

Harbury & Ladbroke News

THE HARBURY AND LADBROKE NEWS, reflecting all aspects of local life is published monthly and produced with the assistance of the All Saints' Parochial Church Council.

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June 2005

No. 375



The final touches to the refurbishment of The Shakespeare

Can we hope for summer this month? Especially for Harbury's Carnival and Ladbroke's Mid Summer Madness. There is still time at Harbury to book a stall, enter a float and take part in the events.

A successful visit took place in May when our friends from Samoia joined us. To follow this four young French people from Samoia are requesting pen friends, please see the article in the magazine.

Congratulations to Brian Ingram on receiving the Spirit of Harbury Award, in recognition to 24 years "good works" for the village.

Finally, we extend our sympathies to the families of John Barnett, Grace Gilke and Joan Sheasby, all from Ladbroke.

Harbury Diary

JUNE

- Sat 4 **RUBBISH OUT TODAY**
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Ladbroke Church
10am – 12noon
- Sun 5 **TRINITY II**
Sung Eucharist 9am
Evening Worship 6pm
Benediction 7.15pm
Cricket – Mike Daniels Birthday Match
Wheelbarrow Race 12.30pm for 1pm at The Gamecock
- Mon 6 **SCHOOL STARTS**
Village Hall Management Committee 8pm in Village Hall
- Tues 7 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 8 Guided Walk to Chesterton starts in Village Hall Car Park
6.30pm
"Talk it Through" at 33 South Parade 8pm
- Thurs 9 Holy Communion 9.45am
Horticultural Society, Stapley Water Gardens 8.30am prompt
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
WI at 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 10 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**
- Sat 11 **HARBURY CARNIVAL** – Procession starts at 1.30pm from
Sutcliffe Drive
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Southam Ladies
Circle 10am – 12noon
- Sun 12 Cricket – Sunday Occasionals home to Radway
- Tues 14 Toddlers Service 2pm
Holy Communion with laying on of hands 7.30pm
- Wed 15 Tea in the Tom Hauley Room 3–4pm
ADVERTISEMENTS to 31 Binswood End Harbury, by 5.30pm
- Sat 18 Mens' Prayer Breakfast 7.30am in Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of the Rotary Club
10am – 12noon
- Sun 19 **FATHERS DAY**
TRINITY IV
Holy Communion 8am
Family Communion 10.30am
Evensong 6pm
- Tues 21 **LONGEST DAY**
Holy Communion 7.30pm
Mothers Union 8pm
Senior Citizens Committee 8pm in Village Hall

- Wed 22 "Talk it Through" at 33 South Parade 8pm
 Thurs 23 Parish Council 7.30pm Village Hall
 Hoy Communion 9.45am
 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
 Horticultural Visit to Milldene - 5.45
- Fri 24 **MIDSUMMER DAY**
ARTICLES to Harbury Pharmacy, High St, Harbury, by 5.30pm
RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION
- Sat 25 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of the Holiday Club
 10am – 12noon
 PTA Beer Walk 11.30am/12.15pm start at The Cuttle in Long
 Itchington
- Sun 26 **TRINITY V**
 Holy Communion 8am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 28 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Julian Meeting 8pm
- Wed 29 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30-4.30pm at 19 Farm St
 Thurs 30 Holy Communion 9.45am

JULY

- Sat 2 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of the W.I.
 10am – 12noon
- Sun 3 **TRINITY VI**
 Sung Eucharist 9am
 Evening Worship 6pm
- Tues 5 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 6 Mother's Union Garden Meeting and AGM 3pm at Rectory
- Thurs 7 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Art Group in Tom Hauley Room 10am - 4pm
 Mens' Society AGM 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Folk Club 8.30pm in Shakespeare Inn
- Fri 8 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**
 Art Exhibition in Village Hall
- Sat 9 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church Flowers
 10am – 12noon
GARDEN WALK ABOUT
 Art Exhibition in Village Hall
- Sun 10 Cricket 1st Home to Solihull Municipal
TRINITY VII
 Holy Communion 8am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am

From the Rector

This article was given me by one of my parishioners, which she had seen in a United Reform Church Magazine. It certainly touched me. It was headed, "The Present".

"Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back.

The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, the places where they had spent holidays.

Every afternoon when the man near the window could sit up he would describe to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window. The other man began to live for the one-hour sessions when his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the colour and activity of the outside world. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst colourful flowerbeds. Grand old trees graced the landscape and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the other patient would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene. One warm afternoon a parade even passed by and although the patient couldn't hear the music the colourful description from his friend made him see in his mind's eye all the musicians, the parade and the colour.

One morning the nurse came in and found the man at the window had died peacefully in his sleep. The other patient was extremely upset and sad but after some time asked if he could move so that he could be near the window. He was eventually moved and after he was made comfortable and was left alone he slowly and painfully propped himself up sufficiently to take his first look at the world outside. At last he would have the joy of seeing everything for himself, he strained to look out of the window. It faced a large wall.

The man asked the nurse what would have made his roommate describe all those things to him. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not have even known that the wall was there. She said, "Perhaps he wanted to encourage you".

There is a tremendous happiness in making others happy "despite our own situations". Sharing grief halves the sorrow but when happiness is shared it doubles it. If you want to be truly rich, just count all that you have that money can't buy.

"Today is a gift that's why it is called the present".

See what I mean?

Fr. Roy Brown

From the Registers

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

May 15 Finlay and Jared Russell

Funerals at All Saints' Ladbroke

May 6 John (Jack) Lionel Barnett (93)

May 12 Joan Sheasby (88)

May 17 Grace Gilke (82)



Thought for the Month

Be careful

Be careful of your thoughts for your thoughts become your word.

Be careful of your words for your words become your actions.

Be careful of your actions for your actions become your habits.

Be careful of your habits for your habits become your character.

Be careful of your character for your character becomes your destiny.

From the Churchwardens

At the very end of April, eighty-four of us enjoyed the varied programme of music at the Spring Concert given by the Warwickshire Singers and the Almayer String Quartet. They obviously enjoyed their visit for choir member and Treasurer, Linda Booth, writes:

"The Warwickshire Singers would like to extend warm thanks to the people of Harbury and their friends for their welcoming reception and attendance at the concert on Saturday 30th April. A cheque for £289.00 was sent to Myton Hospice from the proceeds."

We thank them and hope that they will come again.

May saw the great festival of Pentecost, celebrated at the Family Communion Service on May 15th. In her presentation, Lesley reminded us of the roots of the Christian celebration in the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles, which marked the harvest and, through its ceremonial use of life-giving water looked back to the time when God kept the Jews alive in the wilderness and ahead to the time when God's kingdom would come. As Lesley said, Jesus went public on that day, giving us the opportunity to drink in the living water so that the fruits of the Spirit may grow in our lives. We need to remember what His message says to our thirsty world.

The service was made particularly special because we were privileged to share in the baptism of Finlay and Jared Russell. Finlay, in priestly role and robe, took part in the presentation, and we are sure that, as is appropriate to a festival, much feasting followed. Congratulations to Finlay, Jared, their parents, grandparents and godparents.

This year Harbury hosted the Deanery Mother's Union Service. There is a full report elsewhere, but we do thank all who are members for inviting those who are not. It was a moving service.



Tony and Felicity



Mothers' Union

We became a group of 11-12 year olds at our afternoon meeting as our speakers Sheila Jackson and Mary Alexander-Head demonstrated how they tell schoolchildren about the work of Gideons. They told us a little of the history of the Gideons, which started in America when travelling businessmen realised the need for a Bible in hotel rooms and started to place them there.

Sheila told us a Bible story and Mary told about the "Helps" in the front of each Bible, which guide a distressed reader to helpful messages.

Every autumn local Gideons go into the secondary schools to talk at an assembly and give a New Testament and Palms to each child willing to accept one.

Gideon Bibles are also placed in hotels, hospitals, residential homes (large print Bibles are available), prisons and holiday homes; and Bibles are given to members of the Police, Fire and Ambulance services. Hundreds of letters are received from people who have been helped by the Bibles.

Distribution takes place in 179 countries and in 82 languages, always done by local people with funding from the richer countries.

People who are interested can become Friends of the Gideons to support them financially and by prayer. Friends receive a regular newsletter and magazine.

Sheila and Mary illustrated their lively and interesting talk with pictures and tape recordings of people who had been grateful for the gift of a Bible.

At the evening meeting, Harbury member Joan Smith told us about her mother's life, questioning how much or rather how little choice she had had in events, which led her from life on a family farm to colonial dinners in Africa. She had ended her life being lovingly cared for by Joan and her husband in their home, and Joan took us back to those days with some very moving passages of poetry. We were then encouraged to reminisce about our own mothers, with several members showing photographs, items of jewellery and one very old leather purse. A thought provoking talk.

Also in May, we hosted the Deanery Festival Service, sharing with members from Southam and Bishops Tachbrook Mothers' Union with an address by Diocesan President, Felicity Hawke, and a delicious tea; this was a happy afternoon of fellowship.



Four new members of the Mother's Union were enrolled at the Deanery Festival Service in Harbury Church. Our photo shows (L to R) Sue Lord, Vanda Ball, Sue Dornier and Gill Guilford with Father Roy.

Dates to remember:

June 20 at 7.30pm – Diocesan Festival at Rugby.

June 21 at 8pm – Sue Warr – a retired midwife.

July 6 at 2.30pm – AGM and garden meeting at the Rectory.

July 23 at 10am - Coffee morning and lunch.

N.B - Just arranged. On Wednesday July 13th we are receiving a visit from the Provincial President of the Indian Ocean Diocese, Madagascar member Mrs Maud Patten. We shall have a "bring and share" lunch. Please note the date.

Mary Catt & Gillian Hare

Toddlers' Service

Travelling was our subject in May. After we sang, "One more step along the world I go", Mrs Bedford talked to us about how we travel. The children suggested trains, cars, motorbikes etc. Then they packed a bag for Big Ted to take on his holiday.

We sang "Wide, wide as the ocean" and then Mrs Bedford told the story of Jonah who travelled by ship to try and run away from God.

God sent a big fish to rescue him from the sea and Jonah learned that God was always with him, caring for him wherever he went.

After a prayer, the children coloured pictures of a bus and stuck pictures of passengers in the windows.

Our June service will be on Tuesday 14th at 2pm in the children's corner of the Church. All babies and young children, with an adult, are very welcome. Time for play afterwards.

C.M. Catt

Ladbroke News

JUNE

- Wed 8 Fellowship outing to Claydon 11.30am start
Sun 12 TRINITY III
Sung Communion 9am
Sun 19 TRINITY IV
Sung Communion 9am
Fri 24 **ARTICLES to Harbury Pharmacy, High St, Harbury, by 5.30pm**
Sun 26 TRINITY V
Sung Communion 9am
Thurs 30 Strawberry Fayre 7pm at Village Hall

JULY

- Sat 2 Mid Summer Madness at Village Hall 2pm
Sun 3 TRINITY VI
Family Communion 10.30am
Sun 10 TRINITY VII
Sung Communion 9am

Ladbroke Flower Rota

- June 12 Kay Constable
June 19 Hazel Sharples
June 26 Hazel Sharples
July 3 Pam Brown
July 10 Margaret Bosworth



Jane Rutherford

Women's Fellowship

We had to cancel our May meeting; everyone seemed to have other commitments. Our outing in June to Claydon is still "on". We will meet outside the church at 11.30am on Wednesday 8th June, so that we can have lunch before our walk round the village.

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I.

We welcomed Christine Sheen and Daphne Bradley to our Resolutions meeting this month. A great deal of heated debate ensued on the topics before the vote was taken. The Committee did the refreshments and Vera Buckeridge and Lesley Jefferies won the raffle.

Reminder Dates for Diaries

Thursday 30th June - Strawberry Fayre at 7pm Ladbroke Village Hall.
Plants - White Elephant - Cakes - Tombola - Strawberries + Teas. All welcome.

Below shows some members of the Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I displaying both the Easter cards and Easter chicks (that had not got eaten) they had made them at our March meeting under the watchful eye of member Jo Sowerby. Jo had also kindly put on a sample display of wonderful quilts she had made whilst she explained the very involved process of making these quilts. Many thanks to Jo for a most enjoyable evening.



Christine Baker

In Memory of Joan Sheasby

When a marriage has lasted more than 60 years it seems right that when one partner dies, the second follows in a short space of time.

Joan died on May 3rd six months after her husband Tom. Theirs had been a true partnership, working together on their various farms until they retired and moved to Garden Cottage. Joan worked hard in the garden, which, when they moved there was the remains of a pig farm. She used her imagination to create a beautiful, peaceful haven; her fishpond was her great delight with its little waterfall, which she had fitted with an electric pump – all her own design.

When Tom was finally taken ill, Joan was determined to nurse him herself, which she did with the help of carers who came in twice a day. She continued to lift Tom in and out of his bed and chair on her own, refusing help, she knew how it was done.

After Tom died, she set about getting her affairs in order – even having paid for Tom's headstone. She also arranged readings and hymns for her own funeral plus writing some of her own history for the Rector's address.

When she was satisfied with everything - she went to sleep.

Our love and support to Rosemary and family at this very sad time – trying to fill the great void in their lives.

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke Village Hall Trustees

Are Holding

LADBROKE MID-SUMMER MADNESS - 2ND JULY

AT LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL

Come and join us for an afternoon and evening of summer fun. The afternoon activities commence at 2pm with Traditional Games for Children, Treasure Hunt, Splat the Rat, Wet Sponge Throwing, Painting Competition, Smashing Plates, Pet Stall, Ice Creams, White Elephant Stall and a Plant Stall. The WI will be serving teas, cakes and strawberries. There will be a Bar available and "Loco Mundo" will entertain us on stage during the afternoon.

The evening activities commence at 7.30pm with a Barbeque and bar and dancing to 'Loco Mundo'.

Tickets available from all committee members at £15.

There will be a Special Door Prize to be won.

Christine Baker

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

Here are the results of the April Draw:

£70 – Mary Coley

£25 – M. Whitehouse

£25 – Cyril Spence

£10 – Jo Sowerby

£10 – Elaine Taylor

£10 – Jo Sowerby

Will cash members please remember that their subscriptions, (£30) for July to December are due at the end of the month.

Next month's draw will be held on Tuesday June 14th 2005 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Catherine Spence

Ladbroke Village Hall Trustees

Are pleased to confirm that Stratford District Council has granted the recent planning permission for the refurbishment of the Village Hall requested by the villagers.

Christine Baker

Any Old Crocks?

Have you got any old crockery that you've been meaning to clear out for ages? If so, please could I have it for the Plate Smashing Stall I will be running at the Ladbroke Summer Madness BBQ on July 2nd. Please ring me on 815196 and I'll collect, or drop it into my porch at Rose Cottage, Bridge Lane, Ladbroke. Many thanks.

Nicky Lewis

Harbury Annual Parish Meeting May 2005

As a departure this year the Council decided to make the Annual Parish Meeting a more inviting affair with free wine and the opportunity for parishioners to talk informally to Councillors before the formal meeting.

There were displays on the sports and youth proposals and details of various potential controversial planning developments including one at the Quarries, now termed "Harbury Estate" together with the results of the Inquiry into the Local Plan which has important implications for the village.

Malcolm Reid from the Charity Planning Aid, was there to outline the free help and support that they can give to embattled communities such as ours. Dutch Van Spall pointed out that the PC would consult parishioners on important planning matters but that they too could call on the help of Planning Aid if they disagreed with the Council's line.

Chairman Jenny Patrick began by welcoming representatives from Bishops Itchington Parish Council and County Councillor Stevens and our previous representative David Booth.

Cllr Daly tried but failed miserably to justify Stratford's moves to abolish their payments for Double Rating Relief, which could lead to Harbury having to find an extra £10,000 pa. John Woodward explained that the Relief was brought in by the 1974 Act to be fair to both villages and District. We pay for "maintenance" of village facilities in the District Rate and if the PC takes on these functions it should be reimbursed, otherwise we pay twice for the services. People were angry that facilities in Stratford Town would continue to be paid for by the District Rate whilst the villages would get not support.

Chairman Jenny Patrick listed the year's achievements, the Parish Plan; Housing Needs and Young People's Surveys; progress on the village centre enhancement and the website. She was sorry to report that no parents had come forward to help with a Youth Club and that vandalism by young people had cost the Parish £10,000 this year.

There was considerable discussion about the potential development of the Quarries with Dutch Van Spall emphasising that Harbury needed to look at was, appropriate development for the Parish and to work closely with Bishops Itchington to prevent Follett Properties playing one community off against the other.

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There was very little discussion about the land to the rear of Wissett Lodge, many concerns having been dealt with at the informal get together beforehand. The PC promised to set up a Working Group, to include residents to look into the potential of the site.

Kevin Biddle reported the Tennis improvements, the barrier at the Car Park, the Cemetery Tree Survey and the planned BMX Track and Youth Shelter.

The Environment Working Party had been looking at traffic management and improvements to the centre of the village. Mr Cooper urged the PC to involve the parents and the school who were undertaking their own survey of danger points. Alison Hodge asked for reflectors on the Treen's Hill Bend and Dutch Van Spall complained that the County's contractors were shredding such signs when they mowed the verges.

Tony Mansell explained that the precept had not been raised last year; the travel token scheme had been extended to men aged 60+; the Village Plan had been adopted and the Parish was well on the way to claiming "Quality" status.

The Village Hall Report listed double-glazing installed and other energy saving initiatives being explored but expressed concern about the impact of the new Licensing Act.

The School reported a good year, praising the work of the PTA and expressing gratitude for the 29 years of dedicated service provided by teacher, Mrs Harris. Mr Cooper warned the school was so successful that it was near its capacity of 210 pupils and any new housing developments would necessitate extra building.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury Parish Council Quarterly Report, April 2005

In the past three months the Parish Council has:

- Commented on numerous planning applications, including a further one for Bishop Bowl Lakes.
- Formed a strategy group to maintain and coordinate opposition to unsustainable and unsuitable development at Bishops Bowl Lakes.

- Requested that SDC notify all neighbours and interested parties of planning applications, rather than just the most immediate neighbours.
- Agreed to explore the possibilities for development on land behind Wissett Lodge by consulting with local residents and rural housing specialists. This does not mean that the Parish Council will consequently support any development, only that the issues for and against will be aired and discussed.
- Paid for a replacement street light in Temple End.
- Continued discussions regarding the lease for the Tennis Club and given permission for a planning application to be made extending the floodlighting on the courts.
- Continued to hold working party meetings about traffic calming and the centre of the village improvements. A visit has been made to Loxley to examine the effectiveness of their traffic calming, and Gez Romano from WCC has visited the village to talk through some of the issues.
- Agreed that councillors will be able to claim, if they so choose, a participation allowance from the start of the financial year in April 2005.
- Had the Parish Plan adopted by SDC.

Cllr Tim Lockley

Harbury Parish Council

Bus Vouchers for Senior Citizens (Men & Women aged 60+), Registered Disabled and Handicapped Persons.

Bus vouchers will be issued in July to the above categories of residents living within the Parish. For 2005 the total value of vouchers to be issued is £15 and each voucher is worth 50 pence towards Stagecoach Midland Red services 63, 63a and 64 and Village Taxi-Bus services. There is no time limit on the use of the vouchers, but if you have some left from previous years please use them up before using this year's vouchers.

To obtain the vouchers, please register for the Scheme by getting a form from either the Post-Office or from the Clerk to the Council, Nicola Thompson, 36 Percival Drive Tel: 614646. Large print forms are available on request.

The forms must be completed and returned to one of the above by no later than Monday 4th July.

You must register for vouchers again this year even if you have done so in the past.

Vouchers will be issued in the Farley Room at the Village Hall on Tuesday 12 July and on Wednesday 13 July between 2pm and 3.30pm.

Please note that only in very exceptional circumstances can vouchers be issued to persons who do not register by the due date of 4th July.

In addition to the Parish Council's scheme, Stratford District Council also runs a concessionary travel scheme for Senior Citizens and Registered Disabled persons. Please note that, although the travel tokens are no longer available, Stratford now issue a bus pass valid for use on Countywide Services and this is free of charge. The pass can be used for any bus journey starting or finishing in Warwickshire that does not require a change of bus outside the county and is valid after 9.00am on weekdays or anytime at weekends. Please note however, that the Stratford bus passes cannot be used for trains or taxis. If you have not previously applied, forms are available in the Library or by telephoning 01789 260 402 or 01789 260 423.

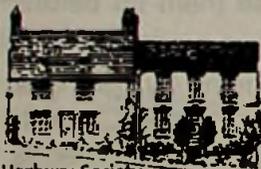
You may be interested to know about two further Stratford District Council run schemes:

The Back & 4th brokerage project provides minibus transport. It enables a wide range of groups but particularly those in need and without their own transport to access social and other activities. Contact 07775-662553.

The community car scheme managed by the Voluntary Bureaux currently takes about 40,000 people a year to and from medical appointments at Doctors and Hospitals. The people supported are generally those who have no other means of transport. Contact Clarissa Roberts on 01789-296344.

Nicola Thompson, Clerk to Harbury Parish Council

Harbury Society



Harbury Society

I've been on holiday so the Committee organised the last event – the tour of Ryton Organic Gardens. Leader, Ed Wilson writes:-

Our visit to Ryton was somehow achieved in sunshine as twelve members of the society recounted stories of when they had first visited the organic gardens. "A windswept place in a

grass field with a couple of poor looking vegetable beds". But that was nearly 20 years ago and the gardens have since changed out of all recognition.

Kindly and enthusiastically led by Bob Sherman, a fellow villager, we first walked up a constructed grass feature to look over the gardens. The mixture of environs from meadow and woods to more formal gardens and new buildings for "Vegetable World" is very impressive.

It is all there in great variety depending on your interests. Keeping the unruly mob together was proving impossible. Particular highlights were the area of indigenous trees describing their traditional uses, the sensory gardens, the fruit gardens and the dress sense of some vegetarians.

After two very enjoyable hours the smell of food brought the group back together and a charge led by Alan Lord saw Vegetable World in something of a blur allowing us to sit down to a superb lunch. We noted Prince Charles' head gardener at another table and of course by this time members of the society were able to give him a few essential tips.

A very enjoyable morning. Our appreciation and thanks to Bob.

Continuing the delegation exercise, I was pleased to take up John Hancock's offer to provide photographs for our Carnival Quiz. This should make a great difference but could lead to a very puzzling time for contestants, as I believe the theme is "Signpost's I have known" or something similar.

We hope to also have a display about the potential development of the Quarries so do come along and see our stall on Saturday 11th June.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury's Women's Institute



Members attended the group meeting at Priors Marston in May, a pleasant evening with an entertaining speaker, an ex-police inspector relating his experiences and observations of life. Well done Bertha Kettle who came second with her fifty word story starting with "On the way to the station.....".

Our team at the Country Quiz had a good evening. They were well in the top few for most of the time and came 8th out of 18 teams.

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There is the annual members Garden Party at Celia's home on Thursday 30th June at 7pm. There will be a raffle and a "Bring and Buy". Please bring a chair.

Carnival Day is nearly here. A request to members to get their cakes to the W.I Cake Stall from noon onwards please.

Ann Beaty from County came to discuss the two resolutions that will be voted on at the AGM at the Albert Hall in June. They are "care of our environment and its elements". Must say the statistics were frightening and we don't know one half. The other one was the "farm gate milk prices", to raise public awareness of the unfair difference in retail and price to the farmer. The farmer gets less for their milk than they did 20 years ago. Something seems very wrong.

Although there was no speaker, Chris Barnes and Yvonne Brown from County brought along the most amazing craft samples found in the attic of County House in Leamington when they were moving to the new premises. They had been packed away for many years and forgotten. After enquiries it was found that there had been a W.I. exhibition of crafts in Leamington in 1946. Apparently people came from miles around to view, even being turned away as it got too congested. One cannot describe the perfection of the samples and their presentation. We felt privileged to have seen them. They will be homed at Denman College, but Celia suggested that one particular exhibit be framed and hung at Corunna Court, so Chris is reporting back to County with the suggestion. The evening was rounded off with wine and refreshments.

June's Speaker: British Prime Ministers – Mr David Howe.

Jeanne Beaumont

Harbury Theatre Group

Fed up with the same old routine? Need to get out more? Then make a date for Friday 1st July. Our next event is a free cheese and wine social evening, in the Tom Hauley Room from 7.30pm. Come along and chat to members, have a go on our new lighting and sound equipment and join in the fun of a comedy play reading. For further details please call Jo Banbury on 01926 613120.

If you can't make it in the 1st July then you are welcome to come along on Friday 8th July to the Tom Hauley Room. We will be having a play reading for the forthcoming winter production, which will take place at the end of November.

Jo Banbury

Harbury Folk Club

The Theme for May 5th was days, weeks, months and years – was there some significance that it was 050505? Steve had decided not to perform as he was still searching for E7 so Maureen and Janny opened the evening with a Threlfall Sisters' arrangement of "Searching for Lambs". The theme forced Pete Mason to learn January Man, a tune he had been promising to learn for many years. Barbara played the guitar and we joined in the chorus of "Glad to See a Man like Thee". Danansooz harmonised on the Whitby Maid followed by the Bonny Light Horseman. Ron resurrected a song from the 60's with "The Day we went to Rothsay-o" – we knew it was the sixties when we saw his book was entitled "The sing song book for Drinkers and Thinkers" and had cost 5 shillings, he followed this with a cynical election day song "Tony the Phoneyo". Pete Bones was reminded by Dan that his fly was undone with amusing cries from the audience of "erection day.. it fell out on a May Day..." other comments have been censored. Having recovered himself, Pete sang a seafaring song from the village of Trunch about the Losing of the Whale. How we ever found out it had been lost is a mystery as there were no survivors after the boat had capsized whilst searching for the whale in the first place. He followed this with a Lennon and McCartney song, something about being breathalysed yesterday. Pete Grassby commented on the passing away of Cyril Tawney and played a sombre number, "Monday Morning".

The second half commenced with Maureen and Janny singing a Silly Sisters version of "7 Days in the Week" accompanied by Peter and Margaret – wonderful stuff! Des gave us "Captain Ward and the Rainbow" and Brian played his fiddle with exceptional confidence. Linda, equally confident, belted out "Hal an Tow" followed by "Bushes and Briars". "Hot foot, I bring news from Warwick" spouted Martin when he told us of a non-smoking venue opening in Warwick. He gave us a Les Barker number and then an oblique number about a Vicar and a Frog. Peter McDonald announced "It's Thursday so it must be Harbury" as he had just returned from his sojourn half way around the

world. We were all emotionally drained at the end of his song about the Empty Room at the Top of the Stairs, we all cheered up as he followed this with an amusing ditty about growing old (from what we can remember). Sue and Ian closed the second half with "Moth to a Flame".

During the final half, Des had us all joining in with a very rousing chorus of "Babylon has Fallen".

The raffle raised £30 for TOFS – a charity for babies born unable to swallow as they have no oesophagus.

The theme for next month is "The Meaning of Life"

Steve and Maureen Darby



Harbury Junior Football Club

Annual Presentation Evening

The club held it's annual awards evening at the Village Hall with almost 200 players and relatives enjoying a fantastic evening. Justin King arranged for Gordon Cowans and Andy Blair to present the medals and Trophies. Gordon won the old Divison 1 championship title, European and League Cup's when playing for Aston Villa and also played 10 times for England, one of the greatest post war play makers seen in the Midlands. Gordon now runs the Aston Villa Youth Academy and is happy to support youth events like ours. Andy Blair played for both Villa and Coventry (where his colours really are) - they were both complimentary of the strong Community feeling that existed in the club. Many thanks go to the organisers of the evening and all the helpers who set up and closed down the event - special thanks to Mike Jones, Steve Darby and Liz Henry.

Club Tournament

Some 90 boys and girls turned out for the now annual Harbury tournament - age groups were combined, the sun blazed down, football was played all day and the event was enjoyed by all. Bouncy Castle, Gladiators inflatable, Ice Cream Van, Tombola, BBQ, wine tasting and picnic's added to the scene of a village 'together' having fun. Teams were formed representing differing European Countries with the inevitable England / Germany fixture being drawn out of the hat. Dads played 9-a-side with a few surprise performances - we could all see where Jacob Tanner gets his quick feet from, pity he's also

inherited the raised hands! Mums also joined in with some determined performances - it got quite competitive at times with a couple of collisions and tumbles - great to watch! Many thanks to all who helped including Keith Edwards and his wife who were marking pitches out at 8.00am on Saturday morning. Over £800 was raised through a combination of the BBQ, tombola and raffle, the latter being accountable for half of this total. We were fortunate to have been generously sponsored by many local companies, whose donations to the raffle made it the success that it was and we would therefore like to thank the following: Aston Villa FC; Cana Fine Italian Foods; Greenscheme; Town and Country Land-Rover; Kall Kwik; Guy Salmon-Land Rover; Cannons Health Club; Elysium Beauty Studio; S.P.I. Distribution; Oscotts Equipments; Mr Karting; Border Holdings UK; Bearmach plc; ASDA and Sainsburys.

End of season reports

Year 1's (Under 6's) - The group have been together since January of this year and are the youngest children ever to have had organised coaching sessions as part of the club. It has been a very rewarding experience for all concerned to see them develop both as footballers and as young people. Josh Savage was awarded player of the season for his all-round abilities and strength of character, hotly pursued by Saul Groves who scored a bag full of goals towards the end of the season and as a result secured the Golden Boot award. Isobel Folkes-Skinner showed tremendous skills improvement and achieved most improved player status with Jessica Morrice being awarded clubman for her consistency of performance and her competitive nature during matches. Congratulations go to Nicole Woodfield, Daniel Robinson and Alisha Long who, over recent weeks, have all won the weekly trophy award for personal improvement. Without exception, every child has improved their skills since we began coaching them and I hope all of the squad will return in September when we plan to have a combined Year 1 (currently reception year) and 2 groups.

Under 8's - What a talented bunch of boys and girls this combined year 2 and 3 group have proved to be. We entered 2 teams (totalling 20 children) in the Kineton end of season football tournament, 6 of the boys had played regularly for the under 9's but most of the group had only previously played 1 competitive game. Both team acquitted themselves superbly well - Team B only lost to Team A in the preliminary rounds with very creditable draws against Kineton and Tysoe. Team A played exceptionally well, going on to win the trophy by comfortably beating Tysoe 4-0 in the final. We saw many of squad

grow in confidence and whilst the stronger players performed as expected there were some outstanding personal performances from Alex Marston, Thomas Conway, William Rea and Jessica Almond with all parents very proud of the effort, courage, commitment and great skill shown by everyone. There was some terrific football at times. Next season all of the boys and girls will have the chance to play regular competitive football as we plan to run two teams in the Three Counties League and based on what we have seen this season there is no reason why both teams could be competing against each other for the league title. Player of the season for the Under 8's went to Josh Hill who reminds the coaches of Norman 'bite your legs' Hunter with his ferocious tackling and strength of character, Thomas Conway has come on leaps and bounds in recent weeks and was awarded the most improved player trophy, Toby Puigiserver won the golden boot and Jessica Almond won the clubman award for her great attitude and consistency of performance during the whole season.

Under 9's - The under 9's had a difficult season in the league as the stronger players in this age group played for the Under 10's and we had to draft in some of the under 8's to strengthen the squad. At times we had our Year 2's playing against opposition year 4's, which at this age is a challenge to say the least. Despite the difficulties, everyone enjoyed the games and with the win over Kineton came great joy and satisfaction for all their hard work. However, at the end of the season, we submitted a squad of 10 players for the Kineton tournament with the stronger Under 9's withdrawn from the Under 10's squad to add strength to the team - we went with the intention of winning and the boys didn't let us down. The team played some of the best passing football we have seen all season with Adam Miles and James Barker Wall forming a terrific partnership upfront and Angus Murray played out of his skin in defence. Matty Hayward excelled in goal with his unusual bravery and shot stopping skills. A great team performance all round and well deserved winners. We expect the team to perform well next season as we plan to ensure all of the boys play in their correct age group as was displayed at Kineton tournament. Player of the season went to Austin Dickson, who despite being a year 2, had been consistently outstanding in defence alongside Jack Groves (a great partnership for next year we hope). William Winchester won the golden boot award - such a strong runner and great finisher when attacking the opposition defence, John Van Kesteren won the clubman trophy and Max Brown won most improved player of the season. Well done to all the boys - a great finish to the season!

Under 10s - The Under 10's finished the season in a flourish with 4 straight wins:

Harbury 8 - 4 Fenny Compton

Harbury 11 - 0 Kineton

Harbury 3 - 2 Napton

Harbury 3 - 2 Queensway

The win against Queensway was particularly sweet as Harbury took a 3 - 0 lead in the first 20 minutes resulting in accusations that we were playing over age players and this was not the same team that they beat 5 -1 in November. This just shows how the boys have progressed under Neil Murray's coaching.

At the Kineton tournament, the team played some great football and were unlucky not to progress beyond the qualifying rounds when single goals decided the outcome of what were very close games. Mark Swan again displayed great tenacity and superb ability for someone who had never kicked a ball until he joined the team 18 months ago - a player with great potential.

Player of the season went to Matty Hayward for his superb goal keeping - a great shot stopper and incredibly brave. Mark Swan was awarded Most Improved Player, Golden Boot went to Adam Miles who was outstanding in front of goal and Clubman went to Matty Van Kesteren for his great attitude and consistent performances in every game.

Many thanks to Neil, Andy Dickson and Graham Bell for the time they have committed to working with the boys on Saturday mornings.

The team is looking for additional Year 5 players for next season (Year 6 from September). If you know anyone from local villages from this age group who would like to join the club, ask them to contact Steve Darby on 01926 613330 for details.

Liz Henry

Harbury Tennis Club

After months of planning the Club's 25th Anniversary dance it was a great success. Everybody ate and drank well with plenty of bopping to the superb Bitter Lemons. As a result the coffers have been swelled by some £1100! The next anniversary event is an open day at the Club on Sunday 10th July, more details next month.

It has been an extremely busy schedule for the league teams with action on all fronts, mainly in wet and/or windy conditions! A combination of injuries, holidays and unexpected work commitments has made team selection somewhat difficult so there have been mixed fortunes! The "A" team has suffered most but still notched up 2 excellent wins against Banbury West End "B" and Banbury "B", both 6-3. However, Brackley "A" proved a "bridge too far" with a 1-8 defeat!

Bob Dean and Richard Harding joined the "B" team regulars of Caroline Morland, Angie Dean, Sue Mercer and Steve Stark for the away trip to Byfield "C". In a rain interrupted match the home side always had the upper hand and won 6-3. Sue and Richard, Caroline and Steve, and Angie and Sue recorded Harbury's 3 successes. The team then recorded its first win in emphatic style against Middleton Cheney "C" by 8 rubbers to 1. The next match away at Kings Sutton "C" was played in very blustery conditions. Harbury got off to a slow start in the first round of matches losing all 3. Angie and Caroline were unlucky to lose their match on a tiebreak but Colin Mercer and Steve after racing into a 3-0 lead were completely blown away 8-3! In the mixed doubles Sue and Richard went down 4-7. Performances all round improved in the next 2 rounds with Harbury winning 4 of the 6 rubbers, narrowly losing the match 5-4, the overall games score being 49-50!

The "C" team has still to register its first win and suffered a 1-8 home defeat against Deddington "C" followed by a more respectable 3-6 result at Tysoe. The team continues to introduce some of the Club's less experienced league players and during May Mary Thompson, Tracey Haggan and Clare Dean have made their debuts. In the Tysoe match Keith Thompson was Harbury's star winning all his matches!

The men's doubles team is in the Prudden Road Surfacing League and opened its 2005 season against Snitterfield with a 1-3 defeat. Harbury lost both opening matches in a hesitant start. Andrew Rendell and Richard Harding lost 3-6, 1-6 and Colin Mercer and David Lauder lost 1-6, 1-6. Both pairs improved in their second matches with Andrew and Richard winning 6-3, 6-3. Colin and David fought hard but were edged out 4-6, 4-6. This was followed by an excellent 4-0 win at Ullenhall where Ed Wilson replaced Andrew. All 4 rubbers were fiercely contested and although none went to 3 sets the match did not finish until 9.30!

Juniors

The Juniors have also been involved in competitive action with the Mini Reds showing continued improvements with Linda Casement's

coaching. Sam Casement, Sam Tutt, Henry Steele and Joseph Grey had a fine 6-4 win against Beechwood. The next match was against Nuneaton, one of the bigger clubs in the County. This time Jessica Champion, playing her first match, Oliver King, Sam Casement and Joseph Gray lost 4-6. Linda is most impressed with everyone's efforts, particularly Joseph who is the most improved player and Jessica who played very well in her first match.

This year we have 3 boys' teams in the South Warwickshire Junior doubles Leagues, 2 at Under 13 and 1 at Under 15. Adam Crossling and George Bloxham played the first match at home against an experienced Shipston Under 15s. The match was played in awful conditions (heavy drizzle at best!) but none of the players let that worry them. Adam and George lost the first set 3-6 but came back strongly, with Adam serving particularly well, to win the second 6-4. Shipston's greater match play experience was apparent in the deciding set and they raced into a 5-0 lead but the Harbury pair staged a spirited comeback but eventually lost the set 3-6.

The Club has teamed up with Shipston and Kineton to provide an exciting summer holiday programme that is open to all, not just members. The programme runs from 25th July until 25th August and there will be 55 sessions spread between the 3 venues to suit all age ranges from 4 years to 16 years and Junior Members should by now have received their discount vouchers. Children can attend any of the venues so hopefully holiday commitments won't prevent anyone from taking part. Leaflets have been distributed through local schools but if you want more details contact Linda Casement (614734) or Sue (613284)

Colin and Sue Mercer



Windmills
Nursery School

The highlight of this term was our open morning and official re-launch held on Saturday 7th May 2005. It was

wonderful to see so many new faces, not just from Harbury, but also from the surrounding area. The children were able to join in with our usual activities, as well as decorate biscuits and cakes and also have their face painted, while their parents admired the creative artwork on display around the room and chatted to the staff. During the morning Mr. Bushill-Matthews MEP joined us - in his words "straight from

Brussels" and gave a speech welcoming everyone to our lovely refurbished classroom, giving lots of praise and encouragement to everyone involved in providing such a valuable asset to the village. We were also pleased to see Paula our local health visitor and Terry Grey who has provided much needed help and support with our fund raising for this project. Every child was presented with a balloon and windmill as a memento of the event. Thanks to everyone who helped make this such a success.



The theme of journeys and transport continued this term and the children have been booking their own holidays in our role-play travel agents. This proved to be very popular with the children and helped to develop their personal social and emotional skills, language and literacy, knowledge and understanding and also their mathematical understanding.

Mrs Kennedy brought in a very large cardboard box together with lots of collage materials and the children soon got to work creating their own 'sporty hatchback'. Ellen drove them all to Banbury to go shopping and they had fun estimating how many children would fit into the car. The subject of Journeys was also discussed when we visited church for the toddlers service this month. The children especially enjoy listening to Mr. Catt play his clarinet and joining in with the actions to the songs.



We introduce a love of books in many ways one of which is our trip to the library for story time, this month they particularly enjoyed a story about Boswell Bear, who also went on a journey.

Jenny Barrett – Ellen's grandma kindly came into the nursery and helped the children to plant a variety of seeds that they took home to look after. During the last week the children have been bringing them back into nursery to show each other how big they have grown, and next term we hope to plant them outside the nursery, so we can continue to see them flourish.

Our older children were taken into the school hall to watch the reception class assembly, which was all about growing. All the children sat and listened intently to the story of the Tiny Seed, which was confidently acted out by the reception children. Thank you to Mrs Harris and Mr. Daly for making us feel welcome.

Training

Mrs Casement attended an ICT in the Foundations Stage course, Tina and Marie attended a course on 'Linking Observation Assessment and Planning and staff also received in house training from Chris Thompson our Early Years Advisor on language and literacy. The training proved to be particularly useful and the staff look forward to implementing some of the ideas next term with our older children prior to them moving onto 'big school' in September.

Thank you to Leonie's mum for her donation of a dolls high chair, pushchair and some duplo, and also thank you to Tim's sister Hannah Baldwin for donating some of her Barbie dolls and accessories all of which have been gratefully received by the children. Thank you to Ellen's mum for coming in to help the children with some artwork for the carnival float. The children have really enjoyed playing with our new dolls house, complete with extension, garden shed, garage and car! A big thank you to everyone who has collected the Persil stars – we were thrilled this term to receive a huge box of new art supplies including paints and marbling inks which could not have arrived at a better time. We are continuing to save the Persil stars so please keep sending them into nursery.

Date for your Diary

Harbury Hearts together with Whitnash ladies netball team are organising a summer dance to be held on Saturday, 16th July 2005 in the Village Hall. They are kindly going to donate half of the proceeds of this event to help with the funding of our new outdoor play area. There will be a live band, disco and a raffle, for more information or tickets call 07976 361619 or contact the nursery on 07906 519148.

We welcomed 2 new starters this term, who have both settled in very well. There are still a few spaces left on some sessions for the summer term please if you require a place for your child please contact Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.

If you have any general questions or require information on Windmills Nursery you can email us at info@windmills-nursery.co.uk or call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.

Nursery School Staff and Committee



Harbury Pre-School

May at Pre-School

It has been a busy time at Pre-School throughout May, with all sorts of exciting things happening. One of the highlights was the trip out, on two days to ensure that as many children as possible could take part, to visit Chesterton House Farm on Mill Street and to see the chickens at the Long's house.

We put on our wellies and set off in the lovely sunshine to walk down the road to the farm. We are so lucky to have a real working dairy

farm right in the middle of our village and we are very grateful to the Trice family for letting us have a look round. Louise was a fantastic host and broke off from her busy schedule to give the children a wonderful time. They were allowed to sit in the cab of one of the big tractors and pretend that they were driving it; they saw a cow with her new born calf and lots of young heifers who they fed with handfuls of "cow cake"; they saw the milking parlour and learned from Louise how the cows are milked and they saw all the little inmates of the calf shed. Molly, Louise's dog, was very popular as she was introduced to the children with much tail wagging and enthusiasm.



Afterwards, we crossed Mill Street and walked round to the Long's house, where the tiny chicks that had been brought to Pre-School last year are now large hens and a cockerel. The children had a lovely time looking for eggs in the nesting box and watching the chickens as they busied themselves around their pen. It was amazing how many eggs can be laid overnight by three hens! Thank you very much to Lana who supplied enough eggs for each child to find one in the nesting box. They put their finds in the basket and eventually took home one each at the end of the session.

After the visit to see the chickens, the children played the "busy farmer" game, with one acting as the farmer while another was an egg-laying hen. The hens gave some marvellous impressions with

their clucking noises as they laid their eggs (miraculously hard boiled!) and the children showed their counting skills as the farmer collected them. This game was followed by the children drawing and then carefully cutting out paper eggs to take home in an egg box.

Another topic under examination was that age-old British tradition of the weather. The song "What's the weather today" has had many variations this month. Wind, rain, cold, warmth, clouds, and sunshine have all seemed to follow one another in quick succession and the children have become experts in recognising the various changes.

Saturday 14th May was one of the sunny, windy days, and the day of the sponsored cycle ride, held in the school playground. Nine children and their parents turned up with an assortment of bicycles and pushchairs, to ride round the playground as many times as they could. The vehicles, and in some cases the children, finished up festooned in colourful stickers (one for each lap completed) and every child was awarded a medal at the end. The windy conditions made the follow-up activity with the Pre-School parachute all the more exciting and finally the children and their parents had a well-deserved picnic lunch before heading for home. A magnificent £180 was raised and we are very grateful to those who took part and especially those who sponsored them.



In brief, some of our other activities have included:

- Making a very long collage using a length of wallpaper, with masses of paint, fabrics, small plastic pieces and assorted other items.
- Examining the floating or sinking properties of a number of items in the water tray.
- Using the sand tray for the farm animals and building field enclosures in the sand with the farm fencing.
- Looking at shapes of everyday objects such as a round plate, triangular slice of pizza, square CD case etc., with the children showing great skills in recognising semi-circles, rectangles and ovals as well as the other, easier shapes.
- Playing with the new microwave and telephone in the role-play area.

And finallythe carrots! Following on from last month's article, the carrot seeds have indeed germinated and we now have a trough full of lots of little seedlings – watch this space!

We had two excellent pieces of news during the month of May. Firstly Lesley Van Kesteren has passed her NVQ2 qualification in childcare studies. We would all like to congratulate her on her hard and fruitful work. Secondly Harbury Pre-School became the first Pre-School in the Southam area to be accredited by the Pre School Learning Alliance (see below).

PLA Accreditation WE DID IT!!!

During April Pre School had its assessment for accreditation by the Pre School Learning Alliance (PLA). Feedback from the 2-day visit was very positive and in particular the assessor commented that:

Our staff are excellent, caring and welcoming

Our parental support and involvement was exceptional and in her view was second to none in all of the assessments she had undertaken

Our children are well cared for

Our environment is wonderful, light airy, clean and inviting

Our children obviously enjoy their time at Harbury Pre-School and are happy and confident

We have a fantastic setting

The assessor's report went to a PLA panel for final approval and on the 10th May we were successful in achieving the Accreditation. This means that we are now accredited by an Investors in Children Quality

Assurance Scheme and is further endorsement of the high quality of care being provided. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their help and support in all of the process, from completing the parent questionnaires to being involved in the sessions, it was a real team effort.

New Starters

After the half term break two new starters, Tamara Morley and Alex Sprigs, will join us. We hope they settle in well and enjoy their new surroundings and friends.

If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jane Kempton, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 613786.

Harbury Pre-School Staff and Committee



Harbury Primary School

Maypole Dancing

Congratulations, and many thanks, to all the children in the Infants who put on such a wonderful display of Maypole / Country Dancing at the beginning of May.

The very large crowd all seemed to agree that the performance was excellent – well done to you all.

Girls Football

Congratulations to the Girls' football team, who finished 5th in the final of the Stratford District Council's tournament on 18th May. This was a great performance, as the girls were playing against seven other teams, who, like us, had already had to qualify through local area tournaments. The girls, and the accompanying band of enthusiastic parent supporters, appeared to have a thoroughly enjoyable time, and were a credit to the school. Well done.

Swimming

Unfortunately, we have a hit a major problem with the swimming pool – the heating pump has broken down!! The pump is currently being repaired. We have therefore decided to delay the start of our swimming sessions until the Monday (6th June) after half term. Boys should wear ordinary swimming trunks and girls a one-piece costume.

Mondays: Reception and Stowe – four groups

Tuesdays: Avon and Severn – three groups

Wednesdays: Radbourne, Itchen, Leam and Sherbourne – five groups

K'NEX Challenge

Edward Kostiuk, Peter French, Thomas Kennedy, Callum Lines, Alex Vincent, Bradley Sheasby, Katie Hawley and Peter Thompson represented the school in the K'NEX Technology Day at the Pump Rooms, Leamington last week. Good luck to one of the teams of children who managed to secure a place in the Final to be held in June at the Town Hall. We hope that they are at their problem solving best!!

PTA Spring Fayre

Despite the torrential rain, the Spring Fayre was very popular and enjoyed by all. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped to make the afternoon run as smoothly as it did, and for all the hard work put in on the day and in the week before.

There were some fabulous raffle prizes, thanks to the following for their generous donations: Rob & Libby Darlison, Warwick Castle, Bizz Fitness, Sarah Turner, Rob & Gen Davey, Nigel Chapman (for some very interesting pickles!), The Ragdoll Shop, all the donations to make up the hampers and many many more. We would also like to thank Lindsay Dolphin for the donation of greetings cards and Mary at Muglestons for her help. We are pleased to have raised £900 for PTA funds.

We also held our first 100-club draw at the Fayre, which was won by Alison Baldwin. If anyone is keen to have the chance to win £100 we have some spare 100-club numbers to sell. They cost £12 and there are 5 draws throughout the year. If you are interested please phone Alison Baldwin 612087.

Carnival – Saturday 11th June

This year the PTA will once again be taking part in the Walking Tableau. The theme is a 'TOYBOX'. We would like as many children as possible to dress up as a toybox character. Those taking part will need to assemble in Sutcliffe Drive at 12.30pm. Judging commences at 12.45 with the start of the procession at 1.30pm. Parents should be reminded that they are to remain with and supervise their children during the walk to the playing field.

The PTA will this year be running a Balloon Race from the Carnival. Balloons will cost £1 each and the winner will receive a cash prize of £50. We hope to let all the balloons off at the close of the carnival, should be quite spectacular!

Beer Walk – Saturday 25th June

Don't forget the 'Fifth Beer Walk' to be held in Long Itchington. Start time between 11.30 – 12.15pm from the Cuttle Inn, Southam Road. There is no transport provided, so participants will need to find their own way to and from Long Itchington. Bus times are available, and for further information about the day contact Nigel Chapman at school.

Denis Daly

Harbury Albion F.C. – the golden years

In the week after Liverpool's sensational win in the Champion's League cup in Istanbul against A.C. Milan, it is perhaps appropriate to celebrate the achievements of local footballing heroes whose success was no less remarkable. Last month the Leamington Courier published a photograph of Harbury Albion F.C. from the 1953/54 season under the headline – 'familiar faces rekindle cup-winning glory years'.

Former footballer Allan Deakin, who now lives in Ufton had sent in the photograph for the Courier's nostalgia page, which on April 8th was dedicated to an article about three football sides from the fifties – Harbury Albion, Moreton Morrell and Saltisford Rovers. Harbury Albion were featured as the lead team, as they had won the Aston Villa Cup final, which was played on the Henry Griffiths ground next to Lockheed. Mr Deakin had commented on the many happy memories of his days 'playing in the Leamington League' and he had provided names of all the players from the Cup winning side, which was displayed alongside the text with photographs of the other two teams printed below.

The article promoted much active debate in the pubs and Village Club in Harbury, as some people could positively recognise former players in the photograph captioned 'Harbury Albion F.C.' as residents who 'hadn't changed much over the years', whilst others contested that the identified players were totally unrecognisable as friends they had grown up with in the village. It set the tongues wagging as opposing groups alternatively recognised / failed to recognise the players as the people they knew. Eventually all was revealed when it was pointed out that the photograph at the bottom of the page identified as Moreton Morrell F.C. had many more familiar faces, including an easily recognisable Mike Bishop, shown as second from the right in the printed photograph. As a result, the Harbury Albion F.C. team from the 1953/54 season had more than their '15 minutes of allotted fame', as

the Courier had to print the photographs the following week identifying that a 'mix-up' had occurred and the two teams had been shown under the wrong captions. This brought out the Courier pages for the second week with the 'I told you so' brigade happy to point out that they had been right all along and well known residents including George Perry, Lol Sheasby and Roly Padbury couldn't have changed that much in the intervening years. In the interests of putting the record straight and recording the achievements of the fifties footballers, Mike Bishop has supplied the photograph for the Harbury and Ladbroke News – with all the players correctly identified.



Back Row L to R: Dave Ferguson, George Perry, Arnold Ross, Allan Deakin, Mick Bishop, Arthur Large

Front Row L to R: Tod Austin, Tom Sollis, Lol Sheasby, Roly Padbury, Roy Barrett

In addition to the Aston Villa Cup, the fifties side had several other notable achievements, which are glorious reminders of a golden age for Harbury Albion F.C.:

Aston Villa Runners-Up Cup	1950-1951
League Champions Division 2	1950-1951
Presidents Cup winners	1952-1953
Aston Villa Cup winners **	1953-1954

Presidents Cup winners 1954-1955

Presidents Cup winners 1959-1960

Liverpool F.C. has just proved that for 90 minutes of normal time, plus 30 minutes of extra time and a penalty shoot out that they are the Champions in Europe for this year and will doubtless receive significant coverage in the next few weeks, but Harbury Albion's success in the mid fifties has been just as much talked about recently - fifty years after they won their Cup. Will Liverpool be able to say the same?

This observation does not go down too well in a household with 2 ardent Liverpool fans and other members of the family who continue to support the football team wherever they happen to be!

Chris Finch

Harbury Carnival – June 11th 2005

carnival day programme will be as follows:

- 0 - Procession assembles in Sutcliffe Drive
- 5 - Judging of procession entries commences
- 0 - Procession led by the Shirley Pipe Band leaves Sutcliffe Drive
- 0 - Fancy Dress Competition
- 0 - Punch and Judy Show
- 0 - Bhangra Dancers
- 3-30 - Dog Show
- 4-00 - Raffle Draw
- 5-00 - Fete Closes

Please note that the dog show this year will return to the popular format featuring your own dogs (and you).

Will those entering the Carnival procession please assemble in Sutcliffe Drive at the appropriate location for the class you are in (there will be signs on the pavement). The classes are:

- Decorated Float – Trade
- Decorated Float – Private
- Decorated Float – Children
- Decorated bicycle, pram or car
- Horse drawn, mounted or led
- Walking Tableau – Adults

Walking Tableau – Children (2 to 8 people)

Walking Tableau – Children (more than 8 people)

Walking Tableau – Family

Walking Adult

Walking Child

Judging will take place at 12-45pm.

The Kids Club, who are running the teas, would be grateful for your support in the cake department. Please take any kind donations to the Village Hall on Carnival morning.

There is still time to book a stall but please contact Mike McBride on 612421 as soon as possible.

Wheelbarrow Race

The Wheelbarrow Race on the 5th June will commence from the Gamecock. Please assemble at 12-30pm for a 1-00pm start. Again, can I please ask you to make sure you complete an entry form and pay the entrance fee BEFORE the day. Forms are available from the pubs and Dan Killian on 612265.

Pub Games

For the other events taking place during Carnival week, will those taking part please assemble at the appropriate pub for a 7-30pm start. The order of events is:

Monday 7th - Aunt Sally at the Crown

Tuesday 8th – Horseshoes at the Dog

Wednesday 9th – Skittles at the Old New Inn

Thursday 12th - Quiz at the Shakespeare

John Broomfield

Harbury Twinning Association

On Friday 13th, members waited in a gale at the Rugby Club for the coach bringing our friends from Samois-sur-Seine. We all soon warmed up in a convivial atmosphere in the bar, as old friendships were renewed and new ones begun. Jenny Patrick, Chairman of the Parish Council, made a welcome speech (in French) and soon all our guests were leaving to spend their first evening with their host families.

Next day, the weather was beautiful if still breezy. A choice of activities had been arranged. A large group enjoyed a walk from Flecknoe led

by John Hancock. The route crossed Shuckborough park with many spectacular views of the Warwickshire countryside and returned along the Oxford canal where there were lots of boats and a friendly owner was happy to show the group his lovingly restored craft. At the end was the 'Old Olive Bush Inn', which provided lunch and of course liquid refreshment.

A group of 14, 7 English and 7 French were entertained by Southam Bowling Club - thanks to Ted Coupe and Janet Thornley for organising this event. The English team won the cup 85-71. The top male scorer was Loic Bourguignon aged only 12 and



the top female scorer was Rosemary Harley. The finer points of the game were discussed over a buffet lunch.

The most intrepid group, led by Peter Rollason, went canoeing on the Leam from the Boat Centre in Jephson Gardens. The sight of Warwick Castle made up for getting a bit wet!

The main event of the weekend was a dinner in the Village Hall on Saturday evening. The decorations were excellent-thanks to Ruth Guy, Graham and Jill Alder and Celia Neill. The musical entertainment was by the superb Vanilla House Band, a local group who play in the style of Django Rheinhardt, who lived and is buried in Samoia. We also had a display by our own Appalachian dancers. We presented Samoia with childrens' books for the library and they gave us books and 3 Petanque sets. It would be lovely if we had a Petanque court in the village as Stockton has. It was a very happy evening with a delicious meal provided, with their usual efficiency, by Ray and Jan Playdon.

Sunday's main event was a trip to London. We used the coach that Samoia travelled over with and it was such a glorious day that even the M40 was spectacular. The main objective was a 'flight' on the London Eye. As we turned onto Lambeth Bridge and the view of the

river opened up with the Houses of Parliament looking majestic, there was a gasp of appreciation. The views from the 'Eye' were amazing in such perfect conditions. After the flight groups went in different directions and all enjoyed London looking its best - a capital city to be proud of.

All too soon, it was Monday morning and our friends were boarding their coach once more for the return journey to Samoia. As usual, it was sad to say goodbye but we are all looking forward to visiting Samoia in 2006. I must share with you a little of the e-mail received from Nelly Touchard, President of the Samoia Association.

'I'd like to thank you very warmly on behalf of Samoia Twinning Committee. We really feel so close together that you are part of our families.'

An event such as this needs a great deal of hard work and I must thank the committee for giving so freely of their time, and all the host families who made our guests so welcome.

Sharon Hancock

Any teenagers interested in improving their French?

Further to our recent successful twinning weekend when we hosted 38 people from Samoia, I have had some requests to try and find links for the younger French people

- 1) Ornella (a girl, 15 - almost 16yrs) is looking for someone to correspond with and to exchange with, possibly this summer. The family would also be happy to host an English girl. Ornella likes walking, music, and painting.
- 2) Mathilde and Camille (13 year-old twins) would like pen friends possibly with a view to exchange visits in future. Both like sports (swimming, cycling, athletics etc. Mathilde is quieter and enjoys reading, cinema and Camille is more extrovert and enjoys acting, meeting her friends, and chatting to them.
- 3) Erwan (a boy, aged 12) would like to correspond with and exchange with an English boy (not necessarily this summer). He is very active and likes all sports, especially football.

If anyone can help, or would like to know more please phone me on 613214, or e-mail me on, sal74sb-hn@yahoo.co.uk

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Corresponding and exchanging with similar age people from other countries can lead to very rewarding life-long friendships and I can assure you that Samoia is a wonderful place to visit.

Sally Stringer

Harbury First Responder Group

Harbury First Responder Group have now been operational for nearly two years. The purpose of the group is to respond, when called by Warwickshire Ambulance Service, to give first-line treatment to people in our community who may be suffering a heart attack.

This involves training in and using an automated defibrillator, which is a vital piece of equipment necessary in the first few minutes of a heart attack. First responders are able to be with a heart attack victim to deliver this treatment much faster than the Ambulance Service, because we are all in the village.

We have recently welcomed a new member into our team – Geoff Thorpe has undertaken his training with the Ambulance Service and is now qualified to join the existing team of 5 responders. The existing five – Helen Cooper, Julie Collier, Rosemary Harley, Caroline Hill and Mark Clifton - have also recently been successful in their re-qualification assessment, which has to be undertaken every six months, to ensure our standards remain high.

We would really like to increase the number of First Responders in Harbury, as this would enable more 'cover' to be given by the group to the Ambulance Service, and we would be able to respond more often to calls for assistance in Harbury and it's surrounding locality.

If you would like to learn more, and may be interested in joining us, please call Debbie Ellis on 612326 or Caroline Hill on 613780.

Caroline Hill

Crime Prevention - Looking After Your Home

Most house burglaries are committed by opportunist thieves, and in two burglaries out of ten, the thief does not have to force his way in because a door or window has been left open. This is especially so during summer and in the warmer weather. Burglars like easy opportunities. They don't like locked windows because breaking glass attracts attention. They don't like security deadlocks on doors

because they cannot open them even from the inside and they have to get out through a window. Simple precautions like these do work. So check the security of your home against the following advice and strengthen the weak areas as soon as possible. A small outlay will, in many cases, make your home much more secure.

1. Strangers. Be alert to people loitering in residential streets. If it is no one you recognise, call the police.
2. Burglar Alarms. Visible burglar alarms make burglars think twice.
3. Gates and Fences. A high wall or fence at the back of a house can put off a burglar. Check for weak spots where a thief could get in. Prickly hedging along a boundary can also be a useful deterrent. Some suggested shrubs to use for this purpose are Hippophae Rhamnoides (sea buckthorn), Pyracantha, Crataegus Monogyna (common hawthorn), Rosa Rogusa Rubra (old fashioned rose), Ilex, (Holy), Berberies Julianae and Berberis Stenophlla and climbing and rambling roses.
4. Small windows. Even small windows like casement windows, skylights or bathroom fanlights need locks. A thief can get in through any gap larger than a human head.
5. Spare keys. Never leave a spare key in a hiding place like under a doormat, in a flowerpot or inside the letterbox - a thief will look there first.

Garages and Sheds. Never leave a garage or garden shed unlocked, especially if it has a connecting door to the house. Lock tools and ladders away so that a thief cannot use them to break in.

Alison Abbott

Stratford on Avon District Volunteer Bureau

A key aim of the Stratford on Avon District Volunteer Bureau is to recruit volunteers for a wide range of organisations, which help people in need. Each year some hundreds of people take up volunteering as a result of advertising. Those helped range from young carers (basically children who have responsibility for a parent) through to adults in need of re-integration into society to people of all ages who may have disabilities, mental health problems or are lonely, isolated or elderly. The Bureau also operates a short-term wheelchair free loan scheme; it is a service that is very much appreciated.

Through its offices in Alcester, Southam, Shipston on Stour and Stratford, the Volunteer Bureaux also recruits its own volunteer drivers to take those in need to Day Centres, Doctors' Surgeries and Hospitals. Last year around 250 drivers drove 629,000 miles taking over 36,000 passengers to and from such places.

If you feel you can help by giving some of your time in any way please contact the Bureau at Stratford on 01789 262886 or visit the website www.stratfordvbv.org.uk

Clarissa Roberts



All are invited to attend the Vision 4 Southam - EGM (extraordinary general meeting), which has been called to discuss the Constitution. It will be held on Wednesday, 8th June 2005, at 7:30 pm (refreshments available from 7pm) in the Foyer of the Grange Hall, Coventry Road, Southam.

Are you are interested in learning how your community group is operated? For further information, or if you are interested in the projects we are involved with that will affect your community please contact the Secretary - Kate Lewis (Assistant Regeneration Officer, Warwickshire County Council Tel:01926 412134 or Email: katelewis@warwickshire.gov.uk

Vision 4 Southam is holding Southam's first "Party in the Park" an open-air concert at Park Lane Recreation Ground, Southam (behind Market Hill shops and next to St James' Church) The party will be held on Saturday 9th July 2005 - 5 pm 'till 10pm. Entry is free so bring the family and a picnic!

This will be a celebration of local musical talent with a firework grand finale! and a chance to enter a prize draw to win a helicopter ride! For more information email: southampartyinthepark@warwickshire.gov.uk

Kate Lewis

Gap Year Destination: Australia!

Hi, I'm Joanne Doming and am currently preparing for my A-Level exams at Trinity School in Leamington Spa. I have lived in Harbury all my life and went to Harbury Playgroup and Primary School. I want to go to university, but have decided to take a year off studying first.

In co-operation with World Challenge Expeditions Ltd, I am preparing to embark on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to The Land Down Under, this September. There I will be working for 3 months on a horse stud farm, with foals and young horses, in return for board and lodging. After completing my work placement I want to travel along the eastern coast of Australia, experiencing the culture, landscape and wildlife. From this expedition I hope to acquire some valuable new life skills, including communication, teamwork and independence.

Over the next few months I have the task of raising £2,225 for World Challenge, which covers advice and guidance, skills training, flights, sourcing my work placement and in-country support. I have a part time job at weekends and have been organizing various fund-raising activities, including quizzes and dog walking. One of my male friends is even doing a sponsored leg wax! Once my exams are over this summer I will work full time until I leave. I still have a lot of money to raise, so if anyone is interested in sponsoring me or has any fund raising ideas, please contact me! I will be writing a monthly article for Southam District Advertiser, which will give coverage to sponsors and keep you up-to-date with my fund-raising.

If all goes to plan, I should return to the UK in spring 2006. I will then get a full time job and work until the following September when I start my university course. I have done a scholarship exam for Aberystwyth, University Of Wales that has guaranteed me an unconditional place to study a degree in Zoology.

Joanne Dorning (01926) 612037

Paddy's New Year's Party – in May

A recent celebration at the Old New Inn was billed as Paddy's New Year's Party and friends and family turned out in force to help him enjoy a special evening, which also became a fund-raising event. 'Paddy' isn't Irish - and even they don't see in the New Year in May, but Paddy felt that he wanted to enjoy the kind of evening he missed out on at the turn of the year, but was able to enjoy now, as a result of the remarkable improvement he has made since January. At New Year, 'Paddy' was in the Queen Elizabeth hospital in Birmingham undergoing treatment, so he didn't get the chance to join his friends in the usual village celebrations.

Alan (Paddy) Padbury shared his night to remember two weeks ago with Richard Oldham, who often runs disco evenings for special

parties and anniversaries in the Old New Inn. As a result of the massive support from villagers, £500 will be divided between two worthy causes, which Paddy and Richard had identified before the event. For Paddy, money will be donated to the Heathcote Rehabilitation Unit and Limb Centre in Leamington where he receives regular treatment and advice, whilst Richard had identified that he wanted the Muscular Dystrophy Society to benefit from the generous contributions of those who turned up to enjoy an 'evening with a difference'.

Paddy and Richard were extremely grateful to all those who donated raffle prizes and bought raffle tickets on the evening and they expressed their thanks to Sandra at the pub who prepared a special buffet for all the evening's "New Year's revellers".

It was by all accounts, a great night and Paddy celebrated in style. He acknowledges that his amazing progress has been boosted by the encouragement of all his friends and the love and support he has been given by his parents during the time he spent undergoing his operation and during his subsequent rehabilitation.

One week on from 'Paddy's party', the Harbury Rugby Club presented him with a special award, as the supporter who had been an "inspiration to us all", since the time he suffered his original injury on the rugby field. Ian Holroyd presented Paddy with a tankard in recognition of his "tremendous courage" and players and supporters at the annual Rugby Club dinner gave him a standing ovation as he went up to receive his personalised tankard.

Paddy and Richard were heartened by all the goodwill shown by the many people who turned up for their open party and want to thank everyone for their support.

Chris Finch

Spirit of Harbury Award – 2005

The third recipient of the Spirit of Harbury shield presented by Alison Hunt in memory of her husband John, was described in letters of recommendation for the award as 'modest' and unassuming'. Although he has spent almost every one of his 24 years in the village assisting or leading various projects, it was felt that 'very few people knew of his input' and the range of activities in which he has been involved would surprise many.

Brian Ingram moved into Kingston House in the centre of Harbury in 1981 with his wife, Sue and two daughters, Cathy who was (9) and

Clare (6). Previously they had lived in Shrewley where they had built their own house, which was gradually 'enveloped' by a chicken factory. They eventually sold their house to the owner of the business and searched for a property, which would provide space for the family and a garden, which could be enjoyed without an overwhelming distraction – especially in hot weather! The village centre property not only had an extensive garden, but also boasted one of the few private swimming pools in Harbury, which has served to entertain many visitors over the years.



Brian & Sue Ingram

Brian's first introduction to supporting the community came as a result of his friendship with neighbour, John Kemsley and he served on the Harbury P.T.A. Committee, acting as Vice Chairman during a particularly active period in its history. He then became Chair of the Scouts and Guides Support Committee and provided the practical expertise needed to lay a new timber floor in the old Scout Hut. The fund-raising events often involved barbeque and swimming parties organised by Brian and Sue and members of the Scouts committee, which always attracted many eager visitors to Kingston House anxious to demonstrate their prowess on the cooking ranges or in the pool.

Around the same time, many villagers will remember that the 'Scouts newspaper collection' was instigated, which involved a small team of willing enthusiasts collecting bundles of newspapers from outside village properties and storing the mountains of papers in various sites – first in Church Street and then in Mill Street. Eventually Brian arranged for a waste paper container to be left on the Village Club car park, so that it reduced the need for 'double-handling' of all the papers.

This mammoth task raised considerable sums for the Scouts and Guides in the days when the price paid for pulped paper was quite high and the Council hadn't invented the idea of recycling to put money into its own coffers.

After 5 years in the village, Brian took on additional roles and he joined the Village Hall Committee on which he served for 17 years; 10 years as its Chairman. He carried out many maintenance tasks, which might otherwise have incurred a cost to the Village Hall, including assisting with the heating survey when the system was upgraded and assessing the requirements for the car park when it was first developed. As a civil engineer for Severn Trent, mainly in the South Warwickshire area, his training and knowledge proved a boon when he designed and managed the construction of the Village Hall car park. As Brian mentions, however, the developments over which he has presided have been 'cosmetic' to the basic structure of the Village Hall and the people who should be recognised for their efforts are those who raised the money to establish the Hall for the benefit of the community many years ago.

When Brian was 'active' with the Village Hall Committee, he also became involved with one of the earlier Youth Club groups for 3 years, at a time when there was a waiting list to attend and youngsters came from outside the village to enjoy the events which were arranged by a committed group of enthusiasts.

Whilst Brian has seemingly enjoyed the responsibilities arising from his work with various committees, there has also been the lighter side of his nature demonstrated with his skills on the 'washboard and kazoo'. He was part of the well-remembered Harbury Jug Band and again he has to thank his good friend John Kemsley for his involvement. He just happened to chance on John and Alan Wilkins rehearsing guitar numbers for the Folk Club when he went round to borrow a drill for another 'practical maintenance' session. Apart from his washboard skills, Brian also honed up his musical talents blowing metal watering cans and banging an assorted range of tools, which provided the light relief for the group's entertainment. In the early years, the Folk Club met at the Old New Inn where on one celebrated occasion, the landlord John McLaughlin, joined the Jug Band in a rousing rendition of the 'Pub with no beer', which is often recalled with some nostalgia! The 'Band' even produced a C.D. in a local recording studio, which sold over 500 copies in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer. The Jug Band, with Steve Dudley playing harmonica and providing some of the vocals, entertained the public at many charity

events throughout the region, including Banbury Carnival and the Victorian Street Fayre and were always a popular slot at Christmas when they attended the Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

Whenever there has been a need for assistance with a village activity, those 'in the know' have always been able to count on Brian to lend a hand. When Danny Killian proposed a Street Fayre in 1990, Brian joined the 'planning committee' for its weekly meetings in the Gamecock and when the Scouts joined with the Church to organise the Bonfire and Fireworks Party, Brian was on hand to give some assistance. At first, he joined Sue in preparing the food for the event, but eventually he graduated to assisting John Moore with setting up the Firework display, before eventually being allowed to 'take charge'. This onerous task, which has grown men clamouring to be involved, requires a steady hand and an attention to detail with the Health and Safety guidelines. The 'regulations' require several hours of dedicated concentration, usually in the Gamecock, before a new 'steward' has served his apprenticeship and is released into the field of activity!

In more recent years, Brian has been part of the team, which has erected the Xmas lights around the Village Centre following a recommendation from the Parish Council. The lights were originally purchased for the first Victorian Street Fayre, but recent donations from the Harbury Chronicles Committee and personal pledges have extended the distance over which the lights are displayed. His most recent contribution to village affairs has been his assistance with the survey of Harbury for the Village Plan, which has been led by Linda Ridgley of the Harbury Society. As with all of his commitments to the village, Brian has been happy to start in a small way in a project before sometimes finding he has committed himself to something more demanding. It is hardly surprising that Brian received the most nominations this year, as recipient of the Spirit of Harbury Shield, but as several commented 'not a lot of people knew' the extent to which he has unselfishly offered his time, efforts and expertise in service of the village over many years.

Unfortunately for the village, Brian and Sue have decided to make a move to the South Devon coast in late summer to live in a hamlet of only 70 people with no church, no pub and no shops. One village's loss will undoubtedly be another hamlet's gain, as it is doubtful that Brian and Sue will take a complete back seat in the community for long. Brian has plans to sail and play golf, whilst Sue intends to design a 'new' garden. For many years, visitors to Kingston House on the Harbury Garden Walkabout have always been impressed with the

layout and range of plants in Sue's garden, so maybe this idea might be 'transplanted' further afield, as Sue gets to work on her coastal designs. With no Village Hall to maintain, Brian may decide to 'hang up his tools', or he may suggest some Xmas lights or a Bonfire Party in the hamlet? Whatever happens and hopefully we will hear about it – he will always be remembered in Harbury, as his name will be inscribed on the Spirit of Harbury shield, as the third recipient of the award for 'service over and above the call of duty'.

Chris Finch

Time Out – Ufton

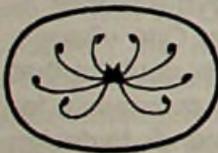
Ufton Church Fete – Saturday 4th June at 2pm in the Old Rectory Gardens. Come along and have fun, play games, dip into the Lucky Dip, buy gifts from the Bric-a-brac, Cakes, Plants, Craft, Ice Cream and Jumble Stalls. Enter the fancy dress competition – parade at 2pm. Come dressed as a favourite book character.... who will be the winners? Reverend John Armstrong will open the fete.

Collections will be made around the village during the week before the Fete. We are looking for gifts of bottles, tins, groceries, craft items etc. Whatever you would like to give please have it ready for the collectors when they arrive at your door. Jumble and Bric-a-brac may be taken to the Old Rectory before 6pm on Friday June 3rd – please ring 613303. A big thank you in anticipation for all contributions. Please join us at this major village event to make it even more successful this year!

Summer Garden Visit – Ryton Organic Gardens on Tuesday 28th June 10.30am – 12.30pm.

Join our guided tour and see the Cook's Garden, Geoff Hamilton's memorial Paradise Garden, Diversity in Landscape Borders, visitor centre, shop and then dine out in the coffee shop or licensed restaurant. Ryton Gardens are set in 10 acres of beautiful gardens. It costs £3.75 for the guided tour (reduced rate for groups). Lunch is extra. To book, please ring Tracey Watts on 614413.

Karin Kirk



Horticultural Society

Mr Coombs gave a detailed and interesting talk on Hidcote Gardens, starting with the background history of the property and its owners. Major Lawrence Johnson who masterminded the transformation from an exposed building and land to a beautiful house with individual gardens

using hedges for protection from the elements. It was not until he retired from the Army did he start the long job of fulfilling his dream, but money – or the lack of it was a problem, luckily his mother did have money, but she held on tightly to the purse strings! (So he was forced to develop piecemeal, adding to the garden “room” by “room”.) He frequently used the hedging to create these rooms, each leading on to the next often through a “doorway”. He was influenced by friends – usually with large gardens, other garden designers/plantsmen, also a visit to Versailles! He was self taught and travelled all over the world for some of his specimens. Mr Coombs showed many slides and ended by answering questions.

We will keep our fingers crossed for a nice day for the trip to Stapley Water Gardens on Thursday 9th June, but take your brolly just in case, and please be at the Village Hall early as the coach will leave at 8.30am PROMPT.

For those booked to go to Mildene on Thursday 23rd June, please be at the Village Hall by 5.45. I understand parking is very limited at Mildene so please fill any spare seats – and take your brolly.

The Show in September is way off, but here are some tips should you decide to enter jams, pickles or other preserves, please make sure the seal is acceptable to the W.I judge. The book “On with the show” is helpful. The show is open to Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I as well as Harbury W.I, the residents of Harbury, Deppers Bridge and Ladbroke, and of course all Horticultural Society members as in recent years. The schedules will be available in due course.

I mention the Ryton Garden Ticket again – should Daphne and Judy be away at the same time, please phone 612515.

I seem to remember musing as to what the rest of the spring season would bring, we could have certainly done without the cold north wind and the frosts. The rain was welcome but not the covering of hailstones.

Muriel Grey

Nature Notes

As I write, 25th May, the weather seems to be moving into a warmer phase. Good timing as I'm off to the Warwickshire/Northamptonshire border near Flecknoe tomorrow to attend a meeting of the Butterfly Conservation Group. Why Flecknoe? Well, its got a pleasant pub called 'The Old Olive Bush' and nearby is a cutting and embankment

of the Great Central Railway which is 'home' to the Grizzled Skipper, one of our rarer butterflies. The Skippers (Latin name Hesperidae) as a group are the most moth-like and primitive of butterflies. They are small lively insects with broad hairy bodies and a relatively large gap between the bases of the two antennae. Warwickshire has four of the eight British resident species, namely the Large, Small, Dingy and Grizzled. It's not necessary to travel to Flecknoe to see them, as you can walk down to the Spoilbank near the Great Western, or journey to Ufton Fields for a possible sighting. The insects require rather special conditions if they are to thrive, and Warwickshire is now in danger of losing such habitats, as scrub invades the species rich, limey clay, unimproved (i.e. not fertilised) grassland. At the sites mentioned, you will find such plants as Yellow Wort, Scabious, Fairy Flax, Autumn Gentian, Cowslip, Eyebright, and the Grizzled Skipper caterpillar's favourite food, Wild Strawberry. Without a population of rabbits or low density grazing, the reserves would quickly revert to woodland so nature is being assisted by regular scrub bashing parties of volunteers.

To return to the end of last month's Nature Notes - the cuckoo. Sharon heard one on the morning of May 2nd in Bush Heath Lane. I had to wait another three weeks and it wasn't in Harbury. I'm still waiting for a local birdcall. We were on a moored narrow boat at Welford-on-Avon on May 22nd when that inimitable sound of summer floated through the cabin window. The river and canal weekend was windy and wet with one particularly heavy storm on the afternoon of the 21st incorporating thunder, lightning and hail. Nevertheless, there were sufficient bright intervals to savour some special wild life moments. Perhaps the most evocative was the blue flash of a Kingfisher. Later, the bird or its mate, as male and female are alike, settled on a branch and turned this way and that to show its plumage to best effect-the avian equivalent of the catwalk. Occasionally, a Heron would rise when disturbed, and lazily flap by to take up another fishing position. One female Swan floated by with two grey cygnets aboard, surrounded by five other youngsters and guarded over by the male at a suitable distance. Canada Geese with goslings, Coot and Moorhen with their chicks, not forgetting numerous Mallards added further embellishment, either sitting on the nest or in flotilla. As Ratty said in Kenneth Graham's 'Wind in the Willows' 'There's nothing quite like messing about in a boat'. Sadly, there were no water rats to be seen. The Water Vole to give it its proper name is a dying breed. Possibly, predation by Mink has caused a decline in numbers of this shy creature.

On the Binton side of the attractive bridge across the Avon at Welford, close to the 'Four Alls' pub, the two villages have established a small nature reserve as their Millennium project. In this former Osier bed, now a wetland meadow, but with new Osiers maturing, I found Ragged Robin with its distinctive, much divided pink petals together with Marsh Marigolds (Kingcups) and in a ditch, Bitter Cress. The reserve has been set up partly to attract Otters but so far to no avail. I've yet to see this splendid animal in the wild.

June is the month of our local Orchid display. The Man Orchid, together with the Bee Orchid and Greater Butterfly Orchid can be seen at Ufton Fields, with larger numbers of Common Spotted Orchids and Common Twayblades. At the Learn Valley reserve, I saw a great number of Swifts darting about on May 23rd. I kept a look out for the Hobby, which apparently had been spotted in the area. This small, migrating hawk about the size of a large Swift is so fast and manoeuvrable in flight that it can sometimes catch a speeding Swift or Swallow but its usual dietary prey are large insects. Rex Humphreys tells me he has seen one in the village - further reports please.

John Hancock

Gardening Notes

June may bring the 'flower gap' when spring flowers give up the ghost and summer bedding is only just going in. Many flowering shrubs now move to centre stage, and the garden centres have a tempting array of instant colour. Tidy away any remaining leaves on spring bulbs. Cut down old flowered spikes of the early summer perennials throughout the month and they may flower again. If stakes are not in for tall plants put them in now and cover the tops of canes to prevent eye injuries. Tie in developing flower spikes before they can be wind damaged. Some floppy plants can be cut back by half on the main stems, these then send out side shoots, which produce flowers, on a bushier plant. This also works on plants that have been wind damaged. Divide polyanthus, primulas and auriculars. Carefully separate the offsets and replant them in a cool site. Plant out half-hardy summer bedding and over-wintered tender ones in borders and pots. Water the plants a few hours before moving them. Nicotiana, brachycome, verbena and petunia are very good 'doers' no matter what the weather, even if we get a cold wet June. Boost border perennials with a liquid feed. Watch out for perennial weeds that can get well established amongst the lush growth of summer. Dig them out or spot weed them with a glyphosphate weedkiller if all else fails.

Good gardeners are always looking ahead so sow winter flowering pansies, early spring bedding and biennials now, in seed trays. Keep in a cool shaded place but do not forget to water them. Wallflowers sown now will be big enough to plant out in October. Clip back alpine plants to keep them tidy and to prevent self-seeding. Trailing plants like aubretia, cerastium and phlox should be cut back hard after flowering to prevent them straggling. Take cuttings from non-flowering shoots and root them in trays of very sandy compost. Keep them in a shaded cool place. Shrubs that were layered by securing stems to the ground with a stone or peg, last autumn or winter, should be checked. Water them if the weather turns hot. Hedges will need a trim. Now is the time to do evergreen ones. Spread a sheet of polythene to catch the clippings. Many herbs are now at their best for drying or freezing. Feed and weed herb beds. Sow parsley and annual herbs. Plant up a window box of herbs to have near the kitchen.

If raspberries were maggoty last year, control raspberry beetle grubs with Derris dust when flowers first open, then treat with liquid Derris just as the fruit begins to colour. Tie in new canes but pull off suckers growing outside the row. Tie in blackberries and loganberries to prevent them breaking in the wind. Plum and cherry trees can be pruned from now through to the beginning of September, with the trees' natural gum sealing the wounds. Start feeding tomatoes when the first truss sets. Nip out side shoots that form in the leaf axials to increase the crop. Towards the end of the month tomatoes will be ripening so do some de-leafing to assist this. Do not let the pots or bags dry out as this can cause blossom end rot. Pot bound houseplants should be re-potted into the next size of pot. This is a good time to take cuttings of many plants. Do not re-pot bougainvillea too often, they need a certain degree of check to promote flowering. Winter flowering pot plants produce better flowers if they are put outside in a sheltered spot out of strong sunlight during the summer months. Beware of slugs and snails and do not forget to water them.

Feed lawns with a nitrogen rich or long lasting fertiliser. If this is in granular form water the grass to prevent the chemicals scorching it. Naturalised bulbs in grass can be mown this month, but it may be easiest to strim and then mow. Mowing too short may let in daisies.

Plant of the month - Astrantia

A hardy perennial with a curious flower introduced in 1596 should by now be very well known, and yet it is not usually found in the garden centres. It is native to Iran, through Central Europe and on into N. Spain where it grows in woods and mountain meadows. In the garden

it will suit almost any site except a very dry one, so for something a little different look out for them. The name comes from the Greek word 'aster' meaning a star, for the flat, round flower heads on erect stems do resemble a multi-pointed star. Each rosette is composed of a posy of tiny flowers surrounded by bracts, varying in colour from greenish white through to deep pink. The leaves are buttercup-like and can form clumps half a metre across. From June until late August they contribute well to a border, also lasting well as cut flowers. For many years the only ones grown were *A. carniolica*, greenish-white, and *A. major* Greenish tinged with pink, but now there are more stylish ones, such as Ruby Wedding that has black stems and ruby red flowers or Shaggy with long white bracts.



Pat Smith

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

Thank you to all who helped at and attended the recent Harbury Hearts Coffee Morning. The money raised was £146.20 and was donated to the Tom Hauley Room.

The next fundraising event to be held by Harbury Hearts is the Harbury Summer Dance. This will be on Saturday 16th July in Harbury Village Hall at 7.30pm until midnight. There will be a band and disco; tickets are £10, which includes a light supper. For more information or to order tickets, please phone Dayle on 07976 361619.

Harbury Hearts Group

Dear Editors

A big thank you to all who collected for Christian Aid and to all who contributed. The total this year was £1385.07.

Michael Hare

Dear Editors

I am writing to say a big "thank you" to the people of Harbury and Ladbroke for the help that they have given as a result of our Asian Tsunami appeal.

The school's own appeal raised £1,129 and, having heard a talk from my fellow director about the needs of the 3 villages that we'd pledged to help, the children decided that they'd like the money to be put towards a new water tower. In fact, with the £500 raised by the Lent lunches held by both churches and further individual donations made by Harbury and Ladbroke villagers, you have between you given sufficient to buy that tower.

With the fishing boats that we've already been able to supply, the people can start to feed themselves and earn a living. With the water tower that you've bought with your gifts, they are now also able to maintain their water supply. Food and water - two basic essentials for any community.

When compared with the total suffering of millions caused by the tsunami, these efforts may seem small when viewed from a distance, but your gifts have gone straight to a point of real need and to those who receive them they mean the world. But it isn't just the material gifts; it's the fact that someone *cares* that gives rise to hope.

Our next step is to see that the very young, especially those who have lost close relatives upon whom they depended, receive the attention they deserve. We shall try to ensure that they receive a nutritional diet and healthcare. Over the next 6 - 12 months, we shall monitor their situation and if there is still need, and if appropriate, consider transferring some of the children to our child sponsorship scheme, which is already running successfully in India and other countries

That is an update on the work. Again, thank you on behalf of the 3 villages for your faithfulness in supporting this work.

Yours faithfully

John Eld on behalf of Siloam Christian Ministries.

Dear Editors

I am writing in response to the letter in last month's Harbury News, regarding the "speeding driver" incident on Saturday 23 April. Now I'm

not usually one to respond to these kinds of things, until someone showed me this letter and I realised it was about me, so I am writing to give my side of the event.

Firstly, I'm amazed how much Mr Wall knows about the incident considering he wasn't even there! I'm sure if he had been he would know that you turn left into Binswood End and not Mill St from the Farm St junction. Secondly I like the way the first thing he mentions was that his wife looked right, (an obvious admission of guilt). This is my point – she didn't, because had she bothered she would have seen me.

Now to say I'm annoyed is an understatement, because no end of times I have come across numerous drivers aimlessly failing to stop at the Farm St junction. That's why there are double broken white lines at that junction. They mean stop! And that means with the hand brake applied, which I'm sure if Mr Wall checked his highway code he would know.

Now I'd just like to mention that I do in excess of 50,000 miles a year and have experienced every kind of driver you can find on today's roads and never had an accident to date, so I think that should tell you something about my driving skills and awareness.

So from this Gent to another here is, as you put it, my suitably 'chastened' and well 'reflected' on reply.

Robert Varriale

JULY EDITION – HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to 31, Binswood End by 15th June

Articles to Harbury Chemist by 24th June

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

Bookings for:

Scout Hut	Lesley van Kesteren	613411
Tom Hauley Room	Liz Bunting	612450
T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning	Mrs. J. Windsor	612504
Village Hall	Wendy Hawkes	613198
Wight School	Mrs. L. Hayes	613488

All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

1st Sunday in the month:	9.00am	Sung Eucharist
	6.00pm	Evening Worship
2nd, 4th (and 5th) Sunday in the month:	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
3rd Sunday in the month:	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Communion
	6.00pm	Evensong
Every Sunday: (Time)	10.30am	Sunday School (in Term)
Every Tuesday:	7.30pm	Weekday Communion
Every Thursday	9.45am	Weekday Communion

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

www.harburychurch.fsnet.co.uk

Do you need help with any of the following?

Harbury Helpline is for you!

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT: Charles Catt 612864.or John Travis 613264

HELP WITH FORM FILLING:

- **Council Tax Forms, Post Office Pension Payments::** Call David Cooke 614692
- **For University/Job Applications, interviews, CVs:** Call Philip Bushill-Matthews 612476.

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.

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¼ page £9.00
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½ page £16.00
(or 3 consecutive months for £43.00)
Full page £30.00
(or 3 consecutive months for £80.00)

Yearly Prices (coloured pages)

Printed in April for the year
(Advertise 12 consecutive months and get
2 months FREE!)

¼ page £ 83.00
½ page £149.00
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Adverts with payment to: Gill Holden, 31, Binswood End, Harbury
Tel: 01926 612155 by 15th day of the month



HOUSE WANTED

We are a family who have lived happily in Harbury for the last 6 years. We have sold our house and are now looking for somewhere else to buy, preferably within the village. We can spend up to £300k and need 3 bedrooms plus a study or 4 bedrooms. If you are thinking about moving, please let us know.

Telephone Corinne on 07946 615481.

Thank you.

Harbury Summer Dance

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