

HARBURY NEWS

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VILLAGE CLUB

THE DOVE HOUSE

HARBURY NEWS.

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF LOCAL LIFE

MAGAZINE ADDRESS 23 MILL STREET HARBURY.

THIS MAGAZINE IS PRODUCED WITH THE
HELP OF ALL SAINTS PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
HARBURY — VICAR. Rev. F.R. MACKLEY

A DIRECTORY OF VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS AND
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OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 1974

Once again, we are delighted to have sufficient news for an extra page in the magazine. It is most encouraging to know that Harbury News is becoming such an important feature of our village life, and we are confident that it will go from strength to strength. With your support, both financial (by agreeing to purchase the magazine) and in the form of articles etc., we cannot fail! We welcome articles on any subject connected with you or your village - is your hobby more interesting than those described by other villagers later in this issue? Or have you a pet plan for improving Harbury? Some young villagers have told us what the village needs - we've included their comments, and would welcome yours.

Their comments emphasise that the facilities for teenagers are limited and furthermore that their numbers are growing every year. Although Mr. Taylor does a good job with the Youth Club he does need help, and would like to hear from anyone who could be of assistance. We are sounding out the possibility of a motor cycle club being formed, and would welcome offers of help in this direction also.

HARBURY DIARY

OCTOBER 1974

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Thurs. 10th | GENERAL ELECTION (No Golden Age Meeting) |
| Fri. 11th | PTA Supper Dance, Village Hall, 8.30 - 1. |
| Sat. 12th | Coffee Morning to sell NSPCC Christmas Cards etc. and Bring & Buy, Village Hall, 10 a.m. |
| Tues. 15th | Tuffy Club, Village Hall, 2.15. |
| " & 16th | Help the Aged Appeal. Good used clothes to the Church please, 6 - 8, both evenings. |
| Wed. 16th | PTA A.G.M. and talk on Consumer Protection by Mr. I. Davys, Dep. Cty. Standards Officer. |
| Thurs. 17th | Playgroup A.G.M., Playgroup Room, Wight School, 8 p.m. |
| " | Sale of Action Research Christmas Cards & Gifts, The Cottage, Windmill Hill Farm, Chesterton, 2.30 - 4, and 6.30 onwards. |
| Fri. 18th | Cricket Club Dance, Village Hall, 9 - 1. |

- Sat. 19th Sale of Work, Golden Age Club, Village Hall,
2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Tues. 22nd Young Wives, Village Hall, 2 p.m. Rev. Bailey
on the Work of a Chaplain in Hospital & Community.
- Thurs. 24th Golden Age Club, Village Hall, 2 p.m.
- Fri. 25th Long Itchington Church Dance, Village Hall, 9 p.m.
- Sat. 26th Rugby Club Dance, Village Hall, 8 - 12.
- Sun. 27th Footpath Assoc. meeting, Village Hall, 2.30.
- " BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS.

NOVEMBER 1974

- Fri. 1st Village Hall Committee Dance, Village Hall, 9-1.
- Sat. 2nd Annual Bonfire Party, Recreation Ground, 6 p.m.
- Sun. 3rd Church Patronal Festival, usual service times.
- Thurs. 7th W.I. AGM, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.
- Fri. 8th Football Club Dance, Village Hall.
- Sat. 9th W.I. Mediaeval Evening, Village Hall, 8 p.m.
Tickets £1 from members.
- Sun. 10th REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
- Tues. 12th Harbury Society, talk by Derek Standing,
District Planning Officer, Dog Inn.
- " Harbury Friends, Wight School, 8 p.m.
- Thurs. 14th Golden Age Club, Village Hall, 2 p.m.
- Fri. 15th Long Itchington Conservative Party Dance,
Village Hall.
- Sat. 16th Liberal Party Jumble Sale, Village Hall, 10.15
- Advance Notice - Recreation Ground Committee Christmas
Fair, Sat. 30th November, Village Hall, 2 p.m.

CRUSADERS Village Hall, 2.30 p.m. every Sunday.

BINGO Village Hall, 8 p.m. every Monday.

YOUTH CLUB Village Hall, 8 p.m. every Wednesday.

INFANT WELFARE CLINIC Village Hall, 2 p.m., 2nd
and 4th Wednesdays of every month.

BADMINTON Village Hall, 9 - 12 noon every Monday,
and 7.30 - 11 p.m. every Tuesday.

HARBURY SINGERS Every Thursday, 8 Penelope Close,
8 p.m. New Members Welcome.

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.
Diary Dates for inclusion to Mrs. V. Macgowan, Tel. 612938.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My Dear Friends,

How wonderful it is to be back with you again, with normal eyesight, and feeling well and fit! Once more, thank you so much for your kind thoughts and your help.

One of the great days in the coming weeks is the Patronal Festival of the Parish of Harbury, which of course is All Saints Day, 1st November. This falls on a Friday, but the Festival will be continued on the following Sunday (3rd Nov) when the services at 8 a. m., 10 a. m. and 6.30 p. m. will be of a festal character. What an inspiration the saints can be to us by their examples, and what a help they can be to us by their prayers!

"O blest communion! fellowship Divine!

We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;

Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine, Alleluia!"

With every blessing,

Yours very sincerely,

F. R. Mackley.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Saturday, 2nd November, is the day of our Bonfire Party. Few people in the village appreciate that this event is sponsored by the Church Council, and every effort is made to break even financially, although any profit goes to charity. (see enclosed leaflet)

PARENT/TEACHERS ASSOC.

Garden Party

Due to adverse weather conditions, this was held in the school and not as planned in the grounds of Temple House. The change of venue did not deter people and by 6 p. m. approx. £150 had been raised towards the swimming pool fund. The Fancy Dress winners were: Under 7s - Carole Moore, Stephen Hancock, Caroline Holt; Over 7s - Andrew Holt, Jackie Upton, Jennifer Scott.

Training Pool

On Sat. 21st Sept. a group of people assembled at the school to help position the pool. Many of them had spent a lot of time in the previous weeks digging and preparing the

way before the 'drop' could take place. The pool arrived from the manufacturers, and was duly assembled and, after a few cups of coffee, was lowered into position. A lot of work still remains to be done before the pool and changing rooms are ready for use. Maximum effort will now be concentrated at the weekends, and any help would be welcomed.

The amount of money raised towards the cost of the pool now stands at £1,500.

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB

Since last time the Club was mentioned in the Harbury News, a great deal of positive progress has taken place towards improving the premises. Over the past 18 months we have had three basic problems; availability of money, type of layout, and planning permission. Many frustrations have been met and overcome, even to the extent of having to start again with the new Stratford Council after the dissolution of Southam Council.

A number of first class builders have requested the opportunity to tender for the work, and we await their estimates before placing the contract which will give the village the long awaited club it deserves. Not even a repetition of the setbacks we have suffered in the past should prevent the completion of the project by mid-summer, and the start of a new era for your Club.

ACTION RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILD

Charity Christmas Card Shop

18 charities, all concerned with the relief of human suffering, combine for the sale of Christmas cards at Park-side Garage, at the junction of Rugby Road and Old Milverton Road, Leamington. The shop opens on Sat. 19th Oct, and will be open each weekday from 10 - 5.30 (5 on Sats.) until 18th Dec. There is ample parking space, and the shop is on the Rugby Road bus route. A number of people from Harbury are helping with the shop.

YOUNG WIVES

We have just started another year of meetings designed

to interest and entertain the young wives and mums of Harbury. If you are tied to the house because you have young children, or if you are a bit lonely now that the children have started school, why not come along to one of our meetings? See the Diary for details.

Since the start of our Young Wives' Group we have been lucky enough to have 'Pop' and Mrs. Baston to look after our children for us, while we enjoyed our meetings. They are now on the point of leaving Harbury, and we would like to wish them well in their new home, and to thank them for their valuable help.

Their departure, of course, leaves a great gap - please could we appeal for someone to step into the breach? We need one (or two) very kind people to take care of anything up to 15 under-school age children, just for about an hour, on one Tuesday afternoon per month. Payment is a cup of tea and the heartfelt thanks of us all. Toys are provided, and mums are only in the next room in case of emergency! If you think you could help, or would like to know a bit more before committing yourself, please contact Trisha Harrison, Walnut Tree Cottage, Hall Lane, Harbury 612533, or Diana Holt, 15 Wagstaffe Close, Harbury 612790.

HARBURY SINGERS

Harbury Singers was formed in 1964 to sing at the Harvest Supper, with Michael Barnes as conductor and Leslie Cockerham as accompanist. In the 10 years since then the Singers have become part of the Harbury scene with their Carol Parties and Easter concerts - performing a varied selection of works by many different composers. Unfortunately we have gained a reputation for singing only 'heavy stuff' - which is in no way justified as will be seen from our programme between now and Christmas.

We shall be celebrating our 10th birthday by singing at this year's Harvest Supper, and concerts are also planned in Radford Semele and possibly in Leamington & Wotton Wawen, and of course in Harbury.

New members are always welcome - especially tenors and basses - every Thursday at 8 p.m. at 8 Penelope Close.

HARBURY FRIENDS

At our September meeting we had an illustrated talk on the 'Warwickshire Nature Conservation Trust', given by Mr. Ron Stanbridge. He explained to us how the surest way to rid ourselves of wild life, and wild flowers and plants, was the destruction of Nature's habitat, by taking away hedges and trees, and developing land. Mr. Stanbridge said that ironically, as it is Man that destroys wildlife, only Man can save threatened species, and how can we live happily in a desecrated environment? Apparently, there is a Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves, Norfolk being the oldest member having been in existence 80 years. Essex has the largest membership with 5,000 - Warwickshire has only 600 members. There are open days arranged on the reserves, and public meetings once or twice a year. Mr. Stanbridge has leaflets concerning the trust if anyone would like to know more.

Our next meeting is on 8th October, and Miss Aggett will give us a talk on 'Action for the Crippled Child'.

HARBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

The Club was formed in Whitnash in 1962, moved to Harbury for the 1967/8 season, and is now one of the best Junior Rugby Clubs in Warks, with a very strong Fixture list.

We feel we are part of the village now, and are always willing to lend a hand to whoever needs it. A proportion of the takings of our newly established tote will be going to the pensioners of Harbury at Christmas.

Although the Club has a strong playing membership they have only 2 or 3 from the village, and would like anybody who is interested in playing for their own village team to contact Glen Hales, Leamington 22284, or Graham Shurvinton, Leamington 23392, or come up to the ground any Saturday afternoon and they will be made welcome.

For anyone interested in becoming a Vice-President, a fee of £1.50 minimum will enable you to obtain any International tickets, and also receive a monthly newsletter.

HARBURY SOCIETY

Membership(50p) entitles you to attend and receive minutes of all meetings and to free entrance at talks held at the Dog Inn.

Activities are varied. The Society has:

- a. with the help of Mr. Oliver, sponsored a painting competition for school children.
 - b. provided a guided tour of the village for visiting members of the Rugby Civic Society.
 - c. helped at the opening of Chesterton Windmill. (There is the exciting prospect that the Society may be responsible for further open days at the Mill.) Persons interested in this venture should contact: Linda Ridgley, 7 Wagstaffe Close, Tel. 612792.
 - d. held a meeting at the Dog Inn, when the County and Deputy Land Agents gave a talk on Trees, with a display on Dutch Elm Disease. On behalf of the village we were presented with a young beech tree.
 - e. been responsible for mounting a small exhibition, at the Harvest Festival, of photographs of Old Harbury. We would be grateful for the loan of similar old photos which we could copy for our collection.
 - f. been active in publicising the M40 proposed routes.
- There is to be a social evening in the Crown early in the New Year, and a variety of meetings and talks are being planned.

GOLDEN AGE

September 14th saw 21 Golden Age members and 8 friends off to a wonderful week's holiday in Tenby. The weather was kind and the time taken up on interesting trips around Pembrokeshire. They visited the castle, St. David's Cathedral and Penarth Falls. They returned on 21st September, all fit and ready to make a great success of their Sale of Work on 19th October.

During the next few weeks Mr. & Mrs. Baston will be leaving the district, but as yet no other chairman has been appointed.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the recent Produce Show there were 25 entries. Judging in the Baking Section was made difficult by the evenly high standard, while in the Handicrafts Section Mrs. Gill Carter was especially mentioned for her excellent Aran sweater.

The entries in the Section for dishes made with apples will be entered in a Southam area competition in October.

The final winners were Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Boydell, Mrs. Middleton and Miss Cleaver.

This year for the first time W.I. members invited their husbands to their Harvest Supper. After a delicious meal, suitable entertainment was provided by the W.I. drama group, and then music was provided for dancing.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HARBURY?

"We're better off than some villages, aren't we?"

"There's lots to do. You'll always get some people who say they've nothing to do."

"We've got good playing areas, but could do with a club house for sport."

"I'd like discos every night - well, more often, anyway."

"Could do with public toilets."

"What we really want is a swimming pool we can all use.

It's no good when you've got to go 7 miles to swim."

"Yes, we do want a swimming pool. That most of all."

"Fish and chip shop."

"Village plays more often. That murder one was great."

"Better transport to get to places where things are happening."

"A motor cycle maintenance club or course would be well supported - or transport laid on to go to something like it in Southam or Leamington."

"I'd like a place, open most evenings, where you could drop in for a natter and a cup of coffee. No programme or anything - just a place to meet your friends."

These are a selection of comments by local young people. Let us have your views (whether you're young or not so young) - the more controversial the better!

STRATFORD SWIMMING POOL

Opened in August by Olympic athlete David Hemery, the pool will be popular with both expert and novice swimmer alike. Pleasantly situated by the river and the Hilton hotel, car parking is ample, and free! Admission fees are reasonable: 22 p for adults and 10p for children.

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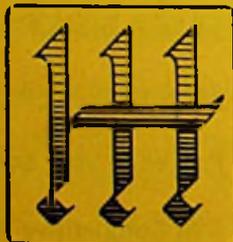
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Stratford is only 12 miles from Harbury, and our rates will help finance the pool, so why not make the most of it? Take the plunge - you'll enjoy it!

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

As new members of the village of Harbury, we have been asked, my husband and I, by one of the editors of this magazine (mentioning no names) to give our first impressions, favourable and critical, of the village. Well, here goes.

To begin with, everywhere seems to be very quiet and peaceful, having lived on a busy road before. The community spirit is strong with plenty of organisations for children and adults to join. People are friendly and helpful.

We find that we can buy most things in the village, although I personally miss a baker's selling homemade bread and cakes. Also, is there a window cleaner around? Someone could build himself a very profitable round. Or perhaps the cleaning of all the dirty windows in Harbury could raise some more money for the school pool or the village hall extension?

My husband has sampled the beer in all 5 pubs and has decided on one as his local, although the others follow a close second. So all in all it looks as though we have settled, as Harbury is certainly a very pleasant village to live in.

MR. NOLAN OLIVER

Harbury School has a new Headmaster.

Mr. Nolan Oliver came with his wife Laura, his son Stephen, 17, and daughter Clare, 10, from Suffolk where he was headmaster of a similar junior village school. When I asked Mr. Oliver why he came to Harbury, he explained that

he and his family much prefer village life, and they are already impressed by the incredible number of social activities available here. In fact Mr. Oliver is a sports fan and a keen singer in the little spare time he has, but it was his views on education in general, and Harbury School in particular, that I most wanted to hear.

When I asked him what role he felt the school should play in village life, Mr. Oliver replied that the ideal relationship is one in which "the School looks out and the Village looks in". In connection with this he went on to say that he has been impressed and encouraged by the interest of the PTA in all aspects of School life. Of course the new Pool is an integral part of this co-operation, and Mr. Oliver told me that swimming will be included in the curriculum for all ages on the basis of "a little and often" rather than one long period each week.

I was interested to hear Mr. Oliver's opinion on our method of introducing children to full-time schooling gradually, and he said that this is a relatively unusual but valuable scheme, as long as parents appreciate that it is intended more to help the child to adjust socially and emotionally to school life, and that they don't expect their child to read and write fluently after a few weeks!

Discipline is a subject close to most parents' hearts, and Mr. Oliver's attitude is that a friendly approach is infinitely preferable, but he will not flinch from stronger measures when they are called for. He is especially anxious to avoid the playground bullies which we read about so frequently today, and is determined to see that these unhappy incidents do not occur in Harbury School.

Naturally, the whole area of secondary education and the abolition of the 11+ is one in which Mr. Oliver is concerned. Comprehensive schools are fine in his book, with the condition that the numbers are kept down - the schools with over 1,000 children are too impersonal and Mr. Oliver prefers smaller numbers where at least the staff and pupils know each other!

To return to our own school however, Mr. Oliver is very keen to use the swimming pool to its fullest and is experieñœd

in this field since he had the responsibility of a similar pool at his last school. Harbury School has been without a full-time headmaster for many months, and Mr. Oliver is welcomed by staff, pupils and parents. He is sympathetic and very approachable; he is a man who commands respect, and I have no doubt at all that this respect will grow as more parents meet him, and see the results of his intuitive care and direction of their children.

VICTORIA MACGOWAN.

THEATRE GROUP

Advance Notice - Friday 22nd November - "Double Bill" -
Two One-Act Plays - Hot Nosh - Licensed Bar -
Dancing.

HISTORICAL NOTES

It is hoped to have a small piece in Harbury News devoted to village history, space permitting; this had been one of the original editorial aims but pressure of space etc. had forbidden it. (So all contributors who feel their offerings were unduly modified - take heart - the editors didn't even get theirs in at all!) Many of you, when answering the Harbury News survey, said that you would like 'historical articles'. This doesn't pretend to be anything so grand but - do you know how the village got its name?

Our village is thought to have been the fortress of a Saxon Queen Hereburgh - the suffix 'bury' (from byrig) meaning earthwork. It is referred to as Harberbury, Harbury, in most documents, right up to the start of this century.

The village has a mention in Domesday Book and the five Lords of the Manors and their holdings are listed as follows:

1. The Monks of Coventry; they had 1 hide, 1 virgate, which were previously worth 10 shillings in 1065, laid waste by William the Conqueror's men, and in 1085 worth 2 shillings.
2. The Earl of Mellent held 4½ hides valued at 100 shillings, held by Leucinus Alricus in the reign of Edward the Confessor.
3. Turchill (Earl of Warwick) held 4 hides worth 60 shillings. This was tenanted by one Willelmus and included that part of the village containing the Church.

4. Henry de Ferrers held 2 hides, worth £4 and in 1085 held by Wazelinus.

5. William Buentasleth held 3 virgates, value 5 shillings.

Notes: in the reign of William I, that is when Domesday Book was compiled, 1085, hides and virgates were the common measurement of area; 1 hide = 60 to 100 acres, and 1 virgate = $\frac{1}{4}$ hide. The variability in size was possibly a means of evening out the quality of land - hides of poor land were bigger than those on fertile soil.

Some of you will have been frustrated finding that no 'History of Harbury' can be picked off the library shelves. There seem to be no very old records left in the village, most of the material went to the County Record Office some years ago. At first this is disappointing, but it means that the History is just waiting to be researched and written up - what an opportunity! - it could be a co-ordinated effort, different people taking a topic or period and working on that, and eventually all the parts written together.

Anyone interested in this project, do contact the editors.

WHO'S LEFT HOLDING THE BABY?

A group of mothers willing to baby-sit for each other, a rota of people to be in charge of 'The Book', and a desire to go out sometimes in an evening. Mix well, and you have a baby-sitting circle. (You can also form one by putting six high chairs in a ring, but that's another story!) There are several circles in Harbury. The one I belong to consists of 12 families, and each month a different member organises the group, and looks after the book in which all the hours sat are debited or credited, as appropriate. We count one hour sat after midnight as two, and when a sitter is wanted the member most in debt is approached first. If that person cannot sit, all the other members are asked in descending order of debt, and of course even people who have hours in credit have to be asked when no-one else is available.

We hold a regular afternoon meeting so that the children can get to know the other mums who might look after them one evening, and this of course helps the mothers to make friends too. A slight snag occurs when several members of

a group all want a sitter on the same evening, and how grateful we are then for kind relatives and friends outside the circle, and the many excellent teenage baby-sitters there are in the village. But for most baby-sitting requirements, a circle seems to me to be the ideal answer. DIANA HOLT.

BANBURY AUDIO FAIR

Held at the Whateley Hall Hotel on 23rd and 24th September, this Audio Fair was organised by Cherwell Valley Shopping Centre, and on display were samples from their extensive range of Hi Fi, Radio and TV equipment. Demonstrations of Leak/Wharfedale and Akai equipment were heard; particularly impressive were the quadraphonic sounds, and also the comparison between one type of loudspeaker system and another.

A car load of us made the trip from Harbury and over a few 'jars' after the Fair it occurred to us that there could well be sufficient interest in the village to form an Audio Group. If anyone would care to talk about the suggestion, please 'phone me on 612427. JOHN MOORE.

SWORDBLAY

To many people fencing is what goes round the garden. To others (including me) it is an enjoyable sport, which keeps me fit and provides me with an extra interest.

It all started some 4 years ago when the Southam Evening Centre syllabus fell through the door. My wife and a neighbour's wife decided to go to basketwork, so my neighbour and I teamed up, and after discounting judo (too rough) and flower arranging (not quite us!) we plumped to have a go at fencing. The course was run by the coach from the Leamington Spa Fencing Club, and after 10 week's instruction at Southam we joined the Club, which meets on Thursdays in Cubbington.

The 3 weapons that are used are the light-weight foil (used by men and women), the épée (used only by men as it is a heavy weapon), and the sabre (used mostly by men but increasingly also by women.) The first two are 'point' weapons (i.e. you score only by hitting your opponent with the point of the weapon). The targets for these weapons are

the trunk of the body only for the foil, and the whole of the body for the épée. Sabre is mostly a cutting weapon, and as it has developed from the cavalry sabre, its target is anything above the waist.

Fencing sometimes keeps me busy at weekends, at Open Tournaments (one of the most important International matches is held every Easter in Leamington), day schools, etc.

The Club has a jolly atmosphere, and runs beginners' courses periodically. Anyone who would like to know more, or to 'have a go', please contact me on Harbury 612790, when I will be delighted to help you. PETER HOLT.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Severn-Trent Water Authority wish to know of any property not connected to a main sewer. A form is available from the Parish Council, and should be returned to the Water Authority by 31st Oct. The information will be used in the event of a rate rebate becoming available for such properties. The District Council plans of proposed development in the Southam area can be seen each Thursday between 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. at the Southam Sub-Office.

The County Council have agreed to pay 50% towards the cost of replacing damaged trees in the Parish that were planted during the last 12 months. Due to the shortage of land for use as allotments it may be possible for plots to be split up, and details will be available soon.

Stockton Tip is available for the disposal of refuse by villagers during working days and Saturday morning.

"KALEIDOSCOPE"

This is to be a new regular feature of your magazine. The column will be called 'Kaleidoscope' and, as the name suggests, it will cover a variety of topics, all of interest to people living in Harbury.

This month I'm beginning with an appeal! Drs. Wilne and Hancock would appreciate it if you would give any old medicine and tablet bottles to the surgery, as the present glass shortage is making life rather difficult for them.....I am delighted to see that Rev. Mackley has had such a successful outcome

from his recent eye operation, and am glad to see him back in the village again.....Some of you will know that Harbury recently won a Certificate of Merit for the Best Kept Large Village for the Southam area of Stratford district. David Winter, on behalf of the Parish Council, collected the Certificate from the Warks. Rural Community Council. The fact that there is actually rather little competition should in no way diminish our pride in our beautiful village..... The General Election is just a few days away now, and if you've been watching the Shoulder to Shoulder series on TV, about the struggle of the Suffragettes, I'm sure you'll agree with me that whatever you vote, it's worth a vote!..... I'll be back next month with more local snippets, and if you have any information I might use, please contact any of the people concerned with the magazine, whose names you'll find in these pages.

By the way, the quarterly draw of Tennis Bonds was won by Mr. R. Harris of Dovehouse Lane. VICTORIA MACGOWAN.

A DESPERATE PLEA

As many of the mums whose children attend Miss Anderson's School of Ballet at the Village Hall know, it is proposed to close the Harbury Branch of this on Monday 7th October. This is due, we are told, to the fact that the Southam School has grown in numbers and also to rising costs(part of which is the fee for the village hall which has recently been put up.) We have been given the option of taking our children to Southam but both classes are at rather inconvenient times, and also many of the mums are without transport at such times.

Our children are heartbroken, at having started ballet and enjoying it, this must now stop and how do you explain to a 5-year old the reason why? Surely in this village, so full of talent of every kind, there must be some person who can teach ballet? She does not need to be a qualified teacher, just someone who knows the basics, as the age group is only 3-10. The time it will take up is just 2 hours one afternoon a week (at present Mondays.) We are willing to pay well and give every help necessary. Anyone remotely interested please contact Mrs. Parr at 612658.

SONGS FROM THE SHOWS

An audience of over 100 enjoyed a very varied programme of music by the Leamington & Warwick Operatic Society's Cabarettes, in the school on Saturday 28th Sept. Over £20 was raised for the swimming pool fund.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Sir,

May I endeavour to correct any impression that readers may have gained from the letter of Mrs Hancock to the effect that comprehensive education is generally desired by the citizens of Harbury. Children in Mid-Warwickshire have had excellent, if not unique, opportunities for education during the past 20 years or so. The Warwick Public Schools, half of whose annual intake is nominated by the Education Committee, need no recommendation from me. Our Grammar Schools are considered as good as any in the country; whilst the High Schools reflect credit on those who inspired their inception after the war.

Parents in Harbury, I am sure, would like to see all monies available for secondary education to be used in the improvement of the present systems and not squandered on expensive changes inspired by political dogma.

Let us not fall to the low standards of other areas where comprehensive education is being practised; for example the Liverpool area where comprehensive teachers are reported as saying "We have ended up comprehensively educating no-one".

Yours faithfully,

J. A. CHAPPLE.

(Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors)

Accompanist Required for the Harbury Singers. Must be competent pianist. Phone Michael Barnes, 612545 for details.

Holding a meeting? Having a children's party? The Wight School Room is available at modest rates. For details and bookings contact Mrs. Joyce Windsor, Harbury 612504.

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