



Members of the Outgoing Millennium Committee

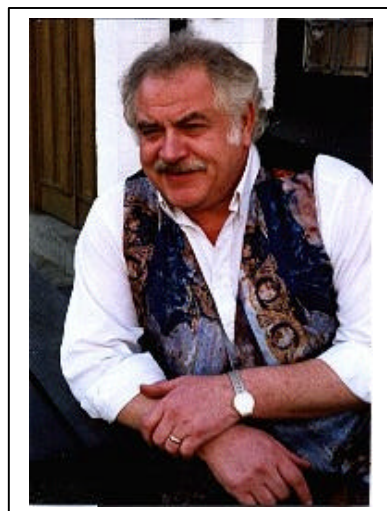
We think we may have come to the last word on the Millennium in this edition! We feel we should acknowledge those who got involved in the preparation of the Village Hall, and also those who prepared their imaginative costumes. Both groups of people contributed in no small way to the enjoyment of the evening.

The illuminated '2000' sign on the windmill provided a focal point for those revellers who gathered in Chapel Street at the approach of midnight.

We realise we should avoid any more references to the Millennium Bug, but as we had more articles sent by e-mail than ever before, we recognise that maybe all the investment to counteract the expected problems obviously paid off.



Sue and Alan Lord's contribution to *Harbury in Lights* on Millennium Night



Jay bids farewell to the Dog Inn

Jay, landlord of the Dog Inn, is leaving the village this month and will be missed by many villagers. He has been actively involved in supporting the Folk Club for a number of years and the regulars from the pub have

entered floats in the Carnival on many occasions. We wish him well in his new venture.

Harbury has long felt removed from the general trends in society involving crime, but as many people may be aware a raid on the Harbury Co-op took place recently in the middle of the day. Due to the quick thinking of the staff, who promptly reported details of the incident, the culprits were apprehended. Advice from the police about how people should behave when witnessing a crime in progress has been included in this edition.

Finally, we extend our sympathies to the families of John Cocks, Beatrice Neal, Constance Smith, and Fred Summers.

Harbury Diary

FEBRUARY

- Sun 6 5th BEFORE LENT** - Sung Eucharist 9.00am; Evensong 4.00pm
- Tues 8 Toddlers' Service 2.15pm
Prayer Group in Church 8.00pm
Village Hall Committee in Village Hall 8.00pm
- Thurs 10 Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
WI in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
- Fri 11 Newspaper Collection
- Sat 12 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room - Rotary Club
- Sun 13 4th BEFORE LENT** - Sung Eucharist 10.30am; Evensong 4.00pm
- Tues 15 **ADVERTS Westbury House, 79 Mill Street by 5.30pm**
Mothers' Union 8.00pm
Senior Citizens' Committee in Village Hall 8.00pm
- Fri 18 Children's Disco in School
G.A.S.S. evening in Village Hall 8.00pm
- Sat 19 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room - British Heart Foundation
- Sun 20 3rd BEFORE LENT** - Family Communion 10.30am
- Tues 22 Julian Group in Church 8.00pm
- Wed 23 Coffee Morning 'Banners for Church' at 3, Penelope Close 10am
- Thurs 24 Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
Parish Council meeting in Village Hall 7.30pm
- Fri 25 Newspaper Collection - Start of HALF TERM
ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist, High Street by 5.30pm
- Sat 26 County Air Ambulance Jumble Sale in Village Hall
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room - Senior Citizens Benefit Association
- Sun 27 2nd BEFORE LENT** - Sung Eucharist 10.30am; Evensong 4.00pm
- Tues 29 Start of School Term Harbury School

MARCH

- Wed 1 Holy Communion 2pm; Mothers' Union 2.30pm
- Thurs 2 Storytelling in Library 10am
Folk Club in the Dog Inn 8.30pm
- Sat 4 Harbury Pre-School Adults Clothing 80/20 Sale in Village Hall
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room - Meningitis Research
- Sun 5 NEXT BEFORE LENT** - Sung Eucharist 9.00am; Evensong 4.00pm

Please note: **Adverts to Westbury House, 79, Mill Street by Friday 15th February**

Articles to Harbury Chemist by Friday 25th February

**DATES FOR INCLUSION IN THE HARBURY DIARY PLEASE
TO: LINDA RIDGLEY - TEL. 612792.**

Bookings for:

Scout Hut	Mr. R. Flanagan	613612
Tom Hauley Room	Mrs. W. Stubbs	612782
T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning	Mrs. J. Windsor	612504
Village Hall	Mr. P. Winchester	614466
Wight School	Mrs. L. Hayes	613488

REGULAR DIARY DATES

APPALACHIAN STEP DANCING: (612734) Wight School, Saturdays, 10:00am-12:00noon

BABY CLINIC: Surgery, 2nd & 4th Wednesday 2:00-4:00pm

BADMINTON: Village Hall, Monday mornings (613174) 10:00am-12:00noon

Mondays (612627) (Seniors) 7:00-9:00pm;

Tuesdays (613413) (Club) 8:00-10:00pm;

Friday (612029) (Juniors) 2:00-3:00pm;

Sunday (613340) 7:00-10:00pm

BEAT BUDDIES: Village Hall, Tuesdays 2pm

BEAVERS: Scout Hut, Tuesdays 6:15-7:15pm

BELLRINGING PRACTICE: (613605) Church, Fridays 7:30pm

BROWNIES: Scout Hut, Mondays 6:00-7:30pm

CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 6:30pm

COFFEE MORNING: Tom Hauley Room Saturdays 10:00am-12:00noon

CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesdays

DANCING CLASSES: (01789-842242) Farley Room of Village Hall, Children & Adults
Wednesdays 4:00-9:00pm

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, Mondays 6:00-7:00pm

HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Dog Inn 1st Thursday of Month 8:30pm

HARBURY FRIENDS: School, 2nd Tuesday of Month 8:00pm

HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB:

Under 7/8s: Training: Harbury School Pitch 9:00am

Coaches: Adrian Hawley 614353 & Ron Razzano 614508

Under 9s: Training: Harbury School Pitch 10:30am

Coaches: Joe Greenwell 613623 & Jim Ward 612401

Under 10s: Training: Playing Fields 9:00am

Coaches: Steve Darby 613330 & Keith Guy

Under 12s: Training: Playing Fields 10:30am

Coaches: John Wilkins 612115 & Steve Wilkins 614574

Under 14s: Training: Playing Fields 10:30am

Coaches: Trevor Montague 612340 & Steve Fitzgerald 612164

HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL: School, Monday-Friday; 9:00am-12:00noon;

Mondays & Wednesdays 12:45pm-3:15pm

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: Wight School, High St. Monday 12:30 - 2:30pm;

Tuesday-Friday 9:00am - 12:00noon

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 613174

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: (613402) School Hall, Wednesdays 8:00-10:00pm

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Village Hall, 1st Tuesday of Month (Oct. to May) 8:00pm

LIBRARY: (613297) Mondays 2:00 - 5:00pm and 5:30 - 7:00pm;

Thursdays 10:00am - 1:00pm; 2:00 - 5:00pm & 5:30 - 7:00pm;

Stories, Rhymes for U5s, 10:00am 1st Thursday of Month; Term Time only

LINE DANCING: BEGINNERS, Harbury Village Club, Thursdays 7.30pm

NETBALL CLUB: (612841) Village Hall Car Park, Training Thursdays 6:30pm;

Matches on Saturday Afternoon

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00pm

SOUTHAM LEISURE KEEP FIT: Village Hall, Wednesdays 7pm

TENNIS CLUB: (614614) (Apr-Sept) Tues & Thurs 6:30pm onwards (6:00pm for April);

Saturday 2:00-5:00pm, Monday & Wednesday 1:45-3:00pm

THEATRE GROUP: The Dog Inn, last Tuesday of Month 8:00pm

THURSDAY CLUB: Farley Room of Village Hall 2nd & 4th Thursday of Month 2:30pm

TODDLER GROUP: Wight School, Monday 10:00-11:30am & Wednesday 1:30-3:00pm
W.I.: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Thursday of Month 7:45pm
YOGA: Wight School, Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm Diane Surgey Tel. 817904
YOUTH CLUB: Village Hall, Thursdays 7:00-9:00pm

Parish Council

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

Harbury Helpline is for you!

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT: Call Tim Millington 612808 or Charles Catt 612864.

HELP WITH FORM FILLING:

- **Job Applications, CV's, Council Tax Forms, etc.:** Call Joanne Cooper 613859 or Jeff Bedford 612753.
- **For University/Job Applications, interviews, CVs:** Call Philip Bushill-Matthews 612476.
- **For Personal Tax Claims, Rebates on Tax Paid to Building Societies or on Shares:** Call Jim Chapple 612044.

HOME VISITING: Caring for a sick or elderly relative and need a break for a few hours, or you would like someone to call on you.
Call Sue Dormer 613254.

HOUSEHOLD BUDGETING ADVICE: Call Tony Brunton 612191.

VISITING: Hospital. If you are unable to visit a parent or relative, or parents would like support with a child in Hospital: Call Fr. Roy Brown 612377 or Keith Dormer 613254.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HARBURY SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion, 8:00am

Sung Eucharist 10:30am (Except 1st Sunday of Month:
Sung Eucharist 9.00am)

Family Service 10:30am on 3rd Sunday of Month

Evensong 6:30pm (Except 3rd Sunday)

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

Rector: Father Roy Brown, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury
Tel.: 612377

Laugh Line

A clergyman was driving his sport's car at a fast pace. He had to scream to a standstill to avoid an accident. When the angry driver of the other car stormed over to exchange words, the vicar handed him his card. *The Rev. Roy Brown is sorry to have missed you. He hopes to make contact with you next time.*

FROM THE RECTOR

We are now in that period of time between celebrating the birth of Christ, moving into the new Millennium and starting, during Lent, the preparation for the joy of Easter - The Resurrection.

With all this in mind I would like to share with you a poem that was given to me recently. It's entitled *I Like Hugs*. The person that passed it on to me has a wonderful warm 'hug', and I hope you will all benefit from it.

"It's wondrous what a hug can do,
A hug can cheer you when you're blue.
A hug can say: *I love you so,*
or, *I hate to see you go.*

A hug is *welcome back again*
and *great to see you* or *where've you been.*
A hug can soothe a small child's pain,
and bring a rainbow after rain.

The hug - there's just no doubt about it
we scarcely could survive without it.
A hug delights and warms and charms,
it must be why God gave us arms.

Hugs are great for fathers and mothers,
sweet for sisters and even for brothers,
and chances are, some favourite aunts
love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them, puppies love them
heads of state are not above them.
A hug can break the language barrier
and make the dullest day seem merrier.

No need to fret about the store of 'em
the more you give, the more there are of them.
So stretch those arms without delay and
give someone a hug today!

Fr. Roy

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals - Oakley Wood

6 th January	Constance Smith
18 th January	John Cocks
28 th January	Beatrice May Neal

Funerals - All Saints' Harbury

15 th January	Fred Summers
--------------------------	--------------

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

A Happy New Year to everyone - the functions at church all went well and were well attended - thank you to all who organised and provided food for the parties.

'Harbury Illuminations' added to the atmosphere in the village - well done to those who organised that, together with the midnight celebrations (and who then cleared up next morning!).

The millennium bug turned out to be a virulent type of 'flu which laid many people low, rather than the expected computer malaise.

By the time this issue is printed, Father Roy will have been installed as an Honorary Canon at Coventry Cathedral (29th January). A coach, plus several cars, will take supporters from Harbury, Ladbroke, and from further afield to witness the occasion.

Ruth & John

MOTHERS' UNION

Afternoon meeting: We were pleased to welcome members from Ladbroke Women's Fellowship to our party in the Tom Hauley Room. Mary Catt organised a quiz to test our knowledge by identifying pictures of famous buildings and landmarks from around the world. This was followed by a lively team game, listing items from various selected categories, which definitely taxed the brain and brought out the competitive spirit!

Pam Brown welcomed Bea Carroll, who has recently moved from Cheshire to live with her daughter (Rosemary Harley). She has been a member of the M.U. for many years and we are delighted that she has transferred her membership and now belongs to Harbury M.U.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious tea, prepared by the Committee, and the party finished with a lucky dip - a gift to take home.

During January, Audrey Tebaldi moved to live in Warwick and we wish her every happiness in her new home. She has been a staunch member of Harbury M.U. and we are glad to hear that she plans to keep attending meetings here whenever she can. We shall miss her cheerful presence, quietly cleaning the chancel on Saturday mornings - a very necessary job and much appreciated.

Evening meeting: Another party! Attended by members and including some husbands and friends, with games arranged by Trisha Harrison and a most enjoyable meal, rounded off by 'Call My Bluff' and great hilarity all round!

Next meetings: **Tuesday 15th February** 8:00pm: 'Working as a Homicide Detective in Arizona' - Carol Philips

Wednesday 1st March 2:30pm: 'Flowers & Prayers' - Angela Haynes

Audrey Tebaldi & Anne Moore

TODDLERS' SERVICE



The children helped to ring the church bell and then Mrs. Ingram led our January service.

We sang "All Things Bright and Beautiful" and said our prayer. Mrs. Ingram then told us the story of Noah and the Ark and we looked at the embroidered pictures of Noah and all the animals round the children's altar. We finished by singing "Talk to God and share with Him" and the children were given pictures of Noah's Ark and the rainbow to colour.

Our next service will be on **Tuesday 8th February** at 2.15pm in the Children's Corner. All babies and toddlers are very welcome.

C. Mary Catt

HARBURY BELLRINGERS

The Quarter Peal, which should have taken place on 1st January 2000, unfortunately had to be postponed, but it was successfully completed on Friday evening 14th January before the normal practice.

For three ringers: Jenny Hodge, Sam Brunt and Lesley Jones, it was their first attempt. Other members of the team were Harry Windsor, Neville Ellis, Dominic Travis, William Jones and John Fisher. Congratulations!

It is interesting to note that several of these ringers joined us as a result of the recruitment campaign for new ringers for the millennium. So the success of this Quarter Peal underlines their achievements. What about you coming to join us?

Nora Ellis (613605)

BANNERS FOR THE CHURCH

As part of the church's celebration of the millennium year, a group of us have been working on a series of four large banners or wall-hanging, to decorate the north side of the church.

You will be very welcome to see our progress so far and enjoy refreshments on sale, at a Coffee Morning to be held at 3, Penelope Close on **Wednesday 23rd February**. Do come along between 10:00am and 12:00noon and see for yourself how things are taking shape.

Lesley Jones

FEBRUARY

Sun 6 5th BEFORE LENT - Family Communion 10.30am
Mon 7 1st 2000 Millennium Draw at The Bell Inn 8.00pm
Wed 9 Holy Communion 2pm; Women's Fellowship 2.45pm
Wl's Knockout Scrabble Evening 7.30pm
Sun 13 4th BEFORE LENT - Sung Communion 9.00am
Tues 15 **ADVERTS** Westbury House, 79 Mill Street by 5.30pm
Sun 20 3rd BEFORE LENT - Sung Communion 9.00am
Children's Church 10.30am
Thurs 24 Wl meeting in Village Hall 7.30pm
ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist, High Street by 5.30pm
Sun 27 2nd BEFORE LENT - Sung Communion 9.00am
Tues 29 PCC meeting 8.15pm

MARCH

Fri 3 Ladbroke Village Hall Annual Quiz night
Sun 5 NEXT BEFORE LENT - Family Communion 10.30am

LADBROKE FLOWER ROTA

February 13th - Gwynne Badman
February 20th, 27th, and March 5th - Valerie Copley
Jane Rutherford

LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

After all the excitement of Christmas and the New Year we seem to be in a more relaxed mood as we approach the middle of Epiphany and look forward to Lenten tide.

We had a very enjoyable Christingle service at our Family Communion in January. I wonder where all the sweets went from the spare oranges! Our next important service is Candlemas, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, at our Family Service, **Sunday 6th February**.

With regard to the repairs and restoration of the church building, the electrician has finished the rewiring, and the bells are away being cleaned, repaired and retuned. The plasterers have also started to make good the walls inside the church. When all the high level cleaning has been done - professionally - the walls will then be redecorated. I have a feeling we are going to have a few weeks of inconvenience once again - Oh, dear. Still, we are making progress.

I am sorry to report that someone has made a complaint that dogs, being walked through the churchyard via the public footpath, have been allowed to foul the area near the graves by the gate leading into Farmyard Field. The graves are always well maintained in that corner and it does seem to be inconsiderate of dog owners to leave their dog's mess to be removed by those attending the graves.

Betty Winkfield

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We had our AGM in January, when we planned our programme for the coming year and talked about where to go for our outing in June - most important! Also, although Lent is very late this year, we did talk about

our Lent lunches. The money from these lunches goes to the Cairo Refuge for the Sudanese and the boy we are sponsoring through his education and upbringing there.

On **Wednesday 9th February** Mary Shelley is coming to tell us about the fun they had making Harbury's Millennium Video. If your afternoons on the 2nd Wednesday of the month are free - please come and join us. The meeting is at 16, Ladbroke Hall, home of Nancy Stubbs, in February, after our Church Service at 2pm. Although we would love to see you at the service, it is not obligatory.

Betty Winkfield

LADBROKE AND DEPPERS BRIDGE W.I.

The January meeting was held in the Village Hall. This was our first meeting of the new millennium and our subs were due for another year. Our speaker for the evening was Mr. Charles Catt who showed some very beautiful slides on British Wild Flowers, most of which were taken locally. It was very enjoyable trying to identify some of the more common flowers that were not easily recognisable, because of the zoom photography.

The first team of Short mat bowls played at home to Snitterfield on January 26th. We won convincingly - the score was 14-8 and our team now go through to the semi-finals to be played sometime in April.

We will be holding a Knockout Scrabble Evening for members at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 9th February**, at Hazel Sharple's home, to enable us to put forward representatives to play in the federation scrabble heats in March. For further information, please contact Susan Moore on 612207. The raffle was won by Tina Gilberts and Julie Harris.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 24th February** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when our speaker will be Mr. Tom Powell, whose talk is entitled: *Never let the joke become the job*. The hostesses will be Pam Collins and Julie Harris.

Marie Kennedy

LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL

The revamping of the Village Hall has started with the interior decor, and the committee wants to say thank you with a capital T to the ladies who have spent their time sewing and hanging the beautiful new curtains. Along with the evergreens and tinsel, not to mention the Christmas tree, the Village Hall looked a real treat for the Millennium festivities. (I've not to mention the Hook Norton Beer!)

Our simple evening started with a few fireworks outside the Village Hall, followed by a candlelit procession to the Church, where we sang "In the Bleak Midwinter" to an amazing single-finger rendition on the organ by David Rutherford. Steve Doyle has of recent years rung the twelve at midnight each New Year, so it was extremely fitting that his step-daughter Jennie was able to ring this year's twelve notes, prior to a full complement of bells afterwards. So well done bellringers, especially young Andrew whose other accomplishment for the evening was to provide the background music in the Village Hall.

Followed by a few short prayers and a glass of champagne, it was felt by those there to be a wonderful way of welcoming in the New Millennium.

Work has now started on providing a safer, better and more permanent paved area outside the Hall.

Friday 3rd March is our next Big Night, when the annual Quiz for the 'Don Northorpe Trophy' will be held. We are looking for teams of 4 (£8) and, on past evidence, it may be wise to book your team in early with Peter Baker (tel. 811606) to avoid disappointment. It is always a very good evening.

Linda Doyle

LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL

Late again last month! Millennium resolution - will try to do better this year.

The 11th draw of the Millennium Club for 1999 was held at the Bell Inn on December 6th. The winners were B. & M. Whitehouse £90; Gwynne Badman £50; A.E. & H.D. Dowdeswell £25; Hylde Overall £25; A. & E. Pittaway, Terence Sullivan, Betty Malcolm, Dianne Surgey and Catherine Spence each won £10.

The 12th draw of the Millennium Club for 1999 was held on January 10th. The winners were Bernard Billings £90; Muriel Grey £50; Mig Warr £25 and Jenny Barrett £25. Dianne Surgey, Richard Walker, Marie Kennedy, Mike Todman and Roger Edwards each won £10.

For the Millennium the Village Hall Committee decided to finance the improvement of the front of the Hall with Millennium funds. At the moment work is going on to lay a patio across the front of the Hall. Shortly it will look even better when we install some flower tubs.

Recently, we had the hedge trimmed which will look great when the leaves come out. Come and support some of the activities in the Hall: a Quiz in March and a Dance in April with a live band - and see how attractive the Hall looks with its lovely new curtains as well.

The next draw, the first in 2000, will be held at the Bell Inn on **Monday 7th February** at 8:00pm. All visitors and new members will be very welcome.

Catherine Spence

NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS IN LADBROKE

The Village Hall was open to all on the evening of December 31st - beautifully decorated and offering a supply of snacks and drinks. John and Roger let off fireworks before we walked with our candles and torches to the Church for the midnight service. The Bellringers were on good form and after a hymn and prayers we toasted the New Year in with champagne.

Many thanks to the Village Hall Committee, Betty Winkfield, David Rutherford and the Bellringers for their part in a great start to the Year 2000, which will not be forgotten.

We look forward to a repeat performance at the end of this year!

Hazel Sharples

REGARDING THE VICTORIAN GARDENS IN WARWICK

I was interested in the article back in the November 1999 issue when the Harbury Society reported having a speaker at their meeting who told them about the restoration of these gardens.

My son was one of the volunteers who helped clear the site of brambles, elders, etc. Always prone to accidents, the enclosed photograph is of him after he came in contact with a dilapidated shed buried in the undergrowth. The doctor in Casualty at Warwick Hospital wrote in the report of the accident: "Chopped down tree - tree fell on shed, shed fell on head!" I'm glad to say he made a full recovery, I think!



Betty Winkfield

SOUTHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Ladbroke Section

Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder - and it is certainly true for our Millennium Stone. It has been commented that it looks ugly, but I beg to differ. Vision is only one of our 5 senses and my interpretation shows it has internal beauty, which gives it an unique aura of its own.

Four thousand years ago gave us the well-known Stonehenge, though nearer to home I prefer to think of the Rollright Stones on the Warwickshire border near Long Compton. An early morning visit to Rollright on a sunny day before the tourists arrive, gives the stones an ethereal visual quality, something greatly enhanced by our ability to touch (which is impossible at Stonehenge).

Not many people realise that Ladbroke once had an ancient standing stone of its own. Memories of it exist in Edwardian books, but unfortunately the knowledge of its position remains somewhat hazy.

It is thought in some quarters that the standing stone was where the Manorial Court of Ladbroke convened. The Court Meeting Place was entrenched so well in our village tradition, that by the 17th Century on the notices for the Courts to meet was only written "the usual meeting place". Once met, the Clerk opened the Court and immediately requested everyone to move to the nearest public house (usually the "Bell" or the "Horse & Jockey") before proceedings could commence. So familiar was this procedure that when the last court was held in the middle of the 19th Century, the records gave no further information.

Where and why there was a standing stone at Ladbroke appears to be unknown. Its knowledge goes so far back as to be lost in time. There is an ancient burial mound on the Bishops Itchington parish boundary and there is thought to be one near Radbourne Lane, though some say this one is associated with the Civil War period. Near here was once a "horestone" marking the parish boundary between Ladbroke and Hodnell. The stone has long gone, but the field name has remained.

There is a possibility that this was the "meeting place", based on the fact that Ladbroke and Hodnell (including Chapel Ascote) were once separate Manors, which in the 15th Century, with Radbourne, all came under the one Lordship, that of William Catesby. Hence the Courts appear to have merged. The "horestone" would have been a common factor between the parishes. However, all this is speculation.

In the 16th and 17th Centuries, the Chebsey cousins were Yeoman Farmers, but because both had the same christian names, they were distinguished by the names "Chebsey of the Farm" (he lived in the old Manor House in Farmyard Field) and "Chebsey of the Stone". Was he so named because he lived near the standing stone, or was it because he farmed land along Radbourne Lane where the "horestone" stood?

The answer I am sure will be in the Kew Public Record Office where the old Manorial Records of the Catesby family are kept, but unfortunately I neither read Latin nor have the time to look, but I do know that my beauty in the Millennium Stone remains my own interpretation, if not yours.

Linda Doyle

LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The presence of all Parish Councillors, County Councillor, Bob Stevens and three members of the public made a happy start to the Millennium even though the agenda remained 'business as usual'!

Restorative work - The work in the village continues and is being monitored by Peter Williamson.

Planning Permission - Approval was confirmed by Stratford District Council for extensions to The Old Post Office and for a change of use for a barn at New Farm Stables, Ladbroke Road, Bishops Itchington. The application for extensions to Lodge Bungalow was discussed although advice from Stratford Planning Department is still awaited.

Warwickshire County Council Report - Bob Stevens explained that the County Council is in the process of setting the 3 year rolling budget to include the existing allocations plus essential extras. The Community Tax will then be determined. A new County Area Committee has been set up and is seen as a good forum for problem solving. The parish boundaries are up for review again and the Council will be invited to comment.

General concerns experienced by villagers - The Council is pleased to discuss any concerns felt by any villager but these must be put in writing so that we have a true understanding of the concerns.

Carol Northorpe

HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

At this first meeting of the new Millennium, the Council could not decide between two types of climbing/scrambling/sliding equipment which they hope best represent what the school children desire, so the Sub-Committee will make a recommendation. At the next meeting, a group of older children will give a presentation on their ideas for a skateboard

ramp. Southam School was congratulated on achieving Technology College Status which will bring with it increased investment not only for them, but also for their feeder schools (Harbury is one).

Congratulations to the Millennium Committee for their organisation and especially the 2000 in lights on the Windmill; the Co-op staff for their vigilance and calm in taking the registration number of the raider's car and the police for effecting an arrest; and to the Clerk and Councillor Hancock for their work on vetting the latest Electoral Roll.

Planning - Stratford District Council granted extensions at Littleton House, South Parade; 1, Wagstaffe Close; 16, Mill Street; a garage at Holywell, Hall Lane, and a new house to the rear of Brethrens Farm.

The Parish Council made no representations on a replacement conservatory at 38, South Parade; extensions and a new pitched roof at 2, Manor Orchard; a side extension at 7, Penelope Close, and replacement garages at 17, Ivy Lane where the Parish Council held a site meeting and agreed the work would be an improvement.

Stratford District Council refused permission for extensions at 7, South Parade and 26, Ivy Lane. They are to be asked to take enforcement action against BT for the mast on their exchange and the unauthorised work at Tresco Barn.

The Parish Council was unhappy with the plans presented for a two-storey front extension to 18, Farm Street which did not clearly show the before and after effects of the work and sought no Conservation Area approval. It was already a very large house on a small plot, the extension to the front was very obtrusive detracting from the street scene highlighted in the Village Design Statement as particularly pleasing.

The Tennis Courts extension has failed to secure Landfill Tax funding from Biffa and is seeking other sources of finance. Meanwhile work progresses well in securing a management agreement between the clubs and the Parish Council.

Trees will be planted in the Burial Grounds in memory of Eva and Charles Keeling. The Parish Council has been asked to put a commemorative plate next to the Old Postbox in Mill Lane, making clear that it is not in use and explaining that it used to stand opposite Taylor's in Church Street and near its present position by the old Post Office! A replacement bench will be installed on the Old New Inn green.

The village signing scheme is now complete. New nameplates will be placed at Bush Heath Road and Deppers Bridge entrances to the village with more Twinning signs for which the Parish Council will pay. Part of the Leicester Close garages, which are damaged, may be removed completely. The library notice board will be reset. Avondale Vets have agreed to sponsor another "Dog Bin" for the top of the Playing Fields.

John Drinkwater went back to his hobby horse of a One Way System for the centre of the village. He complained that Church Street gets blocked by vehicles and the traffic does not move freely. He also believed that the Church St/Crown St/Dovehouse Lane/Vicarage Lane crossroad is dangerous. He suggested the Parish Council ask Warwickshire County Council to look at the problem and send someone to their next meeting to

talk about a One Way System. He blames the police for opposing the suggestion in previous years.

Linda Ridgley

HARBURY SOCIETY

John Lapraik waxes lyrical about the guided walks he and Ed organised this winter. A “Perfick!” Saturday morning in early October for the Ilmington Walk from the Howard Arms. This pretty village, set below the northern end of the Cotswolds, looked particularly fine with the sun shining on the stone buildings.

The group walked through the village, up the old drover’s road, to Lake Stoke where the views were so clear that they could see all the way to Warwick Castle and the skyscrapers of Coventry. It seemed almost possible to reach out and touch Meon Hill and Lower Quinton. Partridges were running over the fields on all sides; they saw a green woodpecker in the trees; the last swallows of summer in flight, and a buzzard being mobbed by a herd of cows! They reached the summit and followed a path through a meadow onto a bridleway downhill and back to the village for good, but pricey food and drink.

The Hangover Walk on New Year’s Day was also favoured by good weather. Over the fields from Temple End to Chesterton went the intrepid few trying out the new stile installed by the Parish Paths Partnership; over the ploughed field to Humblebee Cottages; through the Churchyard onto Thwaites Estate; along Bush Heath Lane and back to Harbury where John reports that, following the night before, nobody wanted to go to the pub!

Events: By the time you read this the Touring Theatre Company should have entertained us with their version of the Hunchback of Notre Dame so the next event is the AGM on **Wednesday 8th March** at the Tom Hauley Room when John Smith will give an illustrated talk about Walls; their construction and history with examples from the village. This will be followed by a walk round the village to identify walls that need urgent attention on **Sunday 16th April**, 10.30am from the Dog Inn. On **Saturday 13th May** at 2.30pm we have organised a guided tour of Warwick’s Hill Close Gardens, the Pleasure Gardens by the Racecourse which are being brought back to their Victorian splendour.

Oh and John Lapraik reminds everyone that their Subs are due!

Linda Ridgley

HARBURY WOMEN’S INSTITUTE

Into the New Year and the birds are getting active. So are we with a list of available trips and activities for the coming months.

The Darts Team got through to the next round of competition. The Bowls Team were unlucky in their game.

Some members have been searching for the oldest tree in Harbury. The girth will be measured five feet from the ground and the result sent to the organisers of Warwickshire’s Oldest Tree.

The speaker was Mr. Graham Sutherland who gave a brief history of Warwickshire Constabulary. Mr. Sutherland is a retired policeman with an interest in the history of the force. He was also Town Crier of Warwick.

The Warwickshire Constabulary was established in 1840. Until then there were 3 police forces which was quite unsatisfactory. With the use of slides we were shown and told of the different modes of dress over the years. The first hat was a leather top hat, winged collars that rubbed the neck and heavy material for the uniform. We saw the changes which have resulted in the more sensible modern dress where constables are allowed to remove jackets in the summer and not swelter in the heavy ones they used to wear.

What a change there has been in transport from horse and trap, bikes, scooters, motor bikes, cars and now planes. Then, the Control Room had radio, and a telephone - now there are computers, etc.

There was great prejudice against women but they have eventually been accepted and are a great asset to the force. The many aspects of policing need a level head and a certain type of person from top to bottom.

In the past, acts of bravery, in some cases with loss of life, have not been sufficiently recorded. Mr. Sutherland aims to rectify this matter and give the officers the recognition they deserve. Often, after his talks, he is approached by a relative or someone with information.

Many of us yearn for the village 'Bobby' who lived amongst us and was respected by young and old. Unfortunately that era is now in the past.

February hostesses: Gunde Walshe, Mai Wason and Audrey Atkins

Jeanne Beaumont

HARBURY YOUTH CLUB

We need helpers to assist with youth activities on Thursday evenings. This is a very rewarding involvement with the teenagers of the village.

We also require more items of equipment, particularly badminton racquets. If anyone could donate some racquets, it would be very much appreciated.

If you can help with either of the above, please telephone Bob Jenkins on 613857.

Janet Thornley (612688)

Millennium Celebration in Harbury



HARBURY FOLK CLUB

When I was first asked to join the team of regulars who take turns to run the monthly Folk Club, my first thought was: *I've never done anything like that before* and so I decided the theme for the evening should be "first time for everything".

My debut should have been in November, but due to previous commitments, I was unable to go to either November or December meetings and so agreed to take charge for January. Having more time to think about it should have made the task easier, but in fact, added to the pressure, especially when I realised that I was to host the first club of the new century.

Having decided on the theme, I needed to find some new way of introducing the evening. Two ideas came to mind, the first being to have performers making their first appearance at Harbury, and the second was to introduce each one using rhyme. The usual format for Harbury is to have 3 sessions and two intervals with 5 to 6 acts in each 'half', so I soon realised that to find 15 or more new acts was highly unlikely, and so I challenged myself to have brand new acts for the last session of the evening. As for the rhyming introductions, this was to be reserved for performers in the first two sessions, and I would do my best to incorporate hints within the verses so that regulars could guess before I finally revealed each act. Another 'first' would be the fact that I was not going to let the performers know beforehand which order they would appear in - in the hope that people would listen carefully to the introductions.

One problem I realised was that no one could guarantee exactly how many, or indeed who, would turn up on the night. I knew that I would not be able to 'ad-lib' any of the rhymes so I set about writing introductions for all of the regular performers - imagine my horror when the list of possible regular performers numbered 18. Determined not to be beaten, I eventually came up with 24 verses, including the opening rhyming introduction, and I was happy that I could cover all eventualities. Having sorted out the first 2 halves, all I needed to do was to find 5 acts to perform their debuts at Harbury!

With Christmas over, Harbury Folk Club number 182 soon arrived. I arrived at 7:45pm to try and give myself time to relax and get ready for the night I had been dreading since agreeing to be one of the team. The only positive thing was the knowledge that all of the regulars would be very supportive and encouraging. At 8:20pm things were looking bad for me - hardly any of the numerous regulars had arrived and I became increasingly concerned that everything I had worked so hard at was going to be wasted. Fortunately, by 8:30pm I was feeling a lot happier as more people had arrived and I began to put a quick running order together. Even this is not as easy as you think when you consider the variety of talent we have available at Harbury. The easiest decision, as far as I was concerned, was to call on Peter McDonald to open the show. Peter is one of the stalwarts of the Club who always performs well, is able to play a variety of musical instruments and makes the job of host appear so easy and relaxed.

Other performers in the first two halves included Rick, Pete & Liz Bones, Des, Gilly Darbey, Mike Putnam, Ron Shuttleworth, Phil & Drill and

Ruth. We also had a pleasantly unexpected first solo performance by Janny (let's hope there will be more now she has taken that first big step).

The raffle, proceeds of which were to be donated to helping the homeless people of Leamington area, made £38. The second half ended with the fabulous voice of Ruth who is shortly off to America - we all wish her well and hope she remembers to come back and see us at Harbury whenever she gets the chance.

And so to the '3rd half'. Unfortunately, one of my newcomers had to cancel at the last minute, but I'm glad to say that I did manage to introduce 4 new acts. Carolyn and Sue both live in Southam and are members of the ladies' choir 'The Karousels' (Carolyn also sings with the Nigel Hopkins Singers) and I was pleased that they accepted my invitation to come and sing for us (they were accompanied by the Karousels Musical Directory - Helen). I found out by accident that they used to sing folk music a long time ago - let's hope they can be persuaded to come back for more.

Most people at the Club know that I am a member of Coventry Barbershop Harmony Club. Our chorus perform under the name of 'The Sounds of Three Spires' and we also have a ladies chorus (The Belles of Three Spires) and having tried for months to get a ladies quartet to Harbury, '4 for the Moment' eventually agreed and performed not only their first spot at Harbury, but also their first public performance anywhere.

To end the evening I had asked '3 Men in a Boat' to come along. I had heard them last September at a charity concert in Southam and thought they would go down well at Harbury - and they did. We finally ended at 11:30pm. My very stressful night was over. I had thoroughly enjoyed myself and was reasonably pleased with the show. I hope the audience enjoyed it. We really are fortunate in having such a variety of good local talent. Long may it continue. As for next month: Mike Putnam will be in charge.

Bob Hodgkiss

HEREBURGH MORRIS - THANK-YOU, HARBURY

New Year's Day 2000 was bright and sunny: probably the finest day Hereburgh Morris has ever had for the Hangover Tour. We would like to say thank-you to all the Harbury landlords for letting us dance outside their pubs. Also, thank-you to all those people who watched us and gave so generously to our collection for the Red Cross. As a result we made £61.47 for the Red Cross Disasters Appeal. Excellent.

Gill Barber

HARBURY BROWNIES

The 1st Harbury Brownies has been temporarily saved from closure by Mrs. Yvonne Keyte, 1st Bishops Itchington Guides' Guider. She will lead the Brownie unit for a short while in the hope that someone from the village will come forward.

There is a waiting list, so if your daughter is 6 years old and would like to be a Brownie, please telephone 612776 to have her name put on the list.

Brownie Leaders

HARBURY TODDLER GROUP

Due to a large number of our toddlers starting nursery or pre-school this term, we have room available for new toddlers wishing to join us! Toddlers of any age can join - usually about 9 months to 3 years or so.

We meet on Mondays from 10:00 - 11:30am and on Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3:00pm, at the Wight School behind the Library. You are welcome to attend whichever sessions you wish. The cost is just £1 per child per session, plus 50p for second or third children.

The sessions are very informal - lots of playing time for children and chatting time for Mums/Dads/Carers! We aim to do a craft activity with the children during the first half hour or so, then it's juice and biscuits time (and coffee for adults), and afterwards we may do some singing, or the children just play! During the summer months we usually set up outside the hall, weather permitting.

Annual events in the Toddlers' calendar include a Christmas Party and a summer outing - in 1999 we had a teddybears' picnic in Victoria Park, Leamington and a visit to the Shire Horse Centre in Stratford-upon-Avon. The group is completely self-funding, so we occasionally do some fund-raising too - a sponsored toddle in 1999 to fund the purchase of a new toy shed.

So, that's Harbury Toddler Group! We would love to see some new toddlers joining us with their Mums/Dads/Carers - it can be quite noisy, but it's great fun! If you want to know any more, please contact one of the undersigned:

Caroline Hill 613780
Gael Conway 614214

HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL

The Nursery has seen a very busy start to the term with ten new children. All seem to have settled in well and have been warmly welcomed and helped to feel at home by our older children. There will be more new ones after half term, at which time we will also be running a new Tuesday afternoon session to meet the ever increasing demand for places. We would like to encourage all parents and carers of children due to join us after Easter to contact us to agree which sessions their children will attend. You can contact Kate Smart on 612609 or through the school on 612656. You are also welcome to call in at the Nursery any time.

All the children are enjoying a wide range of activities relating to our current topic of 'journeys, transport and visiting relatives'. Many children have practised their creative skills at home by making collages of different types of transport and bringing them into nursery to show their friends. Children have also been drawing their own version of cars, planes, trains and buses and some of our older children have practised their letter skills by labelling their drawings.

We have also been talking about the journeys that we make to visit relatives and friends and the imaginary ones which we would like to make. This is how Corey described his magic boat journey: *I would sail*

on the water. There would be sharks and dolphins. You might get eaten by a squid. I met some pirates. They fell into the water and were eaten by the sharks. In the next few weeks the children will learn about the story of Noah's Ark leading up to the Nursery presenting the Family Service at the church on **Sunday 20th February**.

The Nursery Committee will be holding an 80/20 Sale of nearly new toys, clothes and nursery equipment (80% of the proceeds go to the seller and 20% to the Nursery funds) in the Village Hall on **Saturday 8th April** from 10:30am until 12:00noon. We also plan to run a video swap shop at this event, whereby children pay £1 to bring and exchange their videos. The Committee would like to compile a stock of videos to choose from and any unwanted children's videos will be gratefully received. For further details about the 80/20 sale contact Marie Kennedy on 812244.

Marie Kennedy

HARBURY PTA

The first meeting of the New Millennium (how often has that been said) was a cheery affair with very few casualties of the dreaded colds and flu that have been going around.

We discussed events for the future, fund raising for the new computer suite and other important projects around the school. These included ideas for a new garden shed/greenhouse, new curtains for the school hall, other ideas for generally making the school a nicer place for our children.

We also discussed ideas for making parents feel more involved in the PTA, apart from just coming to events and having pockets emptied (in the very nicest ways!).

Parents are all members of the PTA and are always welcome at committee meetings as well as supporting events by helping out. We would also welcome any ideas for fund raising and ways to spend money. There will shortly be a letter going out talking more about the PTA and asking for your help.

Important dates for your diary :

Tuesday 8th February	<i>PTA Committee meeting.</i> 8.00pm at School. All welcome. (Come for a drink afterwards.)
Friday 11th February	<i>Children's Disco at School.</i> Featuring top DJ's!
Saturday 11th March	<i>Family Barn Dance</i> at the Village Hall. See Advert.
Saturday 8th April	Relax/imagine you are on a beach/feel the sand between your toes/sit under a palm tree drinking a margarita! Imagine no more but come to the <i>PTA BEACH DISCO</i> , details will appear soon!

Ian Ashworth 613304

HARBURY CRICKET CLUB

The Club Committee have met several times over the winter. The major concern has been the disintegration of the Saturday League team and the Committee have reluctantly concluded that the only solution is temporary withdrawal from the Coventry League. The side had become over reliant on players from outside the village, who in some cases lived considerable distances from Harbury. This situation is particularly sad since the team had achieved some reasonable performances and some players - as can be seen from the averages - had played very well indeed. It is unfortunate

that it seems increasingly difficult to recruit players from the village. Increased population has been accompanied by an increased mobility that causes some good players to prefer higher standard cricket outside the village - or is it the lure of shopping for designer clothes on Saturday afternoons? The Committee are therefore recommending to the AGM on **Tuesday 15th February** that the Club should field a Sunday 1st XI, and a Leamington Midweek XI. They are also recommending that there should be a limited number of Sunday 2nd XI fixtures and that the Club should attempt to build on its Youth Coaching programme by picking some of the enthusiastic youngsters for this side.

The Club held a pleasant Presentations' evening in the Autumn and the Dinner in December was well attended. The Club would like to thank all those who supported their Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room in October.

Averages for 1999 Season

Saturday League XI - Coventry and District League (Captain - Will Russell)

Batting (qualification 6 completed innings)

Name	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	100's	50's	Average
Will Russell	14	1	549	144	2	1	42.2
Ben Adams	6	0	177	84	0	2	29.5
Zak Briggs	14	1	313	109	1	1	24.1
Greg Sherrington	11	1	214	58	0	2	21.4
Ed Russell	13	4	188	52 n.o.	0	1	20.9
Seb Briggs	12	0	122	35	0	0	10.2
Darren Bayley	8	0	52	35	0	0	6.5
Paul Bennett	7	0	45	21	0	0	6.4

Bowling (qualification 10 wickets)

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Best bowling	Average
Ed Russell	168.3	33	486	33	6 for 19	14.7
Zak Briggs	93.3	13	359	21	5 for 37	17.1
Will Russell	67.1	7	269	13	4 for 27	20.7

Fielding

Name	Catches	Stumpings	Run-outs	Totals
Seb Briggs	7	2	2	11
Will Russell	9	0	0	9
Ben Adams	7	0	0	7
Ed Russell	5	0	1	6
Zak Briggs	4	0	1	5

Sunday Friendly XI - (Captain Mike Daniels)

Batting (qualification 5 innings and average of 10.0)

Name	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
John Clifford	12	2	371	76 not out	37.1
Ian Lowe	10	0	230	57	23.0
Phil Linnett	12	1	193	43	17.5
Adrian Clack	7	1	104	52	17.3
Ian Jackson	9	5	69	17 not out	17.3
Les Sollis	13	0	200	40	15.4
Richard Carr	15	4	165	25 not out	15.0
Tim Clayton	5	1	60	22 not out	15.0
Gary Lowe	10	3	81	17 not out	11.6

Other batting of note

Ed Russell	2	1	92	69 not out	92.0
Will Russell	2	0	74	64	37.0

Scores above 50 - John Clifford 76 not out, 63, 59, 53. Ian Lowe 57, 55. Ed Russell 59 not out. Will Russell 64. Adrian Clack 52

Bowling (qualification bowled in 5 matches and 4 wickets)

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
John Clifford	136	23	420	36	11.7
Ian Lowe	143	27	440	31	14.2
Tim Clayton	26	3	104	6	17.3
Gary Lowe	39	1	213	10	21.3
Mike Daniels	22	1	108	4	27.0

Richard Lowe	92	15	411	12	34.3
Other bowling of note					
Ed Russell	22	8	39	5	7.8

5 wicket innings - Ian Lowe 6-29, 5-24, 5-44. John Clifford 6-25, 6-42, 5-24.

Fielding

Catches (qualification 3 catches)

Richard Carr 6, Tim Clayton 5, Ian Lowe, Gary Lowe, Mike Daniels, John Clifford all 3

Stumpings

Richard Carr 3.

Ian Jackson

HARBURY PLAY IN NATIONAL RUGBY TETLEY BITTER CUP

There was probably no better way to start the new Millennium than watching the Harbury Under 10's rugby team play at the Coventry stadium before and in the interval of the Tetley Cup Match, Coventry against Bracknell, on January 2nd. Four thousand people cheered our boys as they drew against Kenilworth.

Nigel Wright, because of his contacts and rugby playing past, had arranged for Harbury Under 10's to be the crowd's 'entertainment'. He and Alan Cox, both dedicated coaches who give so much to encouraging and developing the gamesmanship of our children, provided excellent entertainment both in their own enthusiasm on the touch line and in steering the team to play running rugby.

They and the team achieved deserved acclaim from the capacity crowd at the Coundon ground. And the loudspeakers rang out praise from the commentator whilst those in the bar watched key moments on the in-ground closed circuit TV system.

Harbury Mini's, on a winning streak this season, are also going to play 'on tour' at a festival in Preston on 15th/16th April. No wonder the stars (shown in the photo) look as if they are enjoying themselves.

For the record, Coventry hammered Bracknell by so much that I lost count! And our boys, after collecting most of the Coventry autographs, went happily home dreaming of the time when they would be in the main match.



Back Row (L to R) Nigel Wright (Coach), Chris Phillips, Richard Teverson, Gareth Evans,

Matt Edwards, Tom McKenzie, Bruce Storey

Front Row (L to R) Alasdair Rollason, Oliver Burman, Chris Cox, Sam Wright, Benny Walshe, Nick Dunn, Alan Cox (Coach)

Peter Walshe

COSMO THE FAIRLY ACCURATE KNIFE THROWER

‘Jason and the Arguments’, ‘Captain Indecisive’ and ‘Spot of the Antarctic’ may well put in an appearance during the welcome return of Les Barker and the Mrs. Ackroyd Band on **Friday 18th February**.

By popular demand, this highly talented, partly hilarious and partly moving, terrifically entertaining act performs in the Village Hall from 8:00pm. The artists now have an international following and reputation but they have a particular regard for Harbury as somehow the evening is always one of their best gigs – so catch them while you can!

Not only will the entertainment be top notch, but G.A.S.S. will also be providing a Hot Supper (comprising one of Sue Bushell’s special recipes) complete with home-made lovely puddings – all included in the very reasonable ticket price. There will naturally be a quality bar as well.

Tickets are beginning to sell fast and space is limited, so ring now to book (613612) or call in at Mugleston’s. To quote Les Barker, don’t leave yourself ‘up a creek without a poodle’. Hope to see you there on **February 18th**, 8 o’clock. It’ll be a real treat.

Peter Walshe

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Last month’s robbery at the Co-op has highlighted the risk that any of us may face at some time when confronted by a crime in progress. Mercifully there were no injuries at the Supermarket, which in part is due to the way the staff responded to the incident.

P.C. Pete Davis, Community Crime Prevention Officer based at Leamington Police Station gives the following advice: *In any incident where money or valuables is being demanded, always give the robbers what they want, it is not worth ever risking personal injury. Be as observant as you can, noting details such as age, height, build and the dress of the individuals. If you are able, make a note of the colour, make, model, registration and the direction taken of any get away vehicle. At the earliest opportunity contact the Police.*

Pete Davis says: *If you were to witness an incident, ask yourself the question, how would you describe someone to the police?*

John Holden

ALLOTMENTS

The image of allotments is still of the old man cycling home at dusk with a massive bunch of carrots hanging over the handle-bars. It’s not completely wrong, and what it tells us is about a lifestyle that should be admired - involving reflection, solitude, fresh air, exercise, safe food and a sense of community.

Growing safe/fresh food is very important to many people now seeking allotment space. Not all food grown on an allotment is completely organic but at least you know what has gone into it. The average item of food consumed in the EU has travelled 4,000km from origin to the kitchen table, in the USA this is 20,000km, so food that travels 500m must be more sustainable, it will also ripen on the plant and therefore taste far better than that ripened in transit.

A recent Green paper on public health "Our Healthier nation" looks at the links between lifestyle and health. Coronary heart disease has increased in men over the last 25 years, and the three biggest causes are cholesterol, lack of physical activity, and blood pressure. To put it another way, the reason why men die so often before they are 65 is because they don't eat fresh fruit and vegetables, and don't exercise enough. The consequences of this nationally are £4billion expenditure on health and social services annually.

Anyone who would like to have a richer and fuller lifestyle should contact the Parish Council or the Allotment Society

Chris Hill, Harbury Allotment Holders

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB

Q. *Where is Harbury Village Club?*

A. On the corner of Hall Lane and Crown Street.

Q. *What is Harbury Village Club?*

A. A social club for members aged 16 years onwards. Cost: £5 per member per year. Juniors £2.50. Both men and women are welcome at any time, and children under supervision.

Q. *What does the Club have to offer?*

A. Two snooker tables, pool, darts, dominoes, crib, short mat bowls, and a game of Bingo on Friday evening.

Q. *Who are Mine Hosts?*

A. Rob and Kay Robinson with Bob, Anita, and Janet will give you a warm welcome to enjoy a drink and a chat with friends old and new. There is a large concert room with a bar, a stage, and a juke box which can be hired privately at a small charge for discos, dances, parties or quizzes, a members lounge with its own bar, and a TV room.

Q. *Interested?*

A. Come down and see us - we will be very pleased to see you.

Harbury Village Club Committee

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

One hundred years ago without too many outside influences the village was very self sufficient.

The Mill, run by John Haynes, ground the corn which produced the flour that was then used by one of the four bakers to make bread. Two of the bakers were Thornicrofts: Arthur in Farm Street and Edwin in Chapel Street.

Although the railway was running and Harbury had its own station, there were not too many cars on the road so there was plenty of work for the five Blacksmiths and Mr. Burgess the Farrier. They were involved in making and mending implements and shoeing the many horses that worked on the land. There were six Carriers going most days to Banbury, Leamington Spa and Warwick; Carriers needed carts and carts needed wheels in good condition, and this provided work for the Wheelwrights: Mr. Tidmarsh and Eli Keyte. Eli who worked from a small cottage 13, South Parade, also had another very important trade - he was the village coffin maker. With five pubs in the village there was also no shortage of work for Mr. Richard Wodhams the Cooper.

Mr. Horley was the Butcher in the village who cut out the middle man by having his meat delivered fresh, straight from the Slaughter Man, John Mann. John Iliffe, the Pig Killer, was another man rarely out of work as in those days, most people kept and cured their own pigs. There were also three Market Gardens so as well as people cultivating their own gardens and allotments, fresh fruit and vegetables were always in good supply.

The village boasted the usual tradesmen: there were three Carpenters; two Builders; two Masons; two Painters; four Shoe and Boot Makers; a Saddler (E. Beasley); a village Tailor (Mr. John Gascoigne, Derek Lowe's grandfather), and more unusually, a Book Dealer (Benjamin Winbush). Mr. John Gascoigne had eight children, and lived and worked at 8, Church Terrace, making suits to order.

Mr. J. Pratt was the Coal Merchant, and there were four Grocery shops: Mr. Beasley's, Mrs. Knight's (where Brian Taylor's shop now is), the Co-op, founded by the Bustin brothers in its present position, and Miss Knight's shop. This was where the Midland Bank (latterly Nifty Needle) used to be and where a large marmalade cat was employed to chase the mice out of the window. Doctors Sutcliffe and Pirie looked after the sick and the Reverend Beardsworth looked after the souls.

The tradesmen, conspicuous by their absence, were the Electricians: no electricity, no lighting, no appliances. Gas fitters: no gas in Harbury. Plumbers to cure the dripping taps: no water except from wells, no garages, no waste disposal, no Yellow Pages! Some people say: *Bring back the good old days* - were they really?

Celia Barrett

HARBURY CHRONICLES - LAST ORDERS PLEASE

We hope to be in a position to wind up our financial affairs in the near future, although we are still waiting for the final instalment due to us from our Lottery Grant. I am promised a cheque within a month, but I've heard that before!

However, I think we must put in our last orders for videos very soon. If you still haven't got yours, or would like to have extra copies to keep by you, please talk, or write to Bill Middleton, on 612877 at Butcher's Barn, Mill Street before the end of February.

Demands for 'The Chronicles' have exceeded our expectations. Warwick was under contract to supply us with two hundred copies; Bill tells me he has sold four hundred and is still getting the odd enquiry. Last week a

lady, now living in Seattle, telephoned me asking for a copy. She's in for a nice surprise because both she and her husband feature in the film. News of the film, and interest in it continue to spread. Anne Megeney was interviewed 'live' on Austrian Radio Network.

Mary Shelley

HARBURY CARNIVAL JUNE 10th 2000

Work has already started on the organisation of this year's Carnival and there will again be a week of events leading up to it, starting with the Wheelbarrow Race on **Sunday 4th June**. More details in the months to come, but please make a note of the dates.

Since this is Millennium year, it would be nice if we could make this Carnival one of our best ever. The procession is a major component of any carnival and it is not too early to start thinking about taking part, whether it be with a float, as a walking group or whatever. I know we can count on those who regularly participate but it would be good to have some new people and to welcome back those who used to be involved but have in recent years fallen by the wayside. Please give some serious thought to this and help us make it a bumper event. Anyone who would like more information can contact John Broomfield on 614258.

It is also not too early to be thinking about booking a stall on the field for carnival day. Those who wish to do so should ring Kary Hunt 613598.

**John Broomfield - on behalf of the
Carnival Committee**

HARBURY SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Once again on the second Saturday in December the Village Hall resounded to the noise of committee members and helpers decorating the Hall for the annual party. The tree was erected, the decorations put up and the tables laid ready for the evening meal.

Throughout the afternoon, the preparation moved to the kitchen and the final touches were put to the decorations when at 5:00pm the first of our guests arrived. By half past five the hall was full with our regular senior citizens along with several new faces. Everyone appreciated the meal and the entertainment

We would like to thank all the people who make this particular event possible. A lot of them are not on the committee, they just turn up every year to wash up, to 'wait on table' and generally lend a hand. Without these volunteers, there would be no meal. Thanks must also go to Mavis Young and Carol Hancock who provided the entertainment at short notice.

We would also like to thank all those in the village who donated raffle prizes and of course everyone who bought tickets. A & M Group very kindly provided transport to and from the event and they coped well with more people than were expected.



Left to Right: Margaret Taylor, Jenny Evans, Marie Wallington, Evelyn Woodfield,
and Tony Ceney (behind)

To assist in paying for the Christmas Party, we rely on various fund raising activities throughout the year. In particular, we would like to thank Andrew and Carol at the Shakespeare and their customers for the handsome sum of £188.97 which was the total collected in the bottle on the bar. Many thanks and long may it continue.

Once again, thank you to everyone who helped with the party and the fund raising. We hope to see you all again at the next Christmas Party.

Jenny Evans, Secretary

HARBURY IN LIGHTS ON MILLENNIUM NIGHT

The Guardian newspaper article of December 29th 1999 told the nation the three best places to celebrate Millennium Eve:

Edinburgh Castle, Trafalgar Square, Chapel Street, Harbury.

What can one say? As usual, Harbury came up trumps with all of the pubs and the village club full to brimming. The Village Hall was open to all with a giant TV screen to relay the nation's festivities, and children's entertainment was available along with exceptionally good, free refreshments for the revellers. The fancy dress competition, which was judged in the Village Hall, was a huge success with the winners receiving donated prizes. Also, the church provided an open house in the Tom Hauley room, again with free refreshments and entertainment. A truly communal effort.

The millennium eve celebrations culminated at midnight in Chapel Street with several hundred villagers and friends congregating together. There were fireworks, music and spectacular lighting around the centre of the village including the unique "2000" emblazoned on the windmill, which miraculously came to life just on the stroke of midnight.

Unfortunately we were not successful in obtaining a lottery grant for extra lighting, but we extend our grateful thanks to Harbury Parish Council who bailed us out at the last minute with funds for the additional illuminations.

There are still some of the wonderful Harbury millennium commemorative glasses for sale at £1.50 (not the £1.20 which was originally, incorrectly advertised). These can still be obtained from the Village Club, pubs, Mugleston's, Anne Woodward and Danny Killian. We would also like to take this opportunity of thanking Mugleston's, the pubs, the Village Club and the Church for selling these glasses prior to millennium eve. All monies raised from the sale of glasses helped to fund the celebrations.

Finally, we would like to extend our grateful thanks to all those who helped to make this millennium eve such a success, particularly in donating food, financial support, prizes and help in setting up, and clearing up, the village hall and Chapel Street. The numbers of individuals and groups who supported the initiative with time and effort once again demonstrated the unique community spirit that made Harbury the place to be on Millennium Eve.

The outgoing Harbury Millennium Committee

PENSIONERS' PATIO

We woke on January 1st to find the world had not slipped down a black hole during the night, despite the dramatic change in the calendar. (We would, I think, have been rather surprised if it had.) A glance at the garden provided further reassurance: the blackbird who thinks he owns the place was making his usual desultory rushes at the rival who is probably a close relative anyway, and the sparrow family were squabbling in the nut-cage (they have a rule of not more than two at a time). In other words, business as usual.

Closer inspection showed that the clematis montana, hacked back after tyrannising its neighbours last year, remains shocked into immobility by its drastic punishment. But any day now those bare bleached stems are going to burst into life; maybe it will keep its head down for a season or two, but I don't trust it - sooner or later it'll be a case of 'up with its roots'.

Patios and containers are supposed to go together like the proverbial horse and carriage. All very well if you're happy with plastic pots - if not, backs and shoulders that are past their best-before-date are going to protest when those prized ceramic creations have to be shifted. It'll be worthwhile, though, when the camelia given us last autumn bursts into flower. An amazing shrub - it insists on being in pole position for the Springtime-in-bloom Grand Prix by producing those tight fat buds ridiculously early. Then, the moment the weather's right, it revs up and is away while the other plants are still yawning. Ours sits on the step of the patio doors where we shall see the display whether indoors or out - we can't wait for the starter's flag.

Edyth Algar

EXHIBITION ONIONS

In an effort to stimulate some competition for myself at the Village Show in the 'Onions from seed' class, I have grown some extra onions and I am willing to sell them to anyone who is interested. Onions will come with some cultural instructions, if required. If interested, contact:

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Mr. Jefferson Brown the speaker for the January meeting talked about a 'New Look at Garden Designs' and encouraged us to be bold in our approach - features, statues, containers, etc. 'Small' gardens are no longer two acres because many new housing estates have very small plots as indeed do some old cottages - all the more reason to make the most of the area available. He also answered questions at the end of his illustrated talk.

We haven't heard much about the flatworm lately, I expect it is still in existence, but being kept under control with predators. Now, however, we are told the weevil is increasing, again particularly in pots and containers. I am often reminded of the verses by Barbara Robinson sung to the tune of "All things bright and beautiful". It is often on display at the Village Show, see our Notice Board!

Judy is working hard to finalise the coming outings: the usual all day trip on **Thursday 8th June** to Anglesey Abbey and Gardens near Cambridge - a National Trust property, and an evening visit to Newpath Nursery at Finham near Baginton (more details next month).

If you have plants you would like to sell at the meetings, please make sure they are labelled, priced and have your name on display.

The next talk will be entitled *Patios and Containers* on **Tuesday 7th March** and our old friend Mr. Brian Cook will no doubt give us value for our money! A lot of advice mixed with good entertainment and humour!

Date for your diary: **Tuesday 21st March** - Newpath Nursery.

Muriel Grey

GARDENING NOTES

We now begin to look forward to the stirring of nature and like our ancestors, we eagerly await the signs that growth is beginning again.

Scatter a general fertiliser (1-2oz/sq.yd) around the bulbs as they emerge and feed roses and shrubs. Spread compost around shrubs and hedges when the soil conditions allow - this will probably be towards the end of the month. Clear away weeds and dead leaves from rock and alpine plants.

Cut back hard Buddleia and the Clematis which flower after June. It is possible to grow a new Clematis plant by layering. Use a piece of bent wire to fasten down a stem which is still attached to the parent plant. From a bud which touches the soil, roots may grow, and after about 9 months the new plant can be separated from the old original one. Deciduous trees and hedges can be tidied into shape before the sap begins to rise.

Set seed potatoes to chit in egg boxes. Keep them frost free. If the ground is not frosted or waterlogged plant shallots and sow broad beans in pots in a cold greenhouse. Cover vegetable beds with thick polythene sheeting to dry and warm them. Earlier sowings will be possible on these

beds. Make the first sowing of 'butterhead' lettuce to produce plants for an outdoor crop in May.

Plant of the month: Erica carnea

This winter flowering heath, a small evergreen shrub, comes from the alpine areas of West Europe. Many of the other 500 species of heaths and heather come from South Africa. The seeds of these were sent back to Britain by Francis Masson, but only one proved to be hardy in the gardens here. Others are native to the Mediterranean countries and the tree-heath, which can grow to 6 metres in Cornwall, is the source of briar for pipes. The roots are large and solid enough to be turned.

Erica carnea, however, is only a few centimetres in height and is valued for its winter flowers which have a long season. Plant this colourful ground cover in an open sunny site and preferably not under trees. It will grow happily in our limy soil unlike many of the summer flowering varieties. Selecting from the numerous shades of pink and red and some whites it is possible to have flowers on these plants from November through to April/May.

Pat Smith

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

Jeff, Vicki, Jonathan and myself would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the kindness shown to ourselves, and particularly to my mother, Pearl Edwards, during her long and painful illness and since her death.

We have been overwhelmed by the amount of cards and letters received and by the number of people who attended the church service.

Special thanks to Dr. Robson and the District Nurses, Alice Purse and Barbara Evans and the carers Hazel and Sue. Also to Canon Rowe who took the trouble to come back to take the lovely funeral service.

Anita Todd

Dear Editors

We would like to thank the many people who sent cards and messages of sympathy on the loss of my mother. Special thanks to Father Roy for the service of thanksgiving, and to all who attended the service.

Anne Moore

Dear Editors

Many thanks for the cards and well wishes while I was in hospital and for the wonderful support from my Family & Friends. While I still have a long way to go, your prayers and thoughts will be my support. Thank you.

Nesta Bloxham

Dear Editors

I am going to be walking from JOHN O’GROATS to LAND’S END (900+ miles) in June and July this year to raise funds for The Acorns Children’s Hospice Trust in Selly Oak, Birmingham. I have included Harbury on the route so that I get at least one hot bath and my own bed in the six weeks I’m away!

The Trust needs to raise £3.5 million each and every year, 85% from their own initiatives, so every penny helps. I am covering my own costs, so that all monies raised go straight to the good cause. The Trust is so named because the acorn does not have the opportunity to grow into the oak tree, in other words none of the Acorn children will reach adulthood.

Funds raised allow the families to function as ‘normally’ as possible in the circumstances for as long as possible, and so consist of relief and terminal care. Visiting the hospice certainly left me with an improved perspective and set of values - it’s all too easy to take for granted having healthy children and view redundancy as the end of the world.

If any villagers are able to make donations to my challenge I can be contacted at the address below, or can be emailed at: cookieclub@netlineuk.net. I am obviously grateful to the magazine for helping me to publicise the venture.

**Jonathan Cook (613974)
38, South Parade**

Dear Editors

Hi, I was given your web address by a very kind gentleman from Harbury. I have been researching my family who originated there. My father was born in Harbury in May 1915. His name was William George Rouan Adams. My parents came to Australia in 1948 and we lost touch with our relatives until just recently. So far I have traced my ancestors in Harbury back to about 1650 and hope to continue in the New Year. My ancestors were: Adams, Summers, Overton, Mullis, Jeffs (Jefts), Barnacle to name just a few. I will look forward to reading your newsletter each month now as I feel a close tie with your village. I have printed a couple of photos from your November issue (Binswood End) to give to my brothers and sisters, I trust this is ok.

Look forward to your next issue. Regards

**Rosemarie Adams, Perth, Western Australia
tulsa@starwon.com.au**

Dear Editors

I would like to thank the governors, staff, past and present, and the children of Harbury School for the beautiful gifts presented to me at “Di’s Do”. I am sure everyone enjoyed the evening as much as I did.

I will take with me many happy memories spent at Harbury School. Thank you all so much. I now look forward to many happy years of retirement.

Love and Best Wishes to you all.

Di Nockalls

Dear Editors

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale on December 18th by bringing toys and cakes. Together we raised £113.42! All the money has now been sent off to Blue Peter. Thank you again for all your help.

*Alice Clarke, Harriet Randall,
Sarah Roe, Nathalie Jenkins, Emily
Montague, Jessica Coleman, Katie
Dudley and Shelli Nannfeldt*

Dear Editors

What a magnificent total sum to conclude the century: £1,768 to the British Legion Poppy Appeal Fund.

Our sincerest thanks to the very special dedicated band of collectors and to you the people of Chesterton, Deppers Bridge and Harbury for such wonderful generosity.

My apologies for the late report.

Mick G. Bishop