

Harbury & Ladbroke News

Reflects all aspects of local life, is published monthly and produced with the assistance of
All Saints' Parochial Church Council.

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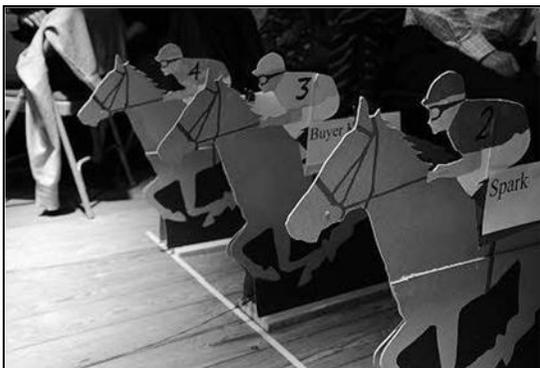
Editorial Team

John Holden - Chris Finch - Marian Millington - Janice Montague
Ralph Swadling - Jackie West

*The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team
The Editors reserve the right to amend articles as they see fit.*



Editorial



Congratulations to the organisers of the highly successful Ladbroke Race Night which was enjoyed by all. This event was a good example of community spirit which helps to support village facilities.

After last year's success with our entry in the Annual Parish Magazine Awards, this year we were placed 11th out of 890

entries. Whilst disappointing not to be in the top ten, 11th is a creditable position.

December heralds a host of Christmas and New Year celebrations. As well as carol services at Ladbroke and Harbury, there is a candlelit carol service at Chesterton Church on 15th December at 5pm.

An alternative could be beer and carols which are taking place in both villages - details in the respective diaries.

The January edition of the magazine will not be available from the printers until week commencing 7th January, so it will be dropping through your letterbox a little later than usual.

The editors would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Harbury Diary

DECEMBER

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| Sat | 1 | Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Ladbroke Church
Christmas Fayre, 2.00-4.00pm, Village Hall |
| Sun | 2 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Sung Eucharist, 9.00am
First Light Service, 10.30am, Tom Hauley Room
Advent Songs of Praise, 4.00pm
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am in Village Hall |

- Mon 3 Advent Course, 7.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Tues 4 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Horticultural Society "Festive Fun", 8.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 5 Wednesday Walkers - Warwick Canals, 5m, meet 9.40am,
Village Hall Car Park
Holy Communion, 2.00pm
Mothers' Union Meeting, 2.30pm, Tom Hauley Room: "Craft for Christmas"
Ballroom Dancing (beginners 7.30pm), 8.00 - 9.30pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 6 Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee
Art Group Winter Workshop & Bring and Share Buffett, 10.00am - 12 noon Tom Hauley Room
Movement to Music, 2.00 - 3.00pm in Village Hall
Warwickshire Young Voices, 6.30 - 8.00pm in Village Hall
Men's Group Meeting, 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Fri 7 PTA Christmas Disco at School
- Sat 8 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Multiple Sclerosis
Senior Citizens Christmas Party, 5.00 for 5.30pm in Village Hall
- Sun 9 ADVENT II**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am - Welcome to David Cousens as Head of Harbury School
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am in Village Hall
Preschool Christmas Market, 10.30am - 4.00pm in Village Hall
- Mon 10 Advent Course, 7.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Village Hall Management Committee, 7.00pm, Village Hall
- Tues 11 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Harbury Energy Initiative 'Drink & Think' Evening, 7.30pm at The Shakespeare Inn
- Wed 12 Wednesday Walkers – Lapworth - Packwood, 3m, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park
- Thurs 13 Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee
Movement to Music, 2.00 - 3.00pm in Village Hall
Warwickshire Young Voices, 6.30 - 8.00pm in Village Hall
W.I., 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room – Christmas Flowers by Gillian Hawton
- Fri 14 Harbury Conservative Association Coffee/Mince pies - 10.30am - 12noon, Lambourne House, Farm Close
Harbury Society Christmas Social at Harvester, Long Itchington
- Sat 15 Men's Breakfast, 7.30am, Tom Hauley Room

- Sat 15 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Rotary
Moving Pictures present 'Arthur Christmas', doors open 3.00pm, film starts 3.30pm in Village Hall (see advert)
ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY BY 5.30PM
- Sun 16 ADVENT III**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am
Christingle Service, 4.00pm
Evensong, 6.00pm
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am in Village Hall
- Mon 17 Advent Course, 7.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Duke of Edinburgh Group, 7.30 - 10.00pm in Village Hall
- Tues 18 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
- Wed 19 Wednesday Walkers – no walk today
Tea 3.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 20 Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee
ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM
Beer and Carols, 7.00pm at The Crown Inn
G.A.S.S. Christmas Post deliveries finish
- Sat 22 Free Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room
- Sun 23 ADVENT IV**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Little Saints' Service, 9.00am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am
- Mon 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
Dressing of the Crib, 2.00pm
Village Candlelit Carol Service, 6.30pm
Midnight Mass, 11.15pm
- Tues 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
Sung Eucharist, 9.00am
- Wed 26 St STEPHEN'S DAY
Wednesday Walkers – no walk today
- Thurs 27 N.B. No 9.45am Service today
- Sat 29 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Tennis Club
Village Hall Golden Ball (50th Anniversary) Dance in Village Hall
- Sun 30 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am
Tennis Club "muffer" Tournament, 10.00 for 10.30am

JANUARY 2013

- Tues 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
N.B. No 7.30pm Service today
- Wed 2 Wednesday Walkers – Kenilworth, 4m, meet 9.40am at Village Hall Car Park
Mothers' Union Party, 2.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 3 Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee
Men's Group, 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Sat 5 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of PCC
- Sun 6 **EPIPHANY/BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
Sung Eucharist, 9.00am
First Light Service, 10.30am, Tom Hauley Room
Quiet Contemplative Service in the Celtic Tradition, 6.00pm
- Tues 8 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Horticultural Society, 8.00pm Tom Hauley Room – Our 1st Chelsea Exhibit by Linda Smith

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

Refuse Collection Rota				
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Collection Week
December	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	5	6	7	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	12	13	14	Grey Bin
	19	20	21	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	Fri 28	Sat 29	Mon 31	Grey Bin
Jan	Fri 4	Sat 5	Mon 7	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	Thur 10	Fri 11	Sat 12	Grey Bin
	16	17	18	Green & Blue Lid Bins





All Saints
HARBURY

From the Rector

Reverend Craig Grocock

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury ☎612377 ✉kankudai43@aol.co.uk

A 'Christmas' 1 Corinthians 13

I found this alternative version of St Paul's famous words from the Bible the other day and I thought I'd share them with you. Some thoughts to ponder as we enter this busy time once again:

"If I decorate my home with twinkling lights, shiny baubles and a big tree but do not show love to my family, I am just a decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen baking dozens of mince pies, roasting a perfect turkey and putting on a magnificent spread but have no love for my guests, I am just another cook.

If I work in the soup kitchen, sing carols in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity but do not have compassion in my heart, I am just another social worker and it profits me nothing.

If I attend many concerts and go to many parties but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops cooking to hug a child. Love sets aside the decorating to answer the phone. Love puts Christmas shopping on hold to help an elderly neighbour.

Love is patient, love is kind. Love doesn't envy another's more expensive presents or even another's co-ordinated Christmas china and table linen. Love doesn't yell at the children to be quiet or get out of the way! Love is glad they are there. Love doesn't only give to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in those who can receive.

Love believes all things, Love bears all things, even irritating relatives and moody teenagers. Love hopes all things, endures all things, even a spouse depressed about their job prospects. Computer games will crash, even cashmere jumpers wear out and golf clubs will get lost, BUT LOVE NEVER FAILS, the gift of love will endure forever"

God bless all of you this Advent and Christmas.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

28th October

Iris Moreby





From the Churchwardens

Will & Fliss

October saw the introduction of a brand new service at Harbury. The inaugural gathering of "Little Saints" enjoyed by a good number of young children, toddlers and parents who sat enthralled as Liz Kitchener told the story of creation. From a Mary Poppins like box of goodies she pulled out prop after prop which included a world, the Sun, stars, sea, real soil and plants and numerous animals. To top all this off, afterwards we enjoyed sharing a breakfast of bacon rolls and croissants. (4th Sunday at 9am).

Although taking longer than expected, the toilet refurbishment is now on the home straight. Once again we apologise for any inconvenience caused and hope that you will enjoy using the fresh new facilities for years to come. As part of our ongoing program of work and in preparation for the coming winter, all the external faces of the doors to the Church have been treated and now look the most fantastic colour, thank you John.

It has been a good 15 years or so since the sound system in Church was put in. With our increasing demands and expectations of it the PCC has agreed an overhaul. We will be replacing and repositioning the speakers which will require new amplifiers and mixing equipment. With that done we can better tune the sound and see how the current microphones perform with a view to replacing them at a future date if necessary.

Please look out for and take note of our Christmas card to you all. It gives details of the services over the festival period.



First Light

Alison Abbott

Our November First Light was on the theme of "Who Cares?" We attempted to answer the question with our usual mix of drama, stories and music. Rosemary excelled herself as a frail "Golden Ager" trying to get a word in with a very domineering radio presenter (Elaine) and the pompous Right Honourable Sir Percy Cholmondley de Vere, OBE, DSM, PDQ, TTFN (who else but Keith). It was entertaining and thought provoking. Later there were a few sniffs and noses blown as Keith told us a story of a young man's care for those he saw in need.

We are picking up this theme and considering homelessness in December, including firsthand experience of homelessness. First Light lasts about 35 minutes and is an informal, child friendly chance to meet together and take a bit of time out to think and make space for God. Even though we tackle some quite serious subjects, somehow we do manage to bring a touch of

humour and it is in no way heavy. You would be very welcome, whatever your age. We start at 10.30am, but come early (from 10.00) and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit first. The next one is on 2nd December.

Harbury and Ladbroke Church Men's Group

Last month Andrew Patrick came and spoke about his wonderful achievement of cycling from Calais to the Mediterranean coast of France. Andrew came armed with his trusty bike and some photographs of this trip and the old saying "every picture tells a story" was never truer. Each picture clearly evoked memories for Andrew and we all relived his trip with him from punctures, to fantastic scenery, to water sources, to family friends and new acquaintances who helped him on his way. It was a lifetime ambition fulfilled for Andrew and the Group really appreciated his enthusiastic presentation although I'm not sure how many of us will be following in his cycle tracks!

Gail Allison is our next speaker on Thursday 6th December (7.45pm in the Tom Hauley room) and she is talking about the Social Effects of Addiction. Gail comes recommended to us and her talks are interesting, dynamic and interactive and I'm sure she will have some challenging thoughts on the subject. Addiction can cover a huge range of experiences whether it drugs, drinking, eating, gambling and is something that may have touched many of us somewhere in our lives.

Enjoy all the Christmas and New Year festivities over the weeks to come and we look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting in the New Year on the 3rd January.

For more information, please contact John Guilford (614206) or John Stringer (613214)

John Guilford (Co-Chair)

Ladbroke News & Diary

www.ladbroke-pc.org.uk

DECEMBER

- | | | |
|------------|----------|---|
| Sat | 1 | Ladbroke Church Coffee Morning/Christmas Fayre, 10.00am in
Tom Hauley Room, Harbury |
| Sun | 2 | ADVENT SUNDAY
Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments |
| Tues | 4 | Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall |
| Wed | 5 | Pilates, 10.00am, Village Hall |
| Thurs | 6 | W.I. Christmas Social, 7.30pm, Village Hall |
| Fri | 7 | Ladbroke Christmas Party, from 7.30pm, Village Hall |

- Sat 8 HS2 Compensation Consultation Event, 9.00am – 5.00pm at the Graham Adams Centre, Southam
Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 9 ADVENT II**
Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am
- Wed 12 Pilates, 10.00am, Village Hall
Beer and Carols, 7.00pm at The Bell Inn
- Sat 15 **ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY BY 5.30PM**
Christmas Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 16 ADVENT III**
Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer), 9.00am
- Wed 19 Pilates, 10.00am, Village Hall
- Thurs 20 Safer Neighbourhood Team (Police) Surgery, 1.30pm in Village Hall
ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO HARBURY PHARMACY OR E-MAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM
- Sat 22 Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 23 ADVENT IV**
Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am
- Mon 24 Dressing of the Crib, 3.30pm in Church
- Tues 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**
Holy Communion, 10.30am
- Fri 28 Carol Service, 6.30pm followed by refreshments
- Sat 29 Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 30 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**
Holy Communion (spoken), 9.00am
- JANUARY**
- Sun 6 EPIPHANY/BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments



Ladbroke Church News

Sue Lord

For the third year running Ladbroke All Saints held a Remembrance Service for all the village at 3.00pm on Remembrance Sunday. The service was a poignant reminder of the sacrifice of so many in all wars. Wreaths were laid at the base of the War Memorial in the Chancel.

Two dates for December are Wednesday 12th - carols at 7.00pm in The Bell and the post Christmas Carol Service on Friday 28th December at 6.30pm.





After the formalities, such as apologies for absence and approving the previous minutes, the meeting on 21st November 2012 started with items raised by the public:

- the high water level in the brook, though it had not actually flooded;
- concerns about the state of Harbury Road near the entrance to the field(s) where muck was being spread, it was thought farmers had a responsibility to clear deposits on the road within 24 hours and today's rain would have probably done this;
- whether local guidance had been issued by WCC or SDC relating to ash die back disease – none had been received by the Parish Council yet; regarding trees generally - just as landowners have a responsibility to ensure their trees are not dangerous, the council would have responsibility for ones on common land within the village.

Matters arising: The name change of Windmill Lane beyond the by-pass had not happened last month as there was a late objection raised. There had been a well attended meeting on Village Facilities on 8th November as reported below.

Neighbourhood Watch: David Halsall, Ladbroke's co-ordinator, summarised the ways in which information is communicated including the village website, the enews and this magazine. The weekly police reports, suspended because of lack of resources, have returned recently and a copy will be put on the noticeboard near the pub. The planned police surgeries in the village do not always happen if resources are not available, however they should definitely be at the surgery at 6.30pm, preceding the next Warwickshire Community Forum, on 12th December at the Dallas Burston Polo Grounds. The police had been called earlier this month relating to an aggressive pedlar going around Ladbroke after dark. It was also noted that there had been a spate of numberplate thefts during the night in Napton and Fenny Compton.

Finances: These were reviewed and it looks as if the Parish Council will propose the same precept as last year by having a budget covering known costs with possible costs, such as any associated with HS2 or replacing a lamppost and any grants, being funded out of the small reserve that had built up. A final decision on the precept will be made in January.

Planning: The Parish Council had made no representations regarding various tree works at Sycamores, The Croft, Ladbroke Hall and the spinney on Bridge Lane nor to the application to demolish the existing single storey extension and replace with a thatched 2 storey one at Church Cottage. They had also been invited to comment on demolition of an industrial building and

construction of a new one at Harp Farm (near the nursery on the way to Southam), the scoping application for a 60 acre solar farm at Deppers Bridge and for any further comments on the revised application for the wind farm between Bishops Itchington, Gaydon and Knightcote where the application is now for four rather than five wind turbines, 125m high.

Flood Prevention: The Parish Council had applied for a £12,000 grant for flood prevention measures (improvements to three cottages and dredging the brook where necessary). However, there had been so many requests only £2,000 had been awarded for maintenance work; a contractor for this had been identified. The good news was that it might be possible to apply for the additional requested funds through the Environmental Agency. It was also hoped that the plans for a balancing lake, to control the rate of water draining from the hill into the village, could be developed further. "Laking" near the Church seemed to be due to leaves on top of drains rather than blocked drains.

Village Hall and Millennium Green: Plans to "merge" by the method now recommended by the Charity Commission were proceeding. The Village Hall has new wall lights and is having a Christmas party on Friday 7th December. The Millennium Green trustees had held a very successful race night this month and are planning a safari supper on 19th January.

HS2: The compensation consultation is now open. There is an information day in Southam on Saturday 8th December and all responses need to be in by 31st January 2013. It is now considered likely that the 4 lane track zone will be further south.

Village Website: The website is useful for sharing Parish Council documents (i.e. open government) and promoting the village as well as sharing information and pictures with locals. A small trial has shown that it would be possible to get a good website which would be less prone to hacking and much cheaper to run. Kip Warr, our webmaster will transfer relevant information on to a Google site in the next couple of months. All organisations with information on the village website will be asked to provide up to date content or will be assigned a blank page.

Power Cuts: these are not a Parish Council responsibility and they would only get involved if it is related to a problem specific to Ladbroke, that is not being dealt with appropriately by the transmission company.

WCC Update: There was only a 15% turnout across the county in the police commissioner election; Ron Ball, the independent candidate had been voted in. More cuts were expected.

Meetings in 2013: These will be on the 3rd Wednesday in January, March, April (Village Meeting), May, July, September and November.



It was commendable that 12 members forced themselves out on a dreadful Thursday evening with driving rain and wind making some roads almost impassable but the excellent speaker made the effort well worthwhile.

Alan Winterburn used slides to illustrate little known places in Warwickshire with interesting connotations. It was fascinating to hear about places with which we are all familiar and learn more about them. If I mentioned all the stories in the talk, I would use up the majority of this edition so I will just give three in the immediate vicinity. Have you ever wondered why the Black Dog in Southam bears an inn sign depicting a knight on horseback? The name goes back to the 1300s when Piers Gaveston was a favourite of Edward II. His derisory nickname for the Earl of Warwick was The Black Dog. Warwick captured Gaveston and, after a mockery of a trial at Warwick Castle, Gaveston was taken to Blacklow Hill where he was beheaded and there is a cross in the woods above the Kenilworth bypass marking the spot.

Outside the Stoneythorpe Hotel is a monument to the first dispensary in the world opened by the Parish Surgeon, Henry Lilley Smith. The medicines were free and the poor of the parish benefited for many years. He also used his own money to provide a Maypole Feast for the working children to have a day's fun and he bought allotments so that young men could learn gardening skills and produce much needed fruit and vegetables.

At Bascote Heath is a curious sign requesting 'gypsy and gentry alike' to leave no rubbish. This was the first of two talks which Alan gives and we will certainly invite him back – in the summer – to hear other tales. He can be contacted on 01926 424541.

Dates for the diary:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 3 rd December | First aid course 7.00 – 9.00pm |
| 6 th December | Christmas Social 7.30pm onwards. The entertainment will be provided by members so anyone who has a 'turn' please let Sue know. |
| 11 th December | Carol Service in the Catholic Church in Southam. Contact Janet for tickets. |
| 20 th March 2013 | Annual Federation meeting at Stoneleigh with speakers Kay Alexander and the RAF pilot Mandy Hickson |
| 15 th April 2013 | Denman Day visit. |



From W.I. Life, please take part in the survey about Denman and vote for the resolution.

There is to be local IT support from Gillian Crisp who will facilitate so that the more IT literate members are able to provide help to others less technically aware.

Finally, Jenny Barrett told us about a day spent at Denman learning sugarcraft and showed us the result of her first day, as well as the sugar roses made by her 12 year old granddaughter which were the inspiration for her interest.



Ladbroke Photography Club

Kip Warr



**Rocks by
Jackie West**

Our November meeting had a different atmosphere - philosophical at times.

What is an abstract photograph? Jackie West explained that it is one where the patterns, shapes, textures and colours take centre stage and the subject may be unrecognisable. That may sound a bit like the unsuccessful holiday pictures where we take shots of the sky or the sun or our boots deep in mud by mistake, but Jackie showed how this becomes an art form.

Careful framing of the photograph, selective focussing and manipulation on the computer can produce beautiful, mysterious and often baffling results.

Simple content with strong contrast works particularly well.

The response is often "Wow, look at that!" She illustrated her talk with plenty of wow-factor images, including some of her own; then club members showed their photos. Abstract seems - well - so abstract until you see what people can do with an idea; we had an amazing range



Reichstag Building by Derek Batty

of interpretations from squiggly lights to patterns in the sand. What's abstract? Just looking at things a different way.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 4th December at 7.30pm at Ladbroke Village Hall (the heating will be on!). Come along - member or visitor - with your camera for a practical session on taking close-up photographs.



**Holocaust Memorial by
Graham Gee**

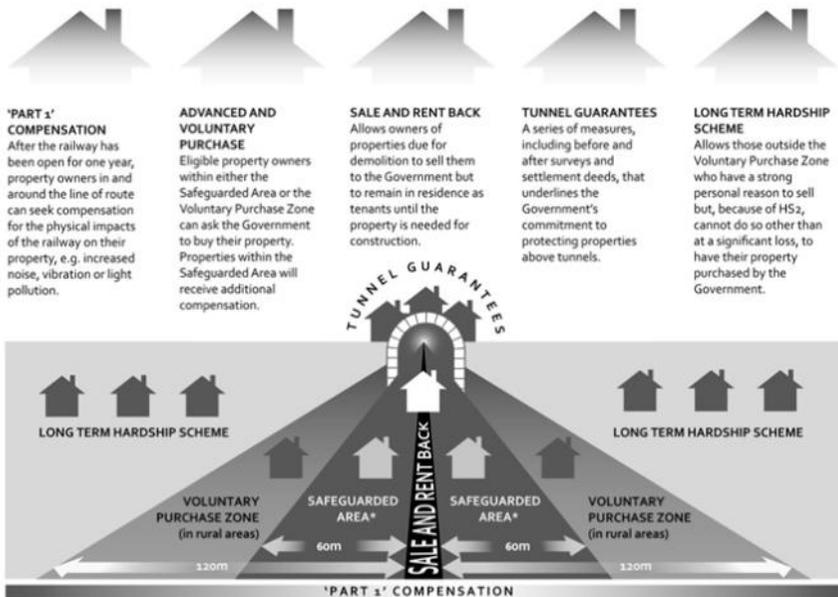
Further information from
jackieszone -
photogclub@yahoo.co.uk



Ladbroke General Section

HS2 Update

Overview of proposals for owner-occupiers



*The safeguarded area is typically 60m from the line of route, however in some areas this varies.

In late October the government opened a consultation on the proposed compensation scheme for owners of property affected by HS2 which closes on Thursday 31st January 2013. The proposals are summarised in the diagram on the previous page and more details can be found on their website <http://highspeedrail.dft.gov.uk/consultations/property-compensation-london-to-west-midlands>

To support the consultation the Department for Transport are holding an information event at The Graham Adams Centre, St James Road, Southam on Saturday 8th December 9am - 5pm to provide those people most affected by these proposals with the opportunity to discuss the consultation material with members of their staff.

HS2 Action Alliance have reviewed the proposals and produced a summary, which includes what those affected may consider wrong with the proposals; it can be found at **www.hs2aa.org/compensation**. I encourage those who will be directly affected by HS2 and everyone in our community to consider what is being offered and send in a response, making the case for fair compensation. Further information to help people do this will be made available to everyone on our email distribution list; if you are not on it and wish to be added, please let me know.

Graham Long, Chairman Ladbroke Action Group
email: grahamjohnlong@hotmail.co.uk

Village Meeting Report

On Thursday 8th November there was a meeting to discuss village facilities. The Parish Council had organised it and 30 people attended, a lot more than many were expecting. First of all representatives of the village organisations with facilities spoke summarising their use, financial position and potential.

Ladbroke Church – Rev Craig Grocock said that he thought the typical usage of one hour per week plus special services seemed a waste of such a large and beautiful building. Treasurer Steve Copley said that although we were struggling financially a few years ago, the basic annual running cost of about £10,000 had been met in the last couple of years, thanks to the generosity of the congregation and other supporters. Craig said that personally he was keen to **explore** making the Church building more useful to the community such as glassing in the chancel for regular Sunday services with a small congregation and removing the pews and changing the floor in the nave making it a more flexible space but still available for services with a large congregation. Increasing community use 'ticked the boxes' for the C of E but it would be costly and obtaining permission would be long and difficult. Also the Church does not have a car park.

Village Hall – Alan Lord advised the meeting that the Village Hall is OK financially with income from use of the Hall, special events and the monthly Millennium Draw. The latter was set aside for a development fund and now

had over £20,000 in it. The current Hall will not last indefinitely and a few years ago, following a survey in the village on what people would like a new Hall to provide, plans matching most if not all of people's wishes had been drawn up and approved, Alan himself had created a business plan to help apply for grants. However these plans had not been progressed and the trustees were proposing it should be taken up again after the Village Hall and Millennium Green Trusts merged, specifically looking at something cheaper that met most of the requirements. In the meantime the existing Hall had been redecorated, gas central heating installed and insulation of the roof was being investigated. Re-roofing the building is not an option as the walls are not strong and it does not have foundations!

The Hall is outside the conservation area and, in theory, the site could be sold for residential development; it was thought this would be acceptable under the Village Hall trust if the money raised went directly towards funding something similar in, for and run by the village.

Pub – The freehold of The Bell Inn is up for sale at £350,000 + VAT. It is on about 1.4 acres of land with car parking and also space at the back that, in theory, could be used for another building. The owners, Punch Taverns, had been invited to this meeting but instead sent a letter which just commented that they had been advised by the area manager it was on the market but, as the only pub in the village, it was unlikely that any other use would be approved by the local authority. However, unofficial discussions by two attendees with SDC or WCC staff indicated that change of use to a community pub or something similar benefitting the village would be very acceptable.

The pub is in the conservation area and close to the stream, though in 1998 only the basement flooded.

Millennium Green – the trust under which this was set up requires it to remain an open space for the use of villagers so there is no option to use the Millennium Green as the site of a new Village Hall nor to sell it and use the money towards one. Therefore it can be taken out of the equation.

Then there was an open discussion. Questions were raised about a community pub – would we put in a manager? Was the objective for it to be a gastro-pub or a sports and social club (these would have very different priorities)? How would a mandate be obtained for any decision? The comment was also made that however things were progressed, the small pool of 200 or so people providing ongoing funding for village facilities would not want to pay more.

It was agreed that there were 3 options to consider:

- Rebuild the Village Hall on the Village Hall site
- Move the Hall facility to the pub
- Move the Hall facility to the Church

The second option has to be investigated and decided on quickly as the pub is on the market now. One option might be to purchase it in trust. Graham Long, Allan Ballard and David Rose took an action to look further into this. The other two options do not have a similar time pressure but it was agreed that the Village Hall trustees will start looking into a revised Village Hall plan and Ladbroke Church's PCC will be asked to consider the feasibility of changes to the Church.

If anyone in Ladbroke is not on the enews distribution list and wishes to be kept up to date as things progress please contact Martin Neal *email*: martin Neal@hotmai.co.uk

Jackie West

Village Hall AGM

A small group comprising the majority of the trustees and 3 members of the public attended this meeting on 12th November which reviewed the past year and looked forward to the next one. This gives you a flavour of it.

The 6 active members of the committee had worked hard and had hosted a number of successful events in the past year, a village Christmas Party, the pantomime, 2 film nights, the relocated fete and a treasure hunt (joint with the Millennium Green). There have also been several improvements made to the Hall, with users reaping the benefits of the central heating installed last year, some redecorating, a large projection screen (paid for by the Photography club and Alibone Trust) and the recently installed wall lights. Thanks were given to those who helped maintain the grounds including John Moore for weed spraying and the WI for planting the tubs. This coming year it hoped to be able to progress insulating the roof (unfortunately it cannot bear much weight which restricts what is possible) and improvements to the kitchen.

On the finance side, most income came from hiring out the Hall, events and the monthly Millennium Draw, the winners of which are reported in this magazine. This draw has been running for about 12 years (the clue is in the name) and as some long term supporters are no longer with us, participation by newcomers to the village and others who have not joined in previously would be most welcome. It costs £5 per month, 50% of the proceeds are given to the winners and 50% goes to the Village Hall's Development Fund. Please contact Margaret Bosworth (tel 817312) if you are interested in supporting the Hall in this way.

It was clear from the presentation of the accounts that the treasurer, Debra Neal is very dedicated, seeking to maximise income, by placing some of the funds in a 1 year charity bond with Scottish Widows to get 2.25% interest, and also to minimise bills, by changing gas and electricity supplier.

The merger with the Millennium Green is progressing slowly. Following the 2011 Act which became effective this year, the Charity Commissioners have

changed approach and recommend a “uniting direction” rather than a “merger”. Therefore, rather than incur legal costs to do something different the trustees are progressing things along these lines. There would be a single set of accounts and charity return but the Village Hall and Millennium Green would remain separate legal entities. The AGM was formally asked if they wished to proceed with this and it was unanimously agreed.

Jackie West

Next Ladbroke Safari Supper

A safari supper is planned to fill one of those dark January evenings so put the date in your diary – Saturday 19th January. It's a great way to meet friends and neighbours over a delicious meal and raise some funds towards the upkeep of the Millennium Green at the same time. The format will be similar to previous ones with participants hosting one course and diners moving location between courses. Look out for the flyer with more details which will be delivered around the village after Christmas.

Jackie West

Ladbroke Traditional Race Night



On a dank, dark Saturday evening last month the Ladbroke Traditional Race Night took place in aid of the Millennium Green. Rather than having horse races on the Millennium Green itself, it was decided to go for an indoor arena, where the going would be good to firm with no chance of rain: plus there were floodlights in the shape of new wall lights.

Local businesses got to sponsor a race, and the horses had been given amusing names by their owners: ‘Buyer Knows’, ‘Wotcharmacorit’ and ‘Horseplay’ to name just three. When the time came to parade the horses round the arena, a white sheet was whisked away to reveal four large wooden racehorses each sporting a different colour with their names attached. The same four horses were to be used in each race with only their jockeys and names changed (to protect the innocent?). And of course, being Ladbroke, there was a very efficient computerised betting system for us punters – even better than the shops which bear the village’s name!

The horses were raced along the floor of the arena by their jockeys winding them up onto a spindle. After the initial four heats, the eight fastest horses were put into two semi-finals. But before that there was a break whilst we tucked into a warming and delicious chicken and chips supper provided by the Sea Star chippy in Southam. Drinks were on hand from the bar to wash it all down.

The semi-finals then being run, there was another pause, this time for a game of Whisky Jack, which involved sliding pound coins along the floor towards a bottle of whisky. The very first contestant, Keith Archer, claimed the bottle of whisky as his coin remained stubbornly closest to it despite valiant attempts by others to knock it out of the way.



And so to the final race to find the champion of champions. The four finalists with wrists of steel were John Moore, Rob Neal, David Rose and Simon West. As soon as the starting gong went there's no doubt we managed to equal the roar of the crowd from the Olympic velodrome as we cheered the wooden nags on to the finish. First over the line was *F Sharp*, 'ridden' by John Moore, owned by Kate Pickin and trained by the Walworth Stud. A superb effort by them – well done!



Thanks for an entertaining evening must go to Kip Warr for designing and constructing the horses as well as the computer programme for calculating the odds; Jackie West for ensuring fair play and collecting the bets; Alan Lochhead for his unique style as MC; and the Millennium Green committee for masterminding the whole event.

And where was this super indoor arena? None other than our own Village Hall!

David Wright

Millennium Green Race Night

The Millennium Green trustees plan to hold another Race Night next year. If other groups are interested in hiring the horses for their own event please telephone 01926 815004.

Kip Warr

Ladbroke Neighbourhood Watch

Are you a member of the Ladbroke Neighbourhood Watch? If not, please consider joining. Neighbourhood Watch is a popular way for people of all ages and backgrounds to get involved in local crime prevention and community issues.

This usually begins with people sharing crime prevention advice and activities, keeping an eye on each others' property, improving home security and building two way communication with the police. By becoming a member of Ladbroke's Neighbourhood Watch Scheme you can help the police and your neighbours strengthen our community, making our village an even better place to live.

For membership information please contact - David Halsall, Ladbroke Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, tel: 811838. Email: david@thehalsalls.com

David Halsall

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

£80	Helen Ballard	£50	Alan Lohead
£25	Sue Lord	£10	Margaret Whitehouse
£10	Pat Kennedy	£10	Richard Walker
£10	Carole Loftus	£10	Trevor and Diane Surgey

Margaret Bosworth



Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

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

This was a meeting largely dominated by planning matters, local and national.

First there were concerns raised by residents of Deppers Bridge to proposals for a Solar Farm on land between the Southam Road and the Ladbroke/Bishops Road. These were only "scoping" plans where the District has the opportunity to put forward to the applicant a list of things that need to be considered and addressed in the resulting planning application. They are asking the Parish Council for anything they want to add to the list.

Chairman Tim Lockley explained the process to the residents and suggested that noise, flooding, ecology, access and the bridge weight limit were obvious concerns and should be communicated to Stratford District Council by 29th November.

There was even greater controversy over an application for further building at Rose Cottage in South Parade. This property has caused concern before and residents were out in numbers to express concerns about further extensions.

In a remarkably civilised manner residents raised a number of objections including inaccuracies in the drawing, the impact on the street-scene and neighbouring properties. Councillors decided unanimously to object that the application constituted overdevelopment, that the plans were poor, access arrangements unclear, no landscaping was shown and that workshop access should be included. They were concerned by the volume of objections from residents; that the workshop doors opened over the footway and building heights were not indicated on the plans. They wanted a lower pitch to the roof and restrictions imposed on the hours of use of the workshop and to prevent the use of the property for business purposes and to stop a separate dwelling being created. Construction materials should be sympathetic to the area; account should be taken of noise, light and negative impact on residents and the street scene all with reference to the Parish Plan and Village Design Statement.

To sum up it was fairly obvious that there were concerns over the plans.

Stratford District Cllr Hamburger said Harbury was vulnerable because it had no Neighbourhood Plan. (*We have a Village Design Statement and Parish Plan.*)

County Cllr Bob Stevens explained that development round Junction 12 of the M40 was a County priority and supported by Jaguar/Land Rover who wanted alleviation of the congestion there. The County were supporting employment growth with small business loans and an apprenticeship scheme.

A Judicial Review of the HS2 plans was due on 3rd December and news of the Compensation Scheme for blighted property would be explained at an exhibition in Southam on 8th December at the Graham Adams Centre.

Asked their views on whether District Council elections should continue as at present or whether an election of all Cllrs every four years (with a cost saving) was better, the Council opted for the latter on the assumption that more electors might vote; - even effecting evolutionary change the Chair suggested!

Cllr Hancock thought the state of The Dog made the High Street look awful. There followed discussion on its potential fate.

Updates - The Junior Football goalposts have been removed. Cllrs were pleased with repairs to the Skatepark. The multi-play area is resurfaced and rocking Horse mended. The BMX Track work is deferred to spring as the

area now currently resembles the Somme! Following the bonfire the playing fields will need reseeding and rolling.

Potholes in the access track to the allotments have been filled with planings and the playing field side hedge will be cut. Dog fouling of the fields was still a problem and the Chairman wanted to blitz the area with volunteers who would hand out leaflets highlighting the impact on footballers, children and the dangers of toxocara canis.

There was concern about how many people had keys for the Cemetery Chapel and emergency access to keys for the playing fields had yet to be resolved. White lining of the car park has increased parking spaces. A pair of traffic wardens had been spotted patrolling the village.

Lighting - Developers will provide an extra lamp on Bush Heath Lane. The Clerk had written to BT asking for their policy on replacing telegraph poles on which lights were fixed and was told to refer to "your local council"! A resident of Pirie Close wants a light on Butt Lane. A light in Ivy Lane and one outside Percival Drive were not working and vegetation was obscuring lights in Hall Lane again.

Finances - The Council will meet over the festive period to set its budget for 2013-14. They agreed to grant the Village Show £200 towards the cost of engraving trophies on condition that a plan was in place to make the Show self-sufficient and set aside a contingency of £500 for the Christmas lights.

Next Meeting - Thursday 24th January 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

	<h2>Harbury Society</h2>	<p>Linda Ridgley</p>
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Archie Pitts from the Leamington Society gave a comprehensive and fascinating account of the work the Friends of Leamington Station have done to bring back its Art Deco features. Once again Nigel Chapman's display of archive GWR material relating to Harbury enhanced the event.

The Friends formed in 2004. Over the years alterations made to the Station lost some important features. The Friends have replaced the Roll of Honour to 2,500 GWR employees killed in WWI, improved the Waiting Room, replaced lost posters, running-in boards, GWR benches and refurbished the Lamp Hut and Coal Compound.

Waiting Room benches were polished, teak parquet floor revealed, fan heaters encased in wooden covers; £100 repro Heritage Railway Posters added; the stone fireplace cleaned and stainless steel surround polished; GWR logo mirror installed, automatic doors and screen added.

An exact copy of the original Booking Hall clock was made; granite and other stonework uncovered and professionally repaired and a reproduction of



the bench was commissioned. Six reproduction posters of destinations on the GWR and a Leamington original print were bought and the Captain Morgan Rum advertisement will be expertly repaired and repainted.

The restoration of the gardens, both alongside the platform and the upper and lower terraces

adjoining the car park are the most obvious improvements. Ten volunteer gardeners led by Paul Edwards work once a week throughout the year to keep them in trim. Rubbish, brambles and graffiti were cleared and the terraces planted with climbers, perennials and hedging. Mr Pitts' display material and Nigel Chapman's archive reports and photos were very well received and, in thanking Mr Pitts for his talk, Chairman John Hancock commented on the size and enthusiasm of the audience. Mr Pitts agreed to arrange for the Society to have a guided tour of the Station in the summer next year.



Next Event

Saturday 1st December - Christmas Fayre in Village Hall. The Harbury Society will as usual be providing a quiz based on photographs of the village. You can play the game there or buy a copy to take home and puzzle your family over the festive season! Do support our stall. It's good fun.





Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

These weeks fly by!

The General Meeting was enjoyable, helped by the wine and tasties of course.

Ann Beaty from the Federation came to officiate voting for a President for the coming year. I'm pleased to say that Ann Mayer accepted to run for another year. She has been a super President over the past years **but** this will probably be her last year and voting is going to be hard next year. It is about time that members considered standing as one cannot rely on the same few all the time and it is hard work. Thank goodness for the help of some members.

A reminder that the group Carol Service is on Tuesday 11th December at the Catholic Church, Southam at 7.30pm.

The pantomime and coach has been booked for Tuesday 2nd January, leaving the Village Hall at 6.30pm. The New Year's party is on 1st February at the Village Hall.

Kath Mancell, together with a neighbour Daphne Clifford, planted a selection of bulbs at June Sharp's memorial stone. We look forward to spring.

The evening rounded off with members playing games and by the sounds, this proved successful. Do not forget the bran tub gift at December's meeting on Thursday 13th December, 7.45pm in the Tom Hauley Room. The speaker will be Gillian Hawton demonstrating Christmas flowers.

Season's greetings to everyone.



Harbury Theatre Group

Mary Lou Milner

I write this piece for the Harbury News just twenty-four hours before the curtain goes up on our latest and most ambitious production, The Wizard of Oz.

In the October/November editions of the News, Chris Beaton and Keith Hayes outlined the mechanics of staging Oz and by the time you read this piece the production will be well and truly put to bed, (with fond memories I hope!). I use the words 'put to bed' advisedly as I wonder how many of our audience are aware how much work is involved in staging this and indeed any production in the Village Hall. As a newish member of the group I was amazed to find that the stage had to be transported to the hall as flat pack, along with the lighting, scenery, curtains etc. The stage is then built from

scratch and what's more of course, the same applies in reverse at the end of a run; on the Sunday everything must be dismantled and transported back into storage 'till the next time. Without the good will and hard work of many dedicated members of the group, the few who actually end up treading the boards just wouldn't make it and we are always grateful for the help the actors receive from the backroom girls and boys.

You know, sometimes it pays to be ambitious as in having a stab at a musical play we have been lucky enough to add to our group's numbers; lovely young singers, a talented dressmaker, a patient pianist, an obliging artist and a clever costume designer. For those of you who saw *The Wizard of Oz* - what about the Tinman's costume - which I am proud to tell you was Harbury homemade! What putting on *Oz* has proved is that there is a plethora of talent in the district and we are keen and grateful to draw on it – thank you one and all.

Finally I would say a number of us are getting to the point when knees just don't bend the way they once did, I know for sure that mine don't! Among the Munchkins we note there are a number of budding young actors and actresses; sadly for us they still have a bit of growing to do – but look out - as it will not be too many years before they are keen to tread the boards and when they do I predict that they will be a force to be reckoned with. Thank you Harbury for supporting the Theatre Group's latest efforts to entertain you. See you in May 2013?



Folk Club

Peter McDonald

'The Weather' proved to be an effective theme for Harbury Folk Club number 336 on 1st November, for the second session in our new home, Harbury Village Club. With no shortage of inspiration from the climate around us, the evening's 20 performers didn't disappoint and very few of them had to contrive a connection between their songs and weather-related topics. In our new venue, we have considerably more space so our slightly bigger audience was all comfortably seated for a change.

I started off with 'Across the Line', a traditional song about the adverse weather conditions endured by sailors on the world's oceans and then I accompanied Margaret's singing of Randy Newman's 'I think it's going to rain today' followed by 'Both Sides Now' (full of clouds, rain, snow etc.). Martin was next up with confident performances of 'Cold Winds' and 'Weather in Athens' and he was followed by Rik who sang Billy Joel's 'Falling of the Rain' and then 'Rolling down to old Maui', another song of the sea. Barbara had travelled from 'up North' to visit us and both of her songs had also travelled that far – 'Locking down the Rochdale Nine' (a particularly challenging flight of locks) and, poking fun at her homeland, 'It's grim up North'. Pete and Liz

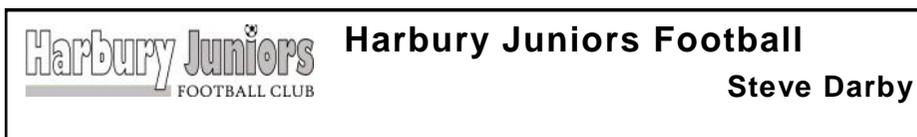
closed the first half with the 'Broadside Ballad' and Ralph McTell's 'Weather the Storm' – if that didn't fit the theme, then I don't know what did.

I sang 'Fire and Rain' to start the second half and then a *capella* trio Thrup'nny Bit appealed for 'Time to Remember the Poor'. Their second song, 'Wedder is Strong', was a bit of puzzle because it was sung in Middle English which is nothing like a Midlands dialect. Terry, on guitar this month, explained to us that 'God Paints the Skies' and then sang a fine, nostalgic song of his own, 'Country Lanes'. Janny and Maureen sang about how we might behave during a 'Power Cut' (brought on by adverse weather) and then we all went to 'Horncastle Fair'. Peter Mason chose the old favourite, 'Punch and Judy Man', followed by a year's worth of weather in 'January Man'. The Harvesters were in a transatlantic mood for 'Wayfaring Stranger' and then they finished the half with the very singable hymn, 'Your Light from the Lighthouse'.

Three of our acts had to wait until the third half before getting to the 'stage'. 'D Squared' (Debbie and brother Darren) performed two popular songs – 'Annie's Song' and 'Fields of Gold' – while Pete Grassby chose the song about the unfortunate 'John Blunt' followed by a version of 'Banks of Claudy'. It was left to Keith Donnelly to finish the evening in his usual accomplished way with 'Song without words' (but I clearly heard some) and one of his best-known songs, 'Shelter from the Wind'.

Thanks to the generosity of those present, our raffle raised a fantastic £66.48 which was split equally between Cancer Research UK and Ovacom, a support group for all those affected by ovarian cancer.

The next meeting of the Folk Club will be on 6th December, starting at 8pm in the Village Club and hosted by Pete Bones. His theme for the evening is 'Near and Dear'. For more information about Harbury Folk Club, please visit: www.welcome.to/HarburyFolkClub.



Chairman's report - Ian Jones

The season is in full swing and it's great to see so many children playing, enjoying and learning the game. The club is in the process of becoming a charity and on the road to achieving the FA Charter Standard status (this is the FA's formal recognition of a club being run the 'right' way). Both of these actions, we anticipate, will open doors to attracting funding to develop our players, coaches and facilities, ultimately allowing the club to be able to cater for more children across more age ranges. As always, we need volunteer helpers, with coaching, match day support and match referees. If you want to

learn to become a referee or fancy dusting off those boots to give it a go again, we'd love to hear from you.

Finally, I come to a problem that won't go away....DOG MESS in the park. It's clear that the vast majority of dog owners are respectful of other park users and clear their mess away, so this is not directed at you... Most of us have family in the village; the thing is the children in your family could be the ones getting covered in this mess. We do our best with pitch sweeps to remove what's left behind, sometimes it gets missed. Please take your dog mess away with you.

Under 7's report - Steve Darby

We have spent the last four weeks helping the group think about the decisions they make, trying to maximise the available space on football pitch when playing matches and have also spent time understanding the important role the goalkeeper plays not only in stopping shots but also closing down the options attackers have when advancing towards goal and how best to distribute the ball to their team mates. We also had fun when competing against each other in a team based skills competition. Congratulations to the two Joe's and Harrison for winning the weekly trophy.

Under 9's report - Bob Church

Saturday 17th November saw Harbury Juniors U9's take on Balsall and Berkswell Colts at Bishops Itchington Primary School. Harbury, kicking up-hill, started well and took a deserved lead through Charlie Cherington in the first few minutes. Harbury had the majority of possession throughout most of the first half but were unable to convert their chances. Balsall and Berkswell struck back twice in the dying moments of first half stoppage time and took a 2-1 lead at the break.

Harbury started the second half brightly and were once again able to put the opposition under pressure throughout the half, although goal scoring chances were few and far between for both teams.

An 'on form' Charlie Cherington drew Harbury level mid-way through the second half after a strong run through the opposition defence. Harbury escaped a late goal mouth scramble from Balsall and Berkswell and at the final whistle the scores remained 2-2.

Overall, a solid all-round performance from Harbury Juniors with Sebastian Page collecting the much coveted 'Man of the Match' award for his positional play, tenacious tackling and his powerful and accurate free kicks.

Next week sees Harbury travel to Moreton Morrell College to play Wellesbourne.

Next home game is Saturday 1st December against Snitterfield, 10:30am kick-off at Bishops Itchington Primary School.

Under 10's Harbury Hawkes match reports - Ian Jones

3rd Nov: Harbury Juniors Hawks 4 v Baginton Lions 2 (League)

A great result played in terrible conditions (it was chucking it down!). The Hawks bossed the early exchanges, with several chances going just wide. In the end the possession and territorial advantage paid off with Harbury getting the early goals. Baginton fought back, but in the end the Hawks efforts paid off, Cam D (Mr D) getting an excellent hatrick and Seb weighing in for his first goal of the season. A great team performance with Daniel C on fire through the middle covering every blade of grass and he was rightly awarded the Man of the Match.

10th Nov: St Peters Celtic Knights 0 v Harbury Juniors Hawks 4 (Supplementary Cup)

The game of the season so far with the team really starting to play some nice football. Some great interplay and passing across the team. Solid at the back with Ryan, Jacob and Edward. The team made good choices in possession and were disciplined and strong in defence. The effort paid off with plenty of chances being created. The opposition keeper was very busy, with Cam B in the Hawks' goal mainly a spectator. Cam D (Mr D) got a lovely brace with Seb P and Daniel C getting a goal each. Cam D just edged it this week to get Man of the Match. There were some lovely comments from the ref about the team playing the game 'in the right way, with the right spirit'. Well done Hawks!

17th Nov: Khalsa Juniors 3 v Harbury Juniors Hawks 1 (League)

The team were greeted with the biggest pitch they had seen on a nice autumnal morning. The Hawks bossed the first half but failed to take their opportunities. The second half started more competitively, the game going end-to-end. The Hawks made the breakthrough with Morgan J taking his goal well. Khalsa hit back quickly to even it up. The momentum was with Khalsa as they scored a second from a corner. Harbury pushed for the equaliser and were caught on the break for the third Khalsa goal and the game. A game the Hawks should not have lost - but that's football! Man of the Match was Ryan for sterling work in defence.

Harbury Under 10's Colts report - Steve Burnell

Harbury Colts 5 v 0 St Peter Celtic Knights (League) 8th September 2012

As the season dawned on a bright summer's morning, the team Luca, Millie T, Joe D, Ollie K, Josh B, Morgan F, Beau S, Jack D, Oscar B and Jack P all played really well and dominated for much of the game. The team played well and the scorers were as follows, Joshua B (15 yard free kick smash) Beau S 3 (One beautiful looping shot) Oscar B to conclude with a well placed low shot.

Khalsa 0 v 7 Harbury Colts (League) 15th September 2012

Again, Harbury dominated and ran the show on this one. The whole team Luca, Millie T, Joe D, Ollie K, Josh B, Morgan F, Beau S, Jack D, Oscar B and Jack P all played really well and Jack D scored two (one being a beauty side foot volley), Josh B concluded with a well taken strike in the bottom left hand corner and Beau S with a convincing four.

Harbury 2 v 1 Lawford Juniors (League) 22nd September 2012

A highly anticipated game given last season's events and Harbury started the brighter and dominated the game. The game was hard fought but this was the right result at the end of the day. Josh B scored the first with a 20 yard screamer that lifted the goals out of the sockets and, after a reply from the opponents, Beaus S slipped a neat curling shot into the corner late on to make it 2 v 1. The whole team; Luca, Millie T, Joe D, Ollie K, Josh B, Morgan F, Beau S, Jack D, Oscar B and Jack P all played really well.

Harbury Juniors 5 v 3 St Peter Celtic Knights (League) 3rd November

A return to league action after the holiday break saw Harbury playing St Peter Celtic Knights. After a lazy start the team started to make hay; Beau S scored a hatrick and Luca W scored a brace.

Harbury Juniors 2 v 3 Balsall & Berkswell (Cup) 10th November 2012

After two minutes silence in remembrance of those who gave so much for us all, a big cup game ensued as two of the main league title contenders who met for the first time in what was anticipated to be a battle to the death. Both teams started very brightly but Harbury looked the more comfortable on the ball making much of the early running. The whole team Luca, Millie T, Joe D, Ollie K, Josh B, Morgan F, Beau S, Jack D, Oscar Band Jack P all played really well, the best we had seen this season, however despite having so many attempts on goal, only Beau S and Luca W managed to net the ball after Harbury had dominated throughout.

Under 12's report - Woody

After a match "flooded off" and a bye in the cup, Harbury U12's have had very little football this month.

18.11.12: Harbury 7 : 1 Balsall & Berkswell Hornets Juniors

Balsall put up a much tougher performance this time with their full strength squad and regular goalkeeper back in action, but Harbury still ran out comfortable winners. This was largely due to an amazing first half in which Riley scored four goals! In the second half goals from Ethan and Tim B put Harbury 6 : 0 ahead. The visitors pulled one back, but Harry completed a good day's work with the final goal of the game.





Rugby Football Club

Pam Bryan

Under 15'S – 9th November

Shipston 22 - Harbury 12

Harbury under 15's, playing in their first ever game under floodlight, fought hard against a much bigger side and were a credit to the red and white of Harbury. Harbury were led by Captain Chris Hayden who was outstanding, closely supported by Sam Tutt and the rest of the pack.

Shipston, playing down the hill, scored twice before Harbury got their game together and started to dominate up front. After a sustained effort in the Shipston 22, Sam Tutt scored to open the account for Harbury. More pressure followed after the restart and was duly rewarded with a second try from James "the tackle" Darlison which was converted by Dylan Robinson. Things were looking good for the second half when Harbury were hoping to make use of the hill, alas this was not to come to fruition. With only 16 Harbury players available and a couple of these playing out of position. Shipston eventually proved too strong and one particular Shipston player too quick for Harbury on the night.

10th November

Harbury 25 - Tenbury 12

Midland Junior Vase - 3rd Round

Harbury carried on in winning style with an all round display of attacking rugby and resolute defence.

Within the first 5 minutes Harbury were 7 - 0 up when Steve Alford (Man of the Match) made a scything run through the middle of the Tenbury defence to touch down between the posts for Andy Sandford to convert. Sandford added two further penalties to Tenbury's single to give Harbury a 13 – 3 half time lead.

Tenbury started the second half with greater urgency and were quicker to the breakdown. They were first awarded a penalty when a Harbury forward came in from the side and conceded a further penalty, allowing Tenbury to reduce the lead to just 3 points.

A fine run from Ricky Alford ended with a tackle short of the Tenbury line. Time for the Harbury pack to exercise their dominance. After a series of scrummages on the Tenbury line Harbury took a strike against the head and from five metres out pushed the Tenbury scrum back over their line for Matt Knight to touch down.

A further penalty to Tenbury reduced the deficit to 6 points.

Harbury were put under enormous pressure in these dying stages of the game, but a breakout from Daz Kittendorf saw the ball offloaded to Steve Alford who in turn fed brother Ricky a fine pass. A sprint up the line with a neat chip ahead, caught on the bounce, then saw Ricky round the full

back to touch down between the posts for a simple conversion for Andy Sandford.

Harbury's organization and fine defence, combined well with aggressive forward play and sharp attacking lines overcame a youthful and fit Tenbury side to ensure Harbury entered the 4th Round on December 1st in confident mood.

	<h2>Harbury Toddler Group</h2>	<p>Rosemary Scott</p>
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November has again been a busy month. We had a very successful visit from Dragon Ceramics on the 12th November with lots of children painting pottery, with just a little bit of help from the mums. Secret Garden came on the 5th November and the children enjoyed dancing and singing. The next Secret Garden visit will be on Monday 3rd December and this will be at a new time of 10am until 10.30am.

Tickets are still available for the Toddler Group Christmas Party which is on Wednesday 5th December in the Village Hall from 11am until 1pm. Tickets are £4 and are available from me. These will need to be purchased in advance so that we know how many children to cater for and also make sure that Santa has enough presents for everyone. There will be softplay provided by Softplay Takeaway, a party lunch for the children and also a visit from Santa. This is open to any pre-school children; you don't have to be a regular at the Toddler Group to come to the party.

The last session of the year will be on Monday 17th December when Annie will be coming along at 10am to talk to the children about the Nativity. We will be closed on the 24th and 31st December and will be open again on the 7th January.

If you are interested in joining us at Toddler Group we are always pleased to see newcomers. We run every Monday from 9.30am to 11.15am at the Wight School (behind the library), and cater for children from birth to school age. Contact Rosemary Scott - rosemaryscott4@gmail.com.

BOOKINGS FOR		
HARBURY SCOUT HUT	HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB CONCERT ROOM	HARBURY VILLAGE HALL
Debbie Dimmock Tel: 612036 debbie@dimmock.org.uk	(evenings) Tel: 612498 harburyvillageclub@hotmail.co.uk	Celia Neill Tel: 612819 harburyvillage-hall@googlemail.com
HARBURY VILLAGE LIBRARY	TOM HAULEY ROOM HARBURY	THR COFFEE MORNINGS
Sarah Sherman Tel: 612277 hvlbookings@gmail.com	Sally Stringer Tel: 613214 sal.47@hotmail.co.uk	Sally Stringer Tel: 613214 sal.47@hotmail.co.uk



Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee



Fireworks: On their return to Pre-School after the half term holiday, the children have produced some fabulous work depicting their enjoyment of Guy Fawke's night, using pastels to draw bonfires and dribbling glue onto black card before shaking on multi-coloured glitter to create a marvellous firework effect. However, most agreed that they didn't like the loud bangs but loved the sparkling colours! In the outdoor classroom they built their own "bonfire" and used large red and yellow blocks as the "flames".

Samuel arranged cones around the fire so that he and his friends could watch in safety. Then they created their own "fireworks" display as they threw brightly coloured balls into the air in unison.



Diwali: We began by talking about the Diwali Festival of Light, with the children making clay diva lamps and singing the "Little Lamps" song. Indian style clothes adorned the dressing up rail and naan bread was enjoyed at snack time. Especially popular were the Indian coconut sweets made in the afternoon sessions. We were very grateful to Karam's mummy who came to talk to us about their Diwali celebrations and to show us how to fit a sari.



Autumn: With the leaves on the trees turning to autumnal shades, we went on our autumn walks to the spinney, collecting fallen leaves, twigs and conkers along the way. In the spinney, we took bark rubbings on the trees and used listening spheres to identify the sounds around us. Later, we read the story of "The Leaf Man" which inspired some fantastic pictures and collages made with the leaves and other items collected on the walk. A woodland area was

created in the book area and this was equipped with logs, leaves, an assortment of soft toy woodland animals and autumnal books. The



children also enjoyed hearing about “Hodge the Hedgehog” and retelling the story with the help of our story sack, before making clay hedgehogs, with pieces of straws, wooden tapers and pasta twirls as prickles. To round off the theme, several autumnal songs were sung at circle time.

Christmas: Amid great excitement, we are now beginning preparations ready for our Nativity Songtime at the stables in Mill Lane, and we are hoping for a visit to Pre-School from a very busy Father Christmas. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Please note:- Although the starting age for Pre-School is two years nine months, your child is never too young to be registered – we are already nearly full for summer term 2014 and are filling up very fast for the school year 2014 -15.

If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please contact Rosemary Jackson, Pre-School administrator: e-mail enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk phone 07939 122087 or look at the website www.harburypre-school.org.uk.



Windmills
Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

Windmills Nursery is situated in the grounds of Harbury Primary School and has the benefit of its own Forest School and qualified Forest School Leader. We are open all day between school hours and take children from the age of two years. If you would like to register a place for your child you can email us at info@windmillsnursery.co.uk, visit our website at www.windmillsnursery.co.uk, call Tina/Sally on 07906 519148 (nursery mobile) or Katharine on 01926 613084 (admin). We have free Nursery Education Funded (NEF) places during mornings and afternoons and we accept childcare vouchers and offer an Assisted Places Scheme.



In Nursery

Welcome to Anamaria who has joined Windmills this month; we wish her a very happy time with us. During November we have been celebrating Bonfire Night and Diwali. In French, the children have been treated to a tasting of baguettes, croissants and pain au chocolat. There have also been outside walks with the children looking at things to do with autumn.

In other news, the fundraising group organised a very successful Halloween disco for families in Harbury which will be repeated again next year and the nursery has just received a 5 star food hygiene rating. A big thank you to Harbury Parish Council who has awarded Windmills Nursery a grant of £1000 to go towards extending the roof over the outside area. Thank you to both the Harbury Carnival Committee and Wagstaffe Educational Foundation for recent donations to Windmills Nursery.

Bonfire Night

In celebration of Bonfire Night the children have been describing any firework displays they have seen.

"I saw a big bonfire with Daddy; Harry had a little bonfire. I was scared of the big bang fireworks; Nanny Bev took me inside" – Freddie.

"I went to the bonfire with Rory and Mummy and Daddy. It was a bit muddy, so I had to put my wellies on and I wore my coat. The fireworks went bang and they were next to the bonfire. It was hot by the bonfire." - Anna.



The children have produced a bonfire picture using different coloured chalks and have contributed to a large group display. They have also had fun producing some pictures by rolling marbles in paint.

"We rolled a marble around in a pot. We put marbles in it. We rolled the marbles in paint. We put the piece of paper in the pot. Then we just wiggled! It went round and round

and then we had a squiggle on the paper. It looked like a bonfire firework picture!" – Mia.

The children also created and performed a firework dance with the music getting louder and quieter.

Diwali - The Hindu Festival of Lights

The children have looked at where India is on a globe. They have produced handprints which have been decorated with rangoli patterns and suspended from the ceiling along a cable of lights. Diwali celebrations were extended by making patterns in sand.

There has been a tasting of Indian food. The children have tried poppadoms and naan breads. Rice has also been added to the discovery tray.

Christmas Concert

The Windmills Christmas Concert will be held in Harbury Village Hall on Friday 7th December. Members of the local community are invited along to see the children perform a short concert and enjoy some refreshments with us. Please arrive after 9.30am and the concert will begin at 9.45am.



	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Harbury Primary School P.T.A.</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">PTA Committee</p>
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PTA Update - Well we've had our first meeting, taking over the whole bottom section of The Shakespeare now that there are so many of us and it was great to see Mr Cousens attend too. There were many exciting new ideas suggested which are being looked into to see if they are feasible to do so watch this space.....

Quiz Night - Well done to Jacqui and thank you to everyone who joined in with a team, helped on the night or donated raffle prizes. It was a very successful night with lots of fun and alcohol! We raised nearly £900. Congratulations to the winners 'Eric Bristow is only 28!' and to the losing team 'Lost without Google!' who are now the proud owners of the wooden spoon.

Our next event is for children only: the school Christmas discos on Friday 14th December. The children have also been busy designing their own

Christmas cards that parents can buy. The PTA receives £1.50 for every pack bought so parents don't forget to buy yours.

Thursday Markets - Just a reminder about Thursday markets. They are held twice a term usually on the penultimate Thursday before the end of each half term. Occasionally (like this time) the date has to be changed due to other events in the school calendar. The markets are a great place to sell unwanted toys/books etc. to make a little extra pocket money and a table only costs £1.50. They are always immediately after school finishes so easy to pop in and there will be some tasty cakes for sale too. Please come along on **Thursday 6th December** in the school hall. If you would like a table contact Julie at Juliejennings25@btinternet.com.

Nearly New Uniform Sales – We invite donations of any items of school uniform with the school logo on, which are still in good condition, also outgrown/unwanted school summer dresses. We sell these items, both to raise funds and to give parents more choice when buying uniform, at our Thursday Markets and Summer Fayre. Please pop along and have a look at our stock. They are sold at bargain prices too. Please leave any donations (only good quality please) with Mrs Wilson, School Secretary.

Yellow Moon - Do you need some ideas for Christmas presents? Then why not check out the Yellow Moon website at www.yellowmoon.org.uk and help raise funds for the PTA? We can receive up to 25% cash back from your purchases. Use the code SHA1509 at the checkout.



Village Hall Update

Geoff Thorpe

December, always a busy time at the Village Hall. The variety of bookings is amazing. As I write the Theatre Group are beavering away set building and rehearsing for The Wizard of Oz - the yellow brick road takes a bit of painting! There are regular bookings for ballroom and children's dance classes, Zumba fitness, junior tennis, the children's choir, various badminton groups, the Thursday Club, a band who practice weekly and a Movement to Music class. This month we have the seasonal events, the Craft Fair, the Christmas Fayre and, of course, several private bookings. During the year we have the essential functions such as polling station, venue for the Blood Transfusion Service not to mention Carnival Day and Bonfire Night.

What am I getting at?

Well, we are lucky to live in a very active village and the Village Hall is a very well used and valuable part of Harbury. It is also 50 years old this year. The Hall was opened by John Profumo, Her Majesty's Minister for War in March 1962; he also had another claim to fame! Harbury worked very hard indeed to raise the £12,000 it cost to build. It will not have gone unnoticed that the

committees have been working hard again to raise funds to modernise the Hall. In the last few years considerably more than £12,000 has been raised and, as a result we have a modern kitchen and toilets, a rear roof that is watertight and no longer in danger of collapsing, photovoltaic cells and roof insulation, new rear fire doors, a sliding partition and, at the moment, the flat roof over the kitchen and toilets is being re roofed.

What else needs to done?

The changing rooms have remained unchanged since they were built and shortly after the Hall was opened it was suggested that a permanent stage was needed. This is the next project, to build a permanent stage at the "Constance Drive end" of the Hall and new changing rooms. We have been hugely grateful for the support we have received so far, the generosity of so many people and groups has been wonderful.

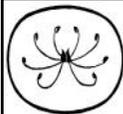
The next fundraising events

The Rural Cinema returns on Saturday, December 15th with "Arthur Christmas". In November The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel was shown to a full house with a fish and chip supper. This was a wonderful evening and marked the fifth anniversary of the Rural Cinema. Huge thanks to Lana Long and her family for working so hard to bring the cinema to the village. The cinema has raised approximately £8,000 for the Hall.

Golden Ball - A Golden Anniversary New Year's Ball will be held on Saturday 29th of December. Dancing to the Likely Lads, tickets £25 to include food, main course by Ray Playdon. Phone Chris 612305 or Geoff 613801. Dress: Black Tie or better still **Gold**.

Brass Band Concert - A repeat of last year's successful concert by the Coventry Consortium Big Brass Band on Saturday 2nd March.

An Auction of Promises will be held on 27th April. This will most likely start with a Cheese, Wine and Ale Party. Watch this space. We would be grateful for the donation of Promises, perhaps computer lessons, a trip to the hair dresser, a meal out, an hour or two's gardening. Whatever business or talents you might feel free to give. How about a week in your holiday home!!!!?



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

As I write this it is pouring down with rain with no sign of an end so it was so nice to be transported to a warmer country at our last talk in November. We had a new speaker, Dr Tony Hughes, who was brilliant and the topic was Flowers of the Italian Dolomites.

Tony started by showing us a panoramic view of the Dolomites which clearly showed the different conditions throughout. Lakes and mountains composed of limestone and crumbly scree slopes, with ideal conditions for alpines.

In Bolzano, from where you head south to Verona, it is just like a garden valley, with a huge mountain some 5000 feet high as a backdrop. The language is a local one called Ladin but Italian and German are also spoken. The hotels are of a chalet style and there is also a flourishing woodcarving industry. Some very odd shapes from tree trunks!!

In Vallunga which is a glaciated valley, there are miles of grassy slopes covered with alpine clematis, a large selection of wild flowers and, at the base of trees, wild orchids such as the bird's nest orchid. The area is a mass of yellows and purples with all kinds of orchids all different shapes and sizes. I had not realised that there were so many variations. In amongst the scree were speedwell plants with delicate purple flowers, hardly any soil but they do not seem to mind.

We were shown a very ancient castle built into the cliffs, built in the 1400's by an adventurer and poet called Oswald. Growing nearby we saw lobster claws, very bulbous, and a lurid mauve colour, fascinating plant. Higher up in the Sella group of mountains pink campion was growing with alpine toadflax and many kinds of gentians. We then saw alpine snowbells in pink, and primulas of the sort you see in Cornish gardens. Some tiny yellow violas, anemones, really small, covered the slopes.

Then a very strange sight...some Himalayan Yaks who seemed very docile and happy. The flower meadows of orchids were so spectacular and then we saw wild pink roses and alpine asters, such a rich and diverse landscape.

On to another very tall mountain called Marmolada, with a glacier on the north face. Here there are alpine marmots who burrow and hibernate in the winter. Again more orchids, very deep purple ones. The pasque flowers seen had huge trumpets edged in blue and white. A flower discovered by Reginald Farrer (he featured in the talk John Page made last year about Rock Gardens) was almost like a forget me not and grows in amongst the acid rocks. Then we saw alpine choughs with red feet a relative of the ones reintroduced into Cornwall.

At Canazei there are perilous zig-zag roads but here there are lesser butterfly orchids, yellow and very fragrant. Even eidelweiss flourish as do all sorts of bell flowers. A big colony of fritilaria butterflies alongside turks cap lilies thrive in the hay meadows.

Up to Gardeccia which is a narrow road about 5 miles long and accessible via bus!! Lots of yellow poppies all along the road side mixed with dark blue ones. Then the upland plateau at Ortisoa via a cable car with fantastic views of the cliffs and more alpine meadows. Arnica grows here too and blue bearded irises with a mixture of wild pansies.

We all enjoyed the talk and the fantastic slides, Tony answered a few questions, but everyone agreed that it was well worth turning out on a damp, miserable Tuesday evening for such a treat. Tony has more talks so I hope to invite him again next year.

At the December meeting on 4th there will be just a short AGM to start. Laura has stepped down from the committee after four years and we are very appreciative of her commitment and input, she will be missed. Thank you Laura. I shall be asking for a volunteer to replace her so do not be shy and join our happy team.

After the AGM there will be a quiz preceded by a game similar to last year when you have to guess the contents of various sized envelopes. Last year it was similar but the objects were hidden in hand sown bags. We all had a great time last December so do come along, then enjoy the festive buffet which is always very tempting.

Don't forget that the January meeting is not until 15th - just a quick reminder. I expect you will all be too busy to go visiting arboretums etc but come and see us at Upton House and Gardens in December. The winter opening is from Friday to Monday between 12.00 and 4.00pm. The large picture room has had some lovely curtains fitted and will be the setting for the huge Xmas tree this year. The route too has altered and you get to see the basements with the 15th Century domed ceilings and floors and the wonderful Tudor doorway, plus of course the shop and restaurant.

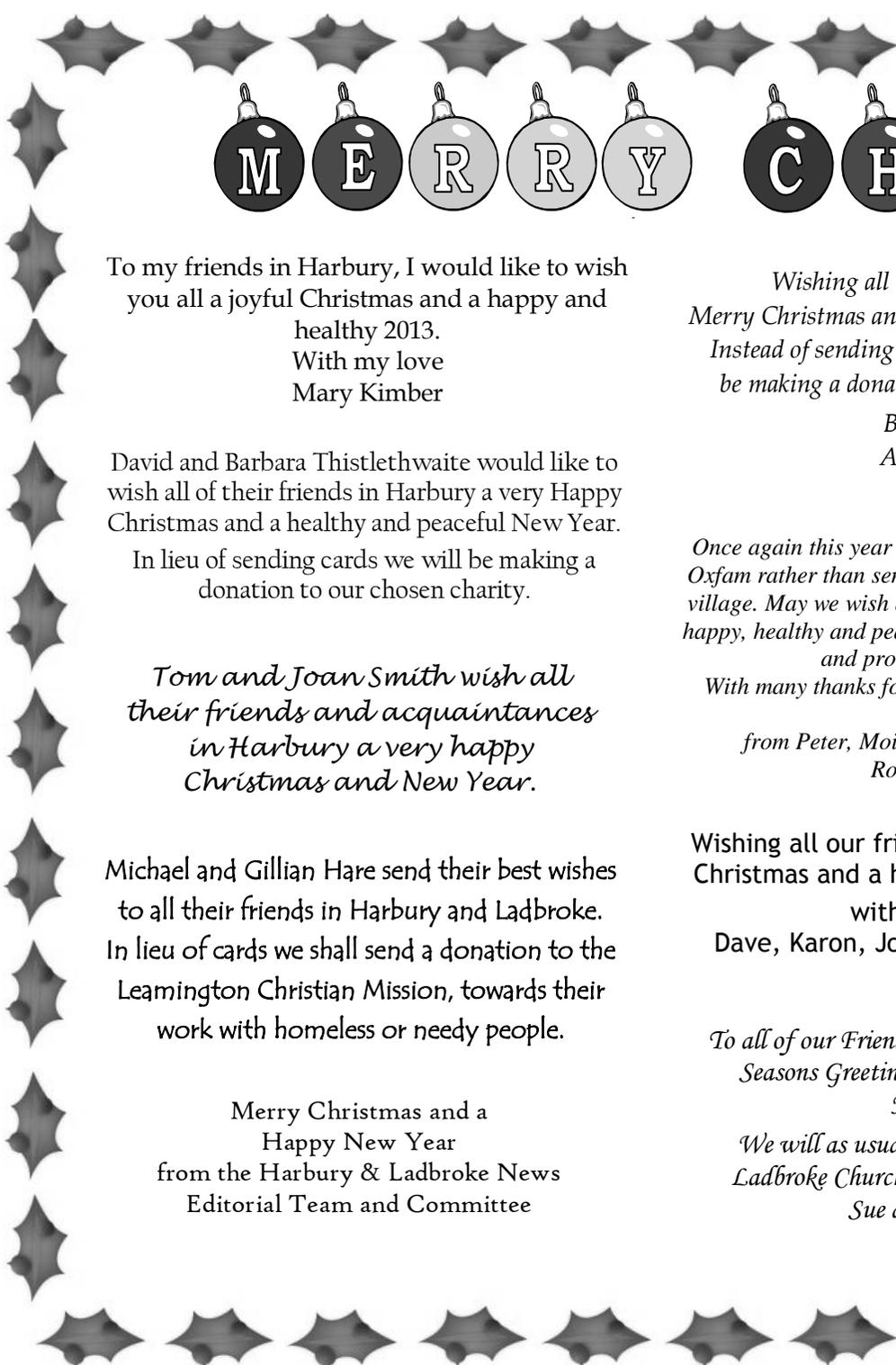
I hope that you all have a very merry festive season with friends and relatives. Enjoy. Look forward to seeing everyone in December.



Christmas Wish List:

1. Good weather, by this I mean the 'right' weather at the right time and no records broken for the next 12 months.
2. Good health. May my aging body continue to bend and crouch without too much discomfort.
3. Sufficient slugs and snails for the birds but could they please stop eating all my plants.
4. I would like the rabbits to go and jump in the canal so that I don't have to work out other methods of getting rid of them.
5. I would like the brambles to stop creeping further and further into our field. I'm fighting a losing battle.
6. To see a barn owl. We used to have one visit our barn but haven't seen one for a couple of years.
7. Lots of lovely customers.
8. A few days off.

Continued on page 42



MERRY CHRISTMAS

To my friends in Harbury, I would like to wish you all a joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2013.
With my love
Mary Kimber

David and Barbara Thistlethwaite would like to wish all of their friends in Harbury a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

In lieu of sending cards we will be making a donation to our chosen charity.

Tom and Joan Smith wish all their friends and acquaintances in Harbury a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Michael and Gillian Hare send their best wishes to all their friends in Harbury and Ladbroke. In lieu of cards we shall send a donation to the Leamington Christian Mission, towards their work with homeless or needy people.

Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year
from the Harbury & Ladbroke News
Editorial Team and Committee

*Wishing all m
Merry Christmas and
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village. May we wish a
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*from Peter, Moir
Rob*

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my Harbury friends a
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r your friendship and kindness
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 a, Catriona, Alasdair and
 bert Rollason

ends in Harbury a Merry
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love from
 seph and Freya Killick

s in Ladbroke and Harbury
 s and a Happy, Healthy
 ew Year.

be making a donation to
 instead of sending cards.
 nd Alan Lord

We'd like to wish all our friends in Harbury
 a very Happy Christmas.

In place of cards, we are making a donation
 to Amnesty International.

Andrew & Jenny Patrick

Greetings from Australia
 Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and
 a Healthy and Happy New Year
 to everyone. Have a great time.

Love

Brenda C. Thomas

Colin and Jen Ingram warmly wish all our
 friends and neighbours a very Happy
 Christmas and New Year.

In the place of cards we will make a
 donation to a local organisation.

Alan and Pauline Hayes would like to wish
 all their friends in Harbury a happy
 Christmas and New Year.

I would like to wish all my
 friends a very merry Christmas
 and a happy and prosperous New
 Year. Subscribing to Myton
 Hospice. Good luck to you all.

Rene Delin

Bridge Nursery continued from page 39

9. It would be wonderful if something could be done to save Ash trees from dying.
10. No chillblains!

The above is a big ask, I wonder what you would put on your list?

Do look out for an article by yours truly which is due to be printed in the Royal Horticultural Society magazine (The Garden) in the January issue.

*Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton, Tel: 01926 812737
www.bridge-nursery.co.uk*



Nature Notes

John Hancock

Today (Tuesday November 20th), the weather is coming from the south so it has warmed up but with a stiff breeze, lowering cloud and pulses of rain it's not pleasant outside. The temperature at noon was 15C (59F), quite a change from early Sunday morning when there was a frost followed by a day of blue skies and long views.

The U3A Natural History Group went to Crackley Wood near Kenilworth to look at fungi with John and Val Roberts on 28th October. We found a lot, including members of the Boletus family which, instead of the typical mushroom gills beneath the cap, have a sponge-like appearance. They shed literally millions of spores when conditions allow. Few develop into fungi in their own right but sufficient mature to continue the line; rather like the acorn and the oak tree.

John told us that bacteria are responsible for breaking down 10% of dead matter whilst fungi recycle 90% so we need to know more about them as they are essential to the cycle of life. Most live in balance with their host but when this is not so it can have disastrous effects. Witness Ash trees and the fungus *Chalara fraxinia*. This has been found throughout the country producing so called 'Ash Dieback'. Could we see our Ash trees go the way of the English Elm which, in its mature form, has disappeared from the countryside, killed by a fungus spread by a beetle?

Last Saturday (17th November), I cycled to Fenny Compton in order to check out a walk over the Dassett Hills. Fenny is only a few miles away but the cottages are of Hornton stone with its typical orange colour denoting a high iron content. It is so high that it was quarried particularly up on Edge Hill and sent for smelting until richer sources came on stream in the middle of the 20th century.

I was struck by a large house in Bridge Street called Woad Hall. A local man told me that Woad was grown as a crop for the dye trade thereabouts into the 19th century until the more intense blue dye indigo came here from India and eclipsed it for colour and price. Woad (*Isabris tinctoria*) is a crucifer

(i.e. a member of the cabbage family). It is the leaves which are crushed and processed to produce the dye. The flower is yellow and is now becoming popular with flower arrangers. Consulting Richard Mabey's encyclopaedic *Flora Britannica*, it seems Woad grows on the red marl cliff north of Tewksbury. Look for it in May. Glastonbury in Somerset derives its name from the Old Celtic 'glasto' which means a 'place where Woad grows'. Anglo-Saxon 'wad' is more frequent as in Wadborough in Worcestershire meaning 'woad hills'.

Gorse covered the northern slopes of Gredenton Hill as I trudged along a hedge line on the bridleway leading to the ridge road. It contoured for a stretch through a rough pasture with a superb isolated oak tree laden with russet leaves. All Saints church at Burton Dassett is well worth a visit. Next to it is a covered well with steps leading down to a pool fringed by Hart's Tongue fern. Inside the church, the Victorian restorers' whitewash has been removed to reveal medieval wall paintings. I particularly liked the king bearing his gift. All Saints dates from the 13th century when the local Sudeley family prospered under Henry III. They were granted rights of 'Court Leet, Gallows, Cuckstool, Pillory and Assize' so certainly forelocks would have been tugged in their presence.

From the AA viewfinder on Magpie Hill, a grand panorama unfolded. The eye wandered along scarp slopes from Edge Hill via the Cotswolds round to Cleeve Hill and the Malverns. By comparison, the Midland Plain stretched away towards the towers of Birmingham and Coventry. Within its seeming even surface, river valleys and the mosaic of farms, woods, parks and settlements that makes up 'our patch'.

Now, the days are short. It pays when cycling to wear reflective clothing and have efficient lighting. Summer routes take on a new veneer. More mud of course but nothing can beat a new moon beginning to show through thin cloud in the east as the sun sets and clouds, previously a battleship grey, glow red and the sky seems on fire. That was the picture I had recently coming along the Salt Way near Knightcote. It was worth the effort and good for the spirit.

I've just finished reading John Home's book "Home and Away, Adventures in Beekeeping in the UK and Africa" which is published by Live Wire. It makes excellent reading with its mix of Africa and Warwickshire. All profits are going to John and Mary's charity 'Bees Abroad' which supports beekeeping projects in developing countries. I got my copy from Joe Van Hoorebeck together with a jar of his set honey. Joe told me that it has been a bad year for Britain's bees with yields down by 75% which is huge. Bees typically could forage for one day but then were hive bound for two and consequently ate any honey they had produced just to survive. John is very good in his book at explaining things like Varroa mite and Colony Collapse disorder when hives are found to contain no bees as if their homing mechanism has broken down. The suspicion is that agro-chemicals are responsible. At £10, I recommend John's book. Seasons greetings to all readers.



General Section



Harbury and District Poppy Collection

In the week before Remembrance Sunday, over 30 collectors called at the majority of houses in Bascote, Deppers Bridge, Harbury and Ufton, so that householders could support the annual Poppy Appeal. In addition, all the local businesses and pubs had collecting boxes, so that it was possible for most people to buy a poppy without the need to go into town or to one of the major collecting centres, including a Royal British Legion shop at the top of the Parade. Altogether, 43 boxes were used in our District and the total amount raised will be detailed in the January magazine. In the meantime, thanks must go to all the collectors who agreed to help with the 2012 collection and their efforts are much appreciated by the Royal British Legion and by the ex-servicemen who are the beneficiaries of the vital funding.

Chris Finch



Harbury Art Group

November's tutor-led workshop was themed around Christmas cards, and Nick brought along a picture of a tabby cat half hidden in a snowy landscape. Then in the afternoon, we had just enough time to try another picture – this time a Christmas robin. The tabby cat proved to be the main challenge – with gingery brown fur and green eyes. Then we used pale blue watercolour and some white gouache to give a realistic impression of snow. Some very fine paintings were produced, and after long deliberation mine was judged the best of the day.

The 2013 Harbury Art Group programme is now being prepared, and will be ready for distribution at our final session of 2012 on 6th December. For this pre-Christmas workshop we will be producing a watercolour and colour pencil snow scene. However, we will also be enjoying our annual bring and share festive buffet. If you would like to find out more about painting with this friendly group, you are very welcome to call in and have a mince pie with us. Workshops are led by a professional artist and take place on the first Thursday of every month in the Tom Hauley Room from 10am to 3pm. Each workshop costs £15 per person and we operate on a 'pay as you go basis' so there is no joining fee.



Our 'Come Paint with Us' social painting days in the Tom Hauley Room have also been a success and attendance numbers are gradually increasing. In October we had the theme 'Harvest' and our November session had the theme 'Weather'. We plan to continue these informal painting days next year,

usually on the third Thursday of the month – dates to be confirmed shortly. Come Paint with Us sessions are not tutor-led, so they cost just £5 per person to cover the room hire. Anyone who would like to spend a relaxing day painting or drawing a subject of their choice in a friendly, mixed ability group is welcome to join us. Contact Pam on 01926 814923 or email harburyart@hotmail.com for more details. Enjoy your festive season, and happy painting in the New Year!

Pam McConnell

Art Classes

The art classes are still going strong. Some are now based in my studio and some are held in Norton Lindsey. I wanted to alert anyone who may be interested in learning to paint in pastels, that a complete beginner pastel course is starting in January. For more information call Jan on 01926 614251.

Jan Freeman

Harbury Carnival Kings and Queens

At this year's Carnival I created a display of all the pictures of every Carnival King and Queen since 1972. With help from a variety of village sources I managed to research and *almost* complete my archive of names to match the faces, bar one! Therefore I approached the Harbury & Ladbroke News for its assistance. I was needing the name of the attendant from 1974 and I knew that this was going to be a big ask. The information I needed was almost 40 years ago. Therefore I went to the local newspaper, the Courier, with an appeal for help too.

Their reporter Barbara Goulden wrote an article in her Nostalgia column and through this I was contacted by the 1974 Harbury Carnival Queen Denise Mantle. (Apparently a relative saw the article in the Courier and contacted her and then she got into contact with me.) It was great to talk to her on the telephone where she told me about her happy memories of that time and of her time living in the village. She also brought me up to date on what she is doing now.

She spoke to me about her other attendant Susan Smith, and her tragic death in a road traffic accident, which was very sad to hear. Then came the moment to "the reveal"! I could hear the drums beating and the fanfare of trumpets going through my head and then Denise told me "the name". The name of her attendant was a Deborah Brown. With that my archive was complete and I felt the weight lifted from my shoulders as my search was now at an end.

I have really enjoyed completing my investigation and I would like to thank all the village for their assistance. My archive is now in the safe keeping of the Harbury Heritage Room. Cold case now closed!

Deborah Ellis, 1986 Harbury Carnival Queen

Harbury Craft Fair 2012

I am pleased to report that the Craft Fair was once again a huge success this year raising much needed funds for Myton Hospice.

The kitchen ran like clockwork due to an amazing group of volunteers, thank you ladies – same time next year! Thank you also to Alan Crossan and Graham Warren who manned the tombola for the whole day with minimal breaks – thanks gents!

This year we managed to raise £800.00 so thank you to everyone that supported us on the day.

We've already had a number of bookings for next year so get in early to avoid disappointment; booking forms are available by emailing me on fidawallader@btinternet.com or give Shirley a call on 01926 612798.

Finally, the ladies at Myton Hospice Harbury Support group wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fiona Cadwallader

Harbury NSPCC Committee

Many thanks to all the ladies who attended our lunch on the 8th November. We made a profit of £735.76 which is excellent.

Our next event is our Christmas Quiz which is on Sunday 9th December in the Village Hall. Starting time is 7.30pm and costs are £16 per team of four. A light supper of sandwiches and Christmas pies will be served.

Please contact Elaine Bruce on 614664 if you would like to enter a team.

NSPCC Committee

Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

Thanks to everyone who came to the coffee morning in support of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association and especially to those of you who could not make it to the coffee morning but who generously gave a donation. Thank you.

The next event will be upon us in no time at all and that is the annual Christmas Party on Saturday 8th December 2012. Invitations have been delivered to everyone on our list.

There were some eligible people who were not on our invitation list but have since contacted us to let us know. If you are new to the village and think you may be eligible to come along, or you know of someone who may be eligible, please contact Mike McBride on 612421. You may not be able to get to our party but you will get an invitation for the coach trip next summer.

The committee members and all our helpers look forward to seeing you at the party and we hope that you will enjoy yourselves.

Mike McBride, on behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Assoc.

Critique for Harbury Theatre Group's Wizard of Oz

On a dark, wet and windy night I made my way from Chapel Street to the Village Hall to where the local Theatre Group were about to take to the stage with their Autumn production. Considering how windy it was that night made it more apt as tonight I was to see *The Wizard of Oz*. On entering the Village Hall I discovered that there were only two tickets left to sell and that a considerable audience had already arrived.

The anticipation and excitement was palpable and I was thrilled to see so many villagers coming out to support the Theatre Group. Then the lights dimmed, the audience hushed and the curtains opened. We had been transported to Kansas and we all had the comfort in seeing Aunt Em (Janet Thornley) open the show. I will have to say how impressed I was that the show was to be performed in American accents! The actors did a very good job in sustaining these throughout. Making a wonderful debut was Brian Wade in his role as both Joe the farmhand and as Tibia the Butler.

Dorothy (Jo Banbury) took to the stage and sang a wonderful "Somewhere over the Rainbow" where she was joined by other members of the cast. Here was where I heard a beautiful descant in the shape of Natalie Tayler. Then we heard the most terrifying approach of the twister and I am sure that I felt the floor move. Then the scenery changed and we were in Munchkin Land and we also saw that the ruby slippers are poking out from under the house. The Witch of the East was dead! The Scoreress of the North (Janet Thornley) arrived and she had the most glittering tiara and wand that I have ever seen. The Munchkin's, strongly led by the Mayor of Munchkins (Ali Hodge), were an absolute delight and sang with gusto "the Wicked Witch is Dead". I am sure that there were many proud parents and grandparents in the audience. I found the Lolly Pop Guild delightful. How the Scarecrow (Emily Jackson) remained motionless throughout this was amazing.

Then the Wicked Witch of the West (Mary Lou Milner) arrived with such force that the scream from the audience may have been heard as far away as Temple End or Butt Lane. The audience loved it. It was here where I heard the best line of the show from the Scarecrow when they said, that they had "only been made that morning!"

The spinning bridge effect was fabulous and the comedy derived from it was fun. Here we were introduced to the Tin Woodman (Chris Beaton) who could give C-3PO a run for his money. I was told back stage that his costume had been made by Masa Chiba and it was very impressive. Another favourite song, "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" was executed brilliantly. Making a return to the Harbury stage came Geoff Allen as the Cowardly Lion. Along came the Jitterbugs that I will describe as *Ladybirds With Menaces!* These creatures make their victims dance and dance and dance until they die!

After the interval we were taken on to the Emerald City of Oz and another simple and superb set showing attention to the smallest detail. With a “Ha Ha Ha, Ho Ho Ho, and some Tra La La’s” it was great to see another debut from the Musical Director Joy Russell and Masa Chiba as the Lord Growlie.

We were greeted with a scene where we saw three witches and this gave me some flashbacks to the *Scottish Play* (you can’t say Macbeth inside theatre settings!). The Second Witch (Sue Dormer) had a hoover as a broomstick which I thought brilliant. I also found having a skeleton as a Butler called Tibia hilarious and Mary Lou’s Wicked Witch of the West was wonderfully wicked!

The special effect of the mirror was a gift. In fact the special effects for this performance were imaginary and spectacular. Even the Wicked Witch’s broomstick lit up! *Well if HTG can fly characters, as in Peter Pan, what other effects can they dream up next?* Then Dorothy threw the bucket of water and the Wicked Witch melted away. “Ding Dong the Witch is Dead!” was sung out to an audience still entranced by the whole production. We were taken back to the Emerald City where we were finally introduced physically to the great Wizard of Oz (John Travis) making his debut. The Scarecrow was awarded his Degree, Iron Man his Heart and the Lion his medal for Courage. The Wizard produced a hot air balloon and Dorothy got into the basket to return home. To finish the whole cast sang “Somewhere over the Rainbow” and with that the performance came to an end.

The costumes were fabulous, the sets were simple and effective, the sound and lighting sublime and the direction from Keith Hayes was magnificent. Well done must also go to the other performers and to the front of house staff who looked very smart in their new polo shirts. The accompanist Simon Stenner put on a stellar performance throughout the night too.

On making my way home it was still raining and the wind was blowing through the trees in the cemetery. It was dark and it was cold. Then I saw something strange in the night sky! I am sure it was flying. Yes it was. I squinted my eyes to see through the wind and then I saw her. The Wicked Witch on her broomstick! I am sure I heard her cackle and then she flew away into the night.....

Deborah Ellis

	<p>January Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News Adverts to 31 Binswood End, Harbury by 15th December</p> <p>Articles to Harbury Pharmacy or e-mail to articles@hlnews.co.uk by 20th December</p>	
		



Operation Christmas Child

Very many thanks to all who contributed to the Shoebox Appeal. As a result we have sent 124 boxes to needy children in Belarus.

If you would like to take advantage of the winter sales to start collecting for next year, I can let you have a leaflet of suggestions. In spite of our wonderful army of knitters, we ran out of hats, scarves and gloves!

Gillian Hare, 614809



Harbury Library

The library has taken delivery of 60 new large print books and 12 new audio books. We now have a program to put our own, donated books on, to lend in the same way as the WCC books, so if you have any books **less than 2 years old** in very good condition, and you don't want to read them again, please think about letting the library use them.

The Library is now part of the Safe Places Scheme, which provides a safe place for vulnerable adults, especially those with learning difficulties, who experience harassment or a hate crime.

We are having a *Snack and a Story* time on Thursday afternoons in the library. It is aimed at children aged 6 – 8, but anyone is welcome to come along after school and join in.

Chris Rutherford

Biblio's Cafe

We are delighted with the positive response to our now being open on Saturday's. Thank you! From weekend visitors, ramblers, weekly commuters having family time, to parents freezing on the touchline during their children's football practice and popping in for hot takeaway drinks and cakes.

Do be sure to come in before Christmas and see what festive treats our bakers have created. Opening hours: **Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9.15 – Noon.**

Christmas holidays: We close at noon on the 22nd December and reopen on Wednesday January 2nd

Please contact us if you would like to join the cafe team or the bakers' register.

Lynn Macwhinnie



John Ridgley Tree of Light

With Christmas now only three weeks away decorations and lights are appearing all around the village.

To many this season brings memories of Christmas' past, particularly of childhood, when it was a time for celebrating with family and friends, both young and old. As the years go by, whilst inevitably some familiar faces disappear, they are not forgotten.

We are again inviting you to remember someone special by making a donation and 'adopting' a light on the John Ridgley Tree of Light which will again shortly come alive with dozens of lights outside the Library. Those you wish to remember, together with any message you may wish to leave, will be recorded in the Book of Remembrance.

Whilst no specific light will be allocated you are free to adopt whichever you like. You are also free to donate whatever amount you wish; this will not be recorded in the Book of Remembrance.

All donations will be used to benefit children and young people in the Village. This year, amongst others, we have supported, Windmills Nursery, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, Guides, Scouts, Pre-School and have also made individual donations.

If you would like to adopt a light please complete the slip enclosed and place in an envelope, together with your donation, addressed to 'The John Ridgley Tree of Light' and deliver to Mugleston's Country Fayre, 11 Vicarage Lane or to 16 Farm street. If you wish to pay by cheque please make payable to 'Wagstaffe's Educational Foundation'.

We wish you a happy and joyful Christmas and may the New Year bring you peace and prosperity.

Harbury Charities

Harbury G.A.S.S. (Guides and Scouts Support)

Building the Bonfire – *photographs by Laura Harris*



Christmas Post 2012

Just in case there is anyone who is not aware of this great service provided by GASS, each year we run a village postal service that, for a generous donation, allows you to get all your Harbury village Christmas cards delivered in the busy run up to Christmas.

All monies raised go to support Harbury uniformed groups and maintain the Scout Hut.

This year, the Christmas post will start on **Friday 30th November** and **finish on Thursday 20th December**. You'll find the post box in Muglestone as usual.

Reminder – To be able to deliver your cards you must put, as a minimum, the road and house number. Each year we get cards with just a first name on which can make it somewhat difficult to deliver them.

This year we are also in need of a couple of volunteers to replenish the ranks of our usual stalwart delivers. An ideal job for all you dog walkers out there. If you think you can help please contact John Kirk on 614316.

John Kirk
GASS Chairman

Windmills Nursery - Harbury Halloween Disco



Thank you to everyone who supported the Halloween Disco which proved to be a very successful evening. Thanks to the helpers who decorated the hall and to Sally and Steve Lines for the loan of their Halloween decorations. A big thanks to the bar staff Anita and Pam at Harbury Village Club for their continued support and excellent service on the night. So far this term Windmills have managed to raise over £800 towards their target. We will be doing another family Halloween disco next year.

From Windmills Fundraising Group

Harbury Pre-School Fundraising Group

Christmas Disco: Get into the Christmas spirit at our **Christmas Disco at the Village Hall on Saturday December 1st, 8pm 'til late.** Mark will provide the music again but there is no "theme" this time - just come ready for a great Christmas party! Tickets are only £5 each and available at Muglestons. Cana Wines will be providing the bar. Hope to see you there!

Christmas Market: Don't forget to join us at our **Christmas Market on Sunday 9th December at the Village Hall, 11am - 3pm.** Find Christmas gift inspiration from the many stalls (including jewellery, toys, charms, cookery items, beading, Harbury Honey, textiles, cards - and more); relax over tea and cake; warm up with hot dogs, mulled wine and mince pies; enjoy live music; try your luck on the raffle, tombola and lucky dip; and, of course, there will be a visit from Father Christmas! Our Christmas Market was a great success last year and proved to be our biggest fundraiser, raising over £900 for Pre School, so please join us.

"Harbury's Favourite Recipes": We have compiled a recipe book full of delicious recipes sent in by friends and family of Harbury Pre-School. Example recipes include Spanish Fish Soup, Braised Shoulder of Lamb with Apricots and Lemon and Lime Syllabub. It will make the perfect Christmas gift for your friends and family - and all proceeds will of course go to Harbury Pre-School. "Harbury's Favourite Recipes" will be on sale at the Christmas Disco on Saturday 1st December, the Christmas Market on Sunday 9th December, in Muglestons, or phone Helen on 07976 935439.

Recycling: We are still collecting unwanted electrical leads, mobile phones, used ink cartridges and kilner jars. Please drop them into the box in reception.

Pre-School Fundraising Events for your diary:

- **Saturday 1st December** Christmas Disco at Harbury Village Hall
- **Sunday 9th December** Christmas Market at Harbury Village Hall
- **24th January 2013** Bag2School Textile Collection
- **18th May 2013** Pre-School Coffee Morning at the Tom Hauley Room
- **14th June 2013** Bag2School Textile Collection
- **June 2013** Cream Teas at Harbury Open Gardens
- **June 2013** Barbecue at Harbury Carnival

Thank you for your continued support. For more information about any of the above, or if you would like to join our friendly group, please call Sarah on 07791 807970.

Sarah Edwards



Burns' Night Celebrations

Southam 2000 Rotary, in conjunction with the NSPCC, are holding Burns' Night Celebrations on Friday 25th January 2013, 7.30 for 8.00pm. Price - £30.00 per ticket.

You are invited to join us for a celebration of Burns Night at Harbury Village Hall. We will have a Piper to play, a Haggis to "cut you up wi' ready slight", and to be addressed in the traditional way by Peter Rollason. We have an excellent set of Whiskies to taste as well, plus a classic Burns Night Supper. Please contact Ray Flanagan for further information and to book your tickets on 01926 613612 or on our web site at <http://s2kr.org.uk/burns>.

Richard Hall



Bumps Bundles and Tots Too!

November has been a great month for "Bumps", we have had lots of new arrivals including one of our youngest new members Albert who visited with mummy at a grand age of 4 days old.

Coming up in December is Christmas card making, and our Christmas party on 18th Tuesday. So if you're a new parent...congratulations! and come along to Bumps and Bundles for tea and coffee. Tots welcome too up to the age of 3 years.



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Kelly and Henry

Harbury Duke of Edinburgh Group

The lack of news about our Harbury Duke of Edinburgh Award Group does not mean that nothing has been going on over the last few months. On the contrary, it has been onwards and upwards this year (literally as the photo opposite shows).

There are young people helping in the library, visiting the elderly, assisting leaders of the uniformed groups and helping to run voluntary committees in school. There are young people resisting the urge to be couch potatoes by doing football, rugby, gym work, dance or riding. And there are young people learning new skills as diverse as steel pans and cooking. These examples are just the tip of an iceberg that now is at capacity (42 young people). There have been 41 bronze awards, 22 silvers and our first gold award since the

group was reformed. A dozen or so more of the top awards that entitle their holders to a trip to the palace will follow throughout 2013.

The photograph shows the stunning view from Bleaberry tarn above Buttermere where our gold group camped on the first evening of their four day expedition in the Lake District. It was not an easy hike but two teams of determined and good humoured young people made it to the finishing point at Aira Force waterfall.



Vital to the success of our group are the efforts of a great team of leaders that now number nine, three leaders at each level.

Nick Tawney

Community First Responders – Volunteers Needed

Members of the West Midlands Ambulance Service recently attended the Parish Council meeting to explain the Community First Responders scheme. They explained that our village is one of the furthest away from the ambulance service. When someone calls an ambulance they aim to arrive within 8 minutes, but it is impossible to reach Harbury within that time. As the first few minutes are often critical, a first responder can actually save someone's life. All training is provided free of charge by the ambulance service. There is no doubt that this is a really important and worthwhile scheme so if anyone is interested in being involved, please contact Harbury Parish Council on 01926 614646.

Harbury Parish Council

Dog Mess on the Playing Field

There is a minority of people in this village who persistently allow their dogs to foul the playing field and make no attempt to clear it up. Not only is this a very anti-social thing to do, but it also carries with it a serious health risk. A dog warden patrols the village and will give a fixed penalty notice to anyone caught in the act, so beware!

Why you should clean-up after your dog!

Allowing your dog to foul a public area is no longer environmentally acceptable.

- It damages your local environment.
- It increases tension between non-dog and dog owners.
- It ruins everyone's enjoyment of the playing field.
- It prevents children running freely or playing sports on open grassland.
- It turns a pleasant walk into a battle with dog faeces.
- It is a very unpleasant and offensive substance to wash off shoes, clothing or children.
- It can spread disease.
- It is an offence under the byelaws not to clean up after your dog and you could be fined.

Keeping dogs and people happy and healthy

Dog faeces can contain worm eggs, which remain on or in the soil long after the faeces have weathered away. The eggs can be ingested by other dogs, thus continuing the cycle. Your walk on the field could result in your dog becoming infected through contact with another dog's faeces.

Dog faeces can cause toxocariasis in young children if the worm eggs are ingested. This causes allergic symptoms and occasionally, blindness. Toxocariasis is also very dangerous for pregnant women, because it can lead to major damage and even death of the unborn child.

Treat your dog regularly for worms and teach your children good hygiene around your dog, and to wash their hands regularly, especially before meals. To prevent infection between dogs and to keep your dog free from worms, remember to worm your dog frequently - at least every 6 months.

Contacting the Dog Warden

If you regularly witness someone allowing their dog to foul public areas, please contact the dog warden on **01789 267575 (switchboard)** or email sophie.peacock@stratford-dc.gov.uk. Please give as much information as you can about times, dates and a description of the dog and its owner.

Harbury Parish Council

A November Journey

Some time ago, I wrote some articles about research I had done into the names on the village War Memorial. Many of the First World War fallen are buried in the relatively small area of France and Belgium that was fought over at such a terrible cost in lives. I decided to travel to the area and locate their graves and so, early in November, John and I set off to France via the tunnel.

After a night in Coquelles near the tunnel exit, we drove to Etaples further along the coast, 27 kilometres south of Boulogne. During the First World War, Etaples was the scene of immense concentrations of reinforcement camps and hospitals. By 1917, 100,000 troops were camped there and the hospitals could accommodate 22,000 patients. In 1918, it was at the centre of the outbreak of the deadly 'Spanish 'flu' which may even have had its origins there, and many soldiers died. Among them were Private Reuben Barfoot of the Machine Gun Corps and Private Charles Clarke of the Devonshire Regiment, both of whom died after the Armistice. We visited their graves among the 10,771 at Etaples and left (as we did at all the graves), a British Legion wooden cross.

We then drove to the town of Albert in the Somme, and to the Communal Cemetery which has a military extension containing 862 Commonwealth graves. Here we visited the grave of Sergeant Frank Rainbow MM of the Royal Army Medical Corps who was killed by shellfire in August 1918. We had some difficulty locating Grove Town Cemetery south of Albert as it was quite isolated along muddy tracks. It was once the site of a Casualty Clearing Station and the troops called it Grove Town. 1,395 men are buried there and we were able to visit the grave of Private Frank Boiles who died of wounds aged 22 in September 1916.

We drove on to the village of Dernancourt just south of Albert where there are 2162 Commonwealth graves in the Communal Cemetery. Here we found the grave of Sapper Albert Marlow, killed in July 1916 aged 20.

We journeyed some 13k east of Albert, the golden statue on its huge church still clearly visible and, near the village of Longueval, found Caterpillar Valley Cemetery. Caterpillar Valley was the name given by the troops to the long valley rising eastwards. There was very fierce fighting here in July 1916 when Sergeant John Morgan of the Royal Warwicks was killed in action. We visited his grave, one of 5,569 in the cemetery.

In deteriorating weather we went to the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme. This is a huge monument visible for miles around and it bears the names of 72,000 men killed on the Somme who have no known grave. Over 90% of those remembered died between July and November 1916. In driving wind and rain we found the name of Able Seaman Edmund Astell of the Royal Naval Division, killed in action in December 1917.

Our final visit of the day was to the village of Serre, north east of Albert. There, in Serre Road Cemetery No 2 we found the grave of Private Gabriel Overton who was killed in action in September 1916.

We stayed the night in St Quentin in the Aisne, a town almost destroyed in the war. Next day we set off for Gouzeaucourt, a village south west of Cambrai where there is a British cemetery with 1,295 graves. We found the grave of Private Raymond Brooks MM killed in action at Cambrai in November 1917. Our next destination was the village of Pont-sur-Sambre where there are



54 Commonwealth war graves in the Communal Cemetery. The village was in German hands for most of the war and was taken back on 5th November 1918. Here lies Private Ernest Ivins of the Devonshire Regiment. He had enlisted in 1914 and lied about his age. He was still only 19 when he was killed in action on 7th November 1918.

Our attempt to visit the grave of Stephen Hawtin in St Mary's ADS Cemetery near Haisnes was thwarted by a closed road which we could find no way round. Disappointed, we travelled on to Le Touret Military Cemetery at Richebourg-L-Avoue. The cemetery was used continuously by Field Ambulances throughout the war and it has 900 graves and a memorial to 13,000 men who fell in the area in 1914-15 and have no known grave. We visited the grave of Private Alfred Allen who was killed in action aged 20 in August 1915. We found our next Harbury grave near Armentieres in the village of Laventie. Here with 191 others lies Private Albert Wyatt killed in action aged 18 in January 1916.

Once again, after a bright morning, the weather deteriorated and we struggled in wind and rain to visit the Vimy Memorial, a beautiful and poignant structure on the Ridge which was won at such cost by Canadian forces. It bears the names of 11,000 Canadian soldiers who have no known grave and among them is that of Private Reginald Beardsworth, son of Harbury's Vicar, who served with the Canadian Infantry. He was killed in May 1917. Lastly that day we visited the grave of Private Clement Gascoigne who served with the Canadian Mounted Rifles. He was killed in action at Vimy Ridge in April 1917 and is buried at Thelus Military Cemetery.

After a night in Arras, our first port of call was the Arras memorial. This remembers 35,000 Commonwealth servicemen killed in the Arras sector that have no known grave. We found the name of 2nd Lieutenant Malcolm Bland who was killed in action aged 19 in March 1918. We travelled west of Arras to Duisans British Cemetery where there are 3,205 graves mostly from Arras in 1917. There we visited the grave of Private Charles Bird who died of wounds in April 1917. North of Arras we found Aubigny Communal Cemetery where there are 2771 men buried many of them Canadian. Here lies Private Ernest Gurden who died of wounds in May 1917.

We crossed the border into Belgium to visit some of the many cemeteries in the Ypres Salient. Our first stop was the isolated Klein-Vierstraat cemetery south west of Ypres. Among 700 others is the grave of Gunner Willie Lancaster who was killed in June 1917. Nearer to Ypres is Bedford House Cemetery in the grounds of Chateau Rosendal where there was much fierce fighting. Lieutenant Brian Osborne, a cavalry officer was killed in action in November 1914 and is buried among over 5000 graves.

Ploegsteert, a village south of Ypres was the scene of bitter fighting and known to the army as Plug Street. A memorial to over 11,000 men killed in the area with no known grave stands at the side of the road. We found the name of Private Alfred Overs killed in action in December 1914.

We stayed in Ypres and of course made our way to the Menin Gate which bears the names of 54,000 men killed in the area who have no known grave. Every night a short ceremony takes place here as it has since 1924 with the exception of the years of occupation in World War II. Despite pouring rain, a large crowd had gathered. After the playing of the Last Post, a visiting male voice choir from Bury St Edmunds sang two hymns. The sound under the huge arch was incredibly beautiful - something we will never forget.

Next day we travelled west of Ypres to Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery which contains 10,000 graves. We found the grave of Corporal Arnold Andrew who died of wounds in October 1918. A new visitor centre has been built and it was possible to look up men buried there on a computer. We found that Arnold had been wounded three times, each time being sent home to a hospital to recover. The fourth time, with the war almost over, he died. He was 23.



With some difficulty we found Dozinghem Military Cemetery where Private Frederick Padbury lies. He died of wounds in August 1917. On the edge of Ypres, we found Potijze Chateau, a British Army base throughout the war and the site of three cemeteries. In one is the grave of Bombardier Raymond Rainbow, who was the brother of Frank and who was killed in action in August 1917. Lastly we went to the Menin Road South Cemetery to visit the grave of Private Edward Cooper killed in March 1916.

Next day, after a sunny walk around the Ypres ramparts, we set off for home, stopping at one last cemetery back in France. This was Hazebrouck Communal cemetery where there are 1000 commonwealth graves among them Rifleman Bernard Turner who died of wounds in February 1917.

Sir Fabian Ware, the driving force behind the war Graves Commission was determined that the huge numbers of dead should have a proper resting place and that all should be treated the same whatever their rank. The immaculately maintained cemeteries with their row upon row of identical headstones have an extraordinary beauty but as we wandered among them we could only feel despair at the appalling waste of so many young lives, all those sons, brothers husbands. Families were allowed to have a personal inscription on the stone and on Willie Lancaster's were a few simple words which seemed to encapsulate the loss. 'We loved him, yes we loved him well'.

Harbury Energy Initiative

I would like to say that Harbury Energy Initiative has too much energy to sit still or relax – but as puns go it isn't great. Rather than switch off the power we want to plan our 2013 activities to the village's best interests and could do with some guidance from you as to what to do next in Harbury's surge to more efficient, cheaper and more sustainable energy use. We have a few ideas but we would like yours. We are therefore hoping that some of you will come along to our '**Drink and Think**' evening at the Shakespeare on **Tuesday 11th December at 7.30pm**. Some have already received direct invitations but the event isn't exclusive. If you can drink and think at the same time, do join us. Talking is optional. There is absolutely no doubt that the price of gas, oil and coal, the fossil carbon fuels, will continue to rise, pricing many out of heating their homes adequately. It needn't happen.

As a background to what we do next, I thought (or more correctly the Steering Group decided) that it would be appropriate for me to list our main achievements in 2012 in this final article for the year. The year started with our successful Local Energy Assessment Fund (LEAF) bid pulsing into action.

The LEAF bid enabled us to:

- work with the company Blue Sky to identify houses that could benefit from solar panels
- assess four community buildings for potential energy saving improvements and generation opportunities
- put PV electricity monitoring device into the Village Hall foyer
- look at four different types of home in the village to see how efficient they are and what cost reductions could be achieved.
- plan and implement the internal insulation of the Wight School to make it fit to be our village Library and internet cafe with the eventual aim of cutting running costs massively
- plan and deliver the '**Green Future Green Deal**' event to let people know of the new funding scheme to make low carbon, low cost energy a possibility for everyone.

During the year we have continued to monitor what is happening as the Green Deal energy efficiency programme developed and we used these pages to keep the village informed.

Through the middle part of the year we started to collect data on PV installations in the village and now have what must be a fairly complete picture of what you have put on your roofs. We would quite like to extend that to other forms of new energy installations, such as heat pumps or biomass. If you don't object to sharing with us what you have done to reduce energy use,

we would be delighted to log any information that can be reasonably measured. No personal data will be made public.

In recognition of the fact that we will need funds for our next studies and campaigns we joined the website www.localgiving.com. Heart of England Community Foundation, in support of our work, is paying our first year's subscription, which means we can use all donations on HEI activity. I would like to thank those who responded to my previous gentle request to support us. With the pound for pound matched funding from Local Giving we have now received around £120. This will increase with the Gift Aid that Local Giving reclaim for us. It isn't too late to add your support. Think of it as a self-interested Christmas present to the village.

Impressed with what we have achieved so far, the Heart of England Foundation also invited us to their annual Showcase event in Coventry. This gave us an opportunity to set out our stall to the invited guests and local councillors and gave us a chance to meet our benefactors.

Happy Christmas from HEI.

Bob Sherman

Starbold Wind Farm

Broadview Energy Ltd propose to erect five 125 metres high wind turbines to the south east of the B4451, with an access road from just outside the village on the B4451. The outcome, if they succeed, will mean Bishops Itchington and surrounding area will never be the same again.

The planning application for the erection of five wind turbines plus other ancillary development is in the determination stage with Stratford District Council, if you have not already done so you can still oppose by visiting the planning web site or by letter, to reference 12/00330/FUL Planning Dept, Stratford District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Road, Stratford-upon-Avon CV 33 6HX.

Richard Hamburger

HARBURY Harbury Heritage Room



Situated at Harbury Primary School, the room is open on the first Tuesday of each month from 6.30 - 8.30pm, or at other times by prior arrangement. The collection consists of hundreds of documents and photos relating to the village. The following is an example of one of the documents, this one drawn up by children investigating the story of Sussex Cottages, which were being threatened with demolition.

H.M. 120 Sussex Cottages

We are trying to find out as much about Sussex Cottages as possible, so that information can be filed away in our Local Studies collection before the threatened demolition.

Would you please answer the following questions for us as fully as possible:

How long have you lived here?

Have you brought up a family here?

What cooking / heating / lighting/ sewage / water etc. facilities are there?

Where else would you like to live?

Has anything unusual or special happened here?

Can you give details of previous occupants?

Can you tell us what life was like here when you first moved in?

Have you any pictures which we could borrow, to copy, of the house and its occupants?

**Class 10
Harbury School 1984**

Mr Maurice Ceney: I have lived in Sussex Cottages for 35 years. But was born in Harbury in a house at Temple End.

My wife and I have three children, Barbara, Mary and Robert. Barbara was seven years old when we moved to Sussex Cottage, Mary was nine months old and Robert was born in 1954. They are now all married with children of their own and they all live in Harbury.

All the cooking, lighting and heating are electric; we're on the main sewage. The main cold water supply was installed at the same time as the water toilets which were built around 1962.

I don't want to live anywhere else. I have lived in Harbury all my life and at the age of 72, I don't want to leave my home or my village.

Nothing unusual has ever happened at my cottage. I suppose lots of special things have happened over the years. But then special things happen no matter where you live.

I know that years ago around the early 1900's, Mr Cowley's granny used to live here. I know that because I've seen a photo of her standing outside this cottage.

The only other occupants I know of was a family called King. They lived here before we moved in. Then I think they went to live at Manor Road.

When we first moved in to Sussex Cottages, we had to fetch the water in buckets from a cold water tap outside the front door; there was one tap to the three cottages, and when the winters were very hard it used to freeze up. The toilet was at the top of the back yard, no water toilets in those days. There was also a wash house just across the yard; this had a brick built copper in it with a fire underneath it. On wash days my wife had to light the fire in order to get the water to boil so she could do the washing. There was no central heating either - we had an open coal fire in the living room, but in the bedrooms there wasn't anything to heat them with, so in the winter you had plenty of blankets on your bed and a hot water bottle. The back yard was all covered with ashes, so I had to clear all these away, and cement it from top to bottom. In the kitchen there was a black lead fire place which we used to light sometimes, at the side of this fire place, but in the living room there was a cupboard which used to get hot when the fire was lit. This is where my wife used to air all the washing. I suppose it was the equivalent of the modern day airing cupboard. Over the years I have done a lot of alterations to my cottage and it is quite comfortable for me.

Mr & Mrs E Newbold: We have lived at No. 22 Sussex Cottages for sixteen years. I moved to No.22 after I married in 1968, before that I lived at No.20, from the time I was nine months old until the time I got married.

We have brought up a family here; Louisa who is 14 years old and Mark 10 years old.

The cooking, lighting and heating are all electric. We are on main sewage, the water toilets were built onto the cottages around 22 years ago, 1962.

There is a cold water supply only, all hot water such as over the sink, shower, etc is provided by electric water heaters.

We wouldn't really like to live anywhere else except in Harbury. I have lived here all my life and my husband came from Gaydon. So both of us have always lived in the country and, although Harbury has changed in many ways (not always for the better), over the years, we still want to remain in the village.

Don't know quite what you mean by unusual, if you mean do we have any ghosts I'm afraid we'll have to disappoint you and say "no" although Mark has always maintained that he sees someone in his bedroom, which is at the back of the cottage. Mind you we have always put this down to an overactive imagination - "who knows?"

The previous occupants before we lived here were my gran, her daughter-in-law and grandson; they moved into this cottage from a house down at Temple End. Their names were Mrs Sarah Ceney, Mrs Elsie Ceney and Tony Ceney. Before them I remember a Mr and Mrs Stephenson and a Mr George Perry living here. Mr Perry was Mrs Stephenson's brother, Mr Stephenson was killed while working on the railway line. I was only a child when this happened. After the accident, Mrs Stephenson and her brother moved away

from Harbury. Then before them a lady called Mrs Allington lived at No.22, from there she moved to a little cottage which was one of a row of five which used to stand a little further down Vicarage Lane. When they were demolished, she moved to one of the modern bungalows which stand opposite Sussex Cottages. Mrs Allington was in her nineties when she died.

When we first moved into the cottage we had to enlarge the kitchen, as there was only a very narrow pantry just big enough for a cooker. The mains water had already been put in but, previous to this, the sink was situated under the stairs and the water fetched in buckets from a cold water tap outside. There was no bathroom, so we had to install a shower. The stairs are very steep and have a bend in them, so this means you can't get any furniture up the stairs; it all has to go through the bedroom window. The rest of the cottage is just about the same as when we moved in.

No.1: Mrs and Mrs Gurden have lived at 24 Sussex Cottages since March 1939. Mrs Gurden has known the cottage all her life, as the cottage has been in her family for a great many years. Mrs Gurden is the 4th generation of the Ivins family to have lived here, her father was born here and Mr Ivins' grandparents lived there before that.

Nigel Chapman

Concessionary Bus Passes

An appeal is being made to thousands of concessionary bus pass holders to respond to letters asking for photographs before their passes expire in March 2013. Although every bus pass has a photograph on it, this does not mean that the county council automatically holds the image in its records, and when passes expire new ones cannot be issued without a photograph. Letters have gone out to affected residents asking for photographs and to date 13,000 people have responded. However, a further 10,500 more people have yet to reply.

Anyone who has moved house within the last five years is asked to get in touch to check that their address for their bus pass is up to date – in case a letter has been sent to an old address. The county council is only writing to bus pass holders who have not previously provided a photograph. Those who do not receive a letter will not need to do anything. The new bus passes will be posted out automatically during January and February 2013.

Residents who need to provide a photograph can either call into a Warwickshire Direct One Stop Shop where a photograph will be taken free of charge, or a photograph can be posted to the freepost address given in the letter. For your nearest location visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/onestopshops or call 01926 418026. To tell us about a change of address please call 01926 418026 or call into one of the Warwickshire Direct One Stop Shops. Further enquiries can be emailed to concessionarytravel@warwickshire.gov.uk or call 01926 418026.

Christopher Cresswell - Warwickshire County Council

Chesterton Church

If you have walked past the Church you will have seen that our wall has been built and is looking splendid; thank you to all who have supported us.

It is that time of year again when you can come along and enjoy the Harbury Folk Club Choir leading us in song at our Candlelit Carol Service on Saturday 15th December at 5pm.

From Chesterton Church we wish you all a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

Jo Spurr

Harbury Village Club

An early reminder that subs for the Club are due on 1st January 2013.

Deborah Gee



Dear Editors

We would like to say thank you to everyone who supported our Air Ambulance coffee morning on 17th November. You made this event such a success that we have been able to send a cheque for £390 from the proceeds to Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance. Once again, thank you all.

Harbury Air Ambulance Support Group



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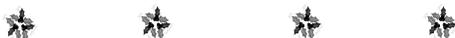
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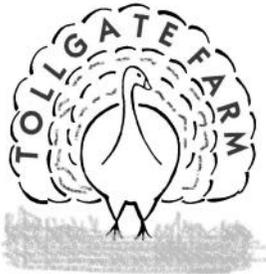
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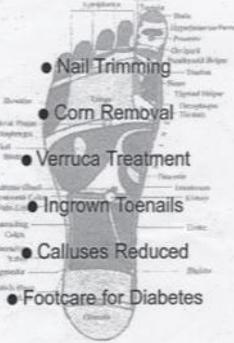
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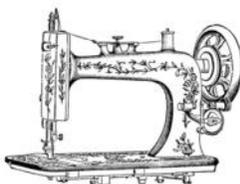


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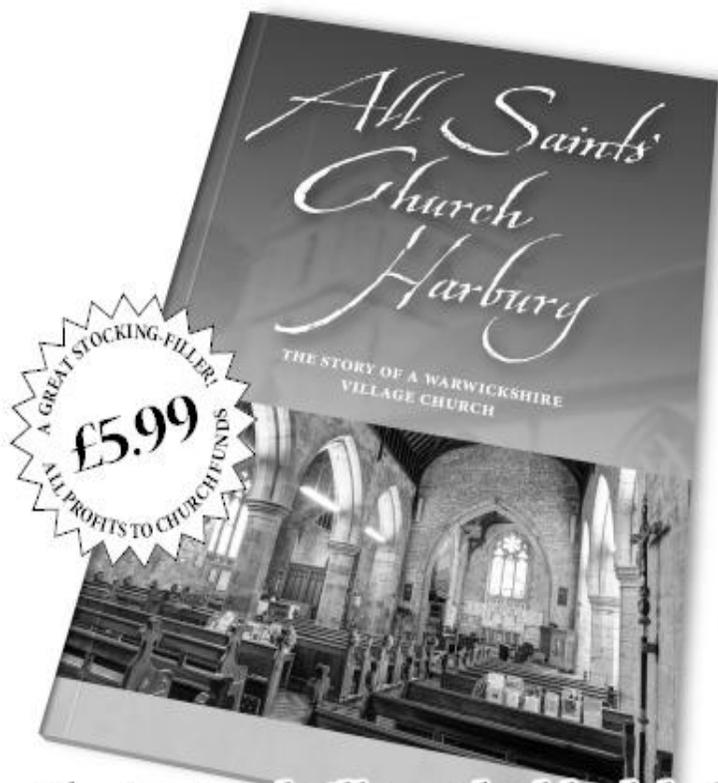
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