

Harbury & Ladbroke News

Reflects all aspects of local life, is published monthly and produced with the assistance of
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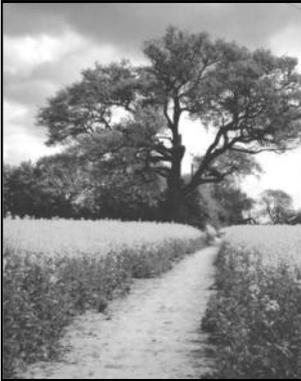
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*The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team
The Editors reserve the right to amend articles as they see fit.*



Editorial



This month there are village summer events in Harbury, the Carnival, Garden Walkabout and Art Exhibition and Ladbroke has its annual Fete. Two Harbury venues, the Village Club and the Village Hall are working to raise their profile and income – we are a vibrant village and both deserve our support.

Congratulations to Linda Ridgley who received the Spirit of Harbury Award on behalf of John, her late husband, and herself.

The editors are pleased to carry pictures by our photographer, Mike Bloxham, in this edition.

Harbury Diary

JUNE

- Sun 6 TRINITY I**
 Sung Eucharist 9.00am
 First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
 Quiet Contemplative Service in the Celtic Tradition 6.00pm
- Mon 7 BANK HOLIDAY
- Tues 8 Toddlers Service 2.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Thurs 10 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Choir School 6.30pm in Village Hall
 WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room – ‘You be the Judge’ –
 Mr & Mrs Wroe
- Fri 11 Tai Chi 7.00pm in Village Hall
 NSPCC Question Time in Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 12 Coffee Morning 10.00am-12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid
 of Kids Club
 HARBURY CARNIVAL – Procession starts 1.00pm from Sutcliffe
 Drive
- Sun 13 TRINITY II**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 14 SCHOOL STARTS

- Tues 15 ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY BY
5.30PM
Holy Communion 7.30pm
Mothers' Union Meeting 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
Di Slwinski (Diocesan President) on Parenting Project
- Weds 16 Senior Citizens outing to Southport leaves 8.30am from Village
Hall
Tea 3.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 17 Holy Communion 9.45am
Choir School 6.30pm in Village Hall
- Fri 18 Tai Chi 7.00pm in Village Hall
- Sat 19 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning 10.00am-12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of
Thursday Club
PTA Beer Walk, starts 11.30am – 12 noon from Harbury Primary
School, Mill Street entrance
Art Exhibition 10.00am - 5.00pm in Church
Light Lunches 12 noon to 2.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
Garden Walkabout, 2.00pm – 6.00pm
Teas 2.00pm – 5.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Moving Pictures "Alice in Wonderland", doors open at 4.30pm –
film starts at 5.00pm in Village Hall
- Sun 20 TRINITY III**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Family Communion Service 10.30am
Art Exhibition 12 noon to 5.00pm in Church
Garden Walkabout, 2.00pm – 6.00pm
Teas 2.00pm – 5.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Evensong 6.00pm
- Mon 21 Teacher Training Day at School
- Tues 22 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Julian Meeting 8.00pm in Church
- Thurs 24 Holy Communion 9.45am
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH STREET,
HARBURY AND EMAIL ARTICLES DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
Choir School 6.00pm in Village Hall
Parish Council 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Fri 25 Tai Chi 7.00pm in Village Hall
- Sat 26 Coffee Morning 10.00am-12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid
of Village Hall Development Fund
Windmills Nursery Summer Ball 8.00pm – midnight in Village
Hall
- Sun 27 TRINITY IV**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am

- Mon 28 Harbury Fields, Bush Heath Lane Pre-Launch event, 4.00pm – 8.00pm, Village Hall
- Tues 29 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Weds 30 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30 to 4.30pm, 19 Farm Street
- JULY**
- Thurs 1 Holy Communion 9.45am
Art Group 10.00am – 4.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
Men's Group AGM 7.45pm Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club 8.00pm at the Dog
- Sat 3 Coffee Morning 10.00am-12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of the Brownies
Harbury Society Guided Tour of Marton Nature Reserve starts 11.00am
PTA Summer Fayre 12 noon to 3.00pm at School
Bach Choir Concert 7.30pm in Church
- Sun 4 TRINITY V**
Sung Eucharist 9.00am
First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
Holy Communion with Laying on of Hands 6.00pm
- Mon 5 Village Hall Committee 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Tues 6 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Thurs 8 WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room – 'The Amish and their Quilts' – Ann Runacres

Refuse Collection Rota				
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Refuse Collection Week
June	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	9	10	11	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	16	17	18	Grey Bin
	23	24	25	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	30	1	2	Grey Bin
July	7	8	9	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	14	15	16	Grey Bin
	21	22	23	Green & Blue Lid Bins

JULY EDITION – HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to 31, Binswood End by 15th June
Articles to Harbury Pharmacy by 24th June



**All Saints
HARBURY**

From the Rector

Father Craig Grocock

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel.: 612377

Maybe, just maybe!

I don't know if you've seen the advert for Nike on the TV recently? It's the one with Terry Venables (former England football manager) singing in the style of Pavarotti. If you haven't seen it, well, you've missed nothing. The ad is based on the fantasy world of England winning the World Cup and ends with the slogan 'Maybe, just maybe'.

So, the World Cup is once again upon us. For many (myself included) it's a great time; I love the World Cup. I've got all the England fixtures written in my diary, – can't get enough of it. However I appreciate for others it's a drag and they can't see what all the fuss is about.

It's interesting though the effect football has on people. I heard a passionate football fan talking on the radio the other morning about how football to them is a religion; they think of nothing else, watch nothing else, they spend all their money following their favourite team - they literally eat, drink and sleep the game.

Well whatever you think, football evokes passion in people and we're going to see a lot of that over the next few weeks, especially if England win this time (oh, just saw a pig fly past the Rectory window!). We like to get behind our national team and we want to believe that maybe, just maybe, this time football's coming home. The passion, the excitement centres around hope, hope that we can be winners.

The Brazilian defender, Lucio is like me (oh, yes). Sadly, we don't share the same level of football skill but we do share a Christian faith. As a committed Christian Lucio has said that his faith in God motivates him and it's what has brought a real change to his life.

We all have our passions; we all have our dreams and hopes. Maybe, just maybe we might fulfill them if, like Lucio, we look in the right place.

God bless



From the Churchwardens

Will & Fliss

Last month began with "God's Wonderful World" in slides and music, organised by Beryl and very well supported. Thank you to everyone involved and we look forward to next year!

There followed on Sunday 9th the Rogation Service on the Playing Field at Deppers Bridge. Some 40 of us attended and we thoroughly enjoyed a service of prayer and praise. Thank you to David and Helen Iles and their colleagues for organising the music – which was rousing – and to everyone else involved. Again, we look forward to next year.

Rosemary led the presentation at the Family Communion Service. Her theme was “Angels”. We were reminded of Jesus’ words about angels and were also given accounts of angels recorded by people living today. The most powerful message was this: our concepts of angels may change but God never changes; He was the same yesterday; He is the same today; He will be the same tomorrow.

	<h2>Mothers' Union</h2>	<p>Gillian Hare</p>
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Once again, last month saw us enjoy two interesting meetings. In the afternoon, Chris Rutherford led a thoughtful study on our theme for the year “Relationships not Rules”. Her widely reaching thoughts suggested that rules are important but Jesus showed the correct way to apply them. Our relationship with him is reflected in our relationships with each other and judging implies assessments not condemnation. A lively discussion explored her ideas.

In the evening, our speaker Gill Russell told us about South Warwickshire Carers Support Service and, in particular, a new national project “Caring with Confidence”. She is most enthusiastic about this scheme, aimed at anyone involved with looking after a relative or friend. There are a series of 7 free local sessions, with respite care supplied, where carers are helped to share their problems and feelings and receive lots of practical help. If anyone reading this is interested, please speak to her on 01926 485581; she is a gentle, warm lady and so easy to talk to.

June 10th – Deanery Festival at Southam 7.00pm. Speak to Sue if you would like to go; lifts are available and our two new members will be enrolled.

June 15th – 8.00pm following 7.30pm communion, Di Sliwenski, our Diocesan President, will talk about the Parenting Project.

	<h2>Toddlers' Service</h2>	<p>Lorna Bedford</p>
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At our May service Mrs Beryl Checkley told the Bible story of Jonah and the whale but warned the children the story could be a bit scary!

However, Mrs Checkley told the story with lots of humour which had us all laughing.....God had asked Jonah to go to Ninevah to preach to the wicked people, but when Jonah refused and ran away to sea on a boat, the other passengers threw him overboard after a storm, and he was swallowed up by a very big fish and eventually burped up on the shore at Ninevah!

Jonah stayed at Ninevah and did God's work.

We had great fun singing two songs, "Wide, wide as the Ocean" and "Come listen to my tale of Jonah and the whale", accompanied by Michael Hare on the accordion.

We made ourselves a picture showing a very big fish, Jonah and many small fish.

Afterwards, we had our refreshments and played with toys until it was time to go home.

Our next Toddler Service is on Tuesday 8th June at 2pm in the Tom Hauley Room. Please go through the Church to the THR. All babies and toddlers accompanied by an adult are welcome to join us.

"This is our story" - All-age Family Communion Service, Sunday July 18th, 10.30am All Saints', Harbury

This is a new service for everyone using traditional & contemporary music. Much of the service will be led by the children of Harbury Primary School. Bring & Share lunch in the Tom Hauley Room following the service.

Please do come along, and let's make it fun!

Ladbroke News & Diary

JUNE

Sun 6

TRINITY I

Family Communion, 10.30am in Church followed by refreshments

Sun 13

TRINITY II

Holy Communion 9.00am

Tues 15

ADVERTISEMENTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY BY 5.30PM

- Wed 16 Parish Council Meeting, 7.45pm in Village Hall
 Sat 19 Village Fete, 1.00pm – 5.00pm on Millennium Green
 Whist Drive, 7.45pm in Village Hall
- Sun 20 TRINITY III**
 Holy Communion, 9.00am
 The Old Rectory Open Garden, 2.00pm
- Thurs 24 Women's Institute, 7.30pm in Village Hall
**ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH STREET,
 HARBURY AND EMAIL ARTICLES DEADLINE BY
 5.30PM**
- Sun 27 TRINITY IV**
 Holy Communion, 9.00am
- JULY**
- Sun 4 TRINITY V**
 Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments



Ladbroke Flower Rota

- June 6 Jenny Barrett
 13 Carol Clarke
 20 Laura Taylor
 27 Hazel Sharples
- July 4 Carol Loftus

Sue Lord



Ladbroke Church News

Betty Winkfield

The total money raised at our Lent Lunches – during Lent – was £530 which was a great result. This will be shared equally between All Saints' Church, Ladbroke and the Haiti Appeal. We would have had this final total earlier but our Treasurer/Church Warden was held up in Vietnam owing to a volcanic eruption in Iceland – I've heard of some good excuses, but that must be the best!



**Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge Women's
 Institute**

Carol Lane

On the beautiful evening of Thursday, May 27th, villagers of Chesterton

may have been surprised by the fleet of cars filled with ladies, all heading for their church. It was the W.I members (and one of their husbands, I won't say who was the brave man!) on their way to meet curator David Adams in the candlelit church. He and his two young helpers, Samantha and Joanne, fascinated us with the discoveries of artefacts showing the remains of a Roman town with a temple and amphitheatre which showed signs of occupation from the 2nd to the 5th century. Even when the Romans left, David believes that this is the beginning of the present day village and further discoveries showed evidence of pre-mediaeval villages and a great hall to the north of the church. The landscaped area in front of this was used for jousting tournaments and royalty from Warwick Castle were entertained there probably by the wealthy Peyto family.



The church itself started out as a small chapel with the present chancel and other wings added at later dates. Although not proven, David explained that the important people in the village would have been buried in coffins under the floor and he told of various 'supernatural' experiences of mysterious footfalls, bells ringing and objects in locked rooms moving.

Make a note of the date of 10th July when Chesterton are holding an outdoor Summer Proms, recreating history in the jousting field behind the church. Tickets, limited to 400, will be available at the cost of £10.

So many of us could not believe we had lived for so many years in such close proximity to all this history and had not been aware of it.

This brief insight has certainly whetted my appetite to learn more and I am so interested to watch the DVD documentary on the history of Chesterton which I purchased. Visitors can access the church on any day of the week but church 'officials' can be contacted at the weekends for those wishing to learn more.

Our committee are to be congratulated and thanked for taking flasks of

coffee and the archeologically themed rock cakes to accompany the short business meeting which followed.

Shirley Huxley, our secretary, will attend the W.I. AGM in Cardiff on Wednesday 2nd June to represent the views of 7 local W.I groups. After we heard an explanation of the pros and cons, Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge voted unanimously for the resolution that there should be clearer labelling with the country of origin for meat, fish and poultry.

On a lighter note, the Strawberry and Chocolate Experience is to be held on June 24th and neighbouring W.I.s have been invited. Members were asked to bring contributions for the chocolate tombola (in advance), the cake stall, and bric-a-brac. Come prepared to dip your strawberries in the chocolate fountain!



Ladbroke General Section

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

The results of the draw for May were:

- £80 Keith Tancock
- £50 Derek & Collette Batty
- £25 Kim Bendzak
- £10 Graham Lewis
- £10 Marie Kennedy
- £10 Michael Theaker
- £10 Debs & Seth Brown
- £10 Geoff Lane

Janet Goldson

Ladbroke Fete – 19th June

The committee is putting the final touches to the plans for this year's Fete. The provisional lists of events includes a mini Civil War re-enactment, Morris Dancing, Tug of War and Pet Show.

The Ladbroke HS2 Action Group will be coming to the Fete to give everybody a chance to discuss their concerns over the proposed rail line.

All the favourite traditional stalls will be there to ensure there is plenty for everyone to do.

The committee is always pleased to welcome anybody who would like to help with the fete.

Martin Neal 812668

Ladbroke Local History

With the threat of the High Speed Train hanging over Ladbroke, perhaps now is a time to reflect on the past history of this small, but fascinating village and to look at how geographical and social history has fashioned us.

Last year my father passed away from Parkinson's disease and, with this in view as well, I have decided to do a session of village history walks during July. There is no need to book, but if there is a large group it would be appreciated if you let me know.

Each Tuesday during July, starting from the Bell Inn at 10am and 6.30pm, I will take anyone interested in a walk around the village, pointing out places of historical interest and talking about our past inhabitants and how they made what we see today. In return a donation into the Parkinson's Disease Society would be appreciated as in September I am going to spend a week walking the China Wall on their behalf. I will also have my guide book of the walk available for purchase.

The enclosed picture is of a drawing done in Ladbroke in the early 19th century, but I wonder how many of you would recognise where it is?



Linda Doyle
01926 814214
linda@allhistoric.co.uk

Ladbroke Bell Tower

Greetings to all. Been some while since I last wrote but we have been busy with the bells in recent months. Only a few weeks ago, a sponsored event called "Grab a Tower" took place in an effort to raise funds for the restoration of the Avon Dassett Bell Tower, St John The Baptist Church.

The bells have been lovingly restored by Graham Nabb (who as you may recall from my past articles is the "Yoda" of the Bell ringers for the local district). The bells themselves are 110 years old and were rung for the first time in 30 years. So, the event of "Grab a Tower" was for over 20 churches in our local district to open and for any bell ringer of any level to

attend and "ring those bells". The challenge was to get to as many towers as possible. The event started early in the morning and lunch was organised for all the ringers at the Avon Dassett Church itself which was a fine spread and was much appreciated after so much hard work driving between towers and pulling bells all morning.

Of course, our very own tower at Ladbroke was opened in the afternoon by Mrs Moore who looked after our castle while the "away" team was comprised of Tower Captain, Kieth and the rookie ringers, Bell Fighter Sam, his lovely lady Clara and lastly, myself. It is fair to say we made our very own unique mark on all the local bell towers with our unique skills and like ourselves, I'll wager that all the other bell towers cannot wait for the next event for us all to get together. It was a very shaky day!!!

Another tradition your bell tower upheld last week was the ringing of the bells at 6pm on Ascension Day. As many of you are aware, Ascension Day is marked to celebrate the ascension of Christ to heaven. As your bell team, we always endeavour to mark such poignant occasion with a fair melody. Watch this space for more celebratory ringing sessions.

After attending the Bell Tower maintenance course, our bell captain has found his skills being required much of late, as the ropes on the bells have required to be altered and at times shortened as they had "stretched" somewhat. This has led to some of the bells, (notably Bell 2) being a bit quirky of late so please bear with us while we manipulate the ropes to get them behaving themselves again.

Your Bell Tower squad had been taking heavy casualties recently with injuries abounding amongst our team. Luckily we have just about enough people to cover the bells for the short term but we could do with some "New Blood" joining our fine ranks. Anyone is welcome to come and join, Monday Night at 7pm is practice night so please feel free to come and join us. For first few sessions a new recruit can stay with us to learn some basics and, if they feel they really want to get stuck in and become "a campanologist" they can attend a training course with the great Mr Nabb himself over at Kineton Bell Ringing Boot Camp (sorry, I mean training tower) Ha.

Our own team, are now attending Kineton tower for further teachings in a bid to get to a greater level so we may caress the fair village of Ladbroke with beautiful melodies. This summer should see you listening to some lovely stuff. As ever, we aim to please. See you next month for more "Ding Dongery" tales!!!

Krys Robinson

Government extends HS2 Exceptional Hardship Scheme Consultation.

The government announced on Tuesday that it has extended the consultation period for the HS2 Exceptional Hardship Scheme until 17th June. See <http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/2010-18/>

Following meetings held in affected communities up and down the proposed route, including the one on May 10th by Stratford District Council at the Grange Hall in Southam where over 200 members of the public attended to hear the Council decide their response to the EHS consultation, this extension can be viewed as a small but significant victory in the campaign so far.

At the 10th May meeting Graham Long (chairman Ladbroke Action Group and member of HS2 Action Alliance) made a statement of principles on behalf of the Ladbroke Action Group regarding the general content of the EHS but also raised the question of timing. Initially, the consultation was due to close on May 20th, allowing only 10 weeks rather than the usual minimum of 12 from the initial announcement of the proposed route and coming during a period of political purdah due to the general election.

People affected by the route can respond to the consultation by using the methods suggested here:

<http://www.hs2actionalliance.org/30secletter.php> which takes only 30 seconds to fill in! Alternative reply methods are by post: High Speed Two Ltd - Exceptional Hardship Scheme Consultation, 55 Victoria Street London SW1H 0EU; by e-mail: ehsconsultation@hs2.gsi.gov.uk ; or by 'phone: 0207 944 4908.

The local action groups are now uniting under the banner of HS2 Action Alliance which as well as producing the alternative compensation scheme which the local action groups are urging the government to adopt; aims to:

- Minimise the adverse impacts of HS2 on individuals, communities and the environment
- Communicate the facts about HS2 clearly, accurately and in a timely manner
- Question & evaluate the economic case and environmental impact of the proposals
- Facilitate the co-ordination of community level organisations, companies and governments

- Ensure efforts are maximised, not duplicated and to pool the best resources and talent

Of course the local action groups are still working hard and their websites are and will continue to be a useful and plentiful resource of information both locally and nationally. However HS2 Action Alliance's website <http://www.hs2actionalliance.org/index.php> is fast becoming the most comprehensive source of information so people are urged to take a look here as well as keeping up with local news.

The details of the alternative compensation scheme can be found here: <http://www.hs2actionalliance.org/ehscompensation.php>

Deborah Brown



Official minutes can be viewed in the Library, on the Parish Council website www.harbury-pc.gov.uk or obtained from the Parish Clerk, Tel: 01926 614646

April 2010

Here we saw contrasting attitudes to the planning system. One resident came to ask the Parish Councillors' views on his plans to build an Eco-friendly house with its own solar power and Ground Source Heating.

Very properly, the Councillors indicated that in principle this met with their approval but they could not commit themselves to supporting the project until a detailed planning application was lodged with the District Council. They also advised the applicant to talk to his potential neighbours and warned him that he would also need Conservation Area consent.

Then there was the contrary approach of the owner of The Lodge, Hall Lane who did not want the Council to object to his retrospective application for a tennis court built on agricultural land.

It is not illegal to build without applying for planning permission but when the Planning Authority find out, they take Enforcement Action and a Planning Application has to be submitted. If you lose, the development must go.

The site in question has quite a planning history and although the owner claimed his neighbours would not be adversely affected, a resident of the Hall asked the Parish Council to support her objections, reminding them that she had objected when play equipment had been put up without permission on another field behind the house.

The application stated that there was a need for tennis courts as there were none in Harbury – hardly a statement likely to win support from the Council which has provided excellent facilities at the Playing Fields.

So predictably they objected there was no need for tennis courts; the field in question was extensive and approval could set a precedent for further development on land outside the village boundary.

Other Planning applications commented on were extensions to 15 Binswood End, which they felt were too large and imposed on neighbours, and plans to thin the crown of the Cedar Tree at Harbury House, which had not included the required arboricultural report.

They made no comments on a field shelter at Westfield House, Middle Road or the removal of the requirement to create a new access at Leycester House Farm Cottage (which the applicant has called Lawston House).

Stratford approved extensions at 7 Chapel Street and The Old Orchard, Mill Street; a change of use from shop to dwelling house for 7- 8 Church Street and a greenhouse at Harbury House.

The Council's comments on Stratford's Core Strategy included approval of small scale development in the village, a request that the Village Design Statement and Parish Plan (and insistence) that the Masterplan for the Quarries continue to have Supplementary Planning status.

Grants - Mr Isles for the Choir School, which charges a nominal sum for its forty members (a third of whom are boys), asked the PC for a data projector to be used instead of copying sheet music and was granted £400.

Safety - The PC was concerned that there had been a fatal accident at the Bendigo Mitchell Crossroads. Cllr Hancock wanted the junction realigned. The previous "improvements" had made it even more hazardous and local people avoided using it. Sixty miles an hour was too fast for that stretch.

Parish Properties - The construction of the BMX track is closer; the basketball court is to be resurfaced; tennis court hire will go up to £4 an hour but children's use is free. Cllr Hancock reported a "very happy morning in the burial grounds" but problems with contacting relatives of the unsafe graves.

Environment - The Parish Plan is to be updated; the traffic management works are almost completed; an energy monitoring device can be borrowed from the Library; and residents will be asked to trim hedges that obstruct the footways or obscure views at road junctions.

Resignations

Cllr Ron Grey resigned for personal reasons and was warmly thanked for his contributions. Another person will be sought to represent Deppers Bridge.

District Cllr Andrew Patrick was retiring and introduced the new LibDem candidate Mr Tonge, a young family man from the village.

Harbury's Annual Parish Meeting

It is obviously one of Harbury's best kept secrets that after the Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council treats the audience to free wine and nibbles, otherwise of course more of you would turn out. Still there was a reasonable audience who asked some reasonably reasonable questions.

Ray Padbury demanding a fence between the proposed BMX Track and the footpath alongside the Allotments, because he feared the children would ride along there and then abandon their bikes on the path. He claimed that thieves had driven along the footpath, broken into a shed on the allotments and stolen property, but he said, he knew who they were. Asked if he had given that information to the police he replied that he was not going to do their job for them!

Gladys Hutchins complained about the vehicles parked at the junction of Farm Street and Sutcliffe Pastures and along Sutcliffe Drive. She had personal experience of the dangers this posed and wanted Sutcliffe widened. The Parish Council agreed to report these concerns. Gladys remarked that County Highways had not acted sensibly over the recent "top-dressing" of Farm Street and demanded to know why they had not repaired the potholes at the entrance to Sutcliffe before they tarmaced over them!



PC Hill who survived 10 years as our Community Policeman announced his retirement and was praised for his work in Harbury. He introduced his handsome young replacement, **PC Jim Butler** who said he would try hard to fill PC Hill's shoes.

There was a presentation by **Dr John Hancock** on fund-raising for the Village Hall Improvements. It was originally estimated that £1m would be needed but it was hoped that by using local craftsmen these costs could be reduced.

Every household was about to receive a leaflet urging them to "Buy a

Brick". The recent fund raising lunch at the Manor for local businesses had started this fund rolling raising £3K already and Dr Hancock expressed his thanks to the Bushill-Matthews for offering the use of their home for this effort.

District Cllr Beverly Mann introduced **Richard Tonge** our new District Councillor replacing Andrew Patrick who had retired. Beverly said that the District Council would have a stall at the Carnival where they would be able to show residents what could be recycled.

Reports from the various Working Party Chairs followed with **Tim Lockley** highlighting the traffic calming being installed, the start on site of the homes for local people on Bush Heath Lane, the threat of the High Speed Rail Line and the updating of the Parish Plan. He praised the hard work of the **Clerk** and thanked **Ron Grey** who is retiring for his work for Deppers Bridge.



Start at last! Development Underway in Bush Heath Lane

Ron gave more details of the pressure groups set up to fight the **High Speed Rail Line** and links to these groups and other useful sites will be posted on the Parish Council Website.

Jenny Patrick reported on the planning applications that had come before the council, explaining that they could only make comments and had no powers to approve or reject these plans. When applicants came to the council before they submitted plans the Councillors could give them advice but could not commit themselves to support or object until a full planning application were made.

Sharon Hancock explained what her group, who look after the Parish Properties had achieved. She praised the tenacity of **Cllr Janet Thornley** who had raised a remarkable sum to enable the development of the **BMX Track**. The Council's biggest headache was in dealing with the unsafe memorials in the **Burial Grounds** and **they were still trying to trace relatives of many of the staked graves.**

Tim Lockley was pleased to see the traffic calming elements being installed at last. His group was looking into ways to reduce the cost of street lighting by installing Light Emitting Diodes. They had held their **Save Money – Save Energy Day in the Village Hall** to raise awareness of the need to save energy and the monetary benefits of doing so.

Tony Mancell set out in detail the year's budget but no-one asked him any questions about it, so they were either satisfied or did not understand it. He showed where additional spending would go, Play Areas, Grants to local groups, Maintenance, Street Lighting improvements, supporting the Village Hall redevelopment and making memorials safe in the Burial Grounds.

He too **thanked the Clerk for her hard work** and reminded parishioners that the **Parish Office** was open four mornings a week and that Planning Applications were now available on the Parish Website.

There were reports also from the Twinning Association, the School, the Village Hall, The Harbury News and local groups who had benefitted from Parish Council Grants, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Group, Heritage Group and Icon@All Saints.

After all that it is pleasing to report that there was not an unseemly rush for the refreshments, but that most of the audience stayed for some considerable time talking to Councillors and setting the world to rights.

Linda Ridgley

Would You Like To Be A Parish Councillor?

Due to the recent retirement of Councillor Ron Grey, Harbury Parish Council currently has a vacancy which may be filled by co-option. The current vacancy is for the Deppers Bridge ward but it is not necessary for candidates to live in Deppers Bridge itself although they should be prepared to take special interest in that ward and its particular concerns. If you would like to be considered, please read the guidelines below or call the Parish Clerk, Nicola Thompson (614646) or the Chairman Tim Lockley (614532) for an informal chat.

Candidates for the Parish Council must either live within the parish, or within 3 miles of it or own a business or property within the village. Some further criteria do apply – for an exhaustive list of the criteria please contact the Parish Clerk. Current councillors are a mixture of working and retired people, men and women, some of whom have lived in the village for more than 40 years, others for far less, and who have business, public sector, and entrepreneurial backgrounds. Most importantly, candidates should have a genuine interest in the local community and the issues facing it.

Interested persons should write a brief letter to the Parish Clerk, detailing their background, relevant experience and interests.

Parish Office: Unit 2, Bull Ring Business Centre, Church Terrace, Harbury, CV33 9HL or e-mail to clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: WEDNESDAY 16th JUNE



Harbury Society

Linda Ridgley

Society members were treated to wonderful weather for their Pub Walk around Priors Marston and Helidon organised by John Smith and Ed Wilson.

Our next event is our Recycling Stall at the Carnival on Saturday 12th June. We are still accepting donations of jewellery, china and bric-a-brac and if you have nothing cluttering up your house then come along on the 12th and buy some of ours!

After that we have a Walk round the private Marton Nature Reserve on 3rd July and a Fund Raising Coffee Morning on 4th September.



The Society has written again to the County Council complaining of the danger at the Bendigo Mitchell Crossroads. At this time of year the obstruction to vision cause by the “safety” barrier round the Speed Camera is reinforced by a “hedge” of vegetation.

The first picture shows the view to the south-west – the second is enlarged to show vans travelling towards Stow. The grass area is supposed to be a vision splay to allow a clear view down the Fosse, but the “hedge” makes it impossible to see oncoming traffic. For those travelling towards Harbury from Warwick the view is not much better. We have suggested that the only solution will be to install traffic lights, but of course these are very expensive.



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

I must apologize to the residents of Harbury Hall who must have thought they were going to be invaded by the W.I on the 11th August; it was a

misprint and should have read “a trip to Hanbury Hall”.

We had a most enjoyable visit to the Lord Leycester Hospital in May, our guide being the Master Lt. Col. Lesinski. We were shown the wonderful old 12th century chapel, the banquet hall, rooms and the architecture, not forgetting the lovely picturesque garden. The Master certainly knows the history which made the visit so interesting. Thanks to Jo and Chris.

In the evening we had the Annual General Meeting run by Stockton W.I, with super refreshments. Chris Rutherford entered a lovely mask she had made for the competition.

We had an excellent speaker who spoke at each stage of dressing in a suite of armour of the history. The amazing thing was that he and his wife had made the armour which was perfect. The weight made one wonder how soldiers of those days could manoeuvre in battle.

We thank everybody who attended our Coffee Morning and to those who helped and brought cakes etc. This is always a pleasant morning and special thanks to those two muscular men who put the tables away.

The last meeting was voting on the resolution for our representative, Toni Heatly, to take to the NFWI AGM in Cardiff in June. With wine, nibbles and discussion, we were able to give our decision to the rep.

Most important to request cakes and preserves on Carnival Day to be taken to the cake stall around 12 noon.

The W.I Garden Party at the home of Ann Mayer is on Thursday 24th June at 7pm. Could members please bring chairs and any articles for our sales table and perhaps for the raffle.

Now is the time to order calendars and diaries.

A surprising end to our May meeting was a delightful show by Janice Siddle of her art work. She said that she had never been arty but thought that she would have a go which ended in her entering for the City and Guilds Award. Her examples of decoration using emulsion, then finishes resulted in fantastic effects that looked like granite, marble, sienna etc. She showed us the different tools she used. As she said, many of the big pillars we see in interesting buildings (Blenheim included) are done this way and we think they are ancient.

I think Janice must be wrong in saying she isn't arty. She has been booked to speak at another W.I already.

The next W.I meeting is on June 10th in the Tom Hauley Room at 7.45pm. Speakers:- Mr & Mrs Wroe – “You be the Judge”



My Mother said I Never Should by Charlotte Keatley

Congratulations to all involved with producing this thought-provoking, poignant play. The play, which traces four generations of women, with a carefully guarded secret, through changes in the twentieth century is a demanding one, requiring lots of lines to learn, a northern accent and the ability to play roles from childhood to maturity. All four achieved this and, as accomplished actresses, created believable characters. I was grateful that the programme told me the dates of each scene!

The play opened with four unrelated children singing the title song and immediately the playground and childhood scenes evoked memories for the audience. The playground scenes also displayed violence, sexuality and misinformation (often amusing). The four actresses skilfully displayed character traits, which they developed as they grew up.

Doris (Trish Donnelly) as a child was cowed. As an elderly great grandma, polishing the piano, she reminded us that as it was once new, so was she. She was born illegitimately in 1900 and abandoned her career as a teacher for marriage and motherhood in 1924. Well done, Trish, aging convincingly! I loved your line, "I may be as old as the Queen Mother but I buy my smalls in Top Shop!"

Margaret (Ali Hodge), Doris's daughter, as a child was always unsure and later she abandoned her own ambitions for marriage to an American, becoming a long suffering wife and mother to both her child and grandchild. She accepts the situation, as a difficult fact, rather like husbands! I enjoyed your line about if you work hard you will rise like bread.

Jackie (Jo Banbury), Margaret's daughter, from the start showed that she is rather wild and a leader. As a child she was close to her grandparents and shared a love of art with her grandfather. She becomes a hippie art student, who after trying to cope on her own with her baby, asks her mother to look after the child. She develops a career as a sleek art dealer, but the love for her daughter, who thinks she is her sister, is always there. I loved your scene playing doctors and nurses, with a sanitary towel as a nurse's cap!

Rosie (Charlotte Coleman) convincingly played a child from the age of six to a typical teenager of sixteen, with varying emotions, full of energy, love and anger/resentment (especially when she discovers that her sister is really her mother). At the end, her ability to "win" at solitaire, perhaps,

demonstrates that the secret of surviving life is being on your own, independent, in the middle of life, surrounded by the women who got you there.

The play left me with many thoughts for discussion, such as: when is the right time to tell a child the truth about their birth; do parents always worry about their children and want more for them than they had; do husbands want a wife or a working mother; mothers and daughters may be at cross-purposes, but is love always there...?

Well done Ian and Keith for directing your cast so well and to all who helped with the costumes, lighting, sound (the piano playing fooled me!), front of house and back stage.



Folk Club

Steve & Maureen Darby

It was Thursday 6th May 2010, General Election Day - a day when history was being made... when we *thought* that Harbury Folk Club was being held for the last time in the Dog Inn. The theme for the evening was "Winners and Losers".

Wearing a 'Claret and Blue' scarf, Steve introduced the evening by recounting the season of losing Aston Villa had had – their Youth team lost in the Youth Cup final to Chelsea, the Reserves lost to Manchester United in the National Final, the first team lost the FA Cup Semi-Final to Chelsea, also the League Cup Final to Man Utd and, finally, narrowly missed out on a Champions League place. However, the winners were the fans with 2 trips to Wembley and great victories at Anfield, Old Trafford and beating Chelsea at home. What a great season it had been and what a great night of entertainment was ahead of us with some 18 performances, almost a record?

There was a definite political theme running throughout the evening as Maureen and Janny commenced proceedings with Brian Bedford's "Left-Right" and Ron followed this up with the story of Joseph Jones together with a political medley including "Smile, Smile, Smile", "Vote, Vote, Vote" and a power and money song with reference to Gordon Brown as "My Old Man". Stuart and Andy then sang a song about couples unsuccessfully trying for a child followed by "Wild Geese are Flying". We welcomed Norman for the first time who performed a beautiful version of the Beatles "She Loves You" and had us in fits of laughter by singing a very happy blues song which opened with the line "woke up one morning, the sun was shining bright", he posed the question - how *do* you sing the blues when everything is alright? Rik played a Richard Thompson number

followed by a very funny song about the problems we experience when we grow old with sight, hearing, memory etc all failing. The first half closed with Pete and Liz. Liz had a mini xylophone for the first number and then Pete recanted a Sid Kipper song about the “Losing of the Whale”.

The second half commenced with Maureen and Janny accompanied by Peter and Ian as they sang the Threlfall Sisters’ version of “Loyal Lover”. Pete Mason sang about Britain’s meritocracy and also the 1999 folk award winning song “A Place called England”. Peter McDonald gave us “Glory of Life” and “Another Train”. Sue and Ian focussed on the winners by singing about “Spencer the Rover” then with Sue on the banjo sang “Willy Moore”. Des gave us a history lesson by singing the anthem of the suffragette movement and told us about Dame Ethel Smythe and we all joined in with “Deep Blue Sea”. Andy performed the Hugh Williams number “Rosemary’s Sister” followed by “Nutting Girl”. The Folk Club Choir started with “Now is the Month of Maying” and closed the second half with a very moving anti-Apartheid song from South Africa called “Weeping”.

The evening continued as the number of performers grew with a few late arrivals so we held an extended third half starting with Judith who told us about the how four cottages were acquired through charging her husband for certain favours. Keith Donnelly (fresh from supporting Fairport Convention) played his ukulele as he sang “Me, the Moon and the Foxes”. John Black sang a Richard Thompson number followed by Esther and Abi Ofarim’s “My Baby Shot me down”. Pete Grassby sang a song about brothers who wanted to but couldn’t marry their sister but there was a twist as to who was sired by whom. Sue and Ted played “High Germany” followed by a song about a Portuguese man called Gonzales. Des brought a great evening to an end with a rousing shanty that we were all able to join in with.

The raffle raised a terrific £51, which will go towards a project in Malawi where the Folk Club have already provided a goat to a family.

It turns out that the Village Club cannot accommodate the Folk Club after all so we are *not* changing our venue. Our thanks to Wayne for having us back! Next month, Ian Hartland will host the Folk Club **at the Dog Inn** on Thursday 3rd June at **8pm**, when the theme will be “New Starts”.

	<h1>Harbury RFC</h1>	<h2>Harbury Mini & Midi Rugby</h2> <p>Mike Steele</p>
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25th April - Keresley Under 13s Tournament—The first match was against Balsall & Berkswell which Harbury lost narrowly 28 – 24.

Bradley King scored 2 tries and there was one each from Jack Hewson and Robert Rollason. Sam Cave and Finn Toner both tackled well and had good breaks forward. William Rea and Shane Fennell put in try saving tackles too.

Keresley, who went on to win the tournament, had a big squad of useful players and were totally dominant against us in the first half, but after half time we kept the ball with the forwards, rucking and mauling, we scored tries through Joe Webster and Bradley King. Simon Fisher, Josh Biggs, Willem Davies and Finn put in some excellent tackles. Final Score of this match 36 – 10.

Spartans were next against us and beat us 15 – 7 with a well deserved try for Finn Toner, converted by Jack Hewson. Again another excellent team performance.

In the last game against Earlsdon, Harbury ran in 6 tries to win 38 – 22. Rory Pickin got the first try, bursting through the Earlsdon defence. Bradley King then ran in four tries, the best of which, he kicked off which landed behind the full back, he followed up and ripped the ball and touched down. Prop George White had a great run forward and Finn Toner always competed, winger William Rea got the last try beautifully set up by scrum half Ted Easton to round off a solid performance. Jack Hewson added four out of six drop kicks. Overall Harbury got a trophy for third place after an outstanding team effort by all the boys; everyone upped their game today and all the Harbury squad can hold their heads high.

9th May - Presentation Day

On a surprisingly sunny, if a little chilly, Sunday, Harbury's Minis and Juniors celebrated the end of the season with what has now become a traditional morning of games followed by a barbeque and presentation.

As always, many of the awards were hard fought with the final honours as follows:

Under 7s

Most Improved Player	Sebastian Priest
Player of the Year	Thomas Betts
Clubman	Ryan Alexander

Under 8s

Most Improved Player	Jack French
Player of the Year	Ben White
Clubman	William Banfield

Under 9s

Most Improved Player	Lucas Mann
Player of the Year	Alex Green
Clubman	Murray Gibson

Under 10s

Most Improved Player	Calum Jayes
Player of the Year	James Stone
Clubman	James Bath and Mario Palmer

Under 11s

Most Improved Player	Ryan Comyns
Player of the Year	Saul Dyson
Clubman	Luke Winchester

Under 12s

Most Improved Player	Joseph Hughes
Player of the Year	Sam Tutt
Clubman	William Higgins

Under 13s

Most Improved Player	Rory Pickin
Player of the Year	Sam Cave
Clubman	Willem Davies

Also announced was the achievement of Millie Thompson who was named the Under 7s Player of the Tournament at the Old Leamingtonians Festival which took place on 18th April. Millie's prize is a trip to Twickenham to meet Lawrence Dallaglio.

In addition, a special award was given to Colin Hickman for services to Harbury Rugby Club. Colin puts a ridiculous amount of hours into the Minis which probably isn't acknowledged as often as it should be - thanks Colin!

Finally, John Winchester was presented with a rugby shirt and photograph as a thank you for the work he has put into the club over the last seven years. John and his family will shortly be moving to Dubai but we look forward to welcoming them back to the club permanently in three years time and on what will hopefully be numerous visits in the intervening years.

Coaches and players can now look forward to a well deserved rest over the summer. Registration for the new season will take place along with the first training session on Sunday 5th September at 10.30am. New players from school years one to nine will be welcomed with open arms.



Out of this World! – The beginning of May heralded the introduction of the new topic which would be the basis for the Pre-School Carnival Float. It began with an idea when the term “out of this world” was mentioned and soon blossomed into anything and everything to do with outer space. The children were very enthusiastic as they prepared artwork and models for the float and we quickly found that all areas of learning could be covered by this exciting topic:



Creative Development – With very little guidance, the children produced wonderful paintings of rockets, aliens, spacemen, and flying saucers. They painted 3-D globes for planets, carefully studying pictures so that they could include the right features and colours, and the 3-D models are fantastic – Daniel even remembered to include a place for

storing oxygen for his astronaut when he went into space! Artwork inspired by Kandinsky’s paintings can also be included in this section, as it was truly “out of this world”.

Communication, Language and Literacy – the children enjoyed a wide variety of stories about different types of space travel and new songs and rhymes were learned. Many discussions also took place about what aliens look like and how quickly a rocket could fly.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development – Lots of exciting role play took place, both indoors and in the outside play area, with suitable dressing up clothes on the rail and lots of collaboration between the children as they travelled to the moon and beyond.

Physical Development – The construction of rockets and space ships, using cardboard boxes, wooden blocks and other materials tested their physical development as they worked outside and small world rockets, space shuttles and small scale construction made use of their fine motor skills.



Problem Solving, Reasoning and Numeracy – This area was kept to the forefront, as the children

calculated how much tape they would need to stick together parts of their rockets, worked out how many pieces and which shape of Lego would be needed for their creations and completed a variety of puzzles.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World – It quickly became apparent that the children knew lots about what happens in outer space and were eager to learn more. The book area was very popular, as was the computer, where the children designed wonderful “planets” to be printed and used for personalised Fathers’ Day cards.



Other Activities – Alongside all the excitement of the Carnival build-up, the Pre-School garden was not forgotten, with regular weeding and watering of the rapidly growing fruit, vegetables and flowering plants. Another attraction was Claire’s brilliant idea of potion making. A wide variety of herbs, spices and other kitchen ingredients were mixed with water in small pots to make potions and then added together in the water tray to make a rather

murky but sweet smelling concoction! **And Finally** Don’t forget to look out for the Harbury Pre-School float in the Carnival, where most of the children’s work will be on display.



If anyone would like further information about Harbury Pre-School, please contact Jacqui Quinney, Chair of the Pre-School Committee, on Harbury 613386. The web site can be found at www.harburypre-school.org.uk

Stop Press: Harbury Pre-School now offering longer sessions from September 2010

From September Harbury Pre-School will be offering longer sessions to provide parents with more choice and flexibility. On Tuesdays and Thursdays we will run afternoon sessions until 3.30pm and all of our existing sessions will be increased by half an hour.

The new times are as follows:

Monday:	12 noon – 3.30pm (This includes a free lunch session which starts at 12)
Tuesday & Thursday:	Morning : 9.00am – 12.30 pm
	Lunch Club: 12.30pm – 1.30pm
	Afternoon: 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Wednesday and Friday: Morning: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Lunch Club: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Children starting from 2 years 9 months can do any combination of these times, including a whole day from 9am until 3.30pm. Places are limited.

Please phone Jacqui on 613386 to find out more or reserve a place.



Windmills
Nursery School

Nursery School Staff & Committee

Windmills Nursery is situated in the grounds of Harbury Primary School and has the benefit of its own Forest School and qualified Forest School Leader. We are open all day and take children from the age of 2 years. We still have a few places remaining for September 2010 when the new government funding system will be fully implemented allowing parents to access **free** morning sessions for those children over 3 years old.

We have been taking advantage of our wonderful surroundings by spending a lot of time outdoors. One of the highlights was our sponsored bike ride which took place on a beautiful sunny morning on the school playground. The children enjoyed complete laps around the road markings in exchange for a sticker. The children then counted the number of stickers they had



been given to find out how many laps each of them had completed. Thank you to everyone who sponsored the children.

The children have experienced many opportunities, to investigate and extend their knowledge of water including:

- visiting Church for the Toddler service when the children listened to the story of Jonah and the Whale.
- adding different food colouring to the water tray each day.
- creating an interactive Noah's Arc display complete with colour matching raindrops, rainbow fish, wavy patterns and 3D animals.
- setting up a hairdresser's in our role-play area inside.

- building a car wash in outdoor role-play area where the children washed their bikes, cars and scooters.
- playing with the bubble machine in our outdoor play area.
- visiting the school pond to see the snails, newts, tadpoles, frogs and pond skaters. We extended this activity in the classroom when the children made their own jelly fish ponds complete with fish to take home to eat.



investigating the properties of ice when Joseph Coulter's mummy brought in a bowl made of ice with ice fish and star fish inside. During the day at Windmills the children watched with interest as it turned into colourful water.



Forest School

We have made two visits to our Forest School this month which has been transformed into a wonderful lush green jungle environment following the April showers and warm spring sunshine. During the first session we discussed maps and made our own journey sticks to remind us of the different areas within our Forest School. The children also

made their own smelly potions using the natural resources. The following week we looked for the biggest most beautiful leaves in our forest to examine their colour and structure. The children also used our special mirrors to help them look more closely at what lies underneath the leaves and logs.

Visits

A big thank you to Tracy for bringing in her 7 week old baby rabbits Jet, Lucky and Dobby. The children took turns to hold and stroke them and discussed what they eat and where they live. This month we also made a visit to Freddie's granddad Chris' pond. The children were able to look through a perspex window in the side of his pond to see the huge fish close



up and also walk over the bridge to see them from above, while Chris told the children all about them. Thank you to Giorgio's mum Pina and Freddie's mum Tracy who helped to accompany us on this visit and a big thank you to Chris and Rosina for inviting us into their beautiful garden.

Dates

Tickets are selling fast for our annual Summer Ball in the Village Hall on Saturday, 26th June, 2010 at 8.00pm. This year the live band playing will be the "Screamin Abdabs" who are a covers band from Middleton Cheney, Banbury (they can be heard on their website <http://www.screamin-abdabs.co.uk>).

There will also be a fish and chip supper with a choice of desserts and a free glass of bubbly on arrival, we will also be holding a raffle during the evening. Tickets are priced at £15.00 and are available from Windmills, Mugleston's or Katharine Giblin on 01926 613084 with a special offer of a free bottle of wine for those booking a table of 6 or more by the 12th of June.

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.



Congratulations – To the girls' football team, who finished in a magnificent third place in the Stratford and District 6-side finals last night with a record of three wins, two draws and two defeats in the eight-school finals. Well done, girls.

African Drumming – I have been informed about African Drumming sessions for adults, past pupils and our current Year 6 pupils, starting soon on Friday evenings (6.30pm-8.00pm) in the Scout Hut. I understand that they have been organised by a couple of parents following our recent African Assembly, and are to be led by Davinder, who led our assembly. The cost is not expected to be more than £5 per week. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact the school (**in writing**) and we will pass on the information.

Sunshine! – I know – where is it?? However, before the temperature rises to the high 40s (I'm not sure if that is "F" or "C!!), I thought that I would outline the precautions that the school feels appropriate to protect children:

- When it is sunny, the children play on the school field at lunchtimes. As well as being a nice grassy surface, the trees around the field provide lots of shade from the sun – in the past, we have found this to be more than adequate to meet the needs of the children.
- When it is very hot, the children are given the option of retreating inside the building over lunchtime.
- Children are encouraged to wear some sort of head covering – the PTA has a stock of school “legionnaire” style sun caps for sale – price £5 each. Please contact the office if you would like to buy one.
- Parents should also consider providing their child with a long sleeved, lightweight top to be worn as protection from the sun if they feel it necessary.
- The school does not allow children to have sun cream in school – the steps outlined above, plus greater vigilance on the part of staff, have been found to work well. Should parents wish their child to have sun cream they should apply it before school. If parents are still concerned, they are welcome, should they wish, to come into school at lunchtime (**not in lesson time, please**) and apply lotion to their child.

If any parent has a particular concern about their child, they are, of course, more than welcome to come into school to discuss it with me.



Skittles and Chips!!

A balmy Friday evening in May saw another great night out organised by Harbury School PTA – Skittles and Chips.

Teams battled against each other on a full length skittles alley set up in the school hall firstly to test quantity – how many skittles each person could

knock over, than quality – could each team member manage to knock a stand-alone skittle over?

A very welcome half time fish and chip supper kept the energy levels up, and the whole evening was well lubricated courtesy of CANA Imports.

Overall the evening was very enjoyable and the PTA would like to thank the staff and parents who supported and made the evening so enjoyable.

Watch out for two upcoming events:

Summer Fayre

Harbury School PTA would like to invite you to our annual Summer Fayre. This will be held on Saturday 3rd July in the school grounds, from 12 noon to 3pm – you can be home in time for the footie!

Come and buy lunch from our barbeque, perhaps with a drink from CANA, or stop by for afternoon tea at our cafe.

Other attractions include entertainment in the school hall/playground, stalls selling books and cakes, art and craft activities, facepainting, wellie wanging, water games, football shootout and tombolas.

Rain or shine, we look forward to seeing you there!

53rd Annual PTA Beer Walk Saturday 19th June 2010

Start Point: Harbury School, Mill Street entrance, **Start time** 11.30 - 12.00 noon.

Maps and notes for 5 trails will be provided at the start. The trails follow parts of the “Children’s Guide to Harbury”, pointing out significant buildings along the way. Each trail starts at the school or near the village centre and forms a loop taking in local footpaths. There is also a longer walk across the fields to the White Hart at Ufton.

Each loop takes in a different pub, where there will be a set of questions about the trail for you to try to answer. There is also a quiz in the garden of The Gamecock. Completed sheets will be judged, and a prize awarded for the most correct answers.

There is a £4 per head entry fee (£2.00 for children). Participants are then at liberty to choose in which order they do the trails.

If you require food, most pubs sell bar snacks. There will be a barbecue run by the PTA at the Old New Inn from 5.30pm onwards.

Please book in advance, by contacting the school (612656) or Nigel Chapman (813765 evenings).

Nigel Chapman



1st Harbury Scouts

Nick Green

With evenings becoming progressively lighter our meetings have again been extended, allowing us to undertake more lengthy activities or travel further afield.

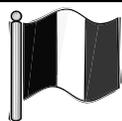
So far this term the Scouts have spent our meetings tackling the following:

- Lighting fires – surely one of the most critical skills for scouts! - and of course the obligatory roasting of marshmallows on sticks
- An evening of games organised by the patrol leaders
- Orienteering on Burton Dassett followed by a wide game of a Harbury Scouts favourite, the exciting ‘Valley of Death’ in reality less of a Health & Safety issue than the name might suggest!
- On May Bank Holiday we went to the Ashorne Point-to-Point and watched the racing in exchange for a post-event litter pick
- We have visited the Biffa Recycling plant at Ufton and seen the process for composting our green bin contents

- Putting up Scout patrol tents
- Identification of trees

Our annual summer camp is planned for Whitweek so we are anticipating a week of fine weather in the Lake District. For our last half term of activities Mr Tawney has pulled out all the stops on planning exciting activities, so we are looking forward to developing new and unusual skills.

Some of our readers will have noticed that there was no report in the last



Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys

issue of the Harbury News; this was because it had been a quiet month with little to report and, apart from that, I was stuck on the other side of the world delayed for almost two weeks by a cloud of volcanic ash . So I couldn't submit my report in time!

However whilst I was away I missed a very good, fun event. On Friday 30th April Margaret McDonald arranged a very successful Skittles Evening, with supper, at the Navigation Inn, Wootton Wawen. Five randomly drawn teams competed over three rounds. All teams were given fruit titles and the winning team was 'The Fraises'. This team consisted of Marian Millington, Shirley Brunton, Ruth Guy, Sheila Scott and Tom Smith. The top scorer was Judy Finch who won the penalty shootout against Margaret McDonald. (One skittle and one ball).

We are currently preparing for our bi-annual visit to Samois-sur-Seine. Our French partners have once again arranged a very busy and interesting programme for the weekend.

In June we will be attempting to hold onto the *Village Carnival Pub Games Shield* which we won last year and on Carnival Day we will once again be manning our usual French Fare stall.



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

At May's meeting, the Village Hall committee reluctantly agreed to cancel the Carnival Dance, which is organised to celebrate the start of Carnival Week, as insufficient tickets had been sold. It is not known whether the lack of interest is due to the timing of half term this week, although it is understood that other events have had to be cancelled around the same time.

Towards the end of May, the main committee joined with the Fund Raising committee led by John Hancock, to launch the start of the campaign which will build up funds for the proposed improvements to the Hall. The launch was held at the Manor House by kind permission of Phillip and Angela Bushill Matthews and village representatives from local businesses (past and present) were invited to start the 'fund-raising ball rolling'. A report, based on the speech given by John will be found elsewhere in the magazine, during which he thanked many people for their efforts to date, which has raised a considerable sum through the work of the committees, events hosted by village organisations and grants from local bodies, including Southam Vision 2020. The fund-raising launch took place on one of the hottest days of the year so far and guests were lucky to shelter under trees in the back garden to enjoy the music provided with considerable flair by Michael Hare.

The main committee constantly keeps an 'eye out' for any grants that may be forthcoming and were pleased to hear that a grant (smaller than in the previous year, which supported the development of the new toilets), has again been given by Southam Vision to support the improvements

required to form a more useful space from the room previously recognised as the Youth Room. This work is due to start over two weekends in July (17th/18th & 24th/25th) and will be facilitated by members of the CAMRA group, which hosts its very successful Beer Festival in the Hall each September. A further application has been made from an energy-related organisation, to see if any funds would be forthcoming to replace the fire doors to the rear of the Hall, which are well past their effective usefulness.

It is hoped that all the small scale improvements managed by the Village Hall committee so far on behalf of the village, will encourage everyone to look at the building through fresh eyes, with the realisation that the 1960's building needs to be improved to cope with the deterioration of the fabric in many places and to facilitate a wider range of uses for the future. The plans will be on display on Carnival Day and again all comments about the proposals are appreciated. At present, the committees are using their own efforts to find funding to support the project, and have appreciated the help given by several regular hirers, but in the near future, all villagers will be invited to assist with supporting the proposed developments.

The new Treasurer presented very comprehensive accounts at the most recent meeting and explained that there were now two separate accounts for the Village Hall - one for the continued maintenance costs; the other for all monies raised in connection with the main fund raising schemes. As always, the committees will keep everyone informed of progress through the H&L News and all comments will be taken on board, so that we develop a community hall which will suit the needs of all sections of the community. In the coming weeks, all households will receive an information leaflet about the Village Hall development from members of the committees who will follow up the 'leaflet drop' with a call to request support for the improvement programme.

Village Hall Fundraising Committee

John Hancock

The Village Hall fundraising committee decided in 2009 to ask the village as a whole to contribute to the refurbishment of our Village Hall. After further deliberation the Buy-a-Brick scheme seemed the best way forward. Shortly after this, Philip and Angela Bushill-Matthews offered their home as a venue for a fundraising event. We decided to launch Buy-a-Brick at the Manor House on Sunday 23rd May with a lunch. Invitations were sent largely to business people and their partners.

Thanks in no small part to the weather, the day was a great success. With a lot of hard work by the combined fundraising and general Village Hall committees assisted, in many cases, by their partners I think the guests

enjoyed themselves. I would like to publicly thank Philip and Angela for their hospitality.

Our Village Hall is at the centre of Harbury village life. It was opened in 1962 after a fund raising effort by a dedicated group of villagers. The present committees are following in their footsteps though the sums of money involved are just a little higher. £12,000 in 1962 translates to about £800,000 today. As many of you know, the first phase of improvements-new toilets including facilities for the disabled has been completed. The work was finished in time for the Beer Festival in March which raised £2,500.

In the near future work will be carried out to create a new bar area and this should be in place for the annual Beer Festival weekend in September. As you can see from the plans on display future phases include new changing rooms, a stage and offices.

The Village Hall Committee, ably led by Geoff Thorpe, keeps the hall functioning so that it provides a venue for numerous groups including the Parish Council, Theatre Group, Badminton, Football and Choir, to name but a few. Many of us have enjoyed dances there over the years notably at Carnival time and at New Year. However, despite the best efforts of many people, the hall has begun to look its age and in this era of climate change and high fuel bills, badly needs an efficient heating system.

I've come rather late on the scene in terms of helping to maintain the hall. I've been a regular user of its facilities and really taken it for granted. When Geoff asked me to chair a committee to drive fund raising, I thought I should put something back into the community where Sharon and I have raised our family and enjoy living.

The plans for the redevelopment have been approved by the District Council with the full support of the Parish Council who also helped with costs. As I have said, the intention is to do the work in phases. The 1st phase, the toilets, was built by a local contractor, John Warner and we are pleased with the result. Our intention will be to use local builders and suppliers wherever possible. In today's economic climate, helping local business is at the forefront of our mind.

The 1st phase was aided by a grant of £10,000 from Southam Vision which is a District Council fund to support local projects. This sum had to be matched by our own fund raising. Janet Thornley is secretary to both the Village Hall and the Fund Raising Committee. She has put in a great deal of time and effort in both roles and given me lots of help. She had an excellent idea to encourage groups using the hall to put on an event a month to raise money and this has proved a great success. Money has come from Theatre Group, Table Tennis Club, Bellringers Hereburgh

Morris and several others. More events are planned. We need to keep the momentum going.

David Thistlethwaite has worked tirelessly as the Fund raising Committee's treasurer and I thank him and the rest of my committee. On a sad note, John Ridgley, a long serving committee member and, with his wife Linda, an unsurpassed Harbury team player, died in February after a short illness. It is incumbent on us to push on and complete the renewal of the Hall in John's memory.

Shortly, Buy-a-Brick forms will be delivered to the whole village and we hope to raise a substantial sum so that we can show grant-awarding authorities and corporate bodies that the whole community supports our village hall.



Well I really did save the best till last! The meeting in May which was very well attended was just brilliant. The lovely Tim Miles did not disappoint us; he gave a superb talk about vegetables in the Kitchen Garden. As a past curator of the nation's favourite garden, Lost Gardens of Heligan and his well served apprenticeship as Head Gardener at Peper Harow, he was able to show us excellent slides and such knowledge about the vegetables, that it all went far too quickly.

At Peper Harow where he worked for 6 years, he had a 2 acre walled garden which adopted the bed system created by driving up and down to create wheel marks which separated the beds. There were 90 beds in total filled with such a variety. He started off by showing us onions of which 20 varieties were planted. He recommends Marshalls Fenglow and emphasized the importance of good seeds and F1 in particular. They certainly looked very healthy as did the leeks.

He then showed us a wide range of brassicas, which were placed 18 inches apart in soil which was sandy but had added manure, lots of it! Imagine digging all that in a very time consuming but important job. There were so many kinds of cabbage, red, purple sprouting and various types and colours of kale. He recommended growing some of these in modules then planting out after hardening them off and asked us to try different varieties each year. Some lovely slides of chard in all colours to brighten the winter patch. Kohl Rabbi looked good too and it is quite tasty.

We then moved on to tomatoes - such a lot to choose from - he recommended sungold which are better grown as cordons. There were 30 kinds of tomatoes grown in the park. He then showed us peppers in

all shapes and sizes and mentioned the chilli festival which is held each year at West Dean. Then to aubergines, the flowers of which are so colourful, and very nice to eat. So many types of pumpkins and squashes which obviously take up a great deal of room but, if you have the space, well worth the effort. As are courgettes all shapes and sizes and yellow and green. Sweet corn too, grown in blocks, the recent super sweet varieties are really tasty and again worth growing.

He showed us a huge field in Colchester full of 26 million lettuces, these are all harvested mechanically and are such a picture from red to green. Little gem is a very easy lettuce to grow in our own gardens as are the cut and come again ones. Chicory is a strange plant grown a bit like rhubarb as it is blanched for flavour and well liked by the Victorians. Artichokes too take up a bit of space and are an acquired taste. I remember when John and I were in California there were fields and fields with just artichokes in - what a sight that was. Sea kale is also a delicacy again an acquired taste grown a bit like our own local asparagus. We were shown runner beans in abundance, again the secret is in lots of organic substance added to the soil. He said that garlic planted in October is ready by June or July; I grow it and have never been let down.

He then showed us some giant vegetables exhibited at Chelsea by the great Medwyn Williams; I saw his last gold medal stand at Chelsea in 2005 and I can certainly vouch for the absolute perfection of the stand. Incidentally he is back at Chelsea this year and has won another gold, well deserved. Talking of giant vegetables we were shown a slide of a young boy with a huge root. Hate to brag but I correctly identified this a type of raddish called Mouli, it was a whopper.

We finished off with slides of the melon pits at Heligan. Such hard work went into the restoration of these but pineapples have been grown with great success. The vegetable garden there is also a sight to see, such straight rows and so productive. On a sad note the little building where tea etc is made has the names of previous Victorian and Edwardian gardeners who were employed on the estate and two thirds of these were killed in world war one, hence the decline of the gardens. If you have never been there do go it is a fantastic garden and testament to Tim Schmit's very hard work in getting the project up and running.

Tim finished up by saying that there are so many vegetables we can grow in the smallest of places and urged us to try something new. He took questions after the talk and everyone expressed their enjoyment of the final talk of this season's talks.

I have finalised the talks for 2010/11 and I'm sure there will be something for everyone, return visits from both Howard Drury and Duncan Coombes and some exciting new speakers.

The next great event in our calendar is the Walkabout on 19th and 20th June. We have over 20 gardens open and we look forward to seeing everyone and welcoming visitors from far and wide. The programmes will be sold from the Village Club Car Park and cost £5. Programmes can also be bought in advance from Mugleston's. I am a little short on cakes so if you have time could you bake one and bring to Tom Hauley Room on the Saturday as we will be joining forces with the Church when light lunches and teas will be served. I still have 2 slots to fill on the Sunday afternoon, the clipboard did go round after the meeting but maybe you didn't see it! Anyway I would be most grateful for help, thank you. Let's hope for a successful weekend.

Then there is the first trip on 9th June to Hestercombe and east Lambrook Gardens. Just one space left on coach which will be leaving the Village Hall at 8.30 prompt. If you would like to fill the space please contact me. We are all looking forward to it.

Janice has organised an afternoon guided tour of Hill Close Gardens on 17th June and has asked that everyone who has signed up be at the Gardens before 2.30pm when the tour starts. Don't forget that I hold 2 tickets to the Organic Gardens at Ryton, any Society member may use these. If you are interested just contact me, a really good day out and not far to go. There are lots of open gardens in Oxfordshire in June. On 13th Steeple Aston, Wheatley and Iffley gardens are all open, for more information just give me a call, all these are open under the Yellow Book. Do go and visit Pershore College; it has a very good plant centre. Also Waterperry Gardens are superb at this time of the year the roses are at their best in June.

I'm sure there are many more events and gardens open at this time of the year. Whatever you decide to do just enjoy our wonderful countryside and gardens we certainly are lucky to live in leafy Warwickshire. I look forward to seeing you on the trips and at the Walkabout.



Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

Your local Hardy Plant Specialists

Also: Fresh cut flowers and bedding plants in season.

Everything in the garden is so delightfully green and fresh in spite of the cold winds and early morning frosts. The spring flowers have been most welcome to see. Particularly pleasing is that cowslips and fritillaries have started to seed themselves around the garden and there are now quite a lot. So when weeding, do be careful not to remove tiny seedlings of desirable plants.

I thought *Verbena bonariensis* had all disappeared but not so, time, and a bit of patience, has shown that plenty of growth is beginning to happen.

We have acquired or bought quite a lot of new plants over the last few weeks, so if you are looking for something a bit different, do come and have a look.

It's such a busy time of the year that I can't list everything! But here are a few reminders:

- All tender plants can go outside now; this includes bedding plants, tomatoes, courgettes, runner beans, dahlias, cannas etc.
- Keep a look out for Lily beetle – they are bright red and can completely destroy Lilies; eradicate by squashing them!
- Aphids can be a problem but if left the predators – ladybirds and their larvae and hoverflies - will eat them.
- Plant out cabbage, cauliflower and Brussel sprout plants.
- Pinch out the tops of broad beans to help prevent black fly.
- Dig up the first potatoes at the end of the month.

So, if you are exhausted after all that gardening, you could reward yourself with a great cup of tea or coffee and a homemade cake (or two?) at our newly opened tearoom at Bridge Nursery.- opens 29th May. We are very fortunate to have Naomi Leugs (nee Gilbert) from 'Just So Cakes' to be running it for us. We will put on weight – watch this space.....

PS. We do like to receive any feedback; you can email us via our website.

Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton

Tel: 01926 812737 www.bridge-nursery.co.uk



Nature Notes

John Hancock

Have you heard the Cuckoo this year? To date, many villagers have not as it's getting less common. That's not just hearsay; the ornithologists say it is so. Once, the evocative sound could always be heard sometime in May from any garden adjacent to nearby fields. Now, that's not certain and an early morning walk through the Thwaites estate is more likely to be successful. Sue Tawney has heard several on long early morning runs and Rex Humphreys stopped his car to tell me that he had heard the Cuckoo in early May. I had to travel to Scotland before striking lucky

while cycling up the old road through Glencoe, Argyllshire near the Clachaig Inn on the 24th April. I was with Bob Wilkins who used to live in Binswood End before moving and now lives in East Sussex. We were cycling across Scotland at its widest from Ardnamurchan Point (the most western point on Britain's mainland) to Peterhead. It was Bob's idea and while he completed the journey, I said goodbye in Pitlochry to save my repaired knee from damage. There was plenty of snow still on the tops while the glens and loch sides were emerging from winter. Hazel and Larch were breaking into leaf and Coltsfoot, Violet, Primrose and Wood Sorrel in flower. We thought we saw an otter on the ferry slipway at Tobermory but its largely black colour, we were told later, meant it was a mink. However, on the shore of Loch Sunart near Salen, we viewed the sheltered rocky bay from a hide for half an hour. We were rewarded when an otter surfaced and swam across the bay some 50 metres from us before landing on the kelp covered rocks and disappearing from view - perfect camouflage.

Later that day, we cycled through Strontian and stopped for tea and cake at a cafe next to the visitor centre. The latter doubled as a museum and had specimens of the local rocks. One of these was Strontianite, found in the area by miners in the late 18th century and named after the village. It was not until 1808 that Sir Humphrey Davy isolated the new element Strontium from the rock. The element lies between Calcium and Barium in the periodic table. As yet it has few uses, being used in fireworks, warning flares and as a minor component of television screens.

Nearer to home, on 29th April, while walking round Draycote Meadows Nature Reserve [OS sheet 140.SP 448706], male and female Orange Tip butterflies were on the wing and I observed some of their eggs on the numerous Lady's Smock plants which were in bloom. Cowslips covered the field nearest the road. Green Veined Orchids [*Anacamptis morio*] were to be found but there were greater numbers in the second field which is only open to the public at certain times (The view from the five-barred gate is quite good.). Changes in agriculture have led to a steep decline in numbers of this orchid. It needs undisturbed grassland to thrive, an environment now rare in the county.

On May 1st, I assisted at a work party organised by Chris Redstall at the 'Yellow Land' off Ladbroke Road in Bishops Itchington. Later, we joined county bird expert Jon Bowley and walked over the hill, once the spoil heap at the cement works. It's surprising how often this type of so called derelict land is just right for wildlife. He pointed out a Wheatear 50 metres away and the group trained their field glasses on it. He said that its size marked it out as an Icelandic bird heading north to breed. Wheatear is a name conjured by Victorian ornithologists who could not

bring themselves to call it by its ancient name White Arse which is much more descriptive.

Later, on May 17th with David Brown's Open Studies Lepidoptera Group, I again walked over Bishops Hill. The present heat wave hadn't arrived but we still found a variety of butterflies and moths, including Mother Shipton, Treble Bar and Green Carpet [three day flying moths]. Pride of place was given to our smallest butterfly, the Small Blue. (*Cupido minimus*). You may find this if you ascend the left side of the hill as accessed from Ladbroke Road, but you will have to look carefully. The community cafe in Bishops Itchington is certainly worth visiting [9.00-noon (Mon-Fri)]. It's called the Blue Butterfly.

Now Oak & Beech trees are at their leafy best. Soon that delicate lighter shade of green will darken as summer advances. The swifts are screaming through the village no doubt enjoying the burgeoning insect numbers. My highlights of the month were my first sighting of a Pearl Bordered Fritillary butterfly in Wyre Forest near Kidderminster and today on Prestbury Hill near Cheltenham seeing several Duke of Burgundy Fritillaries. To cap it all the call of a Cuckoo sounded from the edge of nearby woodland. Enjoy your summer.



General Section

Spirit of Harbury Award 2010



For the second time in two years, the Spirit of Harbury Shield, in memory of John Hunt, has been awarded to a couple. Last year the recipients were Peggie and Bill Middleton; this year Alison and Andy Hunt presented the shield to Linda Ridgley for the tremendous commitment both she and her

husband John have shown towards many aspects of village life. Sadly, John died in February this year not knowing how much his efforts, alongside those of Linda, had meant to the village for so many years.

The March edition of the Harbury and Ladbroke News carried a tribute to

“Big John”, but as those who know John and Linda well, they are were essentially two people out of the same mould with each facilitating the other’s desire to involve themselves fully in contributing to community life in many ways.

Linda met John at Hull University when she was 17 years old, whilst he was 20; having worked for a year in London training to be a Planner. He was a “very stylish student, as he had clothes made for him in Carnaby Street”, and in Linda’s words, “more than that, he was kind and willing to take on responsibility. He loved and cared for me and shepherded me through my student years”.

John and Linda married in the summer of 1966 in Birmingham with the flags of all nations flying in the City, as it hosted the World Cup semis. John got a job with Huntingdon County Council and they lived in a semi-detached green wooden hut on his salary of £750 a year with their first daughter, Sarah. Then they moved to a bungalow on the edge of the Lincolnshire Fens and Vicky was born there in Sleaford in 1969. By 1971 John had accepted a job with Warwickshire CC to advance his career as a planner, working on derelict land reclamation, and later landscape enhancement, Country Parks, Rights of Way, Gypsies and Rural Strategy!

They bought a house in Wagstaffe Close and settled into the “vibrant community” in which they rapidly made a significant contribution. They both became involved in Harbury School’s PTA raising money for the school swimming pool and John joined the other young fathers helping to dig out the foundations for the pool, whilst Linda kept the men primed with bacon sandwiches. Linda joined the PTA Road Safety Team who were competing for a £100 prize in knockout contests throughout the County. They reached the final but were beaten by a team of milkmen!

When the Manor House was threatened with demolition, John persuaded Linda to join the group fighting to save it. She was tasked with taking the petition round to all the local farmers. These efforts led to the foundation of the Harbury Society with Linda as its first and only Secretary. So that she could better understand planning law, John suggested she should attend Parish Council meetings where she would learn of development proposals. This eventually resulted in her providing Parish Council reports for the Harbury News, and she has continued to write for the magazine ever since. In earlier days she claims these meetings were the “Best Free Show” in Harbury and admits that in her younger days “her acerbic observations did not endear her to some of the Councillors”.

Linda also sends reports to the H&L News about the Harbury Society and occasional pieces such as the spoof “Avril Premiere” article for All Fools Day, on the non-existent villager, Fred Sprawson, described as “a familiar

sight round the village on his old bike; a keen supporter of the Club and British Legion; his wife a pillar of the WI". Some people did not realise it was all fiction and Nigel Chapman even filed the article as part of the School's village archive.

All this time, John was quietly working to improve the Warwickshire landscape in his job at the County and in his spare time he became a Scout Leader for a while, along with John Hancock, taking lads off to camp where they did adventurous things that probably wouldn't be allowed today.

Later as Quartermaster, John dedicated his time to keeping the Scout Hut tidy, an endless task!

It later years John worked with the Youth Club to provide outlets for the energies of village youngsters, but most of the time he seemed to be having fun along with them.



He had an abiding interest in people as individuals and always maintained that apart from a wish to keep all the village's licensed premises in business, he really went to the pubs to catch up with the latest news from his many friends and acquaintances.

In his day job he was noted for helping his staff to progress their careers and he did the same for Linda. He encouraged her to take part-time work in Rackhams (now House of Fraser) and then Trinity School as Exam Secretary and part-time Bursar when their daughters were older.

He persuaded her that with her understanding of the needs of rural communities she was ideally suited to the post of Field Officer for the Rural Community Council. She got the job in 1988 and has been there ever since, editing their Country Matters magazine and giving support and advice to rural communities, including ours.

This encouragement was two-way. A few years ago a throw-away comment by Linda that she would love to see the conifer outside the Library lit up for Christmas resulted in John securing grant aid for the lights and then having to fix them onto the tree in freezing weather! A task that became an annual activity!

Linda and John are probably most widely known for their entries in the Fancy Dress for the Carnival. Their first entry was as Victorian Bathing Bells complete with Bathing Hut (made by John) for the PTA Swimming Pool float. They helped with the Old New Inn's Kenny Everett Video

Show float and have been seen as an instantly recognisable pair every year since: - Holmes & Watson; Noddy & Big Ears; Two Fat Ladies; Wallace & Grommitt, Hagrid & Harry; - or as a well-know person with “back-up”: the Pope with his Pope-mobile and P.C. Percival and his police car with the correct number on the roof – all created with care and precision by John, whilst Linda made the “true to life” costumes. Together they enjoyed the research which went into the development of their entries, almost as much as dressing up on the day!

Due to their background in Geography and shared interest in the environment, they enjoyed exploring local villages, looking at buildings, and the landscape. John would often lead Linda down muddy footpaths to look at broken stiles or collapsed bridges that he knew were a problem because of his work at the County Council. After John retired, he took on many voluntary activities including the Parish Paths Partnership, where a dedicated team of men (and women) cleared blockages, added signs and installed the new self-closing gates.

In connection with his work for the Veolia Landfill Trust John was invited to lunch at the House of Lords for several years and this year Linda was invited in his stead to meet other voluntary groups funded by the Trust and the Committee, including the President Lord Lewis. Some years ago Linda received an invitation via Lord Daventry as a result of her work at the Rural Community Council to attend one of the Queen’s Garden Parties with John, who insisted on hiring the correct suit for the occasion.

This year, Linda will be entering the Fancy Dress section at the Carnival with support from her daughters and their families as their way of paying tribute to a much loved husband and father.

The memorial shield presented to honour the contribution to village life of a very special couple is in pride of place on “Big John’s” desk and will be a reminder for all who visit the cottage in Farm Street of the incredibly long service given by Linda and John to village life over 40 years since they first came to live in Harbury. It is a richly deserved tribute to their marvellous contribution, which has impacted on many people within the village and one which has received just recognition through the John Hunt Memorial Shield.

Chris Finch

Harbury Carnival - Saturday June 12th, 2010 **(Parade Judging Starts 12.15pm from Sutcliffe Drive)**

Carnival has arrived! It’s June already and that means it’s Carnival time.

Please buy your raffle tickets from volunteers who will be knocking on

doors – remember the proceeds go to local charities and organisations.

NOTE: We start half an hour earlier this year: Vehicles in position in Sutcliffe Drive by 12 noon and judging begins at 12.15.

We look forward to seeing you with your local organisation, pub, street or friends and see what ideas you have come up with for either a float or a walking group for the procession. Here is a reminder of the list of categories for the Parade: (*NOTE: Parade leaves at 1pm as we are starting 30 minutes earlier this year.*) Trade Float, Independent Float, Childrens' Float, Decorated Bike/Pram/Car, Horse Drawn/Mounted/Lead, Walking Tableau Children 2-8 persons, Walking Tableau Children more than 8 persons, Walking Tableau Family, Walking Tableau Adults, Walking Adult, Walking Child.

The programme:

12 noon	Floats and Groups in place (Sutcliffe Drive)
12.15pm	Judging
1.00pm	Carnival Procession to Harbury Fields led by Warwick Girls Marching Band
1.45pm	Fancy Dress Competition
2.00pm	Punch & Judy
2.30pm	Marching Band
3.00pm	Belly Dancers
3.30pm	Dog Show
4.00pm	Carnival Draw

There will also be refreshments, ice cream, an Inflatable, roundabouts, pony rides and lots of fun for all at the many stalls with their games and wares.

There may just be time to book a stall/pitch on the field, please call Mike McBride on 612421 and, if you have any questions about the Carnival, please feel free to call John Broomfield, Carnival Committee Chairman, on 614258. He will be happy to provide whatever help he can.

Many thanks to our record number of SPONSORS: Avonvale Veterinary Centre, Braeside Bed & Breakfast, Mr Brooks The Chimney Sweep, Bull Ring Garage, Cana Imports, Communication & Me, The Door Store, Fitzgerald Marshall-Hardy Advertising & Design, Fosse Garage, The Fragrant Room, Green Chameleon, TM & JM Grey, Harbury Pharmacy, Jasmine Spice at the Dog Inn, Miles of Tiles, Muggleston's, Nifty Needle, The Old New Inn, The Post Office and Supermarket, Rollason's Solicitors,

The Salon and Zoe Kate Photography.

So remember Harbury Carnival (*NOTE: Starting half an hour earlier*) this Saturday 12th June is **Fantastically Unbelieveably Nice (FUN!)**.

Peter Walshe
On behalf of the Carnival Committee

World's Unique Harbury Wheelbarrow Race, Sunday June 6th 2010 (12.30pm assemble) and Games Week

We think we are the only Carnival in the World with a **Wheelbarrow Race**. So, uniquely, the Wheelbarrow Race on Sunday 6th June will commence from The Dog. Please assemble at 12.30pm for a 1.00pm start. Again, can I please ask you to make sure you complete an entry form and pay the entrance fee **BEFORE** the day. Forms are available from the pubs and Dan Killian on 612265.

This kicks off the **Pub Games Week** at 7.30 pm each night. **Join in with your friends (teams of 4 for the Quiz) and have a great fun week battling it out for *Team of the Week*:**

Monday 7 th June	Aunt Sally	THE SHAKESPEARE
Tuesday 8 th June	Horseshoes	THE GAMECOCK
Wednesday 9 th June	Skittles	THE OLD NEW INN
Thursday 10 th June	Quiz	THE VILLAGE CLUB

Line the streets and fill the pubs for the Wheelbarrow Race and Games, it's Carnival time!

Peter Walshe
On behalf of the Carnival Committee

Harbury Garden Walkabout 2010

The garden walkabout will be held on Saturday 19th June 12pm-6pm and Sunday 20th June, 2pm-6pm. 20+ gardens will be open to the public; admission is by programme costing £5, available from Harbury Club car park (Hall Lane) on the day and from Muggleston's Countryfayre beforehand. Car parking is also available behind the Village Hall. Light lunches on Saturday and teas on Sunday will be served in the Tom Hauley Room behind the Church and there will also be an art exhibition in the Church on both days (see overleaf).

Harbury Church Summer Art Exhibition

Not to be missed dates for diaries of art lovers are Saturday and Sunday 19th and 20th June when this year's Summer Exhibition of paintings, pastels, photographs and drawings will be staged in Harbury's Parish Church.

The tremendous success of previous years has led to artists' groups and individuals over a large area of Warwickshire responding enthusiastically to invitations to exhibit at this summer exhibition.

Submission day is Friday 18th June from 2pm to 6pm. Each participating artist may submit up to six original framed pictures for hanging, and a similar number of unframed works for browser viewing. Artists who wish to do so are able to offer their works for sale.

Once again, a popular attraction will be the attendance of a professional artist who will give demonstrations of techniques and answer questions. And, as before, a special feature will be a display of paintings and drawings by children in their own corner of the Church.

The timing of the exhibition once more purposely coincides with Harbury's Open Gardens Weekend, an event which, as well as being popular with residents, attracts hundreds of visitors to the village.

Hours of opening are from 10am – 6pm on Saturday and from 1pm - 5pm on Sunday. Church funds will benefit from the proceeds.

Bill Davies
01926 614104
BillDavies48@googlemail.com

No Invasion!!!



Don't worry if you happen to see an armoured personnel carrier on the roads of Harbury. Local business man, Robin Hall and his company Creation UK Ltd have designed and are developing this 7.5 tonne vehicle to replace the Land Rover Snatch. It is the safest place to be as it can withstand an 8 TNT Kg bomb. Carrying up to 8 soldiers and reaching speeds of up to 75 mph, it is designed to be

agile and move over extreme terrain. Look out for it in the Harbury carnival this year!

Laura Hall

Christian Aid Week 9th -15th May 2010

Harbury raised £1249.86 this year (£1290 last year) so many thanks to everyone in the village who contributed to our house-to-house collection. Special thanks to our team of collectors for their continued support and to colleagues of the Harbury Men's Society who counted (and recounted) to get to this grand total!

Peter Heigl

Ufton Village Church Fete - Saturday 5th June 2-4pm

Ufton's annual Fete will be held at The Old Rectory, Southam Road.

Fun for all your family and friends:

Win fantastic prizes in our Traffic Light Raffle, Bottle Tombola,

Jam Jar Tombola or Guess the Weight of the Cake

Have a go at Skittles, Splat the Rat or the Treasure Hunt

Send a Balloon to "Far Away Places" and win a prize

Find treasures in our Bric-a-Brac and Jumble Sales

Buy homemade pastries, cakes and preserves OR

Sit back, relax and enjoy the atmosphere whilst eating a delicious Cream Tea or cooling Ice-Cream AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.

FANCY DRESS THEME: Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Gillian Ingham

Lost?

Have you lost some money? Were you in the Harbury Pharmacy between approx 12 and 1pm on Friday 7th May? An amount of money was found on the floor of the pharmacy on that day and has been safely stored by the Pharmacist. If you are able to state the amount of your loss, it will be returned to you.

Alan Lea

.....And Found

"George" padded jacket to fit 9-10 years. Black with grey sides and light grey trim on sleeves. Found on or around the tennis courts in mid April. Ring 613284.

Sue Mercer

Harbury Duke of Edinburgh Award Group



Word is spreading and we are getting requests from young people who are keen to be part of the Harbury D of E group in September 2010. We take Year 10s and upwards. We expect sizeable bronze and silver award groups. To help our planning please let us know if you want to start an award by contacting us through our website: www.harburydofe.co.uk

Last month all our bronze award candidates completed a successful practice expedition experiencing great weather, great fun and a few blisters. Valuable lessons have been learnt for the final expedition which will take place in the Shropshire Hills this July.

Many thanks to those of you who came to the quiz night in April; we raised a brilliant £750. As well as the quizmasters Linda and Mark Casement, particular thanks must go to Rob and Libby Darlison whose very generous donation from Cana Wines meant that the evening was a real success. Another reason to visit their new shop in High St.



Progress with other fundraising has been very encouraging. As well as a second grant from the Parish Council, the Co-op, the Heart of England Community Foundation and Warwickshire Children and Youth Services have all granted us funds to help with start up costs, training and equipment. Some of this equipment is being used in the photo above. Mark Casement and Alan Sampson have passed their Expedition Leader Award with flying colours. We now feel in a secure position to take on more candidates next year and further the work of this excellent award scheme.

Finally, does anyone out there have an overhead projector that they no longer use and could donate to the group? Contact us via the website above if you do.

Kathy Sampson, Caroline Hill, Alan Sampson, Sam Butler, Mark Casement, Nick Tawney

The First Ever (?) Update from Harbury Village Club

Following the Annual General Meeting on 23rd March 2010, a new Committee has been formed in order to take the Club forward.

The Committee is very aware that the profile of the Club needs to improve; not enough people within Harbury and surrounding areas know about the Club, its facilities and what is on offer (two examples - a pint of Hook Norton at a very reasonable **£2.20!** Snooker is a mere **£1.20** per hour!).

The aim is to retain the spirit of Harbury Village Club whilst bringing changes and improvements that make this important Village **hub** more welcoming and inclusive.

How can you help?

1. We are looking for a new Chair for the Committee; someone who has drive and resilience, coupled with ideas.
2. We are looking also for additional Committee members with a 'can – do' attitude.
3. We welcome new Club members.

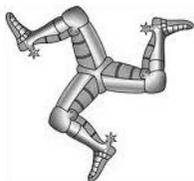
For further information please contact:

Simon Branscomb (Vice Chair) on 01926 613007 OR The Club Secretary on 01926 614766.

THIS IS YOUR CLUB – PLEASE GET INVOLVED!

STOP PRESS! Please join us on Sunday 6th June at 12.30pm for the Harbury Carnival Wheelbarrow Race – The Village Club is one of the 'pit stops' this year.

Simon Branscombe



Why am I walking 96 miles..?

Having worked in the Isle of Man for 10 years, I've always harboured an ambition to walk the coastal path. The Manx scenery is spectacular, rich and varied – from quaint villages and stunning glens to rugged unspoilt coastline.

Whilst I am looking forward to this trek starting on 8 July, I would like to take this opportunity to raise money for a charity that I am passionate about. The number of HIV/AIDS orphans is a growing problem in Africa and one that I find particularly sad. With this in mind, I would like to support MusaweNkosi, a charity working in the rural areas of Zululand around Empangeni, set up in 2001. The vision for this charity to care for orphans in the community, to help their guardians and to provide a loving environment for those unable to stay in the community.

A young Harbury girl is currently working in South Africa with some of these orphans. Great strides have been made in caring for the orphans in many different ways. Here are a few:

Housing: They have built 6 houses. All the children cared for in the houses are either from homes where they were abused or there are no known relatives to look after them. Most have been neglected and had to deal with death at a young age.

Schooling: The charity provides books, stationery and school uniform and pays school fees, where applicable.

Feeding Project: Each Wednesday, food is given to 40-50 orphaned and needy children and every Saturday, in Eniwe a meal is cooked for the orphans. This way, the children get at least 2 proper meals a week.

Very recently, a serious problem has arisen because Welfare are being so slow in processing their registration as a children's home. In the meantime, some people, who say they are extended family, have come to claim the children so that they can obtain foster grants. In reality, it means that the children are being forcefully removed from the charity and either left to fend for themselves or, in some instances, returned to 'family' members and abusive situations.

Their needs are genuine and urgent. Let's help them to continue their projects.

For more information and to make a donation (which benefits from Gift Aid) please visit: www.charitygiving.co.uk/rachelbright.

Many Thanks.

Rachel Bright

Concerts in Warwickshire Churches

If you were not in church on the evening of Saturday 15th May, and most of you were not, you missed a treat. Leamington Music Society promotes a series of concerts in Warwickshire's churches over the summer and this was Harbury's turn. The performers were 'The Musical and Amicable Society', a group of 6 musicians playing period instruments with soloists Gail Hennessy (oboe) and Emily van Evra (soprano). Their programme was all from the high Baroque period. That all sounds rather highbrow and intimidating which goes some way to account for the small audience, but those who braved it were rewarded with an evening of delight.

The concert opened with Albinoni's Oboe Concerto in D minor and the audience was transfixed by the gorgeous sound of Gail Hennessey's baroque oboe.

Classic FM listeners would recognise the adagio as it is one of their favourite 'relaxing classics'. This was followed by a Telemann concerto and then we heard Emily van Evra's expressive pure soprano voice in Bach's Cantata 199, written when he was court organist to the Duke of Weimar. It moves from sadness and guilt to exuberant joy and also allowed us to hear some more wonderful oboe playing.

The second half opened with two arias by Arne reminding us that he did not just write the music for 'Rule Britannia'. A charming orchestral piece by Janitsch followed. To end the evening, Emily van Evra sang two arias by Handel ending with another Classic FM favourite 'Lascia ch'io pianga' from the opera Rinaldo. This piece is of such heart-stopping beauty it was difficult to change the mood to give the well deserved applause.

Thank you to everyone involved in bringing this wonderful evening to Harbury. To find out more about forthcoming concerts organised by Leamington Music, call 497000 or go on line at www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk

Sharon Hancock

London Marathon 2010 – A Big Thank You

It seems so long ago now. A Sunday in late April joining thousands of other runners making our way into Greenwich Park. A brief but welcome shower of rain a few minutes before the mass start, at odds with the forecast of warm and humid conditions. Then we're all shuffling forwards, a stroll becomes a trot, becomes a jog and then the line passes under your running feet and there's twenty six miles and a couple of hundred yards before you cross the Finish line in The Mall.

All along the route there are thousands of cheering spectators, rock and jazz bands, bell-ringers, dancers, jugglers, priests sprinkling the runners with holy water and the scents of barbecues, beer and burgers. Children proffer sweets and orange segments, complete strangers yell out your name in encouragement and the noise is often so deafening that your headphones become redundant.

Finally, there's the Embankment, Westminster and then Buckingham Palace. You're exhausted but elated, emotional and thankful it's over. You cross the line, receive your Finisher's medal and collect your belongings from the superbly organised luggage lorries.

And then you think of all the people who made it all possible. The people who came to see you, the ones who wished you well by email, text or phone, and everyone who sponsored you. I did it for them and for PhabKids, who deserve every penny I could raise.

So, a massive thank you to everyone who sponsored me, wished me well beforehand and congratulated me afterwards. I have raised around £1,600, which more than exceeded my original target. Without your support and good wishes, I could not have been so inspired and determined to finish. I managed a personal best of four hours and thirty minutes; slower than I had hoped but cramp at fifteen miles and again at nineteen put paid to my pacing strategy. It was still six minutes better than two years ago, so I am happy.

Guess what? I immediately entered the ballot for the 2011 London Marathon.....

Ian Hartland
612734

Harbury Macmillan Cancer Support Footpath Collection

Very many thanks to everyone who generously contributed to the Macmillan footpath collection this year. I am delighted to report an even better result than last year. I have sent a cheque for £676.86 to our Macmillan Cancer Support Regional Office. In spite of the recession the result was an increase of 5½% over last year. Thank you all for your donations.

A special thanks also to those who willingly gave their time monitoring the line of coins along the footpath in the centre of the village on Friday and Saturday.

Ann Mayer

Sounds Of The Sixties Live Event

‘Come rain or come shine’, the 10th annual Sounds of the Sixties event will take place on the Rugby Ground on Middle Road on Saturday July 10th. Last year, it really did rain, almost monsoon-like conditions, but it did not dampen the spirits of all the enthusiasts who regularly turn up to support the charity event in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust. Maybe this year with the mixed weather we have experienced recently, we might hope for a warm balmy night; on the other hand it could equally well be a chilly evening. Whatever the weather, supporters of the event enjoy themselves no matter what the conditions turn out to be.

The organisers, Joe and daughter Michelle Griffin have secured the services of well known local bands for the evening, including Dynamite, JayBeeKay, Out the Blue and Phil King and the Royals, who have all performed on the SOTS stage in recent years. Each of the groups is guaranteed to get the audience reelin’ and rockin’ from early evening until late and as previously, it is doubtful that anyone will leave until the last ‘SOUND of the SIXTIES’ is played.

There will be the usual grand raffle with an impressive collection of prizes and an auction area for those items, which some of the visitors love to bid for, so that by the end of the night, it is hoped that another £5,000 will have been raised. So far, the total stands at £59,000 from the Harbury Supporters group and this has resulted in major refurbishment of the specialist units for teenage cancer patients at Birmingham's Q.E. Hospital. The event has been fortunate in previous years to secure sponsorship from several local businesses, which are featured on a rolling electronic display throughout the evening and several individuals, as well as business people, provide superb items for the raffle and the auction. If anyone feels that they would like to support this very worthwhile charity by donating a prize or providing sponsorship, Joe and Michelle would be delighted to hear from you – see the numbers below.

There will be hot food available on the Rugby ground and bars will be set up in one of the side tents alongside the main marquee, as well as indoors at HRFC's bar. It's always a good time to remember the 'good old days' of yesterday and tickets priced at £12.50 can be requested by calling 01926 613151, 07831 405651 or 07787 532945. All tickets must be paid for before the day and once the reserved list has been completed, a waiting list is created in case some people cannot make it at the last minute. It's a great night and a fantastic atmosphere is enjoyed under canvas!

Chris Finch

Village with a Vision

This month we have two BIG THANK YOU'S to say:

First; the Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room at the end of April was a huge success! Lots of people came to support us, there were plenty of raffle prizes, cakes and so on, and everyone had a good time. Over £230 was raised. Well done everyone!

Second; the response to our Housing Needs Questionnaire was really good - 26.5%. So thank you to all who completed the form, and also to the people at Muggleston's Country Fayre and Harbury Pharmacy for acting as collection points.

The questionnaires are now with W.C.C., and we expect to have the results later in June. After that we plan to hold an Open Event to publish them.

During the next 2 or 3 weeks, the Institute of Public Care has arranged for us to visit several Extra Care Housing schemes, so we can begin to gather ideas for a Harbury plan. As always, watch this space.

Tony Stubbs - 01926 612782, Email: villagewithavision@hotmail.com

Calling all Blood Donors

Plenty of notice for the next session - Thursday 1st July in the Village Hall, 1.30pm – 3.30pm and 4.30pm -7.30pm.

Last times figures – 90 units - were a bit disappointing, so why not help to make this a bumper yield. And remember, if you are old enough to vote, you are old enough to give blood and it could be more fulfilling! Maybe you know a youngster aged 17 and upwards, who might just start a habit for a lifetime, the life could be someone else's. Bring your friends!

Any questions – ask me on 614809 or log on to www.nhsbt.nhs.uk.

Gillian Hare

Bach Choir Returns To Harbury!

On Saturday, 3 July, 2010, the Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir will be presenting a concert in All Saints' Church, Harbury, at 7.30 p.m. with Colin Druce accompanying on the piano and Nigel Stark conducting.

This Summer Concert will feature Choruses from Carmina Burana, including O Fortuna, and beautiful music written by present day composers. Canticles of Light, composed by Bob Chilcott, a former scholar of Kings College, Cambridge, and former member of The King Singers, is a work containing three hymns, sung in Latin to very moving choral music. Lux Aeterna composed by Morten Lauridsen, one of America's finest composers, is a rich and sublime work which consists of five movements which should give the audience a wonderful experience of hearing contemporary music written in traditional classical style.

Tickets are £10 or £2 for children, to include canapés in the interval and may be obtained from Presto Classical in Leamington, or from local member, Bryan Harrison, 01926 612533, at the door, or online via www.rlsbc.org.



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Bryan Harrison

Dear Editors

Linda Ridgley and her daughters were greatly moved by the donations of over £1,400 to Cancer Research given in John's memory and wish to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity.

Linda Ridgley and family

Dear Editors

On Tuesday 18th May between the hours of 10.00am-12.30pm a cat was shot with a pellet gun. This has resulted in the cat losing an eye.

The incident happened in the South Parade/Pineham Avenue area. If you have any information regarding this cruel attack please contact Southam Police.

Incident number 222 of 19/05/2010, Telephone 01926 415000 ex 4984 or Email southam.snt@warwickshire.police.uk

Jackie Harrold

Dear Editors

On taking my son's rubbish bin back into his garden this morning (Friday), I noticed that it was very heavy, which struck me as very strange as the bin had been only 1/4 full when I put it out for refuse collection on Wednesday evening. On checking further it would seem that the bin was emptied as normal yesterday (Thursday), but between then and today (Friday am) someone had decided to COMPLETELY fill it again with their rubbish. To the owners of the two large black sacks containing a large number of bottles and other things, I would ask the simple question, why?

Obviously, the person concerned has certainly no neighbourly spirit and certainly doesn't feel that glass recycling is worthwhile! As the bags are very heavy and could not have been carried very far without splitting, I can only guess that it is someone close by.

Very sad.

Alan Lea

Dear Editors

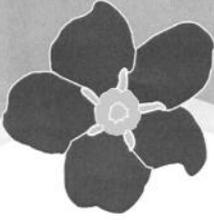
PLEASE, please would vehicle drivers avoid parking across the end of Mill Lane, even if they are "just popping into the Co-op for a moment". The large "Keep Clear" notice painted on the road is largely ignored, so that any of us wishing to get our cars out of the lane or, indeed, to go home, are frequently left waiting in the lane or, worse still, blocking the road while we wait for the offending driver to return.

While we appreciate that Mill Lane is not part of the main thoroughfare, it is the only access to seven homes. The "few minutes" that it takes for someone to do their shopping while leaving their car parked across the end of the lane can make a huge difference to others who are on a tight schedule and can be even more serious if the emergency services need access at that time, as has happened in the past.

PLEASEThink healthy – park your car a little further along the road and walk a few more steps to the shops.

Thank you.

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Dance Classes

Thursday evenings, The Grange, Southam

4.30pm - Funky Dance 1 (4-6yrs) 5.30pm - Funky Dance (7yrs +)
5.00pm - Gymnastics (all ages) 6.00pm - Grade 1 Ballet (9yrs +)



Ballet Lessons

Tuesday Evenings, The Grange, Southam

4.00pm - Prima Ballerinas (3-4yrs) 5.00pm - Pre-Primary (7-8yrs)
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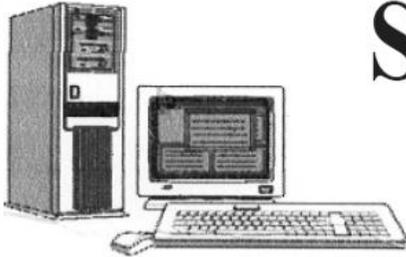
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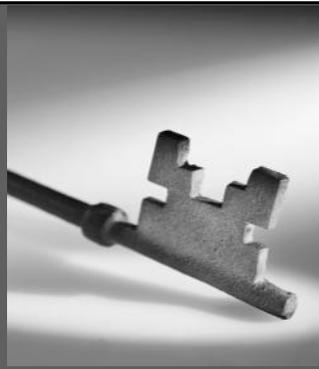
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- what is meant by a 'local connection'?
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