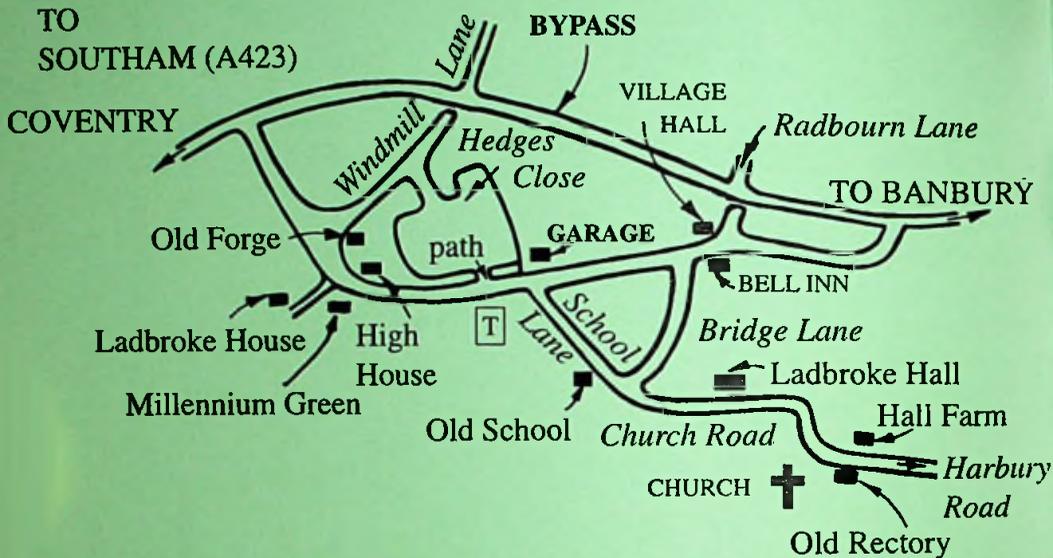


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November 2003

No. 356

Harbury exceeded its wildest expectations by being recognised as the winner of the Central Region Calor Village Of The Year competition. This could not have been achieved without the fantastic range of displays representing village organisations. In addition, there were presentations on each of the five competition categories.



"Hereburgh Morris Dancers greeted the judges on arrival at the Village Hall"

The whole exercise will need to be repeated on Tuesday 18th November, as Harbury is now one of the six villages in the National Finals. On this occasion, the Village Hall will remain open after the



"Sue Dormer, Alan and Betty Barr at the Harbury Theatre Group stand"

judging until 6.00pm, so that any villager who would like to view the displays will be welcome to call in.

We are featuring the Victorian Street Fayre in our centre spread as this provided another example of the community pulling together to provide an exceptionally enjoyable evening. Congratulations to all the organisers who resurrected this event after a break of three years.

Last month, Ladbroke had a very well attended Harvest Supper, which resulted in the purchase of an ECG machine for Warwick Hospital. This was a splendid effort by those who supported the event.

Recently, we have had a few instances of articles sent by email that have not been received 'at the Editorial Office'. Can we suggest that a "read receipt" is requested so that the sender can ensure that their article has arrived.

Finally, we extend our sympathy to the families of Gunde Walshe and Bryan Wilkins.

The Missing Photographs!

No doubt, readers last month were intrigued with what "*Brian and Mary on their final day*" and "*Malcolm and Bobby on their first day*" actually looked like! Well for those who could not imagine, we print below the two missing photographs from last month's editorial. Yes, Mike Bloxham had captured the retiring post office staff and Malcolm and Bobby on film. The photographs were delivered to the printers along with the copy. Somewhere within the printers, the gremlins had struck and the photographs were not copied into the magazine. They offer their sincere apologies to our readers.



Harbury Diary

November

- Sat 8 Coffee Morning, 10.00am in the Tom Hauley Room, in aid of the British Legion.
Harbury Craft Fayre in the Village Hall.
Myton Hospice Dance in the Village Hall.
- Sun 9 **THIRD BEFORE ADVENT. Remembrance Sunday.** Holy Communion, 8.00am. Remembrance Service, 10.15am; Procession to War Memorial, 11.00am. Sung Eucharist, 6.00pm.
- Mon 10 Alpha Course, 7.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Tue 11 Toddlers' Service, 2.15pm in the children's corner of the church.
Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
Bookworms, 7.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
Twining Association AGM, 8.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Wed 12 Talk It Through, 8.00pm at 33 South Parade, Harbury.
- Thurs 13 Holy Communion, 9.45pm.
Great British Heritage Course, 9.45am-11.45am in the Village Hall.
Thursday Club, 2.30pm in the Village Hall.
Youth Club, 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Sat 15 **ADVERTS by 5.30pm to 31 Binswood End, Harbury.**
Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7.30am in Tom Hauley Room.
Coffee Morning, 10.00am in the Tom Hauley Room, in aid of Air Ambulance.
- Sun 16 **SECOND BEFORE ADVENT** Holy Communion, 8.00am; Family Communion, 10.30am; Evensong, 6pm.
- Mon 17 Alpha Course, 7.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.

- Tues 18 Calor Village Of The Year, judging 10am-12pm, Village Hall open 12pm-6pm.
Holy Communion, 7.30pm. Mothers' Union, 8.00pm.
Senior Citizens' Committee, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Wed 19 Afternoon Tea, 3.00pm-4.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
Prayer Meeting, 8.00pm in the church.
- Thurs 20 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
Great British Heritage Course, 9.45am-11.45am in the Village Hall.
Youth Club, 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Fri 21 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
Myton Hospice Coffee Morning, 10.00am-12.00noon in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Sat 22 Coffee Morning, 10.00am in the Tom Hauley Room, in aid of P.C.C.
- Sun 23 **CHRIST THE KING** Holy Communion, 8.00am; Sung Eucharist, 10.30am.
- Mon 24 Stage up this week in the Village Hall for Harbury Theatre Group production.
Alpha Course, 7.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
- Tues 25 Harbury Society talk "Arden to Feldon", 7.30pm start in Tom Hauley Room.
Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
Julian Group, 8.00pm in the Church.
- Wed 26 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved, 2.30pm-4.30pm at 19 Farm Street, Harbury.
Talk It Through, 8.00pm at 33 South Parade, Harbury.
- Thurs 27 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
Great British Heritage Course, 9.45am-11.45am in the Village Hall.
Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room.
Harbury Theatre Group "Cash On Delivery", 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
- Fri 28 Harbury Theatre Group "Cash On Delivery", 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
ARTICLES by 5.30pm to the Chemist on High Street, Harbury.
- Sat 29 Coffee Morning, 10.00am in the Tom Hauley Room, in aid of Junior Football.
Harbury Theatre Group "Cash On Delivery", 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
- Sun 30 **ADVENT** Holy Communion, 8.00am; Sung Eucharist, 10.30am.

December

- Mon 1 Final Alpha Course, 7.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room.
Santa Is Lighting Up Southam.
- Tues 2 Holy Communion, 7.30pm.
Horticultural Society Quiz and Christmas Party, 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room.
- Wed 3 Holy Communion, 2.00pm.
Mothers Union, 2.30pm.
Prayer Meeting, 8.00pm in the church.
- Thurs 4 Holy Communion, 9.45am.
Great British Heritage Course, 9.45am-11.45am in the Village Hall.
Youth Club, 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Village Hall.
Folk Club, 8.30pm at the Shakespeare Inn.
Harbury & Ladbroke Church Men's Group, 7.45pm in the Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 5 **RECYCLING COLLECTION**
- Sat 6 Coffee Morning, 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room, in aid of Harbury Tennis Club.
Christmas Fayre, 2.30pm at the Village Hall.
- Sun 7 **ADVENT TWO** Sung Eucharist, 9.00am.
A Concert of Christmas Music, 6.00pm in the church (Tickets £5, Concessions £4).



From The Rector

"Make the bad people good: and make the good people nice." This was a little child's prayer and I am sure you know what she meant. "Lord save us from sad-faced saints," was the equally heartfelt prayer of one of the saints. Why do we so often miss the mark when we are aiming at holiness? Probably we get it wrong because we treat holiness as something that we achieve through our own sweat, tears, and hard work. Once we have it, we treat it as our own possession.

Although we have to work at becoming holy, we will get nowhere unless we remember that true holiness is always only a share in the holiness of God. It is he who makes us holy and in the process, he makes use of our humanity. The only path to holiness is the one that runs alongside God. He has to light up our humanity. Without the spark of his life in us, we remain dark and dull. When we see holy, human beings, they are alight and we catch glimpses of God himself. And usually there is nothing miserable about people like that.

There are many paths to holiness, but we do not get far on any of them unless we have: Firstly, **TIME** to listen to God in prayer, in his word in scripture and in that gentle way he can speak to us through our conscience; secondly, **COURAGE** to walk in God's way, seeking his will rather than our own pleasure; and finally, **GENEROSITY** to give time to others, listening patiently to them and discovering what they have to tell us about God.

*God be in my head, and in my understanding,
 God be in my eyes, and in my looking,
 God be in my mouth, and in my speaking,
 God be in my heart, and in my thinking,
 God be at my end, and in my departing.*

Fr. Roy

From the Registers

Funerals, Oakley Wood

2nd October - Gunde Walshe (79)

10th October - Bryan Wilkins (89)



From The Churchwardens

Welcome home, Father Roy and Pam! We have all missed you and are very pleased to have you back with us.

There are many people to be thanked this month. Thank you to everyone who made the Harvest Supper so enjoyable. The meal was excellent, and the entertainment so superb it would have been impossible to tell that Alan and Graham stepped in at the last minute had the beans not been well and truly spilled! Thank you to the Rollasons, senior and junior, for a lovely Family Service; we are sure that the children who received sweets in exchange for their answers would endorse this!

We give thanks for the continuing success of the Alpha Course, and for all who contribute to it. We do thank, most warmly, all the visiting priests who have looked after us so well in Father Roy's absence: Fathers Martin Wright, Russen Thomas, Stephen Knight, Andrew De Smet, Tom Mander, and Peter Jackson. Thank you too, to Tony Stubbs and to everyone who has supported the life of the parish in the past four weeks. We were pleased to be able to take part in the presentation for the 'Calor Village Of The Year' competition.

Now, a date for your diary: A concert of Christmas music given by the Circle Singers of Leamington Spa is to be held in the church on Sunday 7th December at 6.00pm. Tickets will be on sale shortly. Refreshments of a light, convivial, Christmas nature will be available. Proceeds will go to charity. Please look out for the forthcoming publicity, and do come and support us.

Lesley and Felicity



Mothers' Union

Afternoon Meeting

Christmas preparations started early this year with our October talk by Sheila Leech. Sheila started with a bible reading about the Annunciation and talked about the first Christmas. She then talked about the practical ways we can start to prepare early for Christmas to avoid a frantic rush, such as making mincemeat, puddings, cards, etc. Sheila then showed us simple ways to make gift bags and boxes, cards, and small presents. We picked up a number of useful ideas. Sheila finished by reminding us that our focus should always be on the *Christ in Christmas*.

Evening Meeting

In 1967, a vicar's wife was moved to tears by the sight, on television, of Vietnamese orphans. Unlike most of us, she decided that she must do something and so the work started which eventually became the charity CORD (Christian Outreach, Relief and Development). Her husband was vicar of St Mary's in Leamington and they at first responded to the needs of Vietnamese children, but the work of CORD now extends to places as far apart as Afghanistan, Albania, Cambodia, Congo, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.

Rachel Butt, CORD's publicity officer, gave us an enthralling talk on the work they do helping vulnerable and marginalized people and refugees, mainly with long-term development programmes, encouraging local initiative and sustainability. Rachel had visited Zambia and seen the work done in Angolan refugee camps, where the refugees were supporting themselves in a variety of ways with the help of small loans.

CORD is still based in Leamington but reaching out to people in need worldwide.

Next Meetings

Wednesday 5 th November	2.00pm, Communion Service. 2.30pm, Margaret Sweet on the Prayer Unit.
Tuesday 18 th November	8.00pm, Marian Millington on Prison Visiting.

C. Mary Catt

Toddlers' Service

At our October service, Mrs Catt told us the story of Jonah and the very big fish.

We sang two action songs "Clap Your Hands And Sing" and "Wide, Wide Is The Ocean", accompanied by Charles Catt on the clarinet.

For our activity, we stuck coloured paper scales onto an outline of a fish. We all then enjoyed refreshments.

The next Toddlers' Service is on Tuesday 11th November at 2.15pm in the children's corner of the church.

C. Mary Catt



All Saints' Harbury Christmas Fayre

Once again, it is Fayre time and we plan to hold the event on Saturday 6th December. There will be the usual variety of stalls and many delicious things to buy. The raffle will have some excellent prizes and, of course, the tombola will be sure to provide some lively entertainment. Hopefully, the Hereburgh Morris Dancers will perform for us, and Father Christmas will do his rounds of the village.

Please come and support us on the day, and do not forget to bring the children!

Colin Ingram

Ladbroke News

November

- Sun 9 **THIRD BEFORE ADVENT. Remembrance Sunday.**
Sung Communion with Act of Remembrance.
- Wed 12 Holy Communion, 2.00pm.
Women's Fellowship, 2.45pm.
- Sun 16 **SECOND BEFORE ADVENT.** Sung Communion, 9.00am.
- Sat 22 Christmas Fayre, 2.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Sun 23 **CHRIST THE KING.** Sung Communion, 9.00am.
- Sun 30 **ADVENT.** Holy Communion, 9.00am.

December

- Sun 7 **ADVENT TWO.** Family Communion 10.30am.

Ladbroke Flower Rota

- November 9th - Remembrance Day ☼ Jenny Barrett
- November 16th ☼ Jenny Barrett
- November 23rd ☼ Helen Morten
- No flowers in Advent.*

Jane Rutherford

Ladbroke Parish Council

October

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 17th September at the Village Hall, where due to holidays, three Parish Councillors worked their way through a relatively quiet agenda.

A little more pressure has been put on Warwickshire County Council to remove the pole under Macklin Bridge before the winter rains come (assuming we will get some winter rain!).

The Councillors have been in dialogue with another department of Warwickshire County Council to repair and clean road signs, replace reflective markers in Windmill Lane, for weeding and general repairs, and for resurfacing of several areas of the roads. The Clerk will now dare to ask for a timescale on this!

To the north of the village there are problems regarding the parking of vehicles on both sides of the Banbury Road, causing restricted access for large vehicles going about their business within the parish. The Council will have to look into this.

Councillor Peter Baker completed his report on the Crime Questionnaire and this will now go forward for inclusion in the Parish Plan.

Janice Berry, on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch, introduced the meeting to the new Data Link initiative designed to inform paramedics of any medical history when they urgently attend the elderly or those living alone. A limited number of the Data Link bottles are available from Janice.

County Councillor Bob Stevens pointed out that the boundary change to our area has been completed; our request to be included with Southam has been ignored, so it was agreed to make further objections to this. As for our objections to the airport debate, it seems the government response will now be January 2004 at the earliest!

Stratford District Council commence their Green Waste Recycling initiative on 1st October and any organisations in Ladbroke looking for funding for specific projects that will contribute to the local community, are urged to contact Stratford District Council as they still have funding available for some grants.

The side extension at Cherry Trees, School Lane and the bedroom alterations at 14 Ladbroke Hall have been granted by Stratford District

Council. The Councillors made no objections to the conversion of outbuildings to two holiday homes at Manor Farm, a side extension to Woodlands in School Lane, and the removal of the ailing cherry tree at Church Cottage.

There is a reminder to everyone to let the Clerk have written requirements for next year's precept, and anyone wishing to see last year's accounts should contact the Clerk during office hours.

November

The Parish Council met on Wednesday October 15th at the Village Hall, when a full agenda was discussed at length.

A sign of the times is the increase in cars per household and therefore an increase in parking on public roads and grass verges. We are no different to any other town or village suffering from this problem, and ask residents throughout the village to consider carefully where and how they park their vehicles. Whenever possible, please avoid double parking and narrowing the highway access for larger vehicles, such as a refuse lorry, fire engine, vans or tractors towing trailers. Please also avoid parking on grass verges especially now winter is approaching, as these verges soon become damaged and unsightly, and mud spreads across the road.

We welcomed the new Chairman of the Parish Plan, Richard Walker, who outlined the commitments, ideas and timescale for the village. Everyone in the village will soon be hearing about this exciting project and given the opportunity to have their say about how they see Ladbroke's future.

Stratford District Council has granted the conversion of agricultural outbuildings at Manor Farm into two holiday homes. Councillors had no objection to a rear extension at Hill View in Windmill Lane. Councillors also had no objection to a side extension, and trimming and felling of a selection of trees, at Woodlands in School Lane.

The question of internet website requirements for Ladbroke Parish Council and the village in general was discussed. It was decided that the present free site on Vital Villages was adequate for our needs. The address is www.ukvillages.co.uk - anyone wishing to add village information is able to do so through Linda Doyle.

The next meeting is on 19th November, 7.45pm at Ladbroke Village Hall.

Linda Doyle

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On 14th October several members, plus a couple of husbands, attended the special viewing of the film Calendar Girls at the Spa Centre in Leamington. Filmed in the beautiful area of Wharfedale, West Yorkshire, this hilarious but moving film was certainly enjoyed by all.

The Annual Meeting was on 23rd October held, which included the election of the committee. Anne Edwards retired from her role as President and was thanked for all her hard work over the last three years; fortunately, she is going to remain on the committee. Christine Baker was re-elected as Treasurer, and Susan Moore as Secretary. Collette Batty and Jan Loman were re-elected as committee members, and Linda Ridpath was welcomed as a new committee member. Sheena Healey has now retired from the committee, and we all would like to thank her for all the support that she has given us over the years. Sue Halsall was delighted to be elected as President.

Dates for your diaries:

- 6th November, 7.00pm - Christmas Craft with Lorraine Whitehouse in the Village Hall.
- 27th November, 7.30pm - Musical Fun with Keith Sandall.

Sue Halsall

Ladbroke Millennium Club

The September Draw took place on Wednesday 8th October in the Village Hall, and the winners were:

£80	Richard Walker
£25	Mike Radburn
	Louis Workman
£10	Marie Kennedy
	Peter Derrick
	Francis Badman
	Mary Coley
	Alan Stubbs

The next draw will take place on Wednesday 12th November in the Village Hall, after the Annual General Meeting.

Mike Radburn

Ladbroke Village Hall

Just a reminder - the Village Hall Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 12th November at 7.30pm. If you have an interest in your Village Hall, please come and see what your Village Hall Committee is doing on your doorstep.

Jill Norgate

Ladbroke Village Hall News

Following the success of the recent 'Blues Dance', the Village Hall Committee have arranged an unusual wine tasting evening on Friday 5th December: A talk and tasting of country wines from the vineyard at Hellidon Windmill (near Daventry), complemented by the mature taste of Warwickshire cheeses from Fowlers of Earlswood (who use traditional skills handed down through the family since 1840). Tickets will cost £5 and are available from members of the Village Hall Committee.

Any women looking for fun (and a reason to exercise) are welcome to join us at the Village Hall every other Tuesday at 7.30pm, for the exotic music and charm of belly dancing. For full details, contact Linda Doyle on 814214.

A date for your diary next year: March 26th - A historical evening with Kevin Hicks - "Red Coat Of Waterloo".

Linda Doyle

Ladbroke Millennium Green Annual General Meeting

Twelve villagers convened in the Village Hall on Friday 24th October to hear Peter Loftus, Chairman of the Millennium Green Trustees, give a report of the previous year. In expressing his pleasure in the way the Green is fulfilling its original aims and giving pleasure to many villagers, he also highlighted the problems associated with ever increasing maintenance and insurance costs against the ageing of the paths and equipment and the need for compliance with disability access rules. Watch out for our exciting new fund raising ideas!

Also, watch out for the wild daffodils, snowdrops and other plants that have been planted by Richard Bennett and Linda Doyle during the year. Peter expressed his thanks to them both, and to Derek Batty,

his committee and all others who organised the highly enjoyable Fête in June.

In order that the Green may continue to satisfy Ladbrokeians, we are planning to include a questionnaire in with other Parish plan documentation. Please look out for this and respond so that we are more fully aware of your views.

Carol Lane

Ladbroke Harvest Supper



Once again, our Harvest Supper was well attended, and a good time was had by all! Over eighty people enjoyed a hearty supper, prepared and served by a willing band of helpers.

Our entertainment, directed and stage managed by our own Kate Picken, was a potted version of

Cinderella and was well received by an enthusiastic audience. This was followed by a video showing our village tug-o-war teams at Ladbroke's very first Village Fête held in the year 2000.

This year it has been decided that the profits from the raffle be donated to Reverend Stephen Knight's fund to provide an ECG machine for the emergency assessment unit at Warwick Hospital. Any further monies



will go towards our development fund at All Saints' Ladbroke.

Thanks are due to the helpers and volunteers who each year give their time and effort to make this event a resounding success, and to those who enjoy the friendship and fellowship by their support and attendance. Long may it continue?

Susan Moore

Congratulations

..... go to Ellie Gill and Charlotte Picken, both aged 11 years from Ladbroke. On Sunday 19th October, they collected the princely sum of £21.65 for the charity SCOPE. Together, they made paper flowers and gift tags, and donated little gifts too!

Thank you to all the generous villagers who contributed and made these girls so welcome in their homes on the afternoon.

Lizzi Gill

Sponsored Cycle Ride

Back in September, when it was still summertime, we had a "team" of dedicated cyclists and a horse rider who, between them, raised £273. It was a wonderful achievement and many, many thanks go out to them.

Betty Winkfield

Southam St James' CE Primary School

It is now 25 years since Ladbroke First School closed down to be replaced by Southam St James' CE First School. The school opened on 13th November 1978, and became a Primary School in September 1996.

The school will be celebrating it's 25th Birthday on 13th November, and is having a Service Of Celebration led by the Bishop of Warwick at St James' Church in Southam on Wednesday 12th November.

Also on 12th November, the school will be open for visitors between 3.15pm and 5.15pm. We hope that parents, friends, ex-pupils and ex-parents will visit the school to have a cup a tea, a look around, and look at the children's art exhibition.

There will be plenty of photographs to bring back memories!

Mary Thompson, Headteacher

Ladbroke Christmas Fayre

We are slightly earlier this year: Saturday 23rd November at 2.00pm.

As usual, we are asking for your donations of cakes, bric-a-brac and tombola prizes. Most of all, we will need your support.

The money raised will be divided between the church, the Children's Society, and Dogs For The Disabled. Hopefully, someone from Dogs For The Disabled will come to open the Fayre for us.

Betty Winkfield



Harbury Parish Council

October

Your Parish Council is adopting a more open policy and is allowing the public to express their concerns at the beginning of the meeting. So, Mike Bloxham asked the whereabouts of some of the older gravestones that were moved from the Burial Ground and why they had gone. He was assured the graves were not going to be reused; a new section of the Cemetery had been consecrated. Councillors believed some headstones were removed for safety reasons and they promised Mr Bloxham a full explanation.

Mr Daly, the new Headmaster of Harbury School, thanked the village for the warm welcome he had received. The Parish Council had agreed that the school could play home football matches on the

playing fields, and the fixtures would be announced in the Harbury and Ladbroke News.

It had cost the Tennis Club £600 to repair the vandalism to the floodlights. Safety surfaces had been damaged but Councillor Anne Winchester said the paw-prints suggested an animal was to blame.

The bench outside the Village Hall had been damaged and subsequently removed. A replacement would be sited near Cemetery corner.

There are still instances of young people climbing onto the Village Hall roof; Councillor Janet Thornley has written an article alerting parents to this and other nuisance problems.

Councillor Janet Thornley was researching and getting quotations for a BMX Track. Councillor Thornley was worried about the injuries sustained by skateboarders who did not wear protective gear, and was "still awaiting a sign" which would state that safety equipment must be worn.

The bollards at the end of the playing fields car park are still being pulled out; the Parish Councillors agreed to follow Councillor Kevin Biddle's suggestion for retractable ones.

Councillor Sharon Hancock asked why there were two lampposts side by side in Mill Street. The answer was unprintable, but one has now gone. Councillor Janet Thornley checks the lights every month.

There were complaints that Network Rail had insensitively cut down the trees in Harbury Cutting. Mrs Catt wanted the Parish Council to ask them to fence along rather than across the path at the Spinney.

The Parish Council heard that Mrs Price intended to replace the brick wall of the Spinney Paddock (which as Councillor Biddle so colourfully put it "fell down and walked away") with a post and rail fence. The Council would write to point out that the wall round the Paddock in Church Terrace was also in need of urgent attention. Both of these walls are in the Conservation Area and should be rebuilt.

There had been complaints about the parking outside the new Post Office and that a lorry on Treens Hill blocked the view out of Hillside - the County Council would be informed. The Council was interested in County Councillor Booth's offer of the use of the Speed Indication Device (SID) to check whether traffic was exceeding the limit in the village.

Planning

Stratford Council granted permission for felling of Leylandii at 14 Vicarage Lane; retrospective permission for an agricultural shed and hard standing to the rear of Hall Bungalow, Bull Ring Lane; extensions at Westfield House and the Spiers, Chesterton Road. (The Parish Council will carefully watch on the development at the Spiers.) The Council supported the Pre-School's renovations at the Wight School, and made no representation on the extension at 18 Francis Road or the Holiday Let at Square Close, Middle Road. However, they commented that the holding at Springfield Farm, Treens Hill was too small to justify the agricultural dwelling planned.

The rejection of a renewal of permission for Fishing Lodges at Bishop Bowl Lane was, in part, due to the presence of Great Crested Newts and would be considered at an Appeal. Councillor Dutch Van Spall was concerned about plans for the whole area and the tactics adopted by the company concerned. He wanted the Parish to oppose the application.

Linda Ridgley

Local Council - Councillor's Report

The local councillors' surgery was held at the Memorial Hall in Bishops Itchington on Saturday 27th September. The main issues raised were:

Traffic Calming in Bishops Itchington: The second phase of public consultation is complete. Once the positioning of the fibre-optic signs is agreed, work can start for completion in spring/summer 2004.

Redrawing of the County Electoral Boundaries: To find out what has been proposed to replace the Harbury division for the County elections of 2005, log on to: www.boundarycommittee.org.uk/your-area/warwickshirecc.cfm.

Planning: The withdrawal of Planning Notices from Leamington Spa Courier is still unpopular; but it is welcome news that the information will appear in Harbury Library. While the council office is being refurbished, all Dassett area planning papers can be viewed at the Grange Hall in Southam - we are asking if this should continue after the refurbishment is complete. **What do you think?**

Council Tax: Residents are unhappy not just about this year's huge rise in Stratford District's element of the council tax, but also because

council tax takes no account of a person's ability to pay. Maybe it is time to replace Council Tax with a Local Income Tax. **What do you think?**

Recycling: Many residents complain that we cannot put plastics and cardboard out for fortnightly collection. (It would help if the Government's recycling targets were measured by bulk not weight – but that is another story). Do you use a recycling point like those at Wellesbourne or Southam Wood Street car park? Should we bring a plastics/cardboard recycling point back to the village centre? **What do you think?**

Chesterton Windmill: It is good to know that the County Leisure and Heritage Department have been persuaded to consider reopening the Windmill for an Open Weekend next summer - provided there is enough local help. When they get permission to proceed, Chesterton will want to hear from anyone interested. In the meantime, Humphrey Collis (614684) or Malcolm Murphy (613063) would like to be informed if walkers to the Mill notice any damage to this unique and precious building.

Our next Surgery will be in Harbury on Saturday 13th December between 10.00am and 12.00noon, outside the new Post Office. We might persuade a Parish Councillor to attend, too! Please come and "earwig" us about anything that is important to you. In the meantime, how about telling us what **you** think about these issues; simply reply to the questions below to:

- Sarah Evans at 1 Central Drive, Bishops Itchington, or
- Andrew Patrick at 6A Mill Street, Harbury, or
- email:

County Councillor:

David Booth

01926 640728

dclbooth@warwickshire.gov.uk

District Councillors:

Shenagh Booth

01926 640728

shenagh.booth@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Andrew Patrick

01926 614359

andrew.patrick@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Planning:	Do you/will you go to the Grange Hall to view Planning papers?	YES/NO
	Would you like this facility to continue?	YES/NO
Council Tax:	Would you like information about the idea of a Local Income Tax?	YES/NO
Recycling:	Do you take plastics/cardboard to a recycling point?	YES/NO
	Would you, if the recycling point was in the village?	YES/NO

Andrew Patrick

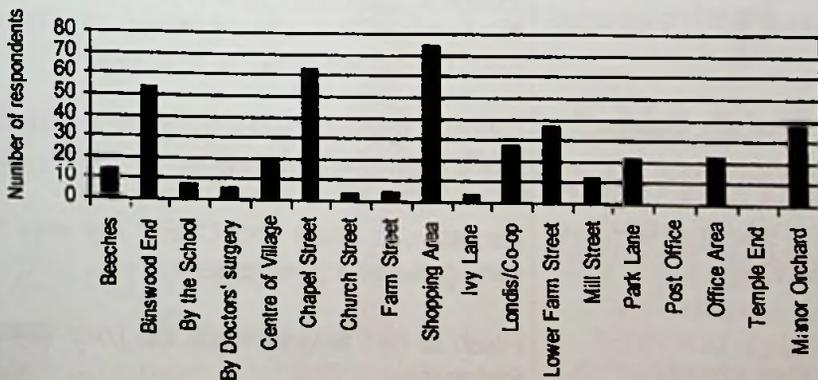
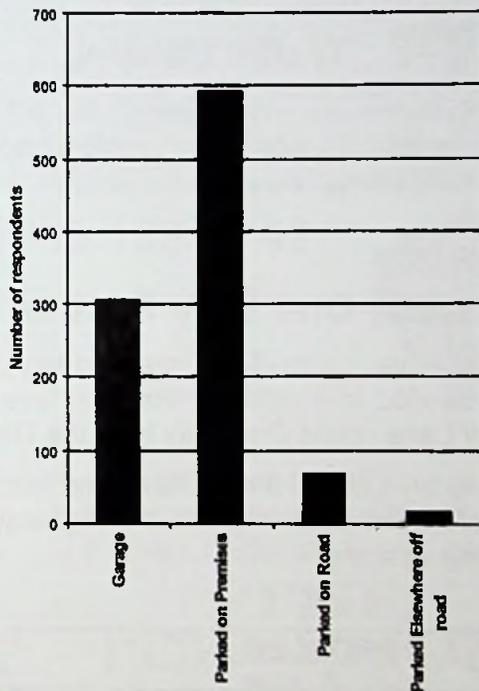
Harbury Review News

P Parking

Two thirds of residents' vehicles are parked on their premises and almost a third claim to garage their cars. Only 7% are parked on the road with almost 2% parked elsewhere. That is certainly not the public perception where 44% of people see parked cars as a big problem (56% do not). But the cars parked in the narrow street in the centre of the village, will slow down traffic flows.

So where do people perceive the problem to be worst? In the central shopping area (18%), the "office" area at the end of High Street (5%), in the village centre (5%), round the supermarkets (6.5%) and in Chapel Street (15%) and Binswood End (13%).

The last two are mainly terraced cottages with little off-



street parking and the others are the commercial and shopping area where everyone wants to park!

Other hotspots are in Manor Orchard! (9%), lower Farm Street (again terraced properties), Park Lane where there is congestion round the school, and the Beeches where although every dwelling has its own dedicated on-site parking the roadway is very narrow.



Traffic Calming

Fifty-three percent want it and 47% do not! We must do more research into where the problems occur. Is it possible that it is 'traffic management' we need?



One Way System

Sixty-five percent of respondents wanted the One Way System extended to include Church Terrace and Hall Lane, and 60% wanted Ivy Lane made One Way from the Dog Inn to the Village Hall.

The Ivy Lane Scheme has been introduced but more work is required before we can persuade the Highways Authority to complete the One-Way system.

PROBLEM	ACTION
<p>PARKING AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT</p> <p>One Way System supported</p> <p>Desire for Traffic Calming</p> <p>Problems identified with On-street parking</p>	<p><u>System installed in Ivy Lane</u> More consultation with Highways on extension round Church and impact on other streets.</p> <p>Further in depth consultations by Parish Council on Traffic Calming and Management.</p> <p>Discuss with Police and County Highways how parking may best be organised</p> <p>Parish to feed Review results into Local Strategic Partnership and Plan</p>

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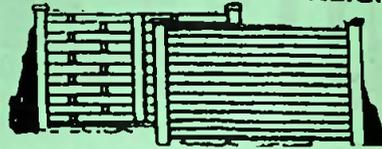
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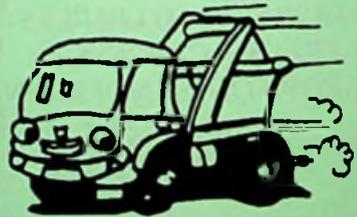
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FORTRESS

(01926) 493414

The Parish Council is working with the County's Environmental Traffic Management Team to produce a series of options to help relieve our congestion and parking problems.

If you want a copy of the full Review Report, phone Linda Ridgley on 612792.

Linda Ridgley, Secretary



Harbury Society

Harbury Society

Ed Moss was outstanding again, giving us a flawless presentation on the progress of the Aqueducts project, and puzzling the audience with more weird bits of canal memorabilia. It was his

last talk as the British Waterways reorganisation sees him moved to Braunston. We wish him the best of luck.

Our display for the 'Village Of The Year' judging aroused a great deal of interest and was a credit to the Society. It is interesting to look back on our achievement over the years, but there is a lot still to be done!

The secretary had a preliminary meeting with the Parish Council Sub-Committee to progress the Village Review and to complete the Action Plan.

Our next meeting on 25th November starts at 7.30pm not 8.00pm. Stephen Faulk will give an illustrated talk on the Warwickshire Landscape, called Arden to Feldon.

Linda Ridgley



Harbury Women's Institute

We are very sorry to hear of the passing of Gunde Walshe. Gunde was a valued Women's Institute member, and a very courageous lady. Our condolences go out to her family.

In October, members enjoyed the special showing of Calendar Girls at the Spa Centre.

The Victorian Street Fayre was a great success and our stall quickly sold out - well worth the effort! Thank you to all helpers and to anyone who donated items. On the subject of donations, just a last reminder for small gifts for the Christmas Child parcels please.

The October speaker was Sue Westmacott, and her talk entitled "Bang" was aptly named. Sue formed the Women's Institute Science Club some year ago. When asking what subjects' members would like, explosives and optics were on the list. Sue telephoned Science Helpline and then the Fire Brigade, who said not to do it – but she did.

Here are a few interesting excerpts from her talk:

- There are three types of explosives – mechanical, nuclear and chemical.
- The Chinese used gunpowder 2000 years ago for religious and ceremonial purposes, and in 1000 AD, they were making guns and grenades.
- In 1561, a recipe sold to a German Captain for £300 contained Black Earth, Urine (from people who drank wine or strong beer), Dung (from horses kept in stables), lime and plaster of Paris (best made from shells)
- Safebreakers carry nitro glycerine in hot water bottles to protect it from shock.
- The firework industry work in scattered buildings with a loose roof that will raise and land again.
- Magnesium puts the sparkle in a sparkler; copper burns green, nickel carbonate burns orange, and sugar burns prettily.
- Gunpowder is not an aphrodisiac if eaten - one would be too ill to do anything else.
- Alfred Hitchcock said, "There is no terror in a bang only the anticipation of it".

The Annual General Meeting will be held in November; we hope for the support of our members.

Jeanne Beaumont

Harbury First Responder Group

Unfortunately, we have left British summertime and the dark nights are going to be with us for quite a while. With the darkness comes a decreased amount of visibility. Therefore, make sure that your house number or name can be easily seen at night, especially from the road. This is so that in an emergency, a responder and/or ambulance can find you quickly. There could be serious consequence if we cannot find you in your moment of need.

Congratulations to all the Group Responders for passing their re-qualifications this month. Well done!

All Responders maintain patient confidentiality. If you are concerned about your privacy then there is no need. All calls are dealt with on a very strict, private and confidential basis.

Please be aware that you cannot contact a responder directly, unless one happens to be there when you want one! You *must* dial 999. If a responder is available, the Ambulance Control Room will send them to you until the ambulance arrives.

Hopefully this has answered a few questions that have been asked recently.

Finally, thank you, on behalf of the Group, to Trisha Winchester for the donation of £125 from her stall at the Victorian Street Fayre.

Deborah Ellis

Harbury Twinning Association

We hope that as many members as possible, and anyone interested in joining, will be at our Annual General Meeting on 11th November; commencing at 8.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room. We do not expect the business of the meeting to last too long, and there will be time to socialise over a glass of wine – French, of course!

We were very glad to contribute to the successful Victorian Street Fayre with our baguette stall. The following day, a large group of members had an interesting visit to Hellidon Vineyard and a pub lunch.

We are looking forward to our visit to Samoia in 2004. We will be travelling by coach via the tunnel, leaving on 29th May and returning on 1st June. If you would like to take part in the visit, contact our secretary (Sally Stringer) on 613214.

We will not be idle between now and May. We are having a Christmas Party on 12th December, celebrating Fête des Rois on 10th January, and Mardi Gras on 24th February.

We are also going to be running French conversation classes for members in the New Year. We are very fortunate to have some excellent French speakers to help us improve our language skills, but it is not necessary to speak French to join the Twinning Association and have the pleasure of visiting the delightful and extremely hospitable village of Samoio-sur-Seine.

Sharon Hancock

Senior Citizens Benefit Association

The members of the Senior Citizens Benefit Committee would like to thank Carol and Andrew, their staff and all the customers at The Shakespeare Inn, for their kind generosity in donating to our funds via 'the bottle on the bar'.



The bottle was emptied on Monday 27th October, and we were all amazed to find it held a total of £146.31. Many thanks to everyone.

Please contact a committee member if you believe you are eligible and would like to come to the Christmas Party and Summer Lunch. All

our information is gained by word of mouth, so if we do not get to know about you, you do not get to join the fun!

Committee members are Tony Ceney, Margaret Taylor, Sue Exton, Jenny Evans, Marie Wallington, Ethel Sollis, Chris Finch, Thelma Gulliver, Janet Rawlings and Evelyn Woodfield – do contact one of us.

Sue Exton, Secretary

Harbury Folk Club

For the Folk Club session on 2nd October, the theme was 'Farms and Farming' and, although the audience was a little smaller than usual, we had plenty of performers to provide an excellent evening of agriculture.

I thought that the fine English tune 'Speed The Plough' would be a good way to start the evening so I invited an impromptu band (Ian, Sue, Celia, Liz, Margaret and myself) to play a nice, steady version of it. I could think of no better way of closing the evening, so we played it again at the end, with Pete Grassby joining in too!

I sang a song about a legendary character of the Agricultural Revolution, Captain Swing then started with a protest song aimed at potato growers called 'Don't Slay That Potato. Des sang 'Harvest Home' and 'Rosebud In June' and Peter Mason gave us 'The Field Behind The Plough' and 'Billy Taylor'.

The Harvesters could do no wrong with a name like that and they revived one of their greatest hits 'Dance Of The Harvest Moon', and then poked fun at rural life with 'Country Set'. Ron finished the first half with two rural folk standards 'Nutting Girl' and 'Derby Ram'.

In the second half, Bruce and Rebecca made a welcome return to the club, now with a third member of their acapella group, David. With total disregard for the theme, they sang songs from Sierra Leone and New Zealand and the delightful 'Measure Of My Heart'.

Bob's barbershop quartet, Bianco, get better and better and, a few days before entering a national competition, sang us some tricky arrangements of standards such as 'Oh You Beautiful Doll. Pete Grassby selected 'The Threshing Machine' from his repertoire but then, in the third half when most people had abandoned the theme, got us to sing along with his 'Daddy Can You See The Whale?

The raffle raised £28 for Cancer Research UK. The next Folk Club session is at 8.30pm on Thursday 4th December in the Shakespeare Inn and will be hosted by Des for the first time.

Harbury Cub Scouts

It has now been twelve months since I became Akela at 1st Harbury Cub Scouts pack, and what a year it has been! The Cubs have been very busy taking part in numerous activities:

- They took part in two parades for Remembrance Day and the District Annual Parade.
- They came second in the District football and sixth in the swimming gala.
- They have had a number of theme evenings, which have included Harry Potter, Wide Games, Pirates, Robin Hood and Vikings.
- There was a very successful Christmas Party, with plenty of prizes won for playing very silly games.
- The District Camp was at Horley in Banbury – a very special thank you to the 'Dads' who gave up their time to help all weekend
- And another thank you to the parents who came to Cotswold Wildlife Park and had to put up with the singing on the coach.
- A sleepover took place in the Scout Hut in September, which followed a hike to Chesterton Windmill and a hotdog supper. Thanks to Andrew Hunt who stayed overnight and joined in the sleepover – you brave man!
- The Cubs have been active with their fundraising for GASS by helping at the coffee afternoon and the Victorian Street Fayre – they will also be helping to build the bonfire on 1st November.
- There have been many badge presentations over the last year for Communications, First Aid, Air Activities, Camping, Global Challenge, Creativity, Outdoor Challenge, and the Cubs are now halfway through the Fitness Challenge, and just starting their Book Readers badge.

We have struggled for leaders during this time, and have had to rely on parents working on a set rota; it would not have happened without the continued support of Isobel and Richard. The good news is we now have two adult uniformed leaders and a teenage helper - all from one family – the Barrett's from Bishops Itchington. This means that for the present we can dispense with the parent rota. However, if you still want to volunteer you are more than welcome!

Cub numbers are low at present due to five members going up to Scouts and two leaving to follow other interests, and there are no Beavers until February 2004. If you have a son aged between 8 and 11 years who would like to be a Cub Scout, please contact me on 614348 or 0786 660 9674, or email pat@bettytaylor.fsnet.co.uk.

In a recent poll, Scouting showed an 86% vote for being the most popular group activity, and the one with the widest range of activities.

Here's to another good year of Scouting – many thanks to everyone for all your support.

Pat Taylor, Akela

Parents – Do You Know Where Your Children Are When They Go Out Around The Village?

Last month's magazine highlighted problems in and around the Wight School premises, where litter and empty bottles are strewn. There have also been reports of vandalism to the rear of Church Terrace properties, as well as significant acts of vandalism at the Tennis Courts.

Young people are also congregating outside the Village Hall, causing a nuisance by leaving litter, using wooden planks and a piece of metal to skateboard and roller blade within the gates of the Village Hall premises.

The skate-park was built at considerable expense, and is the appropriate place for skating. We would also remind parents that they should ensure their children wear protective gear (especially helmets) when using the skate-park.

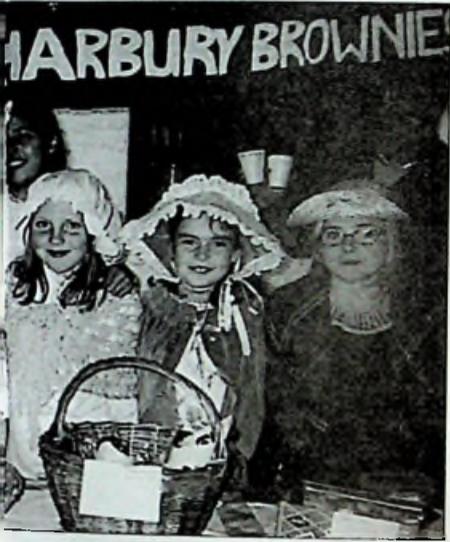
As parents, we are responsible for our children's behaviour, and it is our duty to ensure they respect private property and are considerate to other residents within our community.

**Harbury Parish Council and
Village Hall Management Committee**

Victorian S



Street Fayre





Autumnal Activities

During October, the children learned all about autumn. They had tremendous fun playing with oats in the sand tray; most children going home covered in a floury film! Hundreds of conkers in the water tray gave endless enjoyment, with the children using their counting skills to see how many conkers went into different containers. The noise of the conkers in the plastic tray was deafening and the children loved it, but eventually the staff decided to protect their eardrums a little by putting the conkers with the oats, which helped to deaden the sound.

The autumn theme continued with the children making musical instruments using things found outside, such as conkers and acorns. They also did leaf printing, making their own wonderful autumn colours. To round off the half term, the children helped to make apple crumble, using homegrown fruit from local farms and gardens.

Jill Davis

After working at the pre-school for many years, Jill Davis has decided to hang up her 'pre-school apron' and focus her attentions on other pursuits for a while. Jill has always given 100% support and commitment to pre-school, and everyone involved is very sad to see her go. The children made a card for Jill, containing a collection of drawings of themselves, and presented it to her on her final day at pre-school, together with a bouquet of flowers.



"The Pre-School children present Jill with some flowers to say thank you for all her hard work."

Staff Vacancy

Jill's departure has left a vacancy on the staff. It is hoped to recruit a suitably qualified person to fill this post and act as manager to relieve the pre-school leader, Yvette Tanner, of some of the time-consuming administrative tasks. Further details are available from Jane Kempton on 613786.

Wight School Refurbishment

When our little pre-schoolers returned after the half-term break, they found that they had a fantastic new floor covering in the Wight School: half the room now has a soft Flotex carpet and the other half has an anti-slip surface for messy play. Warwickshire County Council has rewired the Wight School, so we also have some new lights, sockets and ceiling fans. Early next year, we plan to redecorate the Wight School and replace the front door.

We are extremely grateful to the Local Children's Network Fund and Stratford District Council for their very generous grants of £3,336 and £1,000 respectively, which will almost cover the entire refurbishment costs. Our thanks also go to the Wight School Trustees, Harbury Toddler Group, and the staff and parents of Harbury Pre-School, without all of whom we would not have been able to embark on this ambitious project.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting held on 13th October was very well attended. It is wonderful to have so much parental support for the pre-school.

We now have a very strong committee, with many members staying for another year, as well as several new recruits. The committee now consists of Jane Kempton (Chair), Rachel Brown, Clare Stone, Nicky Kirk, Bud Jackson, Jacky Styles and Jayne Mansell; supported by a new fund raising group of Lana Long, Andrea White, Pauline Hadley, Jane Durham and Karena Ellis.

Forthcoming Events

Parents' Evening: The next Parents' Evening will take place on 19th November. This will give parents the opportunity to discuss the progress of their children with their key-worker, as well as seeing examples of the pre-school's activities on display in the Wight School.

Christmas Coffee Morning: We will be holding a mid-week coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room in early December. Please come along and support us. There will be some interesting stalls with Christmas gifts, plus the ever-popular cake stall and raffle.

Under 5's Disco: Our annual disco for Harbury's petit disco dancers will take place on Saturday 13th December at Harbury Village Club, 5.00pm to 6.30pm. The cost will be £2.50 per child, payable on the door; this price includes juice, crisps and a present from Father Christmas. Glow-in-the-dark jewellery and face painting will also be available at £1 each. Please note that parents/carers must stay with, and are responsible for, their children at this event. Contact Lana Long on 613311 for further details.

Finally, we are very pleased to welcome our two new little pre-schoolers, Chloe and Eleanor, who joined us after half term.

Harbury Pre-School Staff And Committee

Bookworms

Since the reading group began in February 2002, our numbers have gradually increased. Though we have always welcomed new members, we have now decided that for more people to join would alter the feel, and perhaps inhibit constructive discussion. However, one of our members, Alison Abbott, has offered to begin a new spin-off group on a different evening. One or two people have recently expressed interest in being part of the local reading group, so if you would like further details, please call Alison on 612939.

Lesley Jones and Kate Thomas



Harbury Juniors Football Club

Under 11's

The under 11's kicked off their season in an encouraging fashion, firstly beating Cropredy 4-2 in a tightly fought game, with goals from Shaun King, David Van Kesteren and Chris Wall (2). This was followed by a very creditable 2-2 draw away from home against last year's League Champions, Banbury Irish, with Chris Wall scoring both goals.

Under 14's Harbury Juniors

Harbury Juniors have had a mixed start to the season. The first game saw a spirited performance coming from behind at home against Khalsa to win 4–3, with goals from Stuart Pratt, Daniel Lee, Jordan Cox and Mathew Greenway.

This was then followed by a 3-1 defeat at Alcester (Stuart Pratt scoring for Harbury) and a 2–1 defeat at Bilton Ajax, where Harbury deserved to come away with at least a point (goal scored by Jordan Cox). A disappointing third defeat followed when Kenilworth Warden Juniors scored 6 goals without a Harbury reply.

Since then, Harbury have had a comprehensive win, beating Hillmorton 6–0 in the League Cup Preliminary Round, with 4 goals from Mathew Greenway and goals from Scott Bazeley and Jamie Constable.

The next game at St Peters Celtic showed the team at their competitive best. Despite the windy conditions, they battled back from 2–0 down at half time to earn themselves a 2–2 draw. Jordan Cox and Kyle Ball scored the goals.

The last game before the half term break ended in a 3–1 win against Henley Forest. A good all round team performance resulted in a win against a team that had not lost a game all season. The goals came from Jordan Cox (2) and Stuart Pratt.

Under 14's Harbury Hawks

Harbury Hawks, a new side to Division One, have had a difficult start to the season and they are still looking for their first win. Their results do not reflect the effort and determination that the players have shown, and hopefully they will be rewarded with a win in the very near future.

Under 16's

John Wilkins, the team manager is pleased to have a full squad of sixteen players this season - which is mostly the same team as last season, with new signings of midfielder Mark Reilly, midfielder and goalkeeper Simon Heath, and the welcome return of Mark Sheasby to the forward line.

The pre-season fixtures were beneficial, if not too successful. The team played two games against Radford and Kenilworth, which gave an idea of the standard that the team needs to achieve to compete in the League.

The first two opening League matches were a little disappointing with two defeats to Henley Forest and Lodge Park at Redditch.

The next fixture at home to St Peters Celtic saw a much improved performance, with a dominant second half display which saw Harbury score 6 goals resulting in a final score of 7-3. Mark Sheasby scored a hat trick with a goal a piece from Carl Hanson and Andy Booth, and two from Man of the Match, Matt Cowley - one of which was a sweet left foot volley that has to be a contender for goal of the season.

The under 16's have since won their second League game 3-1 against Rugby Admirals, with goals scored by Mark Sheasby (2) and James Armitage. Man of the Match was Charlie Neale.

Harbury Juniors have also been busy off the pitch. The goal posts to the pitch closest to the Village Hall have been moved and the pitch enlarged to accommodate the under 14's teams.

Harbury Juniors are providing an additional pitch at the playing field suitable for Under 11 matches. This will involve the purchase and installation of new goals and the replacement of turf in a small area of the pitch. Harbury Parish Council is kindly contributing half towards the cost of the purchase of the new goal posts, with the remainder of the costs funded by Harbury Juniors.

We have five coaches who are currently attending a course at Henley College to obtain their Level One Certificate in Coaching Football, and three representatives who will be attending a Good Practice and Child Protection Workshop in mid November. Within the next six weeks, all club officials and coaches will be CRB checked.

The running of the club and the associated activities requires constant funding, and therefore we wish to thank everyone that contributed to the success of the cake and preserves stall at the Victorian Street Fayre, either by donating cakes or buying the cakes on the evening. We were delighted to win the best-decorated stall, and would like to thank Lesley Wilkins and her team of helpers.

Our next fundraising event is a coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on 29th November at 10.00am, where a selection of cakes will be on sale. Anyone who wishes to support the club can donate or purchase a cake on the day.

Steve Young, Club Secretary

Harbury Tennis Club

The club's youngest ever team has made its competitive debut! Linda Casement organised a team of four to take part in the Greater Warwickshire Sports "Tennis Tastic Event" at the University of Warwick on 28th October. This was a new invitation event for clubs involved in the Active Sport beginner coaching programmes, and was for younger children (from school years 3 and 5) who had not previously played in matches. The team comprised Becky Casement, Matthew Kennedy, Michael Variale and Bethany Conway. The emphasis was very much on having fun and the Harbury four finished a creditable third of the five teams involved. Everyone enjoyed themselves and came away with a goody bag and certificate!

At the other end of the club's age range, the Banbury Winter League started on 4th October! The "A" Team comprising Gill Thorpe, Kate Young, Andrew Rendell and Geoff Prince opened its Division One campaign with a 2½ rubbers to 1½ defeat against Banbury "A". It was a very close match and could have gone either way.

This was followed by an equally close match at home against Hook Norton "A" but this time Gill Thorpe, Carol Best, Andrew Rendell and Ed Wilson ran out winners by 3 rubbers to 1.

The "B" Team started its Division Four programme with a tough away match against Warwick "C" and lost by 3 rubbers to 1. Caroline Moreland and Mary Thompson lost the Ladies Doubles, Steve Stark and Keith Thompson won the Mens Doubles - leaving everything to play for in the Mixed Doubles. Unfortunately, Warwick proved too strong in both.

The next match was also away on the very difficult Astroturf at Hook Norton. Caroline Moreland and Sue Mercer lost a very close match, and Steve Stark and Colin Mercer had some chances to win the Men's Doubles but had to settle for a draw. In the keenly contested Mixed Doubles, Sue and Colin managed a hard fought win, but Caroline and Steve just lost. The overall result was a narrow 2½ - 1½ win for Hook Norton "D".

This was followed by a resounding 4-0 win at home against Byfield "D". Colin paired up with Brian Biro in the Men's Doubles and they proved too strong for the visitors. Sue and Caroline had an epic first set that went to a closely fought tiebreak, which they won. This knocked the stuffing out of their opponents and they won the second set comfortably.

The pattern was followed in the Mixed Doubles with Harbury winning both.

At the club's 24th Annual General Meeting, there were a number of changes to the Committee. Angela Woodruff stood down as Treasurer, having done the job since 1986. The club is extremely grateful to Angela for all her work and she will be sorely missed. Paul Crowton (formally "Tournament Tsar"!) is the new Treasurer. Caroline Moreland and Andrew Rendell were welcomed onto the committee to join the rest of the "old guard": Colin Mercer (Chairman), Tim Lockley (Secretary), Mary Thompson, Sue Mercer and Geoff Prince.

There was quite a long discussion over the level of subscriptions for 2004-2005. It was recognised that the improved facilities, provided at a cost of £46,000, would need additional maintenance. Also, the fact that the courts were being used much more would probably require more frequent re-surfacing. As a result, an above inflation increase was agreed; next year's subscriptions will be £60 for adults, £25 for juniors, with discounts for family and student memberships. This still represents excellent value for money - as somebody pointed out, it is just over £1 per week!

Court Bookings

The position regarding guests and visitors was clarified. The club's constitution states that visitors introduced by a member can play at club sessions at no cost for a maximum of two visits, after which an application for membership should be made. It was agreed that visitors who do not want to join the club, but frequently play as members' guests outside club sessions, should be asked to make a contribution towards the maintenance costs. A minimum of £1 per person per visit was agreed.

Non-members should pay the court booking fee, at Country Fayre, Chapel Street. This remains unchanged at £2 per hour. If you choose to play when Country Fayre is closed, retrospective payment is welcome! Public use of the courts with floodlights can also be booked at Country Fayre at a cost of £5 per hour (plus a £5 deposit for the key to the floodlight cabinet).

The club was pleased to be one of the many village organisations that put on a display for the judging of the 'Calor Village Of The Year' competition.

Finally, the hard landscaping around all three courts has now been finished and it all looks very smart. It did involve a certain amount of

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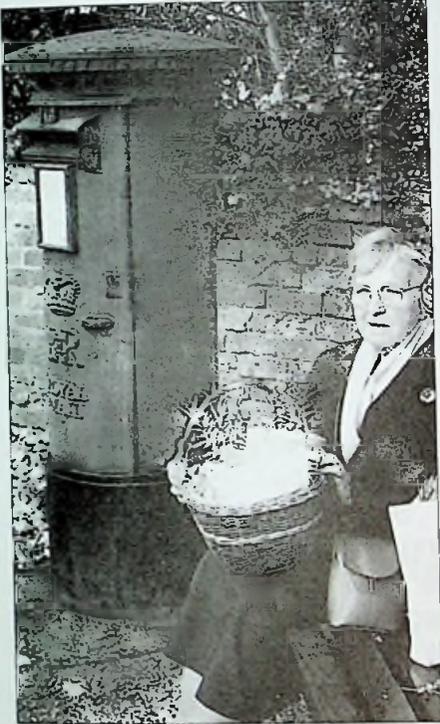
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drama, as anyone connected with the Junior Football Club can testify; but I am pleased to say it was a case of "all's well that ends well"! We hope to get some planting done in the next month, and finish the 'fitting out' of the clubhouse by next April.

Colin Mercer

Relocation, Relocation



As you all well know by know, on September 10th, the church clock chimed 1.00pm as sub-postmaster Brian and his wife Mary bowed out on their last day at Harbury Post Office in Church Street. Taking over the reins of the now relocated Post Office at No.1 Mill Street is the new sub-postmaster Malcolm Atwal and his wife Bobby.



Harbury Post Office has returned almost to where it started out - The Old Post Office at No1 High Street. Helena Cooper and Helen Owen ran the Post Office from this location during the war years. It moved to Church Street in 1948.

The Post Box itself has now relocated too. Balfour Beatty engineers lowered the Post Box into position after its removal from Church Street. It is now complete with a fresh coat of paint outside the new Post Office.

Photographs & Information provided by Mike Bloxham

Victorian Street Fayre

The weather obliged and, with a street full of stalls and fairground attractions waiting, our Carnival King and Queen let loose a bunch of balloons to declare the Fayre open.

First up on stage was Harbury School choir, magnificently attired in Victorian dress. They sang three songs from the musical 'Oliver' superbly.



The sound of the organ drifted from one end of Chapel street, and the smell of a pig roast wafted from the other end, as crowds weaved their way down the street. The best dressed stall was adjudged to be the Junior Football Club. Some splendid Victorian costumes meant that prizes were awarded to Joshua Hill, Merideth Bull, Debbie Ellis and Colin Humphreys.

The sounds of accordion and wood on wood heralded the arrival of the Hereburgh Morris dancers, and shrieks of delight accompanied the Punch and Judy show that followed. Some fancy footwork by Kick Start [Harbury's Appalachian Dancers] drew smiles and gasps of admiration from the audience. Bren Concannon, and then the Harvesters, kept the entertainment going with some fine singing.

As dusk fell and the lights came on, the picture seemed complete. People mixing, having fun and raising money for a variety of good causes.

We would like to thank: ☆The residents of Chapel Street for putting up with a day's disruption; particularly Muggleston's whose takings drop significantly on Street Fayre afternoon. ☆The Shakespeare Inn for use of their car park. ☆The Gamecock for supplying drinks to performers, and letting us use their garden for the pig roast. ☆All the stage performers; particularly Ian and Sue Hartland for their part in most of the entertainment. ☆Phil Henshaw for use of the potato truck stage, and Steve Brough for bringing it. ☆Alan Guy, Sue Dormer and Caroline Dormer for the First Aid Cover. ☆Brain Ingram and Priory Tool Hire for the signs to close off Chapel Street. ☆The lighting men - Mike McBride, Steve Dolley, David Johnson, Brian Young and Steve Brough. ☆All the stallholders.

The combined total of monies raised by the various village group and charity stalls was just above £3,000. The amount raised by the central committee (after the costs of putting on the Fayre) was a further £330 for the nominated charities - GASS and Cancer Research UK.

Nick Tawney, Dan Killian and Andrew Hunt

Beavers, Cubs & Scouts – Tombola Stall

Beautiful weather attracted loads of people, and we had a great evening selling all our assembled collection of hugely varied items, making £250 in total. Many thanks to all who contributed so generously, and to those who helped on the stall on the night. A special thanks to Sue Ward who masterminded the operation and stuck on all the labels! The money raised will go into the GASS coffers for much needed repairs/maintenance to the Scout Hut. Our thanks to the Fayre organisers for the opportunity, and for all their hard work in getting it together for a welcome return of this popular event – well done, and here's to the next one maybe?

1st Harbury Scout Group

Calor 'Village Of The Year' Competition

The judges for the Midlands area came to our presentation in the Village Hall on 28th October. Many of you were able to be present, which will have helped the judges to see how many people of the village actually take an active part in our village life. We now have to wait until December to find out if we have been successful in any of the categories: Community, Business, Older People, Young People, and Environment.

Thank you to everyone who took part, whether you were persuaded to give a presentation or just came to enjoy the occasion.

As Chairman of the Parish Council, I am the one that put our name forward and therefore had to be responsible for taking this project on. It has been a great encouragement to see how many of you were so enthusiastic in the whole venture. It was not without its hard work, especially from the Vice Chairman Ann Winchester and the Parish Clerk Nicola Thompson, without whom the whole project would not have come to fruition. We are indebted to Councillor Van Spall for the

time he gave up in putting our words and pictures into the wonderful presentation booklet. This will be on sale at £2 for people who would like a memento of this event. (Please contact the clerk with your money, to place an order.)

This project has helped us all to realise what a wealth of talent we have across all areas of the village, and as such, it is something to be proud of. Congratulations Harbury!

Jenny Patrick, Chairman

Calor Village Of The Year

You may have seen in the last Harbury News the invitation to village organisations to take part in the displays for Village Of The Year competition. Harbury was chosen as Warwickshire's representative and the presentations showed the four judges the breadth and depth of volunteer effort in the parish.



Parish Clerk, Nicola Thompson, did a wonderful job collating all the information for the written presentation and organising the displays. It was a bit chaotic fitting in everyone who wanted to take part but Ann Winchester sorted out any problems, and by the time the judges arrived, the

Village Hall looked amazing, full of life, chatter and colour.

Andy Hunt was Master of Ceremonies and introduced the spokespersons for Business, Older People, Social Events, Young People and the Environment, and took the judges round all of the displays.

We will not hear if we have been chosen to go on to the next round for some time but we know we did our best and people enjoyed it so much that there are suggestions we should have an annual Harbury event, open to the public where all the village organisations can showcase their achievements.

Linda Ridgley

The Latest News – Village Of The Year Competition

Most of you will know that recently we won the Warwickshire Village Of The Year award. Last Tuesday, the Regional Judges visited us and I am pleased to announce that we have won the title of 'Central Region Village Of The Year'. We now go forward to the National Finals, but prior to this we have to make another presentation to a new panel of judges. This will take place in the Village Hall during the morning of the 18th November.

The presentation will be of the same format as before, with as many village organisations taking part as possible. Nicola Thompson, the Parish Clerk, will be contacting you to let you know the finer details. If you missed the first presentation but would like to take part in the final round of judging, please contact Nicola on 614646.

Finally, my thanks to all of you who made such a wonderful effort to bring Harbury alive last Tuesday. The Village Hall was so full of enthusiasm and excitement, and it was an experience that we should all be proud of.

**Ann Winchester, Vice Chairman,
Harbury Parish Council**

13th Annual Harbury Hash

On Sunday 7th September, sixty-five runners and walkers set off from Thwaites Estate into Itchington Holt for the 13th Annual Harbury Hash. This year the 'hares' were Mali (Little Big Horn) Murphy, Ian (Biker Bill) Hartland, Ann (Why Not) Brunt and Doug (Dunn Inn) Freeman.

The first thirty minutes of the Hash saw manic runners trying to find what flour trail was left from the previous night's downpour, much to the amusement of the walkers talking a gentle stroll through the delightful Itchington Holt woods. When the runners finally escaped the woods, they were sent to the other side of the M40 in the direction of Upper Kingston Farm and then back over the M40 to Kingston Holt. The runners finally caught up with the walkers who had been resting for ten minutes, having taken the direct route to the refreshment stop. The runners then set off in the direction of Oakham Coppice and Kingston Manor Farm, whilst the walkers meandered around a small circular wooded route, eating blackberries on the way, before returning

via Badgers Coppice. The walkers arrived at the 'On In' (finish) before the runners, and were delighted to see the runners staggering up the hill on the north side of Badgers Coppice, only for the runners to be sent back to retrace their steps and return via the south side.

We were treated to fine weather all day, and so all was set fair for the barbecue. The 'down downs' were dispensed for breaking the unwritten Hash rules, or just being a first time Hasher. Our thanks go to Peter Bones (Hash Fire), Sue Hartland (Hash Cash), Andy Turner (for loaning a barbecue), and to all those who turned up. We raised £33.73, which will be donated to GASS.

Finally, our special thanks again to the farmers and landowners for allowing us access to their land; Roy Lambert, Brian Merriman, Michael Thwaites and Richard White.

Don't miss the 14th Harbury Hash in September 2004!

Doug Freeman

Calling All Dog Owners!

The Parish Council has received a number of complaints concerning the quantity of dog muck found on the playing fields.

Whilst the majority of dog owners in the village are responsible, muck clearing, citizens, a minority are spoiling this important area of the village for everyone, including the two football teams who regularly play on it.

Please be reminded that dogs should not be left to wander unsupervised over the playing fields, and that *you should always pick it up!*

Harbury Parish Council

What If?

What if a plane crashed on the village or a tanker caught fire releasing a noxious gas? It is not likely to happen but it might, and it is the responsibility of the County Council Emergency Planning Department to prepare plans to enable each community to cope with a disaster. Harbury's plan is seriously out of date, and the Parish Council is currently helping to revise it and needs your help.

We would like to hear from you if you, or a member of your family,

would have difficulty due to disability, illness or infirmity in responding to a request from the Emergency Services to evacuate their home or to take protective measures within it.

We would also like to hear from you if you have skills that could be valuable. Obviously, those with medical, nursing or paramedic training would be needed, but we would also like to compile a list of electricians, plumbers, and anyone else who feels they have skills that could be helpful and would be prepared to help in an emergency.

All information will be in confidence, and the plan will be kept securely in the Emergency Planning Department.

Please provide any details to the Parish Clerk, Nicola Thompson, at 36 Percival Drive, Harbury (Telephone 614646).

Sharon Hancock

Ufton

Royal British Legion Whist Drive

This will be held on 12th November commencing at 7.30pm. All proceeds will go to the Poppy day Appeal. Prizes welcome!

Take Time Out At Ufton

Cards For Christmas

Monday 10th November, 10.00am-12.30pm, Ufton Village Hall.

By popular request, Sue MacAulay is running another mini workshop to create special Christmas cards for friends and family. It is suitable for beginners and those with some experience. Cost: £3.50 and includes all materials. (Materials will also be available to purchase to make more cards.)

Make A Christmas Wreath

Wednesday 3rd December, 10.00am-1.30pm, Ufton Village Hall.

Please book as early as possible as spaces are strictly limited for these events, and we expect them to be very popular. Contact Tracey Watts on 614413 for full details.

Karin Kirk

Musings From A Country Garden (16)

As Bell View is surrounded by trees, it does not take a vivid imagination to realise that the colours of the leaves are superb - red, gold, yellow and orange. The various berries are prolific, as well as red and orange there are the purple sloes. It is kaleidoscopic.

What an exciting month October turned out to be.

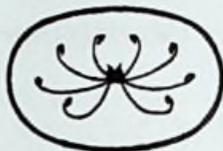
Cats - Disappointed owners viewed the stray black and white cat four times, before his true owner was eventually found. Thank you to everyone who helped with information, telephone calls, etc. There was a moving encounter when the cat heard his proper name called for the first time in five weeks by his owner. He galloped up the lawn and jumped on to his lap. I breathed a sigh of relief and said a big Ahhhh! then his owner cradled him in his arms and took him home. Ten minutes later, he was back, meowing his head off, his tail wagging so violently that his body was also going from side to side. He was in what I would call a "cat paddy". If a text bubble could have been seen coming from his head, it would have said "What do you two comedians think you are playing at?".

We have a mutual agreement that the cat will go where he wants to go (cats will do that anyway - you cannot lock a cat up to confine it). He uses the cat flap as does Ginger the feral cat, but "Kipper" has cleared the garden of all cats in no uncertain manner. A whole day passed when I did not see him at all, so I assumed that he was reintroducing himself to his proper family again. He has since been back, climbing trees and sleeping in the compost so 'plus ça change' except that I now know that he is ten years old and a neutered male whose name is "Kipper".

Now the next exciting news is headed **Hedgehogs** - It must be at least fifteen years ago we had two large hedgehogs which I named Henry and Henrietta. We fed them daily (or nightly) and then they vanished. We have not seen a hedgehog in the garden for ten/twelve years until this week. They are very noisy eaters. The cat was staring memorised through the cat flap window and I quietly opened the back door only to see two hedgehogs eating the spare cat food that I always put outside for consumption by whatever wildlife is hungry during the night. They were crunching their way through the surplus cat biscuits - they had a large dish of fresh water so they would be all right.

Dragonflies - Someone who thought that the bronze/gold chunky dragonfly was possibly a 'Chaser' contacted me. She invited me to view her reference book and the consensus was that it could have been a 'four-spotted male Chaser'.

Elsa Greenway



Horticultural Society

The first talk of our new season "Foliage In The Garden" was given by Linda Eggins using foliage from her garden to illustrate the various points she made. Linda mentioned in passing she was often asked when she did her own pruning, and it seems it is when she has a talk booked! She showed us many shapes and sizes of leaf ranging from the huge to the comparatively small. Over the years, Linda has observed that, on average, upright trees keep their leaves longer than other shaped trees - a surprising fact. It was obvious Linda was very fond of ivies; she showed us all shapes, colours and sizes, again from the large to the very small leafed varieties. Linda did not enlarge upon autumn colour - for it is a subject on its own.

The clocks have gone back an hour, November is here; so are the seed catalogues. To qualify for the various discounts, the society has to spend a certain sum with Marshalls and Dobies, so when ordering please spread your order between both. When the weather is bad, a pleasant pastime is looking through the catalogues and dreaming of results in our own garden to duplicate their pictures. With luck and plenty of TLC, you can do it!

The seed catalogues will be available at our meeting on Tuesday 4th November. Also at the meeting, there will be Christmas cards on sale in aid of the Gardeners Benevolent Society; we will be holding our Annual General Meeting; and Mr Brian Cook will take us through the rudimentary steps of pruning. It would be an idea to bring your own secateurs.

It was brought to my attention that there are quite a few empty allotments. Anyone who would like an allotment, please contact Patrick Clark on 612066.

The Ryton Gardens ticket has been renewed; this admits two people, free of charge, any day of the year (except Christmas day), and is available from Mrs Eleanor Zonik at Childyke, Mill Lane (tel. 612365).

The December meeting is probably the most popular of the year; instead of a talk there will be a light hearted quiz which will be followed by our 'finger buffet' party; an evening not to be missed – Tuesday 2nd December, 8.00pm.

A note for your diary – the first talk of the New Year will take place on Tuesday 6th January entitled "The Strange And Wonderful World Of Plants".

Muriel Grey

Gardening Notes For November

With rain now forecast at last, we should begin to see 'this green and pleasant land' return from the parched plots our gardens have become. This is the month when gardens must be prepared for winter and possible harsh weather. Get the preparations out of the way before the demands of Christmas. Beds and borders should be tidied and forked over. Clear away dying foliage but leave evergreen stems to provide some protection to plant crowns. Many gardeners have been waiting for rain to plant out mature rooted cuttings and young perennials bought in or grown earlier from seeds, but on heavy clay soils wait until spring. Lift dahlia tubers if you have not already done so and after drying, store in a frost-free place. Check them regularly to make sure they are not drying out. If they begin to look withered, put them into lukewarm water and soak overnight. Plant pinks and border carnations, our alkaline soil suits them.

Trim away the flowers on summer and autumn flowering heathers, unless you want the spent blooms as a winter feature. Plant winter flowering heathers. Finish planting winter displays in containers and baskets, and raise all containers up on feet. Before the end of the month, plant tulips. It is late for other bulbs but they can go in, but they will flower later than normal in the spring.

Check that stakes and tree ties throughout the garden are not chafing or cutting in to plants. Cut back tall shrubs, including roses, by a third to reduce wind rock. To reduce the incidence of rose blackspot disease next year, gather up, destroy any fallen leaves, and lightly fork the surrounding soil. 'Wettable Sulphur' can be applied to the ground against blackspot and mildew, or it can be sprayed on to leaves in summer.

This is the main month for digging vegetable plots. Rough dig heavy soils and work in organic matter. Lighter soils can be left until spring.

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but digging over does bring wintering pests to the surface for the birds to find them. Alternatively empty the beds as crops finish and sow a green manure to dig in next spring. Lift beetroot and celeriac and store them in slightly damp old potting compost. Other root crops can be stored in sand, although carrots and beetroot will survive in the ground if given a frost protection of straw. However, there are predictions of a hard winter so be prepared to dig them before the ground freezes. Plant new fruit trees and bushes whilst there is some warmth left in the soil.

Bring in tender plants and store them as high as possible on shelves in a greenhouse, or at least lift them off the ground on boxes. Group plants together and keep fleece or newspaper ready for use on cold nights. Store fuchsias under the staging to dry off. Keep all stored plants on the dry side, and pick off any yellowing leaves. Dry off begonia tubers and store them in a frost-free place. Check stored fruit once a week.

Indoor azaleas and cyclamen need a liquid fertiliser feed every two weeks. If possible, water them with rainwater, as they dislike our limey tap water. Check bowls of hyacinths and other prepared bulbs. If the roots are pushing out the bulb, carefully replant it, disturbing the roots as little as possible. Order seeds and plants for next year; remember if you are a member of the Horticultural Society, you can get these at discounted prices.

Plant Of The Month - Pyracantha

The popular name for this evergreen shrub is Firethorn, and it has truly lived up to its name this year with branches smothered in glowing berries. Since 1630, these hardy, spiny plants have been popular as wall shrubs and hedging, tolerating almost any situation except wet soils. White hawthorn-like flowers, loved by bees, grace the branches in May and June, followed by bunches of shiny berries of yellow, orange or red. When frosts have softened them, these will attract birds, the red ones usually being eaten first. The nurserymen offer ten species, so ensure you choose the right one for spreading or for neater upright growth. Unfortunately, a fungal disease known as Scab, which causes leaf drop, attacks the plants. Two varieties, Orange Charmer and Soleil D'Or are less susceptible. No pruning is necessary for freestanding shrubs, but wall trained and hedges will need stray branches cutting out in June.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for all the kind letters, cards and wishes that we have received following the death of my mother Gunde.

Thanks also for the donations that have been made to Macmillan Cancer Relief who were so helpful to her, as well as Save The Children, a charity for which she carried out voluntary work for 40 years.

She was really happy here for the last nine years of a very active and fulfilled life and made good friends, reflecting the excellent community that is Harbury.

Peter Walsh and family

Dear Editors

On Friday 26th September, I held a Macmillan Coffee Morning for my family and friends. I would like to thank everyone for coming, and for making generous donations of cakes and money. I am delighted to say we raised a total of £75.

Ruth Guy

Dear Editors

Thanks to everyone's great generosity and so much willing help, £548.78 was raised for the RSPCA at our coffee morning. A wonderful result!

Pam Sperling

Dear Editors

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room on Friday 26th September.

We raised the grand sum of £390 for this very worthy cause, so thank you to everyone.

Mary & Friends

Dear Editors

In February, I am taking part in WAGS 2004. This is a Gang Show that all the Scouts and Guides, leaders, etc., put on for family entertainment. It will run from Monday 23rd to Saturday 28th, and will be on every evening from 7.30pm until around 10.00pm, with a matinee on the Saturday starting at 2.30pm. We would like to have a full audience and would love it if you came along. If you would like to receive a booking form, please call 613285.

Albany Vincent (aged 11)

Dear Editors

We cannot believe that we having been living in Spain for two years come 5th November. I think the last time I wrote I was moaning about all the paperwork we had to fill in for everything. Well nothing has changed there except we no longer moan about it. In fact, it is quite fun waiting in the inevitable queue and having a conversation with new made friends whatever the language may be; it certainly improves your Spanish.

We moved into our newly built house almost a year ago now and have settled in really well. Luckily, all the neighbours are very good. Would you believe our next-door neighbour comes from Rugby - funny old world? Great bloke though especially as he has built a bar on his roof and he never closes it. It even has its own name up on the door - The Ship, Shell and Goat. I suppose I should explain that our bungalow is in a quad and we are all joined together and the roof is the size of the whole house, we call it our outdoor lounge. The barbecue on the roof has got bigger and bigger since we have moved out here and I suppose I cook that way at least four times a week. Downstairs we have three bedrooms, lounge, kitchen and bathroom.

Everything is so much cheaper. The cheapest meal we have found is a Chinese at the top end of our village, a three-course meal with a glass of wine is about £2.60 and this week there is 10% off. Generally, prices are less but not always so. I have a diesel car and I pay about 46p per litre. Enough said. Vegetables and fruit are fresh and about 90% of it is organically grown; picked early in the morning, sold by lunchtime and eaten at night. Fish is the same. You can go down to your local port, watch the fish being unloaded and then buy it there and then.

We certainly enjoy our new lifestyle. Needless to say, not everything goes according to plan - after ten months we are still waiting for things to be finished off in the house but I guess it

will be done sometime. We learnt quickly that mañana did not mean tomorrow but really means sometime. If you accept that then life is so much easier. Unfortunately, too many Brits over here want it to be a little England and then complain when things are not done for them. It never will. The Spanish are a lovely people and will give you all the help you need if you are courteous and polite, especially to those older than you are. Their family values have not changed and they look after each other. Their weekends are special to them and it is great to see the whole family including Granny out picnicking under the trees or on the beach.

Bowls is still a big part of our lives, as we knew it would be. We both vowed before we came out that we would NOT get involved with the administration side of the sport. Guess what, this season I am the Club Captain and write for the local paper on the subject, and Wendy has just become the Secretary to our National Delegate for Bowls. I have to say last season was very good for us. Wendy became National Ladies Pairs Champion, I lost in the National Men's Singles Final, and we won the South Alicante Mixed Pairs title. We have definitely made many new friends through bowling up and down the Costas of Spain but on the other hand, we have not yet had the time to go inland. The few trips we have done in that direction have been delightful. The coast and the interior could be two different worlds. The coast in summer is mayhem unless you know where the quiet spots are, then again it depends if you can reach them with all the extra traffic about. To this end, I have bought a motorbike. How about this for a fact - Torrevieja is a town of 60,000 throughout most of the year but for August in particular, it swells by 600,000 holidaymakers.

We are trying to learn Spanish and like many other people in the area, we are having lessons. Funnily enough we manage quite well as Wendy can pick up what is said better than I can, but I can speak it better than her. What a team, and saying that on 4th November it is our Ruby Wedding Anniversary.

We still get the Harbury News sent out here but we do not always receive it on time, as the post is slow.

Regards to everyone who can remember us. Hasta luego!

Wendy and Barry Latham

Please note:

Adverts to 31 Binswood End, Harbury by 5.30pm on 15th November.

Articles to the Chemist on High Street, Harbury by 5.30pm on 28th November.

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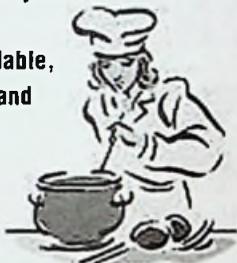
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