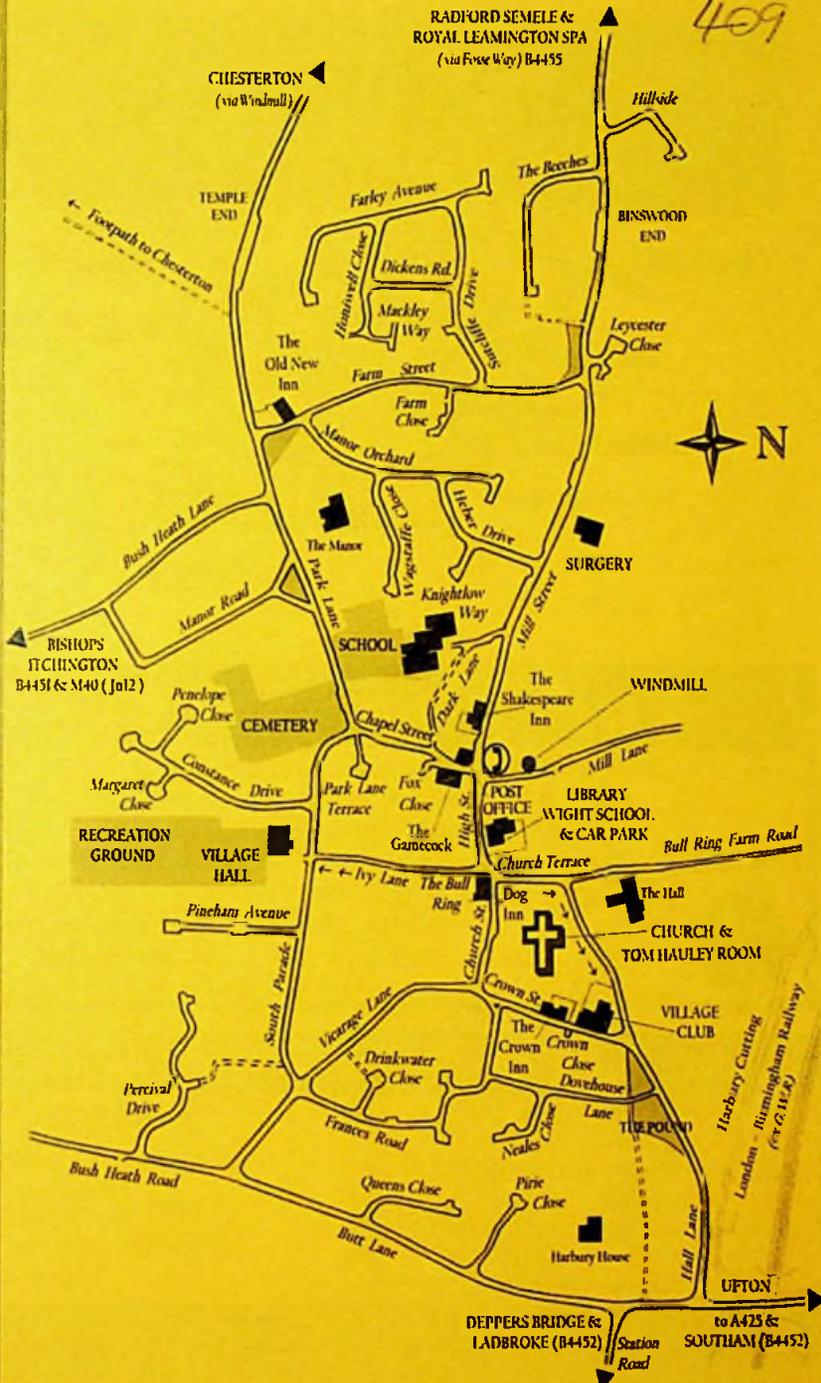
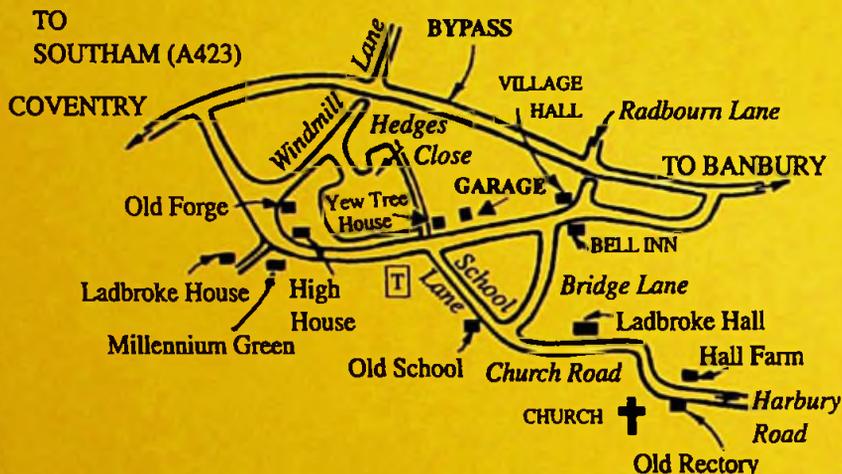


# Harbury & Ladbroke News



APRIL 2008

# Ladbroke



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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.

**April 2008**

**No.409**

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## Editorial Team

John Holden - Chris Finch - 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

All villagers are welcome to the AGM of the Harbury and Ladbroke News being held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00pm in The Shakespeare Inn.

We are pleased to have had several favourable comments on the quality of work produced by our new printers, Kyles of Southam.

Extra celebrations for May 1<sup>st</sup> this year – there are District Council elections and there will be elections for the Parish Council. Contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested in being one of the councillors.

After much fundraising and refurbishment, the Scout Hut will be officially opened and available for lettings.

We are fortunate to have a full complement of scouting groups in the village. Regrettably the Youth Drop-In has closed due to a disruptive minority. The Drop-In has offered some really good opportunities to the young people over the last few years.

The RNLI visited Harbury for the naming of the in-shore lifeboat, David Young, by Father Roy. Will this make the Guinness Book of Records?

Finally we extend our sympathies to the family of Peter Cook.

## Harbury Diary

### APRIL

- |      |   |  |
|------|---|--|
| Sat  | 5 | Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of British Heart Foundation<br>Councillors' Corner 10.00am – 11.30am outside the Post Office  |
| Sun  | 6 | <b>EASTER III</b><br>Holy Communion 8.00am<br>First Light Service 10.30am in Tom Hauley Room<br>Short Act of Worship at 6.00pm in Church followed by the Church AGM in Tom Hauley Room |
| Mon  | 7 | Village Hall AGM 7.30pm in Village Hall<br>Harbury & Ladbroke News AGM 8.00pm in Shakespeare Inn   |
| Tues | 8 | Toddlers Service 2.00pm in Church<br>Holy Communion 7.30pm<br>WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room   |

Wed	9	French lessons with Andrew Patrick 8.30pm -10.00pm in Village Hall "Talk it Through" 8.00pm at 33 South Parade
Thurs	10	Holy Communion 9.45am Bridge Club 7.00pm in Village Club
Fri	11	<b>RECYCLING &amp; GREEN WASTE COLLECTION</b>
Sat	12	Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Kids Club
Sun	13	<b>EASTER IV</b> Holy Communion 8.00am Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Tues	15	<b>ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM</b> Holy Communion 7.30pm Mothers' Union Meeting 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room Marie Calvert – Acorn Healing Centre Senior Citizens Benefit Committee 8.00pm in Village Hall
Weds	16	Tea 3.00pm - 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
Thurs	17	Holy Communion 9.45am Bridge Club 7.00pm in Village Club
Sat	19	Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Thursday Club 'Moving Pictures' Matinee starts 3.30pm in Village Hall – 'The Simpsons Movie' Harbury Juniors Football Club 80's disco 8.00pm – midnight at Rugby Club
Sun	20	<b>EASTER V</b> Holy Communion 8.00am Family Communion Service 10.30am Evensong 6.00pm
Tues	22	Holy Communion 7.30pm Julian Meeting 8.00pm in Church
Wed	23	"Talk it Through" 8.00pm at 33 South Parade
Thurs	24	Holy Communion 9.45am Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall <b>ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY &amp; EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM</b> Bridge Club 7.00pm in Village Club Parish Council 7.30pm in Village Hall
Fri	25	<b>RECYCLING &amp; GREEN WASTE COLLECTION</b>
Sat	26	Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Grange Players
Sun	27	<b>EASTER VI</b> Holy Communion 8.00am Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Tues	29	Holy Communion 7.30pm
Weds	30	Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30 – 4.30pm at 19 Farm St

**MAY**

Thurs	1	<b>ELECTIONS IN VILLAGE HALL ALL DAY</b> <b>ASCENSION DAY</b> Holy Communion 9.45am Art Group 10.00am - 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room Bridge Club 7.00pm in Village Club Men's Group Dinner 7.00pm for 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room Folk Club 8.30pm in Shakespeare
Sat	3	Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Nursery Myton Hospice Plant Sale Dog Inn Car Park 10.30 - 1.30pm
Sun	4	<b>EASTER VII</b> Holy Communion 8.00am First Light Service 10.30am in Tom Hauley Room Evening Worship 6.00pm

**From the Registers***Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury*

March 30 Atlanta Isabella Sheila Harrison

*Funerals at All Saints' Harbury*

February 27 Peter Cook

**From the Churchwardens**

**Tony & Fliss**

Easter, which fell on the earliest date, we believe, since 1913, has come and gone. In the three months since Christmas, Church life has been especially alive and active.

**Lent** - As happened last year, we had a series of Friday meditations which were very varied in approach, but all inspiring. Thank you to everyone who prepared them.

The meditations were followed by the Lent Lunches. Again, thank you to everyone involved in providing and preparing them. Proceeds will go to Bees Abroad, a locally spear-headed charity which trains young people in Africa in bee-keeping and allied skills. We can't tell you how much we raised because we forgot to ask the PCC Treasurer, but it was a goodly sum which will be published in the Pew Sheet at a later date!

**Mothering Sunday** fell on the first Sunday of the month and was therefore celebrated twice, at the 9 o'clock Sung Communion and later at First Light. Thank you very much to all involved.

**Women's World Day of Prayer** was prepared this year by the Christian Women of Guyana who took as their theme, "God's Wisdom Provider New Understanding". The service at Harbury was moving and inspiring, and we do thank everyone who took part, especially Anne and Ruth for all their hard work beforehand and, of course, the Reverend Iris Keyes, our preacher.



**Palm Sunday** fell on the day of the Family Communion Service. The presentation was given by Ruth Walton, who, from the point of view of the owner of the donkey and colt upon which Jesus rode into Jerusalem, helped us to relive in a very clear and relevant way the events of that day. After communion, the choir and the augmented choir sang the anthem "If ye love me keep my commandments" which was lovely, yet again, thank you. This seems a fitting opportunity to congratulate our young choristers who have not yet completed a year of membership but who are doing splendidly, learning a lot and making a real contribution to our services.

**Holy Week and Easter** – We are very grateful that we have been able to maintain our customary pattern of services throughout Holy Week: Holy Communion, the Stations of the Cross, the commemoration of the Last Supper, the Good Friday Children's Service and Devotional Hour, the Easter ceremonies. Thank you to Alison, our reader and to Father Stephen and Father Norman. It means much to the congregation that these opportunities to prepare for Easter Day are open to them.

Services on Easter Day were well attended and we were very pleased to welcome visitors to the village. The church always looks lovely, but this year many commented on the beauty and simplicity of the choice of flowers and colours. It's good to have a particular occasion to thank Jo House and her team and also to acknowledge the support of people who slip in and out of church to make sure that all the many preparations for Easter fall into place.

Now we look ahead to Ascension Day and to Pentecost, 11<sup>th</sup> May, when at his Licensing Service at 3.00pm we shall welcome Father Craig as our new priest.



## Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

The afternoon meeting heard a Lent talk by Diane Patterson, our rural Dean. She explained the word Lent refers to the days lengthening; traditionally it was a time for candidates to prepare for baptism at Easter. She read extracts describing the solemn recognition of the season by writers Noel Streatfeild and Maria von Trapp, when self discipline was much stricter than today.

In the evening members shared their experiences of using the Mothers' Union Lent calendar, with its suggestions for using the time in positive ways.

A letter from our link in Tomasina, Madagascar, told us how the ladies there practise their faith by visiting various villages on foot, sleeping on the ground, and taking the gospel, food and clothes.

We are responding to a request from a hostel in Rugby which helps teenagers who have become homeless. As they come with nothing, we are asked to fill spongebags with basic essentials, for boys as well as girls. If you do not feel able to complete a bag yourself, please bring items to the next meeting.

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Southam Deanery Festival at 2.30pm.

Next evening meeting will be on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00pm. Marie Calvert from the Acorn Healing Centre is a tutor in Christian listening. As this should be of general interest, visitors are invited to join us.

Next afternoon meeting is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm – Ann Ainscow from Ufton.



## First Light

Alison Abbott

### **The Lord is my Shepherd**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm is familiar to most of us, but at First light on 4<sup>th</sup> May we shall think about Jesus' role as a shepherd – and our likeness to sheep!

This informal service will be in the Tom Hauley Room at 10.30am – or come early for a coffee.

On April 6<sup>th</sup> First Light looks at Jesus – the Servant King.



## Toddler's Service

Lorna Bedford

Mrs Jennifer Ingram led our March Toddlers Service. Firstly we said a prayer thanking God for our families, clothes and homes. We then heard the story of the wise man who built his house upon the rock and the foolish man who built his house upon the sand. Mrs Ingram showed us a lego house standing on a hard stone and one standing on a bed of sand. We made the noises of the wind and the rain which blew upon the two houses. We heard how the house built on the rock stood firm and the house built on the sand fell down. The story illustrated that we should build our lives on the firm foundation of Jesus and His teaching.

We sang two action songs, "Jesus' love is very wonderful" and "The wise man built his house upon the rock", accompanied by Mr Catt on the clarinet.

For our activity Mrs Ingram had drawn a house and garden and we had to stick on lots of pretty flowers and butterflies to make a very colourful picture. We then had refreshments and played until it was time to go home.

Our next Toddler Service is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April in the children's corner of the church. All babies and toddlers, accompanied by an adult, are welcome to join us.

## Ladbroke News & Diary

### APRIL

Sun	6	<b>EASTER III</b> Family Communion 10.30am in Church
Mon	7	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Tues	8	Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
Sat	12	Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
Sun	13	<b>EASTER IV</b> Holy Communion 9.00am in Church
Mon	14	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Tues	15	ADVERTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall

Weds	16	Village AGM 7.30pm in Village Hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>EASTER V</b> Holy Communion 9.00am BCP in Church
Mon	21	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Tues	22	Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
Thurs	24	ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
Sat	26	Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>EASTER VI</b> Holy Communion 9.00am
Mon	28	Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Tues	29	Aerobics 6.00pm in Village Hall Yoga 7.00pm in Village Hall
<b>MAY</b>		
Sat	3	Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>EASTER VII</b> Family Communion 10.30am

## Ladbroke Flower Rota

Jane Rutherford

April	13	Trisha Teverson
April	20	Pam Barnett
April	27	Jane Steenstra
May	4	Kate Todman
May	11	Jane Rutherford (Whitsun)
May	18	Jane Rutherford



## Ladbroke Church News

Betty Winkfield

Many thanks to Bill Bosworth for his work and time in getting the choir together for the Good Friday Devotional Service of music and readings. Talking to people in the congregation after the service they did enjoy it. We had a good congregation on Easter Sunday too in spite of the wintry weather.

What a shame it was to find, after a very spiritual Eastertide that someone has stolen the lead off the pantry extension.

As we gradually reach the end of a very long interregnum may we thank our Church Wardens for their excellent job in keeping everything running. We have had some really excellent ministers taking our services too. Our appreciation and thanks to them.



## Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I.

Christine Baker

Nicki Chatterton gave a fascinating demonstration on Acupuncture this month. Her patient who had been suffering from a skin complaint on her hands and soles of her feet for some time had tried all kinds of therapy before trying acupuncture. After only two weeks of acupuncture there was a vast improvement.

We learned some of the history on this ancient medical treatment and many interesting questions by our members followed. The raffle was won by Jill Norgate and Joyce Stevens.

Next Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March is Movement & Music for 60+. Please come along and support our Coffee Morning at Tom Hauley Rooms on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2008. 10am – 12 noon. There will be a raffle, cakes, Bric-a-Brac to enjoy.



## Ladbroke Parish Council

Betty Winkfield

**Public Participation** – The Parish Council was asked for advice about form filling for the very modern facilities available for new village halls. What did the Council think about solar panelling and flushing toilets with rainwater? Solar panelling was not an option; unsightly, the panels would need positioning facing the road. Collecting rainwater for flushing toilets was a possibility but in the main much in the form was not applicable to Ladbroke Village Hall.

Ladbroke Hill Farm has taken delivery of and has planted the free trees from Warwickshire County Council.

**Police Report** – Burglaries were reported in Napton, Southam and Ladbroke. The travellers camping on the ground, owned by Warwickshire County Council at the north turning into the village are not causing any problems and should be moving soon.

**Smartwater** – Jim Clews was pleased to report that 20 people had taken up smartwater, including the Church. That was almost the 30% required to mark the village a smartwater area.

**Matters arising** – A footpath from Windmill Lane to the Millennium Green will not be developed. Gez Romano of County Highways department has been contacted regarding:

Road repairs from Harbury Road to Ladbroke Hall.

The disappearance of road signs along the A423.

The cleansing of gullies through the village (an expensive undertaking).

The dog fouling in Bridge Lane which has been cleaned up!

**Planning** – The “pollarding” of trees on several properties has been agreed.

**Highways and Drainage (Flood)** – The councillors were pleased with the work already carried out along the brook from Sarah’s cottage to the Church Lane Bridge. The stepping stones that were in the brook from the Hall were replaced following removal by the council, but have again been removed. There was still more work to be done. A question was asked about making the brook deeper or at least removing the silted up stretches.

The District Councillor stated that work in the area was being done to reduce the flooding into properties. The heavy rains this month had again caused flooding in Alcester.

The Parish Council had taken possession of over one hundred empty sandbags. There were queries about their effectiveness. Plastic barriers are better for deflecting water away from properties.

**The Parish Plan** – The Parish Council have to approve the action plan. A progress report will be presented at the Village AGM.

**The Village Hall** – Several social evenings are planned, a Safari Supper and a Christmas Party. The committee are running a tombola stall at the Summer Fete.

**The Millennium Green** – The new equipment has been ordered and should be installed by the end of next month. The Quiz night raised over £400.

Apologies were received from Warwickshire County Councillor.

**Report from the District Councillor** – As we know the council tax will rise by 3.5%. Some Parish Councils have asked for a precept of 45% increase. The police are asking for a rise of 12%. (The pamphlets received with your council tax demand have all the details of how the tax is spent).

The rural cinemas have really “taken off” in some parishes and are making good profits. The district councillor hopes to see Ladbroke taking up the scheme - children’s cinema on Saturday mornings.

Although the district council is giving grants to parishes where flooding has occurred, they do feel that the communities themselves are the

best people to deal with the immediate problems. There are pumps available from the district council to help clear water from properties.

**Ladbroke community website** – This should be live by the end of April. Hopefully there will be a launch presentation at the AVM. It was stressed that the website will belong to the community NOT the Parish Council.

**Jane Cove** – has been appointed as Ladbroke's new parish clerk. Collette Bell was thanked for the three years service she has given to the councillors – keeping them in order.

Kim Benzak has had to retire from the Parish Council. She was also thanked for all her work setting up the website. A vacancy will be advertised or a new member will be co-opted.

Please note that there will be no Parish Council meeting in April.

**The Village AGM is on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.



## Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

Janet Goldson

The results of the draw for February and March were:

	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>
£80	P Edgar	Trish Teverson
£25	Pam Collins	Andy Bendzak
£25	K Tancock	Derek & Collette Batty
£10	John Lowman	Catherine Spence
£10	Sheena Healey	Richard Walker
£10	Nicky Lewis	Pat Kennedy
£10	Cyril Spence	John Lowman
£10	Malcolm Wray	Geoff & Georgina Middleton



## Ladbroke Millennium Green

Carol Lane

By the time this magazine is distributed we hope that the first phase of the developments on the Green will have been completed. This will enlarge the children's play area, install toddler swings and replace the worn bench and see-saw. It must have felt like a long time following the many discussions which were held over the last 3 years regarding possible improvements. However, certain legal precedents had to be

followed. Firstly we had to gain permission from Natural England (formerly The Countryside Agency) to increase the area of hard standing. We then applied for and were granted planning permission. While this was going on Derek Batty was completing many documents to apply for any grants which may be available for this type of development. However, we are mainly indebted to the Alibone Trust for their generous donation of £2,500 which has enabled us to commence this first phase, and approval of a grant of £10,000 from SDC to enable us to progress completion of this phase and commencement of phase two. Developed funds will enable conclusion of the developments on the Green.

Watch this space! Better still go and try out the toddler swings – if you have a toddler handy!



## Ladbroke Millennium Green Quiz Night

Carol Lane

As can be seen, it was 'heads down' again at the Millennium Green Quiz Night on 29<sup>th</sup> February in the Village Hall, except for Peter Loftus (just below Her Majesty) who obviously had given the answer and was waiting for the others to catch up!



Sixteen teams pitted their wits against last year's winners, Memory Lane. In a closely fought contest, the thought provoking questions were devised and posed by Peter Goldson and Janet and friends ran between the tables collecting papers and completing the score sheet.

Paul Taylor and Kip Warr manned the bar which had been stocked by Peter and Carole Loftus and we are indebted to Alan Lord. As Sue was helping at the Village Hall he thought he was in for an uninterrupted evening by the fire. Not a bit of it! We forgot to buy raffle tickets so Alan was suddenly despatched for books of tickets and an extra prize or two. It was worth his effort as the raffle raised almost £100 towards the £400 profit for the evening, which will go towards the running costs of the Millennium Green.

Many thanks to all who took part. Oh yes, Memory Lane did just ease to the front in the last round.

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### HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL 36 PERCIVAL DRIVE HARBURY CV33 9GZ

Parish Council meetings are  
open to the Public. To speak on  
any issue, please contact the  
Parish Clerk.

#### **CHAIRMAN:**

Tim Lockley

#### **CLERK:**

Nicola Thompson

#### **PARISH OFFICE:**

Tel: 614646

Email: [clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk)



## Harbury Parish Council - February 08

Linda Ridgley

*Official minutes can be viewed in the Library on the Parish Council website [www.harbury-parish.co.uk](http://www.harbury-parish.co.uk) or obtained from the Parish Clerk*

**Crime** - Both Mandy Crust and Katrina Taylor, the Community Support Officers, attended the meeting to urge councillors and residents to support the PACT meetings in Southam where they could alert the police to their concerns.

The Police were requested to ensure there was a strong presence at Harbury Carnival to prevent a recurrence of last year's Rave and they promised to patrol on Tuesdays when the Youth Drop in was taking place as some youths were still acting irresponsibly.

The Police persons explained their powers to issue Stop and Search Forms to nuisance youths. They had powers to confiscate alcohol and after issuing a warning could seize the motor cycles that were ridden illegally on the Playing Fields. The ladies then left to confront the youths buzzing round the Recreation Grounds!

**Schools** - It was confirmed that Harbury's Deputy Headmaster, Nigel Chapman, will retire at the end of the summer term. Southam School Governors Parish Cllr Sharon Hancock and Warwickshire County Cllr Bob Stevens reported a very good Ofsted inspection for Southam School.

**Local Authority Members** - Stratford Councillor Andrew Patrick reported on the Area Parish Councils' meeting where Rob Weeks from the District gave a presentation on the new Refuse and Recycling Collections. The District had kept its budget increase low but there was now no funding to support the Arts in the District, which he regretted.

Cllr Patrick had organised a protest at Harbury Post Office on the threatened closures. Businesses targeted for closure would be revealed on 24<sup>th</sup> June.

The next Councillors' Surgery would be outside the Post Office on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

County Councillor Stevens explained that the 14% increase in the Police budget was to cover the costs of the aborted amalgamation and police pensions. Along with Cllrs Patrick and Barton he blamed the tax rises on the government which did not fund our County fairly. The

County's funding priorities were: - Education, Adult Services and the Environment.

**Deppers Bridge** - Cllr Ron Grey's statistics showed a reduction in the number of Heavy Goods Vehicles still crossing the Railway Bridge. Warwickshire County Councillor Stevens promised that the County would provide improved signage in Southam to deter HGV's and in June/July they would undertake a traffic count followed by a formal consultation on the options and then send a recommendation to the Area Committee. This could be to continue with the HGV ban; to install traffic lights or to undertake major works on the railway bridge. He acknowledged that the ban still inconvenienced farmers and that the bus re-routing was not ideal.

**Highways & Properties** - Parish Chairman Tim Lockley reminded Councillors that there was money set aside to paint the street furniture and that the Parish had still not heard from the County about their thoughts on Traffic Management.

There were concerns about the state of the road surface at the south of Ivy Lane and Cllr Winchester complained that the No Entry sign was not correctly positioned.

The Councillors agreed the annual fee to maintain the Alligator Teeth at the entrance to the Recreation Grounds Car Park and quotes for the repair of Play Equipment. They thanked Ron Grey for producing and fitting the new Notice board.

Cllr Thornley reported the removal of a four foot square of turf from the Playing Fields. There were various suggestions to explain this bizarre occurrence. The most Christian being it was used to refurbish the goalmouths – the least that someone wanted to patch their own lawn!

### **Planning**

The Parish Council made no representation on the treeworks at the Quarries but made substantial comments about the proposed Waste Transfer Station at Island Farm, Ufton mainly covering concerns about increased traffic. There had still been no decision on the proposals to extend the Ufton Landfill Site and create a Materials Recycling Facility there. The Parish will seek Planning Permission for the BMX track on its Playing Fields.

Stratford granted permission for a detached double garage at The Bungalow, Mill St; a rear extension at 19 Manor Road and retrospective permission for the smoking shelter at the Great Western

Hotel, Deppers Bridge. They gave notice of two appeal hearings (starting 3<sup>rd</sup> June at the District Council Offices) relating to Follets' plans for 21 Fishing Lodges and a Fisherman's Clubhouse at the Quarries.

**Elections** - The Chairman reminded Councillors that they were all up for election this spring and should ensure they took their completed nomination forms to the District Council Offices and their profiles to the Harbury News.

**Finance** - The PC suggested that the local Women's Royal Voluntary Service branch might request a grant from the PC as Parish rules did not allow them to fund the WRVS National organisation.

Cllr Mancell announced that they would soon launch the new Parish Council Website which would then continue to develop once it was "live". However he revealed that Stratford District insisted on charging the Parish £265 for a live link to their planning portal. The suspicion is that this is a punishment for failing to wait for the District's own Parish Councils' website to materialise.

**Next Meeting** – 27<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm Harbury Village Hall.



**Harbury Parish Council - March 08**

Linda Ridgley

**What do you think?** The Parish Council has refurbished the Notice Board outside the Village Hall and put it on the road side of the fence so that it is easier to read the notices. Someone has complained about its new position. There are only two possible positions where it is or where it was. Which is best?

Fortunately the new Parish Council website [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk) seems to have universal approval and the Council is considering entering it for the new Warwickshire Village of the Year Competition and is encouraging other village organisations to have links from the site.

The Public Participation slot saw Charles Barlow from Warwickshire Rural Community Council, Neil Gilliver the new Development Officer at Warwickshire Rural Housing Association and Claire Linfoot from Linfoot Country Homes explain, to a packed audience of residents, the amendments to Phase One of the housing scheme on Bush Heath Lane.

There have been minor changes to the layout removing the pond and providing more open space. Ground investigations and drainage feasibility studies are on-going and Claire took on board neighbours' concerns about the flooding they have experienced recently.

Charles explained that once the amended plans have been finalised there should be a public meeting where people can inspect the layout, elevations, and house types, give their views and discuss concerns.

He reassured the audience that because the homes were for local people: - those who had lived here for a year, or previously lived here for three years, worked in the village for a year; been born here, or have immediate family here, there was less likelihood that the homes would generate major congestion or overwhelm the school than would a free market development.

Once the first phase was completed another Housing Need Survey would have to be undertaken before any more land was developed to reassess the village's need for more homes. These surveys collected details of income, equity and savings to ensure that those in housing need could afford them.

Charles commended the recent Linfoot affordable homes development at Long Compton and Cllrs who had visited the site endorsed his view that these were attractive homes well suited to the village.

**Sustainability** - Cllr Thornley enthused about Snitterfield's determination to work towards being a Carbon Neutral Community. The Parish Council agreed to help the Village Hall Committee in their attempts to improve the energy efficiency of the Hall and is investigating energy improvements to the village footway lighting. In the long term they will phase out the Mercury lamps.

**Planning** - Stratford granted permission for the treeworks at the Quarries and the felling of a Hawthorn at Pan's Garden, Farm Street. The Parish Council commenting on plans for a garage block at "The Old Orchard", Mill Street said it would not be used as ancillary accommodation.

Biffa has withdrawn its application to extend the Tip and District Cllr Patrick said they will reapply for the recycling and composting element.

He went on to explain the elements making up Council Tax in light of the government investigation into the 14% increase in the Police precept. He described the District Council as having the smallest part

of the bill and being the smallest tier of local government but was swiftly corrected by Cllr Mancell. The Parish Council holds that position!

**Antisocial behaviour** - Reporting that the BMX track was awaiting approval, Cllr Thornley suggested that strong measures would be needed to ensure motorcycles were prohibited from using the facility. Councillors were also concerned that there would be no repetition of the disgraceful behaviour that took place after last year's Carnival. They have requested a Police presence. There is litter in the Memorial Garden in Chapel Street and the bench has been damaged. The tree in the Children's Play Area has been damaged. The fence surrounding the Tennis Courts has been damaged by children playing football and needs to be replaced at a cost of £1,440 with stronger mesh.

**Street scene** - A Mill Street Drain is collapsing, the Ivy Lane One Way System is causing concerns and there is still no news on the Traffic Management Project. However, BT has cleaned out and painted the Mill Street Phone Box! Cynical Cllr Mancell asked whether the telephone worked.



**Parish Council** - If enough nominations are received there will be an election for the Parish Council on May 1<sup>st</sup> along with the District Elections. The Parish Council agreed to purchase a small commemorative plaque to go with the memorial photograph of Cllr John Drinkwater to be placed in the Tom Hauley Room.



## Councillor's Corner

Andrew Patrick

A reminder that the next **Councillors' Corner** will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April outside the Post Office, from 10:00am to 11:30am.

County, District and Parish will all be represented. Hope to see you there!



## New Community Website

Harbury Parish Council

By using some of the funding from a grant from Awards for All, Harbury Parish Council has a new redeveloped website. The site can be found at the address [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk) and contains lots of useful information about what is going on in the village as well as all Council minutes, agendas and reports. Visitors to the site can download the Parish Plan, check on recent planning applications (new direct feed page to Stratford District Council coming soon) as well as look up the Council members for the Parish, District and County and find links direct to the County and District Councils and other organisations. If your business or voluntary organisation would like a link from the website to your own web pages, please contact the Nicola Thompson, Parish Clerk, on 01926-614646, e-mail [clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk) in order to arrange this. This is a FREE service to all village businesses and organisations.



## Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

There are two meetings to report on. In February local historian Bob Bearman recently retired Head Archivist for the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust gave an insight to the evolution of local market towns and highlighted their common features. Markets had been trading from Anglo-Saxon times but by the Twelfth Century the Crown insisted that Markets could only be held by royal Charter. Once a Charter was granted no other market could be held on the same day within 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles – (walking distance of one another).

Some of the smaller village markets did not survive. Wellesbourne Hastings was granted in 1246 on land between the two parallel roads to Kineton, but buildings have filled in the area. Often the only remnant of market status is a very large church, like, the Cathedral of the Feldon at Brailes. Burton Dassett too has almost nothing to show for its market status but its huge church.

Warwick's Market Place was where it is today in the centre but there was another market at the crossroads of High Street and Church Street. The Market Hall was built in the late Seventeenth Century and had open arcading at ground floor to accommodate traders. Stratford

gained a charter and a planned town was set out. Rother Market was a large open space but Bridge Street was the site of another market with the Market Cross at the top. In 1821 this was replaced by what is now Barclays Bank which was originally arcaded and open at the ground floor.

Kenilworth Market Place was at the fork in the road in front of the De Montford Hotel. However it was not very successful. Rugby prior to the railway was a small town on the intersection of two important routes. The Market Place (as it is called today) was a funnel shaped space which has been infilled. The Shambles occupied the middle and these buildings survive today (one houses the Watchbox). Southam Market Hill was once much wider. The infilling on the east may include the now restored King's House.

For the Annual General Meeting in March David Julien, Chief Executive – Warwickshire Energy Efficiency Centre gave an informative and entertaining explanation of the reasons why climate was changing with examples of how the individual home-owner could help to cut carbon dioxide emissions. He warned that many people thought climate change would bring us a Californian climate but it could be more like Spaghetti Junction in the Desert. Since David was at school CO<sup>2</sup> had increased from 250 to 370 parts per million.

Then there is the problem of energy supply. North Sea gas production is falling so that for the first time the UK is a net importer of fuel, yet a third of the energy we consume is wasted; and a third is lost because of inefficiency. We have 25,000 excess winter deaths because of the lack of adequate heating in the home.

Seventy to Eighty percent of our annual fuel cost is heating, but in a typical house 35% is lost through the walls; 25% through the roof; 15% through the floor; 15% by draughts and only 10% through the windows – yet this is where most people spend money on insulation.

What you can do. Insulate your walls first. Cavity wall insulation now costs about £150 (it's free to the over 70's or those on benefits). Second put in at least 10 inches of loft insulation. Third when you replace your boiler you will be obliged to install a high efficiency one plus a room thermostat, timer and thermostatic radiator valves.

Next make sure any appliances you buy are A rated. The difference in energy consumption can be £50 a year and over the 12 years of its life that's a £600 saving. Then change to energy efficient light bulbs. A 100 watt bulb has a life of 1,000 hours – so at 10p/kilowatt hour that's

£10 of energy over its life. The low energy equivalent (20 watts) times 10p used £2 of energy but it actually lasts for 1,500 hours – so it saves £100 over its lifetime.

You can also SWITCH to renewable energy sources. This makes your supplier buy in “green” energy and helps force them to invest in green, renewable energy. Information on this can be obtained from:-

[www.greenprices.co.uk](http://www.greenprices.co.uk)    [www.ecotricity.co.uk](http://www.ecotricity.co.uk)    and    [www.good-energy.co.uk](http://www.good-energy.co.uk)



## Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

Because of the weather, the first walk of the year was on firm ground. We thank Jean Abrahams for organising the amble/walk around Harbury pointing out the old properties. There was a little information about the village en route and the weather was good too.

Outings are being arranged to Althorpe on 17<sup>th</sup> July and maybe Evesham in August.

There are many classes and activities that members can participate in organised by Warwickshire federation. Yes, even the 90 mile walk (don't panic only one mile) to raise money. There is also a new 90<sup>th</sup> birthday “celebration” pelargonium offer.

Must let all readers know about the W.I Coffee Morning on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at Tom Hauley Room. The usual raffle, sales table and, of course, cake table will be there.

It was a pleasant members evening in March run by our usual group of “gels”. The mind taxing activity we joined in proved very light hearted with much laughter which was what we wanted. Many thanks “gels”.

April speaker: Emlyn Evans – Polar Race 2007



## Harbury Theatre Group

Ruth Walton

Harbury Theatre Group presents An Evening of Entertainment.

**What's on?**

A double bill: **“Swan Song” by Vanessa Brooks**

Donald, a sardonic and weary Chartered Surveyor, is retiring from the long established, small town company he's devoted himself to for the last thirty-five years.

Margaret is his hardworking, unmarried secretary who has devoted herself to Donald. On his last day, Donald has planned to spend the day doing what he wants to do. But Mimi, his bored, lonely wife has other ideas ...

Funny, witty and sad by turns.

### **"Last Panto In Harbury?" by David Tristram**

Our intrepid Theatre Group once more must satisfy their audience's desire for a panto. But with a company of four actors, choices are limited. Will they pull it off? Or will it all end in disaster?

Side splitting comedy with those well-known characters from "Last Tango in Little Grimley", and "The Fat Lady Sings in Little Grimley"

**When?** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May (Saturday includes a supper)

**Where?** Harbury Village Hall

**What time?** Bar opens 7.15 pm. Curtain up 7.45 pm

**How much?** Thursday & Friday - Tickets £5.00 (Concessions £3.50)  
Saturday - All Tickets £8.50 (to include a 2- course supper)

**Where can I get my tickets?** Tickets will be on sale from 1<sup>st</sup> April (Tel 613214), or from Country Fayre Greengrocers, Chapel Street.



**Folk Club**

**Sue Hartland**

I selected a theme for the March Folk Club that I thought most performers would be experts at – Pub Names! I was right, every artist managed to stick to the theme.

Contributions in the first half came from The Harvesters, Maureen and Janny, Stuart, Summer, who managed to mention three Pub names without even realising it, Des, Liz and Pete and Dan and Susie. Pubs mentioned were The Man in the Moon, The Ship, The Shakespeare, The Crown, The Swallow, The Nightly, The Railway, The Barn, The Farmer's Arms, The Butcher's Arms The Rainbow, The Windmill, The Dog, and finally, The Admiral Benbow beautifully performed by The Bones family.

The second half opened with Band of Folk who managed to include The Star and Garter and The Black Buoy. Danansooz followed with Dark Eyed Sailor and The Whitby Maid. Pete Grassby was next followed by Ted and Sue who did a great version of Our Captain Cried All Hands, then came Rick who got us all singing with The Robin Adair. Martin finished the second half with The Kings and Queens of England, that's a great song! Pubs mentioned were The Cottage, The Sunrise, The Craftsman, The Station, The Pilgrim, The Captain's Table, The Poacher, Drops of Ale, General Wolfe.

We had a short third half, Ron drank the old pub dry, Debbie sang Liverpool Lullaby, Stuart followed and Martin closed the evening. Pubs mentioned were The Two Boats, The Cocked Hat, The Fitter's Arms, The Crown and The Knotty Ash.

The raffle raised £50 which is boosting Ian's sponsor money for The British Heart Foundation. Did you know he's running in The London Marathon?

Next month's theme is The Elements and the evening will be hosted by Steve & Maureen.

.If you want a seat then come early, see you then.



## Harbury Twinning Association

Sally Stringer

We are looking forward to our forthcoming visit to Samoia in May (2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>), but I have had the following plea from a family in Samoia.

*"My family and I are new members of the Samoia' Twinning Association.*

*Last Tuesday we had a meeting preparing your weekend in Samoia and Nelly told me there is no new English family for us to receive at home. We are very disappointed about that because we were expected a family with one or two children.*

*We have two boys from 12 to 14 years old and they both learn English at school. We were hoping they could meet children around their age. We don't mind about boys or girls.*

*I'm writing to you because I hope you can do something for us and I can't believe there is no family in Harbury who wants to spend a weekend in our beautiful village between river and forest.*

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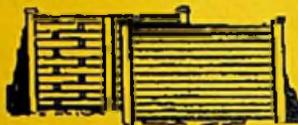
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*I'm sorry to disturb you with this request but it seems you are the only way for us and I'm sure you will understand well."*

If there is a suitable family in Harbury who would like to be twinned with this family please give me a call on 613214. The only problem is that as far as the coming visit is concerned, we only have one, or possibly two spare places on the coach so it would mean flying to Paris where I am sure the family would meet you. If you are interested please let me know - from previous experience it would be a very rewarding and enjoyable experience.

**Harbury Juniors**  
FOOTBALL CLUB

**Harbury Junior's Football**

### Diary Dates:

The Kineton Tournament is spread over two days this year. Saturday 10th May: U8s, U9s and U10s matches **will take place at Tysoe.**

Sunday 11th May: U11s, U12/13s and U15s matches **will take place at Kineton.**

HJFC presentation evening is Saturday 10th May; doors open 6.30pm for a 7pm start. HJFC club tournament is Sunday 18th May registration 9.30am for a 10am start, approx finish 3pm. Many thanks to all those who were able to support the coffee morning before Easter - we raised £170!

We need donations for the Presentation Evening raffle - if you can give anything please let your coach know or contact Bobbie Sharpe (614040) or Lynda Murray (612524). Please consider asking e.g. your employer or any company you think would be willing to donate a prize. The more prizes the better and the more chance of winning! If each family could donate something that would be fantastic.



**Harbury Tennis Club**

**Colin and Sue Mercer**

In the Banbury League both "A" and "B" teams completed their winter fixtures with emphatic wins but their final league positions were poles apart! The "A" team under Geoff Prince's leadership outplayed Byfield "C". Geoff and Andrew were taken to a first set tiebreak which they won and then won the second 6-3.

Angie Dean (playing in her last match for Harbury before leaving the area) partnered Louise Street to a hard fought 6-3, 7-5 win, putting Harbury in a comfortable position at the halfway point. In the mixed doubles Andrew and Louise completed a comfortable 6-3, 6-3 win while Geoff and Angie halved their rubber giving Harbury an overall 7-1 victory. This was their 10th win of the season and with only one defeat ensured that they are promoted from Division 2 as champions.

In complete contrast the "B" team under yours truly's leadership are relegated! This was despite an excellent 6-2 win away against Tysoe "A". Jon Guy and Colin Mercer dominated their opponents with a 6-3, 6-0 win while Caroline and Sue Panton halved their rubber. After losing the first set 3-6 they fought back well to win the second 6-3. Jon and Sue took this form into the mixed doubles and secured a 6-3, 6-1 win. Caroline and Colin won a close first set 6-4 but the home pair came back well to win the second 6-3.

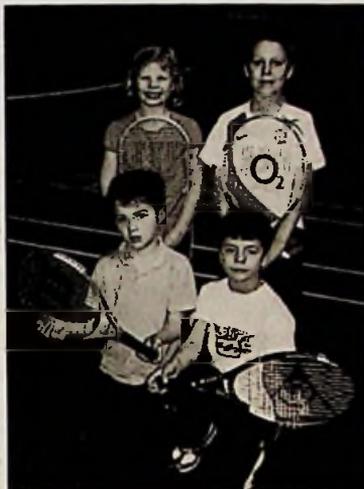
In the floodlit league, relegation is also a possibility! Harbury has had a poor run of results since Christmas, the last match being a 1-7 defeat against Towcester 2. The team was Caroline Morland, Eira Owen, Steve Stark, and Paul Crowton who put up stiff resistance with 3 of the 8 sets going to tiebreaks, but unfortunately Towcester won all 3! Everything now hinges on the last match against already relegated Deddington 3.

The Men's Doubles team are heading for mid table security with 2 matches to play having won 5 and lost 5. However, they have had an excellent run in the knock-out plate competition and have reached the semi-finals where they face very tough opposition in Alcester "B" – still nobody gave Barnsley a chance against Chelsea in the FA Cup!

For the summer we will only have one team in the Banbury league for the first time in 9 years, due to a shortage of ladies committed to regular competitive matches. This is a pity as only 4 years ago we were able to enter 3 teams. However, we have entered a team in the Rugby and District Mixed Division. This is a different format requiring two ladies compared to three in the Banbury league, and fewer fixtures. We hope our remaining ladies will be flexible enough (and fit enough!) to cover the 22 matches. We're certainly looking forward to playing new teams in the east of the County and Leicestershire.

The Juniors' winter programme was completed before Easter. Those playing outside have had some awful weather to contend with, but they have maintained their enthusiasm as have their coaches and assistants, so well done to all! Harbury's Junior Teams have also been

very busy on the leagues organised by Warwickshire LTA at venues around the County. Many of the matches are against some of the bigger clubs with extensive coaching and performance programmes and we have been very impressed with how our youngsters have progressed – it's a credit to them and to our coaches. There have been some outstanding performances by our Mini Red (8 and under) team and our Orange Boys (9 and under) The Mini Red team had lost heavily against highly rated Shipston, some of whose players are getting 3 or 4 hours coaching a week. The next fixture was against Esporta who aren't that far behind Shipston so the team of Gwyneth Jones, Morgan Hall, Adam Jackson and Oliver Mansell must have been fearing the worst but pulled off a shock by beating the home team. All four members played particularly well against a much more experienced and well rehearsed team. Gwyneth's match in particular went to a tie break at 12 - 12 and she narrowly missed out in a sudden death point play off. However, her serving was brilliant getting most points in on a first serve and gaining in confidence all the time. Attached is a picture of the winning team.



In the Orange Boys category Mathieu Savin and Matthew Rose are developing an excellent understanding and becoming a very good doubles team. In the Mini Tennis Classic league they had excellent wins against Kenilworth and Rugby and lost narrowly to Leamington, each match comprising 3 tiebreaks scored matches, 2 singles and a doubles. They finished joint second with Leamington and Kenilworth but missed out on qualifying for the later stages of the tournament by virtue of the "totting up" of games won. The success has given the boys the confidence to enter tournaments at other Clubs. They

recently played at Rugby where Matthew won 3 of his five matches and Mathieu won 2 of his. Their next tournament is at Leamington Tennis Club. They are pictured at Harbury after a coaching session.

The next round of Junior coaching starts the week beginning 7th April, and places have now been allocated. This is no mean feat when trying to cater for ages 5 to 16 and different standards of tennis. Linda Casement, our Head Coach, has worked extremely hard to try to fit everyone into appropriate groups, but unfortunately not everyone can be satisfied. This is mainly because with so many other activities the children get involved in there are always clashes of days.

We are pleased to welcome Duncan Scheltens to our coaching team this term. He is head coach at Byfield tennis club and has very kindly stepped in to replace Pete Brinkley. Pete will be missed as he has been coaching for 2 hours for us in the summer for many years, but is now needed more at his main tennis club in Rugby. Duncan will be coaching some of our Mini Red and Mini Orange players on Tuesdays.

We are very pleased that 3 of our teenagers, Adam Crossling, Dan Ward and Jon Guy are taking the Level 1 Coaching Assistant qualification. They will be working with several groups under Linda's supervision this term. Our other qualified coaches Sue Panton and Eira Owen will be taking Mini Red and teenage groups respectively.

We have entered teams in Mini Red, Mini Orange and Mini Green leagues and also 4 teams of different age groups in the South Warwickshire Junior League.

We have been asked by Warwickshire LTA to host 2 of the Mini Green League events on Saturdays 17th May and 5th July from 2.00pm, so if you fancy seeing our 10 year olds in action, please come along and give them some support.

We are holding an Open Day on **Saturday 19th April** from 2.00pm to 4.30pm. Anyone aged 16 and over is welcome to come along at any time during the afternoon for some social tennis and to meet some of our club members. All standards of players are welcome and some refreshments will be available in the Clubhouse. If you would like to come along or have any questions please contact me.



## Harbury Toddler Group

Julie Young & Jacqui McElfrick

A very belated 'Happy New Year' from all at Toddler Group!

After a very busy run up to Christmas the children returned to start the New Year with great enthusiasm.

They have had a great time playing together and sharing stories at biscuit time. The weather has limited some of our usual outdoor play but indoors it has been business as usual with our toddlers getting the opportunity to try their hand at lots of different craft activities.

The children have had a wonderful time decorating heart shaped biscuits for Valentine's Day, getting in a sticky muddle with playdough as well as creating some gorgeous lion faces and beautiful cards for Mother's Day and Easter.



### **Congratulations**

The New Year has been an especially exciting time for Charlotte and Mia who have been getting used to life as big sisters following the arrival of Oliver and Emily. Congratulations to both families!

**Thanks** - The Toddler Coffee morning on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February was extremely well supported and we raised a record breaking sum which can now be put aside for the children's Summer Trip. Thank you so much to everyone who helped us achieve this by baking cakes, donating raffle prizes, volunteering on the day but, most importantly, to all the people who came and so generously supported us on the day.

**And finally** - Please remember that Toddler Group sessions are held every Monday morning 10.00 - 11.30am and Weds afternoon 1.30 - 3.00pm. With exciting activities and the opportunity to play alongside friends for the toddlers it gives you the chance to meet other parents and carers and enjoy a well earned cuppa! Please feel free to come and join us-you really will be most welcome.



**Windmills**  
Nursery School

**Nursery School Staff & Committee**

Following our theme of growing, our children planted sunflower and cress seeds. They then made egg and cress sandwiches with the cress that they had grown and took home the little sunflower plants to follow their progress. Also our children have enjoyed Edward and Finn from Year 6 visiting Windmills every day to help the children prepare and care for moong beans.



### Moong beans - Edward, Henry and Finn

Other activities at Windmills have included:

\* Chris our resident artist working with the children to create mothers day cards by drawing self portraits after studying themselves in the mirror. The younger children enjoyed creating colourful handprints for their

cards which were accompanied by a poem.

\* All the children made chocolate coated peppermint creams with Mrs Kennedy which they took home as a gift for their mums.

\* Creating an Easter tree by painting a branch gold and then decorating real eggs that had been blown, which were then hung on the branch to make a fabulous display in our room.

\* Using the marbling inks to produce an Easter card - "we used special inks and I dropped my paper in and it came out multi-coloured" - George.

\* Braving the unseasonable weather to make our usual visit to the toddler service at church.

\* Making chocolate crispy nests enabled the children to practise their problem solving skills working out the number of cake cases required, as well as developing their knowledge and understanding.



Baby rabbit - Katie & Henry

\* Visiting Mrs Houghton's garden to see her baby rabbits and guinea pigs. We were really fortunate with the spring weather during our walk and were able to notice the blossom and spring flowers in the gardens along the way.

\* We ended the term with an Easter egg hunt in our Woodland Area. Mrs. Varriale read out a letter from the Easter bunny to the children explaining that he had visited our woodland area and hidden lots of eggs for them to find.

One of the Highlights this term has been a sponsored event for the children on the school infant playground. The children all enjoyed riding, pushing prams or walking around the road on the playground and receiving stamps for each lap they completed.

Thank you to Emma Watson for producing a lovely photograph certificate for the children to take home. Thank you also to the fundraising committee parents for help on the day.



### **Thank you**

Thank you to Mr. Daly for giving our children Easter eggs at the end of term. Thank you to Sara and Nick for generously donating all the Easter eggs for our egg hunt, and some beautiful dressing up clothes.

### **Goodbye**

Windmills is sorry to say goodbye to two of our children this term - Euan who has moved house, and Henry who is returning to Africa. We would like to thank Henry's mum Hermelia for coming into the nursery and talking to the children about their home in Gabon, the children especially enjoyed hearing about the Elephants visiting his garden everyday to eat their mangoes! On his last day Henry shared out some pain au chocolat and his dad presented Windmills with two beautiful ceramic toadstools for our woodland area as a leaving gift.

Wine Tasting & Indulgence Evening - Thursday 17th April, at 8.00 pm in the Tom Hauley room. An excellent opportunity to learn about and taste a variety of wines from Cana Import together with locally produced food and some homemade puddings. Tickets available from Windmills.

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



## Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

A huge amount was packed into the last two weeks of the term at Pre-School. We were delighted to welcome Maddison who joined us at the end of February and settled in happily with her new friends. The main theme for the month was Pets, although of course Easter was also high in our thoughts, particularly in the last week.

**Pets** – To begin with, the role play area was based on pets at home and later became a vet's surgery, complete with consultation and waiting/reception areas.

The children were asked to bring in photographs of their own pets and they enjoyed talking about them at circle time. These photos and others were used to inspire some lovely creative work, with lots of fantastic paintings and collages being produced.



**Visitors** – We are very grateful to Lesley van Kesteren and local vet John Hutchinson from the Heathcote Veterinary Centre, who gave up their time to come and see the children. Lesley brought her two guinea pigs Fred and Jimmy and, although Fred was rather shy and preferred to stay in his box, the children were able to stroke and hold



Jimmy, as well as learning about how they are cared for and what they have to eat. John brought with him his delightful Labrador puppy, Willow, as well as a bag full of things needed to care for her. He talked to the children about how to look after a new pet and they were able to help to feed Willow, a very willing assistant! John then explained to them how he

treats some of the sick animals that are brought to his surgery.

**Areas of Learning** – The veterinary theme was excellent for covering the various areas of learning. The children's creative skills were used again to make great carry boxes for taking their pets to the vet, while ICT work included working on a special vet computer programme and DVD. Communication, language and literacy development was covered by a variety of factual and story books available in the book area, and problem solving, reasoning and numeracy came to the fore in counting the money that was paid for veterinary treatment.



**Travelling Animals** – Our six travelling animals have been out and about again this term, with the children keeping a diary of their adventures, which they then share with the rest of the group on their return to Pre-School. This has proved to be a wonderful way of reinforcing the connection between home and Pre-School and the children love having the responsibility of looking after their animal for a week.

**Wooden Blocks** – Thanks to a donation from the Wagstaffe Foundation and exceptional fundraising at our disco, we are delighted to have purchased a fantastic set of large wooden blocks. These can be used inside or out for all kinds of building and large scale creativity and have been on our wish list for some considerable time.



**Dates for the Diary** - There will be an **Open Morning and Fun Play Session** at Harbury Pre-School on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April from 10am – 12noon. Please see advertisement in this issue for full details.

**Quiz night** – 10<sup>th</sup> May in the school hall, £16 per team of 4, light refreshments, bar, tickets from Lisa on 614744 and Alison on 614334.

**Coffee morning** – 17<sup>th</sup> May, 10am – 12noon, Tom Hauley rooms. Your support at these events will be greatly appreciated!

If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jacqui Quinney, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 613386.



## **Congratulations to:-**

Jessica Champion, who recently won the Warwickshire Primary Schools' Table Tennis Championships. She now goes on to represent Warwickshire in the national finals in Doncaster next term. Well done, Jess – a wonderful achievement.

Abi Hunt (13<sup>th</sup>), Francesca Gibbs (16<sup>th</sup>), Rebecca Sampson (74<sup>th</sup>) and Jack Groves (35<sup>th</sup>) who represented Central Warwickshire in the County Cross Country championships recently – all four runners ran excellently in what were two very high quality races. Well done.

Robert Rollason and Callum Panton, who have both been selected to represent the Southam Area in the Stratford District Swimming Gala. Well done, boys.

**Other School sports** – Both the Netball and Football teams have been in action over the past couple of weeks:

**Football** v Our Lady's, Cubbington – drew 1-1 / v Burton Green – won 6-0 / v St Peter's – won 5-3

**Netball** v Southam Primary – won 10-0 v Bishop's Itchington lost 6-15

Congratulations to all of the children who took part – while the boys are near the top of their league, with just two games to play, the girls, who, in the absence of a league play only in friendly matches, have lost only one game this year, to a very good Bishop's Itchington.

**P.T.A.** – The PTA continues to support the school by organising a range of activities over the course of the year. They have recently made a donation to the school of £5000, which covers the cost of the following purchases: hobbit books, red bags, earthworm support, Christmas gifts for infants, art materials, Noahs ark, a toy zoo, a shop, a beebot, technology equipment, half of the cost of the new stage and the entertainer for the infants party. May I take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the PTA for the wonderful support that they continue to give to the school.

**French Lessons** – Every Monday lunchtime we have a French Club at the school. It is run by an external provider, Julie Tourigny, who informs me that there are vacancies for any Infants who would like to learn the language. If you are interested in having your child take part

in these lessons, please contact Julie directly (817816) who will be able to give details of fees, etc. Please note, however, that the French Club is independent of the school – the only role that the school plays is to provide the venue.

**Headteacher's Open Meeting** – Every so often since coming to Harbury I have held an Open Meeting, at which information about the school is shared with parents. As you are aware, the Governors have been reviewing the management structure of the school in the light of Mr Chapman's forthcoming retirement. This review is now complete, and I shall be holding an open meeting on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm at which I will share the outcome of the management structure review with parents. All are welcome.



**G.A.S.S**

**GASS Committee**

### **Scout Hut Opening – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

After many months of hard work, the refurbished Scout Hut is now completed and the Guides & Scouts Support Group is planning an Open Day on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 12.00pm – 3.00pm. All are welcome to come along and see the refurbished Hut including a viewing ladder for those brave enough to see the newly repaired roof. We will also be using our refitted kitchen to provide teas and coffees and a demonstration of baking plus there will also be games, face painting, marshmallow cooking and steel pans outside. This is our chance to say a huge "thank you" to the many groups and individuals who have supported this project including those organisations that have given us financial aid; parents who have given their time to help with the numerous fundraising activities and helped with "hands-on" jobs in the Hall and the Group Leaders who have helped with project management and fund raising and who have also been tolerant of considerable disruption in the Hut during its period of transformation. Harbury is now incredibly fortunate to have a full complement of Scouting groups active within the village including a re-formed Guides group. We are also in the position of being able to offer the Hut as a facility for hire for other Village organisations. A new "GASS" committee will now take the ongoing maintenance of the Hut forwards (additional members always welcome!). Please do come along, whether you have children in the groups, have a child who might be interested in starting or are just an interested individual to see the Hut in the next phase of its existence.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Harbury Beaver Group

Debbie Gee

Harbury Beavers organised a Marathon Challenge on Thursday 21st February in aid of the charity "Children with Leukaemia" in association with the London Marathon. Each Beaver did 26 separate sports challenges and a total of £231.10 was raised. It was a very energetic and enjoyable occasion!



Pictured are Leader Debbie Gee, Assistant Jane Thomas and Duke of Edinburgh Scheme helpers Michael Varrialle and George Lintott.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Harbury Scouts

Nick Green

The first scout trip of 2008 took place over a weekend at the end of the first half term. This was very successful, as Jack (Hawks Patrol Leader) describes:

'In the February half term 1<sup>st</sup> Harbury Scouts went for a weekend at llam Hall Youth Hostel, near Ashbourne in the Peak District. It was a great success and was enjoyed by over twenty scouts.'

The facilities in the youth hostel were excellent; we all had fun playing pool and the tuck shop was very popular. On the Saturday we went on a long walk from the youth hostel up the Dovedale valley, including a sharp climb to the top of Thorpe Cloud, then along Dove Dale, all of which resulted in tired, wet muddy Scouts but was a great experience. At lunchtime we stopped off at a pasty shop and bought refreshments, which everyone needed to replenish their energy. For a certain few this was the best bit!

That evening after our long walk it was great to put our feet up and relax in Ilam Hall. After supper we had a game of charades which was fun, before we all went straight to sleep like angels in the big dormitory (well almost).

The second day we drove to the Roaches where, after a brisk climb, we found a great clearing to eat our lunch and play brilliant wide-games and 'find the chocolate coins'. There were loads of rocks to climb on and hide underneath, which made it the ideal stop.

After eating our packed lunches we hiked back to the minibus, packed up and headed to Water World, an indoor water park on the outskirts of Stoke. We all really enjoyed the slides and for many this was the highlight of the whole trip. After scoffing the last of the cakes it was back down the M6 to arrive home in Harbury at around 7pm.

Even though this is the second time on this trip for many of the scouts we were not bored of it and hope we can go again. I would recommend Ilam Hall to anyone looking for a break in the Peak District area. I would like to thank the leaders for giving us a lovely time, and all the scout leaders and parents that made the camp possible.'



## Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

Once again a packed room for our March speaker. Duncan Coombs has visited us a few times in the past, the last talk in May 2005 when he spoke about Hidcote Gardens. He is an excellent speaker and didn't disappoint us. His topic covered plant hunting in Yunnan, South Western China with a sub title "From the Tropics to the Alps. All became clear during his talk.

Duncan, who lectures at the RHS College at Pershore, goes on annual visits to China with his students and other interested parties. The last visit included the Head Gardener from Hidcote Gardens which was a

nice link to his last talk. Lawrence Johnson who started the gardens at Hidcote had also travelled to Yunnan in the past. Also in the party was the head of the local Botanical Gardens in Yunnan. The journey covered about 300 miles and they went right up to the borders with Tibet and back down again. The temperature is a constant one between 70-80 degrees all year round. Hence the ability to grow exotic plants such as the ginger lily of which there are many varieties. With high mountains and three major rivers it was apparent why such a diverse plant life existed and flourished. At the bottom of the mountains the exotic plants thrive and are sub tropical. There were superb slides showing many of these species.

They visited one city that was known as the City of Eternal Springs, how magical. As they climbed higher the orchids were a spectacular sight, as were recently discovered giant poppies. One species of rhododendron had leaves bigger than dinner plates. The bamboo at one particular spot was called Friends Fishing rods, very tall with the tops like heads of parsley and bending over, hence the name. The varieties of primula were amazing as were the colours. At one spot on a mountain Duncan spotted a variety of Arecena not seen before and became quite excited at the thought of a plant being named after him. Alas it was not to be, someone else had found it just the week before!

They had to ascend the mountains on pack animals and were accompanied by the local people. They still use the old wooden ploughs in some areas pulled by oxen. At one stop they visited a local house under construction and the wooden carvings were so intricate. Duncan had brought along a small example of this, such a shame they paint over the carvings. The alpine plants survive very high up the mountains in small crevices and these too are very colourful. All along the routes there are seed pods but visitors are not allowed to take cuttings or any of these seeds. It must have been very tempting to do so, but as Duncan said you have to respect the wishes of your hosts. With names like Tiger Leaping Gorge and Snow Mountain, Duncan brought it all to life and we were all enthralled. A most interesting and entertaining talk, I hope to invite him back again next year.

I have now finalised the speakers for 2008/9, not an easy task but I'm sure as this year, there will be something to interest everyone. Both day trips are fully subscribed, just a quick reminder to those of you who have not yet paid to do so by the May meeting please.

Plans for the walkabout are well under way now, if you would like to open your garden or you know someone else who would like to do so please contact me preferably by the end of April as Daphne, who puts

the programme together, has to get it to the printers by the beginning of May. Whilst on the subject of the Walkabout we will be looking for help with catering at the Tom Hauley Room on both days. We need a total of 12 people and last year over half of this number were committee members so it would be nice to see some new recruits. Also as usual I would like to ask for cakes of any sort to be donated. I will be passing clipboards round at the April and May meetings for members to complete as appropriate. I'm sure you are aware that the proceeds go towards funding speakers etc but we also give donations to village organisations. The last donation made was to The Senior Citizens Association. If you belong to any organisation and would like to receive such a donation please contact me. It is nice to give back to the village as people who open their gardens for us are so generous with their time.

Are you aware that our former Chairperson Eleanor Zonik celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday recently? We also have another nonagenarian in our Society which just proves that gardening must be very beneficial. Don't forget to use your discount at the nurseries shown on your membership card. Farnborough Nurseries have a very wide selection of plants and accessories. Also the nurseries at Mappleborough Green (on the road out of Warwick through Henley in Arden and Claverdon and at the roundabout by the Dog pub turn right and nurseries are a little way up on the right hand side) are very good.

Daphne keeps two tickets for any member to borrow for entry to Gardens Organic, near Coventry. This makes a nice day or half day out as the food there is excellent. Also on 13<sup>th</sup> April Chris Beardshaw is at Spetchley Gardens, which we visited last year, to give a talk, there will also be a specialist plant fair. Sulgrave Manor which we went to last May has several interesting events in the next few months, including a talk by Christine Walkden who had her own TV series recently. She will be there on 8th May to talk about 'Being a Gardener'. Nearer to home a garden at 19 Church Lane, Lillington will be open for the NGS on 6<sup>th</sup> April between 2.00 and 5.30pm. Much to see and do over the next few months, I will bring along all these details and many more to the next meeting on 1st April. The May meeting is on 6<sup>th</sup> and our speaker, John Porter will be talking about the Rain Forests and Forest Gardens.

Let's hope the weather will improve now so that we can get on with our gardening. I look forward to seeing you all on 1st April and the last meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May.



## Nature Notes

John Hancock

We had the snow I predicted last month. It fell during the early morning of Easter Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, which seemed appropriate. Mind you, if the curtains weren't drawn back until after 8.00am, you will have missed it as it soon melted away. Today, Easter Monday, Sharon and I took a walk in that lumpy, hill country the other side of Edgehill, over the county border in Oxfordshire. The villages are built of warm, rusty brown, Hornton stone. Its colour gives the game away as it's rich in iron and opencast ironstone extraction went on until the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century thereabouts. The ground is much less cloying than our local fields at this time of year. We took a circular route from Wroxton, timing our arrival at the pub in Broughton for lunch. Broughton Castle is really a moated manor house dating from 1300 with additions in 1550. It is the home of Lord Saye and Sele and has been in the ownership of one family for 600 years. Summer opening at weekends and on Wednesday afternoons starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May and I can thoroughly recommend a visit. Many will know it from the film 'Shakespeare in Love'. We reached the castle after entering the park near Fulling Mill Farm. Here the tiny Sor Brook, which is a tributary of the River Cherwell from the west had been diverted to power a water wheel which in turn pressed cloth which had been shrunk to make it more compact -the art of fulling. Our pub stop was not as well timed as we thought. As we walked back to Wroxton the weather deteriorated. First we were bombarded by hail, then snow began to fall. I felt sorry for the new lambs standing in the lee of hedges with their mothers.

It's been a particularly good time for violets, both the blue and white varieties. I've found patches of the latter on many local walks together with primrose, coltsfoot and celandine. On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March I found that harbinger of spring, the wood anemone, in Bascote Wood. Just inside the Thwaites Estate, near Chesterton Church is a stand of larch. Their red female flowers, which later form the cones, were out. In April the beautiful pale green leaves will begin to unfold from the dormant buds. The larch is unusual in being deciduous and a conifer. Further round the estate, I noticed that several of the Horse Chestnuts, which line the farm roads, had been stricken by disease. The bark, normally smooth, had split and fissured. This allows other diseases to enter the trees and their demise is inexorable. They will be cut down in order to save the others. Conkers may be in short supply round here in years to come.

On a very breezy, bright, day I decided to revisit Goldicote Cutting. This Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Reserve lies south of Loxley where the A427 Stratford-Banbury road crosses the disused Stratford and Midland junction Railway. The entrance to the reserve is through a gate immediately adjacent to the side road to Alderminster (GR 247506 OS Sheet 151). Stand on the old road bridge and look down into the narrow, deep, wooded cutting. Harbury Cutting is rather deeper but this is a defile by comparison and would have yielded only a single track. Now about 30 wooden steps lead down into the marshy bottom. I was in a quiet place while the wind raged above. The only noise was made by Ash trees clashing overhead and rooks calling to each other as their nests swayed precariously. Only a few days before I had come across a rook's nest on the verge at Wormleighton; presumably blown from a treetop, showing how powerful the elements have been lately.

The vegetation was lush and will be more luxuriant as the seasons progress. From the stream which now courses down the floor of the cutting, the dark spears of Giant Horsetail were protruding. On the bank, some of last year's growth, now straw coloured but still at shoulder height remained. Looking closer, I found the distinctive leaves of Common Spotted Orchid. Only a few centimetres long but in two months there will be flowers. As at Harbury Spoilbank, rare Dingy and Grizzled Skipper butterflies may be seen here in May and June. Elm scrub persists and this allows the rare White- Letter- Hairstreak butterfly to survive as elm is its food plant. Water figwort and common fleabane are two plants I shall be looking out for on a return trip. The latter is a Compositae (daisy family) whose leaves were formerly hung in rooms or dried and burned as a fumigant. It is a close relative of the species which supplies the insecticide Pyrethrum so there is probably some truth in its supposed powers.

Now, Elderberry leaves, seen at New Year are quite sizeable and Hawthorn is beginning to break into leaf. At first just isolated bushes, but soon complete hedgerows will be green and providing cover for nests. Rex Humphreys tells me Goldcrests have been coming into his garden and there have been reports of summer visitors such as Chiffchaff (a warbler) arriving on the South Coast. This week I saw a Buzzard being attacked by a Crow which presumably was protecting its nest. Perhaps in next month's article someone will report hearing a Cuckoo. Warmer weather will bring an explosion in wildlife activity. Get out and enjoy it.



## Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

Although March proved to be a relatively quiet month for committee members and supporters of the Village Hall, April will see more action with opportunities for all villagers to become involved in activities according to their interest.

The AGM of the Village Hall which is open to all residents will be held on April 7<sup>th</sup> in the Farley Room. It is important that as many organisations as possible are represented on this occasion, so that a consensus is obtained on the current maintenance of the Hall and more importantly about the proposals to develop and improve certain areas of the premises.

The first of two fund-raising events during the month will be an afternoon matinee on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm - featuring the blockbuster, 'The Simpsons Movie'. So far, all the 'Moving Pictures' have been shown by Lana Long who has acted as the cinematographer, but it is hoped that there might be a technophile in the village who could take over the reins and enjoy the challenge of operating the up-to-date projection equipment used to show the chosen films. If anyone is interested in providing assistance, a call to 613801 would be appreciated. There has continued to be a regular band of willing helpers at the film shows who have baked cakes, provided sweets, served teas/coffees, and even sold chips, whilst Cana Imports have been on hand to provide a range of drinks to suit all ages. Again any help for future 'showings' in the coming months would be welcomed.

The second planned event is a St. George's Night on Friday April 25<sup>th</sup> in the back room of The Dog Inn. It is anticipated that fancy dress will be the order of the day, so an opportunity will be created for those who enjoy 'stepping out' from the present to indulge their love of wearing mediaeval costumes.

The committee is extremely grateful for the support provided by these two groups within the village, who are giving generously of their time and energy to assist with fund-raising. As each householder will appreciate, energy costs, insurance costs and bills for general maintenance are all rising steeply and the Village Hall committee need to ensure that sufficient funds are raised, so that all costs are covered for 'general wear and tear' and to replace some basic equipment.

## **District Council Elections – May 2008**

**Spring newsletter from District Councillor Peter Barton**

**Representing Harbury, Bishops Itchington, Deppers Bridge & Chesterton**

**District Council elections – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008**

Last year I was elected to Stratford District Council in a by-election, to represent the Harbury District Ward, when a seat became vacant. I am very pleased to say, that I have been adopted to stand again as a candidate. If elected in May, I would then have the benefit of a 4-year term of office. This would give me the opportunity to further develop my Council responsibilities to their full potential.

As you know, I am devoted to community service and public duty, having previously served for 20 years on Warwick District Council. Since moving to live in Harbury 10 years ago, I served as a Non-Executive Director on the South Warwickshire Health Care Trust for 7 years. This gave me a good working knowledge of the life and health care needs of our communities in South Warwickshire.

I really do enjoy my District Council work, which gives me the opportunity to meet the public and to be in direct contact with local voluntary groups, which are so valuable in our society today. The needs of my constituents always come first, regardless of political interests.

### **Stratford on Avon District Council**

The budget and Council Tax for 2008/09 has now been finalised, with an increase of 3.5%. This is the lowest increase in Warwickshire again, nationally the increase is in the lowest quartile of the country.

A recent Comprehensive Performance Assessment rated Stratford District Council as good, an improvement that has been achieved, together with reduced costs over the last few years. These reduced costs, have resulted in the Council being rated a 3, in the use of resources. At the same time, Stratford District Council has improved its 'value for money' rating.

In the District Council Service Plan for 2008/09, the Council's stated aim is to – 'Achieve excellence by delivering high quality, cost effective support and frontline service to all customers, ensuring that the finances and assets of the Council are effectively managed to deliver outstanding Value for Money'.

After my first year on Stratford District Council, I have found it to be a responsible authority, that invests wisely in the whole District, both financially and in the services it offers.

### **Nuisance youths and Police matters**

The Warwickshire Police have been very supportive of our neighbourhood and regularly attend the Parish Council meetings in both Harbury and Bishops Itchington. At the recent Harbury Parish Council meeting, they reported on the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) meetings, where issues that affect our villages are discussed with the Police and action taken to overcome the problem. The three 'key' issues that continue to be of concern are - nuisance youths, drugs and cars speeding in and out of the villages.

The Police reported that they are now taking a tough line on nuisance youths, particularly those with motorbikes who ride them 'off road', over public playing fields, similar to the large grassed sports area behind Harbury Village Hall. When a problem occurs, they use their 'stop and search' powers, to obtain the names and addresses of the offenders. The parents are contacted and the youths are warned that if they offend again within one year, their motorbikes will be confiscated.

During a two-week campaign in nearby Southam, this 'zero tolerance' approach achieved some very good results. I understand that this initiative will be extended to all of the surrounding villages. Of particular concern in Harbury, is the early evening after the annual Carnival, when groups of youths gather in the village. The police promised to do all they could to assist, but explained that Southam Police cover an area of 100 square miles!

### **Postal and Proxy Vote application forms**

Please remember, that if you are going to be away for the District Council elections on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May, you can use a Postal Vote in advance of your holiday. Additionally, you may have a Proxy Vote for a family member or neighbour who could also be away.

I have both Postal Vote and Proxy Vote application forms and will send you a copy on request. Alternatively, you can apply to Stratford District Council by telephoning 01789 260 209. The last day for new

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applications to vote by post or change existing details, is not later than Wednesday 16 April 2008. For new Proxy Votes the last day is Wednesday 23 April 2008.

Please do not hesitate to write or telephone me at my home, especially if there is an issue causing you concern. My address and contact details are below.

Best wishes,

Peter Barton

District Councillor for Harbury, Bishops Itchington, Deppers Bridge & Chesterton

peter.barton@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Knight's End, 9 Knightlow Way,  
Harbury, Royal Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire CV33 9NB

Telephone: 01926 614 556

Facsimile: 01926 614 557

Mobile: 07796 172 045



## Beverley Mann



Hello, I am Beverley Mann and I am standing as the District Councillor candidate - Harbury Ward for the Liberal Democrats at the May 2008 Council Elections.

Having lived in Bishops Itchington all of my life, and spent summers as a youth in Harbury, a lot of villagers old and new know who I am, but of course a lot do not, so I thought I would write a little about myself and why I am standing as a candidate for this position.

I was born in Bishops in the early 60's and attended the local school. My Mother was born in Harbury and I remember spending many happy school holidays at my Grandparents in Chapel Street.

I attended Mid-Warwickshire College for a 2-year business studies course before securing a position in an office in Leamington. Unhappy

in this sort of work I thought I couldn't do this for the rest of my working life. So I wrote to a large quarantine and boarding establishment for cats and dogs near Rugby to see if they had any positions. I was lucky and found something I really enjoyed and got paid as well.

Since that time in the early 80's I have had a few different jobs ranging from horticulture, warehouse supervisor to police officer at Warwick.

In 2000 my father retired from his business Orchard Boarding Cattery in Bishops and I have taken over the reins. At long last doing something I really enjoy and being the boss too, can't be bad.

I have been a Parish Councillor in Bishops for the past 4 years and I am on a number of committees in the Bishops Parish, including the Memorial Hall committee and I am a member of our Carnival committee.

In my spare time I enjoy relaxing in the garden with a good book, growing herbs and vegetables, also I love to cook Thai food and I am slowly working my way through my recipe books.

The reasons I am standing for the District Council are I find it very rewarding being able to help local people with problems. In a lot of cases it can be quite simple to find a straightforward solution that can often be resolved by the appropriate local authorities.

Secondly Harbury Ward does appear to have a fair share of major planning and environmental issues for instance the old cement works, and just recently Biffa planning application that I feel should take into account the local villagers views, plus the impact these potential developments will have on the surrounding village communities, traffic and the area.

**Bev. Mann, Tel: 01926 614006**

## **Parish Council Election - May 2008**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008, to coincide with the District Elections there will also be a Parish election. There are currently nine places on Harbury Parish Council and one for Deppers Bridge – if this number or fewer candidates put their names forward, the election will be deemed to be “uncontested” and there will be no need for a ballot to be held.

At the time of going to press, the following candidates had put their names forward for election.

## Alison Baldwin

My parents moved into the village in the late 50's and I have, with the exception of a few years, lived in Harbury all of my life.

I was approached by the Chair to consider becoming a councillor to fill an existing vacancy and was co-opted onto the Parish Council in November 2007. Harbury is a fantastic place to live, because people are prepared to invest in their community. I have been involved with many village organisations since my family and I moved back to the village in 2000. I was secretary of the Nursery School (now Windmills Nursery) whilst my daughter attended the nursery and am now on the Board of Directors to Windmills. I have been chair of Harbury School PTA for the last 5 years and with the help of a great committee raised lots of money for the school that directly benefits the children.

I am currently organising a fundraising event for Harbury Juniors Football Club for the benefit of their youngsters and am actively assisting the coach and helpers of the U7's Rugby team.

I hope to make further valuable contributions to the village as a councillor for the benefit of all, but especially for my son and daughter and their generation, so they can enjoy growing up in this lovely village as much as I did. This means to me supporting all groups to ensure that they can lead an active life, but also support as many sustainable initiatives as possible.

## Ron Grey



I have been involved in local affairs almost since coming here in 1966. I have been on the committee of the Horticultural Society for 20 years, running the flower show for 12, I also sat on the Village Hall Committee for most of this period. When the councillor for Deppers Bridge resigned, I replaced him to carry through the campaign for traffic calming. Then failing health (vide the "Courier", Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> issue) prompted me to stop.

Successful treatment has now given me a "second wind". My wife and I, celebrated our Golden Wedding in 2006, and are empty nesters now, the children are left and the way is clear to return to local activities. I am again a member of the Parish Council Bridge and also the Deppers Bridge residents association. If re-elected, I hope I may continue to serve the community for some time yet.

## Sharon Hancock



I came to live in Harbury in 1969 and became a Parish Councillor in 1977. Since that time I have been involved with many aspects of the Council's work and seen it change into a much more modern organization recognized with the acquisition of Quality Parish Council status.

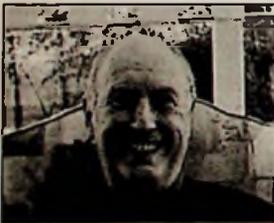
I have taken a particular interest in planning and was involved with the production of the Village Design Statement. Latterly I have been Chairman of the Properties Working Party, responsible for the Playing fields, Cemetery and village greens.

I have been involved with a number of other organisations in the village and currently I am on the committees of the Twinning Association and the NSPCC. I am also a Governor of Southam College.

Rural communities face many challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, a major one being the difficulty in young families affording the price of a home. I strongly support the proposals to build affordable houses in Bush Heath Lane. We need young people to be able to live here, raise their children, and keep the village the strong, vibrant community it is at the moment.

I hope very much to continue to serve on the Council and work for the future of our village.

## Alan Knowles



My name is Alan George Knowles and I have lived in Harbury for forty years running a small Plumbing and Heating business serving some of the local community for most of the time I have lived here.

I was born in Whitnash which is only a few miles away so I know the local area quite well.

I retired last year aged 65yrs and would like to spend some of my now free time to give something back to the village that has served me well over the years.

I was co-opted onto the Parish Council in November 2007 and would like very much to be elected to carry on being a Parish Councillor as I find the work very fulfilling and I feel that I have got a lot to offer the Village community.

## Tim Lockley



I have been a Parish Councillor since 2003, serving as chair of the Environment working party, Vice-Chairman, and for the past year as Chairman of the Council. As a Parish Councillor my sole focus is on what I believe is best for Harbury and its residents. All the money raised by the Parish

Council is spent within the Parish maintaining and enhancing our facilities, and supporting village organisations. I have also worked with our District and County representatives to ensure that Harbury gets its fair share of their resources. If re-elected I will continue to press for proper traffic-calming in the village, and will work in partnership with the Village Hall over its development plans.

I have lived in the village for eleven years, and both my children attend Harbury Primary School. In the past I have served as secretary to the Tennis Club, and currently I am involved in the Harbury Heritage Project.

## Tony Mancell



One of the main reasons my family moved to Harbury 32 years ago is the strong community spirit that exists within our Village.

This community spirit exists because of the people who live here and the way we work together, making Harbury the village that it is.

I've been a member of Harbury Parish Council for the last 5 ½ years, holding the position of Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes group. Over these years, the F&GP Group have carefully managed the Parish budget, enabling the Council's spending plans have been carried out in full.

I'm standing for election to the Parish Council so that I can 'put a little back' into our community, helping to maintain our village's community spirit.

## Jenny Patrick



I have been on the Parish Council 8 years and I would be pleased to serve again. I believe that a Parish Council can best collect the views of the Parish and make representation on their behalf to higher authorities to get things done that make for better facilities for everyone in the village.

Harbury is lucky in that there is great community spirit and the Parish Council can further this by supporting activities for all age groups within the village which is what I have been actively involved in doing over the last 8 years.

## Keith Ernest Thompson



I have had the privilege and pleasure to serve on the Parish Council for 27 years. During this time I have been Chair of the PC for 3 years and Chair of the Properties and Finance Working Parties. By representing the Minor Authority as a Governor at Harbury Primary School for 20 years I also contributed to linking the fundamental roles of Education and Local Government within our community.

Since my retirement from work with WCC in January 2007 I have had more time to dedicate to Village life and other interests. I have become a member of the Village Hall Management Committee and enjoy playing tennis with Harbury Tennis Club. As a National Trust Volunteer Guide I enjoy making a contribution to the running and conservation of Charlecote.

I believe that I have the necessary skills, enthusiasm, commitment and time to continue to serve the Parish Council and our Village community which my family and I value so much and so I am seeking your vote on May 8<sup>th</sup>. – Many thanks!

## Janet Thornley



"I have lived in Harbury for over 40 years and have been a Parish Councillor for the last five years. I have two children who also reside in Harbury and my grandchildren attend the local Harbury School of which I am also a Governor.

My main personal interests are bowls, music and theatre. I am also Secretary of the Village Hall Committee, a long time member of the Theatre Group and Twinning Association.

My parish council concerns include provision of facilities for young children and addressing problems of our youth. I was a prime mover in raising money to provide a skate park and am currently involved with the provision of a BMX track.

I am also concerned with environmental issues within the locale. My aims are to foster closer relationships and promote respect across the age groups.

I am passionate about future development and retaining rural lifestyles in all aspects of the uniqueness of Harbury village life.

I have felt privileged to be elected as a Parish Councillor and hope to continue in this role."

## **Harbury Bridge Club**

Since September of last year we have been playing bridge at the Village Club on the corner of Hall Lane and Crown Street. We meet at 7pm on Thursdays and enjoy excellent facilities, including a bar which also serves tea and coffee. There is a large car park.

We cater for all abilities of players, from beginners onwards. Our membership has grown steadily, and we now regularly have four tables.

We will be happy to welcome new members - come and see us soon.

**Pat Hearn**

## **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 – not garden tools.

Advanced Notice - Harbury Church Art Exhibition to take place on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2008.

**Bill Davies**

## Lifeboat in Harbury

Rumours spread about a second flood as a result of a lifeboat being parked on the Rectory Drive. The rumours proved to be unfounded as it had been brought here by the RNLI to be dedicated, named and handed over. It had been given by David Young, the brother of Mary Catt. Although David was well enough to be brought from his nursing home to see his lifeboat, he was not well enough to attend the ceremony. Mary and her sister Betty Connelly from Kenilworth carried out the naming of the inshore lifeboat 'David Young' on February 27<sup>th</sup>.



Reverend Roy Brown led the service of dedication. About 40 people were at the ceremony representing the RNLI and lifeboat organisations in the area, as well as David's family and people of Harbury. It has been suggested that the ceremony should be in the Guinness Book of Records as the naming ceremony furthest from the sea.

**Charles Catt**

## Congratulations to Derek and Eve Lowe on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Derek and Eve met in the Clarendon Hotel Leamington in 1946. Derek lived in Harbury - as did his father, grandfather and extended family.

He was a market gardener and Eve was a nurse. Derek and Eve married in 1948 and moved in with his parents in a cottage in Hall Lane. When the new estate known as Manor Road was built they moved there. Over the years they have lived in Frances Road, Vicarage Lane and now Drinkwater Close. They have a daughter, Pat, and three sons, Gary, Richard and Ian.

Derek was the manager of the local Co-op for many years before taking early retirement in 1983 to spend more time tending his beloved garden. Many villagers remember the apples, flowers and home-grown produce he used to leave outside the front door in Vicarage Lane for others to 'pay' or 'take'.

Eve is a regular churchgoer and coffee morning stalwart as well as being a member of the Mothers Union and Knitwits.

Derek has not been well recently, but is cared for by Eve. The children who live locally visit regularly, and their daughter, grand-daughter and great-grand-daughters all live in Harbury.

On their 60<sup>th</sup> (Diamond) Wedding Anniversary Derek and Eve received a congratulations card from the Queen. They had a small celebration for friends and neighbours, but the extended family celebration has been delayed until Derek's 87<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to them both.

**Pat Summers**

## **Harbury Carnival June 14th, 2008**

### **King and Queen**

This year's selection process for the King and Queen will as usual be organised by Harbury School and those chosen for Carnival 2008 will be announced in the Harbury News after this has been done.

### **Fun for All**

The Wheelbarrow Race will be on Sunday 8th June, hosted this year by the Old New Inn and will again include a separate race not involving alcohol (time to start training!). Please contact Dan Killian on 612265 to enter or for more information. The pub games competition will take place from June 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> inclusive and full details will be published in next month's Harbury News. In the meantime, please consider entering a team to represent your organisation, pub or simply get together with some friends (again, I emphasise that this is not just an inter pub competition).

## **Carnival Dance**

As announced last month, this will be held on Saturday June 7th at the Village Hall with The Likely Lads providing the entertainment. The cost will be £20 per head to include some food and there will be a bar selling wine and beer. Tickets will be strictly limited in number, so if you are planning to come, I suggest you get in touch with me on 614258 as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

## **Other Business**

If you want to book a stall or space on the field please call Mike McBride on 612421.

**Submitted by John Broomfield, On behalf of the Carnival  
Committee**

## **Folk in the Marathon**

Like so many other people in Britain I watch the London Marathon on television every year, and always say the same thing: "I would love to do that!" Well, this year my wish has come true because I have secured a coveted Ballot place in the Event. So, on April 13 I will join thousands of other well-intentioned souls legging it through the streets of London, hoping to raise lots of money and also having a great experience into the bargain. My previous running experience has been restricted to being a 'hare' in the annual Harbury Hash, which usually ends after five miles and a couple of beers, so the 26 miles of a Marathon is more of a challenge. However, after weeks of training through dark and cold winter nights and weekends, I have managed a sub-2 hour Half Marathon and hope for a good race in London.

I have chosen to run for the British Heart Foundation, an excellent and supportive charity. If you would like to sponsor me, I will be at Harbury Folk Club (as ever) on Thursday 3 April. I have also set up an on-line page so that you can sponsor me from the comfort of your computer. Simply go to: <http://www.justgiving.com/ianhartland> and follow the simple instructions. Every donation will be gratefully received and you will be helping a very worthwhile and relevant cause.

If you should chance to see me running along the roads around Harbury or in the Kingston Farms Estate, please give me a wave.

**Ian Hartland, The Harvesters, Tel: 612734**

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## **Sponsor James in the London Marathon!**

James Stringer is running the London Marathon for the second time on Sunday, April 13. He is inviting sponsorship for the Alzheimer's Society; and if you would like to sponsor him, you can speak to Sally and John Stringer (30 Mill Street or 613214), complete the form at the back of the church, or go to [www.justgiving.com/jamesstringer](http://www.justgiving.com/jamesstringer).

The Alzheimer's Society welcomes funding for research and to support both sufferers and carers. Your sponsorship will be much appreciated and wisely used. James last ran all 26 miles in 4 hours and 30 minutes, and is aiming for 3 hours and 45 minutes this time. I get puffed walking up for the newspaper.

**John Stringer**

## **Harbury Youth Drop In**

We are sorry to announce that the Youth Drop In has closed for the foreseeable future. This is as a direct result of repeated bad behaviour and lack of respect by a small group of older members, resulting in damage to property both inside and outside the Village Hall and recent events have led to the involvement of the Police.

There is an obvious need for some form of Youth Group as our numbers had risen to around 30/35 members. However, the age range from school Years 6 – 11 is too great to be viable and we have found it difficult to provide activities to suit everyone and their differing needs. Despite approaching various Community Youth schemes for assistance the Drop In remains a group organised and manned by volunteers.

On a positive note, I can report that a large group of young people have taken part in a variety of activities which include pancake making, popcorn, biscuit and pizza making, model and craft work. There have been two sessions of African drumming and for the older ones an introductory driving lesson as well as the usual table tennis, table football, indoor hockey and indoor football, badminton and group games.

Whether we reopen is still to be decided but if we did the format would need to be different. Thank you to all those who have given their time, energy and patience to the group.

**Lesley Jones and Sue Lawrence**

## **Pact – Partnership Approach To Partners and Communities Together**

PACT is a new Government initiative designed to tackle policing and safer neighbourhood issues within communities. The 'Safer Neighbourhoods' programme was officially launched in Warwickshire on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2006. Safer Neighbourhood Policing involves working with partner agencies (e.g the Parish, District and County Council and other bodies) to create safer and more confident neighbourhoods where the police and their partners understand the issues that concern local people and are able to tackle them together.

What this means in practice is that any resident can contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team via their e-mail address – [southam.snt@warwickshire.police.uk](mailto:southam.snt@warwickshire.police.uk) to report any issues that may concern the community. This is generally for those "non-urgent" matters that no one feels are important enough to report – minor vandalism, dangerous parking etc. There is also a website [www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk](http://www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk) where the SNT team have their own web pages.

The Police have also given an undertaking to attend (where reasonably practical) every Parish Council meeting to listen to any concerns from the general public. If an issue is considered significant enough, it can be taken on to a PACT PANEL MEETING. At these meetings, the issues will be voted on to establish the top three and those three will benefit from a multi-partnership approach i.e all the bodies involved, the police, the District and County Councils etc will pool resources to try to get them solved.

The next Parish Council meeting takes place on the 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Meetings are held monthly except for August and December; please check the village notice boards or our website [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk) for details. If you have any issues you wish to raise with either the Council or the Police please do come along.

**Harbury Parish Council**

## **The Samaritan Purse**

Remember the shoebox appeal? As a result, 1.3 million children received a Christmas gift from the UK – for many the first time in their lives.

The same charity works throughout the year and has asked for support for their 'Turn on the Tap' challenge. They ask people to walk 4 miles – the average distance women and children in many African countries walk to fetch water. A contribution of £2 per adult is suggested and the date May 10<sup>th</sup>. Details next month.

**Gillian Hare**

## **NSPCC**

In the February issue of the Harbury and Ladbroke News there was a misprint advertising the Starters and Pudding Evening. The correct date is 17<sup>th</sup> May in the Tom Hauley Room from 7.30pm. Tickets are £12.50 each and can be purchased from Pauline Hayes 612179 and Jo House 613892. Please bring your own drinks. Thank you.

**Jo House**

## **Southam Lions**

The next LIONS event in Southam is **MAY DAY** on the Bank Holiday Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2008

Come and join in the fun which takes place in the Library Grounds, Southam from 2.00pm until 4.00pm. The Southam Mayor, Councillor Les Hewer will officiate. There will be stalls of all descriptions including games to play and the theme for the day is THE WILD WEST. The Lions will be on the 'look-out' for the best dressed cowboy/cowgirl or indeed Indian/squaw and there will be prizes for the best dressed adult and child, so go and plunder the dressing up clothes in the loft!

Punch and Judy will be there to entertain the children and maybe some of the older ones who still think they are kids at heart!

Try out your throwing skills with our 'Wild West Horseshoe' game and if it's food you're after then we have that too with tempting hot dogs and burgers. Tea/coffee and cakes will also be available so there's something for everyone. Remember every penny we make at the event is put to great use for local and sometimes international charities. If it's local then it really is distributed to the folk of Southam and surrounding villages.

If you fancy running a stall at the event call Peter on 01926 815100, Malcolm on 01926 814294 or Terry on 01926 817744

So, if you want a stroll out on Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>, come and support the event and help us make a few pounds!

**Peter Guy**

*A leisure time project for the community of Ufton and surrounding area*

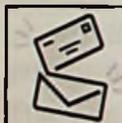
**Sculpting with Paverpol - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April - 10am - 1pm - Ufton Village Hall**

Following a request by several of our group we have invited Lorraine Burkin, the Paverpol UK demonstrator from Somerset, to let us have a go at this new craft. We will make a sculpture suitable for indoors or the garden from fabric and paverpol using a wire armature. Please bring a hairdryer and an old cloth to protect tables. This event is very suitable for absolute beginners. Cost £6.50 plus £9 for materials.

**Chinese Brush Painting - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 10am - 12.30pm - Ufton Village Hall**

Peter Millward, from, Nottingham teaches this ancient craft all over the Midlands and specialises in the culture and history of Chinese art. We will be introduced to Chinese calligraphy and then progress to flowers, birds, landscapes and figures. Please bring two jam jars and mixing palettes e.g. paper plates. If you have a wide 'hake' brush and ink stick and stone please bring them. All materials will be supplied and the course is suitable for absolute beginners. Cost £8.50 all materials included.

To book any event please ring me on 01926 812883.



**LETTERS TO THE EDITORS**

**Dear Editors**

*We would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for helping to make our Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 6th March so memorable.*

*Due to Derek's extended stay in hospital we thought it best to cancel a large party, and instead had neighbours and friends round for a small celebration at the bungalow. We would like to thank them all for the cards, flowers and best wishes.*

*We had a lovely day and thank the family for helping to organise it.*

**Eve and Derek Lowe**

**Dear Editors**

*Sheila and I would like to thank all the people who supported our Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room on Easter Saturday. We made a wonderful profit of £175.00 which has been sent to a local fundraising group. Despite the miserable morning, many people came and very generously supported this most worthy cause. We are very grateful to you all.*

**Liz Bunting and Sheila Scott**

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**Dear Editors**

*A big Thank you to my family and friends for all the help, good wishes and gifts received during my recent illness.*

*Many thanks*

**Maureen Johnson**

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**Dear Editors**

*We would like to thank all those kind friends who helped, sent cards, flowers and other gifts during our recent house move. We are now settled into our new home, if not quite unpacked! Visitors are most welcome to drop in for tea, coffee or just a chat and to look around our new home.*

*Yours sincerely*

**Sue and Brian Boniface**

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

**Bookings for:**

<b>Scout Hut</b>	<b>Lesley van Kesteren</b>	<b>613411</b>
<b>Tom Hauley Room</b>	<b>Liz Bunting</b>	<b>612450</b>
<b>T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning</b>	<b>Sally Stringer</b>	<b>613214</b>
<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Kate Johnson</b>	<b>613087</b>
<b>Wight School</b>	<b>Lin Hayes</b>	<b>613488</b>

**MAY EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS**

**Adverts to 31, Binswood End by 15th April**

**Articles to Harbury Pharmacy by Thurs 24th April**

## Do you need help with any of the following?

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### **EMERGENCY TRANSPORT:**

Vivien Neill 613461 or John Travis 613264

### **HELP WITH FORM FILLING:**

- **Council Tax Forms, Post Office Pension Payments:**

Call David Cooke 614692

- **For University/Job Applications, interviews, CVs:**

Call Philip Bushill-Matthews 612476.

**HOME VISITING:** Caring for a sick or elderly relative and need a break for a few hours, or you would like someone to call on you.

Call Sue Dormer 613254.

**HOUSEHOLD BUDGETING ADVICE:** Call Tony Brunton 612191.

**VISITING:** Hospital. If you are unable to visit a parent or relative, or parents would like support with a child in Hospital: Keith Dormer 613254.

## All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

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

**ADVERTISING IN THE  
HARBURY & LADBROKE  
NEWS FROM APRIL 08**

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¼ page – £10.50 or £28 for 3 months

½ page – £19.00 or £49 for 3 months

Full page – £33.50 or £89 for 3 months

**Annual**

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½ page – £168.00

Full page – £315.00

*(coloured pages printed in April for the year)*

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\*The League of Friends raises money to  
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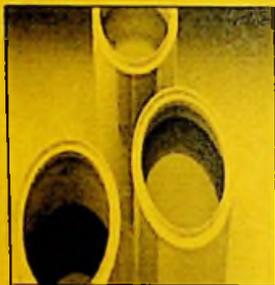
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