lupins, delphiniums, nepeta and carnations to give a second flush in September. Feed these plants. Cut back hardy geraniums, but leave faded astrantia, seaholly, fennel, and angelica, for the seed heads. Pick seed heads, grasses and flowers for drying just as they open, and on a calm day. Divide all iris species as flowering finishes. Lift the clumps and replant the outer younger pieces.

Feed michaelmas daisies and dahlias with a high potash fertiliser, and at the end of month feed chrysanthus. Give a final feed to roses as they are developing their 2nd flush, or there will be too much soft growth, which will not be winter-hardy. Spray against pests and diseases and reduce the number of buds to produce larger finer blooms.

To encourage new growth trim shrubs which have flowered. On weigela, deutzia and philadelphus remove a third, reduce a third by half and leave a third. Check for any signs of disease and deal with it. Because of the hot weather we have not yet trimmed our hedges but it is a job that needs doing, when we feel we can stand for a couple of hours trimming and then shredding the pile of clippings for the compost heap. Conifer and yew hedges are best cut when there is slight dew on the leaves to prevent sun scorch. After cutting top-dress the area under the hedge with a slow release fertiliser such as bonemeal to promote root growth during winter.

Sow swedes, turnips and kohlrabi for an autumn crop. Turnips are best sown near peas and beans as they like light shade and ample water for quick tender growth. Finish planting winter brassicas, and watch for caterpillars also examine gooseberries for the tiny caterpillars of the sawfly. Pick these off immediately before they strip the leaves. Dig up garlic when half the leaves are brown but half still

green, any later and the outer wrapper splits. Lift them on a dry day and put in a warm dry spot to cure for 2 weeks, then trim roots and store in nets, old tights or string them.

Remove all side shoots on tomato plants and stop plants by pinching out the top, when 5 trusses have set. Sow parsley. Cut down chives after they flower to encourage new young leaves. Continue to sow salad crops. Lettuce do not like hot conditions for successful germination so may be better planted in pots now and then planted out as seedling plants.

All houseplants, except those with hairy leaves can go outside. Put succulents and cacti in full sun and leafy, rain forest types in shade. If you have cymbidium orchids stand them outside in shade. The ponds are losing water rapidly so frequently top them up and especially before going away. This is important in smaller pools where the transpiration from the plants will remove a lot of water. Thin out plants if they are growing too vigorously, and take out surplus pond snails.

Plant of the month - Strawberry

This fruit is the most popular soft fruit in the garden, and synonymous with summer and tea in the garden. However, few people grow them because the plants are fussy about soil, and need space to produce a decent crop. If you do want to try growing them August to November is the planting time, and with cloche-protection will crop as early as the end of May.

The botanical name *Fragaria*, means fragrance, and alludes to the perfume of the fruit. The plants have attractive leaves, white or pink flowers followed by the scarlet fruits. There is a variety, which is grown purely as a decorative edging, and the small alpine variety can be similarly used.

The story of the strawberry dates back to 1629 when *fragaria virginiana* was brought here from N.America. A century later another type *F. chiloensis* arrived from S. America. Not until 1816 when a market gardener in Isleworth planted the two in his garden did they strike up a friendship, which resulted in fruit of better taste and colour than either of their parents. So began the breeding of the many varieties we are able to enjoy today. The plants can be grown from the Tropics to the cool temperate regions, so is it any wonder that it is so popular. I hope you will enjoy them even more, knowing their love story.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

I would like to thank all those who sent gifts and cards to make my 90th birthday so happy and memorable.

Special thanks to Jean and Mick White for the delicious barbeque and also to Rosemary and John Eld for so kindly hosting my birthday lunch, which was deliciously catered for by Roy and Jan Playdon.

Thank you Beryl for the special red lacy bits hidden in a cracker!

Once again thank you all so much.

Alice Wilkins

Dear Editors

Hello Everyone,

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our leaving gift; it was very much appreciated especially as we have had to replace all our electrical stuff apart from the computer. We bought a snazzy CD player - it's really good and it makes the place feel more homely with some music on.

The wonderful picture of Chesterton Windmill is above our mantelpiece and is a big talking point.

I hope everyone is well, keep in touch

With Love

Allison, Ian, Luke, Daniel and Nathan Ashworth

Dear Editors

My friend and I attended our first Senior Citizens Outing as "visitors". Our adventure was a day trip to Bath which we both very much enjoyed. The whole day was very well arranged (even the rain stopped as we got there !!)

Bath is a beautiful City and there was lots to see and do.

Our thanks to the organisers and of course to our careful and considerate coach drivers from Catteralls.

Barbara Thistlethwaite and Lorna Russell

Dear Editors

I would like to thank the Senior Citizen's Committee for organising the recent trip to Bath. We had a super day sightseeing in the great city.

The committee work hard all the year to raise funds for these occasions and it is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Jeanne Beaumont

Dear Editors

With regard to the Farm Street, Binswood End, Mill Street, road junction. Traffic should stop at the junction. Likewise traffic on Mill Street should reduce speed before the road sign showing the junction and bend for Farm Street.

Further along at Fosse Way, Fosse traffic should slow down at road signs, which denote Harbury road junctions. (You are required to slow down approaching road junctions although you may have right of way).

Even traffic around Harbury Village could be slower. After all you can't always stop on a sixpence during speed.

Mike Bloxham

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

Bookings for:

Scout Hut

Tom Hauley Room

T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning

Village Hall

Wight School

Lesley van Kesteren 613411

Liz Bunting 612450

Mrs. J. Windsor 612504

Wendy Hawkes 613198

Mrs. L. Hayes 613488

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Paintings
Pastels
Drawings

Harbury Village Hall

Saturday July 9th - 10am to 5pm

Sunday July 10th - 10am to 5pm

Admission - FREE

Proceeds for Church Funds

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Harbury Summer Dance

Organised by Harbury Hearts and Whitnash Ladies Netball Club

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7.30pm - midnight

Harbury Village Hall

Band & Disco • Raffle

Tickets £10 to include a light supper

Tickets on sale at The Salon 01926 612400,

Windmills Nursery School 07906 519148,

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Harbury Hearts will be donating their 50% of the profits to Windmills Nursery School towards the new outdoor play area.

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