

# Harbury & Ladbroke News

Is published monthly and reflects all aspects of local life.

**June 2014**

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John Holden - Chris Finch - Marian Millington - Janice Montague - Sally Stringer  
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

We are very pleased to welcome a new correspondent from Ladbroke who tells us of her first impressions of living in the village. Her photograph gives a clue to her identity and you can read what she says in the magazine.

Half way between Harbury and Ladbroke is the Great Western Pub which has re-opened after a long closure. We wish the new proprietors well in their new venture.

Harbury this month sees both the Carnival on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and then the Heart of Harbury Games two weeks later on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Let us hope for some glorious June weather for both occasions and do please support these events.

Congratulations to Eveline and Reginald Tennant who recently celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary, they have lived in Harbury for the last forty years.

Finally we extend our sympathies to the families of Win Elliott and Eileen Wilkins.



## Harbury Diary

### JUNE

- |            |          |  |
|------------|----------|--|
| Sat        | 7        | Coffee Morning, 10.00am-12noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of the Village Show<br>Harbury Juniors Football Club, Annual Presentation Night 6.00 for a 6.30pm start at the Village Hall |
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>PENTECOST – WHIT SUNDAY</b><br>Holy Communion, 8.00am<br>Sung Communion, 10.30am<br>Zumba, 9.00am in Village Hall   |
| Tues       | 10       | Pilates, 9.30am in Village Hall<br>Youth Theatre Group, 6.30pm, Village Hall<br>Holy Communion, 7.30pm   |
| Wed        | 11       | Wednesday Walkers, Stockton Cutting (3 miles), meet 9.40am at Village Hall Car Park<br>Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00-4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room   |
| Thurs      | 12       | Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee   |

- Thurs 12 Harbury W.I., 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room:  
Wig Makers – Banbury Postiche
- Fri 13 Dandy Development in Village Hall 9.15am
- Sat 14 Coffee Morning, 10.00am-12noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid  
of Ladbroke Church  
HARBURY CARNIVAL, floats assemble in Sutcliffe Drive at  
12.00 noon, judging of floats 12.15pm, Processions starts at  
1.00pm
- Sun 15 TRINITY SUNDAY**  
Holy Communion, 8.00am  
“Saints Alive” Family Service, 10.30am  
Evensong, 6.00pm  
Zumba, 9.00am in Village Hall  
Harbury School P.T.A. Annual Beer Walk, registration between  
11.30am and 12.30pm at the school followed by BBQ, 5.00pm at  
the Old New Inn  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 31 BINSWOOD END,  
HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Tues 17 Pilates, 9.30am in Village Hall  
Youth Theatre Group, 6.30pm, Village Hall  
Holy Communion, 7.30pm
- Wed 18 Senior Citizens outing to Southsea, 8.15am from the Village Hall  
Wednesday Walkers, Hampton Lucy to Stockton (4 miles flat)  
meet 9.40am at Village Hall Car Park
- Thurs 19 Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee  
Tennis Club Strawberry Tournament
- Fri 20 Dandy Development, 9.15am in Village Hall
- Sat 21 Coffee Morning, 10.00am-12noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid  
of Theatre Group  
Windmills Nursery Family Race Night, 6.30pm, first race at  
7.00pm at Village Hall
- Sun 22 TRINITY I**  
Holy Communion, 8.00am  
Sung Communion, 10.30am  
Zumba, 9.00am in Village Hall
- Tues 24 Pilates, 9.30am in Village Hall  
Youth Theatre Group, 6.30pm, Village Hall  
Holy Communion, 7.30pm  
Julian Meeting, 8.00pm
- Wed 25 Wednesday Walkers, Fenny Compton (5 miles) with optional  
pub meal, meet 9.40am at Village Hall Car Park  
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00-4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 26 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

- Thurs 26 Parish Council, 7.30pm Farley Room of Village Hall  
 Fri 27 Dandy Development, 9.15am in Village Hall  
 Sat 28 Coffee Morning, 10.00am-12noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Village with a Vision  
 Harbury Games, Opening Ceremony at 10.00am on the Playing Fields  
 Warwickshire Open Studios begins (see posters on noticeboards)  
 Offchurch Open Gardens 2.00 – 6.00pm
- Sun 29 TRINITY II**  
 Holy Communion, 8.00am  
 Sung Communion, 10.30am  
 Zumba, 9.00am in Village Hall  
 Offchurch Open Gardens, 2.00 – 6.00pm

**JULY**

- Tues 1 Holy Communion, 7.30pm  
 Wed 2 Wednesday Walkers, Cherington near Shipston (4½ miles), meet 9.40am at Village Hall Car Park, bring a picnic.  
 N.B. No 2pm Communion Service today  
 Mothers' Union Visit to Radford Semele Church, followed by tea
- Thurs 3 Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee  
 Harbury Art Group 10.00am to 3.00pm in Tom Hauley Room  
 Folk Club, 8.00pm at Village Club
- Fri 4 Conservative BBQ, 7.30pm in Temple End  
 Sat 5 Coffee Morning, 10.00am-12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Myton Hospice
- Sun 6 TRINITY III**  
 Sung Communion, 9.00am  
 Little Saints' Service, 10.30am, followed by food and refreshments  
 Celtic Service, 6.00pm

Refuse Collection Rota				
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Collection Week
June	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	11	12	13	Grey Bin
	18	19	20	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	25	26	27	Grey Bin
July	2	3	4	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	9	10	11	Grey Bin
	16	17	18	Green & Blue Lid Bins



## From the Rector

**Reverend Craig Grocock**

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

Dear Friends,

It seems the three months of Rev Craig's sabbatical are almost over – and so this is the last time I will be writing this letter to you. I can't believe how quickly the time has flown by - and no, before you say anything, that isn't a sign of my age!!

It has been a memorable experience though with plenty of both 'highs and lows'. Among other things we had a wonderful (if not, very busy and fairly exhausting) Holy Week and Easter; two beautiful weddings, three Messy Church sessions – which completely lived up to their name – and last week, a pet service, in which I had fierce competition from a Shetland pony and a couple of barking dogs!



So now it is time, for me anyway, to be looking towards my future and where my ministry will take me next. Moving on can be a very daunting prospect, especially when you have to leave a place you love and move to somewhere strange, where nobody knows you and where you will have to make new friends. Life does that though doesn't it? It hands us challenges which we often struggle to cope with; experiences that we were not expecting – or even if we *did* know they were going to happen, leave us with an anxious feeling of inadequacy for being able to complete the task.

I am comforted though knowing that I don't do this on my own – that God is with me, as indeed He is with all of us. All I have to do is discern the place where He wants me to be. "How can you possibly do that?" I hear you cry. Well I agree, that it is easier said than done, but I do believe that given the way God has moved in my life so far, both the time and the place to move will become clear eventually.

Life is an adventure, and we should face the challenge of change with courage and expectation - and so I look forward (admittedly with a little trepidation) to what happens next. I hope that I can embrace this next stage of life in all its fullness and diversity, and meet, with grace, all that it throws at me. I hope at least that wherever I am, the people will be as warm, friendly and welcoming as you have all been – you have made my time here a joy! Thank you!!

With every blessing,

**Revd. Annie**

## **From the Registers**

### *Holy Matrimony at All Saints' Harbury*

3<sup>rd</sup> May                      Linden McDonald to Sarah Bull

9<sup>th</sup> May                      Thomas James Quick to Sally Elizabeth Leonard

### *Funerals at All Saints' Harbury*

8<sup>th</sup> May                      Win Elliott (88 years)

23<sup>rd</sup> May                    Eileen Wilkins (92 years)



## **From the Churchwardens**

**Elaine, John & Will**

Where did the last three months go? Reverend Craig will have returned from his sabbatical by the time you read this and we look forward to hearing about what he has been up to, albeit not everything was as planned. It will be great to have him back.

Whilst Craig has been away, Curate Annie has done a wonderful job in managing all that has been asked of her (and more!) and she deserves huge praise and credit for everything she has done. Well done and thank you Annie.

The first meeting of the new PCC took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> May and it looks like being a busy few months ahead. We are looking forward to being involved in the Carnival and the games week and on the 12<sup>th</sup> July look out for the Picnic in the Park.

The PCC also considered an approach by the Library with regard to the removal of the two large conifers outside the Library. The PCC had no strong views about this work but wanted to ensure that, should the trees be removed, provision was made to allow people to continue to remember their loved ones at Christmas through the John Ridgley Tree of Light.

We look forward this month to welcoming Matt Penn who will be our new church organist. Matt has already played a few times in church and is a wonderful organist and will supplement the brilliant musicians we already have in church supporting the many different types of worship that are available for everyone to enjoy.



Our 7<sup>th</sup> May meeting was concerning “New Beginnings”. Ann Mulley conducted the Communion Service before giving us a very interesting talk. Spring and Easter mark a new beginning in religion and Ann looked on Harbury, where she and her husband came to live in December 2013, as a new beginning in their life.

The eldest of four children, Ann lived in India until 1947. On returning to England she found it cold, grey and has a memory of stinging nettles. She missed her ayah (nanny) and the warm weather and colours of India.

The family returned to India when Ann was ten. This was during the wars of partition – her father was away at these wars. The church at Quetta is where Ann recalls that she had her first bible. At 13 years old Ann was sent to boarding school in England and was unhappy, mainly because she felt she didn't fit in or mix well with others who had joined the school when they were eleven years old. It was hard for shy girls to blend in.

Her mother returned to England and Ann left school at 16 to help care for elderly relatives affected by strokes. At 18 she joined the Army and while at a posting in Cyprus aged 22, she met Ed, her husband, and, after their marriage, followed him around with his many Army postings to various parts of the world.

A move to Dorset when her mother became terminally ill followed, and it was here that Ann went to church with her mother and felt the call of the church. Close to her heart is the Gospel of the Prodigal Son. Ann tried for ordination but it was not to be. However, the call to God was still strong and, with Ed's support, Ann studied and was accepted for ordination but was also scared of being a priest and speaking in public because of her shyness – but how well she overcame it.

Ann told us how lucky she feels to know God and to have a new beginning with God. She also answered many questions.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014, Communion at 2pm, meeting at 2.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room. All are welcome.

**Diary date:** Coffee morning, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014, 10am – 12 noon in the Tom Hauley Room.



## Church Men's Group

John Guilford & John Stringer



The Harbury and Ladbroke Church Men's Group formally closed at the annual dinner for members and their better halves on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014. Curate Annie opened the evening with a prayer.

John (Guilford) welcomed all present and encouraged everyone to make the evening one of celebration; to look back at happy memories and to look forward positively to informal lunches on the first

Thursday of each month, to continue the spirit of fellowship and fun that has been so much a part of the group over the years.

A superb meal, cooked and served very professionally by Ruth Curtis (Grosvenor Catering) and her lovely team, was enjoyed by everyone. A short quiz followed with the winning teams of Annie with Sally Stringer and Ros with Gordon Baldwin sharing a box of fudge.

The evening was brought to a close by John (Stringer) and he spoke fondly of everyone who has been involved with the group over the years, asked for prayers for members of the group undergoing treatment and for special thoughts for those members who are no longer with us.

It was agreed unanimously at the last meeting in April that all excess funds in the Group accounts and the proceeds from the Church Men's Group coffee morning should go to the Tom Hauley room refurbishment, for which John, as Chair of the THR committee, expressed his sincere thanks.

The evening and the formal closure of the group was blessed by Curate Annie in a closing prayer.

**NOTE:** The first get together will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June, meeting at the Crown, Harbury from 12.30pm.

### **Picnic in the Park – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July – 5-7pm**

Harbury Church warmly invites EVERYONE to a "Picnic in the Park" between 5pm and 7pm on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014 in the grounds of the Village Hall.



Featuring LIVE MUSIC from Phil King and others, this FREE event is being organised as a fun social event in which the whole village can participate.

Tea, coffee, squash (and hopefully a few cakes) will be available, but bring your own picnics, rugs, chairs and, dare we suggest, parasols?

From tots and toddlers to silver surfers and golden oldies, not forgetting all those in-betweeners, come and join us! Rain will not stop play!

**Gill Guilford & Vikki Hall**

## Ladbroke News & Diary

<http://www.ladbroke-pc.org.uk>

### JUNE

- Sat 7 Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 8 PENTECOST**  
Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am
- Sat 14 Coffee Morning run by Ladbroke Church, 10.00 - 12.00 noon,  
**Tom Hauley Room, Harbury**
- Sun 15 TRINITY SUNDAY**  
Holy Communion (BCP), 9.00am  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 31 BINSWOOD END,  
HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Thurs 19 Corpus Christi Service - details to be confirmed  
Homegroup, 8.00pm, Cherry Trees
- Sat 21 Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 22 TRINITY I**  
Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am
- Thurs 26 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY,  
HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY  
5.30PM  
WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Sat 28 Cream Teas, run by the W.I., 3.00 - 4.30pm, Village Hall  
Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 29 TRINITY II**  
Holy Communion (said) 9.00am

### JULY

- Tues 1 Photography Club BBQ, Hallsfield
- Sat 5 Safari Supper  
Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
- Sun 6 TRINITY III**  
Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments



## Ladbroke Church News

Jackie West

After all the events leading up to Easter, May has been a relatively quiet month at Ladbroke Church, except for the noise of the men digging the big hole next door, luckily they don't work on Sundays.

This month we welcome back Rev Craig from his sabbatical. Rev Annie has provided thoughtful and competent leadership over the last three months for which we thank her and we hope that with Rev Craig back, Rev Annie can now spend the time she needs to look for a parish of her own.

Ladbroke Church will be running the coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room, Harbury, on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June (carnival day). June should also see our Quinquennial Inspection and David Rutherford formally taking over from Sue Lord as one of our two churchwardens. On behalf of everyone at Ladbroke church I would like to say a huge thank you Sue for everything she has done in this role over the last 6 years. Thanks also to Keith Archer for spraying off the weeds around the church. Does anyone else have an hour or two to spare to help keep the churchyard tidy? Please don't be backward in coming forward.

Our home group continues to meet on a fortnightly basis, we have watched the film "The Way" together and are discussing different points it raises. The film is about a rich American who goes to France following the death of his adult son, killed during a storm, while walking the pilgrimage route to Santiago di Compostela. Although he originally planned to retrieve his son's body, the father decides to walk pilgrims' way himself, scattering his son's ashes along the way. The film explores the universal themes of loss, community and faith and the director saw parallels with the characters of the film The Wizard of Oz, though we haven't got to discussing that part yet.

**Some autumn dates for your diaries, for those that like to plan ahead; the first two are part of the Hope 14 events in this area:**

Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Jazz & Supper at The Bell Inn
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Picnic on the Green with Leamington Spa Brass
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival Service and Harvest Lunch
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Magician & Supper at the Village Hall



### Flower Rota

14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June

28<sup>th</sup> June & 5<sup>th</sup> July

Sue Collins

Margie Bosworth



## Ladbroke Parish Council

Jackie West

Having been only a month since the annual village meeting, the 7<sup>th</sup> May meeting of the Parish Council was short. The formal minutes will go on the noticeboard by the pub and the village website <http://www.ladbroke-pc.org.uk> in due course, these are my notes.

**Neighbourhood watch:** It was good to hear that the thieves who had broken into the house in Hedges Close had been caught. A recent e-news had included the perennial warning of items being stolen from garden sheds.

**Planning:** No representation was made regarding an extension at Quince Cottage. Planning decisions pending from SDC included the demolition of a farm building /new dwelling at Dovecot and the removal of 2 horse chestnuts from the grounds of Ladbroke Hall. Permission had been granted to fell two trees at Woodlands, refused for the solar farm at Deppers Bridge and the application to finish building a home at Folly Fields Farm before it is moved elsewhere had been withdrawn.

**Highways, Footpaths and Drainage:** The saga of flooding across the road in the centre of the village continues. It is thought that there may be some unofficial connections to the drainage system and other parts not linked in. To confirm the exact state of affairs before any further work there will be a camera survey, perhaps during May. The Parish Council has requested they see the results of this survey. There had been further flooding the week of the meeting and issues such as dislodged kerb stones in Bridge Lane would be notified to Highways Dept.

The Highways Dept are usually responsible only for a strip of ground adjacent to a road and, as the dead tree on Penfold Green is not likely to fall across the road, WCC say it is not their problem. Since it appears to be Common Land, the Parish Council agreed to get a quote for the tree to be felled and removed.

**Village Hall and Millennium Green:** The Ladbroke Matters team are doing various maintenance jobs and have a number of fund raising events coming up in the next few weeks: The Blooze Kings (10 May), a Fun Music Quiz (23 May) and Film Night (5 June).

**HS2:** The Ladbroke Action Group and Parish Council will submit a formal petition for improved mitigation, jointly and severally. The cost of this is being met by LAG funds, a donation from the Alibone trust and money allocated in the Parish Council budget. For both groups Graham Long will act as Role B agent (ie their nominated representative).

**Village Welcome Pack:** In years gone by new residents had been given a copy of the Village History booklet and other information to welcome them to

the village. The Ladbroke Matters team will take this on as they are keen to make contact with everyone in the village.

**SDC:** The core strategy for the district to 2031 should be approved (by SDC) in May, it then goes to the government for checking that the correct process has been followed and then to a government inspector for a public hearing in the autumn. We should expect approval in 2015.

**WCC:** Boundary changes to balance the number of people per ward should be in place for the 2017 election (SDC are well ahead of the game and have made their recommendations). Parish Councils should check their emergency plan against a new template that has been issued. The fire service (who actually spend 70% of their time doing rescue work and only 30% fire-related) are looking at changes in shift patterns as their busiest time - 6pm coincides with with a shift change. There is a public consultation in progress about how they deliver frontline fire and rescue services, it closes on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July

	<p><b>Ladbroke &amp; Deppers Bridge Women's Institute</b></p>	<p><b>Carol Lane</b></p>
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The Annual Group meeting was held on May 7<sup>th</sup> in Harbury Village Hall where members from Ladbroke joined those from six other local groups to hear the Annual Reports and an excellent talk by Dr Gilly Mara who, following an horrific fall down a mountainside, used her experience of recovery to learn the mechanics of movement and put it to use in advising on footwear and gait. Not only has Gilly made an almost complete recovery but is back to competing as an international athlete. The evening was rounded off perfectly with a loaded table of homemade goodies. What else do you expect from the W.I.!

Our May meeting coincided with the election day so rather than change the date we changed the venue and met in the church on 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

**Dates for your diary:**

26<sup>th</sup> June (Thursday) - Last orders for the W.I. 2015 diary.

28<sup>th</sup> June (Saturday) - Cream tea in the Village Hall.

9<sup>th</sup> July (Wednesday) - Games Evening with fish and chip supper at Snitterfield Sports and Social club.

12<sup>th</sup> August (Tuesday) - Summer Lunch at The Bell

This year's National W.I. Resolution is that 'every member should make their wishes regarding organ donation known and to encourage their families and friends and members of their local community to do likewise.' One of our members had found solace when the corneas of a beloved relative who died of cancer had been used to help two people.

We then welcomed Ann Hanson and her Assistance Dog, Dazzle – a black labrador. Ann had suffered a brain haemorrhage and spent a year in hospital and is now confined to a wheel chair.




She told us about Dogs for the Disabled which has been running for 25 years. The dogs are trained to help adults and children with special needs including autism and attention deficit disorder.

Ann had to attend the centre in Banbury for over a week in 2010 to be trained in the way Dazzle is able to help her. She said that being with Dazzle changed her life not only physically but gave her much more confidence to go out and meet people. Ann made the point that whilst people are reticent about talking to a stranger in a wheel chair, everyone wants to talk to and about the dog in a special harness and it now takes about an hour just to go and post a letter.

Dazzle was then obviously delighted to show us what he could do to make Ann's life easier which included collecting post – he did this letter at a time so that he got more treats – helping with laundry, opening and closing doors and helping with undressing.

The Frances Hay Centre outside Banbury holds open days which can be booked via [www.dogsforthedisabled.org](http://www.dogsforthedisabled.org)

Our next meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June, starting at 7.30 prompt when Cath Heynes will demonstrate 'Adapted Tai Chi'.

	<h2>Ladbroke Matters</h2>	<p><b>David Wright</b></p>
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The Ladbroke Matters team are responsible for the upkeep of the Village Hall and Millennium Green. To help with this we organise regular fundraising events so that we can continue to use both these resources for the benefit of the village.

### Our recent events

- The **concert by the Blooze Kings** on May 10 raised over £300. For an eyewitness account of the evening see the gig review on page 16.
- Our **fun music quiz on May 23** raised £223. Further details on page 15.

Our forthcoming fundraising events:

A village Safari Supper has been arranged for Saturday 5th July. If you haven't experienced a safari supper before, prepare for a very enjoyable evening. We each host a course for a small number of people, so the first course is at one address, the main course at another and then we all get together for desserts, cheese and drinks. It's a great way to meet people, especially if you're new to the village, or to catch up with old friends. This time we hope we will have the benefit of a warm summer evening as we walk between venues. Look out for the invitation through your door and if the dog eats it or we don't manage to find your letter box and you would like more details please contact contact Kip Warr (815004) or Gray Lewis (815916). Acceptances must be received by 24th June so that our highly sophisticated computer program can sort out the logistics for the evening, and we can let participants know in good time which course and who they will be hosting.

### **Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club**

£50	Kim Bendzak	£50	Gwynne Badman
£25	Mike Todman	£25	Joan Perry
£25	Margaret Bosworth	£10	Jonathan Ford
£10	Alan Lothead	£10	Steve Copley
£10	Cyril Spence	£10	Any Bendzak

### **Margaret Bosworth**

The Ladbroke Matters team serve and support our village community. If you do not have a copy of our information leaflet, they are available at The Bell and at All Saints' Church. If you would like to join the team, have any suggestions for future events, or any other comments please contact the trustees (contact details in our leaflet and on the Ladbroke website).



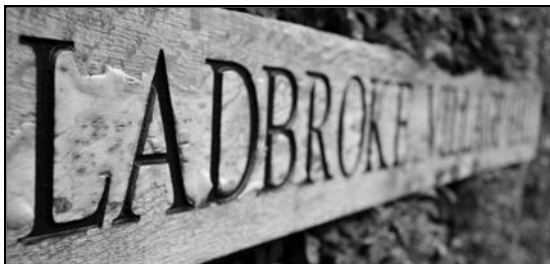
### **Ladbroke Photography Club**

**Kip Warr**

Scary stuff! Our cameras are so clever these days that it is tempting to let them make all the decisions. At May's meeting we decided to show them who's the boss by over-riding the automatic settings. For some, this involved delving into their user manuals and trying to decipher the makers' jargon (they seem to read as though they have been translated through three other languages before reaching English!)

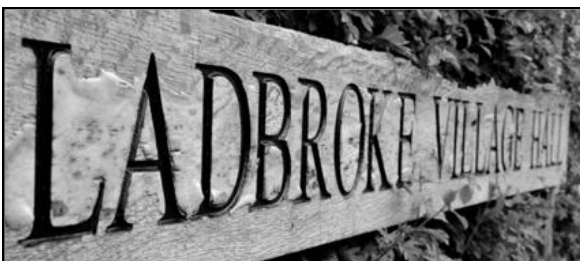
We headed off around the village trying different camera settings on flowers, buildings and even photos of each other. It was a good practical lesson on the way that lens aperture and shutter speed relate to light and depth of

focus, as shown here in Paul Taylor's two photos of the Village Hall signboard.



With big aperture (left)  
and small aperture  
(below)

At the next level it involved ISO settings and picture quality. For those of us of a certain age this was all very familiar, having grown up before the days of automatic cameras, but for others it was a revelation of some of the mysteries of all those unused P, A and S settings on the camera.



On Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, we shall be on walkabout in Leamington and in July we shall have our annual barbecue. Anyone who is interested in joining the club or finding out more, please see [tinyurl.com/ladbrokephoto](http://tinyurl.com/ladbrokephoto) or email [jackieszone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jackieszone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk)



## Ladbroke General Section

### Ladbroke's Fun Music Quiz

Ten teams gathered on a Friday evening to do battle with each other at Ladbroke's Fun Music Quiz. Two and a half hours and 10 rounds of questions later - featuring most genres of music, and even including tracks by our much loved local bands, the *Blooze Kings* and the *Ladbroke Rockers*, conquering heroes finally emerged in the shape of the *Pop Tarts* with 69 points - just ahead of *Pretty Vacant* (65 points) and the *Max Bygraves Appreciation Society* (62 points).

Only two questions were disputed during the evening. Did the *Dave Clark Five* have a hit with *Do You Love Me?* as well as *Brian Poole* and the *Tremoloes*? And which *Police* track were the *Royal Philharmonic Orchestra* really playing – *Roxanne* or *Every Little Thing She Does is Magic* - or was it a mixture of both?

Included was a bonus question for which each team had to pay £2 extra. This was 'How did the Beatles decide upon their group's name in 1960?' As nobody knew the answer, a bottle of champagne was awarded for the most hilarious answer, along the lines of: the Beatles saw a beetle crawling across the floor keeping a much better rhythm with its legs than Ringo ever could! In case you are wondering, the real answer proved to be 'in deference to Buddy Holly's group, the Crickets'.

At the end of the evening, all the teams received Peter Baker's 'lovely-jubbly' bright yellow certificate for taking part, whilst the members of the winning team also received a guitar mug each. In return, Peter was presented with a well-earned 'Diamond Geezer' certificate.



So well done, one and all. Thanks to Peter Baker, our questionmaster and compiler for all his hard work, and also for keeping his cool during the Great Roxanne Debate; Jackie West for her impeccable and impartial scoring skills; Gray Lewis, our barman; Carol Lane, our waitress for the evening; those who made the delicious rolls; and of course all the teams who took part.

*Peter Baker hosts the evening armed only with his trusty laptop computer crammed full of digital versions of the mystery music.*

**David Wright**

## **Blooze Kings Ladbroke Village Hall Saturday 10 May 2014**



The Blooze Kings consists of drummer Phil Anderson, bass guitarist Dave Holt, lead guitarist Kevin McKeown, harmonica player Andy Pittaway, and lead singer/guitarist Graham Thompson. The concert was billed to start at 8pm, but in order to be fashionably late, it didn't get under way until around 8.30pm and not before a group photo. However, once the music started we were not disappointed.

Their style of music is firmly grounded in the sixties blues staple of such artists as Eric Clapton, Peter Green, and John Mayall, and there's no denying they're a talented combo. Andy throws his entire body and soul into his blues harp playing, whilst Kevin's powerful lead guitar work acts as a foil to the harmonica riffs and supports Graham's vocals. Then with Phil's drums and



Dave's bass guitar underpinning it all, it rolls along like a runaway freight train.

The first set began with a series of lesser known rhythm and blues numbers, but nevertheless grabbed our attention from the start. However, it wasn't long before we entered the more familiar territory of such legends as Bo Diddley, Jimi Hendrix, and the Cream. The second set was more upbeat and contained more familiar numbers. This included an awesome extended rendition of Hendrix's version of 'Hey Joe' (including some amazing behind-the-head guitar playing by Kevin) and an excellent cover of Fleetwood Mac's 'Black Magic Woman'. Also impressive was Kevin's self-penned contribution to the proceedings - 'Shooting the Breeze'. Throughout the evening there were a mixture of styles evident on the dancefloor, with the Stones segue - Honky Tonk Women/Brown Sugar particularly appreciated by the dancers.



At the end, there were calls for an encore and it was appropriate that the band used that opportunity to play 'Johnny B Goode', which gave an appreciative nod to our other favourite band, the Ladbroke Rockers and to Alan Lochhead, their main driving force.

Thanks to all who made the evening a success, including Alan Ballard on sound desk, Helen Morten for masterminding the evening and organising the horticulturally themed raffle, Gray Lewis on bar duty, and of course the Blooze Kings themselves. Another five-star evening!

**David Wright**

**July 2014 Edition of the Harbury & Ladbroke News**  
**Advertising to: 31 Binswood End or e-mail to**  
**advertising@hlnews.co.uk by 15<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Articles to: Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to**  
**articles@hlnews.co.uk by 5.30pm 26<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Dates for inclusion in the Harbury Diary please to Linda Ridgley -**  
**Tel 612792**

## A Good Start in Life

*A litter of guide dog puppies was born in Ladbroke in April. H&L News has been granted exclusive access to the diary of one of the pups and reproduces extracts below. The second part will be published in the July edition.*



### **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, Introductions**

Hello. I'm a tiny black puppy and one week old today. My name is "black-female-front-right". I think it's a strange name but that's what the humans round here call me – it's got something to do with the red mark they have painted on my leg to distinguish me from my brothers and sisters. Four of them are blonde, like our Dad and seven of us are jet black like Mum. All this explaining is exhausting so I'll have a nap now and tell you more in a day or so.

### **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April, Food, Glorious Food**

When we were born each of us weighed about a pound (450g) and, though our eyes were tightly closed and we couldn't hear or smell anything, we somehow knew where dinner came from. Our Mum looks after us really well – warm, sweet milk on demand. Only whoever is in charge made a bit of a design fault in that area - there are eleven of us but Mum only has eight teats! Joan, the nice lady who looks after Mum, has devised a great system, first and second suckings. First of all the seven of us black ones have a good long feed and then the four blonde ones plus me and my littlest brother again. I think it's wonderful 'cos I get two helpings.

### **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April, Finger food**

I was just having a lovely nap a couple of days ago when Joan picked me up and put me on her lap. Then she tried to get me to lick her fingers which were covered in sticky stuff. I wasn't keen on the texture but the smell was quite appealing. Since then I've discovered that this hand-feeding malarky has become a part of our eating and sleeping routine. It took me a while to remember what to do and sometimes Joan's friends provide the finger tips. However I'm not sure the humans fully understand hand-feeding means feeding me with their hands; they seem to want me to eat directly out of the red plastic bowl the food is in. I do that for a bit to humour them but when my tummy is full I go for a wander around their lap. When I've had enough of this finger food my top priority is to find somewhere warm to snuggle down for my next forty winks and I've discovered that a human armpit or collar under soft hair aren't bad locations, at least you don't get trampled on by your brothers there.

## **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April, Sleeping Patterns**

Apart from food and looking adorable, the big thing around here is sleeping. Mum says this is very important so I'm working hard on getting it right. The three key things are location, location and location; you need to slumber in company! A heap of 10 other pups is ideal but if that's not possible a plastic box with under-rug heating and four or five of them comes a close second. I like to sleep in a demure fashion but some of my brothers and sisters with lots of puppy fat get too warm so do it upside down showing off their tummies and nether regions and a couple of my blonde siblings have been spotted practising the art of synchronised sleeping.

*To be continued next month.*



**Jackie West**



**Harbury Parish Council**

**Linda Ridgley**

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

### **Harbury Parish Council Annual Meeting May 2014**

This meeting is where the Councillors divvy up places on their Working Parties. In the last few years there have been few changes and so it was this time. Tim Lockley is still Chairman with Keith Thompson as Vice-Chair; Pat Summers, Keith Thompson, Steve Ekins, and Alan Knowles on Planning; Sharon Hancock, Keith, Alan, Tony Mancell and Janet Thornley – Properties; Amanda Lewis, Tim, Janet, and Pat – Environment; Tony, Steve, Amanda, Tim and Sharon on Finance.

## **Public Participation**

“Judith” acting as advocate for Mr Tudor outlined the changed planning rules for allowing agricultural workers dwellings in the countryside.

The (effete) National Planning Policy Framework, which replaced years of policy decisions based on experience, aims to promote “development and diversification of agriculture”. It allows isolated dwellings in open countryside if a worker is needed permanently on site. And such enterprises no longer have to show three years trading accounts.

She said Mr Tudor must live permanently at Springfield Farm (the land behind The Beeches on the left-hand bend of Treen’s Hill) to tend the incubators and poultry, fend off thieves and reduce his insurance costs.

The Parish Councillors were remarkably cynical about this; pointing out Mr Tudor was most probably in his 70’s and unlikely to be able to run the business for long. They asked if he would continue to store second-hand furniture on the agricultural land.

“Judith” said if he retired, the dwelling would have to be sold with an “agricultural tie” but she did not explain what would happen if there were no takers.

On the other hand Councillors seemed sympathetic to Nick and Marian Moore’s intention to create a house from an industrial building on Churchlands so they could live at the arable farm they run there. They live at Napton at present. They too cited vandalism and theft as the drivers for this proposal and were hoping for positive support from the Council before they submitted plans.

Councillors explained that they would need to see the site and the submitted plans before they could make a decision on whether they could support the change.

## **Other Planning Matters**

Harbury Parish Council made “no representation” to the reduction of a willow at 7 Vicarage Lane; extensions at 3 Queens Close and at 16 Percival Drive plus an orangery there; a change of use of a plot of land at Station Road, Bishops Itchington for the manufacture of fencing and timber sheds, or maintenance work at Hillcrest Cottage, Binswood End.

They objected to the proposed times of vehicle movements at the telephone exchange pointing out the access was extremely narrow and between dwelling houses.

They congratulated themselves for “harmoniously” working with developers and Bishops PC to gain outline permission for an estate on the Quarry lands and negotiating payments of £34K for our Library and £50K for our Village Hall.

Stratford District Council gave permission with conditions for the erection of one dwelling on land at Walnut Tree Cottage, Hall Lane.

Appeals are still progressing for Knightcote Windfarm and a link to the swimming pool at Stapenhall Farm.

The Core Strategy has been approved by SDC with Gaydon earmarked for major housing expansion coupled with dispersal to all settlements. Harbury would be likely to have to provide up to 100 houses, but some of our recent development would count towards this total. The Core Strategy will now go through a six week public consultation before it is assessed by the Government's Inspector.

### **Library - The ongoing saga of the lease and other matters**

Work to agree a lease is coming up for its second birthday! There is no Land Registry Document; there are to be two leases between the PC and other parties, but Councillors are hopeful they might sign them by the next meeting.

The car park is not their responsibility but does need attention, if only to fill in the potholes. Re-tarmacing would be very expensive.

The Library's Christmas tree firs are breaking up the front path and Councillors are concerned they could damage the fabric of the building so they want them felled. They have asked Colin Sheasby to advise on this and replacements.

### **Properties**

The play area zipwire has been ordered and Councillor Hancock would like the bark pits replaced with alternative safety surfaces when funds allow. The car park spaces at the fields have been marked out and contractors will resurface the Tennis and Netball Courts as the recent work was not up to standard. Councillors inspected the allotments. Most were considered "excellent" but photos and letters were sent to the "slackers". There have been a series of thefts from allotments sheds.

### **Environment**

Amanda Lewis reported the uprooted Binswood End bollard will be replaced and the Village Hall railings are to be painted. Councillors expressed concern that commercial advertisements were being posted on the Council's noticeboards which were intended only for information about village events.

They were not at all happy with the response from WCC Highways on their concerns about the danger at the Bendigo Mitchell Crossroads. Councillor Hancock explained the PC had asked for accident reduction work but the County's strange reply was to argue traffic lights could not be used there and that the previous work to install left turning lanes had improved the junction. Councillor Hancock believed that it had made the crossroads more dangerous and the position of the speed camera and Armco just added to the visibility problems.

## **Finance**

The Chairman read all the financial reports very thoroughly before signing them off at the year end. The audit has been completed.

Councillor Hancock reported on the progress of the Harbury WWI Centenary Project. She and the Chairman were working out the costs prior to a grant application. The Royal Warwickshire Museum will help with research.

The Clerk was getting quotes for the cleaning of the War Memorial but Councillors had decided the Church might be a more fitting place for a plaque commemorating all those who served in WWI than Pat Summers' idea of adding them to the Memorial.

Harbury Pre-School (at the Wight School) was awarded a grant of £200 toward the cost of painting the fence there. Councillor Mancell suggested it was time that the PC reviewed its grant criteria which had not changed since 1994.

**Next Meeting: 26<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm, Village Hall – Farley Room.**

## **Email Alerts for Planning Applications**

You can now subscribe for automatic email alerts for new planning applications via the planning page on the parish council's website. [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk)

It's really easy to use. You simply provide your email address and you will receive an email from [clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk) asking you to activate your subscription. Once your subscription is activated you will receive an email digest between 7am – 9am when new applications become available.

Advantages of this are:

- If there are no new applications, there are no emails;
- If there are several new applications the subscriber only receives one email (containing all application details) rather than several emails.

## **Gypsy and Traveller Sites Consultations**

The recent consultations run by both WDC and SDC have now closed. The comments received will be analysed and considered by the district councils. There will be further public consultation in due course. If you are interested in these matters, please keep up to date by reading the public notices in local newspapers and by visiting the district and parish council websites.

Stratford on Avon District Council: [www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk)

Warwick District Council: [www.warwickdc.gov.uk](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk)

Harbury Parish Council: [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk)

## **Vacancy for a Parish Councillor**

We currently have a vacancy for a parish councillor following the retirement of Councillor Jenny Patrick after many years' service. If you are interested in joining the council, we would like to hear from you.

The parish council is the grass roots of local government. We are best placed to listen to the concerns of local residents and understand the needs of the local community. Harbury PC has 10 councillors who are supported by the parish clerk. We provide some basic services such as maintenance of all the village greens and verges, the playing fields and play area, street lighting and the cemetery. We are consulted on all local planning applications and planning policy, traffic and highways issues, and also respond to wider consultations by the Government. We support local clubs and organisations including the village hall, the library and the tennis club as well as many smaller groups. Our work is diverse and interesting. If you want to play an active role in your local community, this is the ideal opportunity.

No special qualifications are needed to become a councillor as we need people from all walks of life with a wide range of experiences. However, you must be able to regularly attend the parish council meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month and you will also need access to email and the internet. Some basic training is available to new councillors followed by ongoing subject specific training as required.

We hope to fill this vacancy by co-option at the parish council meeting on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014. If you would like to find out more, please contact the clerk, Alison Biddle, on 01926 614646 or the chairman, Tim Lockley, on 01926 614532.

**Deadline for applications is Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014.**

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Harbury Parish Council**

## **Harbury Annual Parish Meeting**

### **May 2014**

There was a good start to a well supported Annual Meeting of the Parish with an entertaining discourse from Nigel Chapman which revealed both his practical joking of his colleagues and their retaliation. Nigel has had a long association with Harbury from drinking age onward. He worked at Harbury School, on and off for 29 years and thinks he stayed because of the friendly atmosphere and camaraderie of the staff room.

At the time of the Chernobyl accident he and Tony Crawshaw made the caretaker believe she had to test the swimming pool water in protective clothing and run away if the reaction turned red. Another time when

a coalmine was mooted for the area, these two jokers told a group of ramblers they were surveyors determining where in Mill Lane the pithead should be located. The rumour then spread round the village.

However, he admitted to being caught out when the staff combined against him. He was holding the fort, between Heads, when they convinced him an RE inspection was due. As he desperately tried to research the syllabus they claimed the inspector's car had broken down, he needed collecting, and none of them would go. Nigel exploded and they had the last laugh!

He talked about the (very) adventurous school trips he organised; recited a mildly rude rhyme involving Sunday papers; vicars and a pear picking device!

And he gave a plug for the Village Archive at the School, open on the first Tuesday every month. There was a good end to the meeting too with the Parish Council providing wine and nibbles and the chance to talk to our Councillors at greater length.

In between there were reviews of the year from our County Councillor, Bob Stevens on the threats from HS2, wind and solar farms, gasification (ruled out for the present), Gypsy sites and increased traffic but some more money to repair potholes; the difficulties under which the County laboured due to huge cuts in government funding; changes to Social and Children's Care; re-organisation of the Fire Service; reduction in councillor numbers at SDC and WCC and the excellent Ofsted reports on Harbury School and Southam College.

There was discussion with the audience about the pros and cons of unitary status, possibly saving money as Dr Hancock hoped, and giving a greater role for parish councils as Alison Hodge suggested.

The year had, as Chairman Tim Lockley reported, been dominated by planning exacerbated by the lack of an approved Local Plan. The village was undertaking its own Neighbourhood Plan. Linda Ridgley suggested it was imperative the public saw all Cllrs were au fait with the planning applications put before them and asked the Council to draw Stratford's attention to recent breaches of Planning Consent and Conditions. Colin Sheasby thought Parish Councillors should monitor how "approved" developments proceeded including work on trees. Many other parishes appointed a tree warden to help.

In her Planning report Sharon Hancock said all applications could be viewed at the Council office. She thought Hereburgh Way was "an example of rural housing at its best" and Village with a Vision's plans extra-care homes would help provide for the older generation.

Amanda Lewis reported progress in upgrading lighting and installing LEDs to reduce costs. Sharon Hancock said grants had been received for extra equipment at the playing fields and she was pleased a new zipwire was to be installed.



Tony Mancell, who looks after the pennies for us, explained the precept had increased, but the cost to householders was slightly less as we had more houses! He encouraged villagers to keep up with planning applications via the link on the Parish website or visit the Parish office - open four mornings a week.

Steve Ekins who looks after the interests of Deppers Bridge residents was pleased the sewer problems were resolved and the solar farm had been refused although he expected it would go to appeal.

Pat Summers appealed for villagers to support the Neighbourhood Plan and answer questions that would be displayed at the Carnival and on-line.

There were also reports from Harbury School PTA; the Village Hall; Harbury Energy Initiative; Heart of Harbury Games; and the Tom Hauley Room for this was the Annual Meeting for us, the people of the Parish.

Finally Chairman, Tim Lockley thanked everyone who had combined to keep the Village Library open as a facility for the village. He praised the efforts of the volunteers running the Library and café which were flourishing, highly valued by the community and a model for others to copy.



## Councillor's Corner

**Bev Mann**

Congratulations to newly elected Councillor Chris Kettle who has joined the Harbury Ward as my fellow District Councillor. Although both Chris and I both live in Bishops Itchington we have the interests of the whole of Harbury Ward. Please feel free to contact both Chris and I with any District Council issues.

Contact Bev Mann: 01926 614006

Chris Kettle: 01926 614395



## Harbury Society

**Linda Ridgley**

Ed Wilson reports on the pub walk:

### Walk Report

On a beautifully sunny day we set out from the Crown Inn in Claverdon across fields full of wild flowers and through leafy glades. Clear views towards Worcestershire gave way to more fields full of Hereford cows and then weeping willows along the canal bank. We stopped on a stone bridge and enjoyed the sun reflecting off the water, cute ducklings and John Hancock found us an incredibly small orange insect egg; appreciated by those with good eyesight. Then along the canal towpath to turn off through woods containing masses of bluebells.

The only problem with a sunny day is the walk can seem a little tiring on the return leg – some said it was 4.5, others 7 miles in all. The pub was therefore more than welcome as was the Italian landlord's hospitality. A good meal and drink was enjoyed by all - **Ed**

Our next event will be our stall at the Carnival on 14<sup>th</sup> June when we will have a "Where the Wild Things Are!"; a display of the village environment and an associated quiz.

Do drop in and see what we have highlighted and pit your skills against the children, who I bet will get more questions right than the adults.

	<h2>Harbury Women's Institute</h2>	<p><b>Jeanne Beaumont</b></p>
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In May we heard of the passing of Win Elliott, a former W.I. member. She and husband Tony were a super couple who lived in Harbury for some years. Members who were able to, represented the W.I. at her funeral.

It was the W.I. Group Meeting held in Harbury Village Hall this year and we were the hosts. Everybody enjoyed the evening and thanks must go to those who provided the super refreshments and worked hard.

The speaker was Gilly Mara, athlete, academic, coach and gait and motion analyst who spoke of her participation in these activities. She went down well, as did the whole evening.

Our last meeting involved voting for a resolution which was helped by refreshments and wine. The result will be taken to the NFWI Annual Meeting at Leeds this year.

I must mention that we are requesting that members bring cakes etc to the Cake Stall from 12pm onwards on Carnival Day.

See you there.

Next meeting is on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 7.45pm at the Tom Hauley Room. Speaker: Wig Makers – Banbury Postiche

	<h2>Harbury Theatre Group</h2>	<p><b>Emily Jackson &amp; Andrew Laurence</b></p>
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### **Story Book Endings and Holidays from Hell.**

Harbury Theatre Group filled the Village Hall with songs, dance and laughter in our two productions on 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May. Emily Jackson describes the excellent debut performance of the brand new junior section and Andrew Lawrence reports on the adult section's hilarious offering.

### **“The Blank Pages” – report by Emily Jackson**

After less than 20 hours of rehearsal, Harbury Theatre Group Juniors put on their first ever performance at the Village Hall. 'The Blank Pages' was filled with singing animals from deep within The Jungle Book; dancing pirates and lost boys from Neverland and even a magical mirror with a princess trapped inside. All 27 children were absolute stars, learning all their songs, dance moves and lines in a very limited amount of time - we are so proud of them!



HTG Juniors will return after half term with new games, songs and dances to have fun with. We have a few spaces left, so if your child is aged between 7-11 and would like to join, please email us at [HTGjuniors123@gmail.com](mailto:HTGjuniors123@gmail.com). We meet at the Village Hall on Tuesdays from 6.30 - 7.30, with each session costing just £2.

### **“Visitors from Chicago” – report by Andrew Lawrence**

After the interval, we presented Neil Simon’s one Act comedy, “Visitors from Chicago”, directed by Jo Banbury with John Travis and Ruth Walton playing a couple who have been on holiday for three weeks with another couple (played by my wife Sue and me). Tensions have been mounting and come to a head after a disastrous tennis match. We had great audiences who laughed in all the right places as the plot unfolded. We especially enjoyed the reaction of our final night’s audience who chanted “Fight, fight” as the action became rather physical at the play’s climax!

Thank you to everyone who came to watch our two productions and to all the people who worked so efficiently behind the scenes. It’s great fun taking part in the theatre group’s activities and we are keen to welcome new members. If you would like to join us please give me a call on 614937 or talk to any of our members that you know.



## Folk Club

**Peter Bones**

Ted and Sue Crum were due to host the Folk Club on 1<sup>st</sup> May but were unavailable, so they asked if I would swap duties with them.

The theme chosen by Ted and Sue was “Hope Springs Eternal”, so the general theme of the evening seemed to include anything to do with the Spring, or general optimism.

In addition to Ted and Sue being away, there were quite a number of other regulars missing, including some who had gone to Samois and others who had gone away early for the Bank Holiday weekend. However, there were still plenty of performers and audience to make it a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

With it being 1<sup>st</sup> May, several of the members of Hereburgh Morris present had been at Chesterton Windmill at 5:00am to dance the dawn in. It therefore felt appropriate to start the evening with the singing of Hal an Tow – the traditional song to welcome in May sung by Morris sides all over the country on this day.

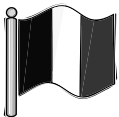
Following this, we continued with our usual three “halves” and had 25 further items performed by 10 different artists or groups. Once again, the standard of music was good and the banter entertaining. The popular consensus of those who were there was that it was a relaxed and pleasant evening.

For a complete list of who sang what, please visit the Folk Cub website, [www.tinyurl.com/harburyfolkclub](http://www.tinyurl.com/harburyfolkclub).

The raffle raised a total of £50.00 for the Motor Neurone Society – the charity nominated by Ted and Sue. Many thanks to those who bought tickets.

Thanks also to all the committee and bar staff of Harbury Club, for being so helpful and welcoming.

The next Folk Club will be on 5<sup>th</sup> June when the hosts will be Steve and Maureen Darby, and the theme will be “The Good Old Days”.



## Harbury Twinning Association

**John Stringer**

We made our biennial visit (the eighth) to our twin village, Samois sur Seine, on the first weekend in May. It was, as always, a great success; and if the days seemed to slip by all too quickly, maybe it's because the place and its delightful people have become so familiar. Most of us travelled by coach, while a few hardy souls cycled some, or all of the way – see Jan Freeman's account for more – but all of us returned in the coach, tired but elated.

It's our turn to host next year! Robert Rollason has his own youthful take on the weekend:

*'This year our trip to Samois was a little different on two counts. Firstly, my parents had already started the journey 'en velo' a week earlier, so I had to get myself up extremely early to catch the bus. Secondly, as Finn Toner's grandparents, the Humphreys, could not make the trip this year, Finn was staying with our host family Philippe and Christine Guelle.*

*The bus arrived in the main square in Samois, to find it looking like it was receiving a stage in the Tour de France, with an inflatable arch and the Mayor ready to give a speech. Eventually the cyclists arrived, led by those who had made the entire journey from Harbury to Samois. After the ceremony was over we went home to the Guelles' and had a lovely meal of venison stew prepared by their friend Gerard Barre who unfortunately did not have anyone staying with his family this year.*

*Saturday morning was spent relaxing and playing 'babyfoot', followed by a guided walk in the forest of Fontainebleau. In the evening, we attended a Catalan theme evening, where paella had been prepared for us and we were given a demonstration of salsa dancing which we promptly joined in with. On the Sunday we visited Versailles, which I found extremely impressive, if a little crowded. Philippe commented that it was a very large house for one man to live in! The gardens were particularly spectacular with various sized fountains and a variety of smaller elaborate gardens. That evening we attended a wine tasting with charcuterie, which was delicious. Later, on return to the house Philippe gave us a tasting of his own homemade Poire William, which was extremely strong!*

*The next day we were up early for the return journey, which got us back at about 8pm. All in all, the weekend was a lovely experience and we were blessed with beautiful weather.'*

The Catalan evening is described here by Bailey Gray, aged 8:

*'On Saturday evening we all made it to Samois Village Hall for a Catalan evening. We all wore loads of red and gold clothes to represent the Catalan colours. We ate paella (rice, prawns, chicken, mussels) it was delicious!! Then we all watched a professional salsa dance and every one joined in and danced all night.'*

And of course, we spent time with our French families. Millie Stagg, aged 13, describes her own experience:

*'As this was my third visit to Samois, I was excited to see my friend Pauline and her family again. When we arrived in the square a large group was waiting for us and the cyclists were about to appear. I spotted Pauline and ran over to say 'Bonjour'. Another year had passed and we were both taller. I have lots of happy memories of the trip but the best for me was playing music with Pauline. We played two pieces with me on the violin and Pauline playing*

*the piano accompaniment in one and the 'cello in the other. We had so much fun together and music was the special language we both shared.'*

Now there are our summer activities: a get-together to share our pictures of the weekend; our wine and paté stall at the Carnival, our safari supper celebration of the storming of the Bastille (what else?) and, no doubt, a fiercely fought petanque competition and accompanying barbecue.

We and our French friends are keen to extend a welcome to other local families who might like to visit and host with us. Talk to any member, or ring Sally or John Stringer on 613214.



After two games lost due to the opposition failing to get a team together and the horrid weather, Harbury Cricket Club had their first game versus Wellesbourne. Game on.

Tom McKenzie captained and made the right choice to lose the toss and we were put into field. George Bloxham and Henry Steele opened the bowling and set the standard for the team. An onslaught of tight, fast, swing bowling and good catching had Wellesbourne reeling at 5 runs for 3 wickets.

A mini recovery was thwarted by a steaming yorker by George and further supported by Jez Hunt and Alex Hawkins with some tight bowling which kept the runs at a minimum. John Robbins and Tom McKenzie came on to bowl and managed to grab a couple of wickets, including an amazing reaction catch from Mark Robbins to take the wicket of their most aggressive batsman.

Next was James Taylor who bowled a terrible first over but came to personify Harbury CC's "keep going" attitude and bowled brilliantly to gain his first scalp of 2014 with Henry taking a catch at cover. At the other end, Andy Morgan bowled with his unique style that had the batsman jumping around and gained him two wickets including Alex Hawkins taking the catch of the day at gully with a diving 6.2 with under-tuck two handed thunderbolt. Nick Hebbes came into the attack and was equally tight with his bowling snagging a cheeky wicket with Phil Mugleston taking a simple catch.

In the end, Harbury's fielding was the best we have seen in many years, seven catches (although an additional four were dropped!), tight bowling and having Wellesbourne all out for 90 - we were very happy.

Teas were awesome (Mary Mugleston told us how) along with our support team of Rosanna Hunt, Natalie Tayler and John Robbins. So to our response...

Humm.. 7 runs for 4 down after 4 overs was not looking good; fantastic bowling and two silly run outs left Harbury in trouble. Alex Hawkins, Andy Morgan and James Taylor hit some runs and stuck around for a bit, but

were out leaving Harbury 40-ish runs short of victory with only four batsmen remaining.

Up stepped George Bloxham, composed, the scene set: 20 runs spanked including a large six, supported by Jez Hunt, Harbury were getting there. John Robbins came to the wicket and tried his best to make some runs but his fielding of the day hampered his movement resulting in him needing a runner. This did not help and he was out quickly, leaving Jez and Phil Mugleston at the crease.

Harbury were to be denied: Phil Mugleston was out with an amazing catch at slip and we fell 9 runs short of victory...

Our next game was against a good local side, Snitterfield, the weather was kind enough to play so game on!

Harbury CC was put into bat and Henry Wilkins and Alex Hawkins went out to the middle. After a very positive start Snitterfield were to drop their first catch of the day, dropping a skied shot from Henry whilst on 15. He was to be dropped again on 35. Harbury's first wicket to fall was Alex, bowled; bringing John Freeman to the crease for the first time this season; unfortunately he was soon out LBW, having made a brisk one run. Tom McKenzie, captaining for the second time this season was finding his batting under pressure and was out for a duck for the second game in a row.

Andy Morgan walked out to bat, and the practice he has put in through the pre-season is finally making its mark. With a dogged straight bat and strong defence, Andy stuck around to support Henry for a number of overs and made a very useful PB of 21 runs.

John Robbins, still suffering from a knee injury picked up last weekend, quickly lost his wicket bringing in Nick Hebbes. Nick showed flashes of brilliance in making a solid 27 runs, ably supporting Henry before being caught. Tom Wilkins was unluckily bowled and a further two quick wickets fell, both Charlie Gladden and James Wilkinson being caught. Harbury were to bat their full 40 overs with Henry stealing the show making 139 not out, with a final score of 231. Henry Steele was also not out.

So to the fielding: again it was as excellent as last week, still some drop catches, four in total, but five caught. James Wilkinson and Henry Steele opened the bowling and got an early wicket. Snitterfield were then very tight with their batting getting to 97-1. Then the captain Tom McKenzie steamed in and took three wickets all to great catches. Alex Hawkins took a couple of wickets as did Nick Hebbes. It was also great to see Charlie Gladden bowling for the first time this season and he was unlucky not to get a wicket this game. Harbury did not see Snitterfield off so a good 40 overs were bowled, but this left Harbury CC with their first win of the season by 61 runs. Great effort from everybody, and on to the next game, a tricky fixture away at Cemax.

As always if you want to play, come down to training on Thursdays from 6pm, we always play in a good fun but competitive way.

**Chairman's Report: Ian Jones**

The Annual Presentation Night is on 7<sup>th</sup> June at the Village Hall, doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start.

Toby Puigserver, assistant coach for the U8 squad has recently obtained his F. A . Level 1 Coaching badge. Toby has been with the club from age 7 and played up to U15's before helping Malcolm Tanner for the last two years. A fantastic achievement for a 17 year old.

**Under 9's Match Reports: Malcolm Tanner****10<sup>th</sup> May: Kitebrook 1 v Harbury Juniors 4**

Harbury finished with a flourish with a comprehensive victory in the last match of the season over Kitebrook.

Harbury started brightly with a well taken opportunistic goal from Archie C. After further pressure, Harry L scored from a well taken corner by Ben H, who then scored a fine individual goal after dispossessing a Kitebrook defender before unleashing an unstoppable shot into the top corner of the net.

Whilst the match became tighter in midfield, Jamie S and Thomas M were solid in defence and restricted Kitebrook to few chances, one of which yielded a consolation goal before Ben H scored a further goal to win 4-1.

This was a well deserved victory for a group of players that are playing as a team and a reward for their hard work this season.

**11<sup>th</sup> May: Three Counties' Tournament**

Harbury enjoyed a great Tournament winning all four qualifying games to reach the final with great performances from all the players, with Arthur G, Archie C, Harry L and Ben H playing with energy and passing well to amass 11 goals.

Ben G in goal, and Jamie S and Thomas M controlled the defence giving few opportunities to the opposition.

However, Harbury could not maintain the momentum in the final and despite their best efforts lost 2-0 to Tysoe.

Harbury should be pleased with their performance overall in their first competitive tournament.





## Rugby Football Club

Jerry Birkbeck

### 1sts & 2nds Gain Promotion

In an excellent season for the Club, both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams gained promotion from their respective leagues: the 1<sup>st</sup>s from Midlands 4 South (West) to Midlands 3 South (West), whilst the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV who play in the Warwickshire Leagues were promoted to Division 2. All this is a testament to the hard work put in by all the players and coaches and Director of Rugby, Hendry Rheeders.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team came agonisingly close twelve months ago when after a poor start they won 17 league and Cup games in a row, only to end up with the same number of points as Nuneaton side Manor Park and a superior match points difference. Manor, though, had won one game more and were promoted.

However, in the current season Harbury went unbeaten in their opening eleven matches but two losses at Christmas marginally stymied their progress. However, an excellent run-in saw them lose just one more league match to end up with the same number of points as Woodrush from south Birmingham. The loss of a single bonus point denied Harbury the Championship and, though they shared the same number of points as Woodrush, their rivals edged through with a superior game points difference. Harbury though were 15 points ahead of the next team in the league and went through for the second promotion spot.

The 2nds had a mixed season but were deserved promotion material and finished second to Balsall and Berkswell RFC.

Congratulations to both teams.

Senior Awards went to Adrian Exton as Clubman of the Year, with Dave Heydon 1<sup>st</sup> XV Player of the Year. A full list can be seen on our website:

[www.harburyrfc.co.uk](http://www.harburyrfc.co.uk)

### Junior and Mini Rugby

The Junior and Mini section, which is excellently run by Piers Banfield and his team, grew significantly in numbers over the season and has over 200 members in teams from the Under 6 age group through to Under 17's. Twelve sides in total. Next season a Colts XV will be added. These teams provide a great advert for Harbury and, of course, hopefully provide new players for the seniors in the future.



## O2 Touch Rugby

Touch is a non contact fun way of keeping fit and it is being actively promoted by the RFU (Rugby Football Union) and O2 (the social network company). It is played every Thursday from 7.00pm under the guidance of RFU qualified coaches. It's very much seen as the fun and social way of keeping fit for males and females

over the age of 14. You can find details on Facebook (Harbury O2 Touch'). The cost is £2 a session for over 18's and £1 for students (14-18).

## Pitch Improvements

One of the perennial problems that has been experienced is poor drainage of the 1<sup>st</sup> XV pitch and floodlit training area. Three years ago with funding and a loan from the RFU the Junior and Mini pitches were successfully drained using conventional drainage. The Club successfully gained funding for the remaining drainage through a grant from Sport England, the RFU and club funds. This was to have been done in the same way as previously. However, by chance an opportunity arose to use a revolutionary form of drainage - Energy-Passive Groundwater Recharge Pumps (EGRPs). This is a system that has been developed in the USA for airfields and golf courses and locally at Warwickshire Cricket Club and part of Warwick School's 1<sup>st</sup> XV rugby pitch. It is a very clever and simple system that not only moves water away quickly but enables the playing surface to be used immediately after installation, so not creating any disturbance problems. (Find out more on our website).

## Harbury RFC raise £3000 for Charity on the Wolf Run!



Twelve members of Harbury RFC raised £3,000 for TAMBA (Tamba Twins & Multiple Births Association), a National Charity, on the Wolf Run.

Highlights of the event – Chris Milburn coming back first completing the 10K in 57 minutes (the fastest of the weekend and up there with the fastest ever). Dave Andrews completed the

course at 71 years, the second oldest person ever to do so. Jeff Foster, Andy Sandford and Daz Nicholls completed both runs even though not built for distance running!

The Wolf Run is a unique event. Completing the two runs back to back has never been done before so therefore is a world record!

The twelve: Sam Bushell, George Bostock, Jeff Foster, Mark Finch, Tom Kittendorf, Matt Knight, Chris Milburn, Darren Nicholls, Andy Sandford, Matt Smith, Tom Webb and at 71 years of age Dave Andrews.

**Mark Finch**  
**Harbury RFC**

## **Colts' Tour to South Wales (18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> April)**

At 17:00 on Good Friday Harbury U16's and U17's squad arrived at the Club House dressed in super hero attire. Costumes included Captain America worn by three smart, respectable young men and Harry Griffin. By 17:45 we had left for the desolate and untamed destination that is the Welsh countryside. The bus journey was quite eventful, with all the players singing in our version of the X-factor. Despite Gay James' touching performance, Ricky (Captain Underpants) won the X-factor based on his classic sob story, where he was abused by a Narwhal at a young age. To then cap this achievement, he managed to get the phone number of a not unattractive McDonald's server while still being dressed in his Y-fronts.

On Saturday morning, we had a relatively relaxed time and left for Nantymoel where we played their youth side. This match captained by Rob Rollason was very closely contested with Harbury narrowly getting defeated 78 – 7 with Joe Bourne receiving man of the match. After the match we went to their clubhouse for something to eat which then turned into an enjoyable afternoon of drinking and socialising with the other team. Harbury won the boat race which was the most important competition of the weekend and will go down as one of the greatest achievements in our club's history. Rory easily won the dance-off with his classic yet sophisticated rendition of the Truffle Shuffle. Luckily this incident was captured on video and would most likely make a You Tube sensation. The night then continued with more drinking and singing.

The next day there was an early start of 8:30am as we left the bunkhouse for the final time to go to Bridgend RFC. Once again the match was closely contested with Harbury being forced to retire early as the game reached 50-0 to Bridgend with man of the match going to Tom Pullen. Sadly at this stage we reached the end of the Tour and headed home.

Callum Panton was awarded Man of the Tour with Ricky Hughes a close second. As a team, we thank all the highly responsible adults and Gregg for organising and taking care of us on tour and on behalf of all the players we can safely say that we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and we can't wait until next season.

Many thanks

**Your tour reporters - George White & Rory Pickin**



## Harbury Toddler Group

Lynne Barton

Sue from Rhythm Time put us all through our musical paces last month. She went to a great deal of effort, bringing lots of instruments and special visual cues at no cost to the group. It was amazing how still and quiet the children could be when sequences and songs came to end and everyone had to listen. Sue was a professional concert singer and runs classes in the locality, her contact number is 01926 **886995**.

We have a keen amateur photographer coming to our group on 2<sup>nd</sup> June so hopefully there will be lots of great photographs for families to treasure.

Still lots to look forward to before we close for the August holidays culminating in a visit to Henry's Castle at Stratford Armouries on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July.

Don't forget, if you want to recycle any toys your children have outgrown do keep us in mind.

We look forward to welcoming mums, dads, grandparents, childminders, carers and children under five. We open our doors every Monday at 9.30am and finish at 11.15am.

Need more information or would like to just say hello before you come? Then please do ring Lynne Barton on 01926 612748 or email [lynnebarton@btinternet.com](mailto:lynnebarton@btinternet.com)



## Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

After Easter, the children bounced back to Pre-School, full of energy (and chocolate!), all ready for the new term. We were delighted to welcome Ruby and James as they began their Pre-School journey.



**Role Play:** St George's Day proved very interesting, as the children learned about St George and how he became the patron saint of England. They were particularly enthusiastic about the story involving the dragon and enjoyed dressing up as St George and slaying the dragon to rescue the beautiful princess. Then they painted some great George Cross

flags, as well as using paint and collage materials to make pictures of the dragon.

**At the Vet:** Next, the role play area became a veterinary surgery, with toy animals being brought in to see the vet and the nurse, and receiving all sorts of treatments, from bandaging injured limbs to checking hearts and chests with the stethoscope.



**Outdoor classroom:** With the much improved weather, the children have spent a good deal of time outside. The garden areas are growing well and we have now planted the potatoes – “earlies”, which should be ready to harvest before the holidays and “lates” to be ready when we return to Pre-School in September.

The climbing frame has seen lots of use, with the children helping to set it up and take it down at the beginning and end of the sessions ....



.... and our construction experts have been hard at work, building some exciting vehicles.

**Summer Outing:** This year's outing was to Hatton Country World, where the children had a wonderful time looking at and feeding the animals, holding

baby chicks, choosing the winner of a sheep race and going on a wonderful tractor ride around the farm.



*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 07907 598461 or look at the website [www.harburypre-school.org.uk](http://www.harburypre-school.org.uk)*



**Windmills**  
Nursery School

**Nursery School Staff**

### In Nursery

A big welcome to Grace and Emily who have started at Windmills this term and have already settled in well. Emily kindly brought in some cakes to ice for all the children to enjoy.



Preparations for the Carnival are going really well, the children have been busy painting and making collages. Mrs Cook has also visited to read the children some stories.

The children went on an outing to church on 12<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you to Rev. Annie and Gill for the wonderful guided tour of the church including a description of the font and altar. The children especially enjoyed taking turns ringing the church bell.



Amber – “We pulled the rope and it was really hard and then it went ring-ring, ring-ring”.



On 21<sup>st</sup> May we had a visit from Ruby's new baby brother accompanied by their mum and dad. This prompted circle time discussions on the importance of family and friends.

Ruby – “I am a big sister now. The baby has popped out. It's a boy called Harry. He drinks milk from Mummy. Sometimes he sleeps in the morning. Mummy's tummy is getting smaller now. He hasn't got any teeth but he will grow some soon”.

Lily-May – “I am getting a baby soon. The baby is in Mummy's tummy now. Mummy has got a big tummy. When the baby comes out I will help him into the cot and rock him very gently. I have brought a present for Ruby's baby – it's something for him to wear”.

Grace – “I have got a brother already and he is called Joseph – he is two. He can walk. We have got two buggies – they are red and black”.

Luke – “My sister is Charlotte – she is at big school”.

Amber – “My friends are Jack and Jessica. They play with me”.



In French the children have been singing French songs, counting, learning colours and planting carrots (les carottes).

## Training

Staff have updated their Child Protection training and Paediatric First Aid.

## Dates for the Diary

Group Photographs – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June in Nursery.

Family Race Night – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 6.30pm in Harbury Village Hall.

Bag2School Clothing Collection – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July (filled bags to 10 Constance Drive or tel 613084).

***Windmills continues on page 42***

# Harbury Theatre Group

## The Blank Pages

Photographs





# May 2014 Production

by Brian Young

## Visitors from Chicago



**Continued from page 39****Windmills Nursery from September 2014**

To date the directors have been unsuccessful in finding new premises to rehouse Windmills Nursery at the end of the summer, however the directors and staff are determined to continue Windmills Nursery if at all possible and are still looking at options.

To contact Windmills Nursery ring the administrator on 01926 613084, email [info@windmillsnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@windmillsnursery.co.uk), visit our website [www.windmillsnursery.co.uk](http://www.windmillsnursery.co.uk) or call the nursery mobile on 07906 519148.

**Carnival Day: Horrible Histories**

Carnival Day is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June and the children will be taking part in the Walking Tableau. The theme this year is 'Horrible Histories'. All children who wish to walk alongside their friends please join us in your best Horrible Histories costume at Sutcliffe Drive at 12pm ready for the judging at 12.15pm.

**NOTE:** Parents need to accompany their children as the PTA cannot take responsibility for them.

**Father's Day**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June is Father's Day and the annual Beer Walk, the route is set by Mr. Chapman and involves stops at the Harbury pubs for the adults to drink beer and children to collect stickers, with a beer stop run by the PTA at Chesterton Church. Registration is at school between 11.30am and 12.30pm with a cost of £4 for adults and £2 for children. Once registered, please come and find the PTA beer stop and enjoy a locally brewed beer or soft drink and a snack. There will be rolls, crisps and sweets available and will be open from 11.30am-3pm. Why not treat dad or even granddad? It's a great fun thing to do and very sociable.

That same evening at the Old New Inn sees the start of the family BBQ at 5pm - fancy a burger or hot dog amongst other parents, while your children play happily together? You don't have to attend the Beer Walk to be able to go to the BBQ, but if you do what a great way to end the day!

**Summer Fayre**

The annual Summer Fayre will be held at the school on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 12pm-3pm. As usual there will be several stalls and games for everyone to enjoy with regular entertainment. This year we are adding a new game or two so bring along your 20p's. There will be lunchtime BBQ on the junior

playground and cakes and tea in the hall. Don't forget the coloured raffle which is always a big hit.

Please come along and support these events, we are currently raising money to enhance the play areas at school particularly the junior playground. We have raised £19,000 already but need approximately £25,000 for the initial plans. Please come and enjoy yourselves as well as raising money for a great cause.



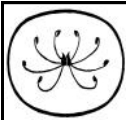
## Village Hall Update

**Chris Finch**

Promises, promises – hopefully they're a bit like buses, once you've received one definite promise another will come along very soon? At the end of last month, the Village Hall committees heard that a substantial sum had been promised from a forthcoming 106 proposal and has been placed in an escrow account (held in relation to conditions relating to the future development at the Hall). None of the promises received to date happen 'by accident', as members representing the Village Hall are constantly working away to find the funds necessary for the final stage of development. One promise 'in the bag' makes it possible for other monies to be secured against the total cost of the proposed building programme. Although there is a need to continually look forward to find the necessary funds, the committees are also mindful of the importance of 'looking back' towards all the generous villagers who started the ball rolling by making a donation to the initial Buy a Brick campaign. There have been some suggestions about how these contributions can be recognised when all the stages of improvement have been met – an illuminated roll of honour, an inscribed brick (quite costly) or a book of names recorded for posterity? No decision has, as yet, been made, but any other suggestion for recording the 'kick start' provided by many residents in recent years is considered important. Villagers who supported campaigns for the establishment of a community building way back in the Sixties are listed in old minutes books held by those responsible for the Village Hall, but these do not receive public recognition, which maybe they should do – the sum of £12K was very considerable 50 years ago+?

Eagle-eyed villagers – or those with Orange mobile phones will be aware that the mobile phone mast secured to the Constance Road end of the building has now been removed. Unfortunately the Village Hall has lost the revenue provided by leasing the space to the company, which has now merged its system elsewhere, but more importantly to some Orange users in the village their signal appears to be much weaker. Some residents have taken to Facebook and Twitter to express their distress, since heading outside to aim their phone at the new position for the Orange signal has become an unwanted effect of the recent Orange merger.

It has been very distressing to all those involved with the Village Hall to learn of the sudden and totally unexpected death of our caretaker, Martin Cosgriff. Martin had undergone major heart surgery just before Christmas, but he had made an amazing recovery and said that he felt fitter than he had felt for a long time. He had always made a wonderful job of looking after the Hall for several years and nothing was too much trouble. He would turn up 'above and beyond' the call of duty to help out on especially demanding occasions such as the CAMRA (Real Ale) event, the Carnival or at times when acres of mud would be transferred from the football pitches into the changing rooms. Nothing was ever too much trouble for him and he delighted seeing the rooms kept in tip top condition. His wonderfully cheerful demeanour created an exceptionally pleasant atmosphere whenever he met with members of the committee and no truer words could be spoken about Martin than the epithet, 'he will be very sadly missed'.



## Horticultural Society

**Judy Morrall**

We all enjoyed a fabulous talk in May, our last one of the current season. I was lucky enough to persuade Helen Picton from Pictons Nurseries at Colwall near Malvern to talk to us, her topic was Daisy Days. We had a potted history as follows. The nurseries were founded by the late Ernest Ballard in 1906. He was one of the first growers to specialise in breeding Asters and he devoted over 50 years to the continued development of new colours and species. His nurseries were awash with the colours of these flowers also of course known as Michaelmas Daisies. These flowers remained very popular for many years and featured in many shows including the RHS ones in London.

Helen's grandfather Percy Picton continued the tradition after he came to work for Ballard in 1947. After Ballard's death in 1952 Percy bought the premises in 1956. His own son Paul, Helen's father joined him in the 1960's. The National Collection of autumn flowering asters was established. Helen's mother Meriel is also involved in the now family business. Helen trained as a botanist at the University of Reading and gained a first class degree. She did so as her parents thought she ought to have another fount of knowledge as they did not think joining the family nursery was right for her. Well she did join the nursery in 2009 and her knowledge and enjoyment of the species was so apparent.

The first asters came from Northern America as long ago as the 1600's. Some come from Europe and Asia but only the alpine sibiricus is native to North America, Europe and Asia.

There are four different types of asters, novi-belhi, novae angliae, amellus and allies and small flowered hybrids along with species. We were shown

some stunning pictures of all of the different types, much too numerous for me to mention but so much choice. Small to large and in all colours. Asters last for much longer than September, they start as early as July and carry on until December in some parts of the country. It was interesting to learn from Shirley and Tony, who were both involved in setting up our Horticultural Society, that their first speaker was in fact Percy Picton and this was over 30 years ago. Helen answered questions, then many of our members bought plants from the ones she had brought along to sell.

As a follow up to that ,I have arranged for us to have an evening guided tour of the gardens at Upton House to include the collection of asters on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, refreshments will be available afterwards. A great chance to see the gardens in their full splendour and not to have to share them with other visitors. Times and a small fee for the food will be announced nearer to the date.

I am looking forward to our first day trip on 11<sup>th</sup> June to Dudmaston Hall and Estate then in the afternoon to Bodenham Arboretum. I have arranged for an introductory talk from the owner to set the scene. Food available at both gardens or bring a picnic. Leave the Village Hall at 9.00am return at 5.00pm. I still have spare seats on the coach for this and the next trip on 16<sup>th</sup> July to the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens near Romsey so if you would like to join us, please let me know.

Just a few suggestions of garden visits in June.....Warwickshire first...

Hunningham Village gardens will be open on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be five gardens open from 12.30 to 5.30pm and the entrance is £4. Then on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Kenilworth will be holding their annual open gardens and allotments. A total of five gardens plus allotments will be open from 1.00 to 5.00pm and the cost is £5. In Worcestershire on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> there are two different venues of open gardens. The first at Pershore from 1.00 to 5.00pm admission £5, the second at Aston under Hill near Evesham where there will be over 20 varied and colourful gardens open from 1.00 to 6.00pm and the cost is £5. One last venue I have just spotted is in Eckington post code WR10 3BH; the five village gardens will be open on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11.00am to 5.00pm at a cost of £5. These are all open under the NGS scheme and refreshments available at all locations.

Lastly in Gloucestershire...Sezincote just outside Moreton in Marsh is always worth more than one visit. It is a stunning house with an exotic water garden, lake, pond, perennials, orangery, Indian garden and much more. It will be open for the NGS on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> from 2.00 to 5.30pm and admission is £5. If you have never visited the open gardens in Chipping Campden you have missed a treat! These stunning gardens, over 20 of them, will be open on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2.00 to 6.00pm and cost is £6. This is such a lovely town with equally distinguished houses.

Whatever you decide to do just enjoy our remarkable countryside which has such a diverse range of gardens. I hope that the weather improves. As I type this, 28<sup>th</sup> May, it is the third day of rain, good for growing and no watering to do but it would be nice to be able to get outside and do some gardening. Have a good gardening month.



**Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery**

**Christine Dakin**

Have you noticed how the supermarkets are all selling plants and other garden sundries? Sometimes the plants are so dry that they are verging on being dead, but they are cheap and cheerful and placed just by the entrances so, I suspect, many people will pop a plant or two in with their shopping. It makes me fume because it's not a level playing field, I couldn't sell baked beans and frozen chips but would need planning consent. Please support your local businesses where you will get expert advice and friendly help. Rant over.

During the next three months you might find different people standing in for me while I take Philip to and from the hospital for his out-patients treatment. All is going well (touch wood).

This year we won't have bedding plants to sell because our supplier has gone over to contract growing. We never know how much we need so can't pre-order in advance. Anyway, some people will be getting their petunias and begonias from supermarkets!! (See above).

Now that risk of frosts is over (although we did have -3° degrees in early May) you can put out tomatoes, courgettes, sweet corn, cucumbers and melons.

Leeks can be planted out now.

Strawberry runners can be layered into pots and when rooted can be cut. Pick the fruit later in the month. The strawberries I have are planted in pots and are in the polytunnel so will be ready quite soon I think.

We have plenty of National Garden Scheme booklets which show which gardens are open in Warwickshire throughout the summer. Do support this worthy cause and enjoy other people's gardens at the same time.

*Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton,*  
*Tel: 01926 812737*  
*[www.bridge-nursery.co.uk](http://www.bridge-nursery.co.uk)*





## Nature Notes

John Hancock

I have yet to hear a cuckoo in our immediate area this year. I heard one in the forest of Fontainebleau on the twinning visit to Samois-sur-Seine in early May. Somewhat closer to home, a cuckoo called loud and clear when the USA Natural History Group were exploring Everdon Stubbs, a wood just over the county boundary in Northamptonshire. The cuckoo is definitely less numerous than in years gone by. This is probably due to the drop in numbers of moth caterpillars on which it feeds and of the small songbirds in whose nests it lays its eggs. Despite its parasitic lifestyle it would be sad to think our grandchildren would not hear that evocative sound as spring morphs into summer.

We were visiting Everdon Stubbs, a Woodland Trust site, principally to see the superb display of bluebells (OS sheet 152; SP604566). We were not disappointed. Bracken was just unfurling and other flowers such as Stitchwort and Yellow Archangel contrasted with the sea of blue. On the trunk of a fallen sweet chestnut we found a hornet probably seeking a nest site. These large wasps (*Vespa crabro*) look intimidating but rarely sting unless provoked. Only egg producing queens survive the winter. They emerge to lay their eggs in cells made of chewed wood. The larvae, which hatch after 5-8, days are fed on a protein rich diet of insects. They grow rapidly, going through several moults. Finally they cap their cells by spinning a silk membrane and metamorphose into adults. By late summer there may be as many as 700 workers in a nest. If the colony is challenged, the hornets can release an attack pheromone which marshals others to repel an intruder. Its sheer size and stories of its potent sting give it a fearsome reputation.

The cuckoo flower (*Cardamine pratensis*) or Lady's Smock as it is often known is a delightful flower. It's a bitter cress with pinnate (deeply divided) leaves, a member of the cabbage family. It produces mustard oils to deter predators but some like the caterpillar of the Orange Tip butterfly have evolved to withstand the poison. The adult male butterfly with its distinctive orange wing tips advertises itself but is highly distasteful and birds soon learn to avoid it as a food source. The female is white and much less conspicuous. It seldom flies. Eggs are laid singly on the underside of individual flower buds. They are fairly easy to spot as they change from pale white to orange. I have yet to find an egg on the flowers in Harbury churchyard but on the flowers beside the War Memorial at Bascote Heath, a search has always yielded eggs.

I counted seven Man Orchids (*Orchis anthropophora*) at Ufton Fields NR. Each was surrounded by a small wire enclosure as protection from rabbits. Here, in Warwickshire, it is isolated from its heartland in Kent and Surrey. Worryingly our tiny population shows little sign of increasing.

On 19<sup>th</sup> May I visited Draycote Meadows (OS 140; SP448 706) with David Brown's Lepidoptera Group. This Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Reserve consists of two ancient meadows. In May the ridge and furrow terrain is a mass of cowslips and green-veined orchids. The latter vary in colour from deep purple to the palest pink. When there, we saw several species of day-flying moths including Grass Rivulet and Burnet Companion. Butterflies such as Small Copper, Brimstone (male pale yellow in colour, female white), Green Veined White, Orange Tip and Small Heath were netted, identified and released. The false eye spot on the forewing of the Small Heath is a ruse evolved to survive a predatory bird. The insect may get a notch in its wing but can still get airborne. The Small Copper is exquisite and one of our loveliest butterflies. It lays its eggs, which resemble miniature golf balls, on sorrel, commonly known as dock. The young caterpillars eat distinctive grooves in the leaves and these are easily spotted.

Now, the swifts have arrived. I saw my first in Mill Street on 15<sup>th</sup> May. Terry Hunt told me they had come five days earlier but were much lower in the sky due no doubt to the cooler, damper conditions at that time and the paucity of high flying insects.

Do travel to Bishops Hill, the wonderful wildlife site approached down Ladbroke Road in Bishops Itchington (OS map 151; SP 393582). Here a display board on the Yellow Land gives details of what can be seen. It includes the Small Blue (*Cupido minimus*) our smallest butterfly.



## General Section

### Tom Hauley Room

The Tom Hauley Room kitchen is being completely refitted between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of July. We hope to maintain bookings as usual as far as possible, but there will be NO COFFEE MORNING on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> July. We expect the work to be completed so that there will be a coffee morning as usual on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> July.

**John Stringer, Chairman THR Committee**  
Tel: 613214

### Harbury NSPCC Committee

Many thanks to everyone who came to our Ladies Lunch on 8<sup>th</sup> May. We made **£626 profit** which is an excellent result. Our next event is a Moroccan Evening on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October in the Tom Hauley Room. Further details in the autumn.

**NSPCC Committee**





## Diamond Wedding – Tennant – Johnson, 5<sup>th</sup> June 1954

The bride was also on the Church Council and was Hon. Secretary of the Southam branch of the Conservative Party.

**TENNANT—JOHNSON**

On Saturday, at Southam Parish Church, Miss Eveline Louisa Johnson (elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Johnson, of Coventry Street, Southam) was married to Mr. Reginald William Tennant (youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Tennant, of 27, Offa Road, Leamington). The Rector officiated and the bride was given away by her father. Mr. Tennant (brother of the bridegroom) was best man, and Mrs. E. T. Usher played the organ. The bride, who was attired in a gown of white silk and net with orange blossom headdress and veil, carried a bouquet of scarlet carnations, and was attended by Mrs. Joyce Jones (bridegroom's sister). As the bride left the church she was presented with a silver horseshoe by the bridegroom's nephew. A reception was held at the Infant Welfare Centre, about 30 guests attending. Mr. and Mrs. Tennant are spending their honeymoon at Blackpool. They will take up residence at No. 41, Plymouth Place, Leamington. Both the bride and bridegroom are members of the Youth Hostel Association and Cycling Touring Club. The bride was at one time a member of the Girls' Training Corps, and is a member of Southam Tennis Club. The chief hobby of the bridegroom is amateur photography.



We have lived in Harbury for forty years.



**Reginald and Eveline  
Tennant**

## Get on your Gear, Carnival is here! Harbury Carnival – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June

(Parade Judging Starts 12.15pm from Sutcliffe Drive)

**Carnival has arrived!**

It's June already and that means its Carnival, time for you to dress up and have fun. Please buy your raffle tickets from volunteers who will be knocking on doors – remember the proceeds go to local charities and organisations.

*The Parade: vehicles, floats and walking entries in position in Sutcliffe Drive by 12 noon and judging begins at 12.15pm.*

We look forward to seeing you with your local organisation, pub, street or friends, and to see what ideas you have come up with for either a float or a walking group for the procession. Here is a reminder of the list of categories for the Parade: (*NOTE: Parade leaves at 1pm*) Trade Float, Independent Float, Children's Float, Decorated Bike/Pram/Car, Horse Drawn/Mounted/Led, Walking Tableau Children 2-8 persons, Walking Tableau Children more than 8 persons, Walking Tableau Family, Walking Tableau Adults, Walking Adult, Walking Child.

The programme includes: the famous Dog Show, the cheerleaders 'Flippin' Flyers, Debbie Ellis Storyteller Tent, Jean Champ's School of Dance and the stirring Shirley Pipe Band. In the Village Hall, to help your refreshments go down, there will be the Theatre Group Children's Entertainment and Singers.

There will also be ice cream, hot dogs, an Inflatable, roundabouts, and lots of fun for all at the many stalls with their games and wares.

There may just be time to book a stall/pitch on the field, please call Mike McBride on 612421 and, if you have any questions about the Carnival, please feel free to call John Broomfield, Carnival Committee Chairman, on 614258. He will be happy to provide whatever help he can.

Don't forget the **Games Week** (Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Aunt Sally at The Shakespeare, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Horseshoes at The Crown, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Skittles at The Old New Inn and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Quiz at The Village Club) and the **Wheelbarrow Race** which starts at the Gamecock Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Mike McBride is your contact on 612421.

Many thanks to our twenty five great SPONSORS including: *Avonvale Veterinary Centre, Baldwins, Banana Moon Day Nursery, Cana Imports, Mr Brooks The Chimney Sweep, communication & me (Bev & Benn Walshe), The Door Store, TM & JM Grey Builders, Harbury Pharmacy, Harbury Supermarket & Post Office, Miles of Tiles, Mota-bars The Old New Inn, Roger Coy, Rollasons Solicitors, The Salon, Serenity, Southam Bouncy Castles, Tip to Toe Beauty and Warwick Cleaners.*

We are also on **Facebook** (search for 'Harbury Carnival'). Dress up and cavort at the Carnival! See you there...

**Peter Walshe**  
**On behalf of the Carnival Committee**



## Harbury Art Group

Our tutored workshop on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May was an acrylic session, and the subject was a vivid field of rapeseed in full bloom with a rustic cottage and woodland in the background. So bright citrus yellow, spring green, and plenty

of paint to create texture, were the order of the day. Towards the end of the session, Nick introduced collage into the foreground – we used the thick acrylic paint to ‘glue’ small twigs and leaves onto the painting, creating a hedge effect at the bottom of the canvas. It worked very well, and we produced some very nice paintings.



There is no meeting in June, but our next painting session is scheduled for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. If there are sufficient numbers, Nick Baldwin will run a watercolour workshop from 10am to 3pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. However, if there are not enough people booked in for Nick’s tutor-led workshop, we will meet for a social painting morning on 3<sup>rd</sup> July instead from 10am to 1pm, with the theme ‘Woody’.

We are a small friendly group with a mixed level of abilities, and new members are always very welcome to join us. We meet on the first Thursday of the month. If you would like more information about either the tutor-led workshops or social painting mornings, please contact Pam on 01926 814923 or email [harburyart@hotmail.com](mailto:harburyart@hotmail.com).

**Pam McConnell**



## **Open Studios**

The time has come around once more for Warwickshire Open Studios. This is a 2 week period from the 28<sup>th</sup> June - 13<sup>th</sup> July when artists open their work space to the public.

Harbury has 11 artists participating this year and they will be exhibiting not only paintings, but jewellery, stained glass, prints, metal work textiles and pottery. All of this is on your doorstep!

Entry is totally free and you may even be offered some refreshment whilst you browse. There is absolutely no obligation to buy anything, but you may find something totally original that takes your fancy.

No commission is charged. The same item, if bought in a high street gallery would have a 50% mark up. So it is an excellent way to buy a piece of original art at the very best price.

Each venue will be signposted with signs and banners. Brochures showing the exact location and opening times for each venue will be available at the Library and there will be posters on notice boards around the village. Everyone is welcome.

**Jan Freeman**



## Harbury Duke of Edinburgh's Award Group

The group is in the throes of its busiest time of year – expedition season. Successful training and practice expeditions at all three levels have already occurred, and we are about to embark on qualifying expeditions to Exmoor and Snowdonia in June and July.



We are also looking forward to several more Gold Award presentations at St James' Palace in the next few months.

September will see the start of the next group of Bronze Award participants, so if you are 14, going into Year 10 in September and would like to know more about DofE, or have already decided you would like to do your DofE Awards with us, please email me ([caro.hill@btinternet.com](mailto:caro.hill@btinternet.com)) or phone (613780) to get on our list – which is filling up fast! More information about the award scheme can also be found at [www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org)

**Caroline Hill**



## Harbury Games – not long now!

Only a matter of days left now until the big day!

I could be referring, of course, to the Carnival, that other much-loved and well-established Harbury event. However, just two weeks after the Carnival, on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June** the good people of Harbury and district can enjoy a very different and unique experience – the Heart of Harbury Games.

Back by popular demand for a third year, this is a wonderful opportunity to participate in a community event just by being there. Come along to watch and enjoy dozens of other children and grown-ups take part in competitive events; 'games' which are seriously sporty as well as light-hearted fun.

As in previous years, the Harbury Games are staged solely to benefit the Village Hall Development Fund and this year the Games have attracted more sponsors than before. So far they include:

Jaguar Land Rover

John Warner Builders

Reynolds Insurance Services

John & Sharon Hancock

Banana Moon Day Nursery

Brian Wade

Rollasons Solicitors

Mugleston

Tom Lawrence Carpentry

Bull Ring Garage

Harbury Dangerous Sports Club

Harbury Theatre Group

Southam Insurance Services

Fosse Garage

TM & JM Grey Builders

Braeside B&B

Modern Homes

Wiglesworth & Co.

FixIt4U

During the day there will be tea, coffee and cakes available in the Village Hall but please feel free to bring your own picnic to the field as there will be plenty to watch.



### Photos by Gael Conway

Be prepared to see, and hear, each team as they parade their way through the village to the sports field at 9.30am ready for the Opening Ceremony at 10.00am. There is a 'Commonwealth' theme for the Games this year and we are very excited to see how each team responds to this through their outfits and anthems.

It's not too late for sponsors – please email Peter on [peter.walsh@millwardbrown.com](mailto:peter.walsh@millwardbrown.com) and maybe not too late for team participants – please email Andrew on [andrew.hunt@me.com](mailto:andrew.hunt@me.com)

See you there, along with the sunshine!

**Terry Hunt** on behalf of the Games Masters



**Windmills**

Nursery School

## Windmills Fundraising Group

Fundraising events this half term:

**Pamper Evening Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm in Harbury Village Hall** – our biggest and best event to date. Ladies please join us for a sociable evening with a large variety of treatments, stalls and a bar for you to enjoy. Treatments include eyebrow threading, facials, massages, Indian Head massage, body wraps, reflexology, Reiki, Gelish nails and more. Advance tickets £3.50 (on door £4) from 613084. All tickets include light nibbles and a glass of Pimms.

**Family Race Night Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June in Harbury Village Hall** – doors open 6.30pm and the first race is at 7pm. This is a child friendly event and races will be done using traditional wooden horses which move with the roll of dice. People can bid to become a horse owner and choose their own jockey to race and the public can also bet on horses in each race. It should be a fun evening for all the family. Entry is £3 on the door (children free). Bar by Cana with a raffle during the evening.

**Bag2School Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July** – Please collect any unwanted clothes, shoes, soft toys, handbags, belts etc. to help with our fundraising. They can be dropped off at 10 Constance Drive or phone 613084 to arrange collection.

**Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers** – Windmills Nursery would welcome any unwanted vouchers from anyone who shops at Sainburys. They can be dropped into nursery or put through the door at 10 Constance Drive. Thank you.

**From Windmills Fundraising Group**



## Bumps, Bundles and Tots Too

Always a busy morning at Bumps, however time for a quick photo shoot (see photo) before ending the morning with a few action songs.

This month we are looking forward to Debbie from the Children's Centre coming to visit and doing an activity with the children, which will be great fun.

If you have a bump or a child up to about three years, do come along and join us.

We meet every Tuesday in the Tom Hauley Room (behind the Church) from 10.30 till 12pm. We look forward to seeing you, you will be very welcome.



**From all at Bumps**



## Harbury School Kids Club

Harbury School Kids Club is pleased to announce that we will be opening a holiday club for children aged 3 - 12 years during part of the school holidays from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August. We will also be open on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September which is a teacher training day.

Each holiday club day will have a different theme with a minimum of 6 (age relevant) structured activities based on that day's themes. Children will also be able to access free play both inside and out and enjoy cookery and sports on a daily basis.

Details of the fees and opening hours appear on our advert in this magazine and they will include breakfast for children arriving before 8.45am, mid-morning snack and afternoon tea with unlimited soft drinks and water.

During August the Kids Club building will be extensively refurbished in readiness for the start of the autumn term.

The Kids Club room will then have the following designated areas, offering:

- Quiet area for reading and homework
- Role play kitchen/home/dressing up
- Technology to include a Wii/ ipad/games console
- Arts and crafts
- Self-resourcing units for board games/puzzles/construction kits

Kids Club will be open for all teacher training days and will also be open on Friday afternoons during term time.

Bookings for the holiday club, teacher training days and term-time Friday afternoons are being taken now.

For more information please phone Lynn Hill 07702 898171 or email [lynnhill7@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnhill7@hotmail.com)

**Lynn Hill**



## Harbury Village Show

You may just be in time to support the coffee morning in aid of the show on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June in the Tom Hauley Room. If not, thank you to everyone who has supported it; the donations we have received should make it possible to cover the costs of putting on the show.

And, to confirm, the show will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September. The schedules are available in the Library and worth looking at, especially for the classes for

crafts and photography. Also a copy of the “rule book” - On with the Show – for reference.

We hope you are beating off the slugs, snails and pigeons so you can show some bumper entries.

**Gillian Hare, 614809**



## **Blood Donors**

An early warning that the next session in Harbury will be on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

**Gillian Hare**



## **Hope 14 – Tom Hauley Room Lunch**

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September the Hope 14 mission events in Harbury will kick off with a Tom Hauley Room lunch with a difference. Delicious food will be provided as ever in the form of soup and bread, cheese and biscuits AND pudding! It will be free and there will be a short talk by one of the mission team. Further information on booking will be available at a later date.

## **Hope 14 – A Musical Extravaganza**

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September at the Village Club we will have the opportunity to enjoy a very special musical evening featuring a number of talented local artists. Further details about the evening and information on how you can get tickets will be given out nearer the date.



## **Harbury Village Library**

Thanks to the hard work of our Chairman, Tim Lockley, the Library has received grants which have enabled us to buy a smart new reception desk. Our smaller customers can now put their own books on it! We have also had a grant for two new bookcases which should be coming at the beginning of June. Our stock is increasing all the time thanks to generous donations of nearly new books and the Buy A Book Fund. On 23<sup>rd</sup> April we held a very enjoyable Literary quiz which was a lot easier than people thought it might be and raised £94 for new books. Many thanks to all the helpers on a busy night.

We are coming up to the exam and the holiday seasons, when some of our volunteers are unable to do their usual shifts, especially on Saturdays. June and July are looking decidedly empty! If you would like to do some work in the



Library, perhaps just a couple of hours, do call in and sign up. Training is on the job and you will always have a companion to guide you.

The two large conifers outside the Library are, sadly, causing damage to the path and the ramp at the front of the building and if left will eventually cause damage to the building itself. The Trustees for the Library have consulted with Colin Sheasby as to the best course of action and he has recommended their removal and suggested replacing them with a single specimen tree.

The Parochial Church Council is ultimately responsible for the building and, therefore, the trees. The PCC have agreed in principle to the removal and replacement of the trees and we are in discussion with them as to the best way forward. One of the trees is the John Ridgley "Tree of Light"; and we are working with Mr Sheasby to identify a suitable replacement tree.

There will be a Tree of Light in December 2014 but the precise details are still being finalised. Please look out for updates in future issues of the Harbury & Ladbroke News.

**Chris Rutherford**



### **Carnival Book Stall**

The library will run a book stall at the Carnival again, any donations of unwanted books gratefully received at the Library.

**Tim Lockley**



### **It seemed like a good idea at the time .....**

I have been asked to write about my experience of cycling a little further than around the Thwaites Estate.

It wasn't too long ago, in fact up until December, that I considered a bike ride around the Thwaites to be a substantial amount of exercise. Indeed, such a ride would merit second helpings at dinner, as I had, after all, earned it.

An opportunity, however arose, to join the group from the Harbury Twinning Society, to cycle from Harbury to Samois Sur Seine, just outside Paris, this April. I decided to start in Le Havre, a journey of 40 miles a day for 5 days. It was an experience not to be missed. After all, the routes had been planned for me, hotels and restaurants booked - all I had to do was cycle. How hard could that be?!

My first training run was to the Burton Dassett hills - a circular route of about 19 miles. I wondered if this required lycra. Being a lady of Botticelli proportions it wasn't something I would normally parade around in - at least not in public. But the saddle on the bike was proving to be a pain in the

proverbial and I decided that padding would be much appreciated. Steve in the shop recommends gel over foam. No, ladies, you can only get them in black!

I didn't manage to get up the hill on that first occasion. I don't know what the gradient is, but I had run out of gears about 10 yards from the bottom. It was hard work pushing the bike up to the top. I think the sheep had seen it all before, by their glazed stares.

I did about three bike rides a week before the trip, none longer than 29 miles, as it is a very time consuming mode of transport and I can get everywhere much faster by car! And, yes, I can now get up to the top of Burton Dassett without getting off.

By the time the trip started, I was on intimate terms with Steve at the cycle shop. My bike needed panniers, grip pedals, lights, mobile phone holder for my cycling app. I needed more lycra, gel gloves to stop pins and needles, waterproofs, hard bottomed cycling shoes for better push and snazzy cycling sun glasses so no one could recognise me in the lycra!

The actual trip was amazing. There were 11 English and 8 French for most of the journey. French, English and Fringlish was spoken once in France and I kissed goodbye to work, housewife duties and looking at the clock. All I had to do was enjoy the pleasure of cycling. Which I did.

It was nothing like Burton Dassett hills. Fairly flat for most of the journey. Our route was well planned and meandered through beautiful countryside and pretty little French villages. I was amazed to see that in Normandy, they grow irises on the apex of their thatched rooves! When our group was spread out along a road running through rape fields, all you could see were the heads bobbing along the top of the yellowness!

So my training had stood me in good stead and it wasn't long before we hit our first lunch stop. These I was to learn, were to be a major part of the experience, as lunch was always a 3-4 course meal with wine and took two hours! I'd hit the jackpot! After all, I'd earned the right to enjoy lunch!

With all the camaraderie and banter to be had, I can barely remember the cycling. Our ride was punctuated by punctures, which also provided a rest break. I think we had about 12 punctures altogether, 5 of them coming 10 minutes from the finish. The repair team were as impressive as the pit stop mechanics at Monaco.

We arrived in Samois to an inflatable triumphal arch and all our Harbury friends and French friends wishing us well. Speeches by the mayor and Nelly from the French twinning were followed by drinks in the town hall. It was time to peel off the lycra and enjoy a weekend with my host family.

Next time, maybe I will cycle the whole route like Moira Rollason, Andrew Patrick, Richard Marshall-Hardy, Malcolm Tanner and Alan and

Cathy Sampson. Those who cycled from Le Havre were Jenny Patrick, Celia Neill, Peter McDonal, Peter Rollason and myself.

As for the wished for health benefits - I didn't lose a single pound!

**Jan Freeman**

## **Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update**

Everyone who requested a seat for the trip to Southsea will be going, so please turn up at the Village Hall on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June. The coaches will be leaving at 8:15am.

We do have a few spare seats available so if you fancy a day out at Southsea at a cost of £10 please call me on 612421. First come, first served.

At this time of year we do some fundraising by having a stall at the Carnival and holding a summer lunch. The lunch will be on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July** in the Village Hall and consists of a ploughman's, dessert, tea or coffee for £6. More details will be in the next edition and on posters around the village but basically you need to contact Julie on 612066 or me on 612421 to book tickets.

We will be running tombolas and doing raffles and while we have already received some donations of prizes we are always looking for more. So if you feel like donating please drop them off at 1, Park Lane or 32, South Parade. Thank you.

**Mike McBride,**

**On behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association**

## **Harbury Energy Initiative**

Those who follow my column with avid loyalty will remember how last month we dreaded the evil project-snaring fairy following us from the Wight School to the Rugby Club with our E.ON funding. She (he or it) didn't. We have completed the works, with the highly efficient Dave Andrews working closely with us to ensure that all went well. We have yet to complete the information part but now have final E.ON approval of our graphics. This seemed to be taking a while. Did I see a flash of black fairy dust and a shimmering wing?

Our natural supplies of carbon-based fuels, such as gas, coal and oil are running out and the government is urgently pursuing ways to fill the energy gap. Panic can induce poor, even disastrous, decisions. There has been much in the news lately about fracking, a process of fracturing rocks underground to release gas. As there are no planned sites for this in our area, you might think that we are safe from any environmental and health risks from extreme forms of energy mining. We face something worse. There are plans by Cluff Energy to extract gases by underground coal gasification from a site

between Rugby and Leamington. This will be the only on shore licence issued for this process in the UK so far.

In simple terms this technology involves igniting coal deep underground, partially combusting it and capturing the mix of gases that results to generate energy. It is not a new technology. In the 100 years since it was first trialed it has never worked commercially. In the wake of this century of international trials there has been, according to several reports, release of noxious methane, cancer-inducing toxins in groundwater and rivers, landfills, an underground explosion in Spain and uncontrollable underground fires at some sites. The government is inexplicably enthusiastic about this failed technology as part of a suite of extreme extraction techniques, such as fracking. A recent DECC press release announces consultations are to start on reducing planning restrictions on deep underground drilling to make access easier for all forms of extreme subterranean energy mining. If you want to know more about this issue, take a look at these links:

[http://www.theecologist.org/News/news\\_analysis/2402220/coal\\_gas\\_company\\_warns\\_stop\\_campaigning\\_or\\_we\\_will\\_sue.html](http://www.theecologist.org/News/news_analysis/2402220/coal_gas_company_warns_stop_campaigning_or_we_will_sue.html)

<http://www.noucgwarks.com/>

By the way, even former Tory cabinet minister Lord Howell has his doubts as to the commercial viability of fracking:

[http://www.enssec.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=547:lord-howell-british-fracking-policy--a-change-of-direction-needed&catid=143:issue-content&Itemid=435&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=nefoundation&utm\\_content=1+-](http://www.enssec.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=547:lord-howell-british-fracking-policy--a-change-of-direction-needed&catid=143:issue-content&Itemid=435&utm_medium=email&utm_source=nefoundation&utm_content=1+-)

[+is+much+too+optimistic+and+could+prove+e&utm\\_campaign=Energy+Crunch+-+16+May&source=Energy+Crunch+-+16+May](#)

Don't forget that the Green Deal Home Improvement Fund goes live this month. It allows you to claim significant sums against specific energy saving home improvements. You can even get up to £100 of your Green Deal Assessment payment back (they generally cost around £150). All government grants for these kinds of measures require you to have a Green Deal Assessment. Details can be found via the Department of Energy and Climate Change website. We have just started working with Karena and Tom Ellis-Greenway on what may well become a Green Deal delivered home project. We'll be letting you know how it goes.

**Bob Sherman - 612277**  
**shermanbob55@gmail.com**

## Is there an alternative to expensive energy bills for homeowners using Oil or LPG??

Finally the answer to this could be a resounding YES!

For years it seems like communities off the mains gas grid have had no alternative to ever rising oil prices. Now, however there is some good news on the horizon on energy prices.

Keen to drive the renewable energy agenda, and to move away from our reliance on fossil fuels for heating our homes, the government, via the Department of Energy and Climate Change, launched the brand new domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) as recently as 10<sup>th</sup> April this year.

Years in the planning, and with a successful scheme already running for commercial properties, the domestic RHI is set to provide long term financial support to help homeowners switch from oil and onto cheaper, renewable energy technologies such as biomass boilers or heat pumps.

Its aim is to cut carbon emissions and help the UK meet its renewable energy targets. People joining the Domestic RHI scheme and keeping to its rules receive quarterly payments for seven years.

This new incentive is designed to support non gas communities, with the government hoping it will encourage customers to consider the advantages of renewable energy for their heating needs.

### Domestic RHI Essential Guide

There are four types of eligible renewable energy systems for providing heat and domestic hot water as follows:

#### 1. Biomass

Biomass systems **must** provide space heating and can also provide domestic water heating. Biomass systems can use either wood pellets, wood chip or logs. Biomass boilers and biomass stoves must not be designed to generate heat to cook food. This means that biomass fuelled range cookers will not be eligible for the Domestic RHI.

#### 2. Ground Source Heat Pumps

To be eligible for the Domestic RHI, all heat pumps must distribute heat via a liquid (normally radiators or underfloor heating) to provide heating, and may also be used for domestic water heating. Heat pumps that distribute heat via the air are not eligible under the scheme.

Ground source heat pumps are systems that use pipes to draw heat from the ground and distribute it via a heating system. Eligible ground source heat pumps can draw heat from either the ground (including any water in the ground) or surface water, or both.

### 3. Air Source Heat Pumps

Air source heat pumps take heat from the outside air and distribute it via a heating system. Air source heat pumps cannot be designed to use exhaust heat. That's residual heat which has been expelled from a building or appliance, for example, building ventilation systems.

### 4. Solar Thermal

There are two types of solar thermal systems eligible for the Domestic RHI – evacuated tubes and liquid filled flat plate collectors. Solar thermal systems must be designed and installed only to provide heating for domestic hot water. Those designed to provide space heating, heating to a swimming pool or for any purpose other than heating domestic hot water, will not be eligible for the Domestic RHI.

### **MCS Certification**

The renewable heating system must be Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) certified. All heating systems must have an MCS certificate and must therefore be installed by an MCS-certified installer. If you are considering renewable energy and wish to access the domestic RHI then it is vital to ensure your renewable energy company are MCS certified.

### **Find out more**

For more information on the four eligible heating systems and how they work, the Energy Saving Trust has produced a series of factsheets.

<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generating-energy/Getting-started-with-renewables/Microgeneration-guides>

They also cover how much each costs, potential savings on energy bills and how much you could receive in Domestic RHI payments.

Alternatively, contact a local MCS accredited renewable energy company, who should provide a free, no obligation survey and discuss your requirements in more detail.

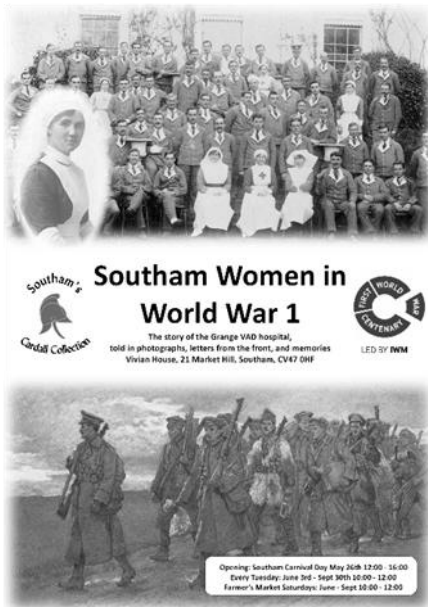
See Energy My Way advert in the magazine.

**David Percival**

## **Southam Heritage Collection – Summer Exhibition**

Many towns will be remembering the anniversary of WW1 over the coming months and Southam is no exception. Most commemorations will focus on those who gave their lives but there also very many others including many women who also gave magnificent service to their country on the home front. Southam is commemorating their work by mounting an exhibition focussing on the Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital which was established at

The Grange, Coventry Road. The exhibition, consisting of over 20 panels and artefacts, focusses on the hospital and the lives of many of the women who served at the hospital. Over 1,000 troops were treated at the hospital during the war from 1917 - 19. The exhibition is open every Market Day (Tuesday) from 10 – 12 noon from June to the end of September and is in the basement at Vivian House on Market Hill (entrance on Park Lane). Val Brodie who did the research work and developed the display will be there most days. In addition it will also be open on Farmer's Market days over the same period. Any local groups who would be interested in an illustrated talk "Bandages and Fresh Air" based on the exhibition should contact Val for details on 01926 812179.



**Bernard Cadogan**



## Harbury Heritage Room

Our next open evening is Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July from 6.30 to 8.30pm. We are always open on the first Tuesday of each month. Local organisations are welcome to book other times at their convenience.

The Heritage Room is at Harbury Primary School, and contains hundreds of photos and documents relating to the village and its inhabitants. You might even be featured if you have been around here for some time!

Entry is free, though we appreciate donations, as the Heritage Room is entirely self-funding.

This month we thought the article below would be relevant, as we head towards the Carnival.

### **THE FAIR**

*Many years ago we had a fair which was held on the Pound or on the green by the Old New Inn.*

*We had the roundabouts which some people called the merry-go-round. These were horses which went up and down as they went round. They were worked by a steam engine which played music at the same time. The music*

*was so loud it could be heard a very long way off. The horses were beautifully made and each had its own name. It cost a penny a ride.*

*The swing boats were in a framework of four or six. We tried to reach the top bar when we were swinging but it was hard work to do this.*

*The coconut shy was popular. If you knocked one off, you would be given it as a prize. Ladies and children stood half way and I think you had six balls for sixpence.*

*The shooting galleries were very popular. In one of them you shot at coloured balls which moved up and down on a jet of water. They were like ping pong balls.*

*Hoop-la was a round stall on which were lots of china ornaments. You bought three rings and tried to throw them over the ornament you wanted. It had to lie flat on the board. If it only lodged you didn't get the prize. We bought monkey nuts and popcorn from a barrow boy and brandy snaps from a stall. Some people liked to have their fortune told by Gypsy Lee.*

*There was an Aunt Sally and a greasy pole to climb and a stall where you could throw at plates, cups and saucers. People enjoyed the sound of smashing china. It gave everyone a thrill.*

*As told to me by my grandma, Mrs Lane.*

**Ian Barrett, Class 5**

**Nigel Chapman**



## **The Opening of the Southam Fosse Foodbank**

At the end of last year, the magazine included an article about the plans for setting up a distribution centre in Southam for the Fosse Foodbank. I am pleased to say that after a lot of groundwork, planning and paperwork, the Foodbank opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. We are really pleased that we have built up a group of volunteers from around the area and it would be good to keep that momentum going so your help would be much appreciated!

Fosse Foodbank provides emergency food and support to local people in crisis while the root causes of their problems are tackled. Most foodbanks are set up in towns or cities, but people in rural areas also experience times of crisis and those who are most in need often struggle with the cost of transport to be able to access this sort of support. Today in Southam and the surrounding area, there are families struggling to put food on the table. For people on low incomes, a sudden crisis – redundancy, benefit delay or even an unexpected bill – can mean going hungry. Every day, parents skip meals to feed their children and people are forced to choose between paying the rent and eating.



How the Foodbank works:

Step 1: Non-perishable food is donated by the public

Step 2: Volunteers sort and pack food into emergency food boxes

Step 3: Frontline care professionals such as doctors and social workers give foodbank vouchers to people in crisis

Step 4: Foodbank vouchers are exchanged for three days of food at a foodbank. For people with transport problems, food can be delivered

Step 5: Foodbanks take time over a cup of tea to listen and signpost clients to further support

### **The Trussell Trust**

The Fosse Foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK-wide network of over 400 foodbanks run by local churches working together alongside grass root community organisations, statutory agencies, front-line care professionals, schools and businesses to provide emergency food to people. Fosse Foodbank is administered by St. Peter's Church in Kineton (an excepted church charity) which is working with a network of rural churches to provide support for people in need from Shipston in the south to Southam in the north.

### **How you can help:**

Donate food to your foodbank

Give funds

Volunteer

Hold a fundraising event

### **To find out more:**

The Foodbank is based at the Graham Adams Centre, St. James' Road, Southam, CV47 0LY; for more details contact Rev. Gillian Roberts on 01926 815831 or [gillian@thebridgesgroup.org.uk](mailto:gillian@thebridgesgroup.org.uk) or see [www.fosse.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.fosse.foodbank.org.uk)

**Rev. Gillian Roberts**



## **Southam & District Lions Club**

### **Poetry Competition 2014**

We are pleased to announce details of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Poetry Competition. Entries will be accepted from 1<sup>st</sup> June and the closing date is 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Entry is free and the competition is open to all residents (any age) of Southam and District.

Up to three poems on any topic - maximum length 40 lines -may be entered. Prizes will be awarded at the Awards Evening to be held in mid November 2014 – details to follow.

### **Categories for Entries**

Children – Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 & 4

Adult

Entry Forms are available from The Acorns Charity Shop in Southam and from Southam Library.

Send your poems with entry form to: - Lion Dave Richards: 15 Mayfield Road, Southam CV47 0JX. Or they can be placed in the box at Acorns Charity Shop, High St. Southam. Or enter on line at: [www.southamlions.org.uk](http://www.southamlions.org.uk) or by email to [southampoetry@gmail.com](mailto:southampoetry@gmail.com)

Good luck!

**Peter Guy**

### **Theft from Vehicles**

Southam Police are getting a number of reports of thefts from motor vehicles, in particular theft of handbags.

- This is a reminder that you should never leave handbags, personal belongings and valuables in your vehicle.
- Remove the sat nav and take it with you.
- Fit self-locking screws to prevent number plates being stolen.
- Always lock your car and fully close windows and sunroofs.
- Fit anti-theft devices to steering wheels, fuel caps and wheels.
- Park in safe, well lit areas or secure car parks.

**Katrina Taylor  
PSCO**

### **Offchurch Open Gardens – Saturday and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> / 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2.00pm – 6.00pm**

We invite you to visit us during our **Open Gardens** weekend - come and enjoy a stroll round country gardens in our lovely village. Many other attractions, including: tea and cakes, musical entertainment, local craft exhibition, plant stall, book stall, children's treasure hunt / games, croquet on the village field, festival of vintage cars and much more!

The entrance fee is £5.00 for adults, children under 16, FREE. On-site car park.

Offchurch Open Gardens will coincide with the start of Warwickshire Open Studios fortnight, with a group of local artists displaying their work in St Gregory's Church.

Something for everyone – do hope you can make it. We look forward to seeing you!

**Liz Varnish**



## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

### **Dear Editors**

*I should like, through your columns, to convey my heartfelt thanks to the many friends and colleagues in and around Harbury who have sent us cards and letters on the sad death of Frank. We have been truly overwhelmed.*

*We have lived in Harbury for 44 years; moving here was the best decision we ever made. The care and support we have received, in particular over the past few years, has been phenomenal, including the local shops, the Surgery and the Church. Everyone has a smile and a cheery word. We have been so lucky and appreciate every single one of you. Thank you everyone.*

**Liz Bunting, Martin and Sarah**

### **Dear Editors**

*Tom and Joan would like to express their huge thanks to all their friends who have been such a support after Joan's recent operation. The good wishes, cards, flowers and culinary contributions have been overwhelming. Tom has felt a sense of great accomplishment as he miraculously produced a cordon bleu meal nearly every night; so thank you everyone who contributed to that - you've been wonderful! And the good news is that the biopsy was clear and life is joyous.*

*With love and gratitude to you all.*

**Tom and Joan Smith**

**Dear Editors****Christian Aid Week 2014**

A huge "thank you" to everyone in Harbury who generously donated towards this year's Christian Aid Week collection which raised a grand total of **£1,529**. Many thanks also to all the collectors and counters from All Saints', Harbury who continue to generously give their time and effort every year.

**John & Vikki Hall**

---

**Dear Editors**

I just want to say a big thank you for all your birthday wishes, gifts and also the beautiful 'Happy Birthday' rendition at the church.



I had a magical day celebrating my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 24<sup>th</sup> May with a surprise garden party at my daughter Susan's house with friends and family including my sister Margaret and my nephews who came down from Yorkshire... a perfect weekend of celebrations.

Thank you.

**Love Iris**

---

**Dear Editors****District Election 2014 – Harbury Ward**

I would like to thank all those in Harbury, Bishop's Itchington and the surrounding area who supported me in the recent District Council election, whether with their votes, practical assistance or encouragement.

The final results were: Kettle (Cons) 880, Guy (Lib Dem) 400, Abbott (Lab) 178, Parker (Green) 133.

The general view seems to be that we made a very respectable showing, given that I entered the election as a candidate in the eleventh hour. Such contests help to ensure that our much maligned democratic system continues to work efficiently and safely.

I congratulate Chris Kettle and wish him all the best during the coming year.

The current election covers a period of one year only, as all Wards in the District come up for a four year election next year, when Harbury and Bishop's Itchington will become separate Wards. So, I foresee a busy May for everyone in 2015!

**Alan Guy**



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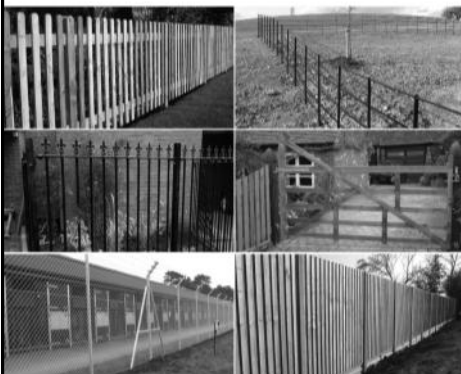






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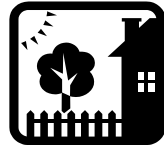
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<b>Mon</b>	Baby Ballet 18mths+ 10.00am - 10.45am							LoveDance 14yrs+ (Commercial, Street Jazz, Contemporary) 6.15pm - 7.45pm
<b>Tues</b>	Studio 1	Prima Ballerinas 3-4yrs 4.00pm - 4.30pm	Pre Syllabus Ballet 5-6yrs 4.30pm - 5.15pm	Pre-Primary Ballet 6-8yrs 5.15pm - 6.00pm	Primary Ballet 8-9yrs 6.00pm - 6.45pm	GCSE Dance 6.45pm - 8.45pm		
	Studio 2		Boys Street Dance 4.30pm - 5.15pm	Grade 1 Tap 10-11yrs 5.15pm - 6.00pm	Grade 2 Tap 11yrs+ 6.00pm - 6.45pm	Adult Tap 6.45pm - 7.45pm	Zumba 7.45pm - 8.45pm	
<b>Weds</b>	Boogie & Bounce 2yrs+ 1.30pm - 2.30pm			Ballroom & Latin (all ages) 5.15pm - 6.00pm	Grade 4 Ballet 15 yrs+ 6.00pm - 7.00pm	Adult Ballet (no exp req) 7.00pm - 8.00pm	Adult Ballroom & Latin (no exp or part req) 8.00pm - 9.00pm	
<b>Thurs</b>	Zumba Over 50's 10.00am - 11.00am	Funky Dance 3-6yrs 4.00pm - 4.30pm	Gymnastics (all ages) 4.30pm - 5.00pm	Grade 1 Ballet 10-11yrs 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Funky / Modern 7-10yrs 5.45pm - 6.30pm	Grade 2 Ballet 11-13yrs 6.30pm - 7.15pm	Grade 1 Modern 11yrs+ 7.15pm - 8.00pm	Grade 3 Ballet 14yrs+ 8.00pm - 8.45pm
<b>Fri</b>	Mini Movers 0-5yrs 10.00am - 11.00am		Little Tappers 3-5yrs 4.45pm - 5.15pm	Pre-Primary Tap 6-8yrs 5.15pm - 6.00pm	Primary Tap 8-10yrs 6.00pm - 6.45pm			
<b>Sat</b>	Musical Theatre 4-8yrs 9.00am - 10.30am	Musical Theatre 9yrs+ 10.30am - 12.00pm	Grade 3 Ballet 14yrs+ 4.00pm - 4.45pm	Grade 4 Modern 13yrs+ 4.45pm - 5.30pm	Grade 5 Ballet 16yrs+ 5.30pm - 6.30pm			

Love Ballet  
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