

# HARBURY NEWS

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# HARBURY NEWS

**THE HARBURY NEWS** reflecting all aspects of Local Life is published monthly, and produced with assistance from the Parochial Church Council of **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH** – Vicar: The Rev'd. F.R. MACKLEY. B.A.  
Telephone: Harbury 612377.

**SUNDAY SERVICES:** Holy Communion : 8.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m. (Sung)  
Evensong : 6.30 p.m. (4.00 p.m. in Winter)  
Family Service : 11.15 a.m. – First Sunday

See Church Notice Board for details of other services.

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'**THE HARBURY DIRECTORY**' containing details of Village Organisations and essential information is freely available on request from Mrs. D. Holt, 15, Wagstaffe Close, Harbury.

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Thank you for your continued support! Graham Faulkner, our distribution chief, tells us that his distribution team has collected subscriptions from an even greater number of homes than last year. Harbury News will now be received by well over 80% of the homes in the Harbury Parish.

Whilst on the topic, we would like to draw your attention to the good job that all our distributors do in getting Harbury News promptly into your homes each month - which is essential if the magazine is to be meaningful.

As this issue is delivered it will be Bonfire time. We hope that the weather holds good for 6th November, and that the usual 800 or so spectators enjoy the display and food organised by the Parochial Church Council.

Once Bonfire Night has come, our thoughts turn to the winter season - watch Harbury News for coming events (and for events further ahead than the magazine diary, check the Advance Diary with Linda Ridgley - are your organisation's future events in there?)

### HARBURY DIARY

#### NOVEMBER 1976

- Sat. 6th Cubs and Scouts Christmas Bazaar  
 PCC Bonfire Party, Recreation Ground, 6 p.m.  
 Purple Porridge at the Village Club
- Sun. 7th Patronal Festival Services in Church; admission  
 of choristers
- Mon. 8th PTA 'Taylor-Maid' Jewellery sale, 6 Park Lane,  
 12.30 - 3.30 and 7.30p.m. onwards
- Tues 9th Harbury Friends, School, 8 p.m.  
 Senior Citizens Committee, V. Hall, 8p.m.
- Wed. 10th V. Hall Committee, V. Hall, 8p.m.  
 PCC meeting, Wight School, 8p.m.
- Thurs. 11th Golden Age Club, V Hall, 2.30p.m.
- Fri. 12th Netball Disco, V. Hall, tickets 70p.
- Sat. 13th Dancing to Penumbra at Village Club
- Sun. 14th REMEMBRANCE DAY. 10a.m. service with British  
 Legion. Sung Eucharist, 4p.m.
- Tues. 16th Tufty Club, V. Hall, 2.30p.m.

- Wed. 17th PTA, talk on Fostercare, School, 8 p. m.  
 Fri. 19th Playgroup Jumble Sale, 6 30p. m. V. Hall.  
 Liberal Association Branch Dinner, Barford.  
 Conservative Cheese & Wine, Harbury House,  
 8 p. m.  
 Sat. 20th Dancing to Trigger at the Village Club.  
 Liberal Association Coffee Morning and Bring &  
 Buy, 'High Point', The Beeches, 10.30a. m.  
 Tues. 23rd Young Wives, V. Hall, 2 p. m.  
 Thurs. 25th Golden Age Club, V. Hall, 2.30p. m.  
 Sat. 27th Netball Jumble Sale, V. Hall  
 Ladbroke Autumn Fair  
 Dancing to Sow Cow at Club  
 Sun. 28th Parish Breakfast, V. Hall, following 9a. m. service  
 Mon. 29th Harbury Society, talk by Dr. Lamb on 'The  
 Archaeology of Warks. Churches'  
 Tues. 30th Senior Citizens Committee, 8p. m., V Hall.

#### DECEMBER 1976

- Thurs. 2nd W. I. Christmas Party, 7.45p. m., V. Hall.  
 Fri. 3rd SCHOOL OCCASIONAL DAY HOLIDAY  
 Leamington NSPCC Disco, V. Hall  
 Sat. 4th Dancing to Compass at the Club  
 Tues. 7th Lower Juniors' Christmas Production, School, 7pm  
 Senior Citizens Committee, 8 p. m., V. Hall  
 Thurs. 9th 'The Coming of the Kings' and 'Other Christmas  
 Things', Drama Group, in the Church  
 Parish Council meeting, 7.30  
 Golden Age Club, 2.30 p. m., V. Hall  
 Fri. 10th "The Coming of the Kings" as Thursday  
 Infants' Christmas Production  
 Blood Donors' session, V. Hall  
 Sat. 11th Christmas Fair, Village Hall  
 Dancing to Travelling Light at the Club  
 Sun. 12th Crusaders' Carol Service, 2.30, V. Hall  
 Tues. 14th Harbury Friends, 8p. m. School  
 Combined Mothers' Union and Young Wives Carol  
 Service, 2.15p. m. in Church  
 Wed. 15th Top Juniors' Production 'Lord of the Dance' 7pm.

Thurs. 16th Infants' Christmas Party  
Fri. 17th Juniors' Christmas Party. Playgroup finishes.  
Football Dance, Village Hall.  
Sat. 18th Senior Citizens' Party at the School.  
Sun. 19th Village Carol Service in Church, 2.30 p.m.

CHOIR PRACTICE, Church, 6.30p.m. Fridays

CRUSADERS, V. Hall, 2.30p.m. Sundays

BINGO, V. Hall, 8p.m. Mondays

YOUTH CLUB, V. Hall, 8p.m. Wednesdays

BABY CLINIC, V. Hall, 2p.m. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays (special appointments every 3rd Monday)

SCOUTS, Scout Hut, 7p.m. Fridays

THEATRE GROUP, Club, rehearsals Mondays & Thursdays

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. DATES FOR INCLUSION TO LINDA RIDGLEY, 7 Wagstaffe Cl. 612792.

### THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear friends,

The great event of the immediate future will, of course, be the Patronal Festival of our Parish - All Saints'-tide. It will begin with the First Evensong (and Procession) of the Feast at 4p.m. on Sunday 31st October. On All Saints' Day itself, and All Souls' Day (1st and 2nd November) there will be special services. The PCC Bonfire and Fireworks Party will be on Saturday, 6th November. On the Sunday in the Octave (7th November) there will be Holy Communion at 8a.m., Procession and Sung Eucharist at 10a.m., a short Family and Children's service at 11.15a.m., and Evensong and Procession at 4p.m., when the preacher will be the Rev. Canon A.G.R. Churchill. If any of us have become slack or negligent in our religious duties, let us make this Patronal Festival the occasion for a glorious return to them. The greatness of the Saints lies just in the singleness and simplicity with which they gave themselves to the highest and most splendid of all aims, to make God the centre of their being; and the struggle towards this God-centredness, freely willed, heroically maintained from day to day, is the history of their lives.

Any wishing to be confirmed, or wishing to consider confirmation, should please come to the Vicarage at 6.30p.m.

on Tuesday, 9th November, if possible, for the first class.  
If this is not possible, please see me at some other time.

With every blessing,

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

F. R. Mackley.

#### HOLY BAPTISM

October 3rd, James Richard Sturman, 16 Sutcliffe Drive  
October 24th, Victoria Louise Hayes, Hessele Cottage, South  
Parade.

#### CHRISTIAN BURIAL

October 23rd, Florence May Turner, aged 79 years, 10  
Frances Road.

#### FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Several members of the congregation were guests of the Cathedral congregation at an 'At Home' at which the Bishop welcomed representatives of many village Churches. The Provost spoke and there was a delightful programme of music.

Monday, 1st November, is All Saints' Day, and the Vicar's letter contains details of the celebrations for this, our Patronal Festival.

Ten o'clock on Sunday, 14th, is the time for the Remembrance Sunday Service (attended by members of the Royal British Legion), which will be followed by the reading of the names, the laying of wreaths, the Last Post and the Two Minutes' Silence at the War Memorial. The collection at this service will be for Earl Haig's Fund. At the 4 o'clock service on this day, a Communion Service will replace Evensong - please note that Evensong is usually now at its winter time of 4p. m.

The Ladbroke Autumn Fair will be held on Saturday, 27th November at Ladbroke School, and we do very much hope that many will attend from Harbury. We also look forward to welcoming some of our Ladbroke friends to the 9 o'clock Family Communion Service on Sunday, 28th November, and to breakfast afterwards. This is Advent Sunday, and we thought that the start of the new Church year would be a particularly suitable time for members of our congregation to share in fellowship with one another, and with friends from Ladbroke.

## HARBURY SCHOOL

We are pleased to welcome two new members of staff this term, Miss P. Nurser, who replaces Mrs. Turner, and is taking Class 2, and Mrs. B. Catherall, who comes on Monday afternoons and all day Wednesdays, to take Art and Craft and some science with some of the Junior classes.

The school held its Harvest Festival on Friday 1st October, to coincide with the Church Harvest Festival, and the children brought a large number of gifts to the school service which were later taken up to the Church. Our thanks once again to generous parents. We did receive a very pleasing letter of thanks from the matron of the children's home in Leamington to which the gifts were eventually sent. We would very much like to invite parents to our Harvest Festival services, but unfortunately there is just no room left in the hall once all the children are in.

Recently the top four classes were entertained to a singing recital by Miss Margaret Hallworth, who was accompanied by Miss Mary Hills. Both these ladies were on a short tour of the county, organised by the County Music Adviser, and we were fortunate to be included in their itinerary. Miss Hallworth took the children on a musical journey round the world, and the children participated to quite an extent. All the audience thoroughly enjoyed this visit.

It is a pity that we couldn't continue swimming this term, but we cannot really complain about the use which we have made of the pool this year. Class 10 and 9 are still going to Stratford pool every Monday afternoon.

The School has entered a team in the Southam and District Road Safety Committee's Primary Schools Road Safety Quiz, and there is a report by Caroline Kennedy of Class 9 on the first round of the Quiz, after this school report.

Preparations are now in hand for our Christmas productions. All of these will take place in school this year. We are also having our 'Carols Round the Village' evening, this year on Monday, 20th December. We are hoping this will develop into a community effort. We can supply the trebles, but we are hoping that we shall get lots of help from basses, tenors, sopranos and altos! The collection this year will be for Christian Aid.

N. C. OLIVER.

## THE ROAD SAFETY QUIZ

Recently five children came to our school for a road safety quiz. Four children took part. Their names were Miles, Susanna, Darren and Karen, and there was a reserve. In our team there was Sarah Ridgley, Clare Barnes, Tomas Barrett and Marcus Brent, and the reserves were Ann Wood and Malcolm Sedgeley. The visiting children came from Ufton School with some of the teachers and a policeman who asked the questions. Then the quiz began. The first round was about pedestrians, and Ufton School went first in that round; we won. The score was 5-7 I think. The next round was about cyclists, and we won that round too and I think the score was 17-12. The next round was about motorists and we won that round. The next round was about level crossings and we won that round as well. The final round was about road signs, and we won that round. So Harbury won the quiz, and will go to the next round.

Ufton gave our school 3 cheers, and we did the same for them. We thought everyone had done very well because the questions were hard.

CAROLINE KENNEDY.

### P. T. A.

The AGM was held in School on 20th October. In his report as Chairman, Mr. Oliver thanked everyone who had helped the PTA during the past year, and said that their tremendous effort had resulted in a sum of £1,800 being raised. The bank balance now stood at approx. £2,400, more than enough to cover the 1976 and 1977 payments to the Education Authority for the loan on the pool. He went on to reaffirm that the PTA was not just a fund-raising organisation but a body with a wide variety of aims and ideals, all of which were intended to bring about co-operation between staff, parents and the community as a whole for the benefit of the children. He also said that the PTA did not stand in splendid isolation, and would always continue to help other organisations in the village wherever possible. Mr. Oliver was pleased that we now have a membership of 106 families, which in a school of approx. 320 children was a good proportion, but he looked forward to the time when every parent would be a PTA member.

The following were elected to the Committee. Mr. Oliver

(Chairman); Mr. Healey(Treasurer); Mrs. Megeney(Secretary); Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Cooke, Mr. Ingram, Mrs. Wallington, Mr. Richards, Mrs. Buck, Mr. Buttress, Mr. Christopher, Mr. Neill, Mrs. Chick and Mrs. Upton.

Grateful thanks were recorded to the retiring committee members, namely Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Baker, both of whom have left the village, Mr. and Mrs. Walters, Mrs. Keir and Mrs. Bulmer.

Judging by the numbers of parents who attended our talk entitled 'Maths for Parents' it is obvious that this is a subject which arouses a good deal of interest. Mr. Wilde, the Maths Adviser, explained a child's first introduction to maths and demonstrated the use of some modern teaching aids. To help illustrate this talk Mr. Oliver and his staff had provided examples of the children's work throughout the school. During the coffee break parents had a go at solving some mathematical problems using the equipment on display. If parents would like further talks on this or other subjects next year, perhaps they would be kind enough to let me know.

On 17th November a member of the staff of the Stratford-on-Avon Social Services Dept. will be coming to talk about Foster Care. This will take place in the school at the usual time of 8 p.m.

A. MEGENEY

### CRUSADERS

The Rev. Tony Gardner spoke at the Harbury Crusaders seventh birthday service, and took 'Cats' Eyes' as his theme, which proved lively, informative and thought-provoking. The choir, recorder group and drama group all took part in a most enjoyable service, and tea and birthday cake were served afterwards.

Some of the leaders travelled to St. Albans for the opening and dedication of the new national H.Q. There were tours of the new offices and an inspiring service in the Abbey.

Music and drama groups are busy preparing for the next family carol service on Sunday, 12th December.

### UNDER CANVAS

Did anyone recently, driving down Treens Hill in the pouring rain, look up and think either they were mad or seeing things? In case they did, let me assure them that there were tents in

the field by the railway line, that they were occupied, and the muddy figures seen from time to time in the village were Scouts. Six of the senior boys were camping out to carry out camping practice, make rope ladders, bivouacing, and generally go through the Scout standard. They say they enjoyed themselves; they say they learned a lot of pitfalls. So did we - don't volunteer to load the car with gear and take it into a muddy field - it sinks in up to its gunnels and has to be towed out!

G. HUTCHINS

### CHOIR NOTES

I am very pleased to tell you that we now have 21 children in the Church Choir. Their ages range from seven to fourteen. The choir stalls are now filling up, and I have decided that it would be unfair to existing choristers if I accept any more members under the age of 9 for the time being. However, I have a waiting list and names will be placed on this on a strictly 'first come - first served' basis. I am still looking for more senior members, and if you are interested then please contact me either at Choir Practice on Friday at 6.30 p.m. or after any service.

It would also be very good if we could find some Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Basses to keep Tom Hauley company on the back row! There is much music to be made during the Christmas Season, and we shall soon be starting to rehearse this. Again, please contact me if you are interested. (Telephone, Harbury 612545).

Launa Rolf, Lee Butler, Andrew and Richard Young, and Robert Parker have all passed their Freshman's Test and were admitted to the Choir at Harvest Festival.

Finally, congratulations to Jane Goodfellow, a Deputy Team Leader, who has passed her audition to join the flute section of the Warwickshire Youth Orchestra. MICHAEL BARNES.

### "ALL IS SAFELY GATHERED IN...."

116 helpings of Hot Pot and veg., 116 slices of fruit pie, 116 portions of cheese and biscuits and coffee, superb musical entertainment, and 116 happy people - they were the basic ingredients of this year's Harvest Supper. Before the meal, John Goodfellow and friends entertained with a wide variety of music, and then Peter Catt and Peter Holt received

their prizes, for the Harbury News Photographic Competition.

After the excellent meal, Sir David Watherston spoke about the exciting challenge of the proposed joining of the parishes of Harbury and Ladbroke.

The evening ended with a collection of songs from the very profession Coventry-based group 'Cross of Nails'.

The organising Committee would like to say 'thank you' for all the help they received in very many ways. P. H.

### YOUNG WIVES

At our first meeting of the new season no less than 33 people turned up, which certainly underlines the importance of a meeting place for young wives and children. A similar number came for our October meeting, when one of our own members - Sue Hett - gave a talk on bulbs, both indoor and out, and how to plant them. Many thanks to Sue for an interesting and detailed account.

Trisha Harrison has now retired from the Chair after 3 years, but fortunately for us she will remain on the Committee - how could we do without her? She is one of the most friendly, charming and tactful people anyone could wish to meet, so from us all, Trisha, many thanks for all you have done for the Group - your services have been invaluable.

Shirley Keir has taken over the Chair, and we all wish her good luck for the coming year. PAT SARSON.

### THEATRE GROUP

The completion of rehearsals for our Forties Evening Sketches marked the end of a very happy chapter in the Theatre Group's history, as we said Good Bye to our old rehearsal room at The Dog Inn. 'Thank you', Doug and Mavis for the many happy hours we spent in your back room. I am sure the meagre quantity we drank and the mere pittance we paid in rent never really made us a paying proposition. So, for putting up with us so well for three and a half years, I think you may consider yourselves real patrons of the Arts (ART?). We wish you luck in your new venture from all our members past and present.

On 1st November we take up residence in our new Rehearsal Room at the Village Club (never far from a bar!). We are going to perform 'The Coming of the Kings', a modern

Nativity Play in Rhyme, as part of a Christmas production in the Church in conjunction with the Harbury Singers, so make a note in your Diary for December 9th and 10th (Thursday and Friday). Mince pies etc. will be served and we will do our utmost to make it an enjoyable evening for you. K. HAYES.

### LADIES NETBALL CLUB

On Saturday, 2nd October, we played a sponsored match against our husbands, lovers, boyfriends and brothers - what a match! The 'men' certainly entered into the spirit of the game by dressing in 'drag'. Some of us are now looking at our menfolk a little suspiciously - some looked so at home in their gear. We do not yet know how much was raised, but should be able to improve our bank balance quite nicely.

On Friday, 12th November we are holding a disco in the Village Hall. There will be a cabaret act from Kenilworth called 'Hard and Crusty', a licensed bar, and there will also be food available. Tickets at 70p are on sale now from 39 Mill Street, or telephone 612300 or 612885.

Another date to remember is Saturday, 27th November, when we shall be holding a Jumble Sale in the Village Hall.

The League starts on Saturday, 9th October, so if any of you feel like supporting us at our home matches please do so. Our ground is at Harbury School, and any of the netball girls will give you the times and dates of these matches.

CAROL GRINNELL.

### HARBURY SOCIETY

Mr. Ron Stanbridge conjured up a beautiful morning for the Harbury Society Ufton Nature Walk, which was well attended.

Among other things, Mr. Stanbridge explained how the drought had affected the reserve - it had dried out all the small pools, although they were now re-filling. A detour was made to inspect the damage caused by one of the fires in a conifer plantation. The fire was started by lightning, and fortunately the torrential rain that followed helped to put it out. The trees survived and the grass under them had already regenerated.

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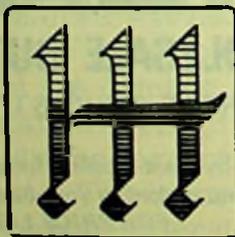
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The next event is a talk by the County Archeologist, Dr. Lamb, on Local History with special reference to Harbury and Chesterton. It will take place on Monday, 29th Nov., at a venue of which members will be notified. L. RIDGLEY

### GOLDEN AGE

A most successful Sale of Work was held at the Village Hall on Saturday, 16th October. The Produce Stall was run by Mrs. Morris. Mrs. Carter was in charge of the bottle stall. The cake and confectionary stall, all made by Mr. Daniel, and run by him and his helpers, was soon sold out. A big cake made by Mrs. Bourton was won in the raffle by Mrs. Startin. We are all very pleased with the result.

E. SHEASBY (Secretary)

### SENIOR CITIZENS' BENEFIT ASSOC.

On Wednesday, 13th October, we held the Annual Domino Presentation at the Dog Inn. The Mary Applin Cup was won by the Old New Inn, and the runners up were the Governor's House, Warwick. John and Sharon Hancock presented the awards. An excellent spread of food was provided by Mrs. Mavis Powell, and the organist was Bob Niell of Leamington.

Also at the Dog Inn, on Wednesday, 20th October, the Darts Presentation took place. On this occasion the Maurice Sperling Cup was presented by Mrs. Sperling to Napton Bridge, the runners up being the Red Lion of Warwick.

The Committee would like to thank all those who took part in both events, and made these evenings such enjoyable ones.

TIM PERCIVAL

### W. I.

At our September meeting we welcomed Mrs. Bindman as our speaker, who gave a very interesting talk on the Jewish way of life.

On 7th October a talk was given by Miss Homer about 'Advertising - the Right and the Wrong', and we saw slides of adverts as far back as 1891, some of which were very funny.

W. ROBINSON

LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE WALKING.....

I expect you know that fines on overdue books at the Village Library are 3p per week or part of a week, and that there are no fines charged for Old Age Pensioners or children. But did you realise that books may be renewed by telephone - ring 613297.

L. RIDGLEY.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

At the meeting on 12th October it was clear that the Village Hall is well used. On this night Badminton was being played in the main hall, the Senior Citizens Committee were in the Refreshment Room, the Village Hall Committee in the Farley Room, and the Recreation Ground Committee convened in the kitchen for want of anywhere else!

The Rugby Club is slowly transforming its room (for a Club House) and the showers are in chaos whilst a new bath and water heating system are installed. They promise it will soon be completed.

The Committee was anxious to discover the whereabouts of the Farley and Courier Cups (prizes for Flowers and Vegetables at the Village Hall Flower Show). If a former prize winner still has one, will he please return it to Midge Keen.

The next meeting was planned for Wednesday, 10th November, in the Village Hall at 8 p.m., and all society representatives were asked to please make an effort to attend.

LINDA RIDGLEY.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF  
CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

Our annual house-to-house collection during the first week of October raised £93, an increase of almost ~~£30~~ over 1975. We would like to express our warmest thanks to everyone who contributed, the many collectors, and also to our most recent helpers in the villages of Chesterton, Ladbrooke, Bascote, Ufton, Deppers Bridge and Bishop's Itchington. We also thank everyone who came to our Christmas Card Sale on 17th Oct., at which we made about £85. We shall be Carol singing on the evening of Tuesday, 21st December (a date chosen to coincide with school breaking up and a wish to celebrate with a good rousing sing, we hope!) and although I will send details of this to all our 80 League of Pity members and their families, we would also welcome anyone else who might like

to join us.

We hope you have a very happy Christmas and a Bright New Year, and we do thank you so much for helping to make it a happier time for so many of the children we protect.

VICTORIA MACGOWAN, Hon. Sec. Harbury  
and District.

### THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE

A public Parish Meeting was held recently to discuss the celebration in Harbury of the Queen's Silver Jubilee. ONLY NINE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDED.

Mr. John Hunt stated that the Queen's Jubilee Trust in Warwickshire would raise £60,000. Harbury will be asked to contribute to this, but can also submit suitable schemes to be financed by it.

The 1977 Carnival will be on Saturday, 4th June, and the Carnival Dance will be on Monday, 6th June. Both Carnival Week (week ending 4th June) and the Carnival itself are planned to be more ambitious than previously. Mr. Oliver confirmed the School's willingness to participate in any celebrations.

Among ideas put forward were a keepsake for each school child (to be paid for from a Rates Grant), a scheme for planting semi-mature trees, the building of a Youth Club, a Village Picnic and a Round-the-Village Race.

The Chairman said that the Recreation Ground was bought for the Village on the occasion of the last Jubilee in 1936.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should discuss the suggestions and refer back if necessary to the meeting, and that any further suggestions for Jubilee events should be given to the Parish Clerk, Ray Carter (613164).

### NURSE ALEXANDER & NURSE WADE

I received a letter at the beginning of October from Nurse Alexander and Nurse Wade, asking me to convey their thanks via the Harbury News to everyone in the Village who had contributed towards their retirement presents.

Their letter said, "they wanted to creep away quietly", so perhaps it was to their advantage that they sprung the news of their departure on us so suddenly, otherwise they might have

been confronted by a 'grand presentation ceremony' judging by the number of signatures collected in their presentation folder!

They have settled in Silsden, Yorkshire, after the '12 happy years spent in Harbury', and although they will 'miss the village life very much', I am sure they will soon find new friends and the same neighbourly spirit as they did here.

CHRIS FINCH.

#### CIRCLING THE WORLD IN LESS THAN A SECOND

"G3ZZZ calling this channel and listening for any calls" - does that sound odd? Not if you're an Amateur Radio fanatic. You could find yourself listening to other fanatics anywhere in the world without moving from your chair.

Conversation is somewhat limited, usually devoted to discussing equipment, weather etc., but the thrill of hearing a call sign, checking the location of the Station, and possibly finding it coming from the other side of the world is exhilarating, and you realise perhaps the world is not so big after all.

Equipment does not have to be 'ready-made' and expensive, part of the thrill is actually 'receiving' on a radio you have made up yourself, and thereafter constantly altering to improve reception.

Eventually the desire to actually converse with the 'unknown' becomes so strong that the possession of an Amateur Transmitting Licence is all important, and this entails a course of study concluded by taking (and passing) the Radio Amateurs examination. After that, "Why, then the world's mine oyster".

One of the essentials in becoming a budding Radio Amateur is a tolerant family, one's equipment is inclined to 'spread', and the garden soon begins to resemble an inland version of Goonhilly Down. M. V. CHAPPLE.

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Last month's Parish Council report stated under the heading "Mill Street lay-by" that "the frontage of 69 Mill Street is not for sale". We have been informed that, in fact, no offer to purchase has been made to the owner, and we apologise for any inconvenience caused.

MIDLAND RED BUS TIMETABLE

ROUTE NO. 554

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<u>Mon.-Fri.</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
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0635	0735	1645
0716*	0845	2135
0735	0945	
0900	11 45	
11 15	1245	
1245	1345	
1445	1445	
1618	1545	
1646*	1645	
1735L	1815	
1815	1945	
1945	2135	
2135		

Buses from Harbury to Leamington

<u>Mon.-Fri.</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
0658*	0658	1528
0718	0818	1728
0758*	0928	2215
0818	1028	
0943	1228	
11 58	1328	
1328	1428	
1528	1528	
1658	1628	
1728	1728	
1818	1858	
1858	2028	
2028	2215	
2215		

\* Operates to or from Lockheed Works; calls at Leamington High Street. NOT Bus Station.

L Starts from Lockheed Works 10mins. earlier.

From Saturday, 28th August, 1976.

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Leamington Spa. Telephone Leamington 22593.

## PROFILE - RALPH GURDEN

At the top of Treen's Hill, on the right as you leave the village, on the Middle Road, stands 'Hillside Farm'. Farmed by Ralph and Gill Gurden, it has been in the family for almost 100 years, and Ralph and Gill are known to many in Harbury for their involvement in village life. They are the oldest farming family in Harbury, Ralph's grandfather having farmed Hillside and Bullring Farms almost 100 years ago. Ralph can recall the village in the 1920s when there was a population of about 2,000, although this later dropped to 1,200. There were then 65 children in Binswood End, and the boys used to play football at his father's farm. His father, being interested in sports, used to provide a new football every year. Ralph was one of the pioneers of the project to get the village hall built, and helped to run the first tote, and dances in the Wight School, to raise money for it. The initial cost estimate was £6,000, whereas the Village Hall actually cost nearly £14,000.

Ralph has served the community by being on the District Council for 10½ years, and the Parish Council for 12 years. He was re-elected to the Parish Council last year for a further 3 years. He has been on the village hall committee since it started.

As a special constable he has officiated at elections and such occasions, although he is not called on as much as he used to be.

He is a trustee of Harbury Charities, which was established last century to help the poor and needy, and the fabric of the Parish Church. The Charities gave a grant towards the cost of the School swimming pool.

One of Ralph's two daughters, Madeleine, was recently married to George Mann, who farms at Bishop's Itchington.

Hillside Farm has 80 acres used for beef cattle, sheep rearing, barley for animal feeding, and horticulture. They grow potatoes, brussels, cabbage and cauliflowers, beans and sprouting broc, most of which goes straight to shops in Leamington.



Ralph is hoping to have lambs from his 40 ewes before Christmas so as to be in time for the Easter market. They went out of dairy farming 2 years ago as only large volume production is profitable today. Mechanisation was started

in 1927 when their first tractor (see picture) and van were purchased. Ralph learnt to drive the van round the orchard when he was only 5!



Hillside Farm is one of only two farms left in Harbury who are supplying vegetables to Leamington shops;

at one time there were four or five such suppliers.

Ralph and his family need only one full-time worker to work the farm but at various times casual helpers are needed to lift the crops. Farming today means a lot of paperwork, and this involves about one night every week.

This year's dry season has reduced the crop of potatoes in particular, as well as other crops, and prices will reflect the shortage and increased production costs.

It was welcome news that Ralph has recovered from a serious illness, and we wish him continued good health.

PARISH COUNCIL:

PETER HOLT.

MEETING HELD ON 28th OCTOBER

The atmosphere is Dickensian, the Chairman with his regalia, the room icy, a slowly creeping fog ascending from cigars, as the Council convenes to discuss Parish business and the Queen's Silver Jubilee Celebrations.

Present: Cllrs. Wright, Drinkwater, Gurden, Atkins, Ellis, Davies, Wilkins and Mrs. Watts.

Apologies: Cllrs. Hancock and Catterall, and PC Percival.

Onlookers: District Cllrs. Buckle and Buckle, Mick Brant and Linda Ridgley.

## Public Meeting about Jubilee Celebrations

Mrs. Ridgley was thanked for taking the minutes. Mr. Wrig then summarised what was discussed (see page 13). After lengthy discussion it was resolved that various sub-committee investigate the points raised, and also that (a) attempts be made to acquire free bunting, (b) the Carnival Committee would organise events for the week prior to the Jubilee, and (c) the Harbury Society would co-ordinate fund-raising for tree planting, a specifically approved way of commemorating the Jubilee.

### Unclassified items

Mrs. Sperling is to be invited to the next meeting to explain the planned financial cuts to the Meals on Wheels Service. Mrs. Buckle had no news of the Southam Shopping Bus, but asked what support there would be for one to Stratford, and would the P. C. be prepared to subsidise OAP bus fares? This will be discussed at the next meeting.

### Correspondence

It was agreed that the PC seek legal help for the benefit of the Village Hall trustees.

The County Council, in replying to the PC's letter on overcrowding in the village school, said that only the top class had more than 35 pupils (it has 40) and that the pupil/teacher ratio was only 27.64. However, the Chairman pointed out that the accommodation for the top class was severely inadequate. A letter from the Headmaster welcomed the PC's interest, but regretted that he had not been approached first. He invited councillors to visit the school, and it was agreed to arrange this.

### Highways

One-Way System - It was pointed out that, if the system were completed (Crown Street and Church Street one way) the cost, which might fall on the PC, would be high.

The District Surveyor is to be asked to repair and tidy up battered road signs in the village, and to drain the lake in Penelope Close.

Cllr. Davies reported that parking at the western end of Church Street was causing a traffic hazard.

Binswood End Green has again been damaged by a vehicle being parked on it.

### Lighting

The Clerk reported that the lamppost (but not the light) had been replaced in Margaret Close, and repositioned to the rear of the footpath.

### Planning - Westbury House

The County Engineer reports that there will be a lay-by in front of this development but that it will not link with the existing one because of difficulties over the purchase of the land.

### Playing Fields

It was agreed that an occasional fair was an amenity for the young people, but there was concern lest damage be done to the field. The letting of the field for fairs will be discussed with the Playing Fields Advisory Committee.

### Finance

Consternation! when it was discovered that the precept should be submitted in December. 20% will be allowed for inflation.

### Items for next Agenda

The Chairman wanted to discuss the formation of a Junior Parish Council to advise on the provision of facilities for the young.

Next meeting, 9th December, 7.30p. m., Village Hall.

LINDA RIDGLEY.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editors,

What a farce - the collection of big bin rubbish!

I recently tried to find out when the large rubbish collection would be - we as ratepayers have to 'phone them at our expense to find out what they're doing!

I was eventually able to get in touch with someone who told me it would be either Monday or Tuesday - pretty farcical, not fixing a definite date, since we're not supposed to leave stuff out on the highway, and anyway, wet weather, cats and dogs cause havoc when rubbish is left out overnight. When I pointed this out I was told the lorry would come on the Tues., and I gave them my address and my neighbour's.

THE LORRY CAME AT 3.30p. m. ON THE MONDAY!!

Fortunately, I happened to be at home, but what would have happened if I'd been at work? For some unknown reason a definite day seems unable to be given - heaven help us all for the extra we all manage to acquire over Christmas!

What do they spend our extra rate money on? Organising chaos, I presume. Come on everyone, let's all cause a fuss and try and get this nonsense sorted out! PAM MIDDLETON.  
Editors' note: Stratford D. C. tells us that the next big collection will be during the week beginning 15th Nov. We will try to get an answer to Mrs. Middleton's letter for next time.

VICTORIAN BEADWORK

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Tickets from Liz Purdie, "Butchers"

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RECREATION GROUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE Football Trebles Competition. Winning numbers: 9th Oct - most teams didn't play; prize carried forward. 16th Oct - 02.14.17 and 02.14.23. 23rd Oct - 02.06.08; 02.08.23; and 06.08.23.

A CHANCE TO MEET one of your local councillors at Harbury Liberal Association's Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Stall at the home of Cllr. Grace Buckle, 'Highpoint', The Beeches, on Saturday, 20th November, from 10.30 a. m.

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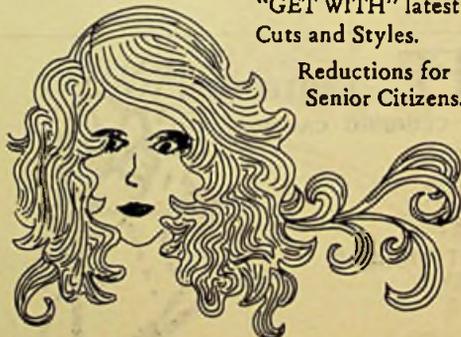
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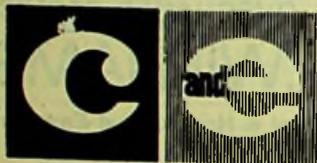


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