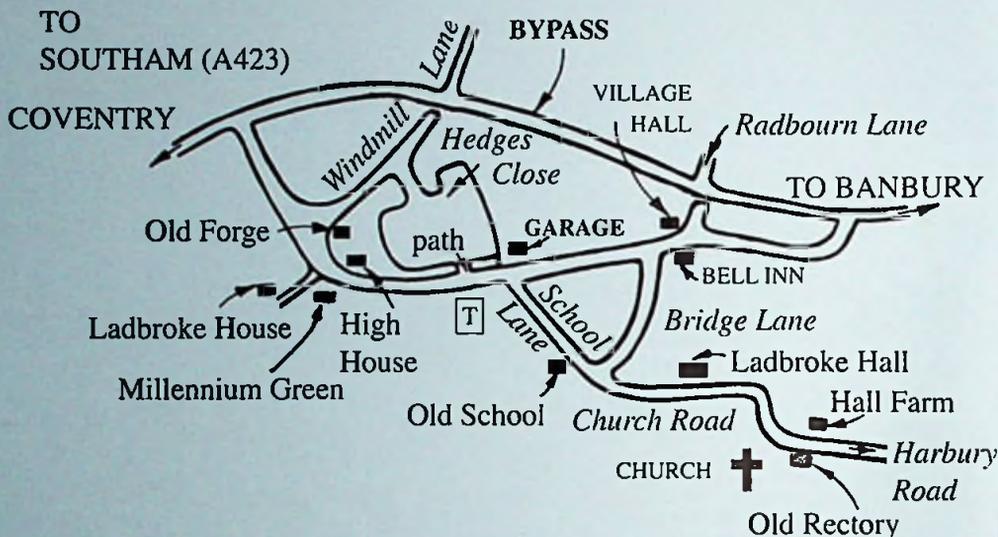




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# Harbury & Ladbroke News

Reflects all aspects of local life. Is published monthly and produced with the assistance of  
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**August 2006**

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### Editorial Team

John Holden - Chris Finch - Adrian French - Marian Millington  
Ralph Swadling - Janice Thraves

*The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team*



## Editorial

After 13 years as our Rector to both Harbury & Ladbroke, it is with great sadness that Father Roy has announced that he will be retiring in the New Year. During his time as Rector, Father Roy has been a stalwart to both villages and has touched so many people's lives – he will be a hard act to follow.

Last month saw a very successful Garden Walkabout and Art Exhibition bringing many people into the village from the surrounding area. The Primary School Fete was moved to a Saturday this year and was held on one of the hottest days of July. Our photograph shows, Matthew, Ben and Max with new hairstyles.



For those in the Manor Orchard area, the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Watch will be distributing leaflets on Smart Water. Other roads will be targeted later on.

The Holiday Club starts on the 14<sup>th</sup> August and as in previous years it will provide marvellous entertainment for our children. For those over 13, the Blood Transfusion Service will be visiting Harbury Village Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> August – see times in article.

Finally, we extend our sympathy to the family of Derek Thomas.

# Harbury Diary

## AUGUST

- Sat 5 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Southam Inner Wheel 10am – 12noon  
Senior Citizens Lunch in Village hall
- Sun 6 **TRINITY VIII**  
Sung Eucharist 9am  
Evening Worship 6pm
- Tues 8 Holy Communion with laying on of hands 7.30pm  
Senior Citizens Benefit Committee 8pm in Village Hall
- Wed 9 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Thurs 10 **BLOOD DONORS IN VILLAGE HALL 1.30–3.15 & 4.30–7.15pm**  
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room  
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
- Fri 11 Youth Circus Skills Workshop. 10am – 4pm Village Hall (see article for details)
- Sat 12 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church Flowers 10am 12noon
- Sun 13 **TRINITY IX**  
Holy Communion 8am  
Sung Eucharist 10.30am  
Cricket First XI home to Yelvertoft
- Mon 14 Registration for Holiday Club 10-12 noon
- Tues 15 Holiday Club 10-12 noon  
Holy Communion 7.30pm  
**ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM**
- Wed 16 "Talk it Through" at 33 South Parade 8pm  
Holiday Club 10-12 noon  
Tea in Tom Hauley Room 3-4pm
- Thurs 17 Holiday Club 10-12 noon  
Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 18 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**  
Holiday Club 10-12 noon
- Sat 19 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Southam Ladies Circle 10am 12noon  
Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am in Tom Hauley Room
- Sun 20 **TRINITY X**  
Holy Communion 8am  
Family Communion 10.30am  
Fairtrade Stall in Tom Hauley Room after service  
Evensong 6pm

- Tues 22 Holy Communion 7.30pm  
 Thurs 24 Holy Communion 9.45am  
 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall  
 Fri 25 ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY  
 & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM  
 Sat 26 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Village  
 Hall Development 10am 12noon  
 Senior Citizens Summer Lunch in Village Hall  
 Sun 27 **TRINITY XI**  
 Holy Communion 8am  
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am  
 Cricket St XI home to Sibford Gower  
 Tues 29 Holy Communion 7.30pm  
 Wed 30 "Talk it Through" at 33 South Parade 8pm  
 Thurs 31 Holy Communion 9.45am

**SEPTEMBER**

- Fri 1 BEER FESTIVAL IN VILLAGE HALL  
 Sat 2 RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION  
 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Rotary Club  
 10am – 12noon  
 BEER FESTIVAL IN VILLAGE HALL  
 Sun 3 **TRINITY XII**  
 Sung Eucharist 9am  
 Evening Worship 6pm  
 Cricket First XI home to Edgbaston Unity  
 Mon 4 SCHOOL STARTS  
 Tues 5 Holy Communion 7.30pm  
 Wed 6 Holy Communion 2pm with Hymns and address followed by  
 Mothers Union  
 Thurs 7 Holy Communion 9.45am  
 Harbury Art Group 10am to 4pm in Tom Hauley Room  
 Folk Club 8.30pm in Shakespeare Inn  
 Sat 9 Horticultural Show in Village Hall



All Saints  
HARBURY

## A Personal Message From the Rector

Father Roy Brown

My dear Friends,

I write this letter with very mixed emotions. Feelings of great happiness, thankfulness, sorrow and loss, all intermingled, need to be expressed.

Firstly must come the thankfulness. Do I need to tell you how much happiness the celebrations for the Silver Jubilee of my Priesthood gave me? I do hope it was obvious! Nevertheless, thank you all from

the bottom of my heart. To say I was 'surprised' on the Friday was an understatement. It was an experience I shall never forget. 'Thank you' hardly seems adequate to cover all the people involved – the flowers, the refreshments and, of course, "THE ENTERTAINMENT". I must specially mention Fliss, (renamed the Bard of Harbury), Mavis (Maestro), the team who got it all together, everyone who took part and all those who came. It was a real village event. That in itself was enough, and then to receive such a generous gift and beautiful flowers for Pam, was beyond words.

On the Saturday we had a marvellous service followed by the usual magnificent "All Saints' Faith Lunch" – again wonderfully organised by Gill and the Social Committee, plus many others. Thank you all for giving our visitors a real 'All Saints' welcome – each Church represented has a great tradition of hospitality, so we didn't let ourselves down.

Can you imagine then what I felt when just four weeks later I had to announce my forthcoming retirement. No decision had been made at the time of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations, then things moved very quickly and I felt that I owed it to everyone to announce it sooner rather than later (I actually only have to give three months notice). This has been the hardest decision of my life, and one which caused me terrific heart-searching.

Under normal circumstances I would not have been considering retirement for some time, but, as you can imagine, my recent health problems have rather changed everything. I realised that, at least, I needed to explore my options regarding accommodation in retirement – given that we are not in a position to purchase a property, and don't want to move too far away. As most people are aware, it is not the custom for clergy of the Church of England to reside in the Parish when they retire – hence the agonising.

We decided therefore to put our names on the waiting list of a trust in Kenilworth with no idea of when or if we would be considered. The outcome of which was that we were offered the first property which became vacant. All this, of course, seemed to say that the time for retirement is here – or at least at the end of January 2007.

Now is not the time to go into what being your Rector has meant, still means, and will always mean. It is the time to say "Thank you", and "Let's make the next six months a happy, positive time."

God Bless you all, you lovely people!



## From the Registers

### *Holy Matrimony, All Saints' Ladbroke*

July 15 Graham Hall to Abigail Jenkin

### *Holy Matrimony, All Saints' Harbury*

July 22 Mark Reed to Julie Whatcott

July 28 Ian Donnelly to Karen Weatherall

Congratulations to Stan and Pauline who celebrated 60 years of marriage with a renewal of their vows in All Saints Harbury.

### *Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury*

July 2 Imogen Alice White

July 30 Sophia Charlotte Donovan

### *All Saints' Ladbroke*

July 23 Henry James Williams

### *Funerals at All Saints' Harbury*

July 4 Derek Thomas (71)



## From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

Well, what a month it's been since our last notes to you!

### **Father Roy: This is Your Life: 30<sup>th</sup> June**

Our thanks go out to everyone who made this evening all that we hoped for Father Roy, Pam and their family. Thank you to the Street Reps who delivered the invitations; to the two villages who kept the secret, (another miracle father!); to everyone who threw open their homes and pianos for rehearsals; to the Flower Girls; to the Social Committee; to everyone who committed their time and talent to the

enterprise; to all who worked so generously and enthusiastically in front of and behind the scenes: to the audience who packed the church to bursting point and joined in so wholeheartedly. If we've left anyone out, we apologise, it will be only because so many groups and individuals pulled together to make the evening a tribute of heartfelt love, thanks and celebration to an exceptional Parish Priest.

### Thanksgiving Eucharist: 1<sup>st</sup> July

This was, of course, the heart of the weekend, the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of Father Roy's ordination to the priesthood. The Eucharist was concelebrated by Father Roy, Father David Boundy and Father Jim Vincent, both of whom have known Father Roy as parishioner, server, Church Warden, Ordinand and Priest. The church was full for a very moving service, attended by family and by friends from every stage of Roy's life from schooldays onwards. All of his earlier as well as his present parishes were represented and most of us were able to stay and enjoy the Faith Lunch. Thank you to Gill Guilford and everyone who helped organise that. The day was brought to a fitting close by the service of Benediction.

### The Art Exhibition

The exhibition – the fifth – was back in church this year. It drew many into church and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Our thanks are due to the organiser, Bill Davies and to his wife, Nancy, for her constant support; to Frank Bunting; to Anne and John Moore; to Clive Watts; to Tony Dodds and the heavy mob; to our sponsors, Parkinson Jones, to the stewards and to everyone who helped in any way to make it a happy and successful weekend. Thank you, too, to Pam, Joyce and their helpers. The Light Lunches and teas were, as ever, very much appreciated.

### The Family Service

Ronnie has a sister, Katherine, John Stringer disclosed this month. John is adept at presentations which span the age groups and no doubt many parents, grandparents, children and young people recognised the cry, "But everyone's got one!" In this case a state of the art mobile phone. We were reminded that frenzied shopping for ever more sophisticated artefacts does not bring happiness. At the



end of the service there were two presentations: the first to Lucy for fifty attendances at Funday Club: the second to Father Roy and Pam, pictured here with their photograph, taken by Graham Bullock, framed and in a mount signed by those who were at THIS IS YOUR LIFE.



### Father Roy's Retirement

A sense of loss is fast spreading through the parish and, as you will have read in his letter to us, is shared by Father Roy, Pam and their family. With the interregnum will come a period of bereavement, as the church call it, again to be shared by those who leave and those who are left. However, we still have six months of Roy's ministry, so let us not be gloomy, but continue to give thanks and to celebrate all that he has given and will give us. We know, not least from the parish's reaction during the weekend of his Silver Jubilee, that he and his family can be assured of our wholehearted support through what will inevitably be a testing time.

### STOP PRESS!

Dates for your diary: Harvest Supper – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

**THIS IS YOUR LIFE:** Souvenir booklets (£2.50 a copy, profits to church fund) are on sale at Mugleston's Country Fayre and The Salon and can also be ordered from Tony (612782) or Fliss (612395)



## Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

Hard to believe at the moment, but the weather prevented our garden meeting from being just that; however, we were made very welcome indoors in the vicarage. We heard reports of the year's activities – all enjoyable and well supported. Our finances are satisfactory and we have been able to make useful donations to Mothers Union work here and abroad. Mary Catt has resigned after a long stint on the committee and we thank her for all of her hard work. Lorna Bedford has taken over as treasurer, while Anne Moore continues to be our lynch pin.

Our evening meeting was also changed by the weather, for the opposite reason, as it was too hot for the planned walk. However, 32 members and friends enjoyed a supper at the Crown – surprising how the heat can leave you hungry!

We have no meeting in August, but are invited to join Ladbroke Women's Fellowship at Ladbroke Hall on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August (Mary Sumner Day). They are having a garden party with raffle, bring and buy and tea, from 2.30pm.

September 6<sup>th</sup> at 2pm – Corporate Communion with address, in Church. Everyone welcome.



## Toddler's Service

Lorna Bedford

Mrs Barbara Thistlethwaite took our service in July. She told us the story of how Jesus had cured ten men of leprosy, but only one man came back to thank him. She spoke to the children of how important it was always to say thank you when we receive acts of kindness or gifts from people. We sang a 'thank you' song, accompanied by Mrs Katharine Giblin on the flute, and said our thank you prayer.

After our service, we went outside for a picnic on the grass.

Our next service will be on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm in the children's corner of the church. Young children and babies, accompanied by an adult, are very welcome to join us.

## Wow it's a Miracle

### What?

Do you want to be wowed by some of the amazing things Jesus did.? Then make sure you come to WOW it's a miracle, All Saints Holiday Club this summer. There will be songs, stories, music, drama and things to make.

### When?

Come along on Monday 14th August between 10 am and 12 noon to register; then from Tuesday 15th to Friday 18th August between 10 am and 12 noon to enjoy the fun.

### Where?

It all takes place in the Tom Hauley Rooms (behind All Saints Church)

### Who?

Anyone who is between 5 and 11 years old. (If you are 5 by 31st August 2006 you are old enough)

### What does it cost?

Just 50p a session

### What next?

Bring all your family to the Family Communion at All Saints Church on Sunday 20th August at 10.30 am and celebrate the biggest miracle of all time.

### Do you want to know more?

Ring Alison on 612939.

## Ladbroke News & Diary

### AUGUST

- |      |    |  |
|------|----|--|
| Wed  | 9  | Women's Fellowship Tea Party 3pm at Ladbroke Hall                                    |
| Sun  | 13 | TRINITY IX<br>Sung Communion 9am   |
| Tues | 15 | ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY<br>5.30PM                               |
| Sun  | 20 | TRINITY X<br>Sung Communion 9am  |
| Fri  | 25 | ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY<br>& EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM |

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Sun 27 TRINITY XI  
Sung Communion 9am

## SEPTEMBER

Sun 3 TRINITY XII  
Family Communion 10.30am  
Sat 9 Historic Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride 10am



## Women's Fellowship

Betty Winkfield

We held our July meeting in Hazel Sharple's air-conditioned conservatory to thrash out the details of our August Tea Party.

Many thanks to the Ladbroke Hall residents committee for giving their permission to hold the Tea Party on their patio, (if! the weather is inclement please come to Hall Farm). Please come and join us at this lovely venue. Apart from the Tea Party there is the usual raffle, cake stall and bring and buy. The money raised is going to the Vietnamese children that our churchwarden, Steve Copley's eldest daughter is teaching out in Vietnam. (Steve is coming to our October meeting to tell us how the money will be used.) Please make a note of the date and come and join us: **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August at 3pm.**

As many of our members will be away in September we are cancelling that month's meeting.



## Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I.

Sue Halsall

At the meeting on Thursday 27 July we had a very enjoyable talk by Martin Sirote-Smith from Sulgrave Manor who gave us a very enlightening background to the History of the Manor, home to the ancestors of George Washington. Very interesting tales about himself and his new role promoting Sulgrave Manor at home and in America. He was an excellent speaker who kept everyone enthralled. Following this the ladies from W.I. are going to visit the Manor on August 23. The Coach leaves Southam at 11.30 with a pickup at Ladbroke Hall, then on to the Wharfe at Fenny Compton for a light lunch before we travel to Sulgrave Manor.

Winners of the raffle on Thursday were Mary, Hazel & Sue Rayner

The Coffee Morning held at the Tom Hauley Rooms on Saturday 22nd July was a great success. Very well attended despite the early morning storms, I don't think there was an empty seat. Thank you to everyone who helped, we had a super raffle, delicious cake stall, successful white elephant stall not forgetting the supply of endless coffee, tea and biscuits.

Names are required for the Autumn Council Meeting (unless you have already entered your name in the book)

Several members are going on the Group outing to Oxford on Wednesday 30th August there are a few spaces still left if anyone is interested.

Hope everyone is enjoying this warm weather and managing to keep cool, please drink plenty of water and keep out of the mid day sun.



**Ladbroke Parish Council**

**Betty Winkfield**

The vacancy on the Parish Council has been filled. The Council members welcomed Councillor Jim Clews on board.

Bishops Bowl – has had one application approved and one application for fishing refused.

The application for a Parish website has been refused. There is to be a re-application.

The planning application at Archer's Rest on the Banbury Road is still being considered. There is no objection to a balcony being built or the change of access on to the main road. The problem is the change of agricultural land into private land/garden.

Following the retirement of P.C. Andy Went, the Councillors welcomed P.C. Rod Joy to the meeting. He does not take up the "beat" officially until September but he is "looking after us" as from now. His beat covers the same areas as the political wards – 5 wards in all. From villages immediately around Southam and then villages south from there which includes Fenny Compton. Including P.C Joys beat and Southam Town the whole area is manned by three police officers. Apparently we are a low crime area.

Unless political thinking changes again before this goes to print Warwickshire is to have its own Police Force. Our new Chief Constable Keith Bristow is committed to rural policing.

The new sign at the Bell Inn has been approved.

Footpaths – The bridle way at Hodnell is blocked by a fallen tree, complaints have been made by several horse riders. The footpaths co-ordinator wished to thank Mr John Barrett for clearing footpath 93A. He has had the footpath mowed.

Reports from the District and County Councillors - Environmental issues were at the top of both their statements. Apparently the Stratford District Council collects the waste, Warwickshire Council dispose of it. Land fill sites will soon be full – there really is a big problem with waste. Warwickshire is looking at funding towards enlargement of incinerators which are already being used, rather than the building of new ones. We as householders are doing our bit, but commercial waste is a bigger problem altogether.

The Government is going to give more power to Parish Councils.

Hospital Trusts – The new Walsgrave Hospital is the biggest and most advanced in Europe. Warwick wants to keep its maternity unit, but the premature baby unit will be in Coventry.

There will be no speculative housing development in the West Midlands – at all!! For at least the next 10 years.

The change of date for the Annual Village Meeting is to be probably January or February, comments from organisations please.

There is no Parish Council meeting in August.

The next meeting is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 7.45pm

## **Historic Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride**

**Betty Winkfield**

Our Church will be open as usual for this event on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September** from 10am to 6pm. We are looking for all you keen cyclist/walkers/horse riders to get your sponsor forms filled in to raise money for our churches and other churches in the Diocese. Last year was an absolute "wash-out" so we really need a good turn out this year.

I shall have the sponsor forms any day now.

## **Ladbroke Millennium Draw**

**Christine Baker**

The Ladbroke Village Hall Trustees wish to extend their gratitude to Catherine and Cyril Spence who have been running the Ladbroke Millennium Draw in aid of our the development fund for our new Village Hall. The Draw is done monthly. Cost is £5 per month paid preferably by direct debit.

First Prize is £70

Two Prizes of £25

Three Prizes of £10

If you would like to join, please contact the undersigned to obtain a form and sit back and wait for your winning number!!!

## **Whist At Ladbroke**

**Christine Baker**

The Village Hall Trustees would like to thank Betty Winkfield for her continuing efforts on our behalf. Betty organises a Whist Drive every second week which is held in Ladbroke Village Hall. Most of the proceeds go to the development fund for our new Village Hall. The evenings are great fun – so why not give it a try. Please support Betty and the Village Hall in this and have an enjoyable evening at the same time.

## **Ladbroke's Mojo's Working**

**Kip Warr**

The crowd were dancing on the dance floor, in the aisles and even outside in the car park as the Blooze Kings powered their way through a repertoire of blues and rock to a packed house. The numbers were swelled with football devotees for whom the blues was the only true reflection of their feelings about the World Cup.

**Ladbroke does the Blooze** was a live recording session in the Village Hall; the crowd had never heard the band play better and the band could not have had a more appreciative audience. The bar was

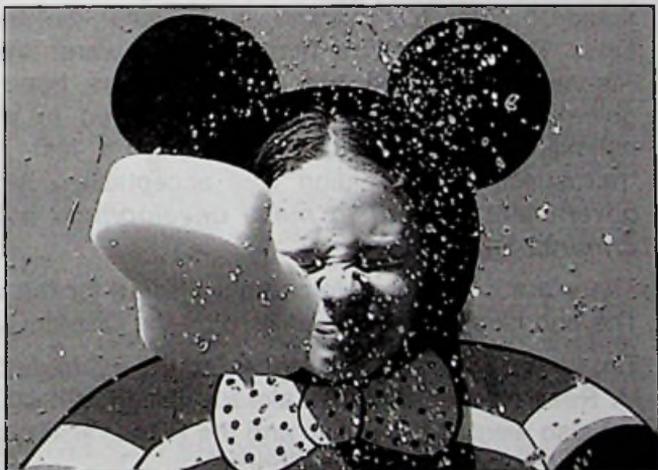
frantic, the dancing hectic and the bidding for promises munificent - all in aid of the Millennium Green. The promises varied from a new gas barbecue worth over £100 (thanks to Calor) to a full week's ironing (priceless). The highest bid of the night was appropriately for the Blooze Kings themselves to play at a private function - someone's going to have a night to remember!

The night finished with enthusiastic (if not tuneful) audience participation in "My Mojo's Working" - somehow it all seemed to be working beautifully. And some day soon there will be a CD to remember it all by - [www.bloozekings.com](http://www.bloozekings.com).

This event followed our equally successful – but very different – fete. It is amazing that such a small village can fill a field with so many participants and activities. We had stalls to satisfy every need: hunger, thirst, triumph (beat the goalie), failure (splat the rat), disguise (face painting), acquisitiveness (white elephant), inquisitiveness (name the teddy), construction (garden plants), destruction (plate smashing), precision (putting and skittles), speculation (tombola and raffle) and, not least, frustration (wet sponge).



The sun shone, the Nu Jazz band played, the teacup ride whirled, the Guide Dogs performed (but slowly because it was very hot) and the tuggers of war heaved. Above all, the Green was put to full use and almost everybody was involved. For



more information and pictures, see [www.warkcom.net/ladbrokegreen](http://www.warkcom.net/ladbrokegreen)



## Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

*Official minutes can be viewed in the Library or obtained from the Parish Clerk*

**Inquisition** - Well, this was Harbury's chance to quiz District Planners about some recent bizarre decisions and to try to understand the basis on which enforcement action is or is not, taken.

**The Background** - The Parish believes SDC has been lax in pursuing those who flout planning regulations. By the time action is taken, it is either too late and the site has gained legitimacy by default, or it is argued what has been done is not bad enough to have been refused permission anyway.

As the Parish sees it, the net result is that those who play the system get away with it to great financial advantage and to the detriment of neighbours and the community as a whole. Cllr Hancock asserted there was limited evidence of enforcement orders being followed up. What, she asked were the procedures, and how were Conditions of Planning Permission enforced? So Chairman Kevin Biddle invited Pat Read – Head of Planning Services and his oppo Garry Fisher, Enforcement Planning to explain their “strange decisions” to Parish Councillors.

**The Planners** - A site visit to gather information, and monitoring for unlawful use with the issue of Planning Contravention Notices was the standard practice according to Mr Fisher, but this could take a long time. The questions he had to answer were: Was there a breach of Planning Permission and had any harm been caused (based on government advice). If harm had occurred, he would try to negotiate mitigation. Formal action was only a last resort and often a “retrospective” application was acceptable. Mr Read emphasised government ***refused to make development without permission a criminal offence.***

There are only four enforcement officers for the whole of the District. The priorities for action are listed on the District Council Website.

Tim Lockley asked if SDC expected the PC to monitor and police sites. Mr Read claimed that they already liaised with Building Control officers but also wanted the public and the PC to raise queries, although there is no coverage out of office hours.

**Specific Cases** - He gave details of the case of the caravan by the **Three Arch Bridge** which had permission for occasional but not

permanent residential use and when asked how it would be possible to enforce this could give no satisfactory answer.

Cllr Hancock was "stunned" that the District had dismissed the PC objection at the Lodge and demanded to know why the application was assessed by officers and not the Planning Committee. Mr Read appeared to blame the government guidance which committed SDC to a target of 90% applications delegated to officers. Cllr Hancock was still not happy that Harbury's views had been totally ignored in this instance. She also complained that SDC's neighbour notification was flawed and that Bishops Itchington had alerted Harbury to the latest Quarries Appeal not the District Council.

**Planning** - The Tree preservation order at Hauley House, Mill Street was confirmed. Stratford granted permission with conditions for an agricultural building at Pinewood House, Bush Heath Lane, a porch and entrance lobby at 19 South Parade and a two storey extension at Westfield Farm Cottage, Fosse Way.

The Parish Council made no representation on a conservatory at 7 Farm St. They will send representatives to the Area Meeting where the contentious application for an extension in Percival Drive will be judged. They received a letter of thanks for their concern from Mr & Mrs Hagan who failed to have a planning application affecting their property amended.

**Quarries** - The Inquiry into the 250 seat "Fisherman's Clubhouse" at the Quarries had been penetrating and the District Council had argued well against it. The next round of the Masterplan will focus on Traffic and Transport issues.

**Crime** - Pc Hill reported that seven cars belonging to persons swimming in the Quarries had been issued with fixed penalty notices. The culprits were not locals, although as Tony Mancell remarked leaping off the cliffs into the Quarries had been "going on a long time – since Kevin was a lad". The Council will again ask Folletts to fence their property adequately.

The Parish will ask WCC to look again at the accident record at the Butt Lane, Station Road Crossroads where there has been another crash and they believe similar problems exist along Beggars Lane at Harbury Heath.

A Sub-committee is to investigate the promotion of "Smartwater" - the marking device which enables the Police to identify stolen goods.

**Village Hall** - Nigel Chapman outlined his vision to incorporate improvement plans for an energy efficient Swimming Pool into the

Village Hall proposals which could replace the School Pool. He asked the Parish Council to consider releasing more land to accommodate a Pool and Sports Hall.

Tim Lockley said the Hall Committee was not keen to consider a Pool as they felt it was beyond their capabilities as volunteers to manage and that maybe the Parish should consider siting these facilities at the top of the Playing Fields.

Chris Finch explained the Sub-group had been visiting Halls as part of their research and would keep residents informed through the News. A grant of £500 was agreed for initial feasibility work on Village Hall improvements.

**Playing Fields** - In the absence of Dutch Van Spall, the Council was minded to make savings on repairs to the Deppers Play Area as their research (twenty different visits in good weather) had shown that no children used it. The Goalposts would be refitted and the A Frame removed; equipment would be painted and a new litter bin installed.

**Bollards** - Deppers Bollards are again damaged. The Barrier Post to Harbury Car Park was knocked down by a motorist and an insurance claim has to be made. Chairman Kevin reported that the damage to the Alligator Teeth Plates was repaired by "local kids who wanted to put something back into the village" and they were praised for their community spirit.

**Village Centre** - A decision was finally made on the Bus Shelter and the village contractor will paint the posts of all street furniture black.

**Concessionary Travel** - The Parish Concessionary Travel Scheme will continue this year. Two local taxi firms have expressed an interest in taking over from A & M. In future years the Council is considering weighting their support towards the very elderly (over 80s) and disabled.

**Byelaws** - The Council can't find a copy of its own Byelaws and is to consider framing new ones. Has anybody seen them?

## Harbury Parish Council - Quarterly Report - July

Cllr Tim Lockley

During the past three months the Parish Council has:

- Given a grant towards the re-development of the Village Hall.
- Been represented at the latest masterplan meeting for the Bishops Bowl site.

- Invited planners from SDC to attend a Parish Council meeting and quizzed them about policies and procedures.
- Recommended that a trial of smart-water starts in the village.
- Arranged for the routine maintenance of the playground equipment.
- Agreed a location for a new streetlight in Pineham Avenue.
- Agreed a rolling maintenance programme for trees on Parish Council land.
- Placed an order for the replacement bus shelter.
- Agreed to continue the concessionary travel scheme for 2006-7.



## Councillor's Corner

**CLlr Andrew Patrick**

Our 22<sup>nd</sup> July "surgery" was attended by Bob Stevens (County), me (District), and for a time Janet Thornley and Tony Mancell (Parish).

It was a glorious day, but that didn't stop residents from raising an impressive collection of real concerns.

- Traffic speed at the junction of Butt Lane and Station Road

This was given serious discussion at last Thursday's Parish Council meeting, and will be taken forward for consideration by Highways.

- The resurfacing of Percival Drive pavements

Bob is taking this up with Highways, too.

- Green waste collection in the winter

Is it really economic to run this service right through the winter? I've asked StreetScene at Stratford to find out.

- Swimming at Bishops Bowl Lakes

Serious concerns have been voiced by residents of Percival Drive and Frances Road, about the parking problems being experienced, and the very real public safety risks.

These are being taken forward by the Parish Council, in an attempt to persuade the landowner to recognize his responsibilities for erecting adequate fencing.

- Co-op delivery vans parking across the entrance to Mill Lane

(This is despite the very clear road markings.) We are waiting to get full details of the occurrence/s, before once again approaching the Co-op management.

Other than that, enjoy the summer!

**County Councillor:** Bob Stevens (01926) 814031  
cllrstevens@warwickshire.gov.uk

**District Councillors:** Andrew Patrick (01926) 614359  
andrew.patrick@stratford-dc.gov.uk  
Eric Dally (01926) 651478  
eric.dally@stratford-dc.gov.uk

## Concessionary Travel Vouchers

Nicola Thompson

1 **INTRODUCTION** Once again the Parish Council is pleased to make available Travel Vouchers to all Senior Citizens and to Registered Handicapped and Disabled Persons resident within the Parish of Harbury and Deppers Bridge. **There are several changes to the scheme this year and you should read all the information below carefully.** The vouchers are no longer valid on Stagecoach and A & M Cars (Village Taxi Bus Service), which should now be covered by the Countywide Travel Scheme which offers free travel to all Older Citizens. The vouchers may be used to pay for part or whole of **taxi fares** on services listed in paragraph 4 below.

2 **ELIGIBILITY** Both men and women of 60 years and above, resident in Harbury and Deppers Bridge by the registration date of 1<sup>st</sup> September, and registered disabled and handicapped persons **PROVIDING THEY HAVE REGISTERED FOR THE SCHEME. PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT REGISTERED BY THE CLOSING DATE OF FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006 WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS YEAR. VOUCHERS ARE FOR USE BY THE RECIPIENT ONLY AND ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE.**

3 **REGISTRATION** Everyone who wishes to receive vouchers must complete a registration form. The forms are available from: Nicola Thompson (Clerk to the Council), 36 Percival Drive, Harbury and the Post Office, High Street. Please return the completed form to one of the above by **FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006. After this date**

no further applications can be considered. Please do NOT apply for vouchers unless you are sure you will make use of them.

4 TYPE OF TRAVEL Vouchers may be used on Century Cardalls and Curtis Cars – contact details will be printed on the vouchers.

5 VALUE The value of the vouchers to be issued will be £15.00 per person. Each voucher is worth 50p towards the cost of a fare.

6 ISSUE Vouchers will be issued BY POST within 10 working days from application. Details on your application form will be checked to ensure you are a resident of Harbury.

7 PREVIOUS YEARS VOUCHERS

These no longer remain valid – you should destroy any vouchers that do not have the date 06 at the top left hand corner and are not coloured BLUE.

8 SURRENDER If, due to change of personal circumstances, the recipient no longer requires the vouchers they must be surrendered to any member of the Parish Council.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL REQUEST THAT YOU DO NOT REGISTER FOR VOUCHERS UNLESS YOU HAVE A REAL INTENTION TO USE THEM**



**Harbury Women's Institute**

**Jeanne Beaumont**

Hope all readers are making the most of the summer weather. So far we have had our annual Garden Party and were able to sit in a lovely garden with friends and enjoy the super refreshments. We thank Celia and Eric for letting us use their home and to those who helped.

Then some members went on a trip, with meal, up the River Avon on the "Countess of Evesham", always a popular venue.

We thank all those who supported and helped at our recent coffee morning, always a worthwhile venture. On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August we look forward to the trip to Worcester, leaving the Village Hall at 9am and returning for home at 4pm.

The W.I Harvest Supper is on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Doreen Bloxham has kindly offered to organise the food and would appreciate volunteers to help please.

There will be a W.I. Luncheon at the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Look out for the forms.

The Autumn Council Meeting is on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Bunny Campione of the Antiques Road Show will be the main speaker. The competition will be a photo, the caption being "Every picture tells a story". Members are requested to bring a suitable photo to the September meeting and one will be selected as our entry.

We were pleased to welcome Toni from Bishops Itchington, our representative to the AGM at Cardiff in June, who gave an excellent account of the day. She said she came home with good memories.

Now a word to all readers about the Horticultural Show on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. This Show has been held for many years and depends on the entries. Not everybody is a winner, but so what, it's fun just to enter and everybody can. One only has to look at the Schedule to see that there is something for everyone to enter, so get a Schedule and have a go! Come along in the afternoon and view in a friendly atmosphere. Do ask any member of the W.I or the Horticultural Society for information. Schedules to be in no later than 6pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Mr Bruce came to speak on 'Identifying Old Silver'. Since 1350 silver had to be marked, each silversmith had an identifying mark with the year the article was made. There was an assay office in each town which had its own crest. We were told about the different silver plating and modern copies that look old to the layman but are not. Members brought some silver and Mr Bruce gave his opinion and valued the article. Some were pleasantly surprised, some not.

Silver is not too valuable these days. Mr Bruce said Grannies want to pass their silver on to the kids but they are only interested in the money. That is his opinion, but judge for yourselves.

September Meeting: Mother of Pearl – Mr George Hook.



**Harbury Theatre Group**

**Keith Hayes**

In June, Harbury hosted the A.C.T. One Act Play Festival in the Village Hall.

For those of you who don't know, A.C.T. stands for Amateur Community Theatre, and is a loosely knit organization made up of many of the small local Theatre Groups, just like ours. We banded

together many years ago for the purpose of sharing our problems and ideas. We also like to put on something together from time to time, and once every two years we take it in turns to hold this Festival.

The hope is that each member group will put in one play, and often in the past we have been able to hold the Festival over three nights and present three plays a night. This isn't always possible however, and this year we had to go ahead with an entry from Wellesbourne, an entry from Shipston, two entries from Barford and two entries from us.

(Shipston had to pull out at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour because their Leading Lady fell ill!)

Our offerings were "The Hitch Hiker" and "The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimly", which many of you saw when we presented them to the Village a few weeks ago. We were very pleased to see that several people who missed them before came along this time.

We were very grateful for your support. It's a daunting prospect having to perform in front of your peers, especially when you know there are some very good and very experienced amateur actors out there in the darkness, but I am pleased to say that in my opinion Harbury acquitted themselves very well.

One of our Plays featured our newest acting member. Many of you will already know Debbie Ellis but this will be the first time you have seen her under the glaring lights of Harbury stage. Welcome Debbie, thank you from all of us for throwing yourself into it with such gusto, those of you who saw the performance will know how well she has done. We need more new members like her.

Now to the future. We have a show to put on in November and we are reaching for the stars for this one. In fact, "third star on the right and straight on till morning". Yes, we are going to attempt to stage "Peter Pan". Watch this space.



**Harbury Twinning Association**

**Moirá Lamont**

A big thank you to everyone who helped to make our coffee morning a success. We made £140.00 which will help to meet the cost of the Samoia visit to Harbury next May. BASTILLE DAY I hope everyone will agree this was a most enjoyable evening. Members were greeted with a kir outside in the cool of the evening then we all had a delicious four course French meal.

Next events. Petanque on September 16th at David and Pam Clarke's house. All are welcome so bring a friend and a chair but be warned Colin and James will be defending their title. There will be a BBQ, drinks cost £5.00 and we start at 12.30 pm.

On November 18th we will be holding a Beaujolais evening in the Tom Hauley room for members and their guests.



## Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

The Club has made the most of the superb weather both on and off court. On the social side a large contingent of members set off from the Village Hall car park at 3 minute intervals on a Treasure Hunt, armed with maps and lists of questions and items to be collected en-route compiled by organiser Bob Dean. I am pleased to report that everyone returned safely from their tour of the Gaydon, Wellesbourne, and Lighthorne areas to enjoy a magnificent buffet lunch at the Shakespeare. After close scrutiny of the answers and miscellaneous articles Bob declared the winning "team" to be Mary and Keith Thompson, Sue Mercer and yours truly!

On the playing side, the BBQ tournament was played on a scorcher of a Thursday evening and attracted one of the largest ever entries for a Club competition. This required organiser Caroline Morland to keep everyone moving to complete the round robin section and manage to cook and eat! The final was between Angie Dean and partner Bruce Rendell playing Lucy Dean and Paul Crowton. Additional pressure was put on the players when the other members became line judges and umpire. Angie and Bruce won and the final was completed without a single "you cannot be serious"!



The men's doubles team completed its league programme on a high with 3 successive wins. The run started with a 3-1 home win against Moreton "B" followed by 4-0 wins against Studley "C" and Henley "B". The maximum points obtained from these matches were not quite enough to lift the team into a promotion place.



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**Harbury Parish Council**  
**36 Percival Drive**  
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**Kevin Biddle**

**Clerk:**  
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**Tel: 614646**

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In the Banbury league the "A" team is well placed for securing one of the promotion places in Division 2, being one of 4 clubs separated by 3 points at the start of the month. Harbury's position was considerably strengthened with a 9-0 thrashing of second placed Deddington "A" and a 6-3 win at Banbury "B", but it suffered a set back with a 2-7 defeat at Charlbury "A". With 4 matches left there is still all to play for! The story is not so bright for the "B" team whose last place in Division 3 was virtually guaranteed with a 2-7 home defeat against relegation rivals Middleton Cheney "B". However, its reputation for the best post match refreshments is intact!

### Junior Section

The 3 teams competing in the South Warwickshire Junior League were unable to manage another win in the last month of their season. However, they were all competing against boys a year older so they will be able to put the experience gained this year to good effect next year.

Places are still available in all the groups on our **SUMMER TENNIS FUN PROGRAMME** for youngsters aged 5-15. See notices around the village or ring/email Sue Mercer, 01926 613284, [sucol-merc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:sucol-merc@tiscali.co.uk) You can book up to a week before the required sessions.



### 1st Harbury Beaver Group

Bud Jackson, Debbie Gee & Kate Lonsdale

The 1<sup>st</sup> Harbury Beaver Group had a very busy term, with lots of different activities and outings. During the term, Jamie, Ben, Jon-James, Adam, Sam and Brandon were all invested as fully fledged Beaver Scouts at three different investiture ceremonies. They are now proud to wear the official Beaver uniform and are looking forward to adding new badges to their sweat shirts as they reach their goals and challenges.

We started with the theme "All About Me" as the boys drew outlines of each other on large sheets of paper and then added features and decided where the internal organs should go. They then talked about "Body Fuel", trying out healthy snacks, and tested the effects of exercise on their bodies. Half way through the term we changed the theme to "Summer Safari", with a bug and leaf hunt and a coded trail around the village, looking for all names of houses, pubs, roads etc

that have a name relating to animals, birds or plants. It was amazing how many names we found in a very small area!

At our next meeting, we were delighted to welcome Scouts Sam Cheesman and Matthew van Kesteren, who gave a brilliant demonstration of how to pitch a tent and then showed how thirteen boys



could all fit in a two man tent! We followed this with a trip to Chesterton House Farm in the middle of the village, where Louise Trice showed us exactly where the milk comes from and what happens to it once the cows have produced it. The Beavers had a fascinating time and were even allowed to help to attach the milking machines to the cows' udders. We have made the most of the lovely summer weather and have spent little time in the scout hut as, for our next meeting; Tony Jackson very kindly invited us to a special viewing inside his tank (or Abbott Self-Propelled Gun). The Beavers had a fantastic time climbing inside the tank and seeing how it operates and how little room there is for the soldiers to operate the machinery.

As a complete contrast, Sharron Halstead came the following week to show us how to tie dye and the boys produced some wonderful patterns on the white t-shirts that they had brought for the purpose.

Finally, to round off the term, we had a lovely barbecue in the park. The Beavers watched the lighting of the barbecue and provided their own sausages and then honed their footballing skills with Andrew Hunt while the barbecue did its work. We all had a great evening and are looking forward to next term when our theme will be "Real Life Heroes".

Special thanks again to all those who have helped during the term and, in particular, Sam Cheesman, Matthew Van Kesteren, Louise Trice, Tony Jackson and Sharron Halstead for giving us some great demonstrations.



## Harbury Toddler Group

Emma Legg

Can you believe the Carnival has been and gone already? All that flurry of activity and head scratching, that's why last month's edition was missed, we got so caught up in Carnival fever and missed the deadline. The designing, planning, painting parties and foraging for cardboard and before you know it it's in the skip... c'est la vie. All good fun though, the children enjoyed it and looked great as the animals on the Ark. Well done to all of those on the float who managed to bear the heat of the midday sun as well as those who managed to tear themselves away from the football.

The committee would also like to thank all of those who gave up their valuable family/free time to paint; build and dispose of the float; everyone who set up, manned and took down the stall; Nick and Sarah Morley for the loan of the trailer and for driving us round on the day; Pineham farm for the loan of the hay bales; Jeff and Tracy at Harbury Groundworks for collecting and returning those bales (tough work!). Thank you also to Halfords and Carpet Right for the cardboard and to everyone in the village who supported us on the day for supplying filled jars and by having a flutter on our Jar Tombola.

As the summer holidays are here we need to remind parents that Toddler Group will not be open on WEDNESDAYS from Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> of July until Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> of September. The Monday sessions will continue as normal, starting at 10am until 11.30am.

Can I just say that Wednesday's sessions are a lot quieter than Mondays so if you have tried us before on a Monday and you or your child found it a bit overwhelming then I seriously recommend you, if you are able, to try coming on a Wednesday. There are fewer children and you will have free range to choose the type of toys your child enjoys to play with. This could be an advantage if your child feels a little shy sometimes.

As a thank you to everyone who attends Toddler Group, the committee likes to arrange a summer outing and due to a successful run of fund-raising events the group was able to totally fund the outing. We had a great day out at Twycross Zoo, to tie in with our Noah's Ark Carnival theme and the weather wasn't dissimilar either! Violent thunderstorms were forecast for the day after so much sunshine, typical huh? Thankfully this did not put anyone off coming and after an

initial downpour with much running between monkey houses, the sun broke through and we had to find shade to eat our packed lunches.

Finally, do you enjoy coming to Toddlers? Would you like to see it continuing to run the way it is, hosting annual events such as the coffee morning, the Carnival float and stall etc? Do you think you could bring fresh ideas and energy to the running of the committee or even lend support as an extra pair of hands at one of these crucial fund raising events? Harbury Toddler group is run only by Mums who attend the group, we are not a bunch of do-gooders, just very busy mums with high energy toddlers. We enjoy getting together for a couple of hours in the evening every so often, usually in the pub, to discuss how the group is running, what needs replacing and how we will approach any fund raising events during the year.

We need YOU to help us continue to do this, as some of the committee are about to give birth any day, some have moved from the village and some are moving up to pre-school committee. More details will be available about joining the committee before our AGM this coming September but if you would like information about this or any other toddler business please speak to me at the sessions or phone Emma on 01926 613093 anytime.



**Windmills**  
Nursery School

**Nursery School Staff & Committee**

This has been, as always a very action-packed and fun-filled half term. Here are some of our highlights:

- We took a group of our older children to visit their new classroom and teacher. They then had the opportunity to join their brothers, sisters and other infants at playtime.
- We attended the Toddler service at Church – the last one this school year. We listened to a story from the Bible and talked about how important it is to say thank-you. We celebrated with a picnic outside and all the children were given a bookmark to take home. Thank you to all the ladies for making us feel so welcome each month.
- We held our annual sports day on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July. Fortunately we were able to find a shady area on the school field to hold this much-anticipated event. All the children

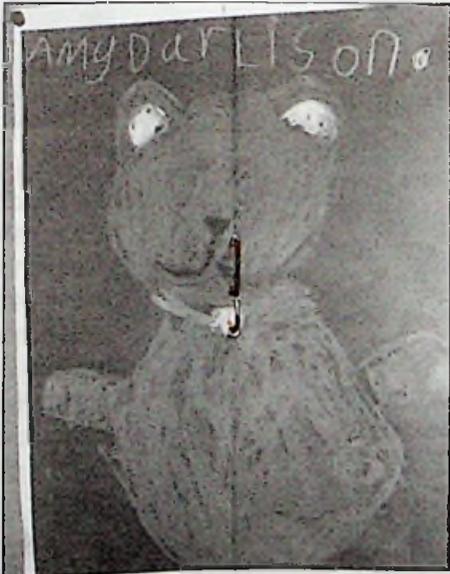
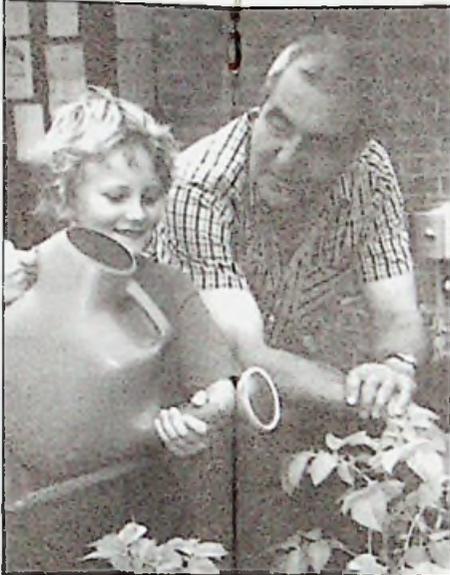
enjoyed joining in and excitedly showed their gold medals to their proud families.

- On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, we held a parents afternoon for the parents of our older children to look at their work and discuss their progress and development during their time at Windmills.
- Our resident artist Chris came and spent a morning with the children on the topic of bees. The children then painted huge bees and at snack time had crackers spread with honey that contained real honeycomb. Following this the children discussed the hexagon shape of the honeycomb cells and then went on to produce some beautiful honeycomb prints.
- We invited Harbury Pre-school to visit us to play in our new play area before joining in with a toddler race at the school sports day on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> July. It was lovely to see all the children playing happily together. The school kindly presented all the children with a certificate to take home.



Continuing our theme of mini-beasts we have looked at spiders webs and made a dream catcher. Alex visited the library and found us some books about 'Anansi', which is the Afro-Caribbean word for spider. Mrs Kennedy helped the children to make a creepy-crawly cheese and onion caterpillar scone – they all chose a body part to take home and eat! We gave the children a huge bowl of cooked spaghetti 'worms' to explore, it was fascinating to observe the children and discovered that this activity alone covered all of the six areas of learning within the curriculum guidance for the foundation stage. Here are some of their comments: "It is smooth, this one is escaping. Here comes the longest one" – Edward, "It is sticky, look at my worms; one wiggly worm is going across the other wiggly worm. Look I have done a 'M' for Morgan" – Morgan. In addition the children have been busy

# Garden Walkabout and Art Exhibition



bringing in mini-beasts of all shapes and sizes!! Edward's mum Jo Lockley of 'Sound Beginnings' wrote a 'mini-beast' song to the tune of 'Oh when the saints go marching in' especially to follow our mini-beast theme. The children enthusiastically joined in moving around the room like ants, grasshoppers, spiders and caterpillars. We then thought of some other mini-beasts and added our own verses. The end of term culminated in our annual teddy bears picnic on the school field. In the shade of the trees we played games and tried out our new parachute, before tucking into our tasty picnic. It was a lovely way to finish the term and we would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye and good luck to all our older children who start school in September. We will all miss them very much



Thank you, to Tim Lockley for fixing the finger-guard on our door, to Mary Catt for donating a xylophone and to Ruth Guy for some beautiful dressing up clothes.

**Dates:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2006 – Windmills re-starts

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2006 – Resident artist visit.

Windmills Nursery School is situated in the grounds of Harbury Primary School. If you would like to register a place for your child or require any information on Windmills Nursery you can email us at [info@windmills-nursery.co.uk](mailto:info@windmills-nursery.co.uk) , call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.



## Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

**What an achievement!** - We have had a fantastic final month of the summer term at Pre-School, which was rounded off with the highest accolade from our advisory teacher, when she brought staff from a nursery in Stratford to observe the running of our pre-school both indoor and outdoor. They were very impressed to see the children working on a variety of different activities, as well as cutting their own fruit and helping themselves to their choice of drink at our independent snack bar. We are very proud to know that Harbury Pre-School is now seen as a model for other Nursery and Pre-Schools in the area.

**July at Pre-School** – The mostly lovely weather during July has enabled the children to use freely the inside and outside areas (except when it became too hot and they had to retreat into the fan cooled inside space). As always, there has been a wide variety of activities for them to enjoy, including washing dolls clothes and hanging them out to dry, joining in with a summer dance, and making their own lovely paintings on individual canvasses. The observational drawings of slices of kiwi fruit were stunning, with the older children in particular showing a wonderful grasp of how



to transfer what they could see onto paper. We also made good use of our new woodwork bench, with hammers and saws coming into use and pieces of wood being adorned with ribbons and other materials using drawing pins.

**Teddy Bears' Picnic** - We decided to hold our end of year Teddy Bears' Picnic during the penultimate week of the term so that as many of the children as possible would be able to enjoy it. It was a beautiful day, without being too hot, and the Pre-School children, parents, siblings, carers, staff and teddy bears all had a lovely play in the Park followed by a picnic on the grass.



**Outdoor Activities** – Some of the children had reached the second level of the Teddy PEGS programme for physical development, while the younger ones were starting at the beginning. They all had lots of fun throwing, catching, rolling and running to collect balls, bean bags and, of course, teddy bears, and enthusiastically reached the required goals, for which they were awarded special certificates.

**Sports Day at Harbury Primary School** – During the last week of term, our children were invited to take part in Sports Day at the school and this was combined with a visit to Windmills to have a drink and keep cool. Our thanks to Windmills for having us and we look forward to their visiting us in September.

**Farewell** – We have now said our very sad farewells to our older children who will be starting at Harbury Primary School in September. However, due to Lisa and Gael's close links with Miss Maher and Mr Daly at the school, all the children have received visits from Miss Maher and her classroom assistant and have been to see their new classroom. They are now confident individuals who we are certain will enjoy their new adventure and we wish them well in this very important step in their young lives.

**Farewell 2** – It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Kate Wilson at the end of this term. Kate has been part of the pre-school team for 4 years and many of you will have fond memories of Kate caring for your children at pre-school. At an enjoyable evening out with staff and committee, a small presentation was made to Kate as a token of our thanks and appreciation. She will be missed, but we don't intend to let her escape too easily as we will be coaxing her into helping us out from time to time!

**And Finally .....** We would like to say a huge "Thank You" to all the parents for their wonderful words of thanks, cards and gifts to all the staff. Also thanks to the committee for treating the staff to a lovely night out – it was very much appreciated.

**Have a happy summer!**

If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Nikki Kirk, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 614316.



**Harbury Primary School**

**Denis Daly**

This month we include pieces of writing from opposite ends of the school. The first is a piece of creative writing (un-edited) from Emily, a child in Year 1; she has a great imagination with lovely ideas.

### **The Land of Emily By Emily Gibb**

There is a office in the Differant world's airport and he hate's having children running around him so he has changed him self into Mr ice cream NOW he can put a cemicle into his ice cream and licks it and it takes his anger away.

And next to the airport there is a town but not eney old Town like Warwickshire. A Town with beuty and grace and pop star theatres and princess palaces and lots of houses.

Our second piece of creative writing is from Annie, who has just finished Year 6; she has a lovely use of language. This is a fabulous story that draws you in from the start and delivers a wonderful ending full of suspense.

### **The Sea-horses By Annie McGowan**

There it was, walking out of the waves. The horse, a young white stallion, stamping its silver cloven hooves in the inky green folds edged with white that were crawling up onto the fine white sand. The beautiful horse like creature shook its glossy, white mane releasing an arc of rainbow droplets into a whirl of froth and spray.

I tiptoed silently toward this beautiful beast so that I didn't alarm it. But then the strangest thing happened. The horse trotted over and came to a stop, towering above me. I could smell the creature's sweet breath and found myself looking up into eyes as black as the night. The stallion bowed its neck to my level. I felt safe and secure. I buried my head into his spice-scented mane. He took me into his dreams. I saw colours - ones I had never seen before whirling into intricate patterns like kaleidoscope. Long spirals led me round, into the fiery centre of his thoughts.

Then the horse relaxed a little and a silky calmness washed over me, like standing in a shower of silver mist. Then suddenly a sharp stab of fear surged through my mind. I swung my head away. In sheer terror the 'sea-horse' galloped back into the raging torrents, melting away just as it had appeared. Me and that creature had had a connection. We had shared minds...

I looked around wildly, wondering what had alarmed it so, and saw eleven or twelve translucent, watery, silvery—white horses galloping towards the setting sun, their hooves clattering elegantly down onto the waves as if they were on solid ground rather than in a stormy, whipping ocean. All around the horses something was splashing, as if trying to push through the surface of the water, very familiar to when you are skipping a rock, it bounces and suddenly slips under, leaving only drops of salt water and the rippling sea. It was a beautiful sight, seeing them all playing, rearing their front legs up and neighing a sad undersea song, that had a haunting and dangerous beauty all of its own. Little did I know it would be a sight I would be seeing very soon.....

**New Beginnings** – While the end of the school year sees the start of a holiday for most of us, it is the start of a new era in the lives of the children in Year 6, who transfer to Secondary education in September. They have been a very good year group, and many of the children have achieved very high standards in a range of activities. We wish them all the very best for the future, and hope that their time at their new school is a happy and successful one.

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Toenail problems eg thick, fungal,  
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Toe deformities eg, clawed,  
hammered, curly  
Bunions / hallux valgus

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**VERRUCAE &  
WARTS**

A number of our "long established" families have left us, as their youngest child leaves the school. We wish these families every happiness for the future and hope that they will be able to look back with fond memories on their association with the school.

**Mrs Sykes** – Mrs. Sykes also left at the end of the term, as she has been appointed to a teaching post in another school. We are all sorry to see her leave and wish her every success in her new post.

**Mrs Payne** – I am pleased to inform parents that Mrs. Payne will be returning to school immediately after the Summer holidays following her maternity leave. She will be working on a part-time basis for the next year.

The classes will be organised as follows next year:

Reception Miss Maher

Year 1 Mrs. Rathbone

Year 2 Mrs. Edwards

Year 3 Miss Fowler/Mrs. Payne

Year 4 Mrs. Booth

Year 5 Mrs. Sharp/Mrs. Kluth

Year 6 Mr. Chapman

In Year 3, Miss Fowler will take the class for the first half of the week (all day Monday and Tuesday and for the morning on Wednesday), with Mrs. Payne taking over at lunchtime on Wednesday. In Year 5, Mrs. Sharp will take the class on Monday and Tuesday, with Mrs. Kluth teaching on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, as this year.

**New book bags** – The PTA has bought a new book bag for each child in the school – we only received and approved the "mock up" just before we finished for the holidays – the bags themselves will hopefully be available and distributed at the beginning of the new term, so there is no need to replace your child's current book bag over the holidays!

**Thanks** – As the school year drew to a close, it is time to say "Thank You" to all those people, far too many to mention, who have helped in any way over the past year. Your efforts and your commitment to the school are fully appreciated by all the staff. **MANY THANKS.**

**And Finally** ..... Have a great summer holiday and we'll see most of the children again at the start of next term, Monday 4th September.

# Harbury Primary School Summer Fete





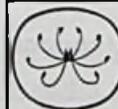
## Horticultural Society

Muriel Grey

The weather for the Garden Walkabout was a lot cooler than the previous weekend; in fact the folks selling the programmes and plants were chilly! Once again on behalf of the committee may I thank everybody who worked hard to open their garden, Paul and Mary who sold programmes and everybody else who helped make the event run as smoothly as possible. All those who made and gave cakes, the skivvies and many others, we couldn't have managed without you. Numbers were down, but who could compete with the finals at Wimbledon! In any case many thanks to everybody else who helped – and those who walked!

On to the next big event – the Show on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. The schedules, both Adult and Children's are already available from "Country Fayre", Janice at 35 Percival Drive and Ron Grey at 23 Deppers Bridge. To help cover the running costs of the Show as in previous years, we intend to run a Tombola, all contributions will be very welcome and should be left in the porch of 55 Mill Street or 23 Deppers Bridge before Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, you do not have to be a member to donate. There will also be a produce stall, jars of jam, chutney, baking (wrapped and labelled ready for selling please), veg, flowers etc. will be welcomed on the morning of the Show before 10.45am please, otherwise it will clash with the judging. If you have nothing to enter from the garden or allotment – (it has been yet another awkward season) there are many other classes to choose from. No matter what you do enter, please read the schedule, "On with the Show" is very helpful, Janice has a copy, the W.I has one and Daphne has one. As usual there is a Society Tray and the Society Vase classes in the Schedule, first prize for each is £10, so it is well worth entering, and someone has to win!

August means holidays, how about a trip to Ryton Gardens, Daphne has the ticket; entrance is free for two people.



## Harbury Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

Our day trip this year took us to Lincolnshire. Having been to Cambridgeshire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Kew,

Birmingham, Cheshire I thought it was time we ventured into an undiscovered county.

The first stop was at Grimsthorpe Castle near Bourne. This is a magnificent building with a Vanbrugh façade (very similar to Blenheim) and stunning interiors. The access manager Ray Biggs welcomed us and we were then taken on a tour of part of the 3000 acre estate. So many trees of different species planted in rows to resemble the spokes in a wheel. There is an ancient oak forest where Henry VIII hunted deer and a magnificent lake. After lunch which was very tasty, there was chance for a walk round the superb gardens which include a walled vegetable garden and topiary garden. The double herbaceous border was at its best when we visited. Then I had arranged for a tour of the house which wasn't normally open on a Wednesday. Our tour guide was very knowledgeable and there are some wonderful tapestries and paintings plus many items from the House of Lords obtained through a family member who was a Lord High Chamberlain. Included in these are thrones dating from 1761 used by George III to one used by Queen Victoria. A fascinating look through the centuries to a Castle which has been in the same family for over 500 years.

Then back on the coach for about 20 minutes to Easton Walled Garden. We were met by the Head Gardener and Lady Ursula Cholmeley who after a brief resume of the restoration of the gardens gave us a guided tour. The family home was demolished in the 1950's and in 2000 Lady Ursula decided to begin restoration of the gardens. No small task as there was ground elder and bindweed to clear before the shape of the original garden was revealed. So much has been achieved to date but there is still much to do. The gardens drop down terraces to a stream which is home to kingfishers. The planting already done is as it was in its heyday. Also there on the day we visited was a lovely man who gave us an illustrated talk about sweet peas, a bonus.

All in all it was a day of History and Horticulture, something for everyone to enjoy. If anyone is interested in visiting either place I have all the details and will be delighted to pass these on.



### **Nature Notes**

**John Hancock**

I'm writing this month's article three weeks before the deadline due to holiday commitments. September's 'Notes' will be pieced together in South America with the potential for something a little different and

that doesn't just mean more of the Alpaca / Llama story. Today, 7th July, the weather is continuing hot (23C) with thundery outbreaks. Yesterday the village was hit by a storm in the morning with 50mms of rain. The hard ground caused spectacular run off with some localised flooding. Plant life has been reinvigorated after the continuous sunshine of June and those villagers opening their gardens for the 'walkabout' this weekend will be happy.

I talked about finding Butterfly Orchids (*Platanthera chlorantha*) in the July magazine, stating that Stockton cutting nature reserve would be a dead cert. Well that wasn't to be and I've not seen (and now won't see) a single flower in the three locations I know locally. Some years are like that while in others the flower heads of this delightful, delicate plant with its elongated spur are easily found in the right location. It could be that I was just not alert at the right time. Has anyone else seen one?

One easily overlooked orchid is the Broad-leaved Helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*). On a scorching day (Monday, 3rd July), I visited Ryton Wood, a site of special scientific interest (SSSI). Enter via Ryton Pools off A445 near Bubbenhall or via the track and padlocked gate off A423 (grid ref. 386728. OS sheet 140 Leicester & Coventry). Warwickshire Naturalists' Trust members will know the combination of the lock. This orchid varies a good deal in height and density of its flower head. The sepals and petals grade between pale green and a colour rather like red wine. I only found 2 plants in several crossings of the wood. The flower head of one had been neatly severed, probably by a rabbit. The other specimen was perfect, though the flowers were not fully open.

The real reason for visiting Ryton Wood again was to look for Lepidoptera (butterflies & moths). I was accompanied by David Brown, an expert on these insects, and his Open Studies group. First we were taken towards the centre of the wood to try and spot the Purple Emperor butterfly (*Apobura iris*). This colony is one of a few in the county and is present because adult butterflies were released a few years ago. Ryton is just the right type of wood, being large enough and varied in its flora, containing mature oaks, small leaved lime and the caterpillar's food plant, willow. We saw several large butterflies soaring across the wood canopy but as they were at least 100 metres away and moved quickly we only had our teacher's word for it. They can apparently be lured down, particularly in the morning, by suitable bait such as a dead rabbit or pile of animal droppings. Essential 'salts' are probably gained in this way. It is only the males which are a purple

colour and this is restricted to the upper surface of the wings; the under wing colour is brown with a false eye spot and patches of white. In the same wood we saw plenty of White Admiral butterflies (*Ladoga camilla*) which superficially resemble the Purple Emperor. Size is all important, the Emperor being much larger, perhaps by as much as 50%. The White Admirals were feeding on the flowers of blackberry. Females lay their eggs singly on honeysuckle leaves. My first White Admiral of the year was seen in Bascote Wood on 30th June. At the same location I saw Speckled Wood, Ringlet, Meadow Brown and Large Skipper butterflies.

The dilemma faced by those trying to reverse the decline of some of our rare species is acute. Should introductions be made to bolster numbers or should species be allowed to die out; which means our grandchildren may be denied some wonderful sights. In the case of the Red Kite it's a 'fait accompli'. Now the bird is always seen on a trip into the Chiltern Hills thanks to the release of birds bred in captivity several years ago. There are populations of Purple Emperors in neighbouring counties; notably Rockingham Forest (Northants) & Bernewood (Oxon). The dramatic fall in the numbers of Water Voles (*Ratty of Wind in the Willows* fame) is probably due to predation by feral Mink. An area of Herefordshire - the Dore valley - has been earmarked for a large release of this attractive species. But there's the difficulty, who's to say one species is 'attractive' - and be given a chance to survive - and which 'unattractive'. What do readers of Harbury & Ladbroke News think?



## General Section

### Blood Donors

The next session will be in Harbury Village Hall on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August; 1.30pm – 3.15pm and 4.30pm – 7.15pm. Holiday times are always difficult for donations, but a very good opportunity for youngsters (age 17 and upwards) to relieve their summer boredom and take the first step towards a lifetime of saving other people's lives. Not many computer games can do that for you! So if you know someone who hasn't yet made that first move, please encourage them.

If time is so precious that you need an appointment, or if you'll be away but would like another date at Southam or Leamington, phone 08457 711 711 or log on to [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk)

**Gillian Hare**

## **First Light**

First Light is a new, short and informal act of worship for all the family.

First Light starts at 10.30 and coffee will be available from 10 o'clock.

There will be music, readings, activities and prayer but with no obligation to join in; just come and listen if you want to.

First Light is for anyone, including children, who would welcome some time for reflection in the company of others, without the formality of a church service.

First Light happens on the first Sunday of every month in the Tom Hauley Room and is organised by All Saints - your parish church.

Come along on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September to our first gathering when the theme will be "New Beginnings".

**Alison Abbott**

## **Smart Water**

This is a state of the art property marking system. It deters burglars and enables the police to return your property to you if they recover it after a burglary. We as an NHW group can obtain it at a discounted price £15.00 for a bottle, which should be enough to protect all your valuables.

The Parish Council and Neighbourhood Watch team are working together to bring it to the whole village, starting with the houses in and around Manor Orchard. Look out for the package coming through your door giving you more details.

**Alison Abbott**

## **Child Car Seat Law**

In September the law on car seat belt use and child restraint is changing. The main difference relates to children between the ages of 3 and 11. At the moment a child restraint need only be used if available. But from the autumn the correct child restraint seat must be used.

There is also a new height criterion that comes into force. So, if the child is over 11 years of age but under 1.35 metres tall (approx 4ft 5ins) then the same regulation will apply.

The effect of the new law will be to reduce the number of child deaths or injury by 2000 each year. So, even if it does impose a further burden of responsibility on the driver, it must be regarded as a positive move.

This information is supplied by Nippers Baby Equipment Specialists; tel 01926 633100 or website [www.nippers.co.uk](http://www.nippers.co.uk).

Steve Patalong

## **Summer Lunch in aid of Harbury Senior Citizens**

Just a brief note from the committee to let you know that this year's Summer Lunch, in aid of the Harbury Senior Citizens, will be held in Harbury Village Hall on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August**. We would like to remind you that this is a fund raising event in aid of the senior citizens of Harbury and as such is open to anyone who wants to attend, subject to ticket availability.

For ticket enquiries, please contact either Marie Wallington on 613205 or Margaret Taylor on 612903. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mike McBride

**On behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association**

## **Operation Christmas Child**

Last year, several groups and individuals followed the example of the Women's Institute, by filling shoeboxes with gifts for children who have nothing, at Christmas or any other time.

If you would like to join in this year, you could start now by looking out for small toys, notebooks, toiletries and similar; also ask shoe shops for boxes. We hope to collect these up so no individual has to commit to a whole boxful, but we can put them together. I also have an easy pattern for a knitted finger puppet, as hand stuffed soft toys cannot be accepted.

Gillian Hare

## Village Hall Development – update

The Steering Group met again last month to consider the proposals set out by various organisations, which would like to see improvements to the Village Hall. Some of the suggestions require the modernisation of existing facilities, whilst other ideas form a 'wish list', which would take the Hall into the twenty first Century and allow usage of the property beyond its current occupancy. At present, the revenue from bookings covers the cost of maintaining the premises, but there are many minor repairs and adjustments, which are carried out each week, without charge, by willing volunteers who are members of the Village Hall committee.

The outline proposals have now been taken to a local firm of architects who will be drawing up plans to incorporate as many of the ideas as possible within a framework, which will still remain viable for volunteers to manage on behalf of the community. A date has been set for all villagers to study the architects' drawings and it is hoped that as many people as possible will come to the Hall on Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup> between 12.00pm and 4.00pm to review the proposals and offer suggestions and comments about the future development. It will also be possible for visitors to explore all areas of the Village Hall, some of which may not have been visited by people who consider themselves regular users of the premises. Following this consultation, the Steering Group will draw up a prioritised list of 'needs', which may be separated into Phase 1 (vital improvements) and Phase 2 (hoped-for improvements). As with all development, planning consent will need to be sought and the finance to cover the expenditure will need to be raised. The Steering Group committee are already aware of several sources of funding and will be making applications to the appropriate bodies once agreement has been reached about the preferred 'way forward'. In the meantime, the committee has agreed that it will need to make its own efforts to raise some initial funding and as a consequence; a coffee morning will be held at the Tom Hauley room on 26<sup>th</sup> August; a Quiz Nite has been proposed for October and a New Year's Dance has been booked for December. For those whose memories go back a long way, it is hoped that there will be a regular social event in the following months, which might see villagers queuing for tickets, as in the Seventies when there was an amazing demand for the lively dances and 'get-togethers', which were a major part of the social scene for the Village.

It is an exciting and challenging time for the Village Hall and its small team of volunteers, but the development will only proceed with the

support of all those for whom the Hall provides a vital community resource. All the ideas will be fully explained at the event in September, so if you feel you want to know more and help move the project forward, put the date in your diary and come along to have your opinion counted. Refreshments will be provided to sustain those who want to make an afternoon of the 'consultation review'.

Chris Finch

## Youth Circle Skills Workshop

Fancy walking the tightrope....?

Mastering the unicycle....?

Getting proficient at club juggling – or plate spinning...?

How about stilts...mini bikes... diabolos?

Steve Grainger from Shooting Stars Circus will be running a day's workshop for young people (i.e secondary school age, but with a minimum of year 6) on **FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**. It will cost £10 per person and will be held in the Village Hall from 10am – approx. 4pm. Bring a packed lunch or buy food (e.g. filled rolls) from us. All young people are welcome whether you have been to the Drop-In or not. Just pick up a parental consent form (for under 16's) on a Tuesday evening (we serve cold drinks on the playing field, near the car park from 7.30pm – 8.15pm); or phone Lesley Jones on 613207 or Margaret Commons on 613963 and we will get one to you. Please return the completed forms on the day, at the latest.

Steve is a professional circus trainer with many years' experience, including working with youth groups.

So if you want to know what a rola-bola is... or a pedal go... join us for a great day finding out!

Harbury Youth Drop-In

## St. John Ambulance Balloon Race

The St. John Ambulance, Southam Quadrilateral Division would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway at the Balloon Race held on 29<sup>th</sup> May during Southam Carnival. A total of 572 'Tags' were sold and after expenses a profit of £817.40 was made. This amount will help kit out the Medical Unit, which has now been purchased. A list of winners is shown below and all have been informed and their prizes sent to them.

## Balloon Race Winners

Prize position	Prize Won	Name of Winner
1 <sup>st</sup> Prize – Balloon/Tag found Seaford, near Newhaven	Barn Party for 60 at the Woodhouse Hotel - £820.00	Mrs Jane Boucher, Southam
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize – Balloon/Tag found Portslade, near Brighton	Hatton Country World – Family Annual Pack - £110.00	Mr K Mortimer, Stockton
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize – Balloon/Tag found Firle Beacon, near Lewes	Thomas Cook Worldwide Holiday Voucher - £50.00	Mrs M Turvey, Hampton Magna
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize - Balloon/Tag found South Chainey, East Sussex	Day visit to Mary Arden's House & Museum – Family - £30.00	Mrs G Timms, Ladbroke
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize - Balloon/Tag found Haywards Heath, West Sussex	Day visit to Mary Arden's House & Museum - Family - £30.00	Mr B Branston, Southam
6 <sup>th</sup> Prize - Balloon/Tag found Balcome, West Sussex	Warwick Castle visit for 2 adults - £27.00	Mr S Jackson, Southam
7 <sup>th</sup> Prize - Balloon/Tag found Forest Green, near Dorking	Johnsons Coaches, Travel or Theatre voucher - £25.00	J. Whelton, Southam
8 <sup>th</sup> Prize - Balloon/Tag found Redlands Forest, Surrey	Co-op Travel or Goods Voucher - £25.00	Mr N Middleton, Bishops Itchington

**Val Steele – Divisional Administrator**

## Father Roy Brown – a friend for all time

Last month Harbury Church was packed to capacity on two separate occasions to celebrate the twenty fifth year of Father Roy's ordination to the priesthood. On Friday night parishioners from Harbury and Ladbroke flocked to All Saints and were duly seated shortly after 7.00pm before the surprised guest, accompanied by his family, was welcomed into the church by spontaneous applause. The celebration of Father Roy's life had been kept such a secret that he joined the audience for the evening in characteristic relaxed style wearing his trademark shorts, sandals and polo-shirt. The programme of music,

songs and verse for 'This is your Life' had been organised for many months previously and involved musicians, singers, script-writers and presenters who all played their part in conveying the life and times of our well-loved rector who has been so much a part of Harbury's community, since he was 'Heaven sent' to us from the Warwickshire parish of Tysoe, Oxhill and Whatcote in 1993. The celebration involved almost two hundred performers from every facet of church life with nine musical contributions, including those from the Ladies Flower rota, the Men's Group, the Mothers' Union and the Social group and five scripted renditions presented by Fliss, Tony and their impressive cast.



On the following day, Harbury Church was again filled to capacity when Father Roy led the Eucharist service in the presence of representatives from all the parishes he has served since he first took the decision to be ordained into the church. There was a joyous 'get-together' of friends who had known him throughout his ministry and the 'bring and share' buffet extended well into the afternoon on the earliest warm day of July when reminiscences were shared between locals and visitors from throughout the Midlands.

Both Father Roy and Pam were born in Birmingham and they met in the Choir vestry of St. Oswald's Church in Small Heath in 1956, when Father Roy was 'learning how to serve' with tuition from the Vicar and Pam was involved in arranging the music for the choir. At the time, Roy was working at Lucas Electrical and Pam was nursing at the Q.E Hospital. After two years, the friendship developed into a 'serious relationship' and they became engaged in 1960, followed by their marriage in St Oswald's in 1962. At first they lived in a flat in Small Heath and whilst Roy continued to work at Lucas, Pam had a 'career

change' and became a Nursery School teacher. They eventually moved out to Shirley where they bought their first house in which they raised their daughters, Claire born in 1964, and Helen in 1966. Shortly afterwards in 1967, Roy became a cost accountant and office manager for GKN, whilst following Claire's birth Pam ran playgroups and then became involved with the Special Babycare Unit at Solihull hospital. In 1968 they moved to a larger property and son, David was born on Christmas Day in 1970, so his birth made the front page of the Solihull News. Roy continued to work at GKN, whilst Pam became Director of Priority Area playgroups associated with Day Care facilities in Balsall Heath when David was just over two years old. Both Roy and Pam continued to enjoy most of their social life in the Church, and for three years Roy was a member of the Forward Operatic Company, which required both his singing and dancing talents! He also became involved with the Royal Ballet's production of Scheherazade and performed on stage with a scimitar. He was paid the princely sum of £1.00, but forbidden to take a bow at the end of the performance! After this experience of 'treading the boards', he enjoyed being part of the massed choir, which backed the C.B.S.O. (City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra).

By 1977 after Roy had been Church Warden at Small Heath for some time, he was put forward for ordination and he gave up all his spare time involvement with other activities to concentrate on producing the essays, which were an essential part of the selection process for those wishing to enter the ministry.

The final selection of ordinands took place in the Cathedral Close at Chester where Roy was interviewed in individual and group sessions by a panel, including representatives of the laity and local bishops, as well as by the Director of Ordinands. This process was designed to test the suitability of candidates in terms of their own communication skills and their ability to interact with others in an informed, but relaxed manner. As all who have known Father Roy throughout the years would expect, he proved to be a 'natural' in group sessions, as a result of his genuine compassion and understanding of other people's needs and consequently he was recommended to go for training at St. Stephen's House in Oxford in 1978. The decision to follow his calling was not taken lightly, as there was only a discretionary grant from Solihull towards Roy's fees and he withdrew his pension from GKN to pay for his 'living expenses'. In the first year, Roy was the oldest student by 10 years, but in the second year, there was a trainee who was slightly older and the two 'geriatrics' on the course enjoyed their

companionship! Roy stayed in Oxford for 2 years, during which time he was only able to return home for brief weekend visits. Pam became the sole 'bread-winner' and she went to work as an unqualified social worker for Solihull Social Services, whilst also looking after the three children. Eventually after 1 year of preparation and 2 full-time years of training, Roy became a Curate and the family were re-united in the Curate's house in Highter's Heath on the Birmingham/Solihull boundary, where they lived until 1982. At this time, Pam went to Wolverhampton College and trained as a social worker, so that she returned to Solihull with qualified status. Roy was then offered his first parish at St. Mark's in Washwood Heath where the congregation was mainly West Indian. As might be expected, the singing was 'par excellence' and Pam enjoyed assisting with the choir of exuberant choristers who 'sang their hearts out'.

Their first sortie into a Warwickshire parish came in 1987 when Roy became the incumbent for Tysoe, Oxhill and Whatcote and the family moved into the Vicarage in Peacock Lane opposite St. Mary's Church in Tysoe. For a while Pam continued to work in Solihull, but after some years 'on the road', she transferred to Warwick Hospital where she worked for just over 9 years. She then spent a further 8 years doing temporary jobs for the Social Services.

The rest of the Brown's 'story' is, as they say, 'history', as Roy took up the 'living' in Harbury in 1993 and has provided for the spiritual needs of the community in a way which has been appreciated by all his parishioners. Roy and Pam have both given themselves selflessly in support of the two villages of Harbury and Ladbrooke and there are countless stories of their care, kindness and dedication to all those with whom they have come into contact as a result of Roy's ministry. In 2000, Father Roy was made a Canon at a service in Coventry Cathedral, which allows him to attend 2 Chapter meetings per year and to preach at least once at a Cathedral service. It is an honorary title, which grants him a named seat in one of the Stalls in the Chancel.

Did Roy and Pam come here expecting a 'quiet life', - if they did, it has proved 'anything but', as they have immersed themselves in all the activities for which the villages are noted, including the social coffee mornings, the Harvest Suppers, the Remembrance Services, the Christmas Fayre and Senior Citizen's Christmas Dinners in the Village Hall and at the Club, to name a few. The list is endless, but it must mean that Pam and Roy are the most readily recognised couple in Harbury, who have touched every aspect of family life for those within the parish.

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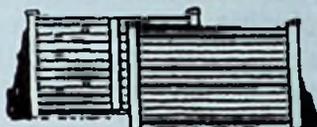
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Their own family have taken very different routes after their early days of schooling. Claire went to Exeter University to read Ancient History and Archaeology and then worked in London in the Fine Arts and Antique world for 14 years before spending over 3 years in Africa working in the Tourism Industry. She now lives and works in Lymington and is involved in the insurance of Fine Art. Helen who loved ballet as a young girl was accepted by Laban College, (part of Goldsmiths in London) on a Classical Dance course, but an injury to her foot prevented her from completing the course. As her interest had only been in performing, she decided she had to find an alternative career, which has resulted in her becoming involved in buying, marketing and sales for many companies which are household names including Next, Habitat, River Island and Cargo. David, on the other hand, has always had a love of music and became a choral scholar at the Abbey School in Tewkesbury and then won a Music Exhibition to Solihull School. He entered the Conservatoire in Birmingham and completed a post-graduate course at the Royal College in London, where he met his wife Alex who is a professional singer. He is currently Director of Music at Cumnor House School in Hayward's Heath.

Pam has followed through with her own love of music and took on the responsibility of being the Choir mistress in the Church from Anne Moore. Apart from his life in the Church, Father Roy has indulged his passion for Rugby and has been a regular supporter of Harbury Rugby Club for many years. Around the village, he is a familiar figure when out walking his black Labrador, Bunty and stopping to talk to everyone who crosses his path. There was even an entry in the dog/owner look-alike competition in the Harbury Carnival, but neither was wearing a collar at the time, so first prize eluded them! As both he and Pam say, they have loved the time they have spent in Harbury and without reservation everyone in the parishes would agree that they have been fortunate in having such a caring, friendly and approachable couple who have been 'taken to their hearts' by so many people.

Roy and Pam have so many good memories of life in Harbury that it is impossible for them to single out any special occasions, although the recent celebration of Father Roy's Silver Jubilee in the Ministry must count among them – certainly it was for all those who were privileged to be part of the recognition of a very special Rector who felt that 'it was right' to come to Harbury, even though his first introduction to the village was when all the roads dug up whilst new sewerage pipes were being laid! There must have been something about the village, which went beyond its 'face value' at the time and on reflection the

community has offered continuous thanks that Roy and Pam chose to make their life in our village communities after their early lives in the heart of Britain's 'Second City'.

To quote from the booklet printed following Father Roy's 'This is your Life' celebration:

"Let this great gathering offer heartfelt praise  
To one whose talents deserve most renown  
Whom laurels fresh and flow'ring e'er must crown .....

To honour one whose glittering gifts appear  
Bright as a meteor 'gainst the darkling sphere.....

Roy and Pam you have been our 'stars' for many years.....

So thankful are we that it was God's will  
To bring you here".

Chris Finch

## Harbury in the First World War - 1915

At the beginning of 1915, there was stalemate on the Western front. Germany, fighting a war on two fronts, had decided it could defend its lines in the West and concentrate on aiding its Austro-Hungarian allies against Russia. The French, with part of their country under occupation, felt driven to take the offensive, and expected their allies, the British, to join them. They continued to believe, against mounting evidence to the contrary, that flinging more men and shells against the German lines would result in a decisive breakthrough.

Some members of the British Cabinet questioned the direction of the war, realising it could not be won by two bodies of infantry battering each other. Winston Churchill and David Lloyd George in particular argued for an attempt to find a 'back door' into Germany. This led to the disastrous, ill-planned attempt to invade Turkey at Gallipoli at the cost of thousands of lives.

At home, many Territorials were in camp, in winter conditions. The Warwickshire battalions were still in Essex and Second Lieutenant Greenwell wrote 'I wish they would send us to the Persian Gulf or India - it is so miserably cold here'. He did not get his wish - in March the Brigade began moving to France and by April they were in the trenches south of Ypres.

The Kitchener battalions were still training and getting impatient. Private Carrington later wrote 'We were oppressed with fear that the war might end before we reached it'. By now, many Harbury men had joined up and as in the rest of the country, life was changing for ever. With more and more men in the army, hundreds of thousands of women became production workers, many making munitions. Women began to work on trains and trams, staff offices, and of course they worked the land.

In France, a number of attacks were launched in the spring. All resulted in failure and huge casualties. Between May and September there were no major attacks, yet losses in the line averaged 300 a day from snipers and sporadic shellfire. One of those killed was Private Alfred Allen. Alfred was the son of Alfred and Eliza Allen of Park Lane Terrace. The family were originally from Oxfordshire and young Alfred was born in Wheatley, where his father worked on a farm. On the 1901 census, they were in Stoneleigh and Alfred, then aged 6, had four siblings, John, Anna, Emma, and Ernest. Alfred joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment as a regular and went to France with the 2nd Battalion in January 1915. He was killed in action, aged 20, on the 23rd August. He is buried in the Le Touret Military Cemetery in the Pas de Calais. 900 men are buried there and there is a memorial to 13,000 men who fell in the area before the end of September 1915 and have no known grave.

As the disastrous Gallipoli Campaign ground on, the French commander, General Joffre, pressed strongly for another offensive in the West. The British were to attack at Loos in Belgium. The attack took place on the 25th September and the battle lasted three days. The British attacked across a coalfield. They used gas, but the wind changed and it blew back onto them. However, they broke through the first line of defence and almost got through the second. Their commander, General Haig, called for reserves, but they had been positioned too far back and as they moved up became entangled with men coming out of the line. In the confusion, the Germans counter-attacked and everyone ended up where they had first started. The British lost 50,000 men, among them Private Stephen Hawtin of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwicks. He was killed in action on the first day of the battle.

Stephen came originally from Tysoe. On the 1891 census, he was a 14 year old ploughboy, living with his parents, Samuel and Hannah, his elder sister Maria, and younger brothers, Samuel and Thomas. He probably joined the regular army and I could not find him on the 1901

census, he may have been serving overseas. At the time of his death, his wife was living in Harbury. She later married again and as Mrs Elsberg, lived in Binswood End.

Stephen Hawtin is buried in the St Mary's ADS Cemetery at Haisnes. The village was reached by the 7th Division, (of which Stephen's battalion was part) on the first day of the Battle of Loos. The Advanced Dressing Station was established there and the cemetery was named after it. There are 218 graves.

After the end of the battle of Loos, the Anglo-French offensive stuttered on, eventually ending in November. The surviving troops were withdrawn from the charnel-house that was Gallipoli. The British Commander-in-Chief in France, Sir John French, was blamed for the failures there and replaced by Sir Douglas Haig. Despite many disasters, he remained in post for the rest of the war. 1916 now loomed and with it the deployment of the hundreds of thousands of young men who had answered Kitchener's famous call.

Sharon Hancock

## Make Good

Some roads in Harbury were recently resurfaced, after a number of years have lapsed. How time changes this pattern of road making. Four rubber rollers were used to roll and bed in chippings instead of using large heavy metal roller-like steam rollers. According to the Cleve Hill driver, the reason being a heavy metal roller would crush the chippings to dust.



Mike Bloxham

## Time Out – Ufton

### Take Time Out – A Leisure Time Project for Ufton and surrounding area

The visit to the private archaeological dig close to Northend nearly didn't happen! The most terrific thunderstorms threatened to postpone the event on Thursday 6th July. However, we hastily rearranged the programme to start at The Red Lion, Northend with a talk by four of the amateur archaeologists. This was so interesting - we saw real coins, large pieces of pots, jewellery, keys, tiles etc, geo-physics printouts and photographs. We were given details about the age of the site, who had lived and worked there and its importance to the Romans and the local area. Some buildings were identified as being over 40 metres by 10 metres wide!

The Red Lion, Northend prepared a superb buffet lunch for 30 people and afterwards - as the rain had stopped - we were then able to drive to the site for a field visit. This was probably the best summer outdoor event so far - certainly the best attended with visitors coming from Rugby, Lighthorne Heath, Upper Boddington, Flecknoe and surrounding villages.

The Autumn programme starts with:

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**Gillian Ingham**



### LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

*Dear Editors, we would like to thank everyone who came to Jamie's funeral and sent flowers and donations to the air ambulance. It is very comforting to know how many people care, and we thank everyone who has helped us through this difficult time.*

*Steve, Maggie & Jennie Norman*

Dear Editors, May I on behalf of G.D.B.A. thank Sheila Jackson and all who helped at the coffee morning on 8<sup>th</sup> July, we raised £250 which could provide a harness, handle, lead, collar and bell for four guide dogs and two grooming kits, all of which are provided free to guide dog owners. Thank you again

Mac Watson

---

Dear Editors, I have already thanked everyone who was kind enough to open their gardens for the annual walkabout. I would also like to thank everyone else who gave their services so generously to help with refreshments, programme selling and washing up etc. We are fortunate to have so many willing people in this village who are so enthusiastic about gardening.

As you are no doubt aware, income generated goes towards our Society to enable us to provide speakers and facilities for our meetings. Also we do make many donations to village societies so that many people benefit from the weekend. Thank you again.

Judy Morrall

---

Dear Editors, To everyone at Windmills Nursery School. We just wanted to say a BIG THANK YOU for giving our children the best start to their education and getting them ready for school in September.

We are going to miss bringing them to you.

Thanks again for all your hard work.

Mums & Dads

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**Articles** to Harbury Pharmacy      by 25th August

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