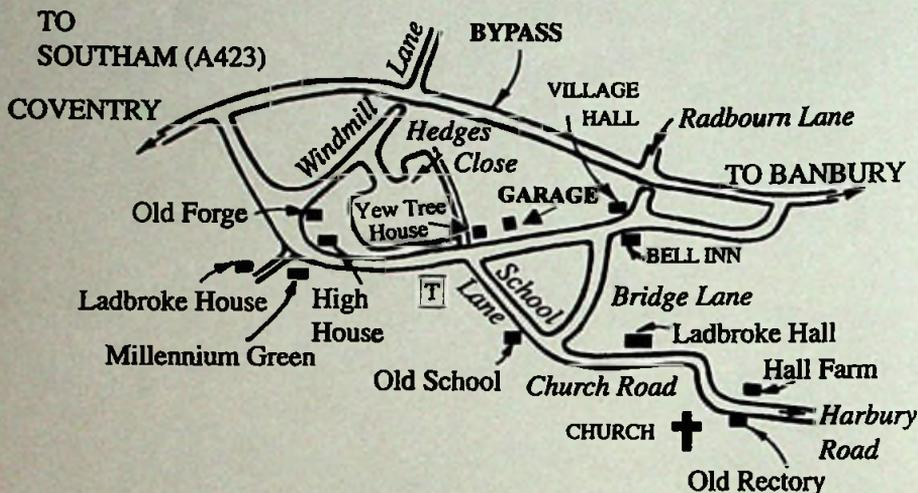


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Harbury & Ladbroke News

Reflects all aspects of local life, is published monthly and produced with the assistance of All Saints' Parochial Church Council.

February 2007

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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
The Editors reserve the right to amend articles as they see fit.*

Harbury Diary

FEBRUARY

- Sat 3 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury PTA
- Sun 4 THIRD BEFORE LENT
 Holy Communion 9.00am
 First Light Service 10.30am in Tom Hauley Room
 Evening Worship 6.00pm
- Mon 5 Harbury Society talk on Home Energy Efficiency 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Village Hall Committee 8.00pm in Village Hall
- Tues 6 Youth Drop In at 7.00pm - 9.00pm in Village Hall
 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Horticultural Society 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room,
 Roger Turner on William Kent and the Rococo Garden
- Wed 7 Mothers Union 2.30pm in Tom Hauley Room "Holiday Memories"
- Thurs 8 Holy Communion 9.45am
 WI 7.45 pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 9 SCHOOL ENDS
- Sat 10 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Fairtrade
- Sun 11 SECOND BEFORE LENT
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 13 Toddler Service at 2.00pm in Church
 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 14 ST VALENTINE'S DAY
 "Talk it Through" 8.00pm at 33 South Parade
- Thurs 15 Holy Communion 9.45am
 ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY
- Fri 16 RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION
- Sat 17 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am in Tom Hauley Room
 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Windmills Nursery
 Julian Meeting Quiet Day at Offa House
- Sun 18 FIRST BEFORE LENT
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Family Communion 10.30am
 Evensong 6.00pm
- Mon 19 SCHOOL STARTS
- Tues 20 SHROVE TUESDAY
 Youth Drop In at 7.00pm - 9.00pm in Village Hall
 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Senior Citizens Benefit Committee 8.00pm in Village Hall
 MU Meeting 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room, Steve Clarke
 "Starfish" all welcome



Editorial

We say goodbye to Father Roy and Pam after thirteen years serving both parishes. The editors are particularly grateful for the 150 plus articles 'From the Rector', which he has written for the magazine. We wish Roy and Pam every happiness for their future time in Kenilworth.

We are pleased to see that Jeanne Beaumont is back as W.I correspondent after a long break.

To help with the production schedule and to assist with the printer's turn-around time for the Harbury and Ladbroke News we are having to bring forward the articles deadline by one day, to a Thursday at 5.30pm. We thank all the contributors for their articles and letters, many of which arrive by email.

Several articles in this edition anticipate dates for summer events. One change is the Garden Walkabout, which is moving from its traditional July to a June date.

Finally we extend our sympathies to the families of Geoffrey Goodman, Phylis Hawtin and father Peter Snow.



Children enjoying the first snow of the New Year

Harbury Diary

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Holy Communion 7.30pm
Senior Citizens Benefit Committee 8.00pm in Village Hall
MU Meeting 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room, Steve Clarke
"Starfish" all welcome

- Wed 21 ASH WEDNESDAY
School Service in Church 2.45pm with Imposition of Ashes
Tea 3.00pm – 4.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room
Holy Communion 7.30pm with Imposition of Ashes
- Thurs 22 Holy Communion 9.45am
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
Parish Council 7.30pm in Village Hall
ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY &
EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
- Fri 23 LENT LUNCH
- Sat 24 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Pre-School
- Sun 25 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 27 Youth Drop In at 7.00pm - 9.00pm in Village Hall
Holy Communion 7.30pm
No Julian Meeting
- Wed 28 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved, 2.30-4.30pm at 19 Farm Street
"Talk it Through" 8.00pm at 33 South Parade
- MARCH
- Thurs 1 Holy Communion 9.45am
Men's Group 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 2 RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION
LENT LUNCH
Women's World Day of Prayer, Service 2.00pm in Church
- Sat 3 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of NSPCC
- Sun 4 LENT II
Sung Eucharist 9.00am
First Light Service 10.30 on Tom Hauley Room,
Evening Worship 6.00pm
- Tues 6 Youth Drop In at 7.00pm - 9.00pm in Village Hall
Horticultural Society 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
Extending the Season (July-October) Christine Dakin

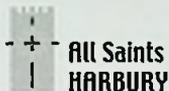
FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- Sat 17 Pre-School Barn Dance in Village Hall 8.00pm. For tickets call
614744
- Sat 24 Abba Tribute Night in Village Hall 8.30pm – midnight. Tickets
£12.50. Tel: 613311

MAY

- Fri 18 Auction of Promises, run by Harbury School PTA 7.30pm in
School Hall



From the Rector

Father Roy Brown

Dear people of Harbury and Ladbroke.

As I write this I am preparing for a round of "farewells" in the Parishes – I can hardly believe that after over thirteen years this is the last time I shall write as your Rector. Saying "goodbye" is difficult, and likewise getting my head around the thought of retirement!

The overwhelming feeling I have is one of gratitude, which is difficult to express adequately. It has been my privilege to share in so many things with so many people, and I shall miss you all more than I can say.

This is a very special place to live (and work). We are blessed with a real community spirit, which is recognised beyond the parish boundaries. My prayer is that this will always be the case, that people moving in will be caught up in it, and that the outreach to all in need will continue.

On a personal note – I have been amazed by the love and support which has been given to me, Pam and the family over the past year, when we have had to face the trauma of cancer. So many others have walked this road too, and I have to say particular thanks to them, and all of you. Living in the public eye we couldn't have survived without you.

It has been a great privilege to be your Rector and I hope you know that I shall never forget you. You will see me from time to time and if you are in Kenilworth please do pop in and see us. (3 Margetts Close, tel: 850638).

Pam and the family join me in saying THANK YOU for your welcome when we came, for your friendship and care during our time here, and for your good wishes in our retirement.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

January 21 Amy Rose Cambell Sillars
Katie Madeleine Brown

Funerals at Oakley Wood

January 18 Geoffrey Goodman (87)

January 30 Phylis Hawtin (98)

Funerals at All Saints Harbury

January 26 Fr Peter Snow (83) (Requiem)



From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

The dark days of early January were illuminated by the candles of the Christingle. The service was attended by some eighty four children, most of whom had also enjoyed the earlier party. It was a wonderful reminder that the light of Christ, coming into the world at Christmas, is always present if only we will hold it in our hearts and minds. We do thank Father Roy, Pam, Mavis and the choir for an inspiring service. Thanks, too, to all who helped to give the children such a happy time at the party and to the large congregation of families and friends who came to support them.



Lesley organised the presentation at this month's Family service. She reminded us of Jesus' excellence as a story teller. Not confining Himself to the synagogue, He went out into the streets, meeting people where they were. Just imagine Him outside Harbury Supermarket! What would He say?

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A very lively presentation, based on the story of the Prodigal Son, engaged the congregation in laughter and thought. Thank you to all who took part.

And now we come to Father Roy's retirement. It is difficult to find the right words to express what we all feel. Pam and Roy have been at the heart of our village life for the last thirteen years. They have stood by us in times of sadness and have shared with us times of joy. We all have our special memories.

Father Roy, Pam – yours is a presence that we shall always miss but a ministry whose blessing we can never lose. May God bless you, your family and all whom you love. We all wish you the rest and refreshment so well deserved, a long, happy and healthy retirement and we thank you from the depths of our hearts.



Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

As ever, January was party month – a good idea as it needed a bit of cheering up. Both were well attended and well supplied with delicious eats; the afternoon gathering was entertained by Michael Hare with a selection of (mostly) old Radio and TV signature tunes, whilst for the evening meeting there were taxing quizzes.

February 7th at 2.30pm, following the 2pm service, will be a members' afternoon. Please come to share your memories of bygone holidays.

February 20th at 8pm, following the 7.30pm communion, Steve Clarke will talk about the 'Starfish' project which sends aid to women overseas.

March 7th – Our corporate Lent communion at 2pm.



Toddler's Service

Barbara Thistlethwaite

Mrs Travis asked the group if they thought we could feed a football crowd using the five loaves and two fishes she had in her basket ?

We said NO. She then told us how Jesus was telling stories to a big crowd and when they became hungry there was only one little boy who had any food with him which was in a basket just like hers.

Jesus blessed the food and told his special friends to go to all the people in the crowd and feed them. This they did and lo and behold there was still some food left after they had all been fed. A miracle had been performed.

Mr Catt then played for us and we sang some songs. After this we made some shiny fish to take home.

After playing with the toys and having a drink it was time to go home.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 13th February at 2.00pm in the Church. Babies and young children, accompanied by an adult, are welcome.



First Light

Alison Abbott

A Horseshoe Nail

You probably remember the old rhyme which finishes, "for want of a rider the battle was lost, and all for the loss of a horseshoe nail".

At the next First Light, we shall be seeing how our smallest actions can make a difference, whether in the lives of people around us or those far away whom we can never know. There is no need to think that our tiny contribution is not worth making.

If you haven't tried First Light yet, please come along to this short, informal act of worship on Sunday 4th March in the Tom Hauley room. It starts at 10.30am following coffee at 10.00am.

Ladbroke News & Diary

FEBRUARY

Mon	5	Table Tennis 7.30pm in Village Hall
Tue	6	Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
Sun	11	SECOND BEFORE LENT Sung Communion 9.00am
Mon	12	Table Tennis 7.30pm in Village Hall

- Tue 13 Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall
 Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 15 ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY
 5.30PM
- Sat 17 Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
- Sun 18 FIRST BEFORE LENT
 Holy Communion 9.00am – Book of Common Prayer
- Mon 19 Table Tennis 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Tue 20 Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall
 Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
- Wed 21 ASH WEDNESDAY
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm at 3 Ladbroke Hall
 Holy Communion 2.00pm with Imposition of Ashes
- Thurs 22 ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY
 & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
 Women's Institute 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Fri 23 Weird, Wise and Witty Tales from around the World, for adults.
 7.00pm in Ladbroke Village Hall.
- Sat 24 Funny, Fantastic and Fascinating Stories from around the World
 for families with children aged 6-11. 3.30pm in Village Hall
- Sun 25 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
 Sung Communion 9.00am
- Mon 26 Table Tennis 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Tue 27 Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall
 Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
- Wed 28 Lent Lunch 12.30pm at The Old Rectory

MARCH

- Fri 2 Quiz Night 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Sat 3 Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
- Sun 4 LENT II
 Family Communion 10.30am followed by refreshments
- Mon 5 Table Tennis 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Tue 6 Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall
 Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
- Wed 7 Lent Lunch 12.30pm at Hall Farm

Ladbroke Flower Rota

- February 4th Pat Kennedy
- February 11th Pat Kennedy
- February 18th Pat Kennedy



Betty Winkfield



Ladbroke Church News

Betty Winkfield

With Christmas a fading memory now, I must just mention our Carol Service. Many thanks go to Bill Bosworth for leading the choir this year. To follow Michael Short is a difficult act but Bill did a grand job, hopefully bringing the best out of us. Everyone I have spoken to thought it was a great evening; the church could have been warmer though!

The services in February will be as usual. We have an Ash Wednesday service – led by Canon Roy Brown at 2pm. The date is Wednesday 21st February.



Lent Lunches

Betty Winkfield

Although the Women's Fellowship has disbanded we will continue the Lent Lunches. The first one is on Ash Wednesday at 3 Ladbroke Hall at 12.30pm. The rota is still to be worked out.

The proceeds go half to the church funds and half to the Air Ambulance.



Our Rector's Retirement Party

Villagers of Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge

It was obvious what love and respect our village, along with Deppers Bridge, have for Roy and Pam by the marvellous turnout and atmosphere there was on Friday night (19th January).

The party was a warm, happy/sad family occasion.

The faith supper said it all, with so many people turning up with their food contributions. Many thanks to Hazel and Susan for thinking up the idea and organising it.

To Pam and Roy – we wish you a long, happy and busy retirement – with our love.



Ladbroke Parish Council

Betty Winkfield

Matters Arising – Following a letter sent by the Ladbroke Council to the Stratford District Council requesting regular updates on progress regarding Bishop Lake Bowls; it appears that plans are going forward in February regarding building development.

The Ladbroke Parish Council website should be granted soon. The repairs to the road from Old Barn Farm drive to the church are in the five-year plan.

Flooding at the corner by Garden Cottage was brought to the attention of the Council.

Work to clear the brook going through the village and Ladbroke Hall is almost complete, just another two days to finish. It was thought that the work already completed had prevented flooding (as of 1998) during the recent heavy rains.

Police Report – P.C Nigel Hill from Harbury deputising for P.C Joy had nothing to report.

Planning Applications – The work at Archer's Rest was being monitored by the District Council. A new access to the property has been agreed but the original opening must be closed.

Permission for private stabling on the Kineton Road below Deppers Bridge has been granted.

Traffic Lights at the railway bridge turning from Bishops Itchington and Deppers Bridge – following a heated debate at the meeting held in the Railway Inn in December, the issue has been deferred until another meeting in March. There is a possibility that the area committee will give the go ahead now – especially as the traffic in the winter is less than during the summer.

County Councillor's Report

The Budget 2007 – The council tax will rise by 4.8%. Warwick Council will debate the Budget on 4th February. There is no more money for the ageing population, but Warwickshire is coping. No closure of residential homes is anticipated in the next two years.

The Ambulance Service – is very "upbeat". Services will be maintained even though there has been some amalgamation.

Southam College has 240 pupils in the sixth form – glowing reports.

The footpath is to be extended in the village to include the entrance to the Millennium Green.

Rural areas are much better than urban areas at using their recycling bins and boxes. Although in some areas cardboard is collected separately – it still goes to land-fill sites.

The Warwickshire councillor's surgeries are a success. Help has been given with planning applications. Residential building in this area over the next five years will be 15,000 new homes, 3,500 a year. Most of these will be in the Rugby area. For every 100 houses built, 35 must be social housing – (consultation on this building is in 2009!)

The County and District councils are to discuss areas where they duplicate their work to cut costs.

Our precept for the coming year is unchanged from 2006.

Barn conversions will not be allowed unless they are part of a settlement or for workers cottages.

	Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club	Catherine Spence
---	--	------------------

Here are the last three results of the monthly draw:

October	November	December
£70 Alan Stubbs	Carol Lane	Muriel Grey
£25 Cyril Spence	Mary Coley	Mary Coley
£25 Avril Court	A & H Dowdeswell	Brian Whitehouse
£10 Linda Spence	Francis Badman	Susan Moore
£10 M & C Todman	Avril Court	Margaret Whitehouse

Next month's draw will take place on 28th February in the Village Hall.

Ladbroke Millennium Green Quiz Night

Carol Lane

Peter Goldson is the Quiz Master on **Friday 2nd March in the Village Hall** – entry from 7.30, quiz starts at 7.45 p.m. where there will be a bar and light refreshments.

Peter Baker, who has hosted our quiz for many years, is hoping to compete instead in this year's event so come and pit your wits against him and his team.

Please register your team name with Carol Lane on 814715 or carol@lane.spacomputers.com



Ladbroke Bon Voyage

Susan Moore & Hazel Sharples

On Friday last our Village Hall was full of residents, parishioners and friends all gathered together to wish Pam and Father Roy a happy and healthy retirement.



Our thanks to everyone for helping to make it a special evening but most of all to Pam and Father Roy for their love and support over the last 13 years.

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Harbury Parish Council

John Hancock

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

Councillor Biddle had obviously noted the size of the agenda, and started the meeting by saying 'Let's crack on'. They did, at a gallop, which had your correspondent, trying to take notes, somewhat sore in the wrist by 10.30pm.

Apologies were received from PC Nigel Hill, but he had sent along Police Community Support Officer Anita Reading.

Mike Bloxham used the public participation slot to voice his complaint that his gate post had been repeatedly damaged by a large tractor and trailer that was mounting the pavement. PCSO Reading offered to mediate between him and the owner.

Declarations of interest were expressed by nearly all Councillors. Councillor Lockley commented that the rules on declaration as they stood meant that any councillor, interested in the life of the village, would have to declare an interest. County Councillor Stevens, who was present along with District Councillors Patrick and Dally, declared that a common sense approach should apply. Unless there was a pecuniary interest, councillors should not absent themselves, but listen to the arguments, give a view, but not vote on an issue in which they were personally involved. Laughter erupted when Councillor Thornley said 'We all know that the law is an ass'. She apologised to the PCSO who graciously accepted.

Councillors were informed that we now have 2 PCSO's based at Southam. PCSO Reading reported a spate of thefts of satellite navigation systems from Harbury cars and that a suspect had been arrested. She stressed that this equipment should be removed when the vehicle is parked and that the police have cards to leave on the windscreen.

It was reported that Southam College has applied to raise its entry number in September and this received general support. The school was congratulated on its performance in the league tables.

Councillor Thornley reported on progress with plans to improve the Village Hall. Drawings would be ready for the Lottery grant application in March. An Eco-build construction would be the main plank of the bid.

Matters arising led to a long discussion on plans for Harbury Station Bridge led by Councillor Van Spall. Strong opinions were voiced and Mr Malin represented the views of Deppers Bridge Residents' Group. They strongly oppose the County Council's plan to install traffic lights and want a weight restriction on vehicles using the B4451. Apparently, strengthening the bridge is not an option that is financially viable. Councillor Van Spall asked for financial support and access to the Clerk's time for the resident's group to campaign on this issue. Councillor Mancell pointed out this would blur the edges between the Council and an independent group. Councillor Hancock said 'We would be on thin ice'. It was agreed to form a sub-group of Councillors Van Spall, Biddle and Thornley to liaise with neighbouring parish councils to fight for the weight reduction option.

Another big topic was plans for Bishops Bowl lakes and the old cement works site. Follett properties have put in new plans for 21 'Leisure Lodges' - they already have permission for 21 'Fishing Lodges'. The difference is these are 3 bedroomed with all facilities. The plan includes widening the access on both sides of the road, rather than just to the lodges. The council will object on numerous grounds. It was pointed out that Follett properties were not entering into the spirit of things by failing to participate in discussions on a master plan for the site, though in their literature they say they are in dialogue with the public.

On behalf of the Properties working party, Councillor Hancock reported that the ruts made by traffic up the side of the playing field would be made good after the rains. Drainage work in the top field had caused more problems as there is now a water hazard caused by a ditch not draining properly. The contractors have been asked to look at the problem.

Parking in Vicarage Lane has ruined the verge. The Council will have the damage repaired and install wooden posts to prevent parking on the grass. PC Hill would be asked to see if vehicles parked close to the junction with Frances Road are committing an offence.

Councillor Van Spall said country roads are getting wider. Heavy vehicles were causing deep ruts on verges. These ruts were then filled with tarmac to prevent accidents. He knew of one local farmer who had been told to cut back trees which were only deemed to be overhanging because of this unofficial widening.

The concrete lamp posts on the Manor Orchard estate are deteriorating and will have to be replaced. This will take precedence over any lighting improvements. Councillor Lockley also voiced his

frustration at still having no feedback from the County Council officer who visited in November to discuss traffic calming so no progress can be made. Harbury School will be asked if the children can make drawings to illustrate their ideas on traffic calming for the village.

It was noted that Middle Road will be closed for 2 weeks between the 5th March and the 27th April for much needed re-surfacing.

Councillor Mancell announced that the Finance Working Party recommended a precept for 2007/8 of £57,237. He pointed out that the considerable loss of income from the abolition of payments from the District Council under Section 136 was the major reason for the necessary increase. The budget was unanimously accepted. He also reported on a successful meeting with the Tennis and Netball Clubs to re-negotiate contributions to the Sinking Fund out of which the courts are maintained. These will rise by 20%, and work to improve the surrounds of the netball court will go ahead soon.

The Council agreed grants to Mini-Rugby and The Rainbows (and explained to Councillor Biddle who has sons that Rainbows come before Brownies!). They also decided to purchase projecting equipment with money remaining in the technology grant, which will make it much easier to look at plans.

'Flicks in the Sticks' are coming - watch this space.

Your usual correspondent, Linda Ridgley was indisposed. Apologies if this report lacks its usual succinct no-nonsense tone!

Parish Council's Quarterly Report

Cllr Tim Lockley

In the last three months the Parish Council has:

- Continued to have numerous meetings about the masterplan process at Bishop Bowls
- Held meetings with WCC about traffic calming
- Agreed to extend the path in the cemetery
- Contributed funds to several village organisations (including the Christmas lights in the tree outside the Wight School)
- Held various meetings regarding the railway bridge at Deppers Bridge
- Continued to work with Neighbourhood Watch over the introduction of Smartwater
- Held a farewell gathering for Father Roy
- Agreed a precept which has been increased only to cover the cost of lost revenue from Stratford District Council.



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

Our next meeting is one to which every homeowner should come! David Julien from the Warwickshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre will explain how we can save energy in the home, and is promising a free energy efficient light bulb each as an incentive for you to attend.

David practices what he preaches and has recently been doing battle with the planning authorities for permission to install a wind turbine on his home as part of a pilot project to see whether they are a worthwhile venture.

The talk takes place in the Tom Hauley Room on Monday 5th February 7.30 for 8pm and everyone is welcome.

For our AGM on 15th March (same time and place) we have a speaker from Wellesbourne to tell us how they won the Restoration Prize for Chedham's Yard.



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

A Happy New Year to everyone.

Yes, it's me back and I cannot thank members and friends of Harbury enough for their good wishes and help received, which has certainly resulted in making my recovery well on the way. Thanks to Wendy Knowles for writing the Harbury W.I news too and hope she will help again when asked.

We have started the year off well by going to the pantomime to see Beauty and the Beast. 'Oh yes we did' enjoy the fun and joined in. Thanks to Ann and Peggy for organising the evening.

The New Year's Party was a great success. The food was fantastic, provided by members. Entertainment by Mr and Mrs Cook was very good and we all joined in with the jollity. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to provide a super time. Nice to see Sylvia B.

The January meeting was exceptional with the visit of Peter and Margaret McDonald. Peter spoke on his interest in music and instruments starting at the age of five.

As he says, he is not a professional but by golly, he seemed one, which has lasted five decades. Peter brought 21 instruments, some very unusual, which he told us about and played.

From school to university, to his work, he made many friends interested in music that all played. As we know he started the Folk Club many moons ago and is in the Morris Dancers playing his melodeon for the dancing as well.

He played all the different instruments to demonstrate their tones, sometimes singing a song or music he had composed.

Yes, this Essex lad is really interesting and what pleasure he must have with all his music. We hope to see him again with Margaret.

February meeting: Expedition Golden Orange – Alan Benjamin



Harbury Twinning Association

Moira Lamont

Samois visit May 5th – May 8th

In three months time our friends from Samoa will be arriving in Harbury. All the activities for the weekend are now finalised and members will be given the schedule soon and also contacted about hosting a family.

We are also delighted to welcome new members so if anyone would like to be involved in this weekend please let me know on 613527.

Quiz night

This will be on Sunday March 4th at the Village Club. The evening will start at 7.30pm and a team of four costs £12.00 with refreshments. If you would like to enter a team please let Moira Lamont (Tel 613527) or Sally Stringer (Tel 613214) know as soon as possible.

Fete des Rois

We were delighted to welcome Pam and Roy Brown as our guests of honour at this event which was hosted by John and Sally Stringer. The entertainment was provided by John and Peter Rollason.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make this such an enjoyable evening.



Harbury Theatre Group

Trish Donnelly

Recruitment Evening

Plans have now been made to hold our Recruitment Evening at the Tom Hauley Room on Friday 23rd February. This is an opportunity for any of you to come and have a chat with any of us.

If you are curious about backstage operations, the technical side or nursing a secret ambition to tread the boards, don't be shy. Do come along and we'd love to share our previous and forthcoming productions with you. If you have been a member in the past and would like to pop in for a catch up session, do come and see us again.

We will offer you light snacks and refreshments from 7.30 until 9 pm.

We look forward to seeing you on the night.

Ring Trish Donnelly 01926 612150 for more information.



Folk Club

Sue Hartland

The 266th Harbury Folk Club became an Old Time Music Hall where many of the Artists and audience dressed up for the occasion.

The Harvesters opened the evening with 'Oh Mr Porter' and 'It's a Great Big Shame', two very popular and well known songs which the audience participated in. Maureen (with her attractive assistant, Steve) sang two Bernard Cribbins' songs, 'Hole in the Ground' and 'Right Said Fred', Rick gave us 'If it wasn't for the Houses in between' and 'Hang on the Bell Nelly'. Other fine contributions came from Peter Mason, The Dorset Farmer and 4Play who managed to play each others melodeons whilst still playing their own, not something I would recommend, but they made a very good job of it!

The second half started with The Concertina Orchestra who attempted to play two Old Time Music Hall classics. The audience were on top form and joined in the choruses. Ron made an excellent choice of songs with 'The Queen of the Burlesque' and 'It's the same the Whole World Over'. Celia gave us a fine recitation about a girl called Harriet, and Des had us all singing with 'Down Below' and 'Ilkley Moor'. Peter McDonald closed with a tongue twister 'The Coffee Pot Song' followed by 'Martha the Watercress Girl'.

The Harvesters commenced the third half with 'Waiting at the Church', Ted followed with a fine rendition of 'The Battle of Hastings' and 'A little bit of Cucumber'. Ron gave us 'Polly Perkins' and the evening was brought to a grand finale with the hilarious Keith Donnelly being Keith Donnelly!

The raffle made £50 for Doug Freeman's and Dave Shuttleworth's forthcoming bike ride 'up the Nile' to raise money for Alzheimer's. A big thank you to the performers and audience who entered into the spirit of the evening and made it a success.



Harbury Juniors
FOOTBALL CLUB

Harbury Junior's Football

Diary Dates

10th March - we are hosting a coffee morning in the Tom Hauley rooms at Harbury Church. Please come along and support the club, any raffle or cake donations gratefully received!! There will also be a Virgin Cosmetics make-up rep present, so a good chance to buy these great products AND support your local kids' football club.

Our club presentation evening will be on Saturday 12th May in the Village Hall.

Reports

U14's

Kineton 0 - 4 Harbury

U12's

Harbury 3 - 0 Napton

Harbury 5 - 4 Azad Hill

Harbury 1 - 2 Alveston

U11's

Tysoe 3 - 5 Harbury

Kineton 2 - 4 Harbury

Harbury needed all their strength and determination to win a hard fought match in difficult conditions. The pitch was very wet which didn't help our usual passing game. Elliot Tawney and Angus Murray were strong in defence and the goals were scored by Adam Miles (2), Harry Morrice (1) and Joe Davidson (1).

Harbury 1 - 1 Banbury Irish



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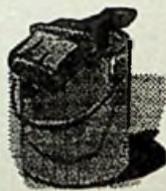
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Harbury were held to a draw by a tough Banbury Irish side. Elliot Tawney was once again very strong in defence and man of the match was Harry Morrice for a very determined display. Oliver Thurogood had another solid match as goalkeeper and Harburys goal was scored by George Hendry. Harbury under 11s remain unbeaten this season.

Neil Murray

U10's

Fenny Compton 5 - 2 Harbury

Harbury 20 - 0 Napton

Harbury 3 - 1 Cropredy

Harbury produced their best performance of the season with a well deserved win over Cropredy with goals from Jack (2) and Jacob (1). The team played good passing football with good running from Jacob up front and Jack and Thomas tackled well in midfield resulting in an excellent overall team performance.

Harbury 2 - 3 Alveston

While Harbury's play continues to improve they could not quite match a strong Alveston side in a very entertaining game. Jack scored both our goals and Willam Apted was man of the match having an excellent game in defence.

Malcolm Tanner

U9's

Tysoe 5 - 3 Harbury

Harbury 4 - 3 Alveston

A great team performance for this match and a deserved win against a team of tough opponents. Alveston took an early lead but player's heads did not go down. Spirited defending, midfield play and attacking resulted in a 4-1 lead at one point. Tired legs allowed Alveston to come back, but grit and determination helped to stave off a draw. All players gave of their best and each played an important role in the 'team' performance.

Well done all! Goals were scored by JC (2) and Aiden (2), with other chances narrowly missed. The football in this group is improving greatly; with positional play, tactics and careful passing of the ball, all developing.

Tony Chamberlain



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer



The Club started 2007 with the traditional New Year's Day "Muffler Tournament". We were fortunate to have a break in the awful weather and the sunny morning encouraged 14 hardy members to venture out!

Some delicious hot punch lubricated the joints and probably helped Caroline Morland and Keith Thompson to win the opening tournament!

It has been a good start to the year as the winter league programmes resumed after the Christmas and New Year breaks.

In the Banbury league the "A" team's first match of the New Year was against runaway leaders Byfield who have only dropped one set all season and that was against Harbury! Despite putting up a good fight with plenty of deuces the home team were too strong for Angie Dean, Gill Thorpe, Geoff Prince and Andrew Rendell, and ran out 4-0 winners.

The "B" Team entertained Hook Norton "E" and it was all square after the first 2 rubbers. All 4 sets ended 6-1, Steve Stark and Colin Mercer winning theirs, Sue Mercer and Jane Durman losing theirs! However, Harbury were the more consistent team in the mixed doubles winning both rubbers comfortably. The overall 3-1 win keeps Harbury at the top of Division 4.

The men's Doubles team travelled to Chipping Campden in the Stratford League and also secured a 3-1 win. Bill Hathaway, Mark Pavey, Andrew Rendell and Adam Crossling were in fine form and completed the double over their Gloucestershire hosts to maintain the strong push for promotion.

The floodlit team maintained its unbeaten run with a 2-2 home draw against Brackley. Caroline Morland and Angie Dean had an emphatic 6-3, 6-0 win but the match was evenly balanced as the visiting men were too strong for Paul Crowton and Jonathan Smith.

The mixed doubles were also halved with Angie and Jonathan winning comfortably and Caroline and Paul losing comfortably! However, the draw was enough to keep Harbury as league leaders.

The Junior programme is now well underway and it is really pleasing that around 95 children are taking part in the 15 hours a week on offer.

Finally, tickets are still available for the Club's Valentine's Dance when the London based band The Bitter Lemons will be coming back! The dance is on Saturday 10th February at the Village Hall. Tickets are £15 each and include a 2 course meal. If you'd like to buy tickets now please give me a ring.



Windmills

Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

This half term our topic is all about shapes and winter. We have been concentrating on a different shape each week and taking the children outside looking at shapes in nature and signs of winter.

We have discussed winter and created a group winter collage. Also on the theme of winter the children have made bird cake to take home to hang in their gardens. Morgan informed us that the birds have eaten all the bird-food he made at Nursery and Jared told us that a blue-tit came in his garden. Joe's mum, Lindsey, who is an artist, visited Windmills to work with the children on a winter shape collage, using snowflake templates and potato shape printers, plus copious amounts of white paint and a sprinkling of glitter! As if by magic, the next day there was a blanket of real snow covering everywhere. The children arrived at Windmills very excited, wrapped up in their coats, scarves, hats and gloves. We made the most of this spontaneous learning opportunity by taking them out onto the school field to explore and investigate. "The snow is really crunchy it makes footprints" Lily. "I played snowballs with Oliver. I put snow in the bucket and on the snowman" Holly. We brought some snow back inside to see what happened to it and how it changed. All these activities fulfilled all the areas of learning within the foundation stage.

The children have also created individual collages using lots of 2D shapes – "I made a rocket that goes up to the moon and stars and all over the planets like Saturn and Jupiter. I made it from shapes, like squares, triangles, and rectangles. I have made a windmill as well to guide the rocket."

Mrs Casement extended this activity by constructing a 3D robot from empty boxes and tubes. "The robot has a cube for a head" Morgan. "There are 2 arms and 2 legs that makes 4 – they are cylinders" Oliver.

The children have also enjoyed learning new shape songs to familiar tunes e.g. "See the circle shapes we found" to "London Bridge is falling down". They have then searched around the room for shapes, and also outside.

On Tuesday, 9th January, our first day back after the Christmas break we made our usual visit to the toddler service at church where the children listened to a story about Jesus sharing the 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. Carol Massey our Early Years Advisor visited Windmills on Wednesday 24th January with ideas, suggestions and advice for a new room layout.

Training

Marie and Tina attended a course at Manor Hall about promoting positive behaviour called "Catch them being good". This was a course run by DISCS, the SEN childcare service. Tina and Marie returned reassured that the strategies in place at Windmills are those adopted by these specialists.

Dates

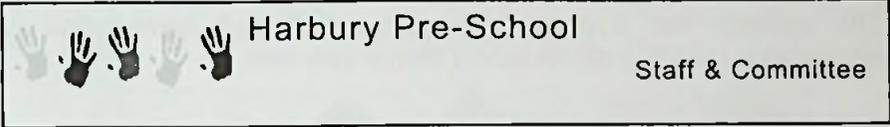
Kids Klub video productions are visiting Windmills on Tuesday 6th February from 9.00 am to make individual children's videos on the theme of "People who help us".

Windmills Nursery School closes for half term on Friday 9th February at 12.45 pm and re-opens on Monday 19th February at 9.05 am.

Windmills Nursery School will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 10th February 2007 in the Tom Hauley Room from 10 am till 12.00 noon.

On Tuesday 20th February during our morning session we will be celebrating Chinese New Year with a party.

Windmills Nursery School is situated in the grounds of Harbury Primary School. We have a limited number of places available. 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, call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.



The children came back to Pre-School after Christmas bursting with enthusiasm and all ready for the new term. Daisy, Harry, Jessica and Hattie have all joined us this month and have settled in extremely well.

OFSTED - Following up on the inspection just before Christmas, Gael and Lisa had their "Suitable Person Interview" to ensure that they have the qualities necessary for managing Pre-School. We were all delighted (though not in the least surprised) when they passed with flying colours.

Staff training has gathered pace, with our Advisory Teacher giving the whole staff in-service training on implementing the "Birth to Three Matters" strategies into our setting. In addition, Angie attended a course entitled "Not Just Playing" and went with Claire on a Child Protection course, while Bud attended a Behaviour Management course entitled "Catch them Being Good".

Winter Wonderland – Meanwhile, there has been no interruption to the fun had by the children in our Winter Wonderland at Pre-School. Early in January, the mild wet weather meant that plans for frosty pictures had to be substituted by 'puddle pictures'. The children also produced some wonderful paintings and collages using paint and materials in cold colours. We put ice into the water tray and encouraged the use of language such as "slippery", "cold", "freezing", and "icy". We added some lovely figures of polar bears, penguins, husky dogs and even Eskimos with a sledge, and the children had a marvellous time creating their own scenes, with icebergs eventually turning into pools of very cold water. We then added to the scientific learning by putting some brightly coloured ducks into the tray and adding warm water which, to the delight of the children, caused the ducks gradually to change colour.



Just as we were giving up hope of any wintry weather, we woke up to a lovely layer of snow on the ground. As Sophie remarked, "When I walked outside my feet went crunch, crunch, crunch."

The children had a great time with it before it melted and its appearance rounded off our winter theme very well.



Shopping – In preparation for transforming our role play area into a shop, the children were taken out, in pairs, to visit the local shops. Each child had a shopping list and a small amount of money and went to each of the shops to buy a variety of groceries and toiletries for Pre-School. In addition, they were encouraged to take note of what they saw as they went around the village, and to identify other specified items in the shops. We are very grateful to the managers of Mugglestons, the Supermarket, the Co-op and the Chemist for allowing us to wander around their shops and take photographs.

During the last week in January, the children transferred the knowledge they had gained from their shopping trips to their role play shop set up in Pre-School. They had a marvellous time writing lists and taking on the roles of customers and shop keepers and this theme will be continued and expanded during February.

Barn Dance Tickets - These are now available from Lisa on 614744, for Saturday 17th March.

Thank you – Finally, we would like to say a big thank you to Steve Conway and Mark Clifton for removing our old long table and putting together the new drawer unit for the children's bags and work, and to the Brown family for their donation of books, large trucks and a garage.

For further information about Harbury Pre-School, and to book a place for 2008/9, please contact Nicky Kirk, chair of the Management Committee, on 614316.



Harbury Primary School

Denis Daly

Father Roy Brown – As you are probably aware, Fr Roy is leaving the parish at the end of January. He has been a wonderful supporter of the school throughout his stay in Harbury, as Parish Priest, as a Governor and, perhaps most importantly of all, as a friend to both pupils and staff. On Friday 26th January, during our Friday assembly, two children from each year group presented our special guests, Father Roy and Pam, with a collection of good wishes, poems, stories, drawings and signatures, which had all been beautifully created by every child in school, they all then sang The Lord's Prayer. Father Roy we wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement!

PTA Sponsored Walk – The final figures have now been released for the walk – the PTA were waiting for the gift aid from the Inland Revenue. This came to £324.39, which means that the grand total comes to £2135.10 – a magnificent effort from everyone – well done!! A thought for next year, however – I am told that the gift aid total could have been nearer £900 if everyone had completed and returned the sponsor forms (rather than just the money) – rather we had the cash than Mr Gordon Brown!!!!

Video Required – Nigel Chapman would like you all to check your video collections and let him know if you have among them a video of the 1994 school trip to the Forest of Dean. Please could he have a copy?

Please note – The Teacher Training Day, previously advertised as the 16th April, has now been changed to Friday 30th March. The children will therefore break up for the Easter holidays on Thursday 29th March and will return on Monday 16th April, not 17th as previously notified.



1st Harbury Scouts

Chris Thompson, Kestrel Patrol Leader

The weather has not stopped the Harbury Scouts from continuing with our programme of action packed Thursday evenings. Last term we made toasties on open fires using griddle pans, tested our orienteering & navigating skills around the village and done relay races which have included speedy knot tying.



Recently, scouts went to Warwick University's climbing wall, an evening thoroughly enjoyed by all, even the not so physically active! We also visited Radio Warneford (a radio station at Warwick Hospital) and took part in the evening chart show. We introduced some of the record requests made by patients and even got a CD of the show to remember the night.

Scouts have helped the village community by building the bonfire (a fun and very satisfying day!) and by sorting the GASS Christmas Post. The Scout Hut was turned into a sorting office and the evening was brightened up by mailing addresses such as "Celia & Bob." We were slightly puzzled by a sender who expected us to deliver to Leicestershire. Note: GASS only deliver within the village!

At the start of this term we welcomed three new recruits and two more are expected to join at Easter. In Scouting's Centenary Year we have reached capacity and our leaky hut is bursting at the seams on Thursday evenings.



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

The meeting in January was slightly down on our usual numbers but I understand that we clashed with another village society. Apologies for that but I rearranged the day from 2nd to 9th as it was so soon after New Years Day. We all enjoyed a return visit from Keith Newnham and his friends Rolfe and Rex. They had a puncture on the way and had to drive in awful weather conditions so we applaud their dedication. Rex is the driver and Rolfe operates the slides and as usual Keith's talk was informative and funny with superb slides.

The first garden covered was Compton Acres near Poole. It is a stunning garden with spectacular views of Poole Harbour and Brownsea Island. There are a series of gardens including Roman, Grotto, Italian, Palm Court, Rock Water, Heather, Wildlife and the stunning Japanese Garden. This has a series of stones that can be crossed and several visitors have fallen into the pool which thankfully isn't very deep. There is so much to be enjoyed and if you haven't been it is well worth seeing.

The second garden was Springfields near Spalding in Lincolnshire. The Spring display of tulips was breathtaking, all colours and sizes massed together. If that wasn't enough to make us sigh, we were then shown a series of slides showing floats at the Annual Tulip Festival. These were made entirely of tulip petals placed onto a framework of amazing animals and vehicles. Some of the floats were huge, depicting amongst other things, Thomas the Tank Engine. If you fancy a visit this year the Festival is on May 14th.

I did phone Keith the next day and they got back home safely without further mishap, after enjoying their second visit to us.

I will just briefly mention the Walkabout but will obviously be giving more details later on. We sent out question sheets to everyone who had kindly opened their gardens for us in the past to see if dates etc should be changed as we seemed to clash with so many other things last year. After the results were analysed it was obvious that we needed to change so this year the 2 days will be 23rd and 24th June, times etc to be confirmed later.

I have just finished various phone calls for our day trip and two evening visits which will be in May and June and will announce details at the next meeting on 6th February. The speaker at the March meeting on 6th will be a welcome return from Christine Dakin who with her partner runs Bridge Nursery at Napton. She will be talking about 'Extending the Season' with July to October in mind. She will also be bringing along plants etc for sale.

The brave snowdrops are just beginning to show themselves and there are quite a few gardens in the area worth going to see this lovely sight. I will give details of where and when at the next meeting. So, with so much to look forward to, there's no time to be bored. I look forward to seeing you all in February.



Nature Notes

John Hancock

I'm writing this on January 19th, a day after the storm which caused much damage and loss of life throughout the country. Conditions at sea were diabolical and the rescue of 26 seamen whose ship was damaged off Cornwall was a feat of great skill by the crew of a Royal Navy helicopter.

Today the weather is calm and it's very mild. I collected some tools at Brandon Marsh Nature Centre to be used by a work party this Sunday morning at Harbury Spoil Bank. The work will be mainly scrub clearance to enable the species-rich turf to flourish and provide a food source for a variety of invertebrates which include locally rare butterflies such as the Marbled White, Green Hairstreak, Holly Blue and Dingy and Grizzled Skipper. Without this management, the species would be lost and the area reverts to woodland.

Collecting the tools at Brandon, I took the opportunity to visit Clay Brookes Marsh. This reserve, jointly managed by Coventry City Council and the Wildlife Trust is at the site of the railhead of the old Binley Colliery which closed in 1963. It gets its name from two miners, Messrs Clay and Brookes, who were killed by a fall of stone in 1947. There is open access to this SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) with parking in Grange Avenue. (OS sheet 140 Leicester and Coventry. GR 380769). The short boardwalk, built to preserve the fragile marshy ground, was flooded when I was there. Rather childishly perhaps, I took off my shoes and socks and waded across. Later, I saw Celandine fully open. We seem to be weeks ahead of ourselves this year but winter could still strike and nip lots of the new growth.

Earlier in the week, I visited Draycote Water using National Cycle Route 41 (Leamington to Rugby). From Harbury, the nearest point to join is the old railway line just above the descent into Long Itchington (Map ref 408646 OS sheet 151). After a round of the lake, I luxuriated in the excellent cafe at the visitor centre, with its panoramic view. I had seen a large group of perching Cormorants, several Great Crested Grebes and lots of ducks which I would have needed binoculars to identify. Needless to say, these were at home, so be warned. I had in fact been given a lesson in identification by Jack Watkins, until recently Warden at Leam Valley and Welches Meadow Nature Reserves. We were back at Brandon Marsh, with its maze of paths, numerous pools and 6 bird hides. Stationary Cormorants had commandeered an area where tree stumps poking up through the shallow lake made perfect perching points. An immature Cormorant posed a problem of identification with its Heron like colouration. Duck included Mallard, Pochard, Teal, Wigeon and Shoveler. The latter seemed already to be paired off with what I took to be a courtship dance. Not so said Jack. They were in fact acting in pairs to swim in a circular fashion and perhaps confuse their invertebrate prey in the mud below before scooping them up with their shovel like beaks. The male has a distinctive bottle-green head.

On Sunday 14th January, Sharon and I, with two friends, took a walk above Ilkley [W. Yorks] and the valley of the River Wharfe. It was a bright day but the wind was cutting necessitating cagoules, gloves and despite the location, hats. We certainly did not want to end up feasted upon by worms. With the sun low on the horizon shadows were on a grand scale. A small reservoir above the town had sizeable waves. We came to the intriguing, so called Swastika Stone. [Grid ref. 095469. OS sheet 104. Leeds & Bradford.] It is protected by a metal fence. The carving may date back to the Bronze Age. Its nine cup-marks in a cross shape are surrounded by a curved swastika-shaped groove. Many more cup and ring rock carvings litter the moor but their function, as those in Northumberland, is unknown. There are many theories most to do with astronomy. After several miles walking into the wind, we left the gritstone, heather and bilberry moorland, descending across farmland to Addingham and the south bank of the Wharfe which was in spate. Now, with the stiff breeze behind us, progress back to Ilkley was swift and as dusk fell we were having tea in a welcome hostelry.

I've seen no lambs yet though plenty of ewes in advanced pregnancy. Winter Aconites and Snowdrops are in bloom close to the south porch of the church around the Stobo memorial. The weather is predicted to be cooling in the coming week; perhaps we will get a taste of winter after all.



General Section

Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

Thank you to all of those who helped at the Christmas Party. From the comments and feedback we have had, all of your hard work was rewarded because everyone enjoyed themselves. We would also like to thank the Karousels Ladies Choir who told us that the people at the party were certainly the most healthy looking senior citizens group they have entertained and the one with the best singers too!

Now, to the events planned for this year. The summer outing will be to Poole in Dorset on Wednesday 13th June. Other dates to be added to your diaries are the Summer Lunch on Saturday 11th August and the 2007 Christmas Party on Saturday 8th December. Further details will be provided nearer the dates.

Mike McBride, Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association

Harbury Come Dancing

Two left feet?

No sense of rhythm?

Forgotten how to Tango or would like to learn?

Interested in joining a ballroom dance class?

For more details and to show interest let me know so I can get a class started.

Most likely -Tuesday evenings at the school 7.30- 9.00 pm.

Costs would be in the region of £2.00 per session each.

If you are at all interested please e-mail me with your details so I can get back to you jenny@patrick.spacomputers.com or leave a message on my answer phone 614359.

Jenny Patrick

Harbury First Responders

As the New Year begins, the village First Responder Group is celebrating! All nine Responders have recently undertaken further training to enable us to deliver oxygen therapy to patients, when we are called out by the Ambulance Service to incidents in the village.

Oxygen is a vital requirement to anyone suffering life-threatening conditions such as chest pain, heart attack or sudden collapse. Now First Responders will be able to administer oxygen therapy to such patients, before an ambulance arrives, thus drastically improving the efficacy of the treatment we are able to provide.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Harbury Carnival Committee for their very kind recent donation to the Group. This will help towards the cost of further equipment we have purchased to enable us to carry and use oxygen.

Members of the First Responders Group were in attendance at the blood donor session on Thursday 28th December in the Village Hall, aiming to increase public awareness of our role in the village. As a result of this, several villagers expressed an interest in becoming First Responders, and we look forward to welcoming them to the Group when they have undertaken their training with the Ambulance Service. This is great news for the Group and the village, because it means we should be able to provide greater round-the-clock cover for villagers in an emergency situation.

Caroline Hill, Group Co-ordinator

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**VERRUCAE &
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MacMillan Cancer Relief

WOW, what a brilliant night!

We hope everyone who supported our entertainment evening at Harbury Club on Saturday 25th November would agree what an excellent night of fantastic, first class cabaret talent consisting of kiddies disco hour, local live band 'Frozen Toad' with guest appearances from 'Elvis' and 'Johnny Cash'. The performances were all outstanding. This was proven when many supporters approached us on the evening with cash donations, as they thought the entertainment was worth much more than our £5 ticket charge, boosting our total for the evening to over £700. Many, many thanks to all these kind people, also to all who bought raffle tickets and joined in our prize games on the night. Thanks, as always, to the Club bar staff and everyone who put in the hard work to organise and run the evening so well.

The room was packed with wall to wall smiles, everyone seemed to enjoy the music, the dance floor was very busy with plenty of people 'shaking their booty' and 'strutting their stuff' to a big variety of musical tastes.

Organisers have been repeatedly asked the question, "When are we having the next Macmillan do? What a fantastic night that was!" Well that speaks for itself.

Watch this space for our next event. Our advice is DON'T miss out next time, book your tickets early to avoid disappointment, as tickets are limited.

We thank you for helping Macmillan Cancer Support. Any donations are always much appreciated.

Mary Revitt and family

Church Flowers

Through the Harbury and Ladbroke News, I would like to thank everyone who has so kindly donated money towards the Church flowers during 2006. Without your generous contributions our Church would not have the floral arrangements that help to make it look so inviting throughout the year. Also I would like to say a big Thank you to my loyal team of voluntary flower arrangers, who have helped me with weddings, Church Festivals and weekly flower arrangements – I couldn't manage without you all!

Finally I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy 2007.

Jo House

Blood Donors

Thank you to everyone who escaped from recycled turkey to give blood at the end of December. 78 units were collected; not our best ever, no doubt due to colds and holidays, but it was very good to hear that this included 7 new donors. Hope you'll come again! On April 5th.

Gillian Hare



Harbury and District Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Unbelievable – The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal surpassed 2005 to collect a staggering total of £2284.08.

We would so sincerely like to thank the generous supporters from Deppers Bridge, Chesterton, Ufton and Harbury, along with donations from the Parish Council and the separate Deppers Bridge donation. Of course, this total is mainly due to our wonderful band of dedicated collectors. In all conditions they "soldier" on and we are so grateful for their help with this appeal.

The end of the years "coffee morning" again proved immensely successful with just over £200 being collected. The continuing support of our "cooks" with their wonderful supply of cakes, mince pies etc. – many generous raffle prizes and the constant help of hard work in the kitchen with tea and coffee is much appreciated. Thank you all.

The church service and following gathering at the cenotaph was brilliantly supported. However, we did so miss Les and his trumpet.

Happy retirement Les and Father Roy.

The Committee



Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer movement will celebrate the international annual Day of Prayer on Friday 2nd March 2007. The title is "United under God's Tent" and Paraguay is the theme of the service this year.

Paraguay is located in the heart of South America, landlocked between Brazil, Argentina and Bolivia. It is a country of rugged steep hills covered with forest, numerous rivers and waterfalls, unique kinds of vegetation, fruits and animals as well as the many traditions and customs still carried on in rural areas and villages.

There is a large gap between the rich and poor and Paraguay is one of the most impoverished countries in the world. Paraguayan women can earn an income by selling craft items, the most well known being the "handuti" (spider web lace). The World Day of Prayer's programme among women from different churches is making great progress - involved in schools, universities, clinics, hospitals, social centres, children's shelters and the fight against drugs.

Women, men, children and young people from many different backgrounds and in over 170 countries and islands will be celebrating this Day of Prayer. We invite you to join in a service in Harbury Church on Friday 2nd March at 2.00pm, followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

Anne Moore

Congratulations

Many in the village will remember Bob Wilkins, who with his wife Sue and children Edward, Thomas and Clare, lived here for several years. Later they were joined by Bob's parents, Bert and Eileen. Bert sadly died a few years ago but Eileen still lives in Sutcliffe Drive. Bob, a civil engineer, worked for Warwickshire County Council. His career took him to the Isle of Wight, Hertfordshire and latterly to East Sussex where he is Director of Transport and Environment. His many friends were delighted to hear that he was awarded the OBE in the New Year's Honours for services to local government.

John Hancock

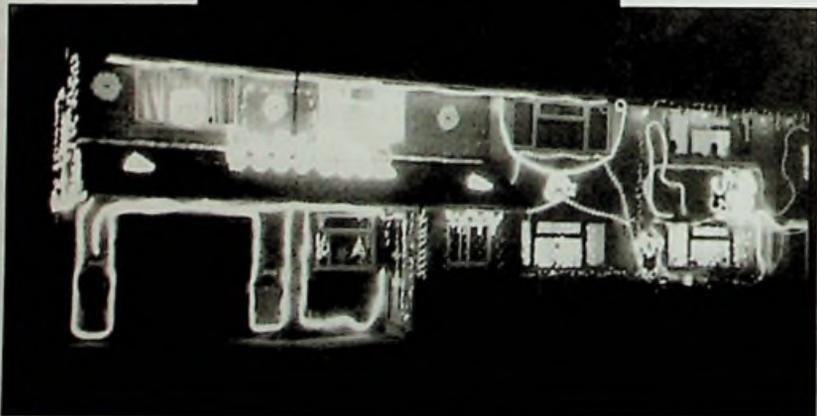
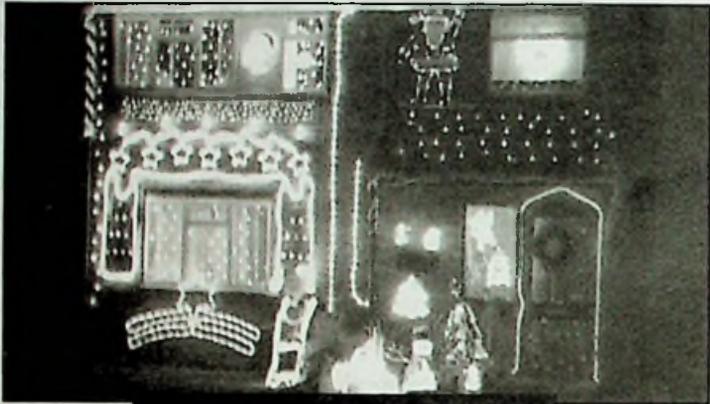
Tasty Pastries

I would like to pass on the thanks of a friend to everyone who supported her in her recent fundraising effort for the street children of Columbia. Alice Wilkins was very pleased to raise £200 for these needy children – a remarkable sum; one that is worth a lot more there than it would be here.

To achieve this, Alice made 40 big, spicy apple strudels in the weeks leading up to Christmas, and sold them at £5 each. Most of the apples were donated from local trees and since she takes no expenses out for ingredients, all the money goes to where it is most needed. Thanks are due to all who bought the strudels and to Alice for making them – pretty good going for one who is 91 years young!

Lesley Jones

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES OF FRANCES ROAD



Harbury Carnival June 9th, 2007

Just a short piece this month to deal with the basics.

Please make a note of the date. As usual, it is the second Saturday in June. The wheelbarrow race will be held on the previous Sunday, June 3rd (plenty of time to get into shape) and the usual team events will be held during the week commencing June 4th. This year's selection process for the King and Queen will, as usual, be organised by Harbury School.

Something special for this year will be the revival of the Carnival Dance. This is still in discussion at the moment but the final details will be announced as soon as possible.

We are looking for someone to run the teas in the Village Hall and any organisations interested should please contact me – first come, first served! This is a good money making opportunity.

If you want to book a stall or space on the field for Carnival Day, please call Mike McBride on 612421. It is not too early to do this; it does not have to be left until the last minute!

More news next month but, in the meantime, please remember, the Carnival is not only a lot of fun for everyone but brings lasting benefits to the village. So, with that in mind, I encourage you all to think about how you can contribute to its continued success. Feel free to contact me, John Broomfield, on 614258, if there is anything you would like to know.

John Broomfield, On behalf of the Carnival Committee

Thoughts from Abroad?

It's that time of year when many people start pouring over travel brochures to choose a holiday destination. For some people, there is probably always a 'holiday of a lifetime' or challenge they would like to achieve before it's too late? From time to time, the H&L News has published articles from individuals who have set themselves a goal; often with the idea of achieving a personal ambition; whilst at the same time raising money for a worthwhile cause. This month's article – perhaps the first of many – features the achievements of two friends, who are far from the image of the 'wrinkly rockers' who might be expected to hanker after a ride along USA's Route 66 on a Harley Davidson. Dave Andrews planned his epic journey last year in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer and was accompanied by his Rugby Club friend, Ian Winchester. Their 'thoughts from abroad' follow the familiar lyrics of Route 66.

"The Mother Road"

"If you ever plan to motor west: Travel my way

Take the Highway that's the Best"

Get your kicks on Route 66

"It winds from Chicago to L.A.

More than 2000 miles all the way"



We headed south out of Chicago on the old Pontiac trail and roared through the corn belt of Illinois and following the lyrics of the Bobby Troup song went through,

"St.Louis, down to Missouri," and on to "Oklahoma City" which "looks mighty pretty".

Oklahoma is great for Route 66 riders, with more miles of The Old Highway than any other state. It was commissioned in 1926 and soon became the "Main Street of America". It's still possible to conjure up pictures of the dustbowl of the mid 1930's, when farmers were driven out and headed west on 66 to escape the hardship and find the promised land of California – the very story of John Steinbeck's "*Grapes of Wrath*".

We visited famous staging posts like The Stumble Inn and Ernie's Pig Hip restaurant; and the Meramec Caverns, the alleged hideout of Jesse James and his gang.

Then we were on to the panhandle of Texas, an endless expanse, which was once home to the buffalo, but is now bristling with the characteristic 'nodding donkeys' of the oil wells. We passed by

Cadillac Ranch where a row of 10 Cadillacs, painted in psychedelic colours, have been methodically augured into the land by a wealthy cattle owner. We experienced all that is 'bigger and better' in the USA when we called in the Big Texas Ranchhouse, where the 72oz steak was free - if you can eat it all inside the hour!

We drove on westwards and passed through

" Amarillo,, Gallup, New Mexico, Flagstaff, Arizona",

and we didn't forget

"Winona, Kingman, Arizona, Barstow, San Bernadino"

In New Mexico, the Land of Enchantment, and home of the Comanche, we stopped at Santa Fe, which is older than any city in colonial America. On the way there, we climbed up onto the High Plains to an altitude of 7,000 feet and rode through a hailstorm coming down from the colder north of Colorado. Strange! One minute it was 90 degrees; the next it was zero! Santa Fe is unique and a great place to enjoy Spanish/Indian culture and food. They won't allow an airport to be built here - 'it would interfere with the sky' - the deep cobalt blue, which attracts so many artists to the area.

We headed south to Albuquerque and crossed the Rio Grande into open country and the Navajo wilderness. At Gallup, an old railroad town and Indian stronghold, we visited the El Rancho Hotel, which was an 'on-location' home to Tracey and Hepburn, Bogart and Flynn - and we met up with a Navajo chief and his son who invited us to visit their pueblo. There was just time to buy some Indian jewellery for the 'girls back home'!

Just before Flagstaff, we stopped at Winslow

"stand on the corner and take it easy" - The Eagles, 1970 or thereabouts?

It was just as well that we took a break, as we knew the next stage wouldn't be so easy, as the Devils playground, the Mojave desert lay ahead! After Peach Springs (where the last unpaved section of Route 66 in Arizona remained until 1937) civilisation started to fade. As we rode deeper into the desert, it was possible to imagine travellers of 70 years ago listening more carefully to their engines and checking the gauges more regularly. Our Harley-Davidsons were ticking over nicely! We were disappointed not to see any 'rattlers' along the way, but the combined roar of 12 Harleys probably had them heading for cover!



We 'holed up' in the wild-west town of Oatman, in the middle of the desert, where the wild burros, released by prospectors when they left, still roam. Nowadays local 'gunslingers' put on staged gunfights to liven up the place for visitors! The town once boomed and everyone cashed in except Jose Jerez. After discovering a new outcrop of gold he spent his small share, walked out of town, sat down and 'chugalugged' a bottle of rat poison! C'est la vie! Having crossed some of the most dramatic scenery imaginable, we hurtled on from the desert into the cool pines of the San Gabriel mountains and headed down into the Los Angeles smog. Fortunately we soon encountered the sea breezes as we hit the Santa Monica Boulevard, a wild beachfront at the end of a wild adventure – 2,570 miles.

"San Bernardino you get hip to this kind of trip

When you make that Californian trip.

Get your kicks on Route 66"

We certainly got our kicks en route across America from East to West on the Mother Road and would like to thank everyone who sponsored us as we realised the dream of a lifetime.

Ian Winchester & Dave Andrews

Pip to Pastures New

Due to move sometime this year, it will be the last time the pip is heard from Warwickshire. I refer to the British Time Signal Broadcast on the wireless radio frequency, a series of five distinct pips to end on a long pip that marks the hour. They have been transmitted from Hillmorton Rugby G.P.O communication centre since 1922.

Once there were quite a number of radio masts there, now there are only three or four. In about 1972/73 the only profitable part of the General Post Office was telephones. This department was taken from the G.P.O to surface under the new name of B.T. (British Telecommunications). So it will be toodle-pip Warwickshire and hello Cumbria in readiness for when the whole country will go digital.



'Another type of Pip!'

In times gone by, a person who said they came from Rugby was sometimes followed up by a retort, "isn't that where the school and pips are?" It is a pity that they are set to leave Rugby after all these years. Next time you hear the time signal count, listen for them, especially when from Rugby, handy to check your wristwatch or clock by.

Mike Bloxham



Southam & District Lions

Southam Lions with Father Christmas on his Sleigh, called to see the children of Harbury, collecting for Helen and Douglas Children's Hospice and Zoe's Place, a charity for terminally ill children, under 5 years old.

Southam Lions would like to thank everyone who gave so generously, £4000.00 was raised over the 13 nights and days, each charity will receive £2000.00. The Harbury collection was £385.00.

We wish you all a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Lion Jim Steele



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

The New Years Dance went off with a BANG, even if it was only the sound of massed 'party poppers' exploding into life shortly before the last dance! By then, it WAS just New Year's Eve, but not the traditional time to set off the fireworks, which would erupt almost 24 hours later.

After a break of many years, Harbury villagers (and representatives from Deppers Bridge) turned out in force to dance the night away to the exuberant music of the Likely Lads. From the first bars, couples were on the floor twisting, shaking and 'grooving' to Olde Thyme dances, as though there was 'no tomorrow'. It was just like the 'good old days' in the Seventies when tickets for Village Hall dances were like gold dust, as everyone knew they were in for a thoroughly enjoyable night when the 'Lads' came to play their familiar repertoire. After hosting the very successful evening in 2006, the Village Hall committee have agreed to run another dance in December 2007. It's not quite time to order your tickets yet, but several people have already let their interest be known!

In the meantime, the committee carries on organising the regular use of the Hall and ensuring that the building is maintained to a good standard for all users. Unfortunately in recent months, there have been several acts of vandalism, which have resulted in damage to a rear door and broken windows at the side and front of the property. The latter problems could have been caused by footballs kicked against the building, which should not have occurred, since a brick wall is provided on the recreation ground for 'ball sports' to encourage individuals to test their skills in an open space. Perhaps parents could reinforce this message, so that an unnecessary expense is not incurred replacing windows on the community's property?

The plans to refurbish areas of the building continue apace and the recent architect plans include most of the features requested by regular users of the Village Hall. Once the final plans are drawn up, there will be information in the H&L News indicating where the drawings might be viewed. The members of the Steering Group committee are continuing to research grants and 'funding opportunities', so that applications can be made, as soon as projected costs of the modernisation have been computed by a Quantity Surveyor.

The Village Hall has always been a community resource, which has been well supported over the years. The committee recognise, however, that considerable effort will be needed to ensure that the funding for the initial outlay is secured followed by on-going revenue in proportion to the maintenance costs. With this in mind, two members of the committee will be attending a Conference, which will provide 'tips and strategic solutions to owning, improving and maintaining a building for your community needs'.

The Village Hall is organised by a small team of dedicated volunteers, who appreciated all the efforts of those who contributed to the success of the recent dance. Many thanks to Andrew, Bill, Geoff, John and Stan for decorating the Hall; Alison, Gill, Janet, Jenny, Lyn, Midge, Pat and Peggy for preparing the buffet; Pam and Rosemary for organising the raffle; John and Roanne for 'manning' the bar and everyone who turned up the 'morning after the night before' to clear up. Thanks also to those who supported the event and made it a 'night to remember' for all the right reasons!

Take Time Out Ufton

Sew Simple - Bowls in Fabric! - Thursday 8 February
10.00am - 12.30pm at Ufton Village Hall

Manipulate fabric and make creative decorative bowls and containers. Joyce Leighton-Dyson is coming along to show you how. Suitable for beginners and more experienced sewers. Just bring along two 14" square pieces of contrasting or toning fabric, plus cotton thread and any decorative bits beads or braids to add. Bring sewing machine if possible (not essential). Cost £4 plus approx. £4 for materials.

Batik - Waxing Lyrical - Friday 16 March 10.00am -
12.30pm at Ufton Village Hall

Experiment with wax and dyes onto a range of materials, including papers and fabrics. Heather Koumi of The Batik Guild will help you produce decorative pieces which can be used in appliqué, collage and cardmaking. Batik is a fascinating craft and this event is especially designed for beginners. Cost £7 includes workshop and materials.

MARCH EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

Watching the village production of Peter Pan on a wet Saturday afternoon was lovely. The hall seemed full of happy children - a lot of whom seemed to be with grandmas! Chris, Marie and myself were three of those grandmas! I don't know who enjoyed it the most - us adults or the very quiet (unless asked to stamp and clap) children.

The show lasted well over two hours and seemed to be over in a flash. It was full of fun and colour and when asked, all the children seemed to enjoy different parts, depending on age and naturally whether boy or girl.

They all loved Peter Pan and hissed at Hook! The dancers were wonderful and really did make you think of mermaids. Naturally the children (and the grown ups) loved it when wicked old Hook got his comeuppance - things never change, we all like to see the baddie get beaten.

Pam Bryan

Dear Editors

A lady won a prize at the STEPS coffee morning last year for a dinner party dessert. She did try to claim it but I was away.....would she like to contact me to let me know when might be a good time to supply it for her?

Quite happy to make it.

Karena Ellis 614462

Dear Editors

The Raffle at the Christmas Coffee Morning raised £153 (including a generous donation from the sale of Christmas Cards), this money has been sent to the Special Care Baby Unit at Warwick Hospital which is badly in need of funds, particularly at this time of threatened closure. A letter of appreciation has been received from the hospital, and thanks are due to everyone who supported or helped in any way.

Ruth Dodds & Anne Moore

Dear Editors

I would like through the magazine to thank Mr & Mrs Gimson very much for the Christmas Hamper they gave me. I would also like to send my best wishes to Father Roy on his retirement and wish him well for the future.

Mr Tanner

Dear Editors

We would just like to thank all of the people who turned out, at extremely short notice, to help us reinstate our water supply, which had been interrupted as the last in a long line of malicious acts. We had been without running water for almost two weeks and desperate measures were called for. We appreciate the solidarity that a community brings and were grateful that people were willing to give up the best part of Sunday 14th January to help. It proved that the best way to right a wrong was by peaceful protest. By witnessing the damage done and also the repair we made, you collectively embarrassed the perpetrator into promising not to do it again. It's so good to know that so many of you are only a phone call away. We would also like to thank all of the people that couldn't make it due to the short notice and also all those that have offered their help since, should we need it in the future.

Rob, Libby, Ben, James, Amy
Westfield Cottage
Fosse Way.

Dear Editors

I would like to thank all the parents, pupils, ex parents and pupils from Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge who sent me cards, flowers, gifts and messages when I retired as headteacher of Southam St James CE Primary school.

I had so many surprises during December – I have no idea how so many adults and children kept so many secrets. The surprise party at the beginning of December, my final trip to school in a stretch limousine and the wonderful assembly on December 22nd will long be my memory and that of Keith, Steve and Lucy.

My thanks to you all.

Mary Thompson

Dear Editors

We would like to congratulate the Village Hall Committee for organising such an enjoyable New Year's Dance.

The dance floor was busy the whole evening from the first dance to the last; a tribute to the playing of the ever youthful 'Likely Lads'.

Thank you to everyone who put so much effort into organising the evening. We are already looking forward to the next dance!

Alan and Betty Barr

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T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning	Sally Stringer	613214
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Wight School	Lin Hayes	613488

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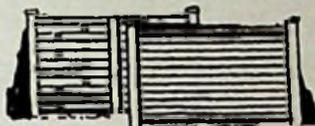
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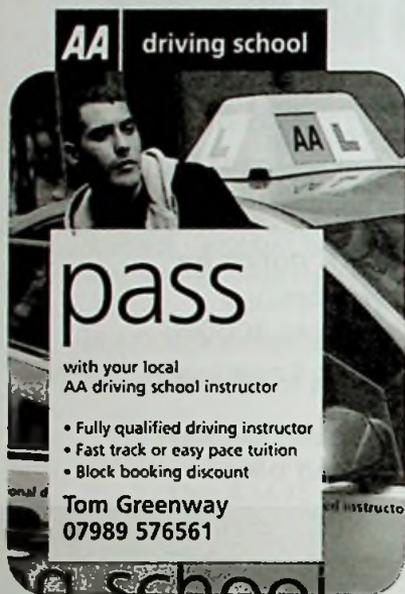
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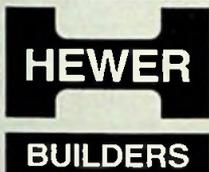
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