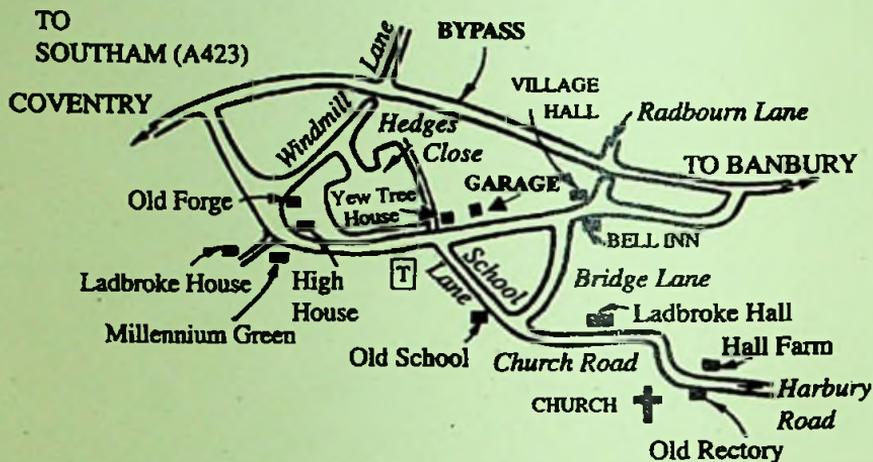


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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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

February 2009

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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

The Moving Pictures initiative has been showing films in the Village Hall for over a year. As with so many events in the village this relies on volunteers and the Village Hall Committee is asking for more help with these shows. In particular, projectionists are needed.

Many organisations that hire the hall use the kitchen for catering. Unfortunately all the brown trays and most of the jugs have disappeared from the cupboards. Their return would be appreciated.

Ladbroke Parish Council continues important work on the Parish Plan and the draft core strategy. This is of concern because more development is planned in the area.

Within the magazine we have tributes to two ladies. Glenys Hill, who for eight years was the magazine typist as well as being involved in other village organisations. Also Léone Keyte, one of our village post ladies for over twenty five years.

The Editors have received two letters for publication where the writers are asking to remain anonymous. We would remind all correspondents that the magazine has a policy of not publishing unsigned letters.

Harbury Diary

FEBRUARY

- | | | |
|-------|----|---|
| Sat | 7 | Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Pre-School
Stratford Conservatives Seminar in Village Hall
Children's Party 2.00 to 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room |
| Sun | 8 | 3 BEFORE LENT
START OF NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am |
| Tues | 10 | Toddler Service 2.00pm in Church
Holy Communion 7.30pm |
| Weds | 11 | Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15am to 10.15am Tom
Hauley Room |
| Thurs | 12 | Holy Communion 9.45am
WI talk on Artisan Cheeses 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room |
| Fri | 13 | SCHOOL ENDS FOR HALF TERM
Tai Chi Classes 7.00 - 8.30pm in Village Hall |

- Sat 14 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Village Hall Development Fund
- Sun 15 **2 BEFORE LENT**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Family Communion Service 10.30am
ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY 5.30PM
 Evensong 6.00pm
- Tues 17 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 No Senior Citizens Meeting
 Mothers' Union meeting 8.00pm Tom Hauley Room
 Talk & Film about the work of CORD – Jane Hill
- Weds 18 Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15am to 10.15am Tom Hauley Room
 Teas 3.00pm to 4.00pm Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 19 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Fri 20 Tai Chi Classes 7.00 - 8.30pm in Village Hall
- Sat 21 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am Tom Hauley Room
 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Netball
- Sun 22 **SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 23 **SCHOOL BACK**
 Harbury Society talk on Local Breweries 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Tues 24 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Julian Meeting 8.00pm in Church
- Wed 25 **ASH WEDNESDAY**
 Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15am to 10.15am in Tom Hauley Room
 School Service in Church with Imposition of Ashes 2.00pm
 N.B. No Drop in Tea for the Bereaved today (next meeting March 25th)
- Thurs 26 Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
 Holy Communion 9.45am
ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY & EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
 Parish Council 7.30pm Village Hall
- Fri 27 Tai Chi Classes 7.00 - 8.30pm in Village Hall 7-8.30pm
 Mid-Day Prayer with Meditation 12 noon in Church
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 28 Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Crime Victim Support
RUMMAGE SALE – 2.30pm at Galanos House, Southam
 Paul Winchester's fund raising event for Mini Rugby in Village Hall

MARCH

- Sun 1 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**
 St. DAVID'S DAY
 Sung Eucharist 9.00am
 First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
 Holy Communion with laying on of hands for healing & wholeness 6.00pm
- Tues 3** Holy Communion 7.30pm
 Horticultural Society 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Weds 4** Cuppa 'n' Chat for young mums 9.15 to 10.15am Tom Hauley Room
 Holy Communion 2.00pm
 Mothers' Union meeting 2.30pm Tom Hauley Room
 Talk by Lesley Eldridge on M.U. Banners
 Ballroom Dancing 8.30-10pm in Village Hall
- Thurs 5** Art Group 10.00am – 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Folk Club in Shakespeare in 8.30pm
 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Men's Group 7.45pm Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 6** Tai Chi Classes in Village Hall 7-8.30pm
 Mid-day Prayer with Meditation 12 noon in Church
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Women's World Day of Prayer Service 2.00pm in Church
- Sat 7** Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Brownies
- Thurs 12** BLOOD DONORS IN VILLAGE HALL
 WI Members Evening 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 14** Joe Griffin's Teenage Cancer Charity event in Village Hall

Refuse Collection Rota

	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Refuse Collection Week
February	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	4	5	6	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	11	12	13	Grey Bin
	18	19	20	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	25	26	27	Grey Bin
March	4	5	6	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	11	12	13	Grey Bin
	18	19	20	Grey & Blue Lid Bins
	25	26	27	Grey Bin

Green Waste service is suspended over the winter months from Nov 2008 until April 2009.



All Saints
HARBURY

From the Rector

Father Craig Grocock

'All you need is love'

Do you remember the Beatles singing about that way back in 1967? A bit difficult for me to remember being only two at the time, but it's one the Beatles' most well known songs and has been covered by countless choirs, artists and musicians ever since. But what is this love we all need?

Victor Hugo once said; 'The supreme happiness of life is the conviction that we are loved'. Well, I guess we all want that don't we? To feel someone really loves us just for what we are.

We think about love this month as we celebrate St. Valentine's Day, the day when people will make a special effort to declare and express their love for someone. But who was Valentine? Well, there are varying opinions. Some experts say that Valentine was a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity. He died on February 14, 269 A.D. Legend also says that St. Valentine had fallen in love with the jailer's daughter and left a farewell note for the girl, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine". Other aspects of the story say that St Valentine served as a priest at the temple during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Claudius then had Valentine jailed for defying him. In 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honour St. Valentine. Gradually, February 14 became the date for exchanging love messages and St. Valentine became the patron saint of lovers.

Love is a strange word which expresses a wide range of emotions. We can use the word glibly, casually and throw it around so easily without thinking. As Christians however, we believe that love is expressed most profoundly when it's sacrificial. By this we mean a love that gives without counting the cost and doesn't demand anything in return – unconditional love in other words. We see this in the death of Jesus who gave his life for each of us unconditionally, the perfect and most complete example of love.

Please do come along and join us for worship at church this month and as you do, we pray that you will receive and feel the deep, transforming and unconditional love of God which is yours through Jesus Christ.

From the Registers

Memorial Service at All Saints' Harbury

January 9 Derek Trice (83)

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

January 11 April Murray

January 18 Hannah and Jack Simcock



From the Churchwardens

Tony & Fliss

The presentation at last month's Family Communion Service was given by Father Craig. He talked about the New Year and our resolutions to do better. With the aid of a white handkerchief splattered with iodine, he illustrated how easy it is, despite our good intentions, to stain our lives with sin. Photographic fixer wiped out the iodine. It is only when we come to God and ask Him to wipe out our sin that we are truly given a new, clean start.

This month sees the beginning of Lent. On each Friday following Ash Wednesday, 25th February, there will be a Mid-day Prayer with meditation in Church at noon, followed by our usual Lent Lunch at 12.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room. Please come and join us.



Mothers' Union

Gillian Hare

Our year got off to a happy start with our January parties. At the afternoon one, we were joined by 4 ladies from Ladbroke, and were entertained by Michael Hare playing songs from the Shows. Many feet were tapping as everyone joined in. Tea and cakes followed.

The Faith Supper was well attended and a variety of delicious food enjoyed. After the traditional quizzes the committee let down their hair and entertained with a rather unusual version of "all Things Bright and Beautiful". And you all thought we were all such demure ladies! We were also pleased to have the opportunity to thank Anne Moore for her



Anne Moore

wonderful service as Branch Leader. She has been a great encouragement to all the members, often quietly in the background but always to be relied on, and Lorna presented her with a basket of flowers to mark the occasion.

By the time you read this, we will hopefully have had a successful coffee morning, as well the February afternoon meeting when Sue Boniface will be commissioned as our new Branch Leader, and we welcome her to that position.

February 17th at 8pm.

This promises to be a most interesting presentation about one of the relief projects run by CORD, the Leamington based charity. We shall be welcomed as passengers on board a CORDAIR virtual flight, and learn about their work in the camps which are home to refugees from Darfur. As always, visitors are welcome to join us (including men!); visas are not required!

March 4th, 2.30pm

A talk about the many and varied styles of Mothers' Union banners, by Lesley Eldridge.

March 6th, 2pm

Women's World Day of Prayer service in church. Everyone welcome; this year's service is put together by the women of Papua New Guinea.



First Light

Alison Abbott

At First light in January we remembered the visit of the Maji to the young Jesus, and especially their gift of incense. We had lots of little pots containing very smelly things like garlic, TCP, Marmite and spices. Later I threw the bits in my kitchen bin which still smells a little odd despite repeated washing! A reminder of our main point - what kind of memory do you leave with the people you meet? We are encouraged to remind people of Jesus by leaving behind a "lingering scent" of love truth and goodness.

By time you read this February's First light will be over, and the next one is on March 1st when we will be celebrating the life of St David, the patron saint of Wales. What can his life teach us today and what kind of "lingering scent" did he leave?

First light is informal church for all ages we begin at 10.30 on the first Sunday of each month with coffee before from 10.00 am.



Toddlers Service

Barbara Thistlethwaite

We started the meeting with Mrs Jenny Ingram telling us the story of the birth of Jesus. She told us that it was the shepherds who were the first to hear about the birth and to visit the new baby.

Mr Hare then played the music whilst we sang "While shepherds watch their flocks by night". Mrs Ingram then told us about the stable where the baby Jesus was asleep with Mary and Joseph and sang the hymn "Away in a manger". Mrs Ingram then told us that the next people to visit baby Jesus were The Three Kings.

The Kings had seen a very special star in the sky and had followed it for a long time until they arrived at Herod's house. The Kings asked Herod if he knew where this baby had been born but he did not know. Herod said to the kings that he would like to know when they found the baby so that he too could visit. The Kings continued to follow the star until it finally came to a stop above the stable where Jesus had been born. The Kings delivered the gifts they had brought for the newborn infant and then rested before their long journey home. Whilst they were asleep an Angel came down and told the Kings not to tell Herod where Jesus was and to go home a different way. We then sang "We three Kings"

Mrs Dodds then led us on a walk around the Church until we came to the stable with baby Jesus and Mary and Joseph and the other people Mrs Ingram had told us about. We talked about the various people in the stable and who they were and how we had pretended to be these people in our nativity play. We then made crowns with lots of stars and glitter which we wore on our way back to school after having our drinks and biscuits.

All toddlers and babies, accompanied by an adult, are welcome to join us in church at 2.00pm on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is on Tuesday 10th February and we look forward to seeing you there.

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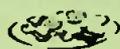
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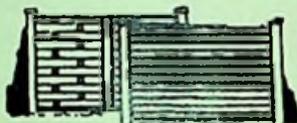
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Women's World Day of Prayer

Ruth Dodds

The Women's World Day of Prayer movement will celebrate the international annual Day of Prayer on 6th March 2009. The theme is "In Christ there are many members yet one body" and the service has been prepared by the women of Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea was discovered by Portuguese navigators in the 16th century. In 1884 the eastern half of the island was divided between Germany and Britain. At the end of World War One, Australia gained control of both the British PNG and German PNG. In 1975 Papua New Guinea gained independence. Today it is governed by a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democratic system.

Papua New Guinea has been described as a 'mountain of gold floating on the sea of oil'. It is full of natural resources such as gold, silver, copper ore, natural oil and gas, which are currently mined and in production. Tourism is a fast-growing industry.

Christian denominations have realised that working together to spread the love of God will influence society. Such unity is a living example of the theme "In Christ there are many members yet one body."

Please join us in Harbury Church for this interesting and lively service on Friday 6th March at 2.00pm to be followed by refreshments. Everyone will be most welcome.

Ladbroke News & Diary

FEBRUARY

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Sat | 7 | Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall |
| Sun | 8 | 3 BEFORE LENT
START OF NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK
Holy Communion Sung 9.00am in Church |
| Mon | 9 | Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall |
| Sat | 14 | Valentine's Day 7.00pm Music and Dancing in Village Hall |
| Sun | 15 | 2 BEFORE LENT
Holy Communion BCP 9.00am in Church
ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END HARBURY BY
5.30PM |

- Mon 16** Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Wed 18 Parish Council Meeting 7.45pm in Village Hall
Sun 22 **SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**
 Holy Communion 9.00am in Church
Wed 25 **ASH WEDNESDAY**
 Lent Lunch 12.30pm at Field Farm
 7.30pm Holy Communion
Thurs 26 **ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST, HARBURY**
& EMAIL ARTICLE DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
 Women's Institute 7.30pm in Village Hall

MARCH

- Sun 1** **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**
 St. DAVID'S DAY
 Family Communion 10.30am in Church
Mon 2 Table Tennis 8.00pm in Village Hall
Wed 4 Lent Lunch 12.30pm at Walworth Farm
 Lent Course 7.30pm in Church
Sat 7 Whist Drive 7.45pm in Village Hall
Sun 8 **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**
 Holy Communion Sung 9.00am in Church

Ladbroke Flower Rota

Jane Rutherford

- February 8th Jane Rutherford
 February 15th Jane Rutherford
 February 22nd Jane Rutherford



Ladbroke Church News

Betty Winkfield

We are holding a course of talks in church during Lent by various speakers from the Southam Deanery. It is a Deanery course so other church members from around the area will be attending. We begin the course with the Holy Communion Service and Imposition of Ashes at 7.30pm on Ash Wednesday, 25th February.

The proceeds from our Lent Lunches will be going to support the work in Vietnam, helping to educate orphaned children there.

Lent Lunch dates and venues are:

- Wednesday 25th February - Field Farm, Kineton Road – Beryl Ross
 Wednesday 4th March - Walworth Farm – Susan Moore
 Wednesday 11th March - 3, Ladbroke Hall – Catherine Spence
 Wednesday 18th March - Hall Farm – Betty Winkfield
 Wednesday 25th March - Chapel Ascot farm – Jenny Barrett
 Wednesday 1st April - to be arranged.

Everyone is very welcome; the lunch consists of a bowl of soup, followed by cheese and biscuits and costs £3. We are not asking you to stay very long if you don't want to; just have a quick lunch break with us.



Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I.

Christine Baker

The WI New Year commenced with a very interesting speaker on Mercy Ships. Most of us had not heard of this organisation, but were fascinated by the slides and talk on the work being carried out via members of the Round Table and many other volunteers following 11 years of civil war in Sierra Leone.

The Mercy Ship is a floating hospital where these people could be properly treated. Wonderful work is being done by these people from all walks of life, freely giving their time and money to help rebuild a country.

Next meeting February 26th – A Female in Fleet Street.



Ladbroke Parish Council

Betty Winkfield

A very special meeting began with the Police Report given by S.O. Anita Reading. She introduced us to Dominic Bes/Jeary a new S.O. in our area. There have been several speed checks along our Bypass and several tickets issued. A youth was caught driving without a licence; 4x4 vehicles and caravans are still common targets for criminals.

Our visiting travellers have obviously moved on. They were thought to be a traffic distraction, apart from their dogs and children being at danger. Anita said she would report back and that they would look into matters.

Later on in the meeting there was a lengthy discussion about ways of deterring the travellers from using the ground at the entrance to the village. Planting trees or shrubs or putting in posts can be easily removed – and used as firewood. The best deterrent was to make a grass mound to rise up from the road but level at the back so that the hedge could be maintained. I am sure the council would welcome any other constructive ideas.

Public Participation – It was reported that heavy rains before Christmas caused water to pour down Ladbroke Road (the Folly) on to the Harbury Road and down to the T junction at the bottom of Deppers Bridge. "It was like a river and worse than ever".

The repairs to Radbourne Lane path were unsatisfactory, incomplete and had a very poor surface.

It was reported that inside the "Express Advertiser" (the new freebie magazine) there is a community news letter "Town and Village News". The council were interested as Ladbroke could maybe make use of it.

It was reported that vehicles are speeding in Windmill Lane. This is very dangerous as people use this Lane to walk dogs, and children play along that lane. As this is an unclassified road no speed restrictions can be put on it.

Road Gullies - These were cleared on December 18th but drains outside Ladbroke Farm, are not taking water away. They are still blocked and other drains in that area are still a problem. Discussion followed about producing a map of all drains in Ladbroke and NUMBERED so that problems in the future could be identified.

Flood Grants – this has been received and will be used to purchase a pump that can be used for diverting water away from properties. The question of storing the pump is still to be agreed.

New Notice Board – the Clerk is still looking for a reasonable quote.

Welcome Pack – for new comers to the village – the grant has been received. Kip Warr and Jim Clews are to arrange this.

The Precept for 2009/10 is to rise from £4600 to £4700 while discussing the Precept the Council also talked about grants to the Village Hall for the new building.

Planning Applications

Another application is to be heard at the District Council on January 26th "for retrospective change of use of land and buildings to allow boat building and associated development" at Old Barn farm.

A replacement barn at the Barn Windmill Lane has been refused – insufficient evidence of need.

The erection of a Dutch barn has been granted at Old Barn farm.

Highways and Drainage – The concrete block at the entrance to Deppers Bridge farm has not been removed. It has been covered with moss or something similar. The lane is very narrow at that point and can be a problem when two vehicles are passing in opposite directions. The haunching on the northern roadside has subsided.

Discussions took place about the Penfold Green in Windmill Lane. How to keep people from parking on it. Do the council purchase bollards to put round it? Any thoughts on this please from residents of Windmill Lane.

A fence that traverses the brook in Farm Yard field is quite likely to cause a blockage of the waterflow and needs alteration – who owns the fence?

Parish Plan - Still awaiting final draft.

The Village Hall – A Planning application has been sent to the authorities for the new Village Hall and PC comments need to be submitted to Stratford DC by January 29th.

Several money raising events are in course; one of which is a Quiz Night on April 24th.

The Millenium Green has a Valentines Party / Dance on February 14th. The re-siting of the Toddlers on the Green takes place in March. Whether any more grants will be available in the future is in doubt.

Website – The web master keeps improving the attractiveness of the website. Photographs of interesting features of the Village have been taken.

Draft Core Strategy – this is about the future development in the Southam area. The council discussed this at great length as it could impact Ladbroke. The boundary between Southam and Ladbroke is the driveway to Starbold farm and Garden Centre opposite. The Football ground may be relocated to the area next to Starbold Drive. It

could be a much larger facility than it is now incorporating more activities than just football. Some aspects may be beneficial to village residents but there was some concern about access. More development is planned for the area from the units sited off the Kinton Road and the A425 turning on to the A423 (a square block of land) down to the present football ground. Tesco is a potential site purchaser. Lack of detailed information leads to great concern within the village especially as 200 new houses were mentioned, the area is known to flood during heavy rains. Where will this water drain to? The whole area would need sensitive screening.

Correspondence – Several letters about the Travellers

Meeting closed at 10.37pm

Next meeting Wednesday 18th February 7.45pm



Ladbroke General Section

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

The results of the draw for December were:

- £80 Elaine Taylor
- £50 Peter Baker
- £25 Geoff Lane
- £10 Sue Lord
- £10 Malcolm Wray
- £10 Marie Kennedy
- £10 Carol Lane

Janet Goldson

Ladbroke Millennium Green Update

The new play equipment is now in place and we hope that village children will enjoy the extra facilities.

The next fund raising activity which will be on 14th February in the Village Hall is the Valentine Night Music and Dancing. This will feature the "Ladbroke Rockers". There will be a sit down dinner of Lasagne and Dessert for all to enjoy.

For more details or tickets contact Martin Neal on 812668.

Martin Neal

Thank You

A BIG THANK YOU to Stuart Moore, the Teverson Family and Janet Goldson for so quickly repairing the burst pipes in the Village Hall on Saturday 10th January and getting nearly back to normal for the Whist Drive in the evening.

Betty Winkfield



Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

Official minutes can be viewed in the Library on the Parish Council website www.harbury-pc.gov.uk or obtained from the Parish Clerk

Grants

Windmills Nursery wanted £396 from the Parish Council for a push button entry system to their room and Mrs Kennedy was there to explain why it was needed. There was some discussion among Cllrs who thought the Nursery might have anticipated the need earlier but Cllr Mansell pointed out that it was for the safety of the children. He was supported by Pc Hill who had been involved in the incident at Brailes where a toddler had wandered off and drowned.

Crime

Pc Hill reported that a resident of Leycester Close had recently been convicted of an assault on two youngsters.

Village Hall

The extension plans were exhibited at the recent Coffee Morning and the Changing Rooms were to be painted. The Cinema continued to be well supported but volunteers are needed to help with the projection.

District Council

D Cllr Andrew Patrick reported that the budget would not be good news. Although it was likely to increase by between 3-4.9% there would still have to be cuts in services.

He had received thanks from residents for action that saw repairs to the potholes in the path along the Old New Inn Green.

County Council

WCCllr Bob Stevens hoped that the Area Committee would approve Harbury's bid for funds for their Traffic calming Scheme.

The County Council's rate increase was likely to be nearer 4% than 5%. The Consultation on where cuts to the Libraries would fall would happen in June but there would be cuts to funding for new books.

He was against Cemex's plans to ferry material to Long Itchington quarry to be burned and thought the Rugby plant should be used. The Inquiry was set for 12-16 March.

There was to be an adjudication on the catchment area for Rugby's Grammar Schools as Daventry complained that it sucked into Warwickshire potential students for their comprehensive system. If the complaint were upheld it could mean that Harbury and Deppers Bridge children were no longer eligible to attend the Grammar Schools in Rugby.

Bob Stevens and Sharon Hancock, Governors at Southam School had been involved in the appointment of the new Headmaster who was, they said, an outstanding candidate.

Deppers Bridge

Cllr Grey complained that the Flexibus and Community Links services were "hopeless" and Stagecoach would not supply smaller buses (which could go over the railway bridge.)

Planning

Stratford granted a replacement oak framed house on the site of 11 The Beeches; boundary fencing at Wissett Lodge, Church Street; and treeworks at the Crown, The Lymes, Church Street and 26 Vicarage Lane.

The Parish had no concerns about a porch at 19 Pineham Avenue or the change of use to a shop for Unit 1 at the Bull Ring Business Centre.

They made representations about an extension at Cranford, Chesterton Road and declared an interest in the Tennis Courts application asking the planning authority to take into account any comments from near neighbours.

The Cement Works - The Parish Council was adamant that the application to flatten the works area to allow car storage should be subject to the provisions of the Masterplan and complained that SDC was still not identifying applications there as being relevant to both Harbury and Bishops Itchington.

Their main concerns were over the presence of asbestos on the site and the potential for flooding and run-off to pollute the Itchen.

Recreation

Cllrs agreed that the hedge by the Skatepark should be reduced in height in this financial year.

They were still not happy with the Safety Report they commissioned for the Play area and decided to ask Rospa to undertake it for a trial period.

The extension of the allotments water supply was agreed.

It was agreed that the Football Club would be reimbursed for the cost of white-lining the pitch.

The drains in the Car Park needed to be jetted and the PC will consider fitting individual timers to the lights which seem now to be on all the time.

Sewage

The Mill Street Pumping Station had overflowed into the ditch and flooded fields just before Christmas so that rights of way had to be closed. DCllr Andrew Patrick praised the assistance he had had from Dave Wurr and John Ridgley. The Clerk will write to thank Mr Ridgley for his actions in getting the effluent cleared up. DCllr Patrick was working to get compensation for the landowners.

Farmers Market

The Parish Council agreed to a request from Vision for Southam to display an advertisement in the week preceding the Farmers Market.

Finance

The Councillors agreed a payment of £120 for the Christmas Lights and eventually acceded Windmill Nursery's request for funding for the entry system, but only after considerable discussion.

They considered three options for the Budget and agreed an increase of £4.12 a year for Band D payers, or as Tony Mancell put it 34p a month.

The Council is building up a Sinking Fund to replace the Play Equipment some of which only has a limited life. There is work to be done on the Car Park, safety work and tree maintenance in the Cemetery, essential replacements to street lighting columns, support for the village hall extension plans, general village improvements and the traffic calming scheme, and £5,000 for the grant fund for village organisations.

The Council received letters of thanks from the Village Hall, Youth Group and Harbury Albion for previous grants.

Finally

We then had the ceremony of the Cheque signing – an opportunity for Cllrs to get their names in the minutes. There have to be two signatories and Cllr Alison Baldwin was ecstatic to be asked to sign. "I'm a person at last" she exclaimed, "I've been on the Council for a year and a half".

This was her first chance to sign cheques but she rather spoiled it by asking the Chairman "do I have to be alongside you or on top?" She is going to be a great asset to the Council!

Next Meeting 26th February in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Harbury Parish Council Quarterly Report, January 2009

Cllr Tim Lockley

In the past three months Harbury Parish Council have:

- Continued to talk to relevant parties about restoring the bus service in Deppers Bridge
- Commented on the Draft Core Strategy which will influence development in the district in the future
- Approved a plan to extend the water supply to the allotments
- Arranged for pruning of the trees near the skateboard park
- Provided a free Christmas tree chipping service for the parish
- Approved a parish budget for 2009-10 which raises the average bill by just 34p per month



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

Members had a very good "Dinner at the Dog" for their annual social and valiantly attempted both Linda's handicraft task and John Hancock's Epiphany Quiz. The crowns were gorgeous but the origami camel might have been better attempted at the beginning of the evening rather than the end! Nevertheless Ed Wilson's was a very creditable effort and won the cache of gold which added to the myrrh and the frankincense justified the Epiphany title of the evening.

Celia Barrett's Exhibition of her archive and by-gones in January was in aid of Meningitis Research. This was a fascinating glimpse into the past of our village and the rural way of life.

At this event we asked for support for the Heritage Group's bid for Lottery Funding to open up to the public Nigel Chapman's Heritage Resource, collected over many years by the school and school children.

At present the documents and artefacts are scattered throughout the school and the aim is to bring them together in one room which can be used to house them and for displays and exhibitions.

The resource will be available for the school children to use as part of their curriculum work but out of school time volunteers will open it up for the general public to use.

The ultimate aim is to digitise as much of the resource as possible and have it available on-line so that everyone can access it whenever they wish. And it is hoped that the group will also receive donations of records and artefacts from residents to increase and improve the range of heritage covered.

If you are interested in helping to staff the resource or have anything to donate, please contact the Heritage Group Secretary Janet Thornley 612688 or you can email her at janthornley@tiscali.co.uk

The next event for Harbury Society takes place in the Tom Hauley Room 7.30 for 8pm on 23rd February when John Crossling talks on the subject of Local Breweries.



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

A start to the New Year was our visit to the pantomime, Sleeping Beauty at the Talisman, Kenilworth. They always put on a good show in this small theatre and of course we all joined in.

Then came the New Year's Party. The super food was provided by the members and the choice was unbelievable. The entertainment was performed by Harbury Folk Club Choir and didn't they do well. A few played instruments too and were great. In all thanks must be given to everyone concerned in making the evening so successful and especially to all who worked so hard.

Well done to our team who entered the Yearly Federation Quiz and came second. They will be in the final in February.

The January Walk from the Saxon Mill to Leek Wootton Church was an interesting route ending with refreshments. The February Walk is on the 12th, meeting at the Village Hall at 10.30am.

The spring Council Meeting at the Spa Centre is on Wednesday 18th March and will have Simon Weston, the Falklands Veteran as the main speaker.

Our speaker got his dates mixed up so we did not have our talk on badgers. However, we filled in with our version of "Give us a Clue" with hilarity, although it might not have been recognised as the old TV game.

Have just found out why our monthly Corruna News is named. In 1809 Britain was at war with France. La Corunna was the departure port in Spain for the defeated British Army. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment whose home was in the village of Budbrooke, played an important part in the fighting. Their prowess is recorded in St Mary's, Warwick. Perhaps some of the veterans returned to the barracks which occupied a large area on the outskirts of town. The area now sees high speed trains, major roads, a new village of houses and a business complex named after their famous battle: Corunna Court.

February Speaker – Artisan Cheeses, Paxton and Whitfield



Harbury Theatre Group

Ruth Walton

The Actor Factor

So much better than another talent show, reality TV, or cookery programme....it's Harbury Theatre Group's Spring Production. We are planning two one-act period comedies, complete with comic interlude, on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th May. We won't give too much away just yet, but look out for further details in future editions of the Harbury & Ladbroke News.

If you see this in time, and are interested in getting involved in these productions, there will be an auditioning and casting evening at Corner Cottage, The Bull Ring on Friday, 6th February at 7.30 p.m. We'd love to see you there. Please give Ruth Walton a call on 613415 for further information.

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CHAIRMAN:

Tim Lockley

CLERK:

Nicola Thompson

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

Email: clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk
Website: www.harbury-pc.gov.uk



Folk Club

Peter Bones

The previous time I hosted the Folk Club was May 1st when many of the regulars who were Morris Dancers had been up at 5:00 am to dance the dawn in. Similarly, on January 1st when we had the first Folk Club of 2009, many of those present had been dancing during the day but not at the unearthly hour of 5:00 but starting at midday, which was infinitely more civilised.

With the combination of the physical exertion plus it being New Year's Day, I predicted that the evening would not be well attended, and that it would likely have a somewhat subdued atmosphere. However, once again my prediction was completely wrong.

Because of the activities of the day, I decided to have the theme for the evening as "dance". This I felt was also appropriate as many tunes of Christmas Carols are also dance tunes.

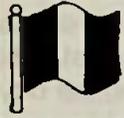
The Shakespeare is normally closed on the evening of New Year's Day as in the past it has been very quiet. However it was opened to accommodate the folk club so it was with some relief that by 8:00pm a good number had turned up, and by the time we started, there was standing room only.

As is the custom, with me being the host, Liz and I started the evening with a couple of familiar songs loosely connected with dance. The evening then continued with a wonderful selection of music and songs presented by 16 different performers. Most of the items cleverly included the theme into the lyrics or tune title.

The standard of performance at the folk club meetings is normally pretty high, but this month I thought it was even better than usual. My personal favourites included the appearance of Ruth Forte singing Marie's Wedding and the Dashing White Sergeant; Maureen and Janny singing the Les Barker parody of the Abba song "Dancing Queen" entitled "Morris Team", (complete with costume); and the Folk Club Choir singing the two carols that had presented at the Church Carol Service on Christmas Eve. For a complete list of who sang what, please visit the Folk Club Web Site, [www/Welcome.to/HarburyFolkClub](http://www.Welcome.to/HarburyFolkClub)

Many thanks to all who took part, the audience who provided a good atmosphere, and Darren Wheeler, the landlord of the Shakespeare, for opening up just for us.

Thanks also to those who contributed to the raffle which raised £46.00. This was added to the money collected by the Morris Dancing during the day enabling a total of £120.00 to be donated to the Unicef Congo Disaster Relief Fund.



Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys

From the Association's point of view, the highlight for January has got to have been the Fete des Rois held on the 12th night, and hosted this year by June and David Eaves. It was a superb evening, very well attended and we all had a great time. Our thanks to June and David for their hospitality and to all those who organized the games and entertainment.

The next event for us to look forward to will be our quiz evening in March, the date to be advised. However, this will give you time to organize your teams.

As you may already know our French friends had applied to Brussels for a grant towards helping to cover their expenses when hosting us in Samois last year. This also included a contribution towards our costs incurred in travelling there. We have been told that they have received some cash on our behalf, but at the time of writing it has not reached our bank!

Nothing more to relate this month, other than that the committee is working on the details of the program for the French visit in May.



Harbury RFC

Rugby Football Club

Jerry Birkbeck

Great result against Stamford with an excellent effort from all the players involved and coaches Tony Cowley and Steve Dunne. We have a fascinating tie at home to Redditch on 7th February.

To this I ought to add that ALCESTER must have posted a Club League Record score with a 194-3 victory over COVENTRY SARACENS assuming the result was correctly posted on the RFU Results page. Although Saracens only fielded eight players!

The League goes on and yesterday (Saturday 24th Jan) saw Round 14 of the M5SW League. We have a postponed match against Dudley Wasps to be played so Saturday's match for us was our 13th. The team put on an excellent display following on from last's week Cup win with a 65-0 home defeat of Stoke Old Boys. This was a comprehensive and stimulating exhibition of winning the ball and moving at pace and showed how effectively Harbury can play. Next week we have a difficult match away to Pinley

1st XV

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	PF	PA	Diff	PTS	Adjust
HARBURY	13	10	1	2	329	141	188	21	0
Redditch	11	9	1	1	174	113	61	19	0
Manor Park	14	8	1	5	206	189	17	17	0
Evesham	13	7	1	6	337	144	193	15	0
Cov Welsh	14	7	0	7	244	152	92	14	0
Stoke OB	14	6	2	6	196	265	-69	14	0
Keresley	12	5	1	6	200	160	40	11	0
Pinley	14	5	0	9	143	185	-42	10	0
Dudley Wasps	13	4	2	7	146	291	-145	10	0
Worcester Students	13	5	0	6	272	228	44	8	-2
Coventrians	14	3	2	9	121	305	-164	8	0
Copsewood	13	4	1	8	86	281	-195	7	-2

Results Round 14

24 January 2009

Coventrians 13 Pinley 10 Coventry Welsh 27 Dudley Wasps 7
Evesham 51 Copsewood 0

Harbury 65 Stoke OB 0 Redditch 13 Manor Park 10 Worcester
Students v Keresley Postponed

2nd XV**2ND XV LEAGUE WARWICKSHIRE 3**

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	PF	PA	Diff	PTS
Leamington 3	11	10	1	0	406	88	318	42
Broadstreet 3	11	10	0	1	510	80	430	41
Manor Park 2	12	8	1	3	420	120	300	37
Old Laurents 3	11	9	0	2	365	100	265	37
Kenilworth 3	12	7	0	5	236	212	24	31
Harbury 2	11	6	0	5	234	183	51	29
Spartans 3	11	4	0	7	135	265	-130	23
Old C's 3	12	3	0	9	135	685	-550	21
Stoke OB 2	12	3	0	9	120	247	-127	20
Cov Welsh 2	11	3	0	8	134	326	-192	20
Bedworth 3	11	3	0	8	152	256	-104	16
Covents 2	11	1	0	11	128	413	-285	13

The 2nds had a rearranged League Match with Stoke OB's agreeing to travel to Harbury as their pitch was waterlogged. The game was abandoned five minutes into the second half when a Stoke player was injured. The player could not be moved and an ambulance was called. He was taken to hospital but was released later that evening. He is okay, which is good news. Stoke had a 15-12 lead and Harbury suggesting moving the match to the main pitch as the 1st XV game had finished. However, the Stoke captain was not keen and conceded the match to Harbury.

Juniors and Minis - Harbury's Minis matches were cancelled due to the wet state of the pitches. Next Sunday they are away at Daventry. The Under 17's entertain Old Leams

Trivia Corner - Many years ago, well nearly 30, to be exact I was cashing up at the then new clubhouse following a friendly 'footy' match. I was on my own and was shocked when a voice said 'I'm interested in joining the Club - can you help me?' Having overcome my initial concerns that it was a stick up I had a chat with the 'new boy'. Well after all that time he is still with us and moreover returned

after moving across to the East Coast. A fine player and useful asset to any pack he was a powerhouse at lock. His three sons play for the Club and like their dad are all Harbury guys. The individual helped run a Colts Team in the late 1990's and acts as eyes and ears for the 2nd team. During his spare time he owns and runs Stockton Post Office. Who is he?

Other News - The whole Club have signed up to the RFU's SEAL OF APPROVAL. Until very recently this has been associated purely with Junior and Mini Sections. What is it? Essentially it is a process to ensure that a club has the appropriate safeguards and initiatives in place to cover the health and well-being of its members. It covers 12 different strands which include – coaching, care and welfare of all players, community contacts, legal and administrative issues, promotion etc. It's a kind of health check and will in the near future be required by all clubs. It will directly affect links with schools and recommendation by WRFU coaches, facility funding, ticket allocation etc. Much of the information we already have, and it's a case of gathering this together and collecting the necessary evidence. We held our first meeting with Mark Richardson from WRFU on the 26th and will be meeting him again at the end of March.

Contacts - Club Captain: Matt Knight 07967203175 1st XV Captain: Jeff Foster 07766518197 2nd XV Captain: Adrian Exton 07989498426 Junior and Mini: Barry Dutton 01926814178 Editor: Jerry Birkbeck: 07855566325 E-Mail: jerrybirkbeck@btinternet.com Website Manager: Daz Nicholls – mazznic@aol.com



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

The Club's traditional New Year's Day Tournament was played in very pleasant conditions and in the usual "relaxed" atmosphere as the previous evening's celebrations took their toll! Around a dozen hardy souls enjoyed some very social tennis with hot punch and nibbles between matches. When the points were added



up Caroline Morland and Rosemary Harley were equal top in the ladies section with Colin Mercer winning the men's.

The bad weather caused some league matches to be postponed in January but all 3 teams have been in action. In the winter league the first match was against Middleton Cheney "B" on a very windy morning. Sara Peters, Sue Panton, Jon Guy and Colin Mercer adapted much better than their visitors and romped home in an 8-0 win to consolidate second place in the league. The same team then went to unbeaten Hook Norton for a top of the table clash and secured an excellent 4-4 draw. Sue and Sara lost the opening rubber but Jon and Colin won theirs leaving everything to play for in the mixed doubles. Sue and Jon won the opening set but were pegged back in the second and halved the rubber. Sara and Colin's match went the opposite way losing the first set but fighting back to take the second to get the draw and spoil Hook Norton's record.

In the only floodlit match played we faced another unbeaten side, Banbury West End who had only dropped one set in all matches played. Eira Owen, Karin Kirk, Peter Walshe and Adam Crossling had the unenviable task and although they put up a brave fight were unable to stop the visitors who went home with an 8-0 win.

In the Stratford men's doubles league, 2 matches have been played. The first was a 0-4 home defeat against league leaders Leamington "B". Harbury's pairs were Mark Pavey and Colin Mercer and teenagers Jon Guy and Adam Crossling. In the first round Leamington won both rubbers in straight sets but in the second round Harbury were much improved and took their visitors to a third set in both.

The next match saw a return to winning ways with a 3-1 success against Pershore. On this occasion Jon and Adam were joined by Jon Scothern and Geoff Prince. Harbury looked to be heading for a 4-0 win but in the second round of rubbers Geoff suffered an achilles problem which forced him to retire and concede a rubber.

Junior coaching has started again for some of the groups with the rest starting after half term.



Harbury Toddler Group

Julie Young & Hilary Riemer

AFTER the hustle and bustle of the festive season our toddlers and their mums have been having a peaceful time at our weekly sessions.

There has been plenty of handy craftwork going on inside, including painting, sticking and glueing as well as the usual dressing up and playing. And despite the recent arctic weather the children have still been keen to get wrapped up and play outside on the various sit on tractors and cars.

Looking ahead there are a number of events to look forward to in 2009 for the toddler group including the annual summer trip - which last year was at Hatton Country World, taking part in the village carnival, creating more pottery masterpieces, photo sessions and above all just having fun with other parents/grandparents and their little ones.

Shed Tidy

We will be having another clear out of the toy shed soon and any help would be greatly appreciated. A date will be confirmed at the next Toddler Group committee meeting which will be held on Tuesday, February 3rd. A notice will be put on the board for people to volunteer.

Doll Appeal

If anyone has some unwanted dolls at home that they would like to donate to Toddler Group they would be greatly appreciated.

And finally...

If you haven't been to Toddler Group yet please come and give us a try. Sessions are held every Monday morning 10-11.30am and Weds afternoon 1.30-3pm. 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

This half term we have been looking at the theme of shapes, as well as talking about what happens in winter. We have been reinforcing the children's understanding of basic 2-D shapes and introducing the concept of 3-D shapes.

Activities this month have included:

- * A walk around the school grounds after the recent snow and frosty weather prompted some beautiful winter collages, and lots of seasonal vocabulary.



- * Making some bird feeders to take home to feed the birds in their own gardens.
- * Creating some fantastically detailed 3D models from a variety of different size and shaped boxes
- * Celebrating Chinese New Year with a fancy dress day which included cooking and eating stirfry vegetables, noodles and prawn crackers.
- * Producing 3D Chinese lanterns
- * Experimenting with Chinese writing
- * Setting up our role-play as a Chinese restaurant cooking and serving Chinese food

Woodland Outdoor School

We are delighted to report that we can now be recognised as an official Forest School site. This is following a number of health and safety inspections by the Forest School Team and also due to Amanda completing her necessary training.



Amanda visited Windmills on Thursday, 22nd January to

lead our first official Forest School session of 2009. Despite the very wet and windy weather, we began with a walk around the school grounds through the willow tunnel, and then took part in another "Woodland Workout" to warm us all up. The children then explored the woodland area looking for suitable objects to make a musical instrument. A huge tarpaulin kept the children dry while they enjoyed their hot juice and snack.

The children enjoyed their usual trip to the Toddler Service which this time coincided with Epiphany. The children listened to the story of the three kings and walked to the front of the church to see if they could find them in the nativity display.

Thank you

A big thank you to Evan and Gwyneth Jones for donating a workbench complete with tools and some beautiful jigsaws for the children to experience and enjoy. And also to Debbie Gee for donating a selection of cars to add to our collection.

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, log onto our web site at windmillsnursery.co.uk or call Nicola on 614564 or Tina and Marie on 07906 519148.



Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee

The Re-launch of Harbury Pre-School's website – Huge thanks go to Katy and Magnus (Hamish's parents) for their superb work in updating our Pre-School web site, which can be found at

www.harburypre-school.org.uk. Please do take a look – the site is there for all to see, especially new parents and of course has information for our existing parents.

The New Term - We would like to wish a warm welcome to Daniel and Ruby who joined us at Pre-School at the beginning of the term and have settled in very confidently with their new friends. The New Year brought with it some fantastic new furniture and equipment, such as indoor blocks, wooden vehicles and a new child friendly digital



camera that we have been able to purchase with a very generous small capital equipment grant from Warwickshire County Council. The role play area now has proper (portable) walls and entrance gate and all the equipment has proved hugely popular.

Winter Wonderland - The children helped turn the book area into their own "Winter Wonderland". They set to work to make cold weather collages and paintings, using a variety of different items and paint in shades of blue and white. The water tray was filled with ice, with arctic animals and Eskimos and then, as if by magic, the real snow arrived. The children spent time outside collecting the snow in buckets and adding it to the ice in the water tray for an even more authentic arctic scene.



Sand and Artwork - After the ice, the children were delighted to find very fine purple sand in which they could dig, make marks and drive small-world vehicles. They continued to use cold colours at the creative table, but this time they produced "glue" artwork by sticking all sorts of materials onto black plastic using lots of PVA glue. Once dry, the plastic was peeled off, leaving lovely, almost transparent, collages to hang across the room.

Role Play Shop - Continuing the winter theme, a "winter woolly" shop was set up, with lots of appropriate clothing for the children to try on and "buy". Price labels were made at the graphics table and IT skills were put to the test with the use of the till and the telephone, as well as when the children tried out the new digital camera.

Puppet Theatre - The puppet theatre was very popular, with many children choosing to retell the story 'A Perfect Day For It' using the props from the story bag. They also gave performances to their friends using puppets with a variety of different facial expressions, such as happy, sad, cross, etc.



Dates for Your Diary - **Table Top Sale** - Saturday 28th February 2 - 4 p.m. in the Scout Hut. Tables can be booked at £5 each from Liz Kitchener on 612774 and Jo Johnstone on 614672. **Race Night** - Saturday 28th March - details to follow.

For further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jacqui Quinney, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 613386.



We had a busy programme of activities before Christmas.

The traditional November 5th activities were followed by other festive activities, as John from the Woodpeckers patrol describes.....

"Our last half term of 2008 with Scouts was very busy and we did the following things:

Thurs 6th Nov: We made guys for the Harbury bonfire. We had great fun, spearing footballs on sticks for the guy's head and stuffing newspaper down the clothes so that they almost burst with it. In the end all the guys went on the fire and they burnt well as they flared up for a few minutes as the paper caught fire.

Thurs 13th Nov: This week we all brought our penknives to practise carving staves, in any design that we could do. Also we practised using a bow saw and an axe, we did this as a practice for scout camps.

Thurs 20th Nov: This was an evening of map work: we learned about road maps and OS maps. Everyone went into their patrols and moved between bases to carry out different map exercises at each base. Everyone worked really well and I think we all enjoyed it.

Thurs 27th Nov: This week we recapped on the map work and we finished any bases not completed. We finished with a map quiz and the leaders decided who won overall, by checking who was the most accurate patrol.

Thurs 4th Dec: This week scouts and leaders bought in some magic or card tricks, and showed everyone how to do them. Jacob came in and taught us how to juggle, everyone got the hang of it in the end and could do it with at least 2 balls but mainly with 3. Some of the card tricks were amazing.

Thurs 11th Dec: This was our Christmas party at Laser Quest: we split into groups of year 8's and above, and then year 7's and under, for the laser battles. We had a meal whilst the other group had their game and then the other way round.

Thurs 18th Dec: Was our last meeting before Christmas. We sorted the G.A.S.S. post: this is when people post their Christmas cards into a G.A.S.S. post box, then we sort all the letters into areas around the village and G.A.S.S. members post the cards for you. Whilst they did

that all the patrol leaders and the assistant patrol leaders sorted out ideas for a Dragons Den presentation for after Christmas.”

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead in 2009.

There are many exciting trips and camps planned, so we are expecting another busy and rewarding time with all the scouts!



G.A.S.S. (Guide & Scout Support)

Ruth Walton

Although Christmas seems like a distant memory now, G.A.S.S. would like to thank all those of you who used the Christmas Post service in 2008. Thanks to your kind donations we raised £270, which will be used in support of the Guiding and Scouting groups in the village.

We have a valiant, but small, team of helpers who deliver the post each year and our thanks to them for all their hard work in keeping this community service alive. To spread the workload, we would really like more volunteers to join us for the 2009 Christmas post. If you'd like to find out more, please contact Ruth Walton on 613415.

Our next event is the Coffee Morning at the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 4th April. We look forward to seeing you there!



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

I didn't think that we would get many members at the meeting in January as it was such a cold night but 36 brave souls did come including 3 new members. We were not disappointed in our speaker, Tony Hamblin who spoke about Gardening for Wildlife. He showed the most superb slides and was so entertaining despite having a bad cold and cough. He came from Bidford on Avon where his garden is about an acre and some of the slides were of it. He started by showing a gorgeous wild meadow between Inkberrow and Worcester full of poppies, cornflowers and all sorts of colourful flowers to attract the insects. This, in turn, creates a food chain for the birds who are resident here or who visit us.

Another way to attract wildlife is to have a pond, no matter how small, if you are fortunate enough to have a larger one it is a good idea to have

an island in the middle as a safe haven for the birds to escape their predators. Another good idea is to have roosts around the garden in the form of dead branches or even trunks of trees. You can have hedgehogs, frogs and toads as well as butterflies, moths and birds. Never be in a hurry to have a tidy garden in winter, it is always best to leave some foliage so that ladybirds and other insects can have somewhere to shelter.

Tony spent a while putting up a scaffold tower to put a hide in his garden to get a closer look at a gold crest in a very tall tree. Unfortunately the bird was much lower than his hide but he showed us a stunning overhead shot of this delightful bird clearly showing the yellow plumage on his head. His slides were of all sorts of birds even including pigeons! My favourite was of the woodpecker who of course likes a hollow tree to rear the chicks. His commentary was peppered with anecdotes, (he's a real character) and I hope to invite him back next year as he has a second talk on the same subject. He brought along many photos of his own of wildlife, trees and flowers. He also brought copies of his son's books about wildlife; they too were of the highest quality. I phoned him the next day to ensure that he had a safe journey which he did and he said how much he had enjoyed his visit to our Society.

At least the nights are getting so much lighter now, snowdrops are with us and catkins are in the hedges, Spring is only a few weeks away.

There are some very good places not too far away to see snowdrops. Ragley Hall at Alcester are opening early this year and have a marvellous display of all sorts of bulbs and aconites. In the Cotswolds, there is Colesbourne Park where there are many hundreds of snowdrops, nearby is Rodmarton Manor, again a fantastic display and of course not forgetting Painswick Rococo Gardens which we visited a few years ago. In Worcestershire there is Dial Park near Chaddesley Corbet, Waddesdon Manor is open at weekends too with the stunning woodland backdrop and the exotic birds, free of course, if you belong to the National Trust. I will bring along dates for these to the meeting on 3rd February.

A quick mention about the Walkabout. I did briefly cover this at the January meeting, due to circumstances way beyond our control (we did everything right) we could only hold this in July. Research showed that we would clash with so many other local events and would have to manage the catering on our own. As last year it was so difficult to cover the times etc for lunches and teas, the committee are obviously

reluctant to do the whole thing ourselves along with everything else needed, so a decision was made not to hold the event this year and to come back in 2010 better than ever. Daphne has sent a letter to all who have opened their gardens over the last 2 years to explain. We do have sufficient funds to cushion us for the next 18 months but the coach trips may not be subsidised to the extent that we have done so in the past. I have yet to organise the trips but one of the day trips will be to Kew Gardens I may be able to announce dates etc at the February meeting.



Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

Your local Hardy Plant Specialists

It might still feel like winter but there are many promising signs of spring in the air (and on the ground). The days are definitely lengthening which is a sure sign that winter is coming to an end. The prolonged frosty weather in December and January will have been beneficial for us gardeners. It should have helped to break down the soil and reduce some of the pests.

2009 will be a year of doom and gloom on the news so all the more reason to get out into the garden and make yours a beautiful and productive area. It will be more important to avoid wasting money when buying plants – choosing wisely and not getting hooked by the “sweeties at the checkout”. A proper plant nursery can help here by offering genuine advice! Additionally, understanding a bit more about plant names can help.

This month we will look at the species name (see the November issue!!) in a bit more detail. These fall into 4 main categories:

- A) Names which give an indication of the origin of the plant e.g. region, country, continent.
- B) Names that describe its preferred habitat e.g. in woodlands, on mountains, by streams and ponds, on hillsides etc
- C) Names that describe a particular feature of the plant such as habit, size, flower, fruit, colour etc
- D) Names that commemorate people e.g. plant collectors, botanists, patrons

(In this category it is not surprising that many plants are called XXXX banksii after Joseph Banks who sailed on the 'Beagle' with Charles Darwin and brought back a huge number of new, and at that time, unknown plants).

Starting (logically!) with A) – examples include:

sinense(is)	- from China	e.g. Wisteria
japonica(um)	- from Japan	e.g. Camellia
lusitanica(um)(us)	- from Portugal	e.g. Prunus
europaea(um)(us)	- from Europe	e.g. Euonymus
hispanica(um)(us)	- from Spain	e.g. Genista ("Broom")
orientale(is)	- from the East	e.g. Hellebore

Quite a lot of useful pruning needs to be done during this month e.g.

Miscanthus and other deciduous grasses can be cut down to ground level. If you leave it too late, you may finish up cutting the new growth by mistake.

Clematis – late flowering types – cut these hard back

Buddleia – "Butterfly Bush" – again, cut hard back

Cornus – "Dogwood" – cut right out all the old, thicker branches to encourage good stem colour next winter. We only leave the most recent (unbranched) stems and remove all the others. These coloured stems are really useful in floral arrangements throughout the deep winter months – we have these for sale at the Nursery.

Sow Sweet Peas indoors for transplanting later.

Broad Beans can either be direct sown in the ground or started off in modules to be transplanted later.

Place your seed Potatoes in a frost proof but light place to encourage strong sprouts.

In the spring (dates to be confirmed) we will be holding a number of Propagation and Pruning Workshops. If you are interested and would like more information please phone 01926 812737 or email: pemartino@tiscali.co.uk

MARCH EDITION - HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

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



Nature Notes

John Hancock

February 'full dyke' will be living up to its name as the rainfall through much of January continued. Large puddles on many of our minor roads and over the fields have been a feature for weeks. Often, mornings have been icy, but so far hardly any snow.

Garden bulbs are growing fast particularly in sheltered spots. Plenty of snowdrops are in flower but I've yet to see a flowering daffodil. On sunny days, the bees next door are beginning to fly, though surely just on reconnaissance. Honey yield last year, according to John Stringer, was minimal thanks in no small measure to a very wet August. The bees munched through most of the honey themselves and had to be given quantities of sugar water. Later, it was fondant icing that kept them alive.

On the 19th January, I joined the U3A Naturalists' Group at Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve (HQ of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust). Coal mining subsidence followed by sand and gravel extraction has helped form a mosaic of shallow, linked pools in the Avon Valley south east of Coventry. Quarrying ceased in 1989. Now, the 228 acre reserve is well worth a visit at any time of year with its information centre, library and cafe. The reed beds, lakes and wooded areas support a diverse variety of wildlife. 220 bird species have been identified visiting the reserve.

A bittern was reported in the reed beds but on this occasion we were unlucky. Bitterns are perfectly camouflaged being a yellow brown colour. They stand with their beaks raised vertically mimicking the vegetation. Related to the heron, these birds are becoming more common thanks to careful habitat management. We saw plenty of cormorants, several heron, a pair of great crested grebes, shoveller ducks with their characteristic flattened bill, teal and gadwall. These last two ducks are likely to be overwintering here before spending summer in North Eastern Europe.

While in the garden with the younger grandchildren, they asked me if any birds had set up home last year in the nest box attached to an old apple tree. I thought not, but we got a surprise and they learnt a lesson when we opened the box. Inside was a nest which I removed. It looked like a great tit's. Amongst the nest material was an unhatched egg and four tiny skeletons. The parent birds had probably died or deserted the

nest and the helpless young had perished, probably the fate of most nestlings. The average life expectancy of a robin for instance has been calculated as 1.1 years keeping the population static.

I volunteered to check several regionally important geological sites for Warwickshire Geological Society. We were given instructions in what to look for, maps of the sites and details of the landowners to be contacted. My sites were around Southam and Napton. The first I looked at was in the old quarry on the side of the hill just beneath the windmill which, on a clear day, can be seen quite easily from Butt Lane. Clay was extracted here and made into bricks in the works which has now largely disappeared. Some of the buildings are incorporated in the Napton Industrial Estate. No doubt the Oxford Canal, which winds round the hill, was used to transport the bricks far and wide. While extracting the clay, some large sandstone nodules were found. By a nodule in this context, I mean something the size of a large table and weighing several tons. Now, these bits of rock, which must have been transported many miles by glacial action (the nearest sandstone being towards Warwick and Coventry), lie alongside the footpath under the hill. They are Triassic Age and were laid down in a shallow sea some 250 million years ago. They are known as Doggers though I've yet to discover the derivation of the word; perhaps it's an old quarrying term. (If you want to read more get hold of Hugh Jones 2006 publication – A Ramblers Guide To Building Stones In Warwickshire.)

Another site about a mile south west of the hill took a little finding. It does not lie on any footpath but luckily the fields about were pasture. This was Southam's salt spring. Tall (8ft high) common reed (*Phragmites australis*) covered the small 0.21 hectare site. At the centre were some very shallow pools. The water did not seem particularly salty to me, but maybe I've got used to the local supply. This saline spring is thought to originate from a salt deposit within the Triassic Mercia mudstone at depth. An interesting halophytic (salt loving) flora has been recognised so a re-visit later in the year is on the cards. (grid ref.SP446605.)

Roz Wilson reported seeing an unusual bird when walking her dogs near Chesterton. It had a long bill for probing the mud in ditches and lakesides. After consulting a book, she came to the conclusion it was probably a Green Sandpiper, a medium sized wader which overwinters here but breeds in Scandinavia and those countries bordering the Baltic Sea. Alan Barr considered it a most interesting sighting. Brian and Angela Hewins reported a good number of

Lapwings in one of the large ploughed fields towards Harwoods House. This is excellent news as their numbers have been dropping in recent years.

Cycling through Bascote Heath on January 25th, I came across more signs of spring. It had rained overnight and was relatively warm for the time of year. A frog must have come out of hibernation only to meet a premature end on the road. Under the hedges, the first green shoots of wild arum were several inches high. The days are lengthening too and living things are stirring.



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

Volunteers are always needed to help with various aspects of the maintenance and on-going activities at the Village Hall, as the committee is relatively small and any assistance offered at any time is gratefully acknowledged. This month there is good news from the Coventry and Warwick Universities' VOLUNTEERS group, as they have agreed to come to Harbury on March 1st to carry out some much-needed decoration of the changing rooms and kitchen. A team of students will descend on the Hall armed with equipment and a 'maintenance man' who will oversee the work to give advice on how to proceed with the 'job in hand'. At the committee meeting last week, it was decided to ask whether anyone in the village would be willing to become part of the team which organises and presents the Moving Pictures, which are offered on a regular basis. If there is anyone out there who fancies being a projectionist (using the latest up-to date equipment) or who would be willing to 'man' the raffle or assist with making cakes for the interval, the committee would be pleased to hear from them. Contact telephone numbers are 613801 and 613311. Unfortunately, a future film, Quantum of Solace has had to be withdrawn from a future showing, as the film library has withdrawn its release.

The revised plans for the Village Hall were recently displayed at a coffee morning and the responses to the modifications were all extremely favourable. The Theatre Group has also been consulted about proposals for a permanent stage and they are pleased by the opportunities the extension would present. The planning application has been resubmitted to Stratford and hopefully the changes will receive unanimous approval.

The New Year's Dance with the Likely Lads was enjoyed by all the revellers and the prize for the best masks went to Robbie O'Gorman and Jo-Anne. There were typical decorative Venetian masks; Phantom of the Opera and Monster masks, whilst some dancers chose animal or notable face masks. It all added to the



Robbie O'Gorman and Jo-Anne

challenge of recognising who was behind the mask and started the evening on a 'fun footing'. The buffet was well received, but during preparation for the night's revelry, the committee discovered that all the brown trays and most of the glass jugs bought previously had disappeared from the cupboards. If anyone has seen trays with the Village Hall name underneath – or has borrowed the glass jugs bought for all parties to use, the committee would be pleased to put them back where they belong for the use of all hirers. Contact 613801 to leave information about the whereabouts of Village Hall property. Many thanks.



General Section

Glenys Hill

Many of you will remember Glenys who for several years lived in Mill Street along with her husband David and children Richard and Karen.

Glenys suffered from Multiple Sclerosis and became increasingly disabled. Despite this, she and David contributed a great deal to village life. Sixteen years ago, David took early retirement and he and Glenys moved back to their roots in the north-east and settled in the lovely fishing village of Amble on the Northumberland coast. Sadly, Glenys died of cancer on the 15th January aged only 61. The Methodist Chapel in Amble was packed to overflowing for her funeral service.

Glenys had been a Sunday School teacher from the age of 12, and even when illness prevented her getting out, still did secretarial work

for the Chapel. David, Richard and Karen said what happy memories they all had of their time in Harbury. Glenys and the family received much help and comfort in her last months from St Oswald's Hospice and donations in her memory can be sent to them at Regent Road, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne. NE3 1EE.

John and Sharon Hancock

A Tribute to Léone Keyte

(24th April 1944 – 23 December 2008)



There has been a face missing in our village since last summer, our postie, 'Lone', lost her battle against cancer just before Christmas. She was such a fit, strong lady; it is very hard to believe we won't be seeing her dashing around on her bike anymore. All of us at the Post Office, as I am sure her many many friends in Harbury miss you 'Lone'.

Léone lived in Knightcote, but was born in Harbury. She took great care of her mother, Ethel, who was also a post lady for many years, making sure she had a cooked dinner every day and tending to all her needs. When Ethel's health deteriorated and she needed 24hour supervision Lone went to visit her daily at the Bromson Hill nursing home. Ethel died last year which caused Lone great sadness.

Lone had a very full life, doing the post and then going on to work at Ettington. She was a governor at Knightcote School, organised many fundraising events for Burton Dassett Church and helped raise money for the new Knightcote Village Hall. Whatever the event Lone would be there helping. She made a fantastic cake (we all got one on birthdays); she used to be a keen netball player, winning many awards; liked a game of bowls and loved line-dancing. She had never been able to swim and not to be beaten even attended swimming lessons only a couple of years ago. Lone's grandchildren, Sïan and Emma are both keen horse riders and Lone often helped at Pony Club rallies and horse shows, with cakes and teas etc. Yes Lone was a busy lady with a full life and over 400 friends packed the medieval church of All Saints at Burton Dassett Hills on a bitterly cold and foggy day, to say a sad farewell. A generous eulogy was given at her funeral by a long time family friend in Knightcote, Bill Yardley.

Our sympathy goes out to John, husband of 44 years, daughter Leasal and grandchildren Emma and Sian. Also sister Fran and all the families.

Margaret Warner and all colleagues from Harbury Post Office

Coffee 'n' Chat



In December up to 8 mothers and babies enjoyed this new group. Initiated by MUMS (Mothers' Union Supporting Mothers), it is an opportunity for anyone expecting or caring for a small child to meet, make friends and enjoy adult company. It happens in the Tom Hauley room, behind Church, at 9.15 on Wednesday mornings, and lasts just an hour. This

session has just resumed and will run until Easter. Any queries, phone 614809.

Harbury Choir School: Mamma Mia!

The Choir School continues to go from strength to strength. We have welcomed new members for what promises to be an exciting term. We are looking forward to our Trip to sing for the RSCM in Nuneaton at the end of the month, as well as the 'Mamma Mia!' workshop next month.

"Make a Noise" workshops have been set up to allow members of the local community a chance to experience the fun involved in music-making without ongoing commitment.

The workshops are a day of music-making based around a theme. They will be structured to encourage fun and learning within a large group setting.

The first "Make a Noise" Workshop will be Mamma Mia! on Saturday 28th February 2009 and is open to boys and girls age 7-16.

We will work on songs from the movie with a live musical accompaniment. The workshop will run at All Saints Church, Harbury, from 11.00am – 4.00pm and culminate in an open public performance at 4.30pm to show off what we have learnt!

Places will be limited and must be reserved in advance. A charge of £5 per singer will be made to cover costs. You can sign up via the HCS website at www.harburychoirschool.org and clicking on 'Make a Noise', or by calling 01926 614 150. Thanks,

David Iles

Good News

In a statement issued today the Health Minister has announced that there will be NO change to the current arrangements for GP's dispensing medicines to their patients.

This is a victory for common sense and the government ministers must be commended for coming to this decision and showing that they have listened to our patients.

We would like to thank our many loyal patients for their demonstration of patient power.

We will endeavour to provide a continued high quality dispensing service to our patients and once again thank you very much to everyone who supported us in this campaign.

Drs Snowdon and Wilkinson

Blood Donor Session

The next session in Harbury Village Hall will be on Thursday March 1st. Times 1.30 – 3.30 and 4.30 to 7.30

Queries 01926 614809

Appointments 08457 711711

or www.blood.co.uk

Gillian Hare

Ballroom dancing...

Our last session of ballroom dancing lessons was great fun; we had a go at the social foxtrot, quickstep, jive and tango culminating in the final session with a party atmosphere, complete with 'posh frocks' for the ladies and 'smart' for the men. The final tango was danced with great verve with plastic roses clasped between our teeth!

All thanks to Annie, our brilliant teacher, who has enormous skill, endless patience and a very necessary sense of humour. We're hoping to run another group of five lessons starting on Wednesday, 4th

March until 1st April. These will be in the Village Hall at 8.30p.m. to 10.00p.m. This will be at an 'Improvers' level which does **not** mean that we're aiming for Strictly Come Dancing but that we have vaguely worked out the difference between our left and right feet and are willing to have a go at something a little more challenging! So if you would like to come along, you would be most welcome. My phone number is 613680.



Joan Smith

Courier Article

I thought the following story rather quaint. I found it in the microfiche copies of the Courier from 1906. It was a massively long story, quoting defendant, complainant, magistrate and so on at boring length, so I have edited it, including just the interesting bits.

The incident took place on the hill coming down from Radford to what is now the Fosse roundabout. The only sounds Thomas Keyte would have heard that morning were the clip-clop of the horse's hooves, the rattle of the cartwheels on the road, perhaps the tweeting of birds. A car in 1906 would have made much more racket than a modern one, so how he didn't notice it defeats me. My theory is that his wife, who was sitting with him, was regaling him over something trivial he had done (or more likely not done), distracting him from the job in hand.

Courier August 10 1906, County Police – Wednesday

Before Mr T.W. Thursfield (in the chair) and Mr A.W.Wise

THE SPEED OF A MOTOR CAR

Edward Dennhardt, motor-car driver, residing at Willoughby, was summoned for unlawfully driving a motor car to the danger of the public at the Parish of Radford Semele. He pleaded not guilty.

Thomas Keyte, carrier, Harbury, said that on the 17th July he was driving his cart from Leamington towards Ufton. It was a two-wheeled covered cart, and he had two passengers with him. When he got to the turning of the Fosse Road to Harbury he was going at a walking pace. He was on his proper side of the road. When near the turn to the Fosse Road a motor passed him from behind. He was in the act of turning his horse when the car dashed past. It was going very fast, like a flash of lightning. In his opinion the speed was 20 or 30 miles an hour. (*The defence objected to this guesswork!*)

Thomas Keyte said he could not give an accurate estimate, but the car was going very fast, and was in his opinion dangerous to the public. He had turned his horse when the car went past, and its hood struck the horse's head, knocking a piece of flesh off its jaw. If he had not pulled the animal's head round it might have killed it. He then pulled his horse up and ran down the road after the car, which stopped about 60 or 70 yards farther down. He asked the driver for his name and address, which he refused to give. Mr Keyte said that if he would not give his name and address he would take the number of the car. There was a lady in the car with the driver. Mr Keyte took them back to his cart and showed them both the damage that had been done. Dennhardt, the driver, said that the lady had got 30 horses, and that the damage was not much.

Keyte replied that he had only one horse and did not want that one killed.

No horn had been blown before the car got up to him, and nothing was done to lead him to know that a motor car was behind him. He had no idea that there was a motor car in the neighbourhood. The magistrates retired to consider their decision, and on returning, the Chairman said they considered the case was proved against the defendant, and he would be fined £5 and costs £1.2s.6d. They expressed an opinion that the horn should have been blown.

Nigel Chapman

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All Saints' Art Exhibition

The annual art exhibition will not take place this year. This is due to a clash of dates and is regrettable; however please note we plan to run the exhibition in Church on 19th and 20th June 2010!

Art lovers are reminded that the Harbury Art Group continues to hold tutorials in the Tom Hauley Room on the first Thursday every month... please ring me if you would like to find out more.

Bill Davies-614104

Half Marathon Success



Congratulations to Suzie Barr, formally of Harbury and a pupil of the Village and Southam Schools; who in December ran with some friends in a half marathon in Jamaica. She was hoping to complete the race in two and a half hours and as you can tell from the picture she achieved this. They also raised £700 for Breast Cancer Care. She enjoyed her trip so much that she is returning to Jamaica in May to get married there on the beach.

Editors

Have You Heard About Community Forums?

The Community Forums are an advisory body, which act as a key vehicle for community engagement within the locality. Members of the public can raise issues of concern and wherever possible, together with the relevant agencies, solutions to those concerns can be worked out. The next forum meeting in your area is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 19th February 2009, 7pm at The Priors Hall, Priors Marston.**

If you have a specific concern or problem, then come along to the local surgery from 6pm – 7pm where you will be able to speak to your local Safer Neighbourhoods Policing Team, Warwickshire County Council or Stratford-on-Avon District Council Officer.

If you would like to suggest an issue for a future Community Forum meeting or get involved, please contact the WCC Stratford Area Office on 01789 290784 or e-mail stratfordoffice@warwickshire.gov.uk. For further information on the forms visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/communityforums.

**Amanda Wilson-Patterson, Localities & Communities Officer,
WCC**

The Bull Ring Centre

Birmingham might have its slightly (?) better known Bull Ring Centre, but Harbury has its own Centre, complete with the Bull logo on its front door. Since the premises were modernised by the owner of the garage premises, 3 businesses and the Parish Office occupy the impressively refurbished two storey building.

Harbury Parish Council Parish Office

The new Parish Office officially opened on 4th August last year and is located at Unit 2, opposite the Fragrant Room. Nicola Thompson, the Parish Clerk has been in the village since 1991 and has occupied the vital administrative position for the Parish Council for over 6 years. She says that it is the 'most interesting job she has held to date, due to the varied nature of the work she is expected to do'. She has to deal on a regular basis with village residents; the principal authorities in the area and the contractors responsible for the maintenance of the Harbury play area, the playing fields, the cemetery and the Pineham Farm allotments. Since Harbury 'owns' all its street lights, Nicola is also the first point of contact for any comments about street lighting in the village. The room is open from Monday to Thursday from 10.00am to 12.45pm and residents can use the office for the following services:

- Current planning applications
- Highways and footpaths issues
- Information on District and County Council services e.g. new refuse collection services
- Parish Council responsibilities, involving the contractors' services, including mowing of the grass verges.

Nicola commented that 'residents have been popping in for information on a range of issues' and the Parish Council hopes that the new office will provide a direct point of contact for anyone anxious for details about the range of the Council's services and responsibilities. The telephone number and email address for the Council have remained the same – 01926 614646 and clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk There is also a very comprehensive web-site detailing all the latest planning applications and up-to-date information about the Parish Council's activities.

The Fragrant Room



The most noticeable feature of the Bull Ring Centre, apart from its pleasantly welcoming décor, is the delightful fragrance which welcomes all visitors to the building. There is also a most attractive arrangement of artificial flowers, which signals the entrance to Janet Watts' Fragrant Room. Janet lived in the village for over 30 years from 1970 when she was bringing up her family, but she recently moved to Banbury with husband, Clive (the organist for All Saints Church). She originally started out in business at Hatton Craft Centre, but then moved to premises in Southam just over 10 years ago.

With the opening of the Bull Ring, she decided to return to her roots and has been encouraged by all the 'welcome home' messages she has received from her customers. She sources all her products from various Craft Fairs and by visiting the Spring Fair in Birmingham. Certainly 'quality' is a watchword for Janet who has stocked her shop with a variety of choice products, which include scented candles, pot pourri, fragrant oils, specialist cards, wrapping paper and ribbons for those special gifts. There is such an incredible stock of fascinating gifts, delightfully arranged on her attractive shelves that it's possible to

find that 'something different' as a present for a child or an adult. If you are looking for attractive wooden ornaments or children's stools, Janet stocks them, along with decorative wind chimes, locally made pottery; attractive serviettes for those special dinner parties and wine presentation carriers for surprising the party hostess. It's a new venture for Harbury to have a shop specialising in 'quality gifts at very reasonable prices' and Janet deserves to receive support from villagers for the service she is offering. The shop is open from Monday to Saturday from 10.00am to 5.30pm.

Flip-in Hair

Unit 4 of The Bull Ring Business Centre is the headquarters of Flip-In hair, a company established just over a year ago by Harbury resident, Dayle Adams.

Flip-In Hair is the name of a unique hair extension which is fitted to the head using a thin wire. There is no need for glue, weaving or clips and this means no damage to the wearer's hair whatsoever. The hair used is real hair and supplied as 'A' grade euro hair, ethically sourced and cuticle aligned. The hairpieces are made locally, and distributed to stockists throughout the UK and Europe. Flip-In Hair is a growing company with enquiries coming in from South Africa, America and even Israel!

Dayle's mum, Pat, runs the office while Dayle brings in the orders and negotiates with suppliers and customers. Many of the orders come through the internet as the company has its own website www.flipinhair.co.uk and is featured on 'Facebook' and 'Youtube'.

Flip-In Hair also promotes to the general public through exhibitions such as Salon International in London and The Clothes Show at the NEC, both very successful in 2008. Flip-In Hair has an Exhibition Team that consists of Harbury friends who support Dayle at these shows, and the help of Lisa, Laura, Ashleigh, Donna, Gemma, Hollie and Kim is invaluable and much appreciated.

Dayle has found a niche in the market and is working hard to ensure the success of her business.

Serenity

The Serenity toning salon, also on the first floor, is run by Julie Welsh who has lived in Harbury for 5 years. She was formerly the Landlady at the Gamecock in Chapel Street and she is now combining management of the Butcher's Arms in Bishop's Itchington with the

Easytone exercise system, which offers a 30 minute workout on a series of orthopaedically safe exercise chairs. The salon offers 'Ladies Only' membership and is open 7 days a week from 9.15am – mid-day and 3pm-5.30pm on weekdays and at the weekend from 9.00am – mid-day. The exercise chairs can be used by any age, weight or fitness level and there is a guaranteed inch loss on various parts of the body following regular use of the equipment. Julie explained that when a customer visits for the first time, she is given a trial session, so that the use of each of the six different types of chair can be demonstrated. Each person also has their height and weight checked to find the body mass index (BMI) and the blood pressure is also taken to ensure that a detailed record is kept of the individual's basic health patterns. The revolutionary power-assisted exercise system makes 'shaping up' easy and no special clothes or shoes are required to take part. The effect of the exercise on different muscle blocks in the arms, legs or abdomen is clearly explained in diagrammatic posters above each chair and a user can decide on her own level of involvement from passive to light or moderate effort. The system is recognised to improve cardio-vascular circulation, as well as to 'improve posture and firm and flatten the tummy'. If as the introductory leaflet states, 'you hate gyms', then a visit to Serenity might offer a more comfortable option for 'developing and shaping the upper body; slimming the waist and hips and contouring and strengthening the legs'.

The Bull Ring Centre has certainly improved the appearance of the Church Terrace area with its complete overhaul and refurbishment and the businesses which have opened their doors are either set up to improve an individual's personal appearance, enhance the ambiance of property or ensure that the general environment of the village is under constant review. If you haven't visited the Centre yet, it's maybe time to make a belated New Year resolution and take a look'?

Chris Finch

Join in the Joy of Jumpin' June (13th) Carnival capers into Happy Harbury

Saturday 13th June is a date not to be missed when Carnival parades its way into Harbury. Events begin with the selection process for the Carnival King and Queen (organised as usual by Harbury School), with the wonderfully weaving wheelbarrow race being held on the previous Sunday, June 7th (plenty of time to get into shape) and the popular pub team events – including Aunt Sally, Skittles and a great

Quiz will be held during the week commencing June 8th.

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

If you want to book a stall or space on the field for Carnival Day, please call Mike McBride on 612421. It is never too early to do this, it does not have to be left until the last minute!

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

Submitted by Peter Walshe, On behalf of the Carnival Committee

Art Classes

Every 5 - 6 weeks Robin Clifton, a renowned artist from Leominster travels to Knightcote Village Hall to tutor an art class. His work/ qualifications can be seen at www.robinclifton.com.

The sessions always take place on a Saturday and last from 10am until 2pm, with a fee of between £15 - £20 depending on how many people are there. It is a lovely relaxing way to spend four hours, with a finished picture to hang on the wall at the end of it. And yes, anyone can do it, as he provides everything and guides every paint stroke!

Unless he has over 10 budding 'artists' he will not make the journey and so more people are needed. The next class is Saturday 7th March. Please ring Dave on 614160 for more details or to book in.

Pat Summers

Furniture Recycling Sales

With the demise of the 'St James Church Southam monthly news booklet' which was delivered to every household in Southam, our regular reminder to readers about our Monthly Furniture re-cycling Sale has also ceased. I am trying to make sure that as many publications as possible can please mention this important community aspect. Southam Lions regularly help young families furnish homes at

minimal cost – sometimes helping people moving into the area without anything owned but with a flat/home agreed through the local authority. For others it's a matter of seeing a table and chairs for example that will complement a room or some furniture for a new conservatory, etc.

Whatever the need or whoever wants to avail themselves of our services, we are in Southam at the back of the Co-op on the **SECOND SATURDAY** of every month on the same day as the **FARMERS MARKET**. We 'open up' at 8.30am and 'close' at about 11.45am - come sunshine or showers – frost or snow.

So please come along and see us – we have a bit of fun too – and we are only too happy to help! We even arrange delivery to homes in Southam and immediate district.

If you have furniture to dispose of please contact **ROBERT** on 01926 811991 and he will be pleased to take your call.

So, the actual dates for the next few months:

Saturday 14th February 2009

Saturday 14th March 2009

Saturday 11th April 2009

Saturday 9th May 2009

Saturday 13th June 2009

Thanks to everyone please in diarising these dates forward, so that local people will be able to know when we are available.

Peter Guy – Publicity – Southam Lions

Calling All Music-Lovers

To Make Music, Raise Money, End Poverty!

Oxjam are looking for local people in Coventry and Warwickshire to get together to have fun and help raise money for Oxfam through the Oxjam Music Festival. Whether you are a musician, pub landlord or just someone who has a passion for ending poverty then they want to hear from you.

Right now Oxjam is gearing up towards a grand finale in March 2009 and getting involved is simple. You can sign up to organise your own event, perform at someone else's event or simply volunteer to help out.

Music, dancing, comedy, any event is welcome and no venue is too small. The beauty of Oxjam is that hundreds of little events make one huge party. It all adds up to one big difference so be as unusual and creative as you want.

If you have a local venue to host an event please get in touch as we have local bands that are keen to perform. Already running an event in Coventry or Warwickshire; then make it part of Oxjam and we will help you to promote it.

Remember you don't need to be a musician or an event organiser to get involved. We also need volunteers to help with all sorts of things like helping set up and selling tickets. So get in touch and help make a difference.

Whatever you want to do the Central England Oxjam Team can help you a long the way. We already have contact with venues and bands who would love to get involved in an event. If you need helpers we can get in touch with our volunteers.

Oxjam is about raising money for Oxfam to tackle poverty all over the world. Holding your own Oxjam fundraising event means that you'll be helping people to earn a living; get an education; gain better access to health care and fresh water; and to grow more food. Every pound you raise counts.

Visit www.oxjam.org to register and find out what events are already happening in your area. Tell us how you'd like to get involved by emailing centralengland@oxjam.org.

Katherine Freeman

Village Christmas Lights

We have been pleased that so many people again expressed their appreciation of the Village Christmas lights. It's great to be part of the overall effort which this year must have seen more houses than ever lit up.

We would like to thank The Dog Inn, Kath and Roger Ellis, the Gamecock, The Shakespeare, the Supermarket and the Library for allowing us to plug into their electricity and also the many householders who have the lights attached to their property. This year we had to repair the lights that are permanently fixed in the tree outside the Library. The growing tree had tightened up some of the ties and this had cut through the cable. You may have seen us on Colin Sheasby's platform lift doing some high level joining.

We have also been thinking about the rope lights. In a number of cases it is difficult to find a safe and secure fixing for the lights at the right height. This can result in the lights being in irregular loops and at varying heights which we think spoils the effect. Next year we may ask some householders if we can attach a small hook to their house to give a better fixing and a more even display. Finally, Gordon thinks some of us are getting a bit too old for climbing up and down ladders on cold winter's days, so if there are any younger people out there who fancy giving us a hand please get in touch

Gordon Bennett, Steve Dolley, Mike McBride and John Ridgley

An Evening on the Southam Santa Sleigh!

Is it that time of year again? Must wrap up warm it's a cold one tonight. Oh well - on we go - 'Who's coming out tonight then? Oh it's the usual rabble! No change from last year then!'

'OK let's hook up the float to the car - can we do a light check? - good that's working. Sound check? Who can remember how to switch it on?'

OK off we go to our first port of call. 'Right - has everybody got their tins and Santa Hat? Right'O down this street we go - OK this house first. Oh good, the lights are on! 'Knock! Knock!' - 'Evening Sir - Southam Lions collecting for local children charities. Any children in the house to see Santa? - you have two that's great! Hello you two would you like to come and see Father Christmas? This way then, hold on to mummy and daddy's hands, off you go and thank you for your donation'.

That was easy - off to the next door. 'Knock Knock!'- 'Woof woof woof!' 'That sounds like a big dog, mmmmm doesn't look like anyone's in. Oh well on to the next door'.

'Ding Dong!' - 'Good evening madam! Southam lions collecting for local children charities. Any children in the house? They are all out. Oh well! 'dink dink dink' Thank you! Have a good evening and Merry Christmas!'

'Where are the others? Oh good they are still in sight I can see their flashing Santa Hats. Looks like we're at our comfort stop, those mince pies look nice - I think I'll have one with a small whisky to warm the old cockles!'

Looks like we're moving off! 'Everybody back on the float - hold tight - off we go for the second half of the night - more doors to knock on - more happy children to see Santa'.

'Is that it? Are we finished? OK let's get back to base. How did we do?' 'Mine feels heavy, mine's light, but that because I have paper money!' 'That's great! OK good night guys'- See you all tomorrow at the same time. Let's hope its not raining tomorrow when we start all over again!'

Only another 12 days to go but it's worth it!

Thank you to all the Lions and Lioness' who were involved throughout the period.

A total of £4,439.65 was raised through the kind generosity of the residents in Southam and surrounding villages. This year has overwhelmed us considering the current financial climate, the total has never been over £4,000 so we take our Santa Hats off to you all!

The total will be split between Zoë's Place and The Meningitis Trust.

Without your generosity this would not have been possible. We look forward to presenting the cheques in the very near future.

A very Happy New Year from us all at Southam Lions.

Danny Barker, Southam & District Lions Club President

Southam Christmas Lights Association

Southam Christmas Lights Committee members would like to thank all residents of Southam and surrounding villages for their generous donations to our 'Buy a Bulb' which raised £482, also our 'Street Collection' raised £385, added to the generous donations from our Business Park Companies, local town centre businesses, grant from Southam Council and other voluntary organisations we raised £8,537 this year.

Thanks to all Voluntary Organisations who had charity stalls on the night of the 'Switch On' raising funds for their own charities; thanks to all members of Southam Lions, we gratefully appreciate their help during the setting up and also bringing Father Christmas to meet the local children. Lastly, my thanks to the Southam Christmas Lights Committee for all their support. Well done everybody.

Val. Steele, Secretary Southam Christmas Lights Association



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors,

Pearl, Sue, Jen and Louise would like to thank Harbury neighbours and friends for the many kind messages, cards and letters following the unexpected sad loss of Derek Trice just before Christmas. A memorial service was conducted at the church following burial at Chesterton the week before. Special thanks to Father Craig for his kind support during this difficult time.

Pearl, Sue, Jen and Louise

Dear Editors,

The family and I would like to say a very big thank you for all of the messages of sympathy sent upon the sudden death of George.

The many tributes and generous donations, and the many of you who attended his funeral was amazing and comforting. Thank you to Father Roy for conducting the service for us.

George hadn't been here long, but as Harbury took him to its heart, so did he take Harbury. He would have been so surprised and pleased to know he was held in such high regard.

Thank you and bless you,

Gladys Hutchins

Dear Editors,

Through the Harbury and Ladbrooke News I wish to say many grateful thanks to all those who sent me good wishes and cards when I was in hospital. I am now back at home and making steady progress.

Bertha Kettle

Dear Editors,

May I, on behalf of Guide Dogs for the Blind, thank Sheila Jackson and her friends for the work they did on Saturday 10th January. The sum of £220 was collected which will go to help provide a guide dog.

M. Watson

Dear Editors

I would like to thank all our friends and neighbours for the lovely Christmas cards received. This year, rather than sending out cards, we used SendaCow.org.uk to donate a cockerel, two rabbits and fodder trees to African families, I think they will be very much appreciated.

Many thanks and Best Regards

Bronda Hawkins

Dear Editors

Through the H&LN I would like to thank Steve (and all his staff) at the Bull Ring garage. I missed the December 2008 deadline for articles but feel that it is not too late to write to the HLN. The night before Christmas Eve my car broke down. The next day I phoned up the Bull Ring and Steve told me bring my car round. Within less than four hours my car was fixed and back in my possession. The service and speed was amazing. Steve has been thoroughly professional in looking after my car for a long time now and I am so thankful to have this wonderful facility in my locality. Additionally, Steve's guidance whilst I was learning to ride a motorbike was priceless.

Thank you

Deborah Ellis

Dear Editors,

Geoff and I wish to thank GASS at Christmas for delivering our Christmas Cards again. We have been pleased with this service for several years, so our grateful thanks to all concerned and for Mugglestones for holding the letterbox to which is our first point of GASS delivery, donating to a good charity within the village.

Thank you.

Pam & Geoff Cleaver

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T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning

Village Hall

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612450

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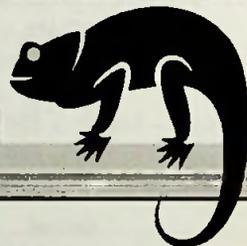
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Yes that's ANOTHER new Landlady & Landlord -
 hopefully the last change for a long while!

A lot of the old staff are still here -
 Ian and Steve on bar duties (they were stuck in the cellar
 when the last incumbent left and decided to stay!)
 Chef Dave is also still here - though you'll be lucky to catch
 a glimpse of him - not sure if he's shy or just busy -
 he says busy!

Changes have been made to the menus - concentrating on
 good pub food, weekdays and Saturdays; with some
 excellent specials on offer to keep things interesting.

Sundays are reserved for an excellent Carvery using all
 fresh produce, courtesy of Mugleston's for vegetables and
 top quality joints from the butchers at Acorns in Southam,
 who also supply all of our meat.

We will soon be opening "café style" from 10.00am -
 (mad fools that we are), for breakfast, coffee, etc.
 Watch out for the signs outside the pub.

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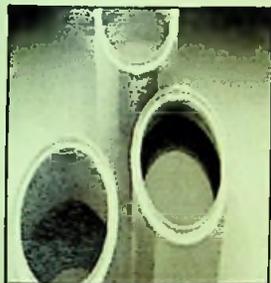
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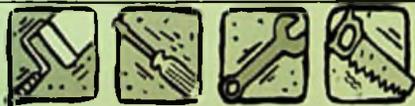


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