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A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

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MAGAZINE ADDRESS 23 MILL STREET HARBURY TEL: 612427

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HARBURY — VICAR. Rev. F.R. MACKLEY

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Now that the Bonfire Party is over, Autumn is really upon us, and thoughts start to turn towards Christmas. Details of Christmas activities will of course appear in next month's issue, but we would like to mention a few points:

First, we would like children under 12 yrs. to write us a Christmas story, for publication in the December/January issue. The story should be original, related to the meaning of Christmas, and up to 250 words. Entries to 23 Mill Street by 25th Nov. clearly marked with name, age and address please. A prize for the best story, and one for the under 8's if there are enough entries. In a similar vein, but not a competition, we wonder if some of the older residents of Harbury could write us something on Christmas in Harbury years ago? Again we would be pleased to receive articles by 25th Nov. Lastly, we would draw your attention to this month's Kaleidoscope, which sets out the idea of a VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE - a good idea, but one which is only worth while if the village is in favour. So please let us know if you want to see a village tree - it'll be too late on Christmas Eve to wish you'd said 'Yes please'.

HARBURY DIARY

NOVEMBER 1975

- Sun. 9th Remembrance Sunday, 10 a. m. Special Service in Church, & 11 a. m. 2 mins. Silence at the Memorial.
- Tues. 11th Harbury Friends. Jacqueline the Florist - Floral & Christmas Decorations. School, 8 p. m.
- Wed. 12th P. C. C. Wight School, 8 p. m.
Sale of clothing from well-known chain store, School at 8 p. m. Proceeds to Pool Fund.
- Thurs. 13th Golden Age, Village Hall, 2.30 p. m.
- Fri. 14th Football Club Dance, Village Hall.
- Sat. 15th Guides Jumble Sale, Village Hall, 10.30 a. m.
- Tues. 18th Tufty Club, Village Hall, 2.15 p. m.
- Wed. 19th PTA - 'Children's Books' - discussion led by Mr. D. Eccles, County Schools' Librarian & a representative from the Chip Club.

Fri. 21st Liberals' Annual Dinner.

Theatre Group Meeting, Dog Inn, 8 p. m.

Tues. 25th Young Wives 'Swopping Hints', V. Hall, 2.30 p. m.
Sen. Cit. Ben. Assoc., V. Hall, 8 p. m.

Thurs. 27th Golden Age, V. Hall, 2.30 p. m.

Theatre Group present 'East Lynne', V. Hall, 8pm.

Fri. 28th Theatre Group - 'East Lynne'

Sat. 29th Theatre Group - 'East Lynne'

Sun. 30th Footpath Assoc. ramble from V. Hall, 2.30 p. m.

DECEMBER 1975

Thurs. 4th Men's Society Meeting, Lullington Lodge, Dovehouse Lane, 7.45 p. m.

W.I. Christmas Party, V. Hall 7.45 p. m. when Mrs. Zonik will speak.

Fri. 5th Harbury Theatre Group, Dog Inn, 8 p. m.

Sat. 6th Christmas Fair, Village Hall. (see page 12)

Sun. 7th Short Family Service in Church, 11.15 a. m.

Tues. 9th Golden Age, V. Hall, 2.30 p. m.

Harbury Friends, School, 8 p. m.

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

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

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

BABY CLINIC, V. Hall, 2 p. m. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

HARBURY SINGERS, 8 Penelope Close, 8 p. m. Tuesdays.

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

DATES FOR INCLUSION TO MRS. S. BENNETT, 612618.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

We have had a wonderful Harvest Thanksgiving Weekend. The Church was beautifully decorated. The Saturday evening Harvest Sung Eucharist was well supported, and the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall afterwards was greatly enjoyed not only on account of the delicious meal that was served but also because of the witty speech by the Archdeacon of Warwick, and the entertaining readings kindly given by members of the Theatre Group. There were large numbers in Church again at 8 a. m. and 10 a. m. on the Sunday, indeed the 10 a. m. congregation seems to have been a record one. On the Monday the produce (which included the gifts from the School) was taken to the C. of E. Children's Society Home in Leamington.

Classes in preparation for Confirmation are about to begin. Youngsters - and any older people - who would like to consider it are invited to see me as soon as possible.

Mr. Hauley has presented the Church with a new flag pole and also a new St. George's flag. We are extremely grateful to him for this generous gift.

I conclude with a quotation (reported to have been a Scottish preacher's prayer): "Lord, make us not like porridge, thick and stodgy, but like cornflakes, crisp and ready to serve."

With every blessing,

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

F. R. Mackley.

HOLY BAPTISM

October 5th - Dawn Louise Chambers(16 Manor Orchard)

October 19th - Thomas Charles Wilkins(3 Neales Close)

MARRIAGE

October 18th - Raymond Thomas Hatfield to Joan Dorothea Keyte.

FUNERAL SERVICE

October 28th - Levi George Gurden, aged 82 years(7 Church Terrace) at Oakley Wood.

From the Churchwardens

All too often our Patronal Festival, All Saints' Day, is not as widely noted or celebrated as it deserves. This year it fell on a Saturday, the day on which the Bonfire Party was held, and the Sunday saw the holding of our autumn fellowship Communion and breakfast - a wonderful focus for our thanksgiving on this very special weekend.

The 9 a. m. Family Communion drew a good number to share in the Service. The singing was much enjoyed, particularly perhaps the familiar 'For all the saints'. A passage from Revelation 7 was read by Anne Moore, and the intercessions were led by Frank Bunting. The bread and wine were taken up by Linda and Steven Anderson whom we have recently welcomed to the congregation from Texas.

The service was followed by breakfast in the Village Hall - a wonderful opportunity for meeting one another socially and informally in fellowship. Mrs. Enefer performed her usual miracle of several dozen eggs, all perfectly cooked, and several of the housewives present were observed asking her

advice afterwards on how she does it! (Perhaps Harbury News should interview her and reveal the secret.) She was assisted in the preparation of the breakfast by Liz Clarke.

P. T. A.

The annual Supper Dance on 10th Oct. was again a great success and raised about £110. The Likely Lads proved to be a very popular group, and no doubt we shall be seeing more of them.

At the A.G.M. on 15th Oct. Mr. G. Wright outlined the PTA's activities over the past year and thanked the retiring Committee for its support. He then handed over to Mr. Oliver, the new Chairman. Both Mr. Ingram, on behalf of the retiring Committee, and Mr. Oliver as Chairman expressed the PTA's gratitude to Mr. Wright for the enormous amount of time and effort he had given to the Association. Mr. Wright was a member of the first PTA Committee, and has been Chairman for the last three years.

The new Committee was then elected: Mr. C. Oliver (Chairman); Mrs. A. Megeney (Secretary); Mrs. W. Walters (Assistant Secretary); Mr. M. Cartwright (Treasurer); and the following members - Mr. N. Baker, Mr. R. Baldwin, Mrs. J. Bulmer, Mr. B. Cooke, Mr. G. Healey, Mr. C. Ingram, Mrs. S. Keir, Mr. W. D. Richards, Mrs. C. Upton and Mr. A. Walters.

The evening was brought to an entertaining conclusion with a talk by Mr. Lord on 'The Solicitor in Society'.

The first task of the new Committee will be to plan the PTA programme for 1976. In order that this may be as varied and interesting as possible, your ideas would be most welcome, particularly on the choice of topics for discussion at our monthly meetings. On 19th Nov. Mr. D. Eccles, Schools Librarian, will talk about 'Books for Children'. This will take place in the School hall at 8 p.m.

Please note: the Christmas Carol Party scheduled to take place in the School on 13th December will now not take place on this date. Details of the new date will be published as soon as possible.

ANNE MEGENEY.

HARBURY PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup held its AGM recently, at which the Committee was pleased to see 15 mums. We warmly welcome two new members to the Committee, Mrs. Crossan and Mrs. Neill.

Following the formal business, we held a sale of nearly-new children's toys and clothes. This was very successful, and raised about £16 for playgroup funds.

Mrs. Appleton has left the playgroup staff as she is expecting a baby in the new year. We shall not be losing her valuable services altogether, though, for she has become Chairwoman of our committee, and her place at playgroup will be taken by Ann Blunt.

Wendy Riman and Ann Blunt attended two very interesting Pre-School Playgroups Assoc. meetings recently. On 7th October we heard a very interesting talk at Southam Infants School by Mrs. Taylor, speech therapist for the Rugby area. She had several valuable suggestions about how we could help speech development in the playgroup environment. On 18th October we went to Stratford on Avon to a day conference entitled "The Ever Widening Circle". The two speakers were Sir Kenneth Jameson, who gave an amusing well-illustrated talk on 'Blobs and Scribbles', and Mrs. Hazel Wigmore, whose topic was 'Child Minding'.

CRUSADERS

It was 6 years ago that Harbury Crusader class first met. On Sunday, 12th October, members, parents and friends met in the Village Hall to celebrate the birthday. The singing was accompanied by piano and guitars, and was led by the Crusader Choir under the leadership of Martin Ryan, who also played one of the guitars. The lesson was read by Peter Holt, father of a Mini-Cru.

In a touching and impressive ceremony, a birthday cake in the shape of a figure 6 was carried up by Liz Clarke, a former class helper, who had made and decorated it. She was escorted by one representative of each group, carrying a lit taper. While the six candles were lit, a Harbury Crusader version of 'Now we are Six' was read.

The first six years were portrayed by the drama group who mimed to a blank verse poem. Many amusing events in the life of the class were shown.

The speaker was Miss Liz Cayzer, leader of Barford class, who taught a lively action song before her thought-provoking talk illustrated by cut out candles, each of which she 'lit' in turn. Tea was served afterwards, and everyone had a taste of the birthday cake.

1st HARBURY SCOUT GROUP

We desperately need more male, adult helpers for the Scout troop.

Anyone interested in canoeing, hiking, camping and other outdoor activities, please call at the Scout Hut (behind the Wight School) any Friday evening, or contact Mr. Small, 3 Wagstaffe Close, Harbury 612843, or Mr. Taylor, 9 Heber Drive.

CUB SCOUTS

Harbury Cubs entered a 12 boy team in the mid-Warks. District Cub Scouts Swimming Gala on 25th October in Leamington. In the under 11 years width, William Suttie came joint 1st in the heat and joint 3rd in the final. In the under 11 years length, Adrian Laphorne came 2nd in his heat. The pack relay for under 10 years was entered by Mark Taylor, Simon Roberts and Andrew Holt, and they came 3rd in their heat.

Out of 32 packs, Harbury was one of the few to enter the leaders' races. Over 400 cubs took part in the Gala, and the overall result for Harbury pack will be known soon.

UNDER 12 FOOTBALL

Many of you may not be aware that the village has entered a side for under 12's in the mid-Warks. Sunday League. To see these lads perform with such vigour is most enjoyable, indeed bordering on the funny to fantastic at times as well!

All the boys are drawn from the village, and most of them played in the successful Junior School team last season. However, they had a rude awakening at the start of their venture into open football by getting soundly beaten 7-0 and 7-1 in their two opening friendly games, and their parents, and no doubt the boys themselves, began to wonder what we had let ourselves in for. Suffice it to say that a few weeks and training sessions later, under Brian Wallington's guidance,

these same boys miraculously changed into a team who at last had a great deal of determination to win. So far the results have been very encouraging, and with one more win against St. Peter's Celtic (who incidentally have only been beaten once - by Harbury 1-0) they will be in the semi-final of the under-12 League Cup. Come and give the lads some encouragement, or, if you have a boy under 12 at 1st August 1975, we still have 3 vacancies. Also, if any younger boys want to find out what it's all about for next year or the season after, come along to our practice sessions, Tuesdays at 6.30 on the Playing Fields.

Anyone interested should contact either Terry Bell (612565) or Rex Humphreys (612885).

TERRY BELL.

RUGBY CLUB

The Club has got off to an enthusiastic, if not wholly successful, start to the season. Having struggled to raise a third team last season, the club is embarrassed at having to operate a rota system to give everyone a game this year!

Results so far this season are:

1st XV - Played 7, won 3, lost 4.

2nd XV - Played 7, won 2, lost 4, drawn 1.

3rd XV - Played 7, won 5, lost 2.

N.B. The Rugby Club Christmas Dance will be held in the Village Hall on 20th December.

CRICKET '75

Once again our short season has passed, and I would like to summarise the events. From a results point of view, this was our worst record since 1971, being beaten in 5 games and drawing another 4 out of 19 games. Still, our standard of competition is going up gradually and I think this year's results reflected this point. The performance of the season is no doubt that of Brian Wallington, who bowled his heart out and got just rewards with a total season average of 68 wickets for 9.7 runs each off 268 overs. In the batting stakes, newcomer Bill (Flash) Washington is top of the pops with 344 runs at an average/game of 25.4, closely followed by Rod Grinnell and Kev Ford. I would like to thank the ladies in the shape of Mesdames Wallington, Humphreys, Bell, Grinnell, Smith and Keyte for the superb teas and service they gave through

this year, and the years previously. You have done us proud girls, and made the games that much better!

It is hoped that we can arrange a Dinner Dance or something similar early in the new year, and we would hope that all those people who have supported us at the Eathorpe will do so again. We are desperately trying to cut costs, and we hope that eventually we can lay on something which is of good value. Please keep a look out in the Harbury News. TERRY BELL.

FIELD FOOTPATH no. 3

Field Path SM24 is, for the enthusiastic walker, one of our most interesting rights of way. It is not used as much as it should be because it is a direct route to Southam and has not a convenient return loop to the village. Another disadvantage for the genteel is that it has been very roughly quarried over the part of its length I have designated 'the wilderness', but for the naturalist this zone is always extremely interesting.

This walk is something of an expedition, but having decided how you are going to return home, you set out over the railway tunnel on the Ufton road, and immediately turn right into Mr. Bloxham's little farmyard. (There should be a post if the vandals haven't uprooted it!) There's an iron gate on your left which leads into a little paddock, and the path follows the west side of the hedge through this.

Climb the gate in the corner and follow the east side of the continuing hedge until a tiny stile is discovered in the corner by the pond. Once over this you are in the large restored quarry field, and the path roughly follows the hedge on the right until it peters out. Bear right across the pasture, right up to the farmstead boundary and follow this round until you reach the fence by the sheep pen. Cross the hedge line at this point and bear right down to the wire fence which borders the 'wilderness'.

Once inside this old open-cast quarry, the walker has to pick his way across a variety of obstacles. One reasonable route has been sketched on to the map, and is easily followed if you take the crest of the highest ridge in front of you. It ends in a deep gully, surrounded by bushes, which brings you out by the old brick buildings. From here, follow one of the stoney tracks between the pools, and aim for the open bushy area

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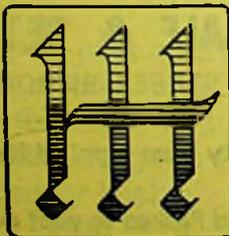
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with
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Sheep pen

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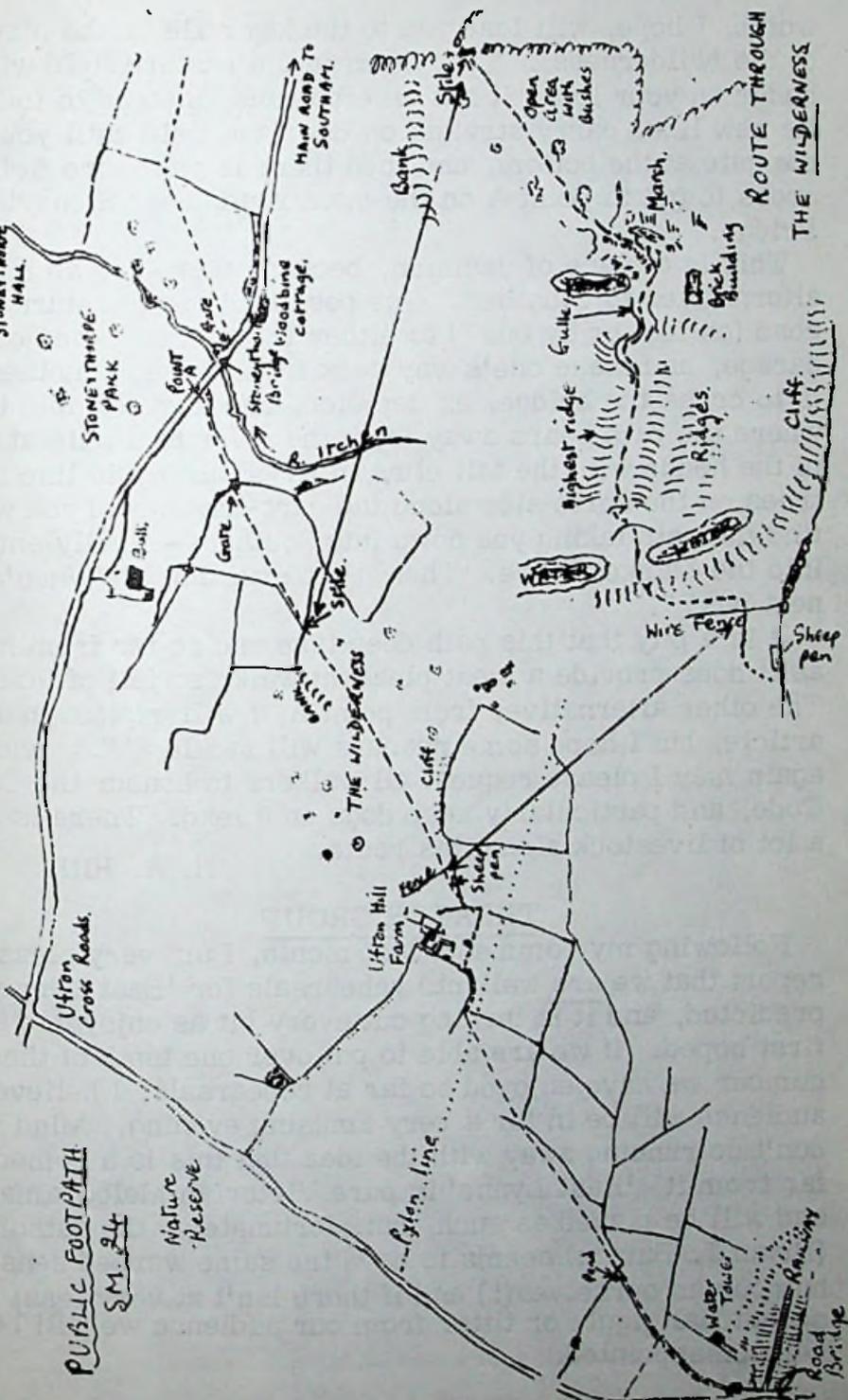
Railway

Road Bridge

PUBLIC FOOTPATH

S.M. 24

Nature Reserve



which, I hope, will lead you to the key stile on the other side of the 'wilderness'. This leads into a pasture field with a hedge on your left. It has an elbow and, instead of following its new line, carry straight on down the field until you reach the gate at the bottom, and then there is one more field to cross to get to point A on the main road, near Stoneythorpe Bridge.

This is a place of decision, because there are so many alternatives to consider. One possibility is to return by road (on foot or by bus?) to either Ufton crossroads or Ufton garage, and make one's way back from there. Another course is to cross the bridge, as depicted, and turn left into the park where the path bears away from the river to a stile at the end of the hedge with the tall elms in it. Follow this line of trees on the north side along the cart-track, and you will find the path taking you down into Southam - finally emerging into the Market Place. Then it's a question of "When's the next bus?".

It is a pity that this path does take one so far from home, as it does provide a most pleasant walk, so full of interest. The other alternatives from point A, I will explain in another article, but I hope some readers will tackle SM24, and once again may I please request all walkers to honour the Country Code, and particularly keep dogs on a lead. There is often a lot of livestock along this route.

H. A. Hill.

THEATRE GROUP

Following my comments last month, I am very pleased to report that we are well into rehearsals for 'East Lynne' as predicted, and it is turning out every bit as enjoyable as we first hoped. If we are able to put over one tenth of the humour we have enjoyed so far at rehearsals, I believe the audience will be in for a very amusing evening. Mind you, don't go running away with the idea that this is a comedy - far from it, 'East Lynne' is pure Victorian Melodrama, and will be played as such, but, fortunately, the author (Brian J. Burton) seems to have the same warped sense of humour as ourselves(!) and if there isn't at very least an occasional giggle or titter from our audience we will be very disappointed.

Rehearsals at times are more like Farce than Melodrama, and we have all been doubled up with laughter. But Peter Shawcross is at the helm (it has been said that he can be heard bellowing at us from as far away as Mill Street) and slowly but surely order is showing through the chaos. Take my word for it, by the time it goes on (27th, 28th and 29th November), this should be an extremely good play.

KEITH HAYES.

GOLDEN AGE

Our Sale of Work was very successful. We had a good array of articles, some made by the members of our Club. The cakes and confectionery made by Mr. Daniel were gorgeous.

Altogether, it made a very good show. E. SHEASBY (Sec.)

W. I.

A total of 84 members, husbands and friends attended our Harvest Supper on 18th September. To give the committee a well-earned rest a local caterer was hired to take care of the food and wine. The meal consisted of cold beef and ham salad, sherry trifle and fruit salad and cream. This was greatly enjoyed by everyone.

The meal was followed by a cabaret under the expert guidance of Beryl Checkley. This included 'Morris Dancing', a hilariously funny sketch on making Elderberry Wine by Country Folk, and singing by Ann French. To round off, Beryl herself read some of the extremely amusing letters by the famous Gerrard Hoffnung.

The raffle for a bottle of whisky was won by Diane Healey, and the teddy bear was won by Mrs. Morgan. The evening ended with dancing to music kindly supplied by Tony Thomas.

MONICA DAVIES

HARBURY N.S. P. C. C. AND LEAGUE OF PITY

On 4th October we held our Fair at the Village Hall, at which we sold £63.24 worth of Christmas cards, and our profit after expenses on all the other stalls etc. was in excess of £83. The raffle results were: 1st Frank Bunting, 2nd. Mrs. Enefer, and 3rd Mrs. Ross, and in the children's Fancy Dress Competition Rachel Blunt came 1st as 'Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary', with Hayley Green 2nd as 'Puss in

Boots', and Sarah Bunting 3rd as a clown. There were 15 entries, and the judges told the children that it had been very difficult to choose the winners. I would like to thank all the people who put so much work into planning and running their stalls - both League of Pity members and many of their parents - and everyone who came along and supported us.

Our annual house-to-house collection was also held recently, and raised £63.65½, which is considerably more than in 1974, and proves that in a time of recession people's priorities do not change, and Harbury has been even more generous than in happier economic days. Again, I am most grateful to the collectors who worked harder than ever for us, and to everyone who donated. No doubt you have read about our financial problems and the contribution from Harbury will be most welcome; we are not 'going bankrupt' and as long as there are children in need of help and protection the NSPOC will provide it; it is simply a question of inflation forcing the need for more and more money to cover the same ground, and we need extra funds to expand our research facilities and to open more 24 hour crisis centres like the new one in Coventry.

VICTORIA MACGOWAN,
Hon. Secretary.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Christmas Fair this year is on Saturday, 6th December in the Village Hall from 2.30 p.m.

Father Christmas will again be coming, and will be driven around the village between 1.30 and 2.30, when he will arrive at the Village Hall. Children can then visit him in his grotto. There will be many stalls, i.e. toys, white elephant, cakes, Christmas tree and table decorations, handicrafts and gifts, etc., and the sideshows will include Tombola and Wheel of Fortune.

A collection of all your old odds and ends and bric-a-brac (not clothes) for the white elephant stall will be made throughout the village during the week beginning 1st December.

A grand prize draw will take place at the Fair, the first prize being a local fresh turkey. Tickets are on sale now from any member of the Recreation Ground Committee.

All proceeds go towards the Recreation Ground Development Fund.

PETER HOLT. 612790.

BRITISH LEGION

The Harbury Branch of the British Legion was started on 7th January 1921, by Col. Kitchen of Harbury Heath. Subs were 1/- a quarter, plus 1/- for membership card and badge! The first secretary was Mr. F. D. Fawley, and membership leapt from 40 to 100 within two years. It took 15 years before the Harbury Branch had saved enough money to buy a Standard, and in 1934, resplendent in white goat-skin gloves, Mr. F. Walton became the first Standard bearer.

Mr. Walton, a founder member of the Harbury Branch, was discharged from the Royal Navy in 1917 owing to ill health. A certificate hanging on the wall of his flat tells of the esteem in which he is held by the Legion, and thanks him for his 26 years' service as Standard bearer to the Branch. His duties included taking the Standard to all the district rallies, and 3 times to the Albert Hall for the annual Remembrance Service. In Coronation Year, on 5th July 1953, he represented Harbury when Legionnaires of every branch of the British Legion went to London to be reviewed by the Queen.

The Legion was very active in the village, and members organised whist drives and dances. The band of the Royal Artillery played at one dance held in the Wight School, and a crowd so large gathered that it was impossible to dance, so everybody just stood and listened to the music.

Prior to 1939, the Legion held a fete every year on Sutcliffe Pastures, and Mr. Tudor from Harbury Fields organised a flower show. The proceeds from the various activities were sent to St. Dunstan's and the Benevolent Fund.

Membership has now dropped, but at one time the front half of the Church was always reserved for, and packed with, members of the British Legion on Remembrance Sunday.

This year, the Service of Remembrance will be held on 9th November, followed as usual by the two minutes' silence and prayers at the War Memorial at 11 o'clock.

Two Harbury members will be going up to London to take part in the Service at the Albert Hall on 8th November, and the Branch is holding a whist drive in the Village Hall on 23rd December, proceeds from which still go to the Benevolent Fund.

Only four of the original Harbury members remain, Mr. Walton, Mr. Crump, Mr. Boneham and Mr. Spencer, and I know that at least one of them would like to see the Legion as active in the village as it used to be, and any Legionnaires who have a few minutes to spare would get a very warm welcome and a very interesting chat from Mr. Walton, or contact Mr. Rabey, 8 The Beeches, 612354. G. HUTCHINS.

MIDLAND COMBINED CHARITIES CHRISTMAS CARD SHOP

The cards of 19 charities concerned with the relief of human suffering are on sale daily at Parkside Garage, at the junction of Rugby Road and Old Milverton Road, Leamington. The shop is open from 10 to 5.30, Monday to Friday, and from 10 to 5 on Saturdays. There is ample parking space at the garage, which makes the purchase of Christmas cards, tags, wrap and sundries so easy. Several people from Harbury are involved in helping with the shop, and they look forward to seeing many of you there.

P. C. C. HALLOWE'EN HOTCHPOTCH

The grand sum of £55 was raised towards buying a rice-thresher for José in the Philippines at this momentous gathering on 25th October. The hustle and bustle of happy bargain hunters was accompanied by the sound of splashing water from the apple bobbing competition, where champion-bobber Peter Catt managed to secure about a pound and a half of apples!! (It is hoped with no ill effects.....)

A magnificent array of cakes and home produce raised over £18, and we would like to thank all of you who made such scrumptious goodies, and who so generously gave tins to the tombola. (Thank you too to the village shops who displayed a collecting box for tins.) If you had time for a cup of coffee, you will have been be-dazzled by a remarkable display of witches (be-broomsticked and otherwise) in the children's Hallowe'en Painting Competition, which was expertly judged by Mr. Bamford and Mrs. Shawcross. The winners were: 3 to 5 years - Lisa Stringer, Maxine Taylor, Kathryn Percival and Robert Woodward; 7 to 9 years - Bruce Carter, Sally Moore, Stephen Luke and Paula Kelly; 10 to 11 years, Susannah Gascoigne, Sara Guy and Helen Bitterli.

Nigel Southam came 1st in the candle lighting contest, with an excellent score of 25 with one match, hotly pursued by Anne Windsor who lit 24. Andrew Holt won the marbles competition with a score of 32 in the flower pot in one minute, and Julie Alcock carried off the prize in the button pairing with a record of 45 seconds. Congratulations to them all!!

SARA BENNETT

200 CLUB WINNERS

SEPTEMBER

£20, Mr. Taylor, Bishop's Itchington
£10, Mr. & Mrs. Parker, Penelope Close
£10, Mrs. Shawcross, Constance Drive.

OCTOBER

£20 Ray Johnson, Cottage Close, Chesterton
£10 Mrs. Macauley, Bishop's Itchington
£10 Mrs. E. Bunting, Dovehouse Lane.

BONFIRE PARTY

The annual Bonfire Party organised by the Parochial Church Council, with much-appreciated help from many others, was again a great success. Over 800 people saw a 30ft. bonfire light up the sky. The material for the fire was collected by two tractors and trailers kindly loaned by Ralph Gurden and Iory Davies. The grand firework display was only possible after a special delivery of a replacement order, the first parcel of fireworks having gone mysteriously astray on its way here from Scotland. The replacements arrived on Wednesday - a bit too close for comfort!! Our grateful thanks go to all those who collected the bonfire material, built the fire, organised the fireworks, manned the gates and provided and served such good 'eats' afterwards.

GOOD NEWS FOR BAD EYES!

Mr. Champion, our librarian, has pointed out a superb service available to readers with poor eyesight. Large print books have been available for some time, but their bulky size has in the past proved difficult to handle. However, a wide selection of normal-sized books but with large print is now available at Harbury library, and of course you can always order a title if it is not in stock. There's a very wide range of subjects in these books - so do pop along to the library and see the selection for yourself.

KALEIDOSCOPE

A new custom in the village is an idea we welcome, and it has been suggested that we erect a Christmas Tree somewhere in the village centre, as they do in many large towns, to be a communal project and enjoyed by us all. Mr. & Mrs. Bloxam have most generously offered to donate the tree, and if the idea is accepted and we get a good response, Kaleidoscope will set about finding the best location for the tree and a date for the 'switching on' ceremony! It might be nice also if some carol singing were organised around the tree for anyone to join in or just come along to listen; perhaps too, some of the children could make good tough decorations to be firmly tied on (maybe the School, Playgroup and Nursery School have some ideas on how the children might be involved?). Here is an opportunity for us to begin a new custom, but it can't work without your support; village clubs and organisations could ensure it (as could any generous individuals!) by supplying lights or money for them, but, most important of all, we couldn't go ahead unless we knew that you liked the idea. So, (whether or not you are able to help with buying the lights) please do let us know what you think - we can't just assume support or disapproval this time because the whole point is that it be a village thing - we need to know how you feel about it. Please address your inquiries, suggestions, letters or 'phone calls to the magazine address on the inside front cover, or to me at 17 Manor Orchard, 612938. And if we are to go ahead, there's no time to be lost!

VICTORIA MACGOWAN.

WANTED: Wellington Boots, size 3 or 4. Large wooden playpen for sale. Tel: 612790.

Necklaces made to order from 20p upwards. Ideal Christmas presents. Any design of your choice made. Antique glass beads used. Mrs. V. Macgowan, 17 Manor Orchard, Harbury 612938.

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