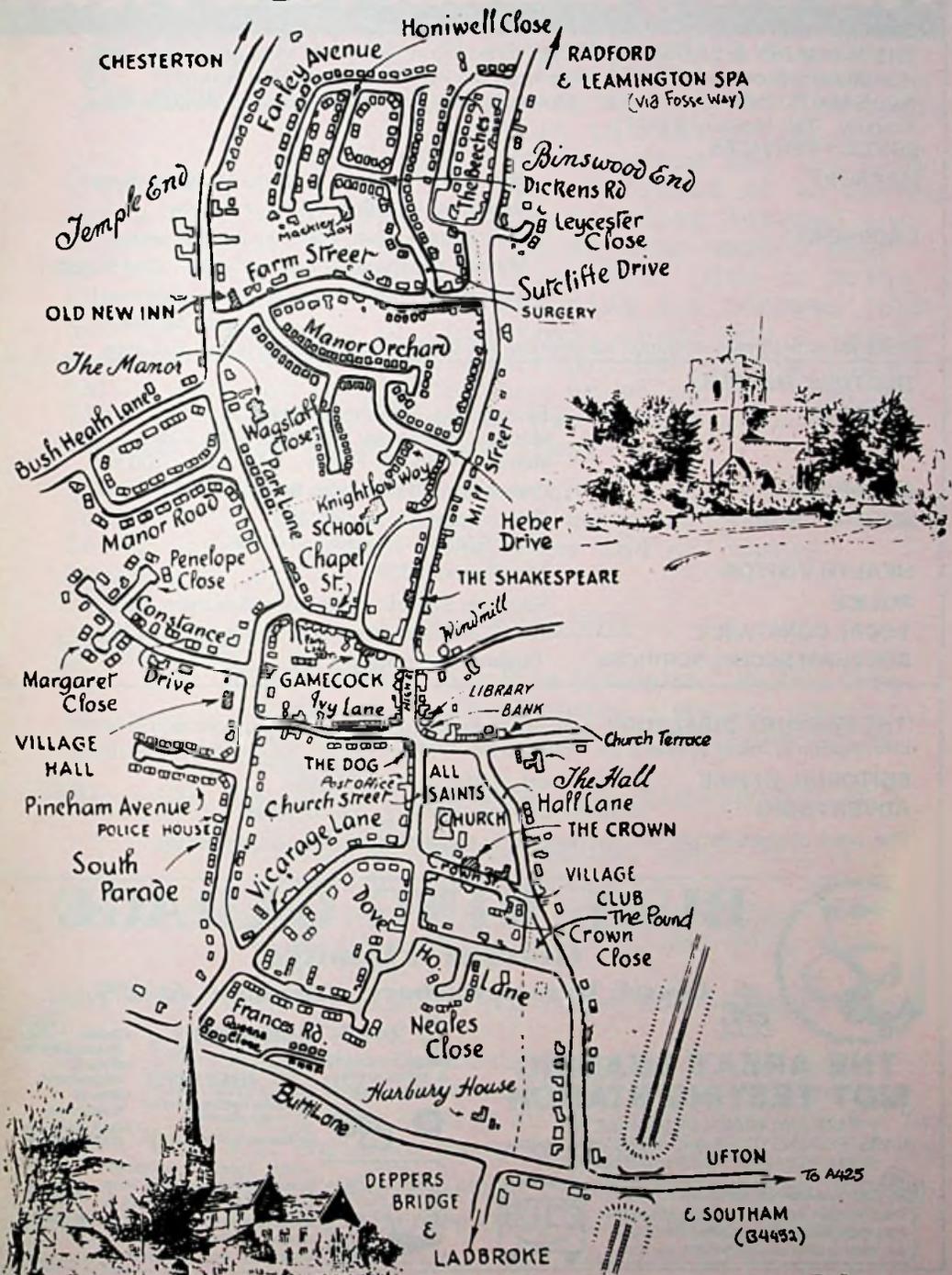


# Harbury & Ladbroke News



# Harbury & 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 - Rector: Canon Antony Rowe, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury. Tel: Harbury 612377

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**HARBURY** Holy Communion - 8.00am, 10.30am (Sung)  
Evensong - 6.30pm (Not 1st Sunday)

**LADBROKE** Holy Communion - 9.00am (with Hymns)  
Mattins and Communion - 11.00am (3rd Sunday)  
Evensong (1st Sunday) - 6.30pm (Summer)  
- 3.30pm (Winter)

Please see notice board in Church for weekday services or revised times on special occasions.

## DOCTORS' SURGERY

**HARBURY**

Farm Street, Telephone: 612232  
Monday - Saturday : 9.00 am - 10.00am  
Monday, Tuesday, Friday : 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

**LADBROKE**

Craven Lane, Telephone: Southam 2577

**DISTRICT NURSE**

Office Hours : L'ton 881451.  
After 5.30 pm : S on Avon 67799

**HEALTH VISITOR**

Tel: Southam 7377

**POLICE**

Southam Station. Telephone: Southam 2366

**LOCAL CONSTABLE**

P.C. T. Percival Telephone : Harbury 612175

**SOUTHAM SOCIAL SERVICES**

Telephone: Southam 3110

'THE HARBURY DIRECTORY' containing details of Village organisations and essential information is freely available on request from - Mrs A Moore, 23 Mill Street, Harbury.

**EDITORIAL OFFICE** 23 Mill Street, Harbury. Tel: 612427

**ADVERTISING** 17 Manor Orchard, Harbury. Tel: 612938

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**HAD A  
BUMP?**



We will soon be into Advent. Christmas will not be far behind with all its excitement and festivities. Advent is a time for looking forward to the birth of Christ, but it is also a time for considering our successes and failures over the past year. 1985 has finished on an encouraging note with greater understanding between the super-powers, but surely the abiding memory must be the amazing success of Live Aid. Can we bring this same spirit of understanding and concern into our own Community at Christmas. Have you a lonely neighbour who needs friendship? One of the sadder aspects of Christmas is when we allow our festivities to be turned into our own family circles and exclude those without families.

Finally, we would like to wish all our readers the compliments of the season. A very merry and blessed Christmas to Harbury, Ladbroke and of course Deppers Bridge.

### HARBURY DIARY

#### DECEMBER 1985

- Sun. 1st ADVENT SUNDAY. 8am Holy Communion, 10.30am Sung Eucharist, 6.30pm Evensong - special preacher The Provost of Coventry The Very Revd. Colin Semper.
- Mon. 2nd 8pm Open Meeting about 'The Tiller Report' at 5 Mill Street.  
Christian Fellowship Meeting, 8pm 77 Mill St.,  
Speaker Dr. Noel Greenhalgh.
- Tues. 3rd Horticultural Society 8pm Wight School.  
Village Hall Committee 8pm Village Hall, with Mince Pies.
- Wed. 4th Mothers Union 2.15pm, Farley Room - Angela Haynes on 'Prayer'.
- Thurs. 5th 9.45am M.U. Corporate Communion in Church.  
7.45pm Mens Group at The Rylands, Dovehouse Lane.  
8.30pm Folk Evening at the Lounge Bar, Old New Inn.
- Fri. 6th W.I. Christmas Party at Village Hall, 7.45 for 8pm.  
'Here Comes Christmas', Concert in Church, 8pm,  
Harbury Theatre Group and Windmill Singers.

2.  
 Sat. 7th CHRISTMAS FAIR in Village Hall with Santa, 2.30pm.  
 Harbury Club - 'The Chas Taylor' Duo.  
 Southam School PTA 'Old Tyme Evening' with  
 Talisman Theatre, 8pm School Hall. See AD for  
 details.
- Sun. 8th ADVENT II, 8am Holy Communion, 10.30am Sung  
 Eucharist, special preacher the Revd. Dennis  
 Capes, Area Sec. of the USPG, 6.30pm Evensong.  
 2.30pm Free Church Service in All Saints Church.
- Mon. 9th Christian Fellowship Meeting 8pm 3 Vicarage Lane.  
 Lower Middle School production 'Follow the Star'  
 2pm in School Hall.
- Tues. 10th 10.30am Village Hall & Wight School Playgroups'  
 Carol Service in V. Hall.  
 'Follow the Star' 2pm School Hall.  
 Harbury Friends 8pm in School.  
 8pm, Farley Room, Harbury Society Open Meeting:  
 talk by Michael Clews, Architect on the Survey for  
 the Relisting of Buildings in Harbury - All wel-  
 come, entrance fee.
- Thurs. 12th 2pm, First School Christingle Service in Church.  
 2.30pm, Thursday Club in Village Hall.  
 7.45pm, W.I. 'Making the Most of Yourself' by Mrs.  
 Dallas Barnes-Hughes in Village Hall.
- Fri. 13th Youth Christmas Party Disco in Village Hall, 7.30-  
 10.30pm, 12-16 yr. olds.
- Sat. 14th Senior Citizens Christmas Party in Village Hall.
- Sun. 15th ADVENT III, 8am Holy Communion, 10.30am Sung  
 Eucharist.  
 3pm Adventurers Carol Service in Church (No morning  
 class) with Young Wives.  
 3.30pm Evensong At Ladbroke.
- Mon. 16th Toddlers Party in Village Hall, 12-3pm.  
 Christian Fellowship Meetings, 8pm 16 Binswood End,  
 77 Mill St., 8 The Beeches.
- Wed. 18th PTA Carol\$ Round The Village.
- Thurs. 19th 2pm, Middle School Carol Service in Church.  
 Whist at Village Hall.
- Fri. 20th School Ends.  
 Royal Naval Association Male Voice Choir, 7.30pm  
 in Church.
- Sat. 21st Venture Scouts Christmas Dinner, Dog Inn.  
 Christmas carol singing, Meet inside Church 5.30pm.

Please support the cake sale in aid of  
 Southam Swimming Pool - Monday 9th, 9.30 - 12  
 at 15 Neales Close.



- Sun. 22nd ADVENT IV, 8am, Holy Communion, 10.30am Sung Eucharist, 6.30pm Evensong.
- Mon. 23rd Decorating Church for Christmas from 10.00am.
- Tues. 24th CHRISTMAS EVE. 6.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. 11.15pm The Midnight Mass.
- Wed. 25th CHRISTMAS DAY. 8am Holy Communion, 9.30am Christmas Morning Eucharist.
- Thurs. 26th St. Stephen Martyr. Boxing Day. 9.45am Holy Communion.
- Sat. 28th THE HOLY INNOCENTS. 9.45am Holy Communion.
- Sun. 29th 8am Holy Communion, 10.30am Sung Eucharist and Ceremony of the Christingle (Adventurers, Guides and Brownies attend) (No Evensong at Harbury)  
All articles for inclusion in January's Magazine to Editors by Noon today please.
- Mon. 30th Christian Fellowship Meeting, 8pm.
- Tues. 31st NEW YEARS EVE.

### JANUARY 1986

- Wed. 1st New Years Day.  
Tennis Club Muffler Tournament, 11am at Recreation Ground.
- Thurs. 2nd Folk Evening at the Old New Inn, 8.30pm Lounge Bar.
- Tues. 7th Horticultural Society, 8pm in Wight School.  
Senior Citizens Cttee., 8.30pm in Village Hall.
- Wed. 8th M.U. 2.15, V.Hall, Speaker Mrs. Celia Barrett.
- Thurs. 9th Thursday Club, 2.30pm, Village Hall.  
W.I., 7.30pm. Village Hall.
- Sat. 11th Scout Jumble Sale in Village Hall.

DATES FOR INCLUSION IN THE HARBURY DIARY PLEASE TO LINDA RIDGLEY - telephone 612792.

For Village Hall bookings, ring Mr. Harrison - 613800  
For Wight School bookings, ring Mrs. Hayes - 613488

### REGULAR WEEKDAY SERVICES IN HARBURY & LADBROKE

- Tuesday: 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion in Harbury
- Wednesday: 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion in Ladbrooke
- Thursday: 9.45 a.m. Holy Communion in Harbury
- Friday: 7.00 a.m. Holy Communion in Harbury

REGULAR DIARY DATES

- FREE CHURCH SERVICE, Harbury Church, 2.30pm  
2nd Sunday in the month.
- HARBURY ADVENTURERS, Village Hall, 11.30am Sundays.
- UPHOLSTERY CLASSES, Wight School, 2-4pm, Mondays.
- GYMNASTICS, Harbury School. 6-7pm (under 7s and beginners). 7-8pm(7-10yrs). 8-9pm(over 10yrs) every Monday.
- SLIMMING & KEEP FIT, Village Club 7-8.30 and 8.30-10pm, Mondays.
- GUIDES, Scout Hut, 7.30pm Mondays
- BINGO, Village Hall, 8pm every Monday.
- TODDLER GROUP, Wight School, 10 - 11.30 am Mondays, and 2.00-3.30pm Wednesdays.
- PLAYGROUP, Wight School, Tuesday to Friday mornings.
- NURSERY SCHOOL, Village Hall, Tuesday to Friday a.m.
- LUNCHEON CLUB: Village Hall every Tuesday & Friday 12-30 p.m.
- DANCING CLASSES, Wight School, 4-7.45pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- BROWNIES, Village Hall, every Tuesday evening.
- SCOUTS, Scout Hut, 7.45pm every Tuesday.
- BADMINTON, Village Hall every Tuesday.
- HARBURY FRIENDS, School, 8pm 2nd Tuesday of month.
- BABY CLINIC, Village Hall, 2-4pm, 2nd & 4th Weds.
- DANCING CLASSES for Children & Adults, Farley Room, Village Hall, 4-9pm Wednesdays.
- V.I., Village Hall, 2nd Thursdays, 7.45 p.m.
- POP-IN, Village Hall, 1.20 - 3.30 every Friday.
- CHOIR PRACTICE, Church, 6.30pm every Friday.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

The Remembrance Day Service was as usual very well attended and we are grateful to the Royal British Legion for leading us.

We were pleased to welcome members of the Ladbroke congregation to Harbury on Sunday Nov.24th for our joint Eucharist and Parish Breakfast.

The next major happening is the Christmas Fair on Dec.7th. This will commence at 2.30pm in the Village Hall and as stated last month, the proceeds will benefit Harbury Youth Organisations. Please

support this event - it will be the first that we have been able to run for something other than Church funds, for some considerable time.

Details of the services during the Christmas period are in the Diary, so it only remains for us to wish all the parishioners of Harbury a happy and peaceful Christmas.

JBM

### CHURCH FLOWERS

During Advent flowers on altars only please. This year's Christmas Decoration will be on Monday 23rd Dec. beginning at 10.00am. Any gifts of flowers or greenery will be gratefully received on the Monday morning. If you cannot make Monday please leave your contributions near the door on Sunday.

A list will be up in Church to divide the area into sections. Please choose one. If there are no spaces left just come - all help is welcome!

I shall probably be away and Liz Bunting will be there instead to keep a general eye on things.

If you cannot come and would like to contribute to flowers please get in touch with the Rector, Liz Bunting or me.

Margaret Rigden

### FROM THE RECTOR

It will soon be Christmas again and the preparations are well under way. There is so much to be done and many people seem to get busier and busier, some even get quite frantic. Then eventually, when all the shopping is done and the rushing around is finished and this festive season begins, most find it a very happy and enjoyable time. It is good to be warm and comfortable, to have the family coming together, perhaps from far and wide, to meet together with friends and loved ones and to share good meals and a few delicacies. It is good to receive gifts and cards, especially to unexpected ones and to hear from relatives and long-standing acquaintances, who maybe we have not seen for years, yet keep in touch. There is particular joy at Christmas in the surprises, the acts of kindness and thoughtfulness, and

6. the remembering of the poor, the sick, the old and the lonely. And of course it is not only the children who are delighted by the externals of Christmas trees, and pretty decorations, and coloured lights and the tinsel I suppose that we all fuss far too much about getting things as we like them for this festival, but I am always sorry when I hear some harassed person say what a burden it all is and what a blessing it will be when it is all over. Such a reaction is no way of expressing the spirit of Christmas. But then I ask myself, what is the real spirit of Christmas? Is it merely a time of goodwill? although that in itself is no insignificant thing. Or do we want or need more? Perhaps it is nice to sing a few carols and listen to the stories told about the birth of Jesus, but are we singing and listening in quite the proper frame of mind? Do we tell and hear of a story that has the ring of 'Once upon a time' about it, as if it has no real bearing on the world of today?

I openly admit that I like celebrating Christmas. I enjoy Christmas as most other people do. I look forward to it and I am sorry when it is all over. Yet without what I am told in the Gospel about the birth of Christ, Christmas would no longer have any significance to me at all. I need to be reminded of Mary and Joseph and of all they can teach me about patience and responding to the will of God. I need to learn of the simplicity, the joyful hope and the quiet acceptance shared alike by humble shepherds and exalted kings. I need to feel in my bones as well as my heart, the glory and the wonder of the angelic vision. I need the story of Jesus become Man not to help me shut out the sadness and the tragedies of the world of today for just a few hours, but to give me renewed hope and strength to face the world and to cope with it day after day, knowing that God sent his Son into the world to share my human condition and my human limitations.

Christmas has been described in these words 'so hallowed and so gracious is the time' and it is when we know the truth of that, that Christmas becomes for us tremendously important, essential to our Christian understanding and of great power and significance to us. May Christmas be to you a time of joy and a time of wonder, and please help in expressing that, in the worship in church.

Antony Rowe.

Holy Baptism

3rd November, Carly Jane, daughter of Martin Clive and Valerie Ann Smith, 6 Margaret Close.

10th November, Clare Emily, daughter of Robert Ernest and Susan Margaret Wilkins, 33 Binswood End.

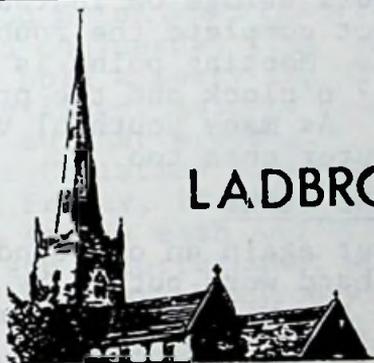
17th November, Douglas McCullough William, son of Paul Francis and Diana Kitson, Dove Cottage, Dovehouse Lane.

24th November, Christopher John, son of Adrian John and Karen White, 9 Manor Orchard.

Funerals

11th November, Margaret Jane Hayward, Lodge Bungalow Church Road, Ladbroke, 70 years.

17th November, Frank Whitely, 26 Manor Orchard, Harbury, 61 years.



## LADBROKE NEWS

DECEMBER DIARY

- Sun. 1st ADVENT SUNDAY, 9am Holy Communion, 11am Family Service.
- Wed. 4th 10.30am Holy Communion.
- Sun. 8th ADVENT II, 9am Holy Communion with Hymns, special preacher the Revd. Dennis Capes, Area Secretary of USPG.
- Wed. 11th 10.30am, Holy Communion, 2.30pm, Women's Fellowship.
- Sun. 15th ADVENT III, 9am, Holy Communion with Hymns, 3.30pm Evensong.

3.  
 Wed. 18th 10.30am Holy Communion (Women's Fellowship Corporate Communion).  
 Thurs. 19th Carol singing around the village.  
 Sat. 21st St. Thomas the Apostle, 8am Holy Communion.  
 Sun. 22nd ADVENT IV, 9am Holy Communion with Hymns.  
 Tues. 24th CHRISTMAS EVE, 3.30pm, The Crib Service.  
 Wed. 25th CHRISTMAS DAY, 10.30am, Holy Communion with Hymns.  
 Fri. 27th ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, 10.30am Holy Communion.  
 Sun. 29th 9am, Holy Communion with Hymns. 3.30pm, Lessons and Carols and the Ceremony of the Christingle.

#### CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

Dec. 1st-22nd - ADVENT, Dec. 25th, 29th Mrs. Rutherford.

#### CAROL SINGING AT LADBROKE AND DEPPERS BRIDGE

All are invited to join with Carol singing around Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge on Thursday 19th December (and if we do not complete the round, also on Friday 20th December). Meeting point is outside the Old School House at 7 o'clock and the proceeds will be given to Mencap. As many youthful voices as possible please, and maturer ones too.

#### LADBROKE CHURCH - NEWS AND VIEWS

The Christmas Fair was yet again an outstanding success, thanks to all the hard work put in by many and the solid support within the village. The magnificent sum of £400 was realised, £80 of which would go to the Diocesan Children's Holiday Project, the balance to the Church Fabric Fund.

Yet another example of generosity was recorded on Friday evening, when a collection was made for the Children in Need Fund at the Bell Inn, and as a result, a cheque for £35 has been sent to the B.B.C.

#### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We were all very sorry to hear of the death in early November of Margaret Hayward. She had been a member of the Fellowship since it started, and will be very greatly missed. Margaret was such a cheerful and friendly person, working for the Church for many years.

Once again Mrs. Daisy Herringshaw entertained us by telling us more of her experiences on the stage as a professional actress. These proved to be most interesting and amusing.

Many thanks to all who supported us in any way with our cake stall at the Christmas Fayre.

Our meeting on Dec. 11th will be in Church at 2.30pm, when we shall be having a service in preparation for Christmas, taken by the Rector. This will be followed by refreshments at 16 Ladbroke Hall.

Nancy Stubbs

### LADBROKE AND DEPPERS BRIDGE W.I.

Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I. held an Antiques Sale in the Village Hall on Saturday 16th November. We made a profit of £46 and this money will be used to buy presents for the patients of Christopher Wren Ward at Hatton Hospital. These presents, together with food, drink and cigarettes will be taken along to the ward on Tuesday 17th Dec. by W.I. members where we will hold a party for the patients. Any members of the village, male or female are very welcome to join us on that evening.

Our Christmas party will be held in the Village Hall on Friday, 13th Dec. commencing at 7.30pm. Tickets are £4 each and this includes an excellent supper and entertainment which will be organised this year by Mr. Mark Waldron who is a professional entertainer. The party is open to any member of the village and tickets can be obtained from any committee member.

I would like, on behalf of the W.I., to thank the members of the village for their support during the year and to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Gwladys Gould

### "LADBROKE: THE VILLAGE" - A REVIEW

It was in 1983 at the Annual Parish Meeting that Warwickshire Rural Community Council first suggested that Ladbroke might like to compile a Village Appraisal Questionnaire. The idea took a year to germinate and in 1984 Kip Warr initiated the project, with the

10.

census forms being distributed in late autumn. It was from this that "Ladbroke: The Village" gradually evolved: "it seemed appropriate at a time when the long-awaited Ladbroke Bypass was at last under construction ... to present a more general booklet about the village itself, both past and present". When commitments took Kip abroad for a lengthy time, the editorial reins were collectively taken up by Kate and John Liverton, Mike Todman and Peter Williamson but at least a dozen villagers contributed in some way or another. The first edition was published in October this year, to coincide with the celebrations for the opening of the Bypass.

A great deal about the history of the parish came from an old book, re-discovered by the Rector, Canon Rowe, in a chest in the church, whilst much of the more recent material was gleaned from the recollections of the villagers. It is surprising how many illustrious connections, including at least four with Royalty, such a relatively small village has had.

I can personally vouch that the editors spent many hours researching, writing, compiling and reproducing the booklet, with the layout proving especially challenging. The response to the first edition was most encouraging, and publicity in the "Courier" brought in a request for sixteen copies from the County Library Service, and also several from people whose families had had past connections with Ladbroke. As I write, the booklet is going into its second edition! The Domesday Book of 1086 recorded Mediaeval Ladbroke for posterity: it seems appropriate that 900 years later there is another, very different, record of our village

C.A.T.

Footnote: "Ladbroke: The Village" costs £1.00 and can be obtained from either Bridge Cottage, Ladbroke, (Tel. Southam 3341) or Quince Cottage, Ladbroke (Tel. Southam 4365).

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The photograph below shows Michael Todman, Kate Liverton, John Liverton and Peter Williamson - at the launch of the booklet at the recent Bypass Celebration Dance.



### LADBROKE NEWS

No Parish Council news to report this month, as the meeting has been postponed until Dec.4th. The NSPCC Collection in the village in October raised £16.66p.

At the Bell Inn on the evening of Friday 22nd Nov., the patrons very generously donated £35 as a spontaneous reaction to the BBC's Children in Need Appeal.

In the middle of December, members of Southam Round Table and Southam Lions will be knocking on Ladbroke village doors in search of items (food!) for their Annual Tin Collection for local elderly folk.

12.

Finally on behalf of everyone, I would like to congratulate the Rector and his wife on the birth of their first grandchild "Rachel".

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone in Ladbroke.

Kate Liverton

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### SCOUTING NEWS

After many hours of voluntary labour the scout hut has a new floor. The end result as everyone who has seen it, will agree, is superb and will hopefully last many years.

We would like to give heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed time and effort to the work. Thanks go also to the anonymous donor of money towards new canoes for the troop.

Our next fundraising event is the Annual Grand Jumble Sale. This is to be held on Saturday January 11th at 10.00am in the Village Hall. Please save all your cast-offs as we will collect house to house the week before the sale.

On behalf of all on the fundraising committee, may I extend Best Wishes for Christmas and 1986 to all those who give of their time in the service of scout and guiding.

AM

### SCOUTS - HELP NEEDED

Despite previous appeals we still need someone to help with scouting activities on Tuesday nights. We now have several cubs who should be going up to scouts but cannot for lack of helpers. Is your son in cubs or scouts? Why not pop along on Tuesdays, 7.45pm and give it a try. No previous experience of scouting necessary. Ring Mick Pallot 613270 for more details.

Mick Pallot

### HARBURY VENTURE SCOUTS UNIT

At a Disco held at Harbury Rugby Club on the evening of Friday 22nd November large numbers of the Unit and their friends gave generously to the 'Children in Need' appeal. £37.76p will be donated. A further

£58 was realised by ticket sales and this will be put towards a new canoe.

By the time this is read we hope to have brought back the District Venture Scout Swimming cup. The District Gala will be held at Leamington Baths on Friday 29th November. Our secret weapon will be our mermaids - the opposition, apparently, are not mixed units!

A floating date before Christmas will be devoted to star gazing. A local astronomer has kindly agreed to show us Halley's Comet. As it will not return until 2061 it promises to be the evening of a lifetime. On 7th December the Unit will be roasting and selling chestnuts at the Christmas Fair. This year we promise they will be cooked to a turn and piping hot - so watch out.

Finally Unit members - if paid up - can book their seat at the Christmas Dinner to be held at the Dog Inn on Friday, 20th December. £2.00 deposit at John at 32 Mill Street.

J.L.H.

#### YOUTH CLUB? "YES!"

Some 100 people packed into the Farley Room on Friday Nov.15th to take part in the meeting called to explore the possibilities of forming a Youth Club again in Harbury. This meeting was a direct result of 13 year old Wendy Ottewill's campaign to get improved facilities for youngsters in the village.

Kay Pallot had arranged for Michael Bunn of the W.C.C. Youth Service, Lorraine Powers of the Warwickshire Rural Agency and James Robertson of the Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs to come along to give advice, guidance and to offer practical help. Sharon Andrews was also on hand to put the younger point of view.

The enthusiasm for the project was abundantly clear both from the youngsters who were there and from the gratifying number of adults present with positive views and a willingness to become involved. The Village Hall Committee expressed their support and provisional dates are already booked.

Sharon Andrews formed a youngsters committee there and then, and the makings of an adult steering committee were established, so that by the time this issue of the magazine is read, positive steps will be in hand to establish an organised Youth Club in the village.

Initially, it is hoped to hold coffee shops in the new year. Meanwhile, there will be the disco on Dec.13th for 12-16 year olds. Regular news of events will appear in the magazine.

#### DAVE ANDREWS' DISCO

David Andrews is well known in Harbury for his 'Spooks' Disco that seems to crop up at every possible event.

It all started about 5 years ago when he and some friends, with financial help of his Dad, gave a disco raising money for Harbury school science equipment. This was so successful that he and John Bromwich from Southam decided to offer their services with a regular disco in the surrounding area.

David now makes a small profit doing about 80 discos a year, and really enjoys it. David would like to thank his parents for all the support they have given him over the past few years and we wish him every success in the future.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about David's disco then contact him on Harbury 612528. On 13th December there is a Youth Club Disco at the Village Hall.

H.W.

#### TENNIS CLUB

As you survey the Recreation Ground's wintry scene don't adjust your snow goggles or check the mince pies for sherry content because there really will be people on the tennis courts.

Yes, impulsive fools that we are at HTC (Harbury Tennis Club) we have joined the Banbury Winter League. The brave endeavour is in its first season. This decision means enduring the Siberian weather in our thermals and trying to remember the score into the bargain!



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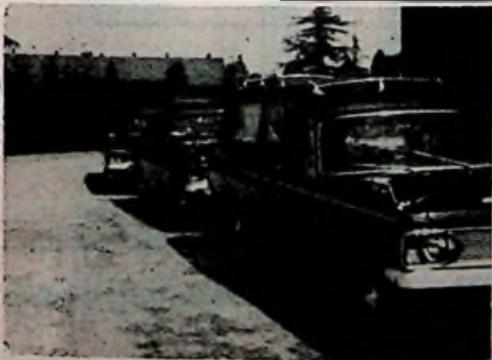
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MAVIS POWELL

**HARBURY 612599**



Actually I must admit that certain more mature members of the club are carrying the banner. Most of the youth are sensibly if cowardly gathered around their fireplaces. So if anyone out there in the frozen wastes we call Harbury needs a winter challenge why not join the club NOW. Just think how refreshing tennis will be when the warm weather comes.

Winter tennis specialists are needed for Sunday mornings at 10.00am, when the club play at home. Away matches are on Saturday and Sunday. Anyone interested should contact Sid Newman on Harbury 612839.

Congratulations to James Mayer and Sarah Bunting who were due to play for South Warwickshire tennis squad on Sunday 24th November against Coventry. The match was rained off.

#### CYSTIC FIBROSIS RESEARCH TRUST

The coffee morning at Celia's house on 1st November was very successful, raising £62.00. Many thanks to everyone who supported it in any way, particularly those who took the trouble to make the lovely cakes.

Earlier in the year Central Television showed a programme about Nicholas Woodfield, a young boy who lives in Bishops Tachbrook and who suffers from C.F. The programme is to be shown nationally, I think on 2nd December, so if you missed it last time please try to watch it this time round - it shows just how much these children have to put up with.

Barbara Andrews

#### N.S.P.C.C.

Thanks are due to everyone concerned with the annual house to house collection. This year the collection realised £414.70, the most we have ever collected in this area. Once again a good time was had by all at the N.S.P.C.C. Ceilidh on 9th Nov. where we were entertained by the Junction Ceilidh

16.

Band. As well as having a good time the magnificent sum of £268 was raised. Many thanks to all who came but a special thank you to the brave "volunteers" who performed the hat dance to the delight of everyone.

Thank you all for your continued support.

P. Hayes

### ETHIOPIAN TOY SALE

Thank you to all who helped and supported this lively coffee morning/sale. £28.39 was raised to send to the Band Aid Appeal. Raffle winners, Mrs. Nan Thomas, Mrs. Lin Hayes, Ceri Edwards (twice), R. Overton.

Clothes, skipping ropes, bats and balls will be sent to children in need in Vietnam and other areas via Christian Outreach c/o Mrs. Antony, St. Mary's Church, Leamington.

### ACTION RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILD

The Jumble Sale held on 24th October raised £92.20. Our thanks to all for their help and support. On a less happy note we regret to announce that the Harbury branch can no longer continue. Our efforts to attract new members over recent months has not met with great success and so it was felt, with reluctance, that responsibilities could no longer be shouldered by the faithful few. We have raised £490.00 for vital research by our efforts this year.

It is very sad that a village like ours is not able to continue this useful work. However, that is the case.

JANICE GRUNDY  
CHAIRMAN

### HARBURY W.I.

At the November AGM we listened to a review of the W.I. year. We heard first of all about the Autumn Council Meeting where Celia Barrett and Jenny Waggott won awards for their sporting efforts

in table tennis and badminton respectively. We also learnt of the W.I.'s strong and successful opposition to the proposed increase in road transport of coal to Didcot Power Station.

Highlights of our own year have included the cheese and wine evening in aid of Myton Hospice, the Drama Group's successful work and the walk through Ufton Fields just in time to see the lovely wild orchids.

The AGM continued with Vanessa Cuthbert, a voluntary county organiser, who conducted our election for us in which Celia Barrett was elected President for her third year.

Usually at the AGM we aim to have a different kind of entertainment for members and this year was no exception. Members had brought their wedding photographs, albums and/or wedding dresses. The photographs caused some merriment (kindly meant) and disbelief in at least one case, but the hit of the evening was the modelling of the dresses by some very brave ladies, who all managed to fit into them! Footwear left a lot to be desired though - ranging from thoughtfully provided white shoes to black boots!

Our thanks go to the committee for their hard work over the past year and we give a special thanks to Monica Davies, Audrey Slater and Lyn Watkins who are leaving the committee this year.

Events ahead include the Christmas party on Friday, 6th Dec., 7.45 for 8pm. Followed by Mrs. Dallas Barnes-Hughes speaking on 12th Dec. at 7.45pm. Come along and enjoy this vivacious speaker and also enjoy some sherry and mince pies, don't forget your £1 Christmas present!

We have been pleased to see an increase in Membership and always have room for more, it is good to have so much local support. Finally, we shall be having our usual New Year Dance on 18th January, £3 inc. ploughmans supper, so book that date now!

HEATHER HAWKINS 612493

Upholstery and Soft Furnishing Class starting Monday, 6th January for 9 weeks. 2-4pm at the Wight School.

MOTHERS UNION

We had a most enjoyable Cheese and Wine evening on the 21st at the home of Jenny Ingram where we were able to welcome those members unable to attend our afternoon meetings. Our thanks to Jenny for her hospitality. Thanks also to all who supported our recent coffee morning which raised £55 towards a new altar frontal.

Our next meeting is on 4th December when the speaker will be Mrs. Angela Haynes from Radford, and the January meeting will be on the 8th in the Village Hall. Finally, please do not forget to bake your cakes for the Christmas Fair. Cakes will be received at the Village Hall between 10.30am and 12 noon.

SK

HARBURY YOUNG WIVES

We would like to thank all the people who have supported us over the last year, (especially the members of the Mothers Union who ran the creche and all the people who helped with our bazaar last month). Your help and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated!

However, we do desperately need more people to come on the committee now. We started out with 7, but now there are only 3 of us! And out of those 3 one is working, one is in the process of moving and the other, (me) is not in the best of health!

So, PLEASE, we need at least 4 more people to come on the committee if we are to continue! Please don't forget about it. Please DO SOMETHING! otherwise we will have no option but to close! Phone me on 613254, or drop me a line at 12 Park Lane, if you can help at all.

Our final meeting this year is on Sunday, 15th December. We will be joining the Adventurers for a Carol Service in the Church. If you can come, please bring toys and gifts for underprivileged children, wrapped, with the age group and sex (where appropriate) of the child it is suitable for, clearly printed on the paper. We are planning to have tea and mince pies afterwards.

I hope that you all have a very happy Christmas.

Sue Dormer

HARBURY BONFIRE PARTY

About 500 people attended this year's Bonfire and Firework Display organised by the Church, with the Scouts providing the refreshments.

The usual amount of combustible material was collected around the village during the day and provided a good blaze, and the fireworks were well up to 'Standard'.

Thanks are due to the many people who helped to make it all a success - especially Messrs. Clarke, Ellis, Gurden and Russell who lent tractors for the collection and clearing up operations. Also to those who gave donations towards the costs.

JBM

HARBURY FOLK CLUB

Tony Bayliss, all the way from Radford Semele, was the featured singer who entertained a full house at October's Folk Club. Tony is a very accomplished and experienced singer with a vast repertoire from which he selected many old favourites.

It was nice to see the complete 'Bonas' again - Pete, Liz, Barry and Nicola - and for a change, Pete compered the evening and also introduced the irrepressible Jug Band, Gerda and me. We were also treated to a few songs from the Harvesters, making their only Harbury appearance between singing in Illinois in the summer and the Falklands at Christmas!

For our rather premature Christmas edition, on 5th December, the guest will be our own globe-trotting Mike Putnam. After Christmas, don't let the haze of the festive season cause you to forget the New Year edition on January 2nd. On both occasions, we start at 8.30pm in the Lounge Bar of the Old New Inn.

Peter McDonald (613730)

FOR WEDDING DAY PICTURES

consult Mike Bloxham, Rose Cottage, 21 Mill St.

\*\*\*\*\*

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HARBURY BRANCH

We wish to thank all those door-to-door collectors who worked so hard for the Poppy Day Appeal and for the Church collections, the shops, the pubs and the School who's combined efforts produced a total collection of £637.45, nearly £55 better than last year.

John Barnes Hon. District  
Organiser.

TRICK OR TREAT

The custom of children going out to 'Trick or Treat' on Halloween is a fairly recent import from America and seems to be growing rapidly in popularity. At the risk of being considered something of a spoilsport, can I suggest that it is not the harmless fun it purports to be.

Many people had to answer their door six or eight times in the course of the evening, some as late as 10.00pm. This is inconvenient and disruptive, but for some elderly people, particularly those living alone, it can be frightening. One elderly couple were very upset by the constant ringing of their bell, shouts and screams, and eventual throwing of bangers.

The children are being encouraged to go out dressed up so that they are difficult to recognise, knock on doors, demand a 'treat' and threaten retribution if they don't get it. However trivial that retribution they have in fact indulged in a form of extortion. Is this really something that we should be allowing our children to do? Perhaps next year, we can return to genuinely harmless Halloween pursuits like 'apple-bobbing' and making pumpkin lanterns, and leave 'Trick or Treat' on the other side of the Atlantic.

M.S.H.

SPONSORED CLAY SHOOT in aid of VILLAGE HALL

In the report which appeared in the November issue, we neglected to thank Mr. and Mrs. Mugleston, who donated a quite superb basket of fruit. Sorry!

## H.T.G. "BEDROOM FARCE"

If you were one of the 300 people who saw Harbury Theatre Group's "Bedroom Farce", then you don't need me to tell you how superb it was. If you missed it, then I can guarantee that whatever you did on those evenings wasn't half as entertaining!

The set was a masterpiece of ingenuity, technical expertise, and dogged determination to overcome any little difficulties inherent in creating three double bedrooms simultaneously on Harbury's stage.

Each bedroom housed a different couple, and their varying lifestyles were perfectly portrayed by the decor and props in each section of the set.

The acting was of a standard rarely seen outside the professional theatre - and not always there. Each character was expertly drawn, and the contrasts and balance between them was excellent. Ali Hodge, trying to remain "normal" amidst the chaos created by her D.I.Y. (failed) husband (Keith Hayes) and her eccentric party guests, gave a specially fine performance, and Betty Barr's neurotic outbursts were played to perfection - when they could so easily have been overdone.

Andrew Cook coped well with the difficult task of acting throughout whilst lying down, and Carol Percival was superbly unsympathetic about his bad back!

Beryl Checkley and David Hill gave good performances as the middle aged couple whose wedding anniversary night is disrupted by the younger members of the family, and Trevor Grundy gave yet another polished portrayal as the instigator of all the mayhem.

All their acting talents would have been wasted, however, without the combined skills of the backstage crew. Enhancing the splendid set was a perfectly executed lighting plan, which enabled the audience without difficulty to concentrate on each bedroom in turn, as the script demanded.

The main bouquet should, I feel, go to the producer, Marie Brown, for her courage in attempting such an ambitious play, her creativity in seeing how it could be done, and her skill in bringing out the best in her company.

cont:-



Another fine example of amateur drama at its very best.

D.M.H.

Editors Note - It is a great pleasure to publish this article by Diana Holt - her expertise as journalist, actress and producer come together beautifully.

THE WINDMILL SINGERS/HARBURY THEATRE GROUP -  
"HERE COMES CHRISTMAS"

Following their joint venture last year in "A Christmas Carol" and their own recent individual successes in "The Quaker Girl" and "Bedroom Farce", the Windmill Singers and the Harbury Theatre Group are joining forces for an evening of Christmas readings and Music in Harbury Church on Friday 6th December at 8pm entitled "Here Comes Christmas".

The music and readings will be for all tastes ranging from traditional to modern and serious to light-hearted and will provide an opportunity for members of the audience to join in and sing some well known carols in a celebration of the coming of the Christmas season. The ever faithful Harbury bellringers will also be in the bell tower to give everyone a cheerful welcome with their bells, as you enter the Church, for what should be a pleasant and varied programme for all members of the family.

Tickets for admission at 75p for Adults and 40p for children and OAPs are available from members of both societies or from The Drug Store, Harbury. Please come along and enjoy yourselves.

B.B.H.

HARBURY SOCIETY

Bring out your friends. Give them a pre-Christmas treat. Come to our FREE, Open Meeting on the Relisting of the Village: Tues. 10th Dec. 8pm in the Farley Room of the Village Hall. Michael Clews the Architect in Charge has agreed to talk about the buildings of Harbury and will illustrate his discourse with slides

Our Social this year will be on Tuesday 28th January and numbers will be limited. More details later.

That's for the New Year but meanwhile don't forget the December meeting where as well as Michael Clews' talk there will be a report from the Footpath Walks Sub-committee.

Linda

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LARGE GARDEN · CAR PARK



'UP THE WALL!'

The Windmill is not the only building to be tidied up recently. Mike Bloxham's photograph shows Fred Field precariously balanced on a ladder, repointing the stonework on Pheonix House in the High St.



CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

CHRISTMAS IN ANTARCTICA 1959

I spent Christmas 1959 at a scientific research base just of the Antarctic Peninsula. Base B, Deception Island was relieved on December 14th and the five other members of the wintering party were taken out by the Royal Research Ship Shackleton. I was left as Base Leader for a further year. The Shackleton had disembarked a motley collection of scientists, steel erectors, carpenters and general assistants to form the summer party. They were mainly old hands and men on their way home, and our task was to carry out routine meteorological work, some surveying and to build a small aircraft hangar. It was a riotous couple of months with frequent visits from a great variety of foreign naval and research ships and their helicopters.

On Christmas Eve the sea ice in the bay in front of our hut disappeared. I cannot actually remember what we ate, but the Base Journal records -

24.

'December 25th - Le Feuvre cooked a very fine Christmas Dinner. This and other activities kept all happy  
December 26th - A quiet and fragile day.  
December 27th - Arrival of Shackleton with a Christmas tree tied to the top of her foremast - and with mail, caused much excitement. She was unable to enter Whalers' Bay because of ice, so beached her bows on Penfold Point and was visited by dinghy.  
December 28th - Construction work continued.  
December 29th - Johnstone's birthday celebrated - particularly by Johnstone.'

I.T.J.

### HARBURY - CHRISTMAS PAST

"Carol singing in the unlit streets with lanterns (candle-lit). Sugar mice from 'Sally's' in the Bull Ring, now Corner Cottage. The poultry hanging outside Alcocks & Birds the two butchers opposite the Co-op. The Christmas tree at home lit with small candles - and no fire-alarms! People taking their birds round to the baker's on Christmas Day because their ovens - if they had them - were not big enough. Parties at the Wight School and at the Wagstaffe School.

We had good times them" - and Mrs. Bayliss' face lights up!

M.W.R.

-----  
Mrs. Jennings too remembers 'Measures' sweet and haberdashery shop (Sally's to Mrs. Bayliss). It was a seasonal treat to look at the window so beautifully dressed for Christmas.

M.R.

### CHRISTMAS 1939

It was the first Christmas of the war and the first Christmas I had ever spent away from home. I had been evacuated with my school to a small market town in Dorset. My host and hostess were going away for Christmas and so my fellow evacuee and I were taken to spend the holiday with the headmaster of the local school and his wife. They were very kind, but they had no children of their own, just a Sealyham dog. We had good food and a comfortable chair by a warm fire and sat and sang carols and talked. But being one of a family of six I did miss the noise and bustle I was used to. Our small flat was always full

of family and friends at Christmas and it was always such a warm happy day. We always had a real party with everyone having to contribute to the entertainment, old and young alike.

This Christmas my friend and I were packed off to bed about 8pm. We thanked the headmaster and his wife for a very nice day, but I couldn't help feeling that this was a Christmas day I had lost forever.

G.C.H.

### 1965 - THE YEAR I COOKED MY GOOSE

My father believed, as I do, that the best place to spend Christmas is one's own home so it was quite a triumph when I persuaded him and my mother to come and stay with me for Christmas 1965 in my new home, a Georgian house in the Somerset countryside.

I planned that I would get a goose for Christmas dinner as we'd not had one since before the war. A few days before Christmas I went to the poultry auction in Taunton market and stood for two hours while dozens of turkey, ducks and pheasants were so. At last they came to the geese. To my horror, there were only two on sale. Each made an exorbitant sum which was far beyond my rather limited means. Sick at having wasted so long and having been unsuccessful, I left the market and crossed the road to go to get my car. As I stepped on to the pavement, I realised that there was a butcher's shop right by the crossing, its windows half full of geese! I went in and bought one - for rather less than half the price the ones had fetched at auction in the market!

VIV AGGETT

### CHESTERTON

Chesterton held its Parish Meeting on 2nd November under the Chairmanship of Stratford District Councillor James Turner.

Twenty four members of the public took the trouble to attend and all twenty four voted that the Parish should stay independent and hold the requisite two Parish Meetings a year.

26.

Mrs. Dorothy Noden, author of the authoritative history of the Parish and a tireless worker for Chesterton for many years was elected Chairman of the Meetings and Marion Ball was appointed Clerk.

The integrity of the Parish whose history stretches back over two thousand years is thus assured for the foreseeable future.

LINDA RIDGLEY

Mrs. Dorothy Noden, Lodge Farm Chesterton. Har.612267

1985 IN HARBURY AND LADBROKE - IN THE 'NEWS'

JANUARY opened with sledging on Treens Hill - the weather was cold. The winter festivities continued - we reported a smashing W.I. dance and the Golden Age Christmas Dinner. But civic concerns were to the fore - Ladbroke was completing a 'Village Appraisal' and Harbury - thanks to the efforts of the Harbury Society had word about the designation of Conservation Areas.

The snow continued into FEBRUARY, and so did the cold. Both the Rugby and Football Clubs had trouble with frozen pitches. Harbury Church ran a stewardship Mission which continues to bring blessings. Harbury schoolchildren were at the top for charity fundraising and then went down a coal mine. The PTA held a successful 'Home Made Evening', while our critic was very impressed with the Guides' play.

MARCH opened with some excitement over a new fence which threatened to divide the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee - but it was patched up. Ladbroke had larger concerns - work started on the long-awaited bypass. The Harbury Theatre Group put on a memorable performance of 'Dry Rot'.

Viv Aggett retired as Churchwarden - after long and devoted service - in APRIL. The Windmill Singers gave a moving performance of Stainer's Crucifixion in Harbury Church. In the same month Harbury School held its first swimming gala, within a couple of weeks the mini rugby club playing Stratford in a snow storm, and - wait for it - the Football Club gained promotion. Ladbroke showed the way by setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

In MAY the Rector introduced a combined Rogation-tide Service at Deppers Bridge. Ladbroke Church dedicated a new Royal Coat of Arms. John Drinkwater proposed the vote of thanks to the Queen Mother when she visited Stratford while Mrs. Bidwell was re-elected

as our County Councillor. Outdoor entertainment was widely resumed and there was a Scout camp - by this time also the Venture Scouts had conquered both the Burton Dassets and Snowdon. The month was also notable for yet another successful NSPCC Fun Run and for part of the Indian Monsoon losing its way over Warwickshire.

JUNE - of course - was Carnival Month. The entertainment was presided over by Louise Houghton as Carnival Queen. It was all most successful and a credit to the organisers and particularly to Keith Thompson's last year as Chairman. The Annual Pony Show - now a regular feature of Harbury life - was also well-attended. In Ladbroke the W.I. managed two very successful social activities in one month. Barbecue time commenced with a Netball Club event at the Rugby Club.

JULY saw yet another successful Open Gardens scheme, but this time with the addition of a craft fair and beautiful Flower Festival in All Saints Church, Harbury. Weather experts began to doubt if we would have a summer at all - they were eventually proved correct. Ladbroke was concerned about a childrens' play area scheme, while Harbury primary schoolchildren produced a superb book - 'Childrens Guide to Harbury'. Mrs. Knighton retired from running the Golden Age Club after nine years of selfless and devoted service. By a major effort Harbury came second in the Best Kept Village Competition.

AUGUST saw more dreadful weather but a very successful play scheme. The Tennis Club seemed very active - particularly in providing coaching and competition for its younger members. Towards the end of the month Les Sollis claimed that he had seen the sun while fielding in the deep at the Cricket Club - few people actually believed him, even in the bar of the Old New Inn.

However, this did not prevent the Cricket Club from beginning work on their new square at the Rugby Club in SEPTEMBER, and in spite of the weather the Flower Show was as good as ever and very popular. The month was also notable for Harbury's answer to the Tour de France - the Bicycle Event. The organisers are getting anxious at the degree of profess-

ionalism that is creeping in. A couple of cyclists actually tried to win this year. More significantly the Thursday Club opened to take the place of the Golden Age. But the major event of the month was the surreptitious opening of the Ladbroke By-pass on a Saturday lunchtime with no warning. Harbury had to make do with repairs to the windmill.

In OCTOBER there was rising interest in re-establishing a Youth Club in Harbury. Ladbroke had to make do with a lively discussion over whether to have gates or stiles along the footpaths to the By-pass. By this time Harbury had resumed all the activities - Mothers Union, Horticultural Society, Folk Club, Dancing Classes etc., etc., that make Harbury such a lively community.

NOVEMBER marked the end of a pleasant spell of weather that almost made up for the appalling summer. The wide range of Christian activities continued in both villages. We not only have the formal services in the Churches but also the Free Church Service and tremendous variety of study groups and fellowships which strengthen the Christian life of the villages. As usual the Remembrance Service provided a focus for thanksgiving. November also saw a lively production of 'Bedroom Farce' by the Harbury Theatre Group and yet another huge Bonfire on the Recreation Grounds.

DECEMBER saw the usual overwhelming variety of festivities in the time up to Christmas - hold on, we haven't got there yet.

I.J.

#### HARBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We had a good attendance at the AGM, John Barnes was re-elected Chairman, Brian Rigden and Stan Finch joined the committee which had been re-elected. It was unfortunate that Mr. Wragg was unable to give his talk on Propagation as we know a number of members were disappointed, so we are hoping to arrange a talk on the same subject in the spring. Our Dec. meeting which is Tues. 3rd Dec. is our Christmas party which is free to members but £1.00 to visitors but that will entitle them to a year's membership. Our speaker will be Dr. Walkie from the NVRS at Wellesbourne and all who have seen his wonderful slides will know they have a treat in store.



This will be my last article for the News - Brian Rigden will be carrying on the good work in the future.

EDNA LINES

IN THE GARDEN

December is the quiet month when you can relax and sit back and study all the new catalogues and decide which part of the garden will be for flowers and which for vegetables, and stop and think: am I making the most of the vegetables I grew - for example, did you know beetroot is delicious served hot with fish?

Any ground you have cleared of vegetables dig it over and leave rough for the frost to penetrate. Your chrysanthus should be dug up and placed in tomato boxes with fresh soil and stored away from frost until January.

W.F. LINES

Dear Friends,

My wife and I would like to thank all our friends for your kindness during my stay in hospital and since. For all the enquiries, cards, gifts and lifts to the hospital we are most grateful, not forgetting all your prayers. I hope by the time you read this I shall be about again. God Bless You All.

ROY CHURCHILL

Dear Editors,

As a 'new boy' in the area, may I congratulate you and your Editorial Committee on the excellent monthly news magazine. The contents make one feel at home and already my wife Ida and I have met a number of residents in Ladbroke - it is a very happy village.

I was astonished to learn that there was not a Youth Club in Ladbroke. I have spoken to several boys and girls who would enjoy the benefits of a Youth Club. To this end I have spoken to the Rector, Canon Antony Rowe who has given the venture his approval. It is hoped that the Club would meet at the village hall and be open to boys and girls under 18 years of age, and would be open one or two evenings per week.

There would be a programme of activities catering for the educational, recreational, cultural and spiritual needs of the young people. The members would also be encouraged to give community serviceto people of all ages. The main aim of the Club would be "purposeful leisure time".



Continued ..

Interested young people and any man or woman (for leadership) can ring me on (981) 7523. In due course an open meeting at the Village Hall would be arranged (with the kind permission of the Village Hall Committee.)

I am positive that there is a great need for the above venture and look forward to a good response from boys and girls and potential leaders. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,  
Eric Hagard, LADBROKE

Dear Editors,

Re: Parish Council Report October 1985. L. Ridgley.

For several years I have received the Harbury and Ladbroke News and noted with increasing irritation the remarks made about the lethargy of Chesterton and Kingston residents. We have been advised to 'get off our backsides', 'pull up our socks', to mention but two of the stirring phrases Mrs. Ridgley tends to use on our behalf.

The M.40 issue concerned our local farmers who took care of the matter without a big stir. Loss of identity concerns all and the required meeting has taken place; action has been taken and will be followed up. So please give Chesterton and Kingston a break and let them decide their own destiny.

It must be said that Harbury has not always been the friendly village it appears to the residents of Chesterton who have tried to participate in various local activities from the youngest to the oldest, we have been outsiders; treated as outsiders and have now voted to remain independent. So, the diligence can now be lifted on our behalf and the innuendoes dropped.

Yours faithfully,  
 Marion Ball (Mrs.)



FOR GLADYS

## SUNDAY TRADING LAWS

Why, oh why, do people with admirable aspirations seek to enforce their views on others? Our current Sunday Trading laws are a mess; illogical, unevenly enforced and widely unpopular.

The individual may practise strict Sabbatarianism, but who does not on Sunday buy a paper or petrol, use public services (electricity or transport), watch television or play sport? Plenty of people seem happy to provide these services too. Sunday markets flourish and they require vendors as well as customers. In factories overtime can be more unpopular on Saturday than on Sunday!

Changing social patterns are distressing and not always for the better. Yet it is how we use opportunities that matters, not to restrict them. To maintain social harmony and mutual respect in a pluralist society we must permit each other the freedom to live as each chooses, provided others' liberties are not infringed.

I have written encouraging our MP to support the relaxation of Sunday Trading restrictions, notwithstanding my being a Churchwarden and regular attendee at Sunday worship. I urge all others of a liberal conscience, practising Christians included to do the same. He is

Alan Howarth, C.B.E., M.P.  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.

In 1653 some Wolverhampton youths arrested for setting up a maypole petitioned Cromwell, "We beg not to be ..... exposed to the tyranny of those whom nothing will satisfy but the power of regulating all men by the square of their private fancies." Can those opposing the abolition of Sunday Trading restrictions deny the charge of seeking to "regulate all men by the square of their private fancies"?

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