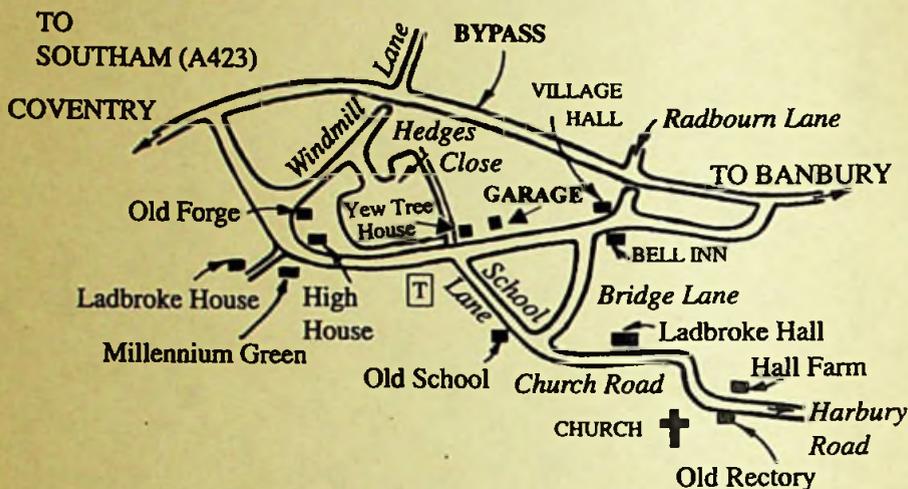


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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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January 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.*



Editorial

The villages celebrated Christmas in traditional style. Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge held a Christmas party and carol service. The Harbury Christmas Fayre raised a four figure sum for the parish church and charities.

The Senior Citizens Christmas Party was much appreciated by all the guests and the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association are to be congratulated on their fundraising during the year and the organisation on party day.

The illuminated conifer outside the library made a spectacular centre piece in the village lights display and many houses were decorated with colourful designs.

Those villagers who receive the Southam area Crime Survey weekly will have noticed that there have been a number of house burglaries during December. We would urge all residents to be vigilant during these winter months. If you would like to receive this information please contact Alison Abbott on 612939.

We will be saying, "Goodbye" to Father Roy and Pam at the end of January and our thanks and good wishes for the future go to them both.



Father Roy and Pam at the Senior Citizen's Christmas Party

Harbury Diary

JANUARY

- Sat 6 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Thursday Club
- Sun 7 **EPIPHANY BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
 Sung Eucharist 9.00am
 First Light 10.30am in church
 Evening Worship 6.00pm
- Mon 8 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE**
- Tues 9 **SCHOOL STARTS**
 Holy Communion 7.30pm with Laying on of hands
 Senior Citizens Benefit Committee 8.00pm in Village Hall
 Horticultural Society 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room,
 Keith Newnham on Springfields & Compton Acres
- Thurs 11 Holy Communion 9.45am
 WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
- Fri 12 **NO RUBBISH COLLECTION TODAY**
- Sat 13 **RUBBISH COLLECTION TODAY**
 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Mothers Union
 Children's Party in Tom Hauley Room 2.30pm followed by
 Christingle Service in church at 5.00pm
- Sun 14 **EPIPHANY II**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 15 **ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM**
- Tues 16 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Mothers Union Faith Supper 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Senior Citizens Committee 8.00pm in Village Hall
- Wed 17 "Talk it Through" 8.00pm at 33 South Parade
- Thurs 18 **START OF THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**
 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 19 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**
- Sat 20 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Grange Players
- Sun 21 **EPIPHANY III**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Family Communion 10.30am
 Evensong 6.00pm
- Tues 23 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Julian Meeting 8.00pm

- Thurs 25 **CONVERSION OF ST PAUL**
 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
 Parish Council 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Fri 26 **RUBBISH COLLECTION**
**ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY &
 EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM**
- Sat 27 **Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Southam Guides**
Harbury School Cross Country Event
- Sun 28 **EPIPHANY IV**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
 Bring and Share Lunch 12.30pm
- Tues 30 **Holy Communion 7.30pm**

FEBRUARY

- Thurs 1 **Holy Communion 9.45am**
Art Group 10.00am - 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club 8.30pm in Shakespeare
- Fri 2 **RECYCLING & GREEN WASTE COLLECTION**
- 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 in Church at 10.30am
 Evening Worship 6.00pm
- Mon 5 **Village Hall Committee 8.00pm in Village Hall**



**All Saints
 HARBURY**

From the Rector

Father Roy Brown

"I just called to say 'I love you'," was a big hit for Stevie Wonder some years ago. It hit the number one spot almost as soon as it was given airtime, finding favour with the "oldies" of Radio 2 as well as Radio 1 listeners.

Why is it still so popular? The song itself is amazingly simple, with a litany of especially romantic occasions dismissed in the verses, as the emphasis is placed on the simple need "to say I love you". Perhaps this very simplistic message is its success, for it says what we all most want to say and most want to hear.

Usually we can rise to special occasions when we have to say "I love you" by being friendly, warm and loving, then we slip back into cold storage until the next time. It's safer that way. The trouble is that

because we all do it to varying degrees we are all on the receiving end of these blow hot, blow cold relationships too. And they are not good for us. Each of us has a deep longing, a deep need, to love and be loved. And that need has to be communicated otherwise we live in the darkness of doubt and unknowing.

We are now into Christmastide and the New Year. We still smile and are warm and loving from the joy of the Nativity, a time when we aren't afraid to communicate our love – it's the time for that sort of thing. But Christ came to bring "that sort of thing" to us all the year round; that kind of warmth, sharing and revealed love. He doesn't wait for special occasions. He "just calls to say 'I love you'" every day, but we won't listen, we don't believe it, maybe it's too good to be true?

But it is true. Christmas is the feast day of our heavenly Father calling to say "I love you" to each one of us and he gives his Son, Jesus Christ, as a permanent, living proof of that love.

Why not start this New Year thinking about that and maybe making a few calls yourself?

Wishing you a happy, peaceful and loving New Year.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

December 3 Leo Mark Jones



From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

December began with the Christmas Fayre. Thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work of those helping and the generosity of those who flocked in, we raised an excellent total of £2249.14, of which £888.40, the proceeds of the raffle, has gone to the Mission for Seafarers. Thank you all for your support.

Although Christmas seems to begin with the Fayre, we were reminded of its real meaning in the Family Service. The presentation, arranged by Ruth Walton, followed the story of the Nativity through readings and mime. The children's sincerity and seriousness were very moving and it was good to have a quiet ten minutes in which to remember, as the children's words reminded us; "that is what Christmas is all about." Thank you to everyone who took part.

As 2006 draws to a close, we'd like to thank everyone who has helped with a busy Church year, not only with services and public events, but also in seemingly little, unseen ways. We are deeply aware and appreciative of the whole parish's support and wish you all a very happy, blessed New Year.

Finally, now that, sadly, the interregnum approaches, we need to alert you to possible changes that may not yet be known to everyone.

PARISH RE-GROUPING WITHIN THE SOUTHAM DEANERY.

Parishes have been asked to agree a scheme whereby the number of clergy can be reduced. In consequence, after the interregnum, Harbury and Ladbroke may well be asked to join with another parish/ other parishes.

We hope very much to keep a resident priest in Harbury. Discussions are on-going. This is obviously a matter of deep concern to us all. There is no secrecy about the matter and we shall keep you updated. Meanwhile, please ask us or any member of the PCC for more details.



Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

Welcome to 2007!

Our afternoon meeting in December was addressed by Mrs Margaret Backhouse, talking about 4 famous women.

The first one had a local connection, as Mary Ann Evans, better known as the author George Elliott, who was born in the Foleshill area of Coventry in 1819. After nursing both parents, she moved to London and lodged with the publisher John Chapman, and later lived for 24 happy years with George Lewis. With their encouragement, she developed her huge talent for writing. Middlemarch is regarded by many as the greatest English novel; it certainly shows her ability to observe the minutiae of provincial life with all its shades of distinction by class and money.

Florence Nightingale is well known as a reformer of hospitals and was probably influenced by her grandfather, who as an MP campaigned for social justice and against slavery. But as a lady in society, nursing was considered a totally inappropriate occupation, and it was relatively late in life that she was able to follow her calling.

As a Quaker, born in Norwich in 1780, Elizabeth Fry had far more family encouragement for her work in prison reform. In Islington workhouse, and then Newgate prison, she found that women and children lacked the most basic care. She took warm clothes, clean straw for bedding and set up a school for the children. She is the first woman to be featured on a banknote and was the first to speak to a House of Commons Committee.

The fourth woman was the Bible character, Ruth, who chose to leave her own people to escort her widowed mother-in-law, Naomi, back to Israel. There, she became another simple person whose life was in God's hand, when she gave birth to Obed, whose descendants included David and, much later, Jesus Christ.

Our stall at the Christmas Fayre raised £130.70 and won the fancy dress prize. Thank you to everyone who contributed and especially Tony Dodds for creating Aladdin's Cave.

At the diocesan advent service, 20 banners were presented at Holy Trinity Church, and Canon Margaret Sedgwick spoke on "Expect to be surprised".

A reminder of our coffee morning on 13th January; please speak to Anne if you can offer help, cakes, raffle prizes and bring and buy gifts.

January 16th will be our Faith Supper at 8pm. Please bring food to share and wine if wanted; friends and visitors will be most welcome but please let Anne know.

February 7th at 2pm – this will be a members' afternoon, to share memories of bygone holidays.



Toddlers Service

Lorna Bedford

The children who came to the December Toddlers Service from Windmills Nursery entertained us by singing three songs they had learnt for their own Christmas Concert.

Mrs. Beryl Checkley told us the Christmas story and we made a lovely collage picture of the stable scene to take home.

Our next Toddlers Service is on Tuesday 9th January at 2pm in the children's corner of the Church.

All babies and young children, accompanied by an adult, are very welcome to come and join us.

Ladbroke News & Diary

JANUARY

- Sun 7 BAPTISM OF CHRIST,**
Family Communion 10.30am with Christingle
- Sun 14 EPIPHANY II**
Sung Communion 9.00am
- Mon 15 ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY**
5.30PM
- Fri 19 Retirement gathering in Village Hall at 7.30pm**
- Sun 21 EPIPHANY III**
Sung Communion 9.00am
- Thurs 25 W.I meeting - Lord Leycester Hospital, speaker is**
Lt Col. G Lesinski
- Fri 26 ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY**
& EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
- Sun 28 EPIPHANY IV**
Sung Communion 9.00am

FEBRUARY

- Sun 4 THIRD BEFORE LENT**
Family Communion 10.30am



Ladbroke Church News

Betty Winkfield

As I write we are still having Choir rehearsals for our Carol Service, we are still wishing everyone we meet with "Happy Christmas". It is difficult to think about the New Year.

BUT:- Friday 19th January at 7.30pm we are having a Retirement gathering for our Rector and his wife in the Village Hall. It is for every person in Ladbroke, please come and show your appreciation for Roy's thirteen years of devoted service to our Church and parishioners. To give us an idea of how many of you are coming, please let Susan Moore know on 07770 786981 or speak to any of the church members. See you there.

Our Christingle Service is on Sunday 7th January combined with the Family Service at 10.30am

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.



Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I.

Sue Halsall

A busy December for the ladies of W.I. Starting with the Christmas Lunch on Sunday 3rd December. Twenty three ladies had a wonderful day at Moreton Hall, greeted with the choir singing carols we were then ushered into a private room. We had a lot of fun with whistling balloons and streamers, party hats and jokes followed (see pictures below). Then we were served, with yet again, a beautiful meal. After coffee the choir returned to sing more carols including a hilarious rendering of the 12 days of Christmas.



On the 7th of December we held an end of year Christmas Party for members old and new. Approximately 40 people were present and Lesley our president welcomed everyone. There was a lovely buffet provided by the committee including wine and during the evening they ran two quizzes. Later a guessing game and finally the committee decided to attempt to sing the 12 days of Christmas. Perhaps we should have rehearsed this carol, although seeing so much laughter and enjoyment on the members' faces made it all worthwhile.

Wednesday 13th December was the Southam Group Carol Service held in All Saint's Church Harbury. Canon Roy Brown welcomed the members followed by a Bidding Prayer. After the readings and carols. Southam W.I. performed a very clever and amusing reading with actors dressed as the gifts that were borne by the three kings.

Dates for your diaries.

January 25th 2007 at Lord Leycester Hospital the speaker will be Lt Col. G Lesinski - Tea Hostesses Sue Rayner, Mary and Elizabeth.



Pirates of Penzance

Christine Baker

A fantastic evening was enjoyed by villagers and friends who filled the Village Hall to overflowing at Ladbroke on Friday 24th November.

Profits from the evening go towards the Village Hall funds.

Our grateful thanks to Bill and Margaret Bosworth for organising such a wonderful event. We are all going to practice our singing voices ready for the next one!



Ladbroke Table Tennis Club

Sue Halsall

Monday 18th December the Table Tennis club held a Xmas fun evening, starting with a round-the-table knockout match, which everyone entered and one by one they were eliminated until the final two played it out. During the course of the evening there was also light hearted mini competition for the men and ladies. The pictures below are of the finalists Alice Pickin and Sue Halsall for the ladies competition and David Halsall and Derek Batty for the men's competition.



This was followed by music and a lovely buffet provided by the members. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all a very good New Year.

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Harbury Parish Council

Tim Lockley

Traffic Calming

I thought a brief update on the traffic calming would be useful. The Parish Council's Environment group met and prioritised these measures: pinch point at Temple End; mobile electronic sign (for Binswood End, Temple End, Butt Lane initially, but potentially anywhere); village gateways and better signage. Later in the month I met with Jaime Hickman from WCC's Environmental Design Team. He will make our case to the traffic safety engineers who have the final veto on any scheme. He thinks that the electronic sign and the gateways have the greatest chance of being approved but that the pinch point is less likely, and that better signage is likely to be refused as current government policy is to reduce the number of road signs, not increase them. I will report on the outcome of his meeting with the traffic safety engineers as soon as I have information.



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

It was gratifying to see so many people puzzling over our Photographic Quiz at this year's Christmas Fayre. Yet, despite moans that it was very difficult, over half got 27 marks or more. The prize winner with 48 was Carole Bastin, closely followed by Paddy Clarke (47), with Sheila Jackson and Tim Lockley joint third on 44 marks – and I did mark very strictly!

Old Coopers in Binswood End, the field gate off Lover's Lane, the footpath to the Beeches from Binswood End, the "internal" shot of Leycester Close, and the view from the Telephone Exchange up to Mill Street proved the most difficult to identify. We presented Carole with



her prize at our Christmas Social at the Shakespeare. It was a very pleasant evening made even better by the presence of our Chairman, Alan Lord who had been quite ill since his return from Africa.

Our next event is a talk on Home Energy Efficiency by David Julian on Monday 5th February 7.30 for 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room.



Harbury Women's Institute

Wendy Knowles

The Carol Service was well attended by members, visiting W.I.'s and visitors, one of which was a brave male. It was a very enjoyable evening which concluded with mulled wine, mince pies and cake. We would like to thank Father Brown for making the service a success for us and we wish him and his wife a very happy retirement.

The speaker for our December meeting was ill and unable to attend but as usual some of our members and visitors read amusing monologues which kept us well entertained.

Harbury W.I. will be celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. It would be great to have more new members to help us celebrate this fantastic number of years.

The WI wishes everyone "All the best for 2007".

The next meeting is on Thursday 11th January at 7.45pm in the Tom Hauley room.



Harbury Twinning Association

Moira Lamont

On November 18th we held our AGM followed by a Beaujolais Nouveau Evening. We were delighted to welcome two new members to the committee, Margaret McDonald and Ann Vincent. The AGM was short and to the point as every one was dying to start opening the Beaujolais, which was served with upmarket bread and cheese. Many thanks to John Stringer and Andrew Patrick for the entertainment.

The Association has had a very good year and we are now finalising our plans for the visit to Harbury by Samois.

The Christmas Party on December 15th was a very good evening, excellent food and wine and hilarious entertainment, a French version of "I'm sorry I haven't a clue", provided by Peter Rollarson and Andrew Patrick. The evening finished with everyone singing French Carols.

Next event is the Fete des Rois on 6th January, and this will be held at No 30 Mill Street hosted by Sally and John Stringer. The evening starts at 8.00 pm and this is always a popular event with all members, but do feel free to bring any friends along.



Post Peter Pan Production Ponderings



I wanted to put down in black and white, just how amazing the experience of directing a production can be.

Ian and I were under no illusions as to how time consuming and complex creating a fairly largish production would be, but we knew from the outset that if we were going to do it, we were going to do it to the best of our ability or

bust and we talked at great length about our "vision" for the production.

We decided to share the role of the director. Before long the production became our number one topic of conversation as there were all kinds of decisions to be made before we could even think of assembling a cast and crew (we even took scripts with us on honeymoon!!).

We cast out our net, who would like to be involved? (That's the scary bit. Will group members have faith in you/want to work with you/give unselfishly of their free time?). We were encouraged by the positive responses of the other members. It's hard to describe the relief and gratification we felt when long-standing and respected members of the group supported and encouraged our ideas.

Research began to find or create props and costumes. It was a voyage of discovery and I was constantly surprised to find a dizzying choice out there for various pieces of set or scenery, (crocodile suits and pirate ships). Numerous meetings conducted with our Stage Manager, Technical Wizard and other esteemed and experienced scenery and costume providers took place, to share ideas and work out just what effects were feasible and how we could drench our performance with WOW FACTOR. Our kernels of ideas were patiently received, digested, adapted and coaxed into reality. Again we experienced very fond emotions when figments, created by our own imaginations, were brought into being and worked, and exceeded our own humble expectations.

Rehearsals commenced, (speaking of which, it is no small undertaking to co-ordinate diaries of busy adults and children), the play itself began to take up a shape and took on what could only be described as a personality or an atmosphere. Ours felt like raw energy, being shaped and developed gradually from rather shy and tentative beginnings to confident and joyous expressions, like the crowing of Peter Pan, the mischief of the Lost Boys, and the sinister threat of Hook!



Smee and Captain Hook

All cast members were committed to the play. We got the feeling that everyone wanted it to succeed and to make it good, no, better than that, wanted to make it brilliant. Watching the cast members develop, changing week by week and growing into characters was amazing, the ideas we had back at the beginning, started to come into being. The characters gained life, they were lived by our cast, who gave them arms and legs and hearts and souls. These were expanded when they brought ideas of their own, worked hard and started thinking about the play between rehearsals. Without any warning, they'd all got the bug too.

We carried the responsibility; we had set off a chain of events, the team kicked into action. We could see the play emerging. With all these people looking to us for leadership, we were galvanised into action and stepped up to the mark. Their faith in us gave us the confidence to make the decisions, put in the hours, make things happen and when we didn't know the answers, the group members generously gave us them. They gave their knowledge and experiences learned from years of dedication and past productions. We became a group of individuals with a shared cause, and we made sure that we shared it plenty, after rehearsals, down the pub!

As the performance dates drew nearer, the pace quickened. The organisation paid off, things slipped into place. This didn't always take place on its own and some of the slipping into place was only achieved after applying liberal layers of elbow grease and a sharp whack with something heavy. Stage up week was just that. Hours of set and scenery building took place along with technical, lighting and sound

effects being created. Hours merged into days. Costumes were altered, small dancers began to flit and trip their various fandangos as our collaboration with Jean Champ's School of Dance began in earnest and our cast list grew. We rehearsed. Our cast tried out the stage, scenery, costumes, special effects and props for the first time. They took it in their stride. They knew their lines, cues and moves. They could do it. The performances were upon us. We had to be ready for the paying populace of Harbury.



Jean Champ's Dancers

The backstage crew, of whom I was one, literally wrestled with the challenges of moving furniture and sets as silently as possible, and stowing it safely so that it was accessible when needed and unable to cause injury to man or beast. We were also involved in many of the special effects and I will only let your imaginations wonder at how we managed to contort our adrenalin flooded persons for the play. Much muscle was applied; some had to be borrowed from the cast. It was hot, cramped, dark and wonderful.

I found myself watching the team. Their dedication was amazing, and everyone giving 110% effort, wanting it to be good, no better than good, wanting it to be brilliant!

When the cast flew, I didn't get to see it, I missed it, my place was cowering out of the way, ready to strike the scene, but I shared it and it was one of the moments I shall always remember. The gasp of the audience, the realisation, **WE WOWED THEM!!**



The children flying off to Neverland

Some of the best times were when I was eavesdropping on the audience from under the stage, a small child, impatient even before the performance began, entreating, "When is Peter Pan coming?" This child believed. It had now become real. The audience participated. Yes, they too believed in fairies.

There would not have been a performance without the team. Cast members and crew who supported the play from its conception to the final performance. Parents and the front of house crew were essential to our cause. Without their contributions there would not have been a show. Our group of individuals had expanded again. Roles were diverse, some larger and more time-consuming than others, but all of them aided the creation.

We made something, something brilliant. We made it for you and we were proud to be a part of it.

No one got paid, so why did we do it? I'll tell you a secret.....

"There's no business like show business".

Watch this space. We will be holding recruitment events in the New Year. If you want to find out more, ring Trish Donnelly on 01926 612150.



Folk Club

Peter McDonald

I had wondered if the Christmas session of the Folk Club on 7th December might be poorly supported with fewer than usual performers. How wrong I was! By the time we started the music promptly at 8:30pm, the Garden Room of the Shakespeare was full and the singers' list had reached its limit. There followed three packed sessions during which 26 performers entertained an appreciative and good-humoured audience until rather late.

The theme of "Goodwill" (it being the season of) was interpreted in many ingenious ways (or ignored with a variety of excuses) and the whole evening had a lovely seasonal feel to it. Summer found a good will in "Willy went to sea" and another in "Auld Lang Syne" (to its original, much nicer tune) while Pete & Liz discovered a favourable legacy in "Granny's Armchair". The Harvesters reminded us that "Winter draws on" (with a few inexplicable titters from the audience), Debbie and Janny formed a new partnership to bring us a couple of

Dutch children's songs, Rik sang "All the chickens in the garden" (though I can't remember why) and Ron gave us the "Gloucester Wassail", a custom which relies on goodwill. Newcomer Gren sang and played Nic Jones' "Barrack Street" beautifully and it was a shame that time constraints prevented us from hearing more from him. I included Les Barker's poem "Voicemail" which illustrates the goodwill extended to us by the call centres we have to phone.

We enjoyed some fine harmony singing from Ninepenny Marl with the French carol "March of the Kings" and from Dickson & Dixon who sang a carol with the unlikely title of "A virgin unspotted". But the biggest harmony group was without doubt the 14-strong Folk Club Choir who sang "Pentonville" (a lively setting of While Shepherds) and their own much-acclaimed "Hereburgh Carol".

In a well-supported, though late-running, third half, we were entertained by Stewart & John, Tony Baylis and Pete Grassby who brought the evening to a close with his own very appropriate "Friendship" song. The raffle raised an amazing £58 for Ovacome, a UK support group for people who are affected by ovarian cancer. Thank you to everyone for their generosity.

The next session, on January 4th, will be an Old Time Music Hall session, hosted by Sue, for which you are encouraged to dress up in something appropriate. As usual, we'll be in the Garden Room of the Shakespeare Inn at 8:30pm.

You can always find out more about Harbury Folk Club on the web (including the theme for next month) by visiting:

<http://welcome.to/harburyfolkclub>



Harbury Cricket Club

Philip Mugleston

Although the cricket season has been over for a few months now and a cold winter has started to set in, we at the cricket club although unable to play are continuing to try and get as many people involved in cricket as possible. Phil Mugleston is teaching indoor cricket at Harbury Primary School on a regular basis to become a sports leader and the response he has had from the year 6 class has been excellent, with all of them showing real talent and enthusiasm for the game. Now we thought we should get through to the adults of Harbury with our Annual Dinner Fundraiser.

This year's event promises to be an excellent night for anyone who is looking for a good night out. It will be taking place on Friday 26 January at the newly refurbished Harbury Rugby Club. On the night there will not only be a first class served buffet dinner done by a fantastic local catering company who promise to turn the club into a superb dining hall down to the last balloons hanging from the bar, but there will also be top rate entertainment from singer Laura Bettinson, an up and coming star who is looking to be a huge hit in the future after winning England's first teen idol competition, perhaps even better than Leona! She did turn on the Christmas lights in Leamington last year and is currently at a performing school in London. She has been described as "an artist with enormous potential" by Epic records. Laura will be singing a number of popular hits as well as some of her own music using her piano and a few band members. If you would like to find out more about her you can look at www.laurabettinson.com - I'm sure you'll love it.

All this fantastic entertainment in Harbury is usually unheard of but this year we have decided to put everything into giving you a good time, and you'll even be able to see all the local cricket stars you've been hearing about if they can make themselves look smart for the occasion, to hear who was the best and worst player of the season! This evening should be an absolute blast with the bar flowing and did I mention the complementary bottle of wine on each table? The dance floor will be lit up for all those who fancy it, and just to cap it off we will be having a good old traditional raffle too, it wouldn't be the same without it!

Tickets for this brilliant local opportunity, for the whole night of entertainment will cost only £25 a head, just think of what you're getting! But if you just wanted to come and see Laura sing for the night you can for just £5, Bargain! To start the night the doors will open at 7.00pm for a 7.45pm eating time start, and then Laura will sing from 9.30pm till midnight. If you would like to come to this amazing night, which is likely to be the only time Harbury will see such talent all in one-night, tickets can be bought from any members of the team if you know them or from Muggleston's Country Fayre, Chapel Street, Harbury. If you are unable to come but would still like to make a contribution you can still buy a raffle strip from Muggleston's to win one of several great prizes on offer. We are hoping this night will boost our funds for next year and produce more interest in the club around the village for the future.



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

December was a quiet month on court with only 3 matches played leading up to the Christmas break.

The floodlit team continued its unbeaten run with a convincing 3-1 win against Hook Norton on a windy Wednesday night to go top of the league. Caroline Morland and Eira Owen got off to an excellent start in the ladies doubles with a 6-2, 7-5 win. In the men's doubles Keith Thompson and Jonathon Smith lost the first set 4-6 but recovered well to take a close second 7-5 putting Harbury into a strong position for the mixed doubles. Caroline and Jonathon had a comfortable 6-2, 6-2 win to wrap up the points while Eira and Keith had a topsy turvy match winning the first set 6-2 but losing the second 1-6.

When the "A" team played Warwick on the following Sunday the wind had reached gale force! However, Harbury adapted to the conditions well with Andrew Rendell and Ed Wilson dominating to win 6-2, 6-3 while Gill Thorpe and Angie Dean drew their rubber, winning the first set 6-2 but losing the second 3-6. In the mixed doubles Ed continued his winning streak when he and Angie had a comfortable 6-2, 6-3 win. In the final rubber Andrew and Gill lost 5-7, 0-6 but Harbury had done enough to secure a 2½ - 1½ win.

The wind had subsided by the time the "B" team travelled to Hook Norton so we turn to page 5 of the "Excuse Manual" and blame lack of experience of the artificial grass surface for a ½ - 3½ defeat! The fact that the Club's Christmas party had taken place the night before may not have helped! In the first 2 rubbers Sue Mercer and Jane Durman lost 2-6, 2-6 with Keith Thompson and Colin Mercer maintaining a consistent level of performance by also losing 2-6, 2-6! There was a marginal improvement for Sue and Colin in the mixed doubles when they won an extra game in the 2-6, 3-6 defeat but Jane and Keith did much better winning their first set 6-4. Unfortunately they couldn't keep that going and lost the second 1-6.

That was the "B" team's first defeat of the season but wasn't enough to knock us off the top of the league. However, it was a very encouraging performance from Jane who was making her match play debut and didn't know about the court surface until she was in the car and on the way to Hook Norton!

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



Harbury Toddler Group

Emma Legg

We have been enjoying one of the best seasons at Toddlers during December. The craft supplies box is a mess or could be described as very camp, as there is glitter everywhere!

Since our firework pictures in November we have hardly put the sparkly stuff away.

We have been making Christmas cards, Calendars and Christmas pictures, so anyone out there in the village with toddlers in the family, get your Hoover ready. We also had a session where the children decorated pottery decorations which were fired and given as gift or kept as keepsakes; hopefully a few of you were happy to find them in your Christmas stockings.

The other big event this month was the Christmas party. The committee worked hard this year, pooling their years of experience and pulled off a magical event. The children were treated to a 'Cactus Pit' bouncy castle supplied by Harbury Bouncy Castles which we all agree was worth every penny and we took along toys from the groups' collection to keep the smaller children amused.



A special feature this year was the Grotto, after years of the children getting themselves worked up waiting to see Santa (usually resulting in floods of tears) we thought we would try a different approach and create the distraction of a grotto. We couldn't have done it without the generous loan of animated Christmas decorations from Des Southam who we thank dearly. Even Father Christmas himself was impressed

with his new set up and it was a joy seeing the mesmerised faces of the children enjoying a fairy tale visit to Santa's house.



We would also like to thank everyone who contributed to the day by donating food for the Christmas lunch, prizes for the raffle, buying and selling raffle tickets and for giving their time in the set up and clearing up. Not forgetting the enormous generosity of the people of Harbury who donated so many Christmas decorations and helped to make the party so special for the children and parents. We were truly staggered by the response to our plea in this fine publication and we can't thank you all enough.

The winners of the raffle were:
 1st Tracy Bastin, 2nd Emma Legg and 3rd Michael Bingham, with 1st place winning a luxury hamper and 2nd and 3rd winning a selection of luxury items.

Toddler group will be closed over the Christmas holidays but will re-open on January 8th and then every Monday (10-11.30am) and Wednesday (1.30-3.00pm) until half term.



The committee would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year for 2007 and look forward to seeing you.

Any questions? Call Emma on 01926 814687 who will be more than happy to help.



Windmills
Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

Continuing our theme of colours and patterns the children have been busy creating some beautiful Christmas cards and calendars. This is a very exciting and rewarding time of year to work with children, as they are so enthusiastic about everything they do. The highlight this month has been the Windmills Christmas Concert held on Friday 8th December in the Tom Hauley Room.

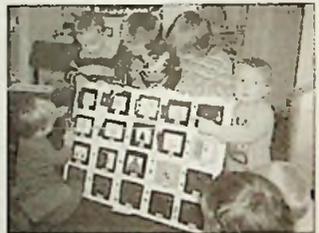


All the children performed confidently, sang enthusiastically and made everyone watching extremely proud. They looked fantastic – thanks to parents for providing such lovely outfits. A big thank you to Felicity Harris for standing in for Father Roy to say prayers at the end. Thank you also

to those parents who helped serve coffee and mince pies afterwards and Bobbie Jones for generously providing a lovely hamper for the raffle.

Other activities this half term have included: -

- We created a giant advent calendar with the help of our two work experience students, encouraging the children's number recognition and ordering skills.



- On Monday 11th December we were invited to take a group of children into the school hall to watch the rehearsal for the infants Christmas concert. The children thoroughly enjoyed every minute, and it was lovely to see how last year's nursery children had grown in confidence.
- On Thursday 14th December, Chris, our artist, created a winter collage with the children, based on the story "The Little Fir Tree" - the results are stunning. The photograph shows Lily carefully putting snow onto the branches.



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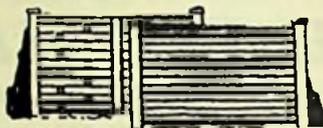
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- On Friday 15th December their Early Years Advisory teacher showed Tina and Marie around the model classroom at Nuneaton. They are looking forward to implementing lots of wonderful ideas for the spring term.
- Miss Maher and Mrs Johnston brought the Reception class to Windmills to watch a second performance of our Christmas concert. Afterwards Miss Maher told us how much the children had enjoyed the performance and their 'school trip' to Windmills.
- The term ended with our Christmas Party and much anticipated visit from Santa on Tuesday, 19th December. The children were all very excited and talked to Santa very happily telling him what they would like him to bring them for Christmas:

"I want a red rocket which flies off" (Jacob)

"Mummy wants a suit and some shoes" (Euan)

- 'Christmas' has prompted lots of seasonal role-play, including preparing and serving the Christmas dinner complete with the children's handmade hats and crackers. The children have also used their estimating skills judging the correct size of wrapping paper to wrap up different sized parcels ready for Santa.



During our visit to the Toddler service the children entertained the ladies by singing some of the songs from the Christmas concert. The children also presented Mrs Bedford with a Christmas card they had made.

Dates - Windmills Nursery re-opens after the Christmas break on Tuesday 9th January 2007, at 9.05 am.

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.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE



SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY





OFSTED - WOW – What a result! We had been expecting our OFSTED inspection since Easter and then, out of the blue, the inspector arrived at the door on Tuesday 5th December, spent two days examining every facet of our organisation and gave us the results of their findings the following Monday. We were absolutely delighted to learn that four of the six areas had been awarded the highest accolade of “**OUTSTANDING**”, while the remaining two areas were just one step away, at “good”.

Nativity Songtime - Quite apart from the OFSTED inspection, the last three weeks of the term passed very quickly, with the children caught up with the excitement of Christmas. Our Nativity songtime was performed to perfection to a capacity audience of forty-two parents, siblings, family and friends. Quote of the month must go to Poppy, in her role as Mary. When receiving the gifts for the baby Jesus from the three wise men, she asked: “Can he open them now?”

At the end of the songtime, the children gave a lovely demonstration of “Silent Night” using Makaton sign language. The audience was then challenged to repeat it, which they did with enthusiasm.



Christmas activities - During the month, the children were very busy making decorations using discarded CDs and all kinds of bright and sparkling materials. Glitter was a very popular addition to the sand tray and the children did some wonderful observational drawings of the Christmas tree which made lovely cards to take home. Pre-School was adorned with lots of home made decorations just in time for a visit from Father Christmas. The children had a marvellous time chatting to him in his specially made grotto and singing the songs they had rehearsed. They were then delighted to receive a special gift each, before Father Christmas had to set off on his rounds again.



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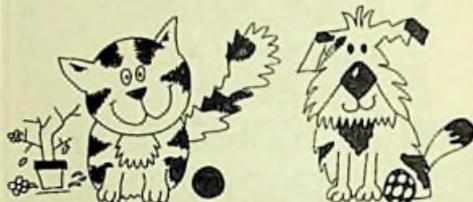
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Christmas party - The party organised by our fund raising group, for all children in the village of pre-school age, was a great success. The children had a marvellous time playing games, dancing at the disco and eating the party food, followed by a visit from Father Christmas. Every child then went away happily clutching a special gift from him.

Diary date - A repeat of our very successful barn dance is to be held on 17th March in the Village Hall. Tickets will be available from Lisa on 614744.

Finally, our heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to a fantastic year at Harbury Pre-School and, in particular for helping to achieve such a brilliant result in our OFSTED inspection. Pre-School resumes in the New Year on Tuesday 9th January.

We wish you all a peaceful New Year.

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

Christmas Productions

Congratulations to all of the children who took part in our Christmas productions – the feedback that we received from a lot of people was that they were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience – we were certainly pleased with the way that they went.

Many thanks to all the children for their hard work. Special thanks to Mr Bones for his "special guest" appearance and for frightening the life out of me, the audience and all the children with his dramatic entrance!!! Thanks, too, to the staff involved for all their efforts in ensuring that the children were so well prepared and organised – their work was rewarded in the excellence of the final productions. Well done, everyone.

A total of £471.17 was collected over the course of the four performances, which we are hoping to put towards the cost of a new stage for the hall. Many thanks.

The Infants Play



The Juniors Play



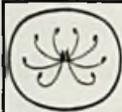
Year 6 Play



Feel the Buzz – The children recently performed the "Feel the Buzz" songs with the children from St James' and St Lawrence Schools. Both performances were very well received by everyone there. Again, well done to the children and staff. CDs of our pupils only (Infants and Juniors) are now available from school, price £6 each. We hope to get copies out to those who have already ordered a CD as soon as possible.

Reminder – The children return to school on Tuesday 9th January at 9.00am (Monday 8th is a Teacher Day).

AND FINALLY ... - On behalf of everyone at the school, may I offer you and your families our best wishes for the New Year.



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

The December meeting was a great success. There was no speaker but we all enjoyed a Quiz which got the little grey cells working. Thanks to Janice for organising this. The winners were Pat Smith and Jean Abrahams and the runners up were Shirley and Tony Brunton. The Bursary was also drawn and the lucky recipient was Pat Randall. After that we all enjoyed a superb buffet and my thanks to everyone who contributed and to all who helped tidy and wash up - it did make such a difference.

There are some fantastic places to walk around and enjoy at this time of year and most are only a short distance away. Rousham House at Steeple Aston is open all year round and is the only William Kent garden still unaltered. Stowe Landscape Gardens near Brackley, also much influenced by Kent, has wonderful vistas and follies.

As you can guess I am a great William Kent fan and if you do visit either of these gardens it will whet your appetite for our talk in February, which is all about the great man and the Rococo garden.

Also not too far away, the Botanic Gardens at Oxford, the oldest one in England, are a gem. Waterperry Gardens also near Oxford are well worth exploring too. Ryton Gardens have a superb restaurant and always something of interest, don't forget that the Society have two tickets which can be obtained from Daphne. If these tickets don't get used we may consider not renewing next year so please support local ventures.

I shall be busy over the next few weeks organising our trips so there is plenty to look forward to even if we can't get working in our gardens at this time of year.

Don't forget that the January meeting is a week later next year on Tuesday 9th January when Keith Newman and his two friends will be entertaining us again. The topic is Springfield and Compton Acres Gardens.

Do come along and brighten up a dark January evening. New members are always welcome and it is a lovely way to make new friends who share a passion for gardening.

I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year, thank you for your continued support.



Cold nights, high pressure and wonderful sunny days are a bonus as I write this on Sunday 17th December. We've had plenty of rain. Yesterday, I pedalled through the Thwaites Estate at 10.00 am. The sun, though shining brightly, was only about 10 degrees above the horizon and lacked any power. Away to my right on the slopes of the valley between Kingston Barn and Kingston Farm, the red stems of Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) bordered a copse. Dog in this name is probably not a disparaging term, but may derive from dags (daggers), as the wood was used for butchers' skewers.

In last month's article, I said boldly that the Oaks would probably keep their orange leaves until Christmas. Well, I was wrong. Mature Oaks' dead foliage could not resist the gales we've had and they have been stripped bare. In sheltered places, immature trees have kept a proportion of their dead leaves. Hedge sized Beech is a better retainer of its leaf. Walk down The Beeches to verify this fact.

The infant River Itchen, beside the Salt Way south of Grange Farm, was in spate and level with the top of its bank. Without Ham Bridge to cross, it would have made a formidable obstacle. In high summer, a crossing could have been made dry shod, but now it was several metres wide. The old pollarded Crack Willows' (*Salix fragilis*) trunks were surrounded by water. The name is well chosen. The tree grows quickly, but is apt to split open under its own weight. This in turn provides a second storey of small trees and shrubs nurtured in the rotting leaves which fill the many crevices in the master tree. A study by Anita Jo Dunn who looked at 400 Willow pollards on the banks of the Thames tributaries in West Oxfordshire found 74 species growing in the crowns including Ash, Holly, Gooseberry, Elder, Ferns, Honeysuckle, and Brambles. (*Flora Britannica*, Richard Mabey).

At a recent quiz (NSPCC), one of the questions asked was "What is the average life expectancy of the Robin - 2, 6, or 12 years?" When the answer 12 was given this caused some consternation amongst the ornithologists in the audience. Alan Barr has since told me that his research has turned up an average life of span of 1.2 years. Perhaps it's a case of a shift in the decimal point. If this average life span seems rather low, it must be borne in mind that few Robins that hatch will reach maturity. Most will never leave the nest and will die or be predated as chicks. Sad perhaps, but that's nature.

The quiz was great fun by the way and I thoroughly recommend it; it's an annual fixture.

This year has been one of the warmest on record and winter has made only a stuttering start in terms of frosty weather. Carole Bastin told me Snowdrops are blooming in her garden and certainly plants which usually only flower by February at the earliest like Wild Primrose are looking rather advanced. On a greyish day, I walked through Ufton Woods to see if spring was showing any signs of breaking out. At first, the wood seemed cocooned in winter with dead leaves and bare branches all around. Gradually however patches of green caught my eye. Fresh Honeysuckle leaves were prominent. In sheltered spots, often where a large Oak trunk provided cover, young Dog's Mercury, contrasting with last spring's fading leaves, could be found. One plant even had flower buds. New Violet and Primrose leaves abounded. On the south side of the wood, I found Elder in leaf and some Hazel buds were bulging. Near the bus shelter in Ufton, an Elder bush was in full leaf. I wonder if that particular shrub was sitting on a 'hot spot'. Perhaps a sewage pipe was providing a type of under-soil heating.

Bridget Burnham brought me an insect to identify. She had found it inside her house and said that similar insects were 'frequent fliers' there. The extensive library at Brandon Marsh (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust HQ) now came in very handy. It proved to be a species of Ichneumon fly or wasp as it is closely related to the latter having a thin wasp-like body and two pairs of wings. The body length was 1.5cms but with antennae and formidable ovipositor total length was about 3cms. The word Ichneumon comes from the Latin *ikhneuein* - to track - from *ikhnos* - a footprint. Each species, and there are many, is parasitic on a particular caterpillar. I believe Bridget's find was *Lampronata setosus* which parasitizes the Goat Moth larva. This caterpillar lives inside a tree trunk or branch. The Ichneumon tracks it down by sound or scent and its ovipositor delivers the eggs. These hatch inside the host but do not kill it until the grubs in turn pupate.

On a happier note, I was walking past the boating lake in Jephson Gardens on 8th December when I saw a flash of blue. It was a Kingfisher and I got a good view of it as it proceeded to perch on a low branch.

Now it's on into 2007 and I wish you all a Happy New Year. Thanks for sharing some of your notable nature stories; I trust there will be many more.



General Section

Christmas 2006

Bring in the holly, with red berries bright.
 Bring in the logs for flaming firelight.
 Quiet peaceful evenings, restful dark night.
 Candles glowing in churches, a beautiful sight.

It's Christmas, the winter solstice is here.
 Let's have a hug and be full of cheer.
 Guardian angels watch over us throughout the year.
 Keeping us going through worry and fear.

Goodbye the old year, with its sadness and joy.
 Welcome to Jesus, a sweet baby boy.
 Stay with us Lord as we go on our way.
 Make us loving and grateful for every new day.

Remembering our dear ones, no longer here.
 Forward with faith to greet the new year.
 Sing carols with gladness, Christmas spirit is near.
 Only to vanish and come back next year.

J. Smith

Carol Singing by Hereburgh Morris and the Folk Club

On the evening of Thursday, December 21st, thirteen singers and musicians from Harbury Folk Club and Hereburgh Morris went carol singing around the pubs of Harbury, starting at the Old New Inn and finishing at the Village Club.

As usual, we enjoyed ourselves and managed to raise £115 for the Leamington Christian Mission (otherwise known as 'Steph & Jeff' who help the homeless in Leamington). We would like to thank the landlords, bar staff and their customers for their generosity and good humour.

Peter McDonald

Christmas Tree Lights 2006



Most people will have noticed the fantastic Christmas lights on the large conifer outside the Library this year. The Parish Council paid for the lights but they would not have been installed on the tree without the considerable help and support of a number of people. Thanks must go to Joe Griffin, for the electrical work, Colin Sheasby and Richard Linforth for help with the hydraulic lift at very short notice, Tanya Butchers at Library Services and John Moore and the Wight School Trustees for giving their permission and Chris the Librarian for putting up with considerable disruption - and just before Christmas!

Last but not least, the Council would like to thank John Ridgley for all his considerable hard work in freezing fog in getting the lights up at the last minute and also Mike McBride and Gordon Bennett for all their work over a number of years on the existing lights in the village.

Harbury Parish Council

Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Once again the Senior Citizens committee entertained us; in the Village Hall festively decorated, a hundred plus senior citizens were served a beautifully prepared Christmas dinner. The organization and execution of this annual event is amazing and our thanks must go to the very efficient helpers who make this a wonderful occasion.

After the meal and the seemingly endless prize raffle draw, entertainment was by the Southam Ladies Choir, 'The Karousel Singers' with seasonal songs and carols.

Expressing the appreciation of many, I again thank the committee and its band of helpers for giving us such an excellent start to the Christmas season.

Ralph Swadling

Breakthrough Breast Cancer — Great Wall Of China Trek

In May 2007 Christine and Lee Carter will be walking approx 80km to raise funds for Breakthrough Breast Cancer. We have promised to raise £2500 each for the charity. A few weeks ago we notified a few people of this and we have already got around £2000. The Tramps and Tarts party (at short notice) made £435.00.



The Pick a Straw stall at Kinton Street Fair made £225.00. We shall be doing other things in the New year. Thank you all so much for being so generous and for the sponsor money you have sent.

Chris Carter

Tom Hauley Room

At a recent Saturday Coffee Morning the excellent sum of £121.76 was raised this time for the Tom Hauley Room itself. Liz Bunting and Sheila Scott would like to say thank you very much to all who helped and supported us.

We who use the T.H.R. are so grateful to Tom Hauley – a wonderful benefactor to this village. Some of you may not have known Tom. He was a bachelor, who lived in Mill Street; was a great supporter of the Church; rang the bells; wound up the clock every day and sang in the choir when he was young. He lived in Harbury all his life. When he died he left a legacy to the church to provide a room with toilets. With extra fund-raising this was achieved in 1989. We, the residents of Harbury, are all beneficiaries of his generosity.

Many different people raise money for their chosen charities in the T.H.R; without it none of us would benefit.

The room has proved to be a boon to many people and organisations in the village, with meetings, private parties, lunches, coffee mornings etc. As a result of this, the chairs have had considerable wear. On the recommendation of the Trustees it was agreed by the P.C.C. to have them re-upholstered.

We have already made a start as you may have noticed. There are 100 to be done and they go off in batches. In order to keep costs down, they are dismantled; the seats and backs taken away and then the band of helpers put them back together. The total cost will be in the region of £2,200.00.

If anyone feels able to make a donation, however small, we would be so grateful. The cost has to come from church funds, which are somewhat stretched at the moment.

Thank you once again to everyone who uses the T.H.R. We hope to continue to maintain it to the present high standard.

Tony Stubbs
(Chairman of Trustees)
Tel: 612782

Liz Bunting
(Secretary)
Tel: 612450

Burden or Bonus?

The pension's industry tells us that the increasing proportion of retired and old people will create a growing problem. But is the picture that alarming? In the next First Light Service, we shall focus on the wealth of experience and faith which they add to the value of an all age community like Harbury. You are invited to join us at this short, informal act of worship, on Sunday, February 4th at 10.30am. As in January, this will be in church, following coffee in the Tom Hauley room at 10.00am.

Alison Abbott

"Some Silly Old Sayings"

At the start of a new year one looks back over the past year and Trisha, Catherine and Steph in the Salon looked back many years when they were remembering 'things my Grandmother used to say' and they called them 'silly old sayings' perhaps they are old Harbury sayings.

"Don't cut your nails on a Friday or a Sunday" - I've not heard advice about nail clippings before.

Another Friday saying "Don't sing on Friday 13th" - a day well known for being unlucky.

"Don't put new shoes on the table." Does that mean that it's OK to put old shoes on the table alongside the plates, the tea and bread and jam?

"Spill salt , spill sorrow" is more poetic than 'Spilt salt brings bad luck, so throw it over your left shoulder'. The next saying "Throw spilt salt over your left shoulder to blind the devil" is specific about where the bad luck comes from!

There are a number of well known Magpies sayings, such as 'One for sorrow, two for joy '.

The Salon girls offer two more, both to be used on seeing a single bird.

"Hello Mr Magpie how's your lovely wife?" Can you tell the sex of a magpie so easily? It's a silly comment to make to a female bird. And finally "Salute one magpie."

Do you have any "Silly Old Sayings" to share?

Marian Millington

Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance

Through the Harbury News we would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who supported the various events raising money for our local Air Ambulance during 2006.

We would also like to give you a date for your diary for 2007. On Saturday 17th February we are holding a Valentine's Cabaret featuring Dave Barry and Sisters Inc. at Harbury Village Club at 8pm. (Tickets available from Joy on 07748 556538). Why not bring your partner for a good night's entertainment and support this very worthy cause.

We look forward to seeing you on the night.

Joy, Sam, Val, Stacey and Mandy

Christingle Service

Calling all children, parents and grandparents – in fact everyone!
Please come and join us for the Christingle service in church on Saturday 13th January at 5pm

Chesterton Windmill

Just before Christmas on 12th December a large crane was brought in from the Black Country and used to help remove the remaining sails from Chesterton Windmill in preparation for fitting a full set later on.



Owing to the crane's heavy weight load on wet ground, a special road was laid which consisted of aluminium square box sections bolted down, as used by the British Army. This took a couple of days to complete and due to the high cost involved 24 hour security in case of theft. Chesterton Windmill is a popular historic landmark, well known nationally; it will be nice to see the sails on again. Thank you Warwickshire County Council.

Although Chesterton is not a working windmill there is one which produces flour down the road at Wellesbourne. Prior to the sale of Chesterton land, sold to the sitting farmers in 1958 at a sale held in London, a Harbury carpenter, the late Charlie Keeling, was asked by Chesterton's then landowner, for appearances sake to provide sails for the windmill as there were none to speak of. Mr Keeling cut timber out of Chesterton wood and made rustic sails. The fixed sails were fitted on the mill and the Leamington Courier featured Charlie and his handiwork. After Warwickshire County Council took over the windmill about 1960 it was in a pretty mess. One urgent job was to renew the leaded dome roof. Zinc was used as an alternative to lead, because much had been stolen. When first fitted the zinc shone to dazzle you, that is until algae and dirt from rain set in. The main oak beam was lifted into position by help from an RAF helicopter and crew; the same team did a similar job about three weeks later at Coventry to position the spire on the new Cathedral.



24 Hour security on the aluminium road

Mike Bloxham

Tools for Self Reliance

(TFSR) is a registered charity which collects unwanted tools through ROTARY INTERNATIONAL, for reconditioning and despatch to Africa. Anyone who would like to donate hand tools in any condition, please leave them at 29 Neales Close (in the crate alongside the house).

Tools are cleaned, sharpened and made up into kits by volunteers and then transported to Africa. Artisans, craft centres and technical colleges are desperate for the tools we no longer need. Please help ROTARY make an amazing difference in someone's life

The charity has been running for many years, and the Patron is Archbishop Desmond Tutu

For more information, ring me on 614104 or just turf out those old unwanted tools.

Bill Davies

Time Out – Ufton

New Year Resolution? Start Pilates classes - every Monday from 15th January 9.30 - 10.30am at the Village Hall. The course is part of Southam College's Community Education Programme and runs for nine weeks (exc. 12 February). As space is limited, it is advisable to book in advance, payment can be made at the first session £23.40 (some concessions are available). Tel: Chris Dudley on 810942 or email: southamcommmed@AOL.com - the class tutor, Jane Bilsborrow, will supply floor mats. Just wear comfortable clothes and bring a cushion.

Saturday 20th January 2007 - Family Bingo in the Village Hall 7.45 for 8.00pm

Take Time Out

'All Wrapped Up for Christmas' was very well attended and 24 people made gift boxes, bags, and bows to decorate Christmas gifts.

The next event will be:

A Good Yarn - Tuesday 16 January 10am - 12.30pm at Ufton Village Hall

Rowan and Patons present their range of new yarns including the fabulous new space dyed colourful 'tapestry' wool for you to try. Sarah Hazell, demonstrator, will teach you how to make a scarf and a corsage and show lots of other ideas using knitting and non knitting techniques.

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(coloured pages printed in April for the year)

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Beginners very welcome. All materials supplied, but feel free to bring along any odd balls and needles! It promises to be a fun morning. Cost £4.50 for workshop inc. refreshments.

Sew Simple - Bowls in Fabric! - Thursday 8 February 10am - 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.

Please book early to avoid disappointment. Call me on 613003.

Karin Kirk



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

I would like to thank the residents of Ladbroke who gave so generously to the recent collection on behalf of the Royal British Legion 2006 Poppy Appeal. The sum raised by the door to door collection was GBP228-44; a further GBP15-84 was raised by The Bell Inn making a grand total of GBP244.28.

Thank you once again to everyone who supported the appeal.

Mike Radburn

Dear Editors

I was the lucky winner of the Christmas cake in the church fair raffle and I just want to say that, having cut it to share with family, (obviously I had to taste it!!) - what a wonderful flavour; just a good quality old fashioned Christmas cake. Many congratulations to the person who made it.

Doris Byrne

Dear Editors

Many, many thanks to everybody who made and gave their cakes to our stall at the Christmas Fayre. We even had a batch of hot cakes given by a very young cook! Thank you also to the folks who helped to decorate the stall - invaluable.

The Queen and Knave of Hearts

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

Bookings for:

Scout Hut	Lesley van Kesteren	613411
Tom Hauley Room	Liz Bunting	612450
T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning	Sally Stringer	613214
Village Hall	Wendy Hawkes	613198
Wight School	Lin Hayes	613488

FEBRUARY EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to 31, Binswood End by 15th January
Articles to Harbury Pharmacy by 26th January

Regular Diary Dates

ART TUTORIALS: Tom Hauley Room 1st Thursday of the month (614104)

BABY CLINIC: Surgery, 2nd & 4th Wednesday 1.00 – 3.00pm

BADMINTON: Village Hall, Monday mornings 10:00am - 12:00 noon (612877)

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

Friday (Juniors) 6:30 - 8:15pm (612029)

BEAVERS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 5.40 - 6.40pm (613434)

BELL RINGING PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 7:30pm (612939)

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS various homes 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month 2.00-3.00pm (613207); 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 10.30 - 12.00 Noon (612864)

BROWNIES: Scout Hut, Mondays 6:15 - 7:30pm (612538)

CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES Farley Room Wednesday 4.00 - 8.00pm (01789 290733)

CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 6:30pm (612978)

CHURCH MEN'S GROUP: Tom Hauley Room 1st Thursday in the month 7.45pm (612753)

COFFEE MORNING: Tom Hauley Room Saturdays 10:00am - 12:00noon (613214)

CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00pm (614730)

DROP-IN TEA: 19, Farm Street, last Wednesday in the month 2.30 to 4.30pm (612585)

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, Mondays 6:00 - 7:00pm (07939 679533)

HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Shakespeare Inn 1st Thursday in the month 8:30pm (613730)

HARBURY FRIENDS: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Tuesday in the month 8:00pm (612534)

HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB: Chairman: Mike Jones Tel: 614040

Under 17s

Coach: Keith Edwards Tel: 421414

Training: Tuesday. 7.30pm Myton School

Under 14s

Coach: Alastair Cattrell Tel: 335366

Training: Thursday 7.30pm, Harbury Rugby Club

Years 6 & 7 (U11 & U12)

Coach (U11): Neil Murray Tel: 612524

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Coach (U12): Andy Dickson Tel: 612192

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Years 4 & 5 (U9 & U10)

Coach (U10 – Year 5): Malcolm Tanner Tel: 612617

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Coach (U9 – Year 4): Tony Chamberlain Tel: 614816

Training: Saturday 9.00am, Harbury Playing Fields

Years 2 & 3 (U8)

Coach: David Hoey Tel: 311097

Training: Thursday 6.15pm, Harbury Rugby Club

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: Wight School (behind Library), High St. Monday 12:30pm – 3:00pm, Tuesday to Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm (614316)

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP Last Monday of the month Shakespeare Inn (612150)

HARBURY TODDLER GROUP: Wight School, Monday 10:00 - 11:30am & Wednesday 1:30 - 3:00pm (614858)

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 612498

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: School Hall, Wednesdays 8:00 - 10:00pm (612819)

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Tuesday in the month (Oct. to May) 8:00pm Contact Daphne Clifford 01926 612829

KICK START APPALACHIAN STEP DANCERS: Scout Hut, Saturdays, 10:00am - 12:00noon (612734)

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

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

NETBALL CLUB: Village Hall Car Park, Training Thursdays 6:30pm; (613163)

Matches on Saturday Afternoon

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Tom Hauley Room, 3rd Saturday in the month 7.30am

MOTHER'S UNION: Tom Hauley Room, 1st Wednesday in the month 2.30pm; 3rd Tuesday in the month 8.00pm (612427)

PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP: Meeting on 2nd Wednesday in the month at the Shakespeare 8:00pm (612792)

RAINBOWS : Scout Hut Tuesdays 5.30 - 6.30pm, Unit Leader Bobbi Sharpe 614040

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00pm (614062)

TENNIS CLUB: CLUB MEMBERS PLAYING TIMES**SENIORS**

Tuesdays: 6.00pm – 10.00pm

Thursdays: 6.00pm – 10.00pm

Saturdays (Winter only): 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Sundays (Summer only): 10.00am – 12.00 noon

Members may play at other times free of charge, provided the courts are not already booked. Guests playing with members should pay £1 an hour.

If you would like to become a member or find out more about the Tennis Club, please contact Colin Mercer (Chairman) on 613284.

JUNIORS and MINIS (Reception to Year 11)

Coaching sessions take place throughout the Summer and Winter.

For up to date information, please contact Sue Mercer

(613284 or email: sucol-mercer@tiscali.co.uk)

NON MEMBERS - Courts should be booked at Country Fayre, Chapel Street (£2 per hour per court) For Floodlight Bookings (£5 per hour + £5 deposit for the key) – Ring 613284

COACHING - For individual or small group coaching, please contact Linda Casement (613284) or Angie Dean (614513).

THURSDAY CLUB: Farley Room of Village Hall 2nd & 4th Thursday in the month 2:30pm (612519)

W.I.: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Thursday in the month 7:45pm (614188)

WINDMILLS NURSERY SCHOOL: Primary School, Monday-Friday, 9:00am - 3.15pm; Friday 9.00am -1.00pm (614564)

YOGA: Tom Hauley Room, Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm Dianne Surgery (817904)

YOUTH DROP IN: Tuesdays 8:00-9:00pm in Village Hall (613207)

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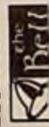
Valid till 31st Jan 2007. Monday to Friday ONLY.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.



January Voucher

£10 off a meal for 4
£5 off a meal for 2
when each person enjoys a meal for 2

Valid till 31st Jan 2007. Mon - Thurs EVENINGS ONLY.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.



February Voucher

Buy a starter & main course
meal from our evening
menu an receive your

Dessert FREE

Valid till end of Feb 2007. Mon - Thurs EVENINGS ONLY.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.



January Voucher

Buy a starter & main course
meal from our evening
menu an receive your

Dessert FREE

Valid till 31st Jan 2007. Mon - Thurs EVENINGS ONLY.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.



Jan & Feb Voucher

Buy 2 x 250ml glasses
of wine and receive
the rest of the bottle
FREE

Valid till end of Feb 2007. Mon - Thurs EVENINGS ONLY.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.



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when 2 people dine together
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Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

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Friday 12th January 2007

Dinner Jazz Evening and 3 Course Meal

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Thursday 18th January 2007
**6 Course Gourmet Dinner
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Thursday 25th January & Thursday 22nd February 07

Half Price a la carte evening!

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BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Bookings now being taken for Valentine's Night
Wednesday 14th February 07

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SOUTHAM COLLEGE COMMUNITY COURSES
SPRING TERM 2007

DAYTIME COURSES IN SOUTHAM

SOUTHAM COLLEGE

Cake Icing and sugar paste flowers Monday 10.00am - 12 noon

Spanish for beginners –Term 2 - Tuesday 10.00am - 12 noon

Yoga - Tuesday 1.30 - 3.00pm

Keep Fit To Music for Ladies - Wednesday 9.30 -10.30am

Water Colour Painting - Wednesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

Water Colour Painting -Thursday 1.00 - 3.00pm

Water Colour Painting - Friday 1.00 - 3.00pm

COMPUTING

SOUTHAM LIBRARY

Basic Computing course - Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

HARBURY LIBRARY

Drop in Basic Computing - Thursday 2.00 - 3.00pm

DUNCHURCH LIBRARY

Drop in Basic Computing - Thursday 11.30 – 12.30pm

COURSES IN THE VILLAGES

HARBURY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Keep Fit to Music for Ladies -Thursday 7.00 - 8.00pm

TOM HAULEY ROOM, HARBURY

Yoga - Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm

UFTON VILLAGE HALL

Pilates - Monday 9.30 - 10.30am

OFFCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Upholstery & soft furnishing -Tuesday 9.30 - 11.30am

STOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

Upholstery & soft furnishing - Tuesday 1.00 - 3.00pm

All classes commence week beginning Monday 15th January, unless shown otherwise. Evening Courses run from 7.30 - 9.30 for a maximum of 9 weeks (excluding half term break 12th February) unless shown otherwise. Courses based at the College enrol in the Community Education Centre. Please arrive 15 minutes early to the first session to allow time for enrolment. For further information and to register, please contact Sue Hawthorn or Chris Dudley on 01926 810942 or southamcommed@aol.com

Fees are for the whole course and based on a charge of £2.60 per hour. Some reductions/fee remissions are available. Please ask for further details.

SOUTHAM COLLEGE COMMUNITY COURSES

SPRING TERM 2007

EVENINGS BEGINNING

MONDAY, 15TH JANUARY 2007 AT 7.30 - 9.30PM

Cake icing and sugar paste flowers
 Basic computing and the internet
 European Computer Driving Licence
 Salsa - experienced - 7.30 - 8.30pm
 Salsa - beginners - 8.30 - 9.30pm
 Spanish for beginners - Term 2
 Tai Chi for all - 7.30 - 9.00pm
 Upholstery & Soft Furnishing
 Woodturning for beginners 6.30 - 7.30pm
 Woodturning - experienced 7.30 - 9.30pm

WEDNESDAY 17TH JANUARY AT 7.30 - 9.30PM

Digital cameras and photo editing 7.00 - 9.00pm - 6 weeks
 Fulfil your potential with Life coaching - 6 weeks
 German for beginners - Term 2 - 7.00 - 9.00pm
 Italian - for beginners - Term 2 - 7.00 - 9.00pm
 Lace making
 Men's fitness through sport - starts 10/01/07 - 8 weeks
 Yoga - beginners - 6.00 - 7.15pm
 Yoga - experienced 7.30 - 9.00pm

THURSDAY 18TH JANUARY AT 7.30 - 9.30PM

Arabic belly dance 7.00 - 8.00pm
 Come and play badminton 7.30 - 8.30pm
 French for beginners - Term 2
 Fun with flowers: an introduction to flower arranging
 Fun with Art

**FOR A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF MOST OF THESE COURSES PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.southamcollege.com AND FOLLOW THE COMMUNITY EDUCATION LINK.**



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