

CHESTERTON

Honiwell Close

RADFORD & LEAMINGTON SPA

Temple End

Farley Avenue
Dickens Rd
Farm Street

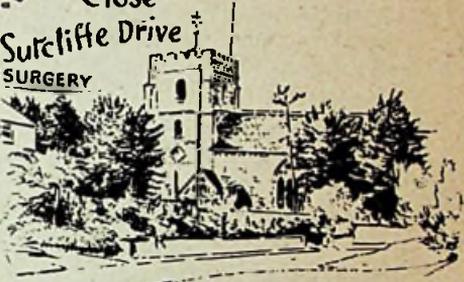
Binswood End

Leicester Close

OLD NEW INN

Sutcliffe Drive
SURGERY

The Manor



Bush Heath Lane

Manor Orchard

Manor Road

Wagstaff Close

SCHOOL

Heber

HARBURY

& LADBROKE

NEWS

Penelope Close

Chapel St.

THE SHAKESPEARE

Windmill

LIBRARY
BANK

Margaret Close

GAMECOCK
Ivy Lane

VILLAGE HALL

Pincham Avenue

THE DOG
Post office
Church Street

ALL SAINTS
CHURCH

The Hall
Hall Lane

THE CROWN

South Parade

Vicarage Lane

VILLAGE CLUB

Crown Close

Dove

HO. Lane

The Ground

Francis Rd.

Harbury House

DEPPERS
BRIDGE

UFTON

C. SOUTHAM

LADBROKE



HARBURY AND LADBROKE NEWS

THE HARBURY & LADBROKE 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.

HARBURY Holy Communion : 8.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m. (Sung)
SUNDAY SERVICES: 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.
For Ladbroke Services see inside.

DOCTORS' SURGERY HARBURY:

Farm Street. Telephone: 612232
Monday – Saturday : 9.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Friday : 6.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.

LADBROKE:

Craven Lane. Telephone: Southam 2577

POLICE: Telephone: SOUTHAM (981) 2366

LOCAL CONSTABLE: P.C. T.PERCIVAL. Telephone: Harbury 612175

EMERGENCY SERVICES: Telephone 999

'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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MOT'S BY APPOINTMENT OR WHILE U-WAIT

The autumn has been so beautifully warm and sunny that Christmas has seemed a long way off but as we go to press the wind has turned to the North, there's a heavy frost (see Mike Bloxham's photo) and our thoughts turn more naturally to Plum Puddings and mince pies. We hope that this month's issue as well as containing all the usual features, has a few items to generate the Christmas Spirit. For example, you can try your hand at winning a bottle of wine in our Christmas Quiz.



The P. C. C. meeting on facilities for the young folk in the village received enormous support from youngsters and older people alike. A most encouraging start - let us all do our best to keep it going! (See inside for more details).

How nice it was to see so many people at the Remembrance Day Service to honour and remember those who died so that we should be free.

The Harbury Recipe Book, 'What Shall We Eat Today?', is fast approaching a milestone in its short life. Almost a thousand copies have been sold - no wonder Harbury residents look such a fit bunch.

Don't forget to join in Carols round the Village on Friday 15th December (7 pm from School), and the 9 Lessons and Carols Service at the Church at 4 pm on Christmas Eve. It is hoped that the Church will be candle-lit and there will be an augmented choir - What better way to start your Christmas.

Those of you who know Ann and Rod Brown who lived in Mill Street before they moved to Priors Hardwick, will be interested to know that the army has posted Rod to Northern Ireland for two years. Our best wishes go to him this Christmas.

Christmas is a time for families to be together, and we are very glad to hear that one family who will be able to be together are Michael, Marilyn, Anthony and Melanie Nekrosovás. As many readers will know, Michael was very seriously injured in a car accident earlier in the year and is still in the spinal injuries unit of the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital in Oswestry. Michael cannot come home to Harbury Permanently until a house can be specially adapted to accommodate his wheelchair and other equipment but happily he is going to be able to spend Christmas at home with his family and we all wish them well.

The 'Harbury & Ladbroke News' would like to thank all its readers for their support during the year and wish them a most happy and joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Remember the AGM of 'The News' will be held towards the end of January 1979 - Please come along and give your views, after all it is YOUR magazine. Details of date and venue will be included in next month's issue.

HARBURY DIARY

DECEMBER

- | | | |
|------|-----|---|
| Sat | 2nd | CHRISTMAS FAIR at the Village Hall. See Santa in his Enchanted Castle!
Netball Match at Wight School. |
| Sun | 3rd | <u>First Sunday in Advent</u> ; 9am Parish Family Communion, followed by Breakfast in the Village Hall, 4pm Recital of Advent Music by Leamington Holy Trinity Girls Choir in Harbury Church. |
| Tues | 5th | Confirmation Classes in Vicarage, 6.30pm.
Horticultural Society, 7.30pm, Club.
Senior Citizens Cttee, 8pm, Village Hall.
Motor Cycle Club, 8pm, Wight School. |

- Tues 5th Harbury Society Film Show 'A Future for the Past' and 'People + Leisure', 8pm, Crown.
- Wed 6th MU, Old Timbers, Ivy Lane, 2.30pm; speaker Rev. A. Gardner on 'The Church at the Crossroads'.
- Thurs 7th Infants' Christmas Concert in School, 1.45 & 6.45pm.
Golden Age Party, Village Hall, 2.30pm.
Men's Group, 'Wilmcote Lodge', Farley Ave., 7.45pm, speaker - The Vicar.
WI Christmas Party at Village Hall, members attending may bring one guest.
- Fri 8th Theatre Group Play Reading, 23 Farley Ave., 8pm.
- Sat 9th Cystic Fibrosis Jumble Sale, V. Hall, 10.30am.
- Sun 10th Second Sunday in Advent; 8am Holy Eucharist, 10am Sung Eucharist, 4pm Evensong.
- Tues 12th Young Wives Carol Service in Church, 2.15pm.
Confirmation Classes in Vicarage, 6.30pm.
Harbury Friends Dinner
Bible Study & Discussion in Vicarage, 8pm.
- Wed 13th Top Juniors Carols in Church, 7.30pm.
- Thurs 14th End of Term for Dancing Classes.
Theatre Group General Meeting, Wight School, 8pm.
- Fri 15th Playgroup Party in Wight School, afternoon.
CAROLS ROUND THE VILLAGE start from School at 7pm.
- Sat 16th Senior Citizens Christmas Party in School.
Netball Match at Wight School.
Rugby Club Dance in Village Hall.
- Sun 17th Third Sunday in Advent; 8am Holy Eucharist, 10am Sung Eucharist, 4pm Evensong.
- Mon 18th Infants Christmas Party at School.
Toddler Group Party, Wight School, afternoon.
Last Gymnastics of term.
- Tues 19th Juniors Christmas Party in School
Tufty Club, Village Hall, 2.30pm.
Confirmation Classes in Vicarage, 6.30pm.
- Wed 20th School Breaks Up.
NSPCC Carol Singing starts 6pm at 17 Manor Orchard, and ends there at 7pm with surprise reward. All welcome
- Thurs 21st Santa comes to Harbury, courtesy of Southam Lions.

- Sun 24th CHRISTMAS EVE. Fourth Sunday in Advent;
 8am Holy Eucharist, 10 am Sung Eucharist,
 4pm Nine Lesson Carol Service,
 11.15pm Blessing of Crib and Midnight Mass.
- Mon 25th CHRISTMAS DAY. 8am Holy Eucharist,
 10am Procession and Parish Family Sung Eucharist.
- Tues 26th BOXING DAY. 10.30am Boxing Day Football Match
 at Playing Fields.
- Sat 30th Football Club Dance at Village Hall
- Sun 31st NEW YEAR'S EVE. Bike Ride, 10am Club Car Park.
 Footpath Walk, 2.30pm, Village Hall.

JANUARY 1979

- Tues 2nd Horticultural Society, 7.30pm at Club, speaker
 B. Jones on Sweet Peas.
- Thurs 4th WI, 7.45pm in V. Hall, Pottery Dem. by Pauline
 Davies.
- ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICE, Harbury Hall Chapel, 10a.m.
 every Sunday.

CRUSADERS, Village Hall, 2.30pm every Sunday.

TENNIS, Recreation Ground, 10am every Sunday.

GUIDES, Scout Hut, 7pm every Monday.

BINGO, Village Hall, 8pm every Monday.

BROWNIES, Village Hall, 6.15pm every Tuesday.

SCOUTS, Scout Hut, 7.30pm every Tuesday.

JOGGING CLUB, outside Foodmart, 8pm every Tuesday.

BABY CLINIC, Village Hall, 2pm 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

YOUTH CLUB, Village Hall, 8pm every Wednesday.

PARISH COUNCIL, Village Hall, 7.30pm, 4th Thursday.

CHOIR PRACTICE, Church, 6.30pm every Friday.

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.
 DATES FOR INCLUSION PLEASE TO LINDA RIDGLEY,
 tel. Harbury 612792.

Welcome to Harbury: Denis and Ina Andrews and their
 daughter Margaret who have moved from Kent and are the
 parents of Mr. D. Andrews of 32 Temple End.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear friends,

We have had an inspiring Patronal Festival. It was good to see so many at the Sung Eucharist in the evening of All Saints' Day and at the supper and social in the "Crown" afterwards, and again at the Sung Eucharist on the following Sunday morning. It was good also to receive a visit from the choir of Arnold Lodge School, with their musical director Mr. Anthony Randle, to sing Evensong on that Sunday afternoon. We thank them.

Remembrance Sunday saw a bigger number than ever in Church at 10 a.m. (including, of course, members of the British Legion, and the Scouts, Cub Scouts, Guides and Brownies in uniform). I am sorry that we ran short of Service papers (but glad that the congregation was so large!). The weather was good for our going out to the War Memorial afterwards for the laying of the wreath, and once more everything was so timed that we observed the 2 minutes' silence at precisely 11 a.m. We thank David Goodfellow once more for sounding the Last Post and the Reveille. We also thank the augmented choir for leading the singing and for their anthem, and Mr. Michael Barnes for training them and conducting.

At this point I would mention that Mr. Michael Barnes will cease to be our official organist and choirmaster on December 31st. We thank him for the wonderful work he has done with the choir and in other ways, and we pray that a successor may shortly be found to carry on and extend his good work.

I was very pleased with the big and enthusiastic attendance at the meeting we called to consider the possibility of more amenities for the young people of the village. The room would scarcely hold everyone, and it was good that so many of the young people themselves were there. Mr. Perry, the Area Youth Officer, and the Revd. David Beardshaw, the Diocesan Youth Chaplain, were both present. Although quite a number of facilities for young people already exist in the village, it was felt that still more was needed. A committee was formed, and already some events have been arranged.

I would like to thank those who brought clothing or money for the "Help the Aged" appeal in Church and those who so kindly sorted out the clothes and put them in appropriate containers.

On the 1st Sunday in Advent (Dec. 3rd.) there will be a Family Communion at 9 a. m. (which for this Sunday will replace both the 8 a. m. and the 10 a. m. Services) followed by a Parish Breakfast in the Village Hall, and at 4 p. m. the Leamington Holy Trinity Girls' Choir will be giving a recital of Advent music (Evensong on this day will be said at 5.30 pm)

Christmas will soon be here. There will be the three traditional celebrations of the Holy Eucharist, viz. the Midnight Mass (sung) beginning at 11.15pm on Christmas Eve, the Mass of the Dawn (said) at 8 a. m. on Christmas morning, and the Mass of the Day (sung, with Procession) at 10 a. m. on Christmas Day. The Blessing of the Crib will take place at the beginning of the Midnight Mass at 11.15 p. m. on Christmas Eve. I hope that everyone will be able to come to at least one of these services, and that all the children will be present at 10 o'clock on Christmas morning, and I hope that all who have been confirmed will make their Communions, after due preparation, at one or other of these three Celebrations. I might mention that, according to modern regulations, those who have made their Communions at the Midnight Mass may, if they so wish, receive Communion again at either 8 a. m. or 10 a. m. on Christmas Day. A list of times when confessions can be heard and absolution given before Christmas will be found on the notice board inside Church. Appointments can be made if none of these times is convenient. The clergy are always glad to give anyone instruction about this sacrament of forgiveness or to help anyone prepare for it. I shall be very pleased to bring the Blessed Sacrament, if asked, to any who are housebound.

With the world enwrapped in darkness and discord, it is for you and me to find our peace in Jesus.

Wishing you a holy and a blessed Christmas,
Your sincere friend and Vicar,
F. R. Mackley.

Holy Baptism

November 5th - Rebecca Louise Lindon, Ladywell Cottage,
Binswood End.

From the Churchwardens

There have been two particularly well attended occasions in the village since the previous issue; the Remembrance Sunday Service was again one of the largest Services of the year and the Wight School was packed for the meeting about

facilities in the village for young people. We do wish the new committee every success in its plans for discos and informal gatherings for young people.

However, the importance of success of a gathering is not necessarily measured by the numbers attending. One of the smaller groups meeting regularly in the parish is the prayer group. This meets monthly in members' homes, alternating with the Bible Study. Neither of these groups is as intimidating as some might fear. They are both cheerful relaxed groups who find real enjoyment in discussing passages from the Bible and seeing how they affect us in a very practical way or in praying together. .

At the prayer group, we normally just listen to a recording, borrowed from a tape library. One of the most helpful ones has been one entitled "Why Worry?" which really helped some of our members overcome excessive worry. The most recently borrowed tape on Faith reminded us of the small boy who defined faith as believing things you know to be untrue! The speaker then gave a somewhat more practical - and accurate - guide to faith using the acrostic:

Feeling
Afraid
I
Trust
Him

Another word of thanks to Ann Windsor who recovered the long kneeler at the Communion rail. We understand that getting the kneeler into its new cover required the combined efforts of four perspiring helpers; at which stage Ann probably wished she'd never started! However, all was successfully accomplished. Our thanks to Ann and her helpers.

LADBROKE NEWS

Services etc. for December 1978 & early January 1979

Sunday, 3rd December (Advent I) 8.30am Holy Communion,
11am Matins, 3pm Holy Baptism.

Thursday, 7th December, 7.30pm Deanery Synod at Southam.
7.45pm, Men's Group at Wilmcote Lodge, Harbury

Sunday, 10th December (Advent II) 11am Holy Communion with Hymns & Sermon; 3.30pm Evensong.
 Monday, 11th December, 4.05 pm, School Governors Meeting.
 Sunday, 17th December, 8.30am Holy Communion, 11am Matins, 3.30pm School Carol Service.
 Saturday, 23rd December, 2.0pm Church Decorating.
 Sunday, 24th December (Advent IV) Christmas Eve, 11am Holy Communion with Hymns. NO EVENSONG.
 Monday, 25th December (Christmas Day) 8.30am Holy Communion, 10.30am Holy Communion with Carols.
 House Communion for the sick by arrangement.
 Sunday, 31st December (Christmas I) 11am Matins followed by Holy Communion.
 Monday, 1st January (Circumcision of our Lord).
 Saturday, 6th January (Epiphany)
 Sunday, 7th January (Epiphany I) 8.30am Holy Communion, 11am Matins.
 Wednesday, 10th January Women's Fellowship meets in the School.
 Sunday, 14th January (Epiphany II) 11am Holy Communion with Hymns & Sermon; 3.30pm Evensong.

Altar Flowers. No Flowers in Advent. Dec. 25th & 31st Mrs. Rutherford; Jan. 7th & 14th Mrs. Badman & Mrs. Wilson.
Women's Fellowship. We were delighted to welcome nearly all our members at the November meeting when Mrs. Emus gave us a very interesting demonstration of ideas for decorating the table for the Christmas meal. We all hope to meet again in January (Wednesday 10th). Meanwhile, Christmas Greetings and a Happy New Year to you all. C. H.

Deanery Weekend. The Bishop and Mrs. Gibbs with the Archdeacon of Warwick and Mrs. Taylor are visiting the Southam Deanery during the week-end 19th to 22nd January. Members of the Parochial Church Council are invited to a Buffet Supper and Social Gathering at Southam on Saturday 20th Jan. at 7.30pm. Details of this will be circulated to all members and we need to know numbers by 1st January at the latest. On Monday 22nd The Bishop and Mrs. Gibbs will visit Ladbroke School.

Organists.

We all owe much gratitude to Mrs. Johns and Mr. Haydn Jenkins for the help they have given us so unstintingly; on the rare occasions when both have been unavailable, Mrs.

Titcombe and Mr. R. Lees have played for us. During his vacations we have been delighted to welcome back Mr. Gary Lawson and we hope he will be with us this Christmas. I wish there were some young people, preferably pianists, coming forward to learn organ playing: I am sure the P. C. C. would be willing to subsidise their lessons.

G. R. F.

Carol Singing

The Carollers will meet at the School at 7.30pm on 15th December and I hope you will all give them a welcome. They intend this year to give the proceeds of their collection to "Help the Aged".

G. R. F.

Stop Press

The Christmas Fair, held in the School for the last time, proved a great success with record takings of approximately £254. It was opened by Mrs. P. D. Brown who had so long been associated with it when she lived in Ladbroke. We are very grateful to all... to those who organised the various stalls and efforts and to those who supported the effort by their presence and their purchases.

G. R. F.

Extracts from the Registers.

Holy Matrimony

25th November, 1978 Patrick George Edward Clarke and Julie Lawson.

Holy Baptism

26th November, 1978 Sharron-Louise Saunders
Timothy John Saunders.

Congratulations and all good wishes to Patrick and Julie Clarke.
W. I.

Kendalls and Salisbury Handbags gave a Fashion Show which delighted villagers and guests on 16th November at the School Hall. The sum of £15.70 was made in aid of W. I. funds.

At the November meeting Mrs. Jill Norgate, the retiring president, was presented with a dried flower arrangement in appreciation of her sterling efforts last year. Our Speaker, Mrs. Galilee, gave a demonstration on 'how to bone a chicken' and made it look so easy that boned stuffed chicken will feature in our Christmas menus.

Christmas Meeting/Entertainment. On December 14th at 8.0pm Miss Sheila Stewart will be giving one of her famous 'Country Talks'. Invitations are going out to all Senior Citizens of Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge to join us for the

evening. Members will serve refreshments. The usual Thursday W.I. meeting will be held half an hour earlier at 7.30pm. During the evening small gifts will be distributed to all Senior Citizens either at their homes or at the entertainment.

The W.I. Carol Service at Southam Church is on Friday 8th December at 8.0pm. _____ I. B.

Farmyard Field was the meeting place of more than 200 villagers and friends for the Annual Bonfire Night, a traditional occasion of Ladbroke Hall residents linking with the Village. Ian Holroyd, Tony Hall & Co. produced a fine firework display, the Village Committee produced delicious food and drink and the actual fiery bonfire was superb. A very happy occasion for Ladbroke. P. S. F.

Ladbroke Conservative Association

On Wednesday 6th December at 7.30pm there will be a Supper Party at the Bell Inn, Ladbroke - do come and bring your friends; tickets £1.75 from Mrs. Carleton or Mrs. M. Williamson. Membership of the Branch now stands at 97 so are there three more around to make the century? P. S. F.

HARBURY SCHOOL

We are very pleased with our new First School Unit now that we are settled in. The children work in most pleasant surroundings and the shared Practical Area is a great boon. We are grateful to the mums who have volunteered to come into school and help with simple cookery with small groups of children.

The middle school library is almost complete apart from some curtaining. This again is proving to be a big improvement. The official takeover of the extensions and improvements has been brought forward from December 15th to November 30th. We congratulate the builders, Messrs. Hopkins of Leamington, on achieving this earlier completion date.

The children are busily engaged in preparations for concerts etc., and the glow of Christmas is already starting to be felt throughout the school.

The end of this term sees the departure of Mr. David Richards, our deputy head, to Gloucestershire in order to

take up his new post as Head of Stone Primary School. We thank Mr. Richards for the great efforts he has put into his work at Harbury School and we extend to him and his wife Margaret, our very best wishes for the future.

N. C. OLIVER.

HARBURY P. T. A.

"Do Your Own Thing Evening" - what a pity more people didn't take up the opportunity to learn how to make Christmas Flower Arrangements and home-made wine (perhaps "Edward and Mrs. Simpson" were too strong an inducement to stay at home on a wet and windy evening?) Anyway thanks are due to Jacqueline of Southam and to Alan Youd - the latter especially for the samples (definitely preferable to coffee!)

On Friday 17th Nov. an hilarious, energetic and thirst-provoking square dance evening was enjoyed by about 80 people who were guided through various folk dances by Brian Smith. ('Square' is something of a misnomer but most other formation shapes were on view!)

Don't forget Carols Round the Village on Friday 15th Dec.

R. G. O.

1st HARBURY SCOUT GROUP

In view of the current discussion on facilities for young people in Harbury, I feel that it may be useful to put on record the opportunities that are available through the Scout Association.

A typical Scout Group consists of three sections:

- Cub Scouts - boys 8 years to 11th birthday
- Scouts - boys 11 years to 16th birthday
- Venture Scouts - Young men and young ladies,
16 years to 20th birthday.

In Harbury we have only Cub Scouts and Scouts. The reason for this is that the Scout Troup has never in one year generated sufficient 16 year olds for a Venture Unit to be formed. So although there are Venture Scouts in Harbury they belong to a Leamington Unit.

However if there are sufficient young people in this age group interested in forming a Harbury Venture Unit, a minimum of 9 is required but previous Scouting experience is not essential, there is no reason why one should not be formed, providing of course a minimum of two suitable leaders can be found.

Regular readers of Harbury News will wonder why it is that the Scout Group is always looking for new leaders, the answer is twofold, Scout leaders like everyone else do tend to move house from time to time, so replacements are needed. Additionally as our existing Cub Pack and Scout Troop are full to overflowing, we see an immediate need to form a second Pack and probably in a couple of years, a second Troop also.

However this is an area where young people can help, not only can they relieve their own boredom but they can also help people even younger than themselves to enjoy Scouting.

The minimum age for Leader positions are as follows:
Cub Scout Leader - 20; Assistant Cub Scout Leader - 18;
Cub Scout Instructor - 16; Scout Leader - 20; Assistant Scout Leader - 18; Scout Instructor - 17; Venture Scout Leader - 21;
Assistant Venture Scout Leader - 20. Do we have any takers?

G. H. GOODCHILD
(Group Scout Leader)

FACILITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARBURY

Almost 100 people - at least a quarter of them teenagers - packed into the Wight School for a lively and productive meeting, called by the PCC. A permanent meeting place, and regular discos soon emerged as the main things the youngsters want. Both the Village Hall and the Wight School are already booked too much to all regular use by the teenagers, and the discos held in Harbury at present are either mid-week (difficult because of homework) or open to children from about the age of 9 (which means the older ones won't go to them).

Ways and means of providing a separate building, possibly a large Portakabin, were discussed, and Alan Perry, the Area Youth Officer, said this was the solution used in Bidford on Avon to the problem of a meeting place. He said various grants and subsidies would be available for such a scheme. The rooms shortly to be vacated by the Rugby Club in the Village Hall could possibly be utilised, and Midge Keen agreed to put to the Village Hall Committee the possibility of cheaper rates for the youngsters' use of the Hall.

The young people said they would be prepared to organise discos themselves, and would need little or no supervision, but David Beardshaw, Diocesan Youth Adviser, warned them

that all sorts of problems can arise and that adults (ancient as they may appear) are often quite handy to have around. He also recommended exploring every avenue with regard to existing buildings, before embarking on the ambitious idea of providing and equipping a new building.

The discussion continued for almost two hours, and finally a steering committee of adults and teenagers was set up to investigate the question in greater detail. It is hoped that coffee evenings and discos will begin very soon, at least for a trial period, and that a further open meeting will be held in due course to report on the steering committee's progress.

First Meeting of Steering Committee.

Following the meeting called by the PCC, the new Youth Club Steering Committee met in the Village Hall on Wednesday Nov. 22nd to decide how to implement the resolutions decided upon.

The Steering Committee is made up of:- Mrs. Muriel Taylor, Mrs. Doreen Bell, 'Bing' Bingham, Dick Picken and Gareth Adams. Gareth Adams has had previous experience of youth leadership and will be a valuable committee member. He will liaise with the Area Youth Officer.

First business was to establish a corresponding committee from Youth Club members, whose duty will be to liaise with the Steering Committee and organise events. This is:-
Chairman: Anthony Nockalls, 44 Frances Rd.; Secretary: Mark Hyde, 22 Manor Rd.; Members: Rachel Best, 1 Bush Heath Lane, Teresa Wallington, 7 Manor Road and John Humphreys, 22 Mill Street.

Next on the agenda was the Friday night Disco suggestion. The Village Hall committee has kindly agreed to allow the Youth Club use of the hall on vacant Friday nights at a special fee. Accordingly there will be a Disco on Friday Dec. 8th. The Youth Club Committee quickly decided that the Disco will be open to 13-18 year olds by ticket only at 35p each. Soft drinks and crisps will be available.

The subject of a regular meeting place or coffee bar was given quite a lot of consideration. Several possibilities are under investigation and it is hoped that a positive conclusion will be reached at the next Committee meeting to be held at 5 South Parade on November 30th at 8 p.m.

Any suggestions regarding the extension of Youth Club

activities and offers of assistance would be most welcome - please contact me at 5 South Parade.

M. BINGHAM.

HARBURY ALBION FOOTBALL CLUB

The early part of the season has not been too rewarding and each of our three teams has lost several matches by only one goal. Leading goal scorers at present are Paul Williams with 11 goals for the Saturday team, Kevin Bloxham, who is now injured, with 9 for the 1st team and Colin Ingram with 7 for the Reserves.

In common with most of the other Village Societies and Clubs, we are again trying to raise funds. If anyone is interested in participating in our 'Tote' please contact any Harbury footballer, who will explain the system to you and include you on his card. Briefly, for the princely sum of 2½p you can purchase two chances of winning the weekly draw of £17.

For our other money raising efforts, may I thank you in advance for buying our Christmas Raffle tickets which are now circulating through the Village and are about as popular as gas bills. Also, since public functions cannot be held on New Year's Eve this year, our New Year's Dance is on Saturday 30th December. Tickets £1.50 each, are available from Mick Pratt, Bill Stevens and your usual contacts. Remember, there is no need to be involved with the Club at all to attend our dances.

At the end of another year I would particularly like to extend the thanks of the Club to Mrs. Robbins for the excellent job she makes each week of cleaning and ironing our kit. I also thank our supporters and in particular Colin Such who, without being asked, painted our goal posts dazzling white. Unfortunately, they don't seem to be having the same effect on the opposition as they are on the home teams.

As usual there will be the annual Over 30 v Under 30 match on Boxing Day, kick of 10.30. Please do some reminiscing and come along and support your 'old favourites'.

STAN FINCH.

HARBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

The form of the 1st XV has been extremely variable over the season, but the last month has seen a gradual improvement - however, it falls a long way short of the previous two seasons' form.

The 2nd XV have gone from strength to strength losing only 2 matches, whilst the 3rd XV have hiccuped along - winning a few and losing a few more.

The 4th XV have re-emerged only recently - whilst the enthusiasm is splendid they lack the guidance of one or two experienced 'old heads'. Any such individuals who fancy a run out with the 4ths on a Saturday afternoon contact Malc Davy (the 4th VX Captain) on Leamington Spa 37697 or come up to the Club on a Wednesday or Saturday.

The Club have started a Sunday Youth XV under the captaincy of Dave Davies. Initially it is hoped to play two games a month with fixtures being as far as possible, in the local area. On November 5th the team played Southam Colts, put up a splendid performance and were leading 9 - 6 until injury time when the game had to be abandoned when a player was injured on the pitch and with only a few seconds to go it was felt wise not to move the player. (He was fit enough to play on the Saturday following).

On November 26th the Youth side play Warwick Colts in a morning match at Warwick. Any individual, under 21 years of age, who wishes to play Sunday morning Rugby, please contact youth captain Dave Davies on Harbury 612206.

Work is progressing well on the new Clubhouse and the builders have given us a completion date of the end of March/ beginning of April. It is the Club's intention to have a Grand Opening Day, including, hopefully, side stalls etc. on Sunday September 2 1979 - to which you will all be welcome. Further details will be published later on. JERRY BIRKBECK (Hon. Sec.)

MEN URGENTLY REQUIRED

When did you last see your feet? Do you suffer from the following:- brewers' droop, flabbiness, overweight? If so, why not come along and join the HARBURY JOGGING CLUB. We desperately need men of all ages, and women, to help keep Harbury villagers fit and trim.

We meet every Tuesday at 8pm outside the Foodmart. So come along men, women etc. etc. and help support the Harbury Joggers.

CHRIS WILKINS.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY QUIZ

This is a Quiz all about Christmas, and the answers can all be found in books around the home or library. The winner will receive a bottle of superb wine ! TO ENTER: send your answers to 23 Mill Street or 17 Manor Orchard no later than December 20th, together with your name and address clearly marked. All correct entries will be placed in a hat and the first one drawn will receive the prize. All answers and the winner will be announced in the January issue and the editors' decision is final. The families of committee members of the Harbury News are not eligible. GOOD LUCK!

1. Who introduced Christmas trees into England?
2. When was the last recorded white Christmas Day, and how many have there been since 1900?
3. Who wrote "A Christmas Carol"?
4. When, to within 5 years, was Christmas Day made an official national holiday?
5. What is the more popular name for the plant Helleborus?
6. What is the next line in the poem which begins "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house...."?
7. In 1969 Richard Nixon sent the largest number of personal Christmas cards ever recorded; was it 500; 1, 000; 18, 000; 40, 000 or 64, 000?
8. What is the Christian feast popularly known as Twelfth Night?
9. Who wrote the play "Twelfth Night"?
10. Which of the following customs comes from North America (a) holly wreaths on doors; (b) turkeys; (c) the name Santa Claus; (d) Santa coming from the North Pole in a sledge pulled by reindeer?
11. Why is Boxing Day so called?
12. The first British stamp with a Christmas design was issued in 1966. How was the first design chosen?
13. Who is the saint associated with Father Christmas?
14. Why did early Christians choose December 25th on the old calendar to celebrate the unknown date of Jesus' birthday?
15. What Christmas treat do we still enjoy today as children have for over 200 years?

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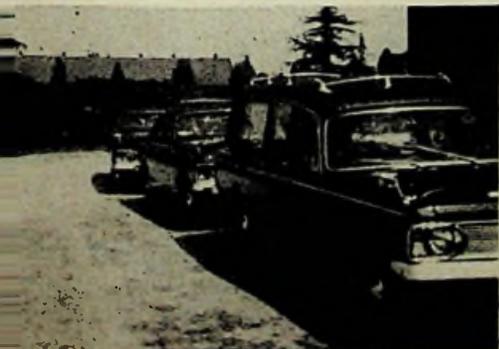
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BONFIRE PARTY

The Parochial Church Council's annual bonfire party was again a great success. A large crowd enjoyed the impressive bonfire and the colourful firework display. For once the weather was kind and the only problem was digging the holes for the fireworks in the rock-hard ground. - hardly a typical November problem. Thanks are due to all those who helped - bonfire builders, firework fixers, hot-dog heaters, soup servers, drink dolers etc.

R. H. H.

BONFIRE NIGHT

Bonfire night
is this year's delight
with fireworks whizzing,
hot dogs fizzing
over the fire,
which I admire.
You can drink hot soup
while rockets loop the loop.
The bonfire
flings ashes
with the smoke
and flashes
past some poor bloke.
That is not my desire.
Fireworks go pop
and come down bop
on someone's head.
So the cop
and the ambulance
rush him off to hospital.
To make him good as new
in a warm bed.
Then he comes back to join the dance
which goes on till half past two.

By P. J. Millington (10)

HARBURY W.I.

At the AGM the following members were elected: -
President - Mrs. M. Thompson; Secretary - Mrs. J. Ellis;
Treasurer - Mrs. A. Atkins; Vice President - Mrs. D. Bradley.

Retiring President, Mrs. M. Davies, thanked all her officers and committee for their help in the past year.

Mrs. Brant read the Secretary's report of the varied activities we have enjoyed.

Mrs. Carter gave a detailed account of our finances.

We were pleased to hear Mrs. Savage is well on the road to recovery after her recent operation.

All members and friends enjoyed our Harvest Supper with an excellent meal and entertainment provided by the W.I. Drama Group. Our thanks to Mr. Clive Watts for playing the organ, also to Mr. Burford who accompanied a drama sketch on piano.

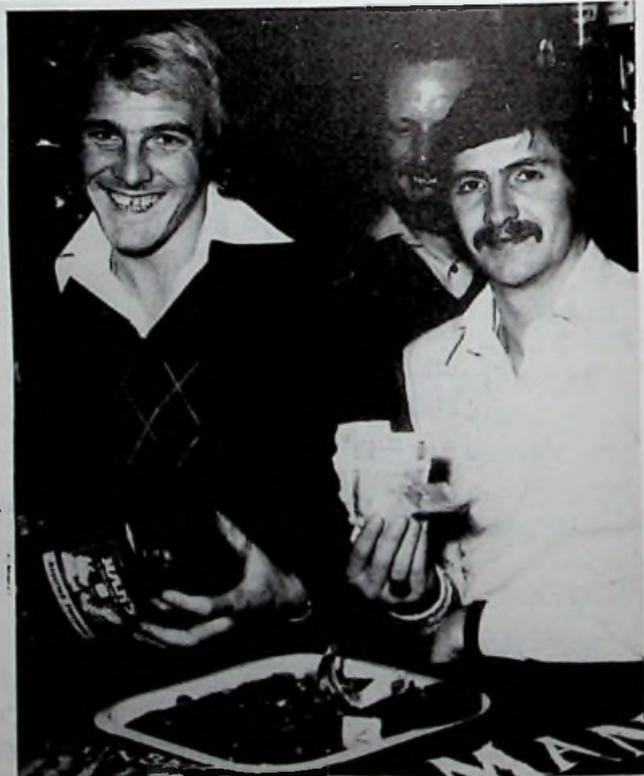
A Dance is to be held at the Village Hall on Saturday January 13th, 8 - 12 p.m., Group - "The Likely Lads", price £1.30 - including Ploughman's Supper. Tickets on sale now are available from Mrs. Pat Bingham, 5 South Parade and Mrs. Mary Thompson, 19 Neales Close. Enjoy an evening dancing just after the Christmas festivities.

JEANNE BEAUMONT.

SENIOR CITIZENS BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

Terry Yorath (left) Captain of Coventry City F.C., with his team-mate Barry Powell - emptying a jar containing money collected at the Dog Inn for the Senior Citizens Benefit Association.

Photo by Mike Bloxham



HARBURY VILLAGE HALL

At the November Village Hall Committee meeting it was announced that the Parish Council had kindly given a grant towards the cost of the storage area planned for next Spring. This equals the amount given by the District Council and both grants total 25% of the cost and the Committee therefore qualifies for a further grant from the Education Committee.

Mrs. Keen attended the meeting called by the PCC about the amenities for the youth of the village. The Village Hall Committee agreed that the teenagers could hire the Hall at the 'non profit-making' price of £6, which would help towards the committee's costs but also give the organisers scope to make some money for their future use. It seemed that they hoped to raise money for a permanent site. We hope the other village institutions and population will follow our lead and co-operate in any way they can.

The trestles which support the stage and long tables used by various organisations have suffered considerable damage through wear, tear and general old age. The Theatre Group have offered to repair them at an estimated cost of £55. It was decided to hold a Cheese/Wine/Disco evening to raise the money. This will be on January 27th. Please make it a date in the 1979 diary you will no doubt receive in your Christmas stocking!

SUE ANDREWS.

HARBURY SOCIETY

The first 'Wine & Cheese' evening organised by the Harbury Society proved to be a most successful and enjoyable affair. A selection of wines was available and there were many varieties of cheese, cheese dips and cheese flans to savour, of which the latter were generously provided by members of the Committee.

Tim Millington, Chairman, thanked Mrs. Sperling, who had kindly opened her home to the Society for the evening, and expressed the appreciation of the members who were able to hold their function in such delightful surroundings. The profit from the evening will be added to earlier sums of money, raised to fund the production of "The Harbury Guide".

The next meeting on Tuesday Dec. 5th will be held in the Lounge Bar of the Crown Inn, by kind permission of Mrs. Fennell. The Society has arranged for the showing of two films, "A Future for the Past" about conservation areas and the new

uses secured for listed buildings, and "People + Leisure = ?", a films which details the problems caused in areas of outstanding National beauty, as a result of increased leisure activities.

CHRIS FINCH.

YOUNG WIVES

We have started the new season with two interesting speakers. In September Mrs. Green from "Weightaway" reminded us of the care we should take in our eating, and in October Miss Lillian Jack, from British Airways, gave us a most interesting talk on the work of an Air Stewardess.

On Tuesday, 12th December, we have our annual Carol Service. This is for the pre-school child and his/her Mum, lasts for just 30 mins. and anyone is most welcome to join us, in Church at 2.15 p. m.

SHIRLEY KEIR.

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Harbury Theatre Group's latest production was presented in the Village Hall on the 17th/18th Nov. The play, produced by Peter Shawcross, was a simple yet complicated tale of marital intrigue, between the husbands, Robin and Peter, and Sophie who is revealed as the daughter of the over-zealous solicitor turned conjurer, Tom, who fancies Robin's wife, Emma. Is that clear? The action is punctuated by interruptions from Mavis the Lancashire 'help' who bursts in with dire tales of the mayhem at the children's party. Beryl Checkley as Mavis was brilliantly funny, "Marie Louise has swallowed a tooth and the little boy wants it back!", and the sound effects which accompanied her every entrance were excellent, evoking the party as every parent would recognise it.

Anne Megeney was the argumentative, disillusioned, middle-class deserted wife, Emma, to a tee, cuttingly describing her children as two snivelling albatrosses round her neck and her disparaging references to her publisher husband, Robin's best selling 'Victoria Plum' children's books were delivered with real venom. Peter Holt was good as Robin, the comfort-loving, selfish, estranged husband, as was Keith Hayes - the solicitor who wanted to "screw him for every penny".

Carol Percival and Tony Knight gave good support as Polly and Peter Butler, the family friends rallying round to

help at the party, whose sex and social lives are also intertwined with those of the other characters. Tony was so childish over the loss of his frogman Action Man - "They're difficult to get, I had to send away for it" - and Rose Clarke as Sophie looked the epitome of the Nymphet of Notting Hill, the cause of all the discord.

My only criticism is that the services of prompter, Sally Stringer, were needed from time to time, but otherwise the play was smashing - a good evening's entertainment.

LINDA RIDGLEY.

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Well, "Children's Day" has come and gone, and we hope that our large and lively audiences gained as much pleasure from this hilarious play as the participants.

Working parties have repairs to the stage trestles and construction of better flats and sound equipment in hand. The Spring play will be a costumed "period piece" and with this in mind, we'd like to thank again those people who have kindly provided us with household paint, dated clothes and varied material. Nothing is ever wasted and the donation of trimmings - ribbon, buttons, buckles and bows - would be sincerely appreciated.

J.N.S.

HARBURY JUBILEE MOTOR CYCLE CLUB

Our next trial is this weekend, Dec. 3rd, at Mr. Peel's farm at Ladbroke - start 1.30 p.m. We shall again be dividing the event into Seniors and Juniors so that younger competitors have a better chance of completing the course.

A visit to Bristol to see the Dirt Bike Show is planned for Dec. 16th - contact John Buck for more details.

We are pleased to have been invited to take part in the Harbury Carnival next year and we will be working on some new sections in the Spring. In the meantime we will be building some demonstration equipment for the event. J.B.M.

BAYARD ACADEMY OF DANCING

48 pupils from both Harbury and Bishops Itchington successfully passed recent examinations held by the Dance and Drama Academy at Harbury on 1st November.

The pupils, who are taught by Mrs. Burford, passed the following grades: Ballet - Introduction and Preliminary -

Tap - Preliminary, Grade I and Grade II ; Acrobatic - Grade II.

All pupils are now busily rehearsing for the Academy cabaret show to be held at the Village Hall on 9th, 10th February, 1979, proceeds to Cystic Fibrosis. B. BURFORD

HALLOWE'EN by Class 6

On a stormy, dark, gloomy night
When all the bats were screeching
The witches were preparing their poisonous spells
With juicy brains; stairing, mushy eyeballs,
Fractured mouldy skulls stirred into their bubbling
cauldron.

Crushing, scaley, hissing snakes,
Squishy, slimey, sucking slugs
Spells to turn people into more black cats and witches
Onto their broomsticks they ride over the rooftops
Dropping their nasty spells down into the chimney pots
With gaping mouths and cackling laughter!
It's HALLOWE'EN!

WROTH SILVER 1978

We have saved the village!

Did you know that the parish must pay 11½ pence a year or "forfeit a white bull with red ears and nose"? We did not know about the bull, or the amount of our village tribute when we set out for Knightlow Cross.

We had read that "on Martinmas, November 11th, each year a tribute is paid by certain parishes in Warwickshire to the Duke of Buccleugh. It is England's oldest road tax and originated as a payment of right of way for cattle across the Manor grounds. The ceremony takes place at sunrise at Knightlow Cross in Knightlow Hill and this year is the 728th occasion. Representatives of each parish attend and drop their money into a hollow in a large stone, the former base of Knightlow Cross. Those wishing to witness the ceremony can park at the Dun Cow, Stretton on Dunsmore at 6.30 a.m. "

It was a very dark and misty morning when we left the village (Tim had set the alarm for 5.30 a.m.!!) There was a large crowd in the Dun Cow and we looked everywhere for our Parish Representative. Rum and hot milk was served - it looks like milky coffee but we didn't try one - before the short walk

along the A45 to the field with the hollow stone.

The Duke of Buccleuch's Representative stepped forward (not in doublet and hose but an anorak) announced that tribute was due and the forfeit of the bull for non payment. Consternation - were we really the only Harburians there? if so we would pay - how much? The names of the Parishes, about a dozen in all and widely scattered throughout the county, were read out from a leather covered ledger. "Arley - one halfpenny, Lillington - one halfpenny, Radford Semele - one penny". Each time a figure stepped forward and dropped his tribute money into the stone. Tim passed me 50p - "Ask for change". "Don't be silly". "This is all I've got then", and passed over 4p. "Harbury - eleven and one halfpence". There was a gasp from the crowd - and me - at the large sum. Pause - I stepped up, dropped in the coins, hoping that the Duke's Representative could not count at that range in the mist. We did not stay for the ceremonial breakfast at the Dun Cow and arrived home long before the milk.

An anachronistic feudal survival - "Tribute" paid in decimal coins, in modern dress, literally a hedgerow from the roaring traffic.

TIM & MARIAN MILLINGTON.

PARISH COUNCIL

Here is the News and Manor Orchard is in it! The sewers have never been adopted - that's official! Household~~ers~~ are responsible for sewer maintenance and the District Council will only take sewers over if the whole estate agrees and then only when the sewers are up to standard. "How did 'they' ever pass it?" asked Ralph Gurden. The PC was appalled at the revelation and will send a copy of Stratford's letter to all Manor Orchard.

Two members of the Council will attend the New Year Seminar on ammendments to the Structure Plan for rural areas. Cllr Drinkwater was distressed that planning permis- sion for a house, built of re-used brick, on the Rose Cottage site, Binswood End, was refused. He said, and many agreed, the first application (for a small estate) was rightly refused, but the present one was reasonable and would tidy up the site. The applicant should appeal and would be supported by the PC.

The same good sense prevailed when Mr. Hayes' amendment to the Hill Cottage permission was presented. It was readily agreed that it was only sensible to extend the rear

of the cottage in the existing material - brick. There was concern that Harbury is to lose another of its mature trees. The Walnut at the Old New Inn is said to be dangerous and must be felled. The PC asked that the brewery replant a young Walnut.

The PFAC is to place an Elm trunk by the hard play area and the Adventure Fort will be built by the Work Opportunities Programme. The goal-post is still wandering and litter and broken bottles on the fields are a continuing problem. It was decided in view of the impending Allotments Rent rise that it may be too expensive to provide water there. It was agreed to allow the Cemetery Caretaker to order a hedge cutter or a 'Flymo'-type mower, or both, if they cost less than £200, but Cllr Wright and Mrs. Hancock were worried that the mower could be very dangerous.

Cllr Ellis secured Public Liability cover of £1 million for the PC and obtained a satisfactory reply from the Sutcliffe oil supplier regarding its responsibility if further leakage occurs.

It was alleged by Cllr Hancock that WCC receives part of the Rate Support Grant to subsidise transport for the elderly and the PC wanted to know why this money was not financing Concessionary Bus Passes.

Chairman Davies reported a Steering Committee had been appointed at the Youth Meeting to organise Discos and arrange a meeting place for the young people. He thought the PC might in future be called upon to help with the finances. Cllr Hancock asked whether all village organisations were aware of the grants given by the District Lottery. The Village Hall and Rugby Club were to receive money from this source.

The Finance Cttee, not positive how much double rating relief it will receive for the Greens which the PC maintains (and the District still has not mowed Manor Road Green!), had difficulty estimating its expenditure for 1979. Accordingly the Precept of £4285, maybe a slight over estimate, but Cllr Ellis pointed out that it would be unfair to leave the new PC (the elections are in April) with too little in reserve to cover emergencies and requests for financial help.

Next meeting - Jan. 25 1979, 7.30pm Farley Room, V. Hall

LINDA RIDGLEY.

CHRISTMAS PAST

On Christmas Day, 1769, one Sir Henry Grey sat down to a dinner including a pie containing 4 geese, 2 turkeys, 4 wild ducks, 2 rabbits, 2 curlews, 7 blackbirds, 6 pigeons, 4 partridges, 6 snipe, 2 woodcock and 2 neat's tongues. I should imagine, after all that, he sat back and waited for someone to invent Alka Seltzer!

'English Custom and Usage' by Christine Hole contains this and other tales of former Christmases. An interesting custom, dating at least from the 9th century, was the election by the choristers of many cathedrals and churches of a boy Bishop. He enacted the role from 6th to 28th December, wearing episcopal vestments and celebrating all but the most sacred services of the Church. He led processions through the streets, and money given to him en route went into Church funds. The church records of Great Dunmow contain 2 entries in Tudor times of sums 'recevyed of the bysshop at Seynt Nicolas tyme'. The custom was forbidden by Henry VIII in 1542, and, after a temporary revival in Queen Mary's reign, was finally abolished in the time of Elizabeth I.

The modern Christmas pudding appeared in about 1670. Earlier, plum porridge was eaten (usually at the start of the meal) - a mixture of meat-broth, raisins, wine, fruit-juice and spices, thickened with brown bread. Turkeys were introduced in the middle of the 16th century, and mince pies about the same time, although originally they contained mutton or neat's tongues, chicken and eggs, as well as fruit and spice.

Carol singing, wassailing and mummers' plays provided entertainment for the Christmas period, and then on Boxing Day the apprentices collected money in earthen boxes from their masters' customers, and food left over from the celebrations was given to the poor.

Although we may have lost some of the customs, and substituted frozen poultry, boxes of dates and Morecambe and Wise on the tele, it's a reassuring thought that the basic theme of Christmas has remained and will remain, unaltered for centuries.

D. M. H.

PROFILE - ARCHIE TAYLOR

The ever cheerful Archie Taylor has been a part of Harbury for 31 years now. It was in 1947 that he and Mrs. Taylor, with their young son Brian, moved from Birmingham to take over the 'Top Shop' (as it has been known for many decades) from the Farman Brothers.



At that time, immediately after the war, foodstuffs were rationed and everything was in short supply, necessitating frequent trips to surrounding towns in search of merchandise. These were undertaken in an ancient Ford van with a leaky roof and no reverse gear. A vehicle which needed all the skills acquired by Mr. Taylor in his years in the Motor Trade in Birmingham, just to keep it mobile.

In 1948, the position of Sub Postmaster was given to Mr. Taylor and the shop has been the Post Office ever since - although Brian now holds the position. It was also the only shop in the village with a wine licence - which was no disadvantage. In those days there were some 400 residents in Harbury. The Bull Ring Store was a grocer's shop run by Mrs. Messer; Cathy Craig's was also a grocer's shop and the corner cottage at Binswood End was also a shop run by Mrs. Borton. The takings at that time were only £70 per week but gradually Mr. and Mrs. Taylor built up the business, responding to the steady increase in population as the village expanded. A particular effort was made to deliver orders to the outlying areas, a policy which has continued and been successful through the years.

The advent of the large supermarkets has had little effect on the 'Top Shop', where collecting the weekly groceries tends to be a social occasion presided over by the genial Mr. Taylor. Although behind the easy going exterior, a great deal of hard work is put in by the Taylor family and their 8 assis-

tants (plus 5 who deliver post).

Mr. Taylor's only indulgence (if it can be called that) is his 'hideaway' cottage at Humbleby near Chesterton where he spends some time every week in peace and quiet.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor (they were married 47 years ago) have never for a moment regretted their move to Harbury and they are as much a part of the village as 'Top Shop' itself.

J. B. M.

IN THE GARDEN

Some people think December is a month when you can forget about your garden, but this is not so, because the new catalogues are arriving and with the high price of seeds why not consider sharing for instance a packet of lettuce or something similar where one packet would last you for years.

Another saving to members of Harbury Horticultural Society will be the fact that we have a discount on purchase of Dobies Seeds, more details will be announced at our meeting of Dec. 5th 1978. Don't forget to inspect any veg. you have stored, keep them frost free but not in a hot atmosphere. Removing the lower leaves from sprouts and cabbages improves air circulation round the plants thus reducing chances of botrytis infection. Now is the time to lift your dahlia tubers and also Chrysanth plants and place them in a frost free place. Your Cultivated Blackberries should now be cut back and the new runners tied up.

W. F. LINES.

HARBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A most interesting talk was given by members of the Dahlia Society on November 7 which encouraged one or two members to try their hands next year.

The next meeting at the Club will be on December 5 when the speaker will be from the Chrysanthemum Society, and on January 2 1979 the speaker will be the noted sweet-pea grower from Warwick, Bernard Jones.

A discount on purchases of Dobies Seeds has been arranged which should be of considerable advantage to members. Catalogues will be distributed shortly - any further information from Tony Brunton, 33 South Parade, Harbury 612191 or any committee member.

T. B.

ANTI-EXERCISE LEAGUE

Did you think you were the only 2-legged inhabitant of Harbury who neither jogs nor cycles anywhere? Well, you're not. As a minority group we exercise-phobics should form a society, like Unjoggers Anonymous, instead of lurking about at home thinking up excuses. My uncle has just had a plastic hip to replace his own arthritic one, he swears it's all because he used to be a keen sportsman and he simply wore his joints out! Why not? Well I for one, plan to preserve my joints because I'd like them to last at least as long as I do. It's not so much that jogging and cycling lack appeal, it's just that for one thing they're more time-consuming than a quick dash by car, and for another they seem rather solitary pursuits and, to let you into a secret, I'm not terribly good at doing things which offer no opportunity to talk to (or, possibly, at) someone. Have you watched these hardy joggers? They lope along looking neither to left nor right, they don't smile or speak, then they get home and probably eat enough to satisfy a horse after working up all that appetite! What I really need is proof - I mean, do joggers and cyclists catch fewer colds or live longer? No, it's just that they can survive things more stoically - I mean, if you can face the misery of daily jogging, a cold must seem like a holiday!

VICTORIA MACGOWAN.

HARBURY BRANCH, ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Our thanks are again due to the many helpers who give their time each year to collecting for the Poppy Day Appeal.

House-to-house collections are done by:- Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Bunting, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Farley, Mrs. Goodman, Mrs. Finch, Mrs. Hancock, Mrs. Haynes, Mrs. Keeling, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Macgowan, Mrs. Sperling, Mrs. Suttie and Mrs. Wilson. Other areas are covered by Mrs. Cooper(Ufton), Mrs. Bartlett (Deppers Bridge) and Miss Hillier (Bascote Heath).

In addition to the above we had donations from Harbury Church, Ufton Church and Bascote Heath Chapel together with collections at the village pubs, shops and the school achieving a total £308.03, £37.62 up on last year's record.

JOHN BARNES (District Organiser).

PIP-HUSBANDRY

Houseplants are things which none but the gifted should attempt to grow, because nothing is more calculated to crush your spirits than nursing an anaemic stalk with pride and having this achievement smartly denegated by seeing someone else's healthy specimen looking the way yours should. If you like to watch things grow but find nothing will oblige you by living more than a week in your house, try a little experiment instead! In the last year we've grown a variety of astonishing plants from pips and stones & the excitement over the results is far greater than watching an African Violet grow into the African Violet it is supposed to be. We have a 2 foot tree with large glossy, serrated leaves from a lemon pip, and another with small leaves with a cream border, which came from another pip in the same lemon! We grew an assortment of greenery from those pink shiny bits you get in runner beans (growing from pips has the added advantage of lacking Latin names), and one plant grew to nearly a foot with white flowers, on the windowsill in a classroom at school. We planted 6 pink beany things and acquired 6 different plants which in no way resembled each other even remotely! At the moment our proudest exhibit is a pair of banana palms which will produce bananas in 3 years if they live (we'll move in 1981 in case you demand proof) and meanwhile they grow an inch a week and look incredibly impressive. Orange and grapefruit pips, the prickly green bits on a pineapple, conkers and plum stones will all grow with varying degrees of success, but we find peaches very dull and reluctant. Plant anything - use earth from the garden and a yoghurt pot with holes in the bottom - and see what happens, and don't forget to have a go with peanuts, I mean, look what they did for President Carter!

V.M.

CYSTIC FIBROSIS RESEARCH TRUST

Do come along to the village hall on Saturday 9th December at 10.30 a. m. and see what we have to offer!

We are holding a jumble sale, selling beautiful hand-made cuddly toys and gifts at very reasonable prices, Christmas table decorations and cards and home-made cakes. There will also be a raffle, so while you are waiting for the draw, why not have a cup of tea?

If anyone would like to help out they would be most welcome as we're rather short of volunteers. (please ring 612857)

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editors,

I would like to thank everyone in Deppers Bridge for the magnificent display of fireworks and the bonfire which were a great success. Thanks too for the Barbecue laid on by John and Beatrice Saunders, also to John Gorman and Bob Heath. I was surprised to see so many people there. Thanks to all who gave fireworks,

Councillor Mrs. Catterall.

Dear Editors,

With reference to the report in the last issue of "The Harbury & Ladbroke News" of the meeting of Harbury Parish Council, of which I am a member, I feel obliged to put the record straight.

On the evening in question, 26th October 1978, I was attending the Quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Branch of the National Association of Retired Police Officers at Stratford-on-Avon, in my capacity as Vice-Chairman and Social Secretary of this organisation and NOT a Police Ball, as reported.

It is not my custom to put my personal pleasures before my duties as an elected Parish & District Councillor for Harbury. I had tendered an apology for my absence to the Clerk at the previous monthly meeting.

John Drinkwater (Harbury)

ADVERTISEMENTS

Wanted: By the Village Hall Committee

A new BOOKING SECRETARY is urgently required. The duties involve taking bookings, looking after the keys and attending the monthly Committee Meetings.

Please contact: M. Keen 612561

S. Andrews 612528

Linda Ridgley and her Imp thank Dave Holyoake for his match-making and all his work to keep them together, and wish all at Bull Ring Garage a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

EXCLUSIVE MESSAGE FROM FATHER CHRISTMAS

My dear friends in Harbury
I had to write to say
I hear they've had to put the brake
on increases in pay.

Over here in Lapland
things are also none too good,
We've had to leave the currants
out of this year's Christmas pud.

We too are doing our best
to adhere to pay restraint
but poor old Rudolph's ancient sleigh
really needs a lick of paint.

I've tried hard to get parity
with others doing seasonal work
but for some inexplicable reason
it just doesn't seem to work.

So I think all the boys and girls
must really have to know
that now five per cent's the norm
something will have to go.

Maybe it'll be the train set
or perhaps that cuddly doll
but we'll just keep our fingers crossed
that the stockings will still be full.

Let us hope next year
that things will be O.K.
and I will once again take off
with a fully laden sleigh.

In the meantime may I send a wish
on behalf of us all here
that you have a Happy Christmas
and an inflation free New Year!

Father Christmas

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