

Harbury & Ladbroke News

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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

The theme in many articles in this month's magazine is 'your community needs you!'. The Harbury Parish Plan Review Survey requires as many villagers as possible to complete it - see article on page 48.

A Steering Group will be working to find a way forward to maintain the library service and is asking for volunteers. Ladbroke Parish Council is seeking residents to come forward for election to the Council, otherwise Stratford District Council will take over the running of the village.

Elsewhere, Spring is very much in the air with a special Church service in Harbury on the 1st May. Chesterton Church has a series of exciting events over the forthcoming season.

Finally we extend our sympathies to the family of Ruth Merrick.

Harbury Diary

APRIL

Sun 3

LENT IV – MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sung Eucharist Service with School taking part 9.00am in Church

'Keeping Mum' - First Light informal service, 4.00pm in Church

Holy Communion with Laying on of Hands, 6.00pm

Pilates and Zumba 9.00-11.00am in Village Hall

Tues 5

Holy Communion 7.30pm

Southam Children's Centre 1.45PM to 2.45pm in Village Hall

Tennis Club AGM 8.00pm in Clubhouse

Harbury & Ladbroke News AGM 8.00pm,

The Shakespeare Inn

Horticultural Society 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room

Weds 6

Holy Communion 2.00pm, Tom Hauley Room

Mothers' Union Meeting 2.30pm, Tom Hauley Room –

Anne Lancaster: "The Life & Witness of Corrie Ten Boom"

Thurs 7

Holy Communion 9.45am

Table Tennis 9.30-10.30am in Village Hall

Water Colour Day 10.00-3.00pm, Tom Hauley Room, £15. Call Tim on 07870 352786.

Harbury Choir School 6.30-8.00pm in Village Hall

Men's Group Meeting 7.45pm Tom Hauley Room

Folk Club 8.00pm in Dog Inn

- Fri 8 PTA Easter Egg Competition
Mid-day Prayer at 12 Noon followed by Lent Lunch,
Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 9 Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of
Village with a Vision
- Sun 10 LENT V – PASSION SUNDAY**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Short Act of Worship 6.00pm, followed by P.C.C. AGM
Pilates and Zumba 9.00-11.00am in Village Hall
Tennis Club Chequebook Tournament 10.00am
Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Tues 12 Toddler Service, 2.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 13 Harbury Society Archive Evening 8.00pm in Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 14 Holy Communion 9.45am
Table Tennis 9.30-10.30am in Village Hall
Theatre Group presents Melodies & Melodrama 7.30pm in
Village Hall
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room – Living with Asthma -
Christine Rutherford
- Fri 15 Mid-day Prayer at 12 Noon followed by Lent Lunch
Tom Hauley Room
ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: 31 BINSWOOD END,
HARBURY BY 5.30PM
Theatre Group presents Melodies & Melodrama 7.30pm in
Village Hall
- Sat 16 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7.30am, Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of
GASS
Theatre Group presents Melodies & Melodrama 7.30pm in
Village Hall with supper
- Sun 17 PALM SUNDAY**
Holy Communion with Distribution of Palms 8.00am
Procession from School 10.15am
Sung Eucharist with Distribution of Palms 10.30am
Evensong 6.00pm
- Mon 18 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Stations of the Cross 8.00pm
- Tues 19 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Stations of the Cross 8.00pm
Mothers' Union Meeting 8.00pm Tom Hauley Room –
Members share their Memories of Easter
Village Hall AGM 7.30pm in Farley Room of Village Hall
- Weds 20 Tea 3.00pm Tom Hauley Room
Holy Communion 7.30pm
Stations of the Cross 8.00pm

- Thurs 21 MAUNDY THURSDAY
Holy Communion 9.45am
Holy Communion 7.30pm at Ladbroke
The 'Watch' at the Altar of Repose (Harbury) 8.00pm till Midnight
- Fri 22 GOOD FRIDAY
Children's Service with Hot Cross Buns 10.30am
Devotional Hour 2.00-3.00pm
- Sat 23 HOLY SATURDAY
The Blessing of the Easter Candle & Renewal of Baptismal Vows 8.00pm
Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Bell Ringers
- Sun 24 EASTER SUNDAY**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 25 BANK HOLIDAY
- Tues 26 Holy Communion 7.30pm
Julian Meeting 8.00pm
- Weds 27 N.B. No Drop in Tea this month
- Thurs 28 ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH STREET AND
EMAIL ARTICLES DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
Holy Communion 9.45am
Thursday Club 2.30pm in Village Hall
Harbury Choir School Hall 6.30-8.00pm in Village
Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in Farley Room of Village Hall
- Fri 29 ROYAL WEDDING – BANK HOLIDAY
Farm St/Temple End "Street Party" at Old New Inn with Bring & Share Families Lunch at 1pm. BBQ 5pm & Band Proceeds to "Help for Heroes".
- Sat 30 Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury WI
Moving Pictures 'The Kings Speech' doors open 6.00pm, film starts at 6.30pm
- MAY**
- Sun 1 EASTER II**
Sung Eucharist 9.00am
First Light Service 10.30am Tom Hauley Room
Spring Thanksgiving Service 4.00pm
- Mon 2 "MAYDAY" BANK HOLIDAY
- Tues 3 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Weds 4 Holy Communion 2.00pm Tom Hauley Room
Mothers' Union Meeting 2.30pm Tom Hauley Room –
Daphne Cook: "The Inner Journey & the inspiration of St Francis"
- Thurs 5 Holy Communion 9.45am
Men's Group Annual Dinner 7.30pm

- Sat 7 Folk Club 8.00pm in Dog Inn
Coffee Morning 10.00am in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Brownies
- Sun 8 **EASTER III**
Holy Communion 8.00am
Sung Eucharist 10.30am

Refuse Collection Rota				
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury	Ladbroke	Refuse Collection Week
April	Wed	Thurs	Fri	
	6	7	8	Grey Bin
	13	14	15	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	20	21	22	Grey Bin
	27	28	29	Green & Blue Lid Bins
May	4	5	6	Grey Bin
	11	12	13	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	18	19	20	Grey Bin

	From the Rector	
	Father Craig Grocock The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel.: 612377	

The Real Meaning of Easter

Easter is all about cute bunnies, fluffy chicks and eating too much chocolate, right? Well, not quite. Christians happen to think it's a bit more meaningful than that.

Back in the 1880's Nietzsche declared that "God is dead," and before the turn of the Twentieth Century, Shaw and Wells chimed in saying the 20th Century would mark the end of the world's "religious phase."

Yet, today a church now meets in Russia's Museum of Religion and Atheism. Nearly half of the United States' population attend worship on a regular basis while revival is sweeping through Latin America and Christianity continues to grow in communist China.

Nietzsche, Shaw and Wells have long since decayed in their graves, but God continues to live! That's the real message of Easter.

Muhammad died, and was buried. His faithful followers take pilgrimages to visit his remains, the same is true of the Buddha and other religious leaders. But it is not true of Jesus. You cannot visit his remains, you can only visit His empty grave, because He isn't there. He's alive!

And going back to chocolate Easter eggs, they represent the boulder that sealed his tomb. And with eggs being widely thought of as a symbol of hope and new life, the custom grew where people exchanged gifts of chocolate eggs at Easter.

We are Easter people because of the first Easter Day when death and darkness were beaten. Jesus is alive and that's why we celebrate it!

Please do come and celebrate Easter with us at All Saints', there is something for everyone and you will be most welcome!

God bless.

From the Registers

Holy Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

27th February Lucy Mazurek

12th March Eden Elizabeth Rose Isles

20th March Laura-Lydia Irons

Funerals at All Saints' Harbury

March 14th Ruth Merrick (89 years)



From the Churchwardens

Will & Fliss

March began with The Women's World Day of Prayer. This year's service, prepared by the women of Chile, was entitled 'How many loaves have you?', an appropriate theme, for in Chile bread is eaten at every meal and is very much part of everyday life. The central message of the service was that, in this world of God's bounty, hunger of any kind is a disgrace, and we should all strive to share God's riches, tirelessly seeking to share bread and the Gospel as did the first Christian communities.

Thank you to Sue and her committee for organising the service and to everyone who took part. We were especially pleased to welcome as speaker Annie Goldthorp who, after she is ordained Deacon in July, will be living among us as Father Craig's and our curate.

March's Family Communion Service focused on the specialness of baptism, its importance as the beginning of our Christian journey, as our welcome into the Christian family and reminding us, particularly, that in Baptism we follow Christ whose Baptism in the Jordan by John the Baptist marked the beginning of His ministry. At this service, Laura-Lydia was baptised in the midst of the Church family and her family and friends. It was a joyous occasion and was followed by an equally happy Bring and Share lunch.



At our afternoon meeting, Mrs Sheila Leach unpicked the analogies between gardening and our life of Faith. At this time of spring cleaning we prune away unwanted growth as in Lent, we examine ourselves and discard all that clutters up our souls. And this might include getting rid of past hurts and resentments and starting afresh. As we feed our plants, so we feed our souls with scripture and worship, and nourish ourselves with music and art. Patience is necessary before fruit is seen, but this can then be shared with rejoicing. And at the end of the year, there is a time of apparent death before a resurgence of new life.

Sheila then showed us examples of her lovely artwork using pressed flowers which she sells to support an orphanage in Uganda.

The evening meeting whizzed us halfway round the world with Peter and Vanda Ball on their visit to China. It was a non-stop experience of crowded cities, unusual food, tranquil gardens and ancient monuments. Thank you to them both for bringing it all to life.

When you read this, four members will have attended the Lady Day service at Bidford. We have also done the Saturday lunch in the Tom Hauley Room, raising £200 for Church funds. And several members were involved in a moving service marking the Women's World Day of Prayer, prepared by the women of Chile.

On Thursday 12th May, we shall have the Deanery Festival Service at 2pm.

6th April – 2pm Communion, 2.30pm – Annie Lancaster, “The Life and Work of Corrie Ten Boom”.

19th April – 7.30pm Communion, 8pm – a sharing evening of Easter recollections.

4th May – 2pm Communion, 2.30pm – Daphne Cook – “St Francis”.

Visitors are welcome to all our meetings.



Toddlers' Service

Lorna Bedford

Mr Tony Stubbs told the children the story about a wealthy tax collector called Zacchaeus who had heard that Jesus was passing through Jericho. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran on ahead and climbed a tree to see him. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him 'Zacchaeus, come down, I must stay at your house today.' So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. The crowd saw this and began to mutter as they did not like Zacchaeus as they felt he had taken more taxes from them than he should. However, after meeting Jesus, Zacchaeus said 'I will give away half my possessions to the poor and if I have cheated anyone I will pay back four times the amount.' Jesus was very happy that Zacchaeus had become a changed man.

We sang three songs one being 'Zacchaeus was a very little man' accompanied by Mr. Michael Hare on the accordion. We then made a picture of Zacchaeus sitting in a tree. We had refreshments and played until it was time to go home.

Our next Toddlers' Service is on Tuesday 12th April at 2pm in the Tom Hauley Room (entrance via the Church). Babies and toddlers, accompanied by an adult, are welcome to join us.



First Light

Alison Abbott

First light in March turned out to be very educational. We learnt how the Bible had been translated from Hebrew into Greek, then Latin and finally into English. Alison didn't know anyone who spoke Hebrew but we did hear a very well known verse read to us in Greek, Latin, from the King James Version and from the Message. It was interesting to note the way our comprehension grew as the translation became more modern. That has always been the driver for translating the Bible - to make it accessible to ordinary people.

But it wasn't all learning - Gillian and Mike had us in stitches with their attempt to put up a picnic table with no instructions, and then some very badly translated ones! Underlining the importance of understanding what

you are reading! We finished by being reminded that the Bible is really a library containing all kinds of literature, from romance to construction manuals, health and safety to love letters via history. Something for every phase of life. A jolly good read.

If you read this in time, a reminder that April's First Light falls on Mothering Sunday and will be at 4.00pm in Church - note the change. So come along and join us as we "Keep Mum"; our usual mix of music, drama fun and thanksgiving.

We are back in the Tom Hauley Room for 2nd May and look forward to seeing you at the usual time, 10.30am.

Springtime Service of Thanksgiving

You are invited to a Service of Thanksgiving for Spring, in Church, on 1st May at 4pm. This will be a joyful service of hymns, prayers, music and poetry relating to springtime, and will be followed by tea and cake in the Tom Hauley Room. The readers are from village organisations, some of whom have chosen a poem they wish to read; the Folk Club will be there, and we have asked a young lady with a beautiful soprano voice to sing. This should be a very happy occasion to which EVERYBODY is warmly invited, so do please come.

Beryl Checkley (612519)

Harbury Tower News

On Monday, 28th February, members of Coventry Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers rang a Quarter Peel of "Christchurch Surprise Major" (1280), conductor Chris Mew, rung in memory of those who died in the Christchurch, New Zealand earthquake.

Ralph Swadling

Ladbroke News & Diary

APRIL

Sun 3

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Mothering Sunday Service with posies and Family Communion with refreshments

Tues 5

Photography Club, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Wed 6

Lent Lunch, 12.30pm, Sue Moore, Walworth Farm, Bishops Itchington

Yoga Class, 6.30pm in Village Hall

Sun 10 LENT V

Holy Communion, 9.00am

Wed 13 Lent Lunch, 12.30pm, Jenny Barratt, Chapel Ascot Farm
Yoga Class, 6.30pm in Village HallFri 15 ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: 31 BINSWOOD END,
HARBURY BY 5.30PM**Sun 17 PALM SUNDAY**

Holy Communion with Palm Crosses BCP, 9.00am

Wed 20 Yoga Class, 6.30pm in Village Hall

Thurs 21 MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday Service 7.00pm in Church

Fri 22 GOOD FRIDAY

Childrens' Service, 10.30am in Church

Holy Hour, 12 noon – 1.00pm

Sun 23 EASTER SUNDAY

Holy Communion, 9.00am followed by Easter Egg Hunt

Wed 27 Yoga Class, 6.30pm in Village Hall

Thurs 28 ARTICLES TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH STREET AND
EMAIL ARTICLES DEADLINE BY 5.30PM
Women's Institute, 7.30pm in Village Hall**MAY****Sun 1 EASTER II**

Family Communion 10.30am followed by refreshments

Tues 5 Photography Club, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Wed 4 Yoga Class, 6.30pm in Village Hall

Women's Institute Quarterly Meeting, 7.30pm, Village Hall

N.B: Please check with your Church Easter Card that the times given are correct for services on Good Friday and Maunday Thursday.

**Ladbroke Church News****Sue Lord**

We are now half way through our Lent Lunches which have been very well attended. We look forward to the remaining events to take us towards Easter. A big thank you to all of this year's hosts.

Easter will as always be a very busy time with our Easter Day Service this year at 9.00am. Following on from the success of last year's Easter Egg Hunt we will be holding it again after the service. Hopefully we can encourage another wonderful turn out albeit earlier in the day. Children of all ages are welcome.

Our first Family Service for April is Mothering Sunday 3rd April at 10.30am. Again we look forward to seeing everyone especially Mums and children.

Work has commenced with pruning the Churchyard trees which should be complete by the time you are reading this. The Churchyard and Cemetery will be much improved and we are hopeful of having increased light shining through the stained glass windows.



Ladbroke Parish Council

Betty Winkfield

Matters Arising from January's Meeting: The Clerk reported that Stratford District Council is ready to issue the Enforcement Notice regarding the caravan parked in the field behind Ladbroke Farm. There is no confirmation that this has been done.

The Parish Council is still awaiting an update regarding the change of road name for Windmill Lane – above the bypass.

The request for another new grit bin at the entrance to Ladbroke Road is to be reviewed later in the year.

It was agreed that the website statistics should be reviewed at quarterly intervals.

The monthly financial spreadsheet circulated on 9th February was approved by all. It included £500 for the Village Hall and £357.30 to Warwickshire County Council for the street light maintenance.

Planning Applications: The owners of Church Cottage want permission to upgrade the no. 1 bedroom in the cottage – no representations.

The work on the trees in the churchyard has been given consent by Stratford District Council.

Highways and Footpaths (including flooding review): The Chairman circulated a report by a village resident regarding the amount of traffic coming through the village as a result of the road works taking place on the Deppers Bridge to Southam road. It was also suggested that the bridge over the brook has dropped nearly one inch (2cms) due to the increased number of HGVs using the road. It was agreed that the Council should ask the Highways Department to place a sign advising no access to HGVs through Ladbroke. As well as expressing concern about the bridge, it was also suggested that the Highways Department should be contacted again regarding the overgrown hedge at the junction of Harbury Road and Ladbroke Road.

Parish Plan: The Clerk reported that a small number of copies of the Parish Plan have now been printed. So far, only one resident of the village has requested a copy. The Stratford and Warwickshire Councillors

both suggested that the updating of the Parish Plan should be delayed until after the effects of the Localism Bill was known at the end of the year.

Millennium Green: Kip Warr advised that there is to be a “street party” to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Additionally, there is to be a music event on the 16th April. The Village Fete is on 18th June.

HS2: Graham Long, Chairman of the Ladbrooke Action Group, said that they were now working on consultation documents, the results of which would be published soon and that there would be a media campaign shortly. Residents have until 29th July to respond to the consultation so they can afford to wait until the facts are assembled. A village meeting will be arranged once the information is collated.

County and District Councillors Reports: The Warwickshire County Councillor reported that there will be a massive consultation overload in the next few months including libraries, youth clubs and waste strategy to name but a few. The County Council is undergoing a re-organisation and the budget has now been finalised.

The Cemex quarry application will be heard on 23rd March 2011. The Health Bill may be enacted in the summer.

The District County Councillor reported that the budget proposals were debated on 28th February. Stratford District Council will not be increasing the rate for Council Tax this year. Despite ill-founded rumours in the press, there will be no additional charge for collecting green waste, nor will a charging regime be introduced for parking in market towns such as Southam. Savings will be achieved by reducing staff together with partnership working with local councils and, in some cases, by reducing services e.g CCTV operations in Stratford and other market towns will be shared with Warwick using a joint control centre.

Southam and Feldon Community Forum: This was held in Ladbrooke Village Hall on 16th March. The next Forum will be held in Fenny Compton School on 8th June.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 11th May at 7.45pm in the Village Hall. The Annual Village Meeting is on Wednesday 20th April at **7.30pm** in the Village Hall.

Parish Council elections will be held on 5th May.

A number of councillors are retiring – IT IS VITAL THAT RESIDENTS COME FOWARD FOR ELECTION – otherwise Stratford District Council will take over the running of the village.



There were two occasions when the W.I. met in the Village Hall in March. The social event on the 3rd had our feet tapping to the Stratford on Avon Ukelele band. A link to Ladbroke can probably be seen centre right in the photograph – yes, Neil Justice has changed career! The selections played were all so well known and of the era remembered by most

of us that it almost developed into a singalong. Really good fun.

The main meeting was held on the 24th when Julie Turner from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust gave a talk entitled Wildlife Gardening.

Their aim is to provide a living landscape across Warwickshire which can then extend throughout the country so that there are networks enabling animals, birds and insects to move in 'green corridors'. Urban gardens make up 25% of the land surface so they are a huge resource.

In a very well structured and illustrated talk Julie took us through hedges, trees, ponds and plants which maintained and encouraged fauna. We were shown simple, cheap ways of creating habitats for birds, bats and insects in forms of nesting boxes and even piles of logs. Julie encouraged the planting of nectar rich single bloom flowers.



It was all so interesting that I forgot to take all the notes I meant to but I remember in her summing up that general rules included reducing chemical input, not being too tidy, leaving small areas of grass long and don't pull up all the nettles! Birds would appreciate being fed all year and the mixed food should be put in a variety of places to cater for ground feeding birds like blackbirds, table birds like the robin and the hanging feeders for the tits.

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust is a charity dependant solely on membership

donations and volunteers and Julie explained that there was much volunteering work needed in an administrative setting as well as getting dirty! Anyone wishing to know more or become a member should go to www.wildlifetrusts.org or ring 01636 677711.

Dates for the diary:

April 28th - General meeting Village Hall 7.30pm - Colour me Beautiful

May 4th - Group meeting hosted by Ladbroke W.I.

June 21st - Group outing to Trentham Gardens

August 17th - Summer outing

August 31st - Group W.I. outing to Westminster Abbey



Ladbroke Photography Club

Jackie West

Our March meeting on the subject of action shots was good fun. First of all we had a few hints on how to freeze movement or include some creative blur by the choice of shutter speed and how to use panning to keep the subject clear against a blurred background. Then it was time to get out the cameras and catch our fellow members throwing a ball or waving ribbons, which was relatively easy. It was much more of a challenge to capture the less predictable action of a table tennis game or of paper aeroplanes in flight and by that point in the evening many of us had also learnt that using the continuous exposure setting and lots of flash consumes batteries at a very fast rate!

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday April 5th at 7.30pm** when a number of our members will be sharing some of their best photos and telling us how they achieved them. For more information about this meeting or the club generally, please contact jackieszone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk.



Ladbroke General Section

Millennium Green hosts Scarecrow Convention on 18th June 2011

Ladbroke fete will be opening its gates not only to adults and youngsters this year but also to scarecrows, with awards for the best.

The fete will also include an exhibition by the Ladbroke Photography Club, a produce stall, a mouse hunt and races for all ages alongside old favourites such as the bottle tombola, face painting, plant stall, second hand books and the crockery smash. Put the date in your diary now and come along and join in the fun on the day, bringing a scarecrow with you if possible.

Jackie West & Graham Lewis

Ladbroke Royal Wedding Day Street Party

Come and join in the big family occasion on the afternoon of Friday, 29th April. Bring your own food and we'll provide the tables and chairs in the Bell car park. The pub will be selling Pimms and champagne and running a barbecue. There will even be a festive cake competition. More details will follow in a flyer.

Kip Warr

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

The results of the draw for February were:

£80 Gwynne Badman

£50 Martin Neal

£25 Lesley Loveday

£10 John Lowman

£10 Linda Spence

£10 Malcolm Wray

£10 Sheena Healey

£10 Trevor Jay

Janet Goldson



Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley

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

Chairman Tim Lockley keeps a tight hold on Parish Council Meetings which rarely take more than ninety minutes; Vice-Chair Keith Thompson has a more relaxed style. There was more discussion, amusement and raillery.

Cllrs were delighted to learn that the new quote for Street Light

Maintenance was so much cheaper that they would save £1,700 a year, which might be enough to fund a new light! Bollards featured again. They have not been able to find a home for the one that was mis-sited in Binswood End. I never liked them anyway and now it has been taken away.

Cllr Janet Thornley reported that there was great excitement in the village when the Traffic Warden was spotted. More than that, he actually ticketed a car parked on the pavement by the Post Office. Guv suggested to him that he ought to give it another ticket as it had been there two days.

Janet was very pleased with the response from the community to fund-raising for the Village Hall. The Twinning Association's recent Jazz Evening donated £1,300. Keith Thompson explained work to stabilise the extension roof and for new crash doors was funded by a £30,502 Veolia Environmental Trust grant.

But there were some very serious issues before the Parish Council.

Cllrs agreed, after some discussion, to give grant aid of £5K to the Village Hall for the professional fees incurred as part of the refurbishment plan. They acknowledged that the Library might also need support following the Public Meeting called because of the threat of closure. WCC makes a decision on 14th July. The consultation is at <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/libraryconsultation>.

Cllr Hancock was surprised the Wight School Trustees had given the Pre-school a new lease when the future of the whole site was so unsure. If an educational use were to cease, the County would take the proceeds of the resulting forced sale of the site causing the loss of the Pre-school and Scout Hut.

Chairman for the evening Keith Thompson, reported on the updated Public Sector Budget which was explained at the Ladbroke Community Forum. "Wall to wall cuts" for the County, Police and Ambulance services, he said.

The bus service is likely to be severely reduced (see separate article), with the evening and Flexibuses cut, along with the service to Coventry. Cllrs. thought the loss of the Coventry bus would greatly inconvenience those attending the new hospital or visiting patients there and will protest.

They could not decide whether to object to the Highspeed Rail line but will discuss the issue again at the next meeting. The Consultation has four months to run yet. Add your comments at <http://highspeedrail.dft.gov.uk> Cllr Knowles comforted those colleagues who were opposed to the line saying "Don't worry – we won't live long enough to buy a ticket!".

Having decided to go for the “quick and dirty” option for their Parish Plan the Cllrs were now concerned that they had only so far had a 3.6% response. The previous plan survey had a 66% response rate. They spent ages discussing how they might salvage their Survey and asked that people be urged to complete it.

As prices continue to rise our Council is to put up the Allotment Fees to £25 a plot from 2012, and Cemetery charges to £125 a burial plot; £100 for interment; £75 headstone and £75 for cremated remains, from April 1st 2011. Cllr Mancell did not foresee any complaints. There are plots left for 7 more years.

Councillors had considered the request from Year Six at Harbury School for a Graffiti Wall at the Playing Fields to divert “artists” from the play equipment. However, Cllr Hancock said that having examined the graffiti she did not think Harbury had any budding Banksies. There was nothing artistic, only four letter words and personally directed abuse – so no wall, just cleaning and painting of the play equipment.

The Youth Bus parked in front of the Village Hall and will be there on Tuesday evenings until Easter.

Planning: Stratford had refused retrospective permission for a change of use to agricultural storage for 7 HGV wagons, 7 Flat-bed trailers and 10 skips at Ufton Hill Farm.

The Parish Council made “no representation” on plans for timber-framed buildings at Hazebrook on the Pound, 19 Mill Street or the Granary, Greenhill.

Broadspeed’s appeal against refusal for the Starbold windspeed mast succeeded.

Cllr Steve Elkins reported on the County’s Gypsy and Traveller meeting where it was suggested that Parish Councils could make provision for sites using the grants available from government.

Cllr Knowles asked that the Clerk thank public spirited resident Alf Butler who cuts back the overhanging foliage and grass at the Spinney.

Next Meeting: 28th April 7.30pm in the Farley Room of the Village Hall.

	<p>Harbury Society</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Linda Ridgley</p>
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After a successful year the AGM re-elected the Committee and settled down to listen to the stories and advice on Family History Research from

Jenny Cranfield who had a very innovative way to put across the do's and don'ts of research. She linked her family history research with the lessons she had learned as she tried to follow her ancestors back in time and gave us the following principles and good practice.

Everyone's experience of the family is different. Research the cousins of your ancestors – it helps to tell the story of the family not just their dates. It is easy now to find things out from the Victorian era onwards – the Internet has changed things and you can find a lot out through it.

Don't buy certificates until you have asked if someone in the family has the original. Then find out when your target was born, died or married, so you get the right certificate! Don't use sellotape on originals. Photocopy them and put them in an acid free box then you can handle the copies.

Start with yourself and work backwards - names of parents, marriage certificate.

Ask who cleared out a relative's "stuff" - then you will know where it went, but remember they will have decided what to keep, give away or throw out.

People moved for work and women, especially, moved for marriage. Marriage though was often in the wife's village and she would take children back to be baptised.

People died in the workhouse not because they had no relatives to help them but because workhouses were the only place where the poor got medical attention.

Young widowers with children usually re-married because they had to work and someone had to look after their children. If you find that a family has children listed as being 20, 18, and 14 years of age remember that contraception is recent so children were born at two year intervals. Look at the baptism records to see who died.

Watch out for bigamous marriages!

Relatives often followed others who moved, sometimes to visit, sometimes to stay.

Do you have a funny middle name? Why are you called what you are? Names persist in families and can help make sure you are following the right family. Look at both sides of a family.

Write your own personal history for future generations. Write about the relatives that you do know. Ask relatives to add to it. Construct a rough family tree. You can download a Pedigree Chart to help you from the BBC website. Label old photos with who, where and when. Read all the old postcards sent to relatives. Some will be from their relations and will help you build your tree.

Keep memorabilia or offer it to others in the family before you throw it away. Find out who is interested in family history and leave them your stuff when you die.

Next Event

13th April, 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room - another chance to look at our archives.



Ten Harbury W.I members attended the funeral of a former member, Ruth Merrick recently.

Members saw the new tree planted near to where the previous one was vandalised and removed; sadly it will be years before it is as lovely. Afterwards, walkers went to Chesford Grange and Hampton Hill, lunching at the Saxon Mill.

Our team came 6th in the very close W.I Quiz Final.

We look forward to the W.I Group Meeting on the 4th May at 7.30pm at Long Itchington Community Centre – please come wearing your corsage.

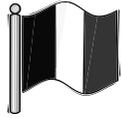
An outing to a theatre in Birmingham to see “We will Rock You” on the 13th July has been arranged by Christine Gore. Her poem to Janice on her special birthday was fantastic so she does a great job.

We have entered the Carnival and with a cake stall on 11th June. We are getting together with ideas. We are also participating in the Craft Fair on 12th November with cakes and crafts.

The speaker at this month's meeting was Yvonne Brown talking on “Antique Buttons” - and how interesting she was. She has had lots of training in jobs and done many courses on interesting subjects. One that stood out was antique buttons and she has a large collection. She brought some to show us and the materials used over the centuries were amazing. Metals, gold, silver, wood, mother of pearl, plastic, material with embroidery are just a few. Yvonne said that they have been around since the 13th century but could be even earlier. She has a few dating back to the 18th century. There was a time when there were 800 factories making buttons in the Birmingham area. We were told about the lovely ones and who would have worn them.

There were some members who were going to look in their button boxes passed down by their mothers to see what they could discover!

April meeting: Tom Hauley Room, Thursday 14th April, 7.45pm. Speaker – Chris Rutherford: “Living with Asthma”.



Harbury Twinning Association

Colin Humphreys



On the 5th March we held our Jazz Evening with Supper in the Village Hall in order to raise money towards the refurbishment fund. The evening was a great success, all the tickets were sold so we had a full house, and the supper, coq au vin, was produced by a team of our members and was followed by a dessert. It was really well received by everyone.

We were particularly lucky in engaging the quartet and singer that we had as they played exactly the type of European swing Jazz of the 1940's that we wanted and were very good indeed.

The result of the evening is that we have raised a four figure sum for the Village Hall which will be presented at our coffee morning in the Tom Hauley room on Saturday 2nd April.



Our next social event, after the coffee morning will be the skittles evening at the Navigation Inn on the 8th, after which it is full steam ahead to our French visitors.



Harbury Theatre Group

Jo Banbury

*Harbury Theatre Group presents
Melodies and Melodrama*

Thursday April 14th, Friday April 15th and Saturday April 16th - 8pm

The scripts are down, the costumes are out, and we are all nearly set to go. This spring, we are delighted to be bringing to you, for your entertainment, an evening of drama, laughter and song.

First on the menu is a short one act play, “Double Dealing or a Little Horse Play” by Brian J. Burton, which centres on the theme of mistaken identity. Directed by Keith Hayes, this short 3-hander, could leave you almost as exhausted as the cast as they whisk you through one hilarious situation to the next.

This will then be followed by the dulcet tones of Debbie Ellis, as she performs a selection of her favourite folk songs. On the Saturday performance only, a delicious 2 course supper will be served (included in the ticket price) – but on Thursday and Friday it will be a bar/refreshment service only.

And then the grand finale - “Nellie’s Nightlights” by Harry Austin. This Victorian/Edwardian comedic melodrama set in 1902 is a corker! Nellie Larkin (played by Emily Jackson) – a simple working girl - becomes the “face that flickers in a thousand bedrooms”, thanks to her invention. But she has her work cut out controlling her father’s (played by Chris Beaton) “funny turns”, an employer who doesn’t seem to know how to keep his hands to himself, and the unscrupulous landlord lurking in the background. All of these performances really are a must see!

Ticket prices for 14th Thursday, and Friday 15th April are £6 (£4 for concessions); with Saturday tickets being the magnificent value of £8 (no concessions as includes the cost of 2 course supper). **Tickets are on sale at Country Fayre, Cana at Bank Chambers, and by calling on 613488.**

We are always looking for new members, and if anyone would like to help out with front of house or backstage for this production, then call the number above, or pop along to our monthly meetings, which are held in The Shakespeare on the last Monday of any month at 8pm.



Folk Club

Ted Crum

The theme for the 316th Harbury Folk Club was “Food and Drink”, and your hosts began proceedings with “The Farmer’s Toast”. We were closely followed by Rik Middleton who sang two unaccompanied songs (“The Greasy Cook” and one concerning an Australian sheep shearer with a mighty thirst who destroyed his own shirt tail). Pete Mason followed this with “The Devonshire Keeper” and a Canadian farming song, “Field behind the Plough”. Maureen and Janny emphasised their bi-national credentials with a song which began with fervent tea-drinking (English) followed immediately by a passionate anthem to coffee (Dutch). Their second song was an epic of double entendre from our next poet laureate,

Les Barker, called “My Husband’s Got No Porridge in Him”..... ahem! Ian and Sue brought us Graham Nash’s “Teach your Children Well” and the teasing conversation that is “Boots of Spanish Leather”. Next up was Debbie, who had written a piece especially for us called “Mirror Mirror”. She reflected on the tyranny of body image, and drew wild applause for a funny and perceptive observation.

Our old friend Des had brought his excellent friends out to play with him. He, Gareth and Barbara are collectively known as Threepenny Bit, and they used their first piece, a round called “Hey Ho, Nobody at Home” to get the audience singing very successfully in three sections. Their rendition of “Dem Bones” ended the first half.

We Crums began the second half with Ann Lister’s “Dragon Song”. Pete and Liz Bones gave us their English original of Waltzing Matilda called “Walking a Bulldog”, and followed this with Les Barker’s “BSA”, describing a strange disease which appeared in the nineties.

Pete Grassby introduced us to a technique he called “nurdled” guitar. Very effective too when applied to “Down Where the Drunkards Roll”, reminding your scribe of music from the Penguin Café Orchestra. He followed this with a song from his beloved New Zealand, “Tambanui”. Rik returned to sing “John Barleycorn”, and Pete Mason gave us “Old Bones”, before Peter McDonald stepped up to finish the half with “Hard Cheese of Old England” and Sid Kipper’s masterpiece “Jam Tomorrow”.

Your humble scribe began the legendary third half with the “Flanders” and Swann number “Have Some Madeira, My Dear”. Ian and Sue followed with “The Stranger”, an Australian song with pineapples, and Maureen and Janny sang a song so clearly moving that I must have cried so much I forgot to write down its name! Sorry ladies. Peter McDonald sang “Feed the Children”, followed by Des who sang a Keith Donnelly shanty. Pete Grassby administered the coup de grace with his version of “Scarborough Fair”, and we all retired happily to cocoa and bed.

The raffle raised a very satisfying £59 which is winging its way to the Motor Neurone Association.



Harbury Cricket Club

Jez Hunt

The new cricket season is almost upon us...

Well the Ashes are in the bag, result! We quickly forget about the one-day series afterwards... and, as I write this, we could be doing better in the World Cup, optimism cricket fans... optimism.

However do not worry - it is the new season for Harbury Cricket Club. Bring it on, without the rain please!

It is at this point that I would like mention a huge thanks to the following legends who are passing on duties at the club, for their commitment and skill with keeping the club in good shape for current and future Harbury cricketers. Thanks to John Wilkinson whose endeavours as fixtures secretary have enabled the club's seasons to be filled with regular games, John Clifford for keeping the club's finances in check as Treasurer - not a penny out of place!.. And Ed Russell, as our six hitting ex-Chairman.

So, in step Stuart Muggleston and Chris Wilson as new fixture secretaries, John Freeman as Treasurer and Jez Hunt as Chairman. Thankfully it is not all change and we keep the passionate experience of Rex Humphreys as President, Ian Holroyd as Club Secretary and Richard Carr as our groundsman.

The new season begins at the end of April (24th) and, as always, we would love to have new players in the team. We play on Sunday afternoons, mainly 40 over cricket with a couple twenty20 games thrown in. Home games are played down at the Rugby Club ground, with the wicket diligently prepared to an excellent standard by Major. Away games are in the Warwickshire area, never far to travel. After each game there is always post match analysis while washing down an ale or two at The Old New Inn. All games are played with excellent spirit and plenty of friendly banter.

So, if you are tempted to pick up a cricket bat, develop your in-swinging bowling, or catch like Collingwood - want to give cricket a go? We would love to hear from you!

To contact us please either call on 614199 or e-mail your details to harburycc@hotmail.co.uk or if you are buying some veg from the Muggleston's drop your details with them.

We will post our fixture list shortly. So if you are ever unsure of something to do on a Sunday, why not come down and watch, help create a new Harbury Army! There is plenty of space for little ones to run off post lunch steam and ask "constant" questions about the game - my boy does already...

Hoping to hear from you budding new cricketers soon, or see you at the start of the season.

Come on England...

A Match from the Harbury Cricket Club Archives (1):

The captains personal report on Harbury v Leamington Lemmings on 9th August 1987. By Mr Gary Lowe (Leader of Men): Harbury lost the toss and were asked to bat. Brian Wallington and John Wilkinson opened the

innings and took the score to one before Wallington was out. Les Sollis came to the crease but was soon out for one. Skipper Gary Lowe came into bat as usual with his side struggling at 10 for 2.

Wilkinson and Lowe added 12 before Wilkinson was out for a battling 14. Dick Wright (9) came and went and so did Ian Lowe (2).

Dave Raggett then joined the skipper and they added a further 13 before Lowe was out for a gritty 15 runs. Richard Carr (4) soon succumbed and the luckless hero of past battles; Ian Holroyd was bowled first ball.

Then Raggett was out for 24 and Richard Lowe (0 not out), his longest innings so far that season, was left on his own when Doug Grant was stumped and Harbury closed with the paltry score of 78 all out.

After an excellent tea provided by Marie and Trish Wallington and cousin Linda; Harbury ripped through the Leamington Lemmings batting and they were all out for 29 runs in only 20 overs. With the excellent Brian Wallington yet again going through the pain barrier with a dodgy shoulder having match figures of 10 overs, 1 maiden, 5 wickets for only 3 runs (10-1-3-5) – a truly remarkable performance.

He was ably supported by Ian Lowe, who also took 5 wickets finishing with figures of 10-3-22-5.

Harbury won by 49 runs.



Harbury Junior's Football

The Committee

U6's

The U6's played their first ever competitive matches against Wellesbourne on 12th March. We played 3 x 15 minute 6-a-side matches with no goal keepers using small 2m x 1m metre goals. the scores were 0-0, 0-3 and 2-1. All of the boys enjoyed their first experience and learnt a lot about how physical an opposing team can be. Over the last few weeks during coaching sessions, both Jamie S and Max W have improved their individual skills with Jack, Harry and Finn showing a lot of determination with their tackling and running. We also welcome Liam Morgan as a new volunteer coach to this group and hope we can find another willing volunteer for next season.

Steve Darby

U7's

Over the last few weeks we have seen the U7's suddenly start to mature in the way they play football and also during matches use the skills they

have been developing over the last 12 months. The recent matches against Wellesbourne, who have played far more competitive games than Harbury, bears out the improvement we are seeing on the training ground. We played 80 minutes of football with results being 0-0, 1-2 and 1-1 with two superb goals being scored by Joe C and Kaizer N. Had it not been for two own goals and some excellent goal keeping from the Wellesbourne keeper the score line would have reflected the way Harbury played. Over recent weeks Kieron C, Josh W, Euan J and Serena P have done well in training with George C and Leighton M working hard on goal keeping skills. We welcome Courage Ndlovu as a volunteer coach and are actively seeking a team lead coach for next season who will have help from Courage and Paul Rothwell-Sykes.

Steve Darby

U8's

Harbury Hawks (0) Vs Harbury Harriers (1)

A very tight, equally balanced game between the two Harbury sides. A game that demonstrated the progress that both teams had made during the season. Both teams showed much endeavour defensively, the tackles and organisation being evident for all to see. There were a number of chances with both teams coming close on several occasions. Luca came close with a blistering free kick; Jack made a number of great saves for the Hawks. In the end it was a single goal from Morgan J that made the difference. A great effort from all, in a very entertaining game.

Byfield (3) Vs Harbury Hawks (0)

The Hawks visited top of the league Byfield on Saturday 5th March with a much depleted side in a game that did not reflect the score line. This was always going to be a good test as many of the Byfield players are a year older. However, the Hawks all battled very well, good passing was noted and every member of the team tackled strongly. Millie and Jacob put in a sterling performance at the back. Luca got off some good shots. Oscar covered every blade of grass. Oliver, Matty and Ryan battled throughout with Jack putting in another strong performance too. The team as a whole performed well however the absence of Josh and Emanuel was sorely missed with whom the score line could have been a different story.

Steve Burnell and Ian Jones

U10's

Harbury Rockets (3) v Kineton (2)

The scoreline suggests a close match and it was, there can't have been many fingernails left from both sets of supporters - it was that good a game. Congratulations to the goal scorers of Dominic P with a beautiful

header any premiership player would be proud of and two goals from Riley B who was setup by the talented midfield behind him.

A massive thank you comes from the coaches and supporters of the Rockets, for the defence of Chloe, Matty, Gwyneth and the ever improving Jack – it was a job well done. The midfielders of Harry, Tim, Finn, Jordan, Dominic and Peter who all ran their socks off for the cause - a big thank you from us. Riley B led the front line well and was rewarded with his two goals, thank you.

Only one game to go and always looking forward to the ever improving players performing from the coaches of the Rockets.

Richard Woodhead and Marcus B

U13/14's

13th March v Cubbington Albion

Cubbington got off to a flying start in this match playing the long ball with quick forwards scoring four goals in the first fifteen minutes. Harbury then started playing with confidence with some excellent passing moves and individual performances on the wings from Harneil P and Tyler J, and Toby P controlling midfield which resulted in goals from Jacob T, Tyler J and Taran B .

In the second half, whilst Harbury continued to play better football than Cubbington, they conceded a penalty and then a further goal, whilst pushing forward to get back into the game to lose 6-3. The team should be pleased with their performance, which continues to improve with each game.

20th March v Alveston

Whilst Harbury lost heavily in the previous game to high flying Alveston who are second in the league, they were much the better side in the first half, competing for the ball especially from midfielder Matt J who was unlucky not to have two goals except for some fine saves from the Alveston goalkeeper. Harbury only conceded a well taken goal a few minutes before half time which was against the run of play. In the second half, whilst the match was still a close fought contest, Alveston had the extra pace and class to score a further 3 goals to win 4-0 which does not reflect the close match it was.

Malcolm Tanner and Neil Murray

LOST

Two Yale keys on a key ring lost on Harbury Playing fields on 20th March. If anyone finds the keys please contact Malcolm Tanner 612617.



Harbury RFC

Harbury Mini & Midi Rugby

Mike Steele

20th February: Away at Daventry

Under 14s: Daventry 19 v 32 Harbury

An outstanding performance, particularly by the Harbury forwards against a much improved Daventry side. The pick and drive tactics that we have worked on in training really paid off with Harbury winning most of the rucks, both 2nd rows Joe Webster and Sam Cave touched down early on and No. 8 Robert Rollason added a third Harbury try, fly half Jack Hewson added the conversion.

Daventry pulled back a try through their very quick full back. Finn Toner, Billy Bowman-Shaw and Simon Fisher all put in good tackles and Jack Hewson delayed his pass perfectly for Winger Shane Fennel to burst through and score in the corner. Half time 5 – 22.

In a closer second half, Daventry ran in two tries but Harbury Man of the Match Prop Adam Webster added two more tries, after great driving from Sam Cave and Joe Webster.

New signings Ricky Hughes and Josh Buckley contributed well, George White, Josh Biggs and Rory Pickin all played their part in Harbury U14's best game of the season so far. Final score 19 - 32

27th February

Away at Leamington

Under 14s: Leamington 33 v 5 Harbury

A much closer game than the score suggests. Leamington had a very fast back who three times ran the length of the pitch to score under the posts.

In very muddy conditions the Harbury forwards picked and drove well. Jack Hewson and Billy Bowman-Shaw tackled well in the backs and Finn Toner worked hard throughout, putting in numerous tackles, ripping the ball and making a few yards.

Hooker Simon Fisher, props Adam Webster and George White and second row Joe Webster all tackled well and rucked over brilliantly.

Josh Buckley caught two kick off balls and had a couple of good runs also helping setting up the only Harbury try.

Harbury were finally rewarded with a try by Finn Toner but the team deserved more from their determined display.

7th March: At home to Earlsdon

Under 7s

With a full contingent of players and the weather more welcoming, Harbury U7's played some of their best rugby against Earlsdon U7's.

With two games on the go at a time, each player had three games against worthy opponents who were matched and beaten in the majority of the games.

It was encouraging to see the effort being put it to the defensive side of the game and Harbury are making it more difficult for their opponents to score.

Keep it up.

Away at Earlsdon: Under 13s:

Earlsdon 12 v 21 Harbury

After two big defeats in recent weeks Harbury U13s bounced back with an excellent win over Earlsdon. Team play was the order of the day, led by Harry Turnock - Rogers (captain for the day) - he led from the front along with excellent performances from Morgan Hickman, William Morton and Josh Hill. Harbury opened the scoring with their best team try of the season ending with Sam Tutt forcing his way over the line. The second Harbury try was a brilliant sniping run from Harbury's scrum half Tom Boag, picking the ball up from the base of a ruck to dive in a touchdown. Earlsdon then came back hard with two tries of their own, one either side of half time. The final try was scored by Neil Taylor with his usual physicality and once he had seen the try line there was no stopping him from thundering over the try line. The final ten minutes became a little feisty but the boys fronted up and didn't take a backward step and pulled together as the strong unit they are to close out the game. All three tries were converted by Sam Tutt.

Well done boys, a full 60 minutes of effort and concentration this week.

At home to Bugbrooke:

Under 14s: Harbury 31 v 5 Bugbooke

Harbury U14s best game of the season by some distance. They have been improving each week lately and have been threatening to put in a terrific performance like this.

Captain Hooker Simon Fisher led from the front setting up Sam Cave to burst through into the 22 for Harbury's first try.

Bugbrooke scored in the corner from the restart but rarely threatened after this. Forwards George White, Callum Panton, Joe Webster,

Finn Toner and No. 8 Robert Rollason all made ground in rucks and mauls, Scrum Half Ted Easton and Fly Half Jack Hewson set up good ball for the backs. Billy Bowman-Shaw and Wingers William Rea and Shane Fennell put in some mazy runs and tackled well as did Full Back Ricky Hughes.

New Prop Josh Buckley was a revelation crossing the line from two feet out for his first try after good work by second row Joe Webster, who also scored a try from a determined piece of play. Josh scored his second try after half time after further good work in the loose by the Harbury forwards and Billy Bowman-Shaw.

Fly half Jack Hewson had a good game adding 3 out of 5 conversions and he also kicked well out of hand.

A determined Finn Toner scored Harbury's last try from full back after Ricky Hughes was injured, he also put in three try saving tackles.

All the team played superbly with very few mistakes this week. Keep up the good work. It was a truly entertaining game with great courage shown from you all.

20th March: At home to Alcester

Under 13s: Harbury 42 v Alcester 0

From the off, Harbury took control of the game with an excellent try finished off by some good handling and passing from the backs ending in a try in the corner from Conner Gladwin. The first half continued in the same fashion with Harbury's forwards dominating, with powerful displays from Chris Haydon and Harry Turnock-Rogers who took a brace of tries a piece and Jo Hughes dipping in with a try with one of his now usual jinking runs to give Harbury a lead at half time 27 - 0. The only conversion came from Harry Turnock-Rogers.

The second half saw Conner Gladwin go over the try line again for his second try of the day, Chris Haydon also added to his tries in the first half to round off a fine individual display and Sam Tutt added to the tally to finish off the game. A special mention should go to Ben and Neil Taylor who played for Alcester in the second half to help give the opposition some physicality which made a big difference to the way they played.



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

As the winter leagues draw to a close the fixtures have been coming thick and fast to catch up with postponements in December. In the Banbury League some good results have lifted the Club away from the bottom of

the league. The first was an excellent 4-4 draw with second placed Middleton Cheney. Daniel Morley and Colin Mercer started well, winning both sets in the men's doubles which was cancelled out when the visiting ladies were too strong for Sue Mercer and Jane Burrows, who was making her debut. Both mixed doubles were halved with Sue and Daniel losing a very close tiebreak which, had they won, would have secured a win.

Unbeaten league leaders Warwick were next and overcame Harbury in a rain affected match in which Colin and Jane were joined by Paul Crowton and Sara Peters in a 2-6 defeat. Sara and Colin were Harbury's success, winning their mixed doubles.

The next 2 matches were both against Charlbury with only 4 days between them! In the first "leg" Caroline Morland, Eira Owen, Steve Stark and Colin made the trip to Oxfordshire and completely dominated the home team with an 8-0 win. In the second "leg" Harbury made one change with Daniel Morley coming in for Steve. Charlbury fielded a much stronger team and it looked as though they would reverse the whitewash when Colin and Daniel were swept away, as were Caroline and Eira in their first set but they came back well to win a second set tiebreak to give Harbury some hope for the mixed doubles. Things looked up when Eira and Colin won both their sets, while Daniel and Caroline very nearly secured a draw, just losing a very hard fought final set in a tiebreak, giving a final score of 3-5.

It's a similar story in the Men's Doubles starting with a closely contested 2-2 draw at Snitterfield, the team comprising Steve Stark, Geoff Prince, Daniel Morley, and Colin Mercer. Steve and Geoff were in fine form and were responsible for all Harbury's points! This was followed by a home match against league leaders Wildmoor. Steve and Colin were joined by David Bristow and Richard Everett but were unable to "disturb the scorer" in a 0-4 defeat. Since then, 2 excellent wins against Snitterfield and Shipston have given Harbury a chance of avoiding relegation. Steve and Daniel were joined by Marcus Sharpe and Peter Walshe for the Snitterfield match and ran out 3-1 winners. The result against Shipston was even better when, Steve, Geoff, Daniel, and Marcus were very comfortable 4-0 winners.

In the Floodlit League Caroline, Eira, Keith Thompson and Colin made the long trip to Towcester and lost 2-6, with Caroline and Eira being Harbury's only success. To rub salt into the wound the journey home was via Northampton as the A5 was closed!

In the next match against Hook Norton, Caroline, Geoff, and Colin were joined by Tracey Pettipher making her debut. They overcame the visitors to record a 5-3 win although it's unlikely this will be enough to avoid relegation!

This summer we have entered a team in the South Warwickshire Summer League Competition for boys aged 12 and under. The teams are divided into 6 pools, with 4 teams in each pool. Harbury hosted the first round of matches on 23rd March. Our team, Christopher Bolton and Mathieu Savin, got off to a rather nervous start, losing their set 0-6 to Claverdon. Fortunes were reversed when they beat Snitterfield B 6-1 in their second match, but they finished with a 2-6 loss to the overall winners, Henley, the 4th seeds in the competition.

On Saturday 19th March we had our club Maintenance Day. The clubhouse was re-painted, the nets mended (by our sewing specialist, David Bristow!) and the garden weeded and pruned. Thanks to those members of both the Tennis and Netball clubs who helped on the day, and thanks also to the weather for being so kind to us for a change – the paint dried really quickly!

The club AGM is on Tuesday 5th April in the clubhouse at 8pm. We hope to see a lot of members there. If you are not a member, but maybe would like to join the club, please come along to hear about what we've been up to in the last year and our plans for the future, meet some members and enjoy a glass of wine and some nibbles, available from 7.45pm.



1st Harbury Rainbows

Bobbie Sharpe

1st Harbury Rainbows meets every Tuesday in the Scout Hut for a variety of games and activities but most of all for fun. This term, as always, we have a full complement of 18 girls but are very lucky to have our Duke of Edinburgh helpers Lauren, Ellie and Annie to help run our busy group.

This term we have had a 'food tasting' night, made our own scrap books and took part in our own 'Beetle Drive'. On Shrove Tuesday we had



some delicious pancakes which were expertly made by Hana's mum, many thanks to Claire.

Last week Bollywood came to Rainbows where, with the help of Keira's mum, Emma, we learnt and performed the dance 'Jai Ho'; it was brilliant. All the girls looked fantastic in their scarves and Bindis and enjoyed some authentic food kindly donated by The Dog - many

thanks to Wayne and the boys for going to so much effort to help make it a really great night.

In addition to all this we have also had a visit from 'Paint & Glaze' who helped the Rainbows make some lovely pottery presents for Mother's Day. We are also looking forward to our Easter egg party where we can dress up and play games and maybe get a visit from the Easter Bunny!!!!!!



The new year has got off to a good start at the Harbury Toddler Group, with a visit from the Southam Children's Centre who ran a craft session on our first Monday back. The children all really enjoyed making paintings with cauliflower, and had even more fun using the rollers which had been brought along for putting the paint on the cauliflower! We also had a further visit on 7th February with sponge painting. More visits will be planned once we are back in the usual room.

We are also part of a group borrowing different toys from the Children's Centre. At the moment we have a good threading activity and various other toys will be loaned to us as the year goes on.

We have also been busy with seasonal activities, Chinese lantern making and Chinese writing, plus tasting Chinese snacks, to celebrate the Chinese new year; making Valentine's cards and decorating and eating heart shaped biscuits; colouring and sticking cotton wool lambs and bunnies. We have more activities planned for when we're back to normal.

We have been a little disrupted over the past month with the builders on site; we've had to make several trips to Clownin' Around and use the Scout Hut, but we're really looking forward to the new facilities, which will mean we don't have to high-tail it through the rain to the toilets with desperate, potty-training 2-year-olds any more! We hope to be back in on 4th April, in plenty of time to make good use of the outdoor space as the weather is getting better – we're very much looking forward to getting the sand and water out again. We will be taking a trip to Clownin' Around again on the 28th March as the new buildings will be arriving that day.

On 21st May it is our turn to host the Coffee Morning at the Tom Hauley Room, and we plan to include a plant stall this year, selling plants which the children will be planting themselves at our weekly sessions. Any donations for the raffle, or cake or plant stalls would be very gratefully received, do just drop them in on the day or to our weekly sessions.

If you would like to come along to the Toddler Group we usually run every Monday from 9.30am until 11.15am at the Wight School (behind the Library), and cater for children from birth to school age. Everybody is welcome!



During March we were delighted to welcome Jack, Chloe and Wilbur to Pre-School.

Our World: At the beginning of the month, the term's theme of "Our World" came closer to home, with trips to the village shops. Before setting out, the children made shopping lists at the graphics table and were encouraged to search in the shops for the items on their list. On these outings, the children were able to look at the environment and take photographs of various local landmarks, demonstrating their growing ability at using the camera. Later they recreated what they had experienced with some fantastic paintings, drawings and 3-D models of buildings.



The Development Project: Then came the excitement! The builders turned up at Pre-School to demolish part of the old building in preparation for the new extension of our facilities, which will be completed by the end of the month. The children had a great time going in small groups to watch the diggers and other machinery in action and to take photographs of the builders' progress. We had to vacate the Pre-School room and move into the Scout Hut for a week, but the children very quickly adapted to their new surroundings and the larger space enabled the children to build a long track for the trains!



We are very grateful to GASS for allowing us to use the Scout Hut at such short notice.



Role Play: While in the Scout Hut, a role play grocery shop was set up, where the children made lists and selected their groceries before taking them to the till to be scanned and paid for. Their ideas for the shop were enhanced by their earlier visits to the local shops and they enjoyed working as shop assistants and at the checkout, as well as doing the shopping. Once back in the Wight School, the role play area became a site office for our little builders to draw up plans, use the phone and computer to order supplies and take orders for further building jobs!



Construction: Inspired by the “grown up” building works outside, the children created their own building site, with sand, diggers,

dumper trucks, clipboards, hard hats and wooden blocks for buildings in our outdoor play area. This work was mirrored indoors, using the builders’ tray with sand and small world figures and machinery.

Trip to Harbury Primary School: We are grateful to Mr Daly and Miss Maher for inviting the Pre-School children to watch the Reception Class assembly. The performance was delightful and the children behaved beautifully and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

For further information about Harbury Pre-School, please e-mail bud.jackson@btinternet.com or phone 07939 122087. The web site can be found at www.harburypre-school.org.uk.





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 between school hours and take children from the age of 2 years. If you would like to register a place for your child you can email us at info@windmillsnursery.co.uk, visit our web site at www.windmillsnursery.co.uk or call Tina/Sally on 07906 519148. Afternoon spaces are available now with limited spaces on morning sessions from September 2011 and bookings now being taken for September 2012.

At the start of March we welcomed Hannah Middleton to the Windmills nursery team; she has settled in well. Other staff news - Tina and Sally have visited Kenilworth Nursery School and the Inspirational Learning Space at Lillington. Outings from Nursery with the children have included the monthly visit to the Toddler Service at Church, seeing the Reception class assembly in school and going on a nature walk.



World Book Day

The children celebrated World Book Day by coming to Nursery dressed as their favourite book character. There was a wonderful array of costumes including Zackary as Woody from Toy Story, Audrey as Sporticus, Charlie as a racing driver, Freya as Alice in Wonderland and Joseph with a brilliant costume from his

favourite book 'Never Use a Knife and Fork'.

Reception Class Assembly

The older children were invited to attend the assembly presented by the Reception class at Harbury Primary School. The theme was Day and Night and the children thoroughly enjoyed their time in school and have been re-enacting parts of the assembly back at Nursery.

People who Help Us

The theme this half term is all about people who help us. The children had a visit from Evelyn's mum Corinna who is a nurse. She talked about her job and showed them some of her medical equipment and how to use a bandage and they all took turns bandaging the toys. Sophie – "My mummy wants to be a doctor when she's older – about 19. She wants to learn to give injections and to help people feel better."



We were also visited by James Taylor, a policeman based at Southam Police Station accompanied by Craig Youngman, a fire officer. James spoke about the role of a policeman and the children got to play with his baton and examine his police car. Reuben – “The policeman showed us his walkie-talkie.” Audrey – “The lights were flashing.”

Evie’s mum Katie and her baby brother Freddie also visited. “He has learned to stand up, but he can’t walk yet. He can crawl” said Freya learning about the growth and development of babies.

Forest School & Nature Walk

This month the older children have made houses for the three little pigs and they have produced potion pots in the outside woodland to gain awareness of all their senses.

The children have been busy in Nursery having fun and being creative and have produced a wonderful display about spring and growing including observational pictures of daffodils. They have been



learning that flowers grow from bulbs. Evie – “To make it grow you have to water it. It needs the rain and the sun”.

As part of the theme about spring the children went on a nature walk around the school grounds looking at all the spring flowers growing and they played in the willow tunnel. As part of development in knowledge and understanding of the world they have been looking at where they live and the natural world, noticing changes from winter to spring in their local environment.

Charlie spotted a bird “It’s a wood pigeon – it goes coo-coo”. Freya – “These flowers look like buttercups because they are yellow”. Phoebe – “You put seeds in the soil and then the water comes from watering cans and rain”.

Pancake Day

The children celebrated Shrove Tuesday by making and eating pancakes.

Dates for Your Diaries

The Nursery will close for Easter on Wednesday 13th April at 3.05pm and reopen again on Wednesday 27th April at 9.05am. We will also be closed for the Royal Wedding and May Day bank holidays.



Windmills Nursery will be hosting their annual Summer Ball on Saturday 25th June in Harbury Village Hall. More details to follow next month.



School Sport – It has been another busy couple of weeks in a number of sports:

The Netball team has continued its unbeaten run with victory over Bishop's Itchington (11-5) – they are in action this afternoon in the Southam Area rally – we wish them good luck.

The Football team has also had a successful term, winning against St Mary's (3-1) and Bishop's Itchington (8-0) and drawing with St Peter's (3-3) before losing to Shrubland St in a remarkable match where the score was 3-3 with two minutes to go – we lost 6-3!!!! More cross country running obviously needed!!

The Tag Rugby team has now completed its league programme which has been based at Leamington Rugby Club – over the season we won three matches and lost three.

And finally on sport, good luck to Dominic Priest, Evie Davy and Connie White, who are representing Central Warwickshire in the county Cross Country championships on Saturday.

Swimming Pool – Still on the theme of sport, we heard just before half term that Stratford District Council had approved our plans for the new school swimming pool. There is still a long way to go before the pool will be built, and I will keep you abreast of developments as they happen, but I would like at this time to place on record the school's thanks to the

Swimming Pool Committee, made up of staff, governors, parents and villagers, for the excellent work that they have done in getting the project to the stage it is now at. Many thanks.

Cross of Nails – As part of the bicentennial celebrations of Church schools, the Cross of Nails, which was made from the nails in the ruins of Coventry Cathedral and is a worldwide symbol of peace and reconciliation, is undertaking a pilgrimage around all of the Church of England Schools in the Diocese. The Cross of Nails will be at our school on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th April. To celebrate this, we would like to invite you to join the children in special services in the hall at 2.45pm on each day.

Family Service – As I mentioned in my last newsletter, the school will be leading the family service at Church on Sunday 3rd April – Mothers' Day. However, please note that the service is at **9am**, not 10.30am as printed in the newsletter.

Heart of Harbury Games – We shall be posting details of the Heart of Harbury Games, which are planned to take place in Harbury in June, on our school website. Although the games are being organised independently of the school, I am happy to act as a co-ordinator/facilitator for putting together teams of our families who may wish to take part but are not yet part of a full team. Please note, however, that the teams must be made up of adults as well as children – therefore, please do not ask us just to place children in teams – we can only place families with other families. When we have put the groups together, we will inform you of your other team members – it is then up to the teams to get together and enter themselves in the games – this will not be done by the school.

And Finally..... Congratulations to Miss King and her partner, James, who are expecting their first baby later this year. This is wonderful news and we wish the family all the very best for the future. Fortunately for Year 6, Miss King will be starting her maternity leave during the summer holidays!



Harbury Primary School P.T.A.

PTA Committee

Harbury School PTA will be holding three fundraising events next term:

Father's Day Beer Walk - Sunday 19th June

Father's Day Family BBQ - Sunday 19th June

Summer Fayre - Saturday 9th July

These events are open to everyone, not just those connected to the school. More details of all the events will follow.



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch



It's been good news all the way for the Village Hall in March, as we heard that we had received a further grant of £2,000 from Southam Vision and several groups within the village have made tremendous efforts to swell the coffers on the fund-raising front. The money from the 'local support' fund will be used to install two new fire-proof hatches replacing the existing old

fashioned MDF boards, which open to serve food from the kitchen into the Hall and the Farley Room and the Farley Room hatch will also be increased in height.

The contractors engaged to re-roof the extension have made excellent progress in the dry weather and the external work is almost completed. The new emergency escape doors have been fitted and favourable comments have been made about the increased amount of light, which now floods into the Farley Room and the old Youth Room. The main outstanding work is to box in and paint the



supporting timbers which have been added along the length of the beams in the main Hall. It was felt that the plain, untreated structural supports on either side of the purlins were somewhat unsightly, so the contractor has been asked to do a cosmetic job to disguise them. Out of sight to all but the intrepid few who climb into the roof space of the extension, are the repaired timbers, which support the roof and the thick coating of sheep's wool insulation, which is already making a difference to the temperature in the rooms below. Anyone who used the Hall whilst the wool was being installed might have had a strong smell of lanolin from the wool, but as time has gone on this has dissipated.

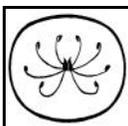
In the past month, the Treasurer of the fund-raising group has been given

cheques for £175 from the coffee morning organised by the Horticultural Society; a further £200 from the Cascade Lunch group started by Jan Freeman (a total of £250 so far, with an additional £70 to be received from gift aid) and a splendid £1,300 from the Jazz Evening organised by the Twinning Group. All of these amounts have been very gratefully received and show the extent of the community support for our Village Hall.



The fund-raising momentum will continue in May with the Charity Fun Day run by the Crown Inn on Monday May 2nd. The proceeds from this event will be equally divided between the Hall and Myton Hospice and everyone is encouraged to come along and support what promises to be a very enjoyable day. There will be a family BBQ (tickets £10.00 per adult, but children under 12 will eat free), a bouncy castle, a book and plant stall and other activities, which will keep visitors entertained during the day. Information about the event will be posted throughout the village, so keep a look out for all the details, as the next Harbury and Ladbroke News will not be issued until after the event.

A further event which will be publicised around the village will be the AGM of the Harbury Village Hall on Tuesday 19th April starting at 7.30pm. The committee are always pleased to see as many people as possible attend this public meeting, as it informs everyone about the achievements to date and is also a forum where residents can offer their suggestions for future improvements or events offered at the Hall premises. We hope to see you there, so that we have a consensus of opinion about the way forward.



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

Another great evening and speaker at our March meeting, enjoyed by over 50 members again. Thank you so much for all the support at the meetings so far this season.

The speaker was new to us but I'm sure we will be seeing him again. Roger Umpelby spoke about Friends and Foes in the garden.

He started off by telling us that insects are very beneficial to our gardens. Included in this genera were of course those lovely ladybirds who are such resilient insects having come through this last very cold winter intact. There are 46 species and we were shown slides off some of these, all different with spots and colours varying greatly. They eat scaly insects and the eggs of the young at a great rate. The Harlequin Ladybird which is orange and bigger than our native ladybird, eats newly laid ladybirds but it too devours other aphids so this is beneficial as well as an enemy. I shall be looking at the vast array of ladybirds in my garden through a different perspective from now on!

Obvious Foes are caterpillars; the best way to kill them is to squash them if you aren't at all squeamish! These too can vary in size and seem to devour greens at an alarming rate. Crickets nibble plants but are not that harmful. But bumble bees are of course great pollinators which is why it is so important to have a balance of fruit flowers and vegetables in our gardens for them to extract the nectar. As you know they have been on the decline recently and the hot weather of 2006 (can you remember that?) did not suit the bees and hence the reason that lots of runner beans did not do so well as the bees were not around to pollinate the flowers. However things are much more optimistic and hopefully they will continue to increase. So whilst we all long for hot summers we do not want very hot ones.

Wasps too are quite beautiful close up (trust me) and their nests are incredible, built with almost paper like qualities. Rest assured they will not re-occupy a previous nest. They are in fact the good guys, great predators who feed on those horrid caterpillars. They become a bit of a nuisance at the end of Autumn when they are drowsy and give the odd sting. Hornets rest up in Winter and they are not aggressive and these too will be of great benefit in the garden so don't discourage them.

Roger obviously loved beetles (being an entomologist helps); he showed us slides of all shapes and sizes. These too are to be encouraged as they eat chaffer grubs, horrid things. I had not heard of the Asparagus Beetle, a beautiful creature which does what it says on the tin! Feeds on asparagus so examine yours before you cook for a very few minutes and before you add all that butter. The Mint Leaf Beetle favours - yes you guessed it - mint! The Tiger Beetle favours sprouts and will eat bulbs, not a friend. So many more but too numerous to mention.

Aphids multiply at a very great rate; the females give birth to live young of about 20, the young then each lay a further 20 after 3 weeks and so on. In theory you could have three quarters of a million aphids from one female over a period of time, frightening to think of and hence the need for the predators to come along and devour them. Thank goodness one ladybird can eat up to 800 aphids over a few days.

Friends in our gardens, apart from wasps, are butterflies and moths. Wasps can lay up to 70 eggs but once developed will eat maggot pupas. Lace wing butterflies are fantastic to see with transparent wings; they too eat small insects and lava. Ants actually feed their young on nectar and honeydew. They squirt formic acid and really are a foe of the gardener. As too are midges which, as you know, transmit all sorts of nasty things.

We then discussed Red Beetles (not to be confused with the Lily Beetle); these will eat those nasty caterpillars and they are a dull red. The Lily Beetle is very shiny, easy to see and needs to be destroyed as they can decimate your lilies. Pick them off and squash them as soon as you see them.

The dreaded Vine Weevil is a big pest - these too devour leaves at an amazing rate. According to the RHS top of the list of foes this year is the Viburnum fly but this is hotly contested by Roger who believes that the dreaded slug and also snail is enemy number one. You can use crushed egg shells to deter from your Hostas which they love or put copper bands around pots and plants. Beer traps are popular but Roger felt a waste of good beer plus what to do with dead slimy things. I put Vaseline around the tops of my Hosta pots but the cunning things now seem to shimmy up the side of my shed and throw themselves down to the plants. They will not win this year - I shall move the pots! Some people cut the slugs in half and others put them in their green wheelie bins. I wouldn't like to be the one responsible for emptying the bin into the lorry!!! Roger advised using friendly slug pellets very sparingly. You can buy nematodes and add to compost; this does work. Really we have to be vigilant and try to destroy on a regular basis.

Earwigs are good to have in the garden, may not be nice to look at but will help to get rid of insects. Spiders are predators as are the New Zealand flat worms but these don't seem to be spreading at the rate predicted. Roger finished off with some superb slides of the Corn Blue butterfly.

A lively question and answer session took place; we all agreed that this was another informative and enjoyable talk.

I hope that everyone will enjoy Howard Drury's talk on 5th April. I shall be in the North East that week but I leave you in the more than capable hands of the Committee. I will report on the gardens etc that we will be visiting in my next article.

The May meeting on the 3rd after goodness knows how many Bank Holidays will feature a welcome return for Stanley Lampard who will be speaking about Borneo/A Tropical Paradise.

The 2 day trips are attracting a lot of interest - there are still some places available. Don't forget to pay by the May meeting.

The Hampshire trip costs £15 if a member of the National Trust otherwise the cost will be £21. The July trip to Dorothy Clive gardens, then Biddulph Grange Gardens costs £14 if a NT member otherwise £20. I think you will agree that both trips represent excellent value as the cost of coach travel is much more this year. If I don't see you at the meetings and you are interested just give me a ring. Also don't forget to bring your NT membership cards. I will remind you at the May meeting.

I have run out of time and space to advise of places to visit etc - I'm sure you know of the usual local places of interest - but do go and visit the Arboretum at Batsford. It is undergoing a makeover but some of the trees and shrubs will be stunning this year. It also has a very good plant centre.

Before I sign off I would just like to pay a tribute to Graham Prince who passed away recently and lived in Mill Street until he moved to live with his daughter in Kent. He was such a gentleman who gave me such good advice when I got my first allotment. He could always be relied on to give freely of his time when I had a problem. He will be greatly missed by all of his friends at the allotments. We salute you Graham.

We have all been busy on our allotments, so much to do but so rewarding. I now have 3 plots and couldn't be happier; it is true in the recent article in the Daily Mail gardening is therapeutic and does make you feel happy.

On that note enjoy your gardens and allotments this Spring; the challenges and rewards and BE HAPPY.



Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

Your local Hardy Plant Specialists

Also: Fresh cut flowers and bedding plants in season

There seems to be a lot of ladybirds in the garden which I've found when cutting things back and clearing away dead plant material. Something odd has occurred to me and it's that people often say that one of the good side effects of a harsh winter is that all the bad pests and diseases will have been wiped out. But if the good bugs survive such as ladybirds then surely the bad ones will also be around. A conundrum for you to ponder on.

Ladybirds are no longer reliably 'good' bugs because there are now a confusing number of look-alike bugs who are bad news for the common ladybird. For those of you who would like to follow this up then look up harlequin ladybirds on the internet.

At Bridge Nursery we are still counting the costs of the devastating winter. So far 1250 litres worth of compost has been dumped because the plants that were growing in those pots have succumbed to the frosts. I sometimes wish I sold furniture or cameras or shoes or anything else that didn't need quite so much tending and nurturing.

Reminders for April

- Sow parsnips and broad beans
- Sow peas
- Plant potatoes in trenches or large buckets
- Sow lettuce
- Apply rose fertiliser to roses
- If daffodils have not flowered well then dig them up split them and replant.

Café Opening on 2nd April.

Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton, Tel: 01926 812737
www.bridge-nursery.co.uk



Nature Notes

John Hancock

Today (Tuesday 22nd March), we're two days into spring and it feels like it. After a misty start, the sun has burnt through and the temperature reached 16C (61F). Pressure is high at 1032 millibars and rising. Traditionally, the first day of spring falls on the vernal equinox. The equinoxes in March and September are the time when the tilt of the earth means the sun is directly above the earth's equator meaning day and night are of equal length.

Until today, I'd only seen male Brimstone butterflies (*Gonepteryx rhamni*). The first was fluttering through the children's play area at Harbury on the 24th February when our grandchildren from Bath were visiting at half term. It's one of those butterflies that can be seen in any month of the year if it's warm enough. At rest it can easily be mistaken for a yellowing leaf. Possibly, the male, a butter yellow colour, gave rise to the word butterfly for the whole group. Today, after seeing about half a dozen male Brimstones this year, I saw my first female which is white in colour. Then, a black shape flew past as I was on my bike coming up Wasperton Lane from Barford in the direction of Oakley Wood.

It proved to be a Peacock butterfly (*Inachris io*) but it did not hang around for me to admire its false eyespots. Some say it should be known as the 'owl' butterfly. Rotate a picture of a Peacock and view it upside down. The hind wings are a perfect fit for the Little Owl and the insect uses this likeness to scare away predators. Nettles are its caterpillar's food so gardeners should leave a decent patch of these.

Rain has been in short supply and the full ditches of February are now a memory. A note in my diary says 'River Itchen bank high at Welsh Road' on February 27th. After that there was hardly a drop of rain throughout March and, until recently, cold north winds and frosts. On March 4th I walked along the southern edge of Ufton Woods. Elder was in tiny leaf and there was a hint of white on the blackthorn. Great Tits were trilling and a song thrush was rummaging for food in the hedge. I heard the distinctive hammering of a woodpecker and admired the Lesser Celandine and Primroses. I came back through the wood and walked off the path and down a steep slope with bluebell leaves underfoot. There was a seasonal pool tucked away at the bottom and I walked round it looking for deer slots. My eye was attracted by something floating in the water. It was a mass of frogspawn. I returned on March 19th and the sizeable pond was just a big puddle. I hardly recognised the place. The frogspawn was still there but had not changed, the eggs just black dots about 1 mm across. Rain is needed for its survival but there is none on the horizon.

Last year's birds' nests have become easily visible during the winter especially those which just seem to be a collection of sticks and have usually been made by pigeons. Now, as leaves begin to appear, birds are searching for nesting material. I saw a blackbird with its beak full of loose moss gleaned from that left by a lawn rake. At the left hand side of our garden looking from the back is an old hedge and ditch line. Once, it was graced by tall elms at intervals, and now several ivy clad ash trees have grown up. I had thought to cut down some of the ivy but I'm glad I did not. A couple of days ago, a Collared Dove flew up from the border with a twig in its beak and landed on a substantial horizontal branch. It then disappeared into the ivy surrounding the trunk. I watched it as it repeated the exercise; nest building must be under way. The spread of the Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) is quite a story. It only started to breed here in 1956 but is now very common and has reached the Shetland Isles. Until the close of the 19th century it was known in Europe only from the Balkans. It spread, slowly at first but then quite rapidly, to colonise all of Western Europe.

At a geological meeting recently, I learnt some facts you might like to share. The theory of continental drift/plate tectonics expounded by

Alfred Wegener in 1915 was supported by the fossil record. Australia, South America, South Africa, and Antarctica were once one land mass known as Gondwanaland. A fossil tree fern named *Glossopteris* is common to all. The ill-fated Scott Expedition to the South Pole in 1910-12 helped confirm that Antarctica was once joined to the rest. At the head of the Beardmore Glacier, where rock pushes through the ice, Scott's retreating team took samples and proceeded to haul them north to their last camp. Some *Glossopteris* fossils were amongst the rocks found the following summer when the rescue party, too late to save the explorers, reached their camp. This intriguing and topical talk [in view of the dreadful earthquake and tsunami in Japan] was given by Tom Sharpe, Keeper of Palaeontology at the Museum of Wales in Cardiff.

Now violets, both white and blue, shine brightly in short turf on some south facing banks. The emerald green of unfolding wild rose leaves prestage the delights of flora yet to show. Feast the eye and enjoy every day.



General Section

Harbury Library Update

About a hundred people attended a public meeting to discuss the future of the library on March 10th. Warwickshire County Council budget cuts mean that the library service is proposing to close half of Warwickshire's libraries, one of which is Harbury. WCC's own figures show that Harbury library is well used by the community, and therefore a small steering group has been formed to come up with an alternative business plan that hopefully will retain a library service in the village. Among the ideas we are currently considering are a café, adult computer education, and a 'new-to-you' shop. We would like to compile a list of potential volunteers who would be able to help, so if you have some spare time, a lot of enthusiasm, and think you could do your bit please contact Chris Rutherford on 613757 or email krismonsens@btopenworld.com.

If you have any good ideas we would be happy to hear them, and you can email chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk with suggestions.

To respond to the consultation go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facingthechallenge or pick up a consultation form in the Library.

Tim Lockley
Chairman, Habury Parish Council

Bumps and Bundles



Amber, Michael, Eden, Annabel, Ana, Harrison, Angus and Henry (and Ruby and Carrie) would like to invite any babies and their mums/dads/grandparents/carers along to meet them at Bumps and Bundles, held at the Tom Hauley Room every Tuesday (term time only) 10.30am – 12 noon. As the name suggests,

Bumps and Bundles also includes expectant mums – we have one “bump” at the moment and would love to welcome more. We are very lucky to have a team of fantastic volunteers, led by Gill, who serve us tea, coffee, biscuits and, if we’re very lucky, cake, allowing us to have a bit of a break and a good chat. Some Tuesdays we have taster sessions run by Southam Children’s Centre including baby massage and Chattermatters.

If you would like to know more please contact Helen (614150) or Kelly (611914), or just come along and see us.

Katy Spencer Hammon

Harbury Village Club

Subs are due at the beginning of January each year. If you have not already paid this year and want to remain a member, please forward your subscriptions to the Secretary as soon as possible –thank you.

Debbie Gee

Ballroom Dancing

The next 6-week session for ballroom dancing will begin on Wednesday, 4th May until and including 8th June. We now run the sessions from 8.00 pm until 10 pm. This is so anyone who would like to join us and considers themselves a 'beginner' can have 'start up' extra time with Anni (our teacher) from 8.00pm until 8.40pm, then can join in with the class as they please. If you want any more information, please ring me on 613680.

Joan Smith

High Speed Rail – Consultation Underway

The consultation on High Speed Rail is now underway and, whatever your views on it, it is important to make them known. Go to <http://highspeedrail.dft.gov.uk> to fill in the consultation survey electronically. If you would prefer a paper copy, they can be ordered from <http://shop.dft.gov.uk/highspeedrail> or by ringing the order line on 0300 321 1010. The consultation lasts until the 29th July.

Harbury Parish Council

Parish Plan Review Survey – Harbury Needs Your Responses!

The Parish Plan survey is still online and we still need as many residents as possible to fill it in – this is the way to make your views known on things that really matter to the village such as the **Library, the Village Hall, play facilities, village maintenance** and much more. The survey can be filled in online at www.harbury-pc.gov.uk or by picking up a hard copy from the Library, the Post Office or the Parish Office. Please return to either the Post Office or the Parish Office (Unit 2, Bull Ring Business Centre, Church Terrace) when completed.

P.S – want to know when your local MP will next visit Harbury or what is going on in the village over the next few weeks? You can find out when you visit the website and fill in your survey – www.harbury-pc.gov.uk.

Harbury Parish Council

Cascading Lunches

Well done to the ladies who have held a lunch this month to raise funds for the Village Hall. A total of £254 has been raised so far from 4 lunches.

It is quite a feat of organization to get 5 or 6 ladies together these days, but dates are in the diary for lunches next month.

If the weather keeps improving, it may be warm enough to barbeque your lunch!

Jan Freeman

MAY EDITION – HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS

Adverts to 31, Binswood End by 15th April

Articles to Harbury Pharmacy by 28th April

Carnival starts on the third Green Moon passing: Growoll +2 Year 4 Trillion and Three – Mars Time.

(Saturday June 11th, 2011 Earthlings time)

In spite of interest from Mars (see last Month's Harbury News) we are making the Carnival an entirely local affair.

So make sure YOU come and participate and help us continue the great carnival tradition. Get together with your local organisation, pub, street or friends and see what ideas you can come up with for either a float or a walking group for the procession. The more participants there are the more fun it is for everybody and I promise that you will enjoy the experience. Here is the list of categories:

Trade Float

Independent Float

Children's' 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

If you would like to book a stall/pitch on the field, please call Mike McBride on 612421, or if you would like to advertise in the programme telephone Ann Winchester on 612128 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.

And get your Wheelies in!

As we are probably the only Carnival in the world with a Wheelbarrow Race, you can take part on Sunday 5th June. You will need to complete an entry form and pay the entrance fee BEFORE the day. Forms will be available from the pubs and Dan Killian on 612265. And Pub Games Week follows (details in next month's Harbury News).

Whatever planet you are from...

Get it all in the diary now!

Peter Walshe
On behalf of the Carnival Committee



myton
hospice

Myton Hospice Support Group – 50s & 60s Disco

Back by popular demand! Dig out your blue suede shoes and rock 'n' roll down to Harbury Village Club on Saturday 7th May 2011 at 7:30pm so as not to miss this year's 50s & 60s Disco! Tickets only £5.00 each.

Anyone wishing to donate prizes for the raffle, please contact Shirley on 01926 612798. All donations are greatly appreciated and help to raise much needed funds for Myton Hospice.

Also, a quick reminder, this year's Craft Fair is on Saturday 12th November. Stalls are being booked up quicker than ever this year so to avoid disappointment please remember to return booking forms early.

Thank you!

Fiona Cadwallader
ficadwallader@btinternet.com

Blood Donors – A Whole Armful!

No, not Tony Hancock, but our own Doctor John, who made his 50th donation of blood at last month's session. Congratulations to him; he must know as well as anyone how the gift of blood can change someone's life. The session produced 93 donations – thank you to all those who went along. Next session in Harbury will be on Thursday 9th June; if you haven't been yet, why not give it a go?

Gillian Hare



Wednesday Walkers

Mary had a little lamb,
We saw him on our walk;
But when we stopped to say "hello"
He didn't want to talk!

Lambs and catkins, violets and skylarks, our walks are revealing such promising signs of spring. You are all welcome to join us anytime. We meet in the Village Hall car park at 9.45am and distribute car spaces so don't worry if you don't have transport. Most people have a flask of something reviving!

6th April: Kenilworth – 3 miles

13th April: Combrook and Compton Verney with option of coffee or lunch, 3 or 5 miles

20th and 27th April: no walks

4th May: Hunningham to view the famous pear tree at Cubbington – 3½ miles

Enquiries to Pam Parton, 614188 or Gillian Hare, 614809.



Gillian Hare



Heart of Harbury Games - Be in it to win it!

Arrangements for the **Heart of Harbury Games on Saturday 18th June** at the Recreation Ground are well on track. People are now putting teams together and we have received several entries already. We can only take ten teams so, if you are planning to enter a team, don't delay.

Let us have your entry even if you haven't got all your team members yet. You can add the last few names later.

And there are lots of other ways to get involved:

Join a team – We can tell you if there are teams that still have spare places.

Be a sponsor – If you donate £50 to sponsor one of the events, we will erect a board with your name on it at the starting line, you will be thanked in the programme and given the opportunity to present the medals for that event. And you will be contributing to a good local cause. (All proceeds will go to the Village Hall Development fund).

Be one of the helpers – We need lots of volunteers to help by starting or judging events and preparing and serving refreshments.

If you want to get involved in one of these ways please contact a member of the steering group: Andrew Lawrence, John and Sharon Hancock, Peter Walshe, Trevor Montague, Jenny Patrick, Janet Thornley, Lin Hayes, Susie Tawney, Andrew Hunt or Terry Hunt.

Andrew Lawrence (Tel 614937)

Bank Holiday Fun Day

The Crown in Crown Street is holding a charity fundraiser on Bank Holiday Monday, 2nd May. The proceeds are to be split equally between Myton Hospice and the Village Hall. It promises to be a really fun day with a barbeque at £10 per ticket with salads and veggie options – kids under 12, accompanied by a paying adult, eat free. There will be a Bouncy Castle, 2nd hand bookstall, plant stall, music from different genres and general merriment, so do put the date in your diary and get your ticket from Joe at the Crown. Any donations for the bookstall or the plant stall will be very welcome and can be left with the Thistlethwaites at Tarradale in Butt Lane.

Chris Rutherford

Art Classes

We are just coming to the end of another very successful term of water colour painting. The group is making excellent progress in this most difficult of mediums. We will spend next term consolidating techniques and, if the weather permits, you may see us around and about the village making sketches in pen and wash. Over the Easter holiday I am holding four workshops in my studio.

There are a few spaces left on the portrait day when Charlotte will be modelling for us. I shall be demonstrating for an hour at the beginning to give some ideas on how to draw a face, as many of the attendees have never done a portrait before. If anyone would like to have a go, contact me on 01926 614251.

Jan Freeman

Village with a Vision

Exciting things are happening! We have had discussions with three prospective Partners, who were each given two hours to tell us about their work. This included on-screen presentations of the Extra Care Homes they have built and operate; and then answering our many questions about the best way forward for Harbury. Each of them is a top provider in this field, and come highly recommended by the County. They were all very impressive.

Now we begin the task of working our way through all we have learned and reaching a conclusion. No easy task, but we are able to count on the expertise of Warwickshire County Council and the Institute of Public Care, to help and advise us.

Over the next months, when decisions have been made, we will be able to tell you much more, and probably hold a public meeting. As always, we are keen to keep you informed, and to all who have offered help and support the time is coming when we will want to take advantage of the many talents you have offered.

Can we also tell you that we are holding a Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 9th April and offers of Raffle prizes and cakes will be appreciated.

We thank everyone who has shown interest in this project; please stay with us in this exceptional undertaking for our village.

Tony Stubbs

The Harbury Energy Initiative

Development in new energy technologies is rapidly gathering pace – and energy. It seems that even in the short time that our small but growing group has been working together, ideas have moved forward. On 22nd March Anthony Morgan gave us a presentation at the Old New Inn on 'hybrid panels', the products of his company Newform Energy. These panels combine solar heat for hot water with photovoltaic electricity generation from the sun. Connected to heat pumps and with improved building insulation and other efficiencies, it is possible to reduce carbon production in your home by 82% or more – and save a great deal of money over time. I have no intention of trying to explain how this works. I am, as many of you, a fascinated amateur, stunned by what can be done and what we could have been doing a lot sooner, had we accepted the urgency of our situation. The price indicator on the petrol pump may help to focus our minds a bit more!

Our plans for helping people to understand the benefits, financial and environmental, of reducing our energy use and of fitting these new systems are taking shape. We have booked our place at the Carnival in June to show you a bit more about energy saving and carbon reduction. Before that, however, the steering group has arranged some free training for volunteer Energy Champions on 11th May in the village. Energy Champions, I hasten to assure you, are definitely not required to be technical experts. They need to be enthusiasts about the principles and enjoy talking to people about their enthusiasm. We need about 8 people to make this viable; we are part way to that total but could do with a few more. If you are interested, please contact David Bristow on 612536. We are also looking at booking a group visit to the Wolseley Sustainable Building Centre later in the year. Anyone interested in joining this can contact Jenny Patrick on 614395.

If, in the meantime, you want to do a bit of internet browsing on the subject, you will find that we are registered on the Energysave website and on the Energy Savings Trust Green Communities site. There is information on those sites about grants and funds that we hope to access for the community and you might benefit from for yourselves. You can even join the group and become our friends! Our next meeting will be at The Old New Inn at 7pm on 25th May, energised as ever with a little refreshment.

Bob Sherman
bob@churchterrace8.freemove.co.uk
612277

Art Show

With no Garden Walkabout this year, it looked as though we would also lose the annual Art Exhibition in the Church. Bill Davies tells me he hopes to hold the exhibition in the late summer in support of the Village Hall Development Fund. Dates and venue are under discussion so watch this space.

John Hancock

Take That Shakespeare!

Even we thought that we had gone slightly mad when we announced this year's 'Make a Noise' theme. Who would have thought that Take That songs fitted so well into the story of Romeo and Juliet?! This year's Workshop was a resounding success with a great performance from 31 children, 10 musicians, 2 fabulous sopranos, 1 professional singer and a very hard day's work.



The day pulled together singing, acting, scenery painting, face painting and a live band. They also did very well singing in harmony with a professional singer, Abby Rhodes. Giving the youngsters the opportunity to work with 'real' musicians each year is the main point of the workshop day for us. It was great to see the children 'wowed' by this experience and going up to ask Abby about her singing or taking a closer look at the instruments in their break times.



Each acting scene contained a mixture of original Shakespearean script and modern narration to tell the full story of Romeo and Juliet.

Almost all of the children had a line to say within the story - from the smallest and shyest to the most outspoken - which was lovely to see. There

were also some very dramatic acting moments - Tybalt had to be told to 'die quickly!'

If you want to get a look at what we got up to and hear some extracts of the music, visit our website:

www.harburychoirschool.org/take-that-shakespeare to see the slide show!



The fun doesn't stop there; we are now looking forward to our next engagement. We will be taking the Chamber Choir to Birmingham for a day workshop to sing the full work of Handel's 'Messiah' with other choirs and an orchestra. This will be a challenging day, but the youngsters are looking forward to it after singing the 'Halleluiah Chorus' at Birmingham Cathedral last year and getting a taste for the music (even all those high top G's which they remember so well!).

Helen Iles
Harbury Choir School

Threat to Our Bus Services

The County Council, as a result of the cuts in its funding from government, has proposed a 45% reduction from £2.9m to £1.6m in its funds for subsidised services.

The officers are trying to work out how to manage this! They have set out what services they believe will be lost but say it could take six months to be certain.

They hope to be able to renegotiate some of the contracts and have £200,000, for the coming year only, to continue existing Community Transport Schemes.

Their current policy is to ensure that all rural communities have a minimum service of one bus a week, so it is likely that these will be the first priority.

At present we have eight separate bus routes serving Harbury:-

- 64A from Rugby through Southam to Leamington (Daily including Sundays)
- 65 from Daventry through Southam to Leamington (Mondays to Saturdays)
- 66 from Banbury through Southam to Leamington (Mondays to Saturdays)
- 503 Long Itchington through the villages to Banbury (Thursdays & Saturdays)
- 570 Harbury through the villages to Coventry (Mondays to Saturdays)
- 497 Lighthorne, Harbury to Supermarkets Flexibus (Tuesdays)
- 498 Offchurch, Harbury to Banbury Flexibus (Thursday – Market Day)
- 500 Long Itchington Harbury, Wellesbourne, Stratford Flexibus (Monday to Friday)

At present, the plans are for all the Flexibus and evening services to be withdrawn plus the bus to Coventry.

These are subsidised services. They had to be paid for by the County because commercial operators are not allowed to run unprofitable routes and nor can they cross-subsidise. It's also why we see double-decker buses running almost empty on subsidised routes. That's because companies who run commercial routes often bid for subsidised services using the excess capacity they have at off-peak times.

If you look at the website www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facingthechallenge you can see what is likely to happen in other villages as well as ours.

Meanwhile, pensioners, use your bus pass while you can!

Linda Ridgley

The Shakespeare Inn

The Shakespeare Inn was first recorded as a public house in 1886 although the building dates back to the sixteenth century when it was originally a farm. The building has been added to over the years and, as recently as 1969, the most westerly part was a dress shop.

The Grade I listed building is currently undergoing an external refurbishment. With new timber framed windows being installed with repairs and re-decoration to the facade; the pub under the watchful eye of



John and Elaine Kay, the licensees, will be restored to its former glory. John and Elaine, who moved from Warwick, have been running the Shakespeare since last May. Previously they ran a taxi business, although John had always had a desire to manage a pub and, as both had always liked Harbury, the Shakespeare was an ideal opportunity for their new venture. The couple have one son, Simon, who spends his time between his home in Leicester and Harbury.

The Shakespeare has always been known for its fireplace and roaring fires, for somewhere to sit and enjoy a drink during the cold winter months. Behind the bar, there are four traditional hand pulled beers, Bombadier, Hookey Bitter, Old Speckled Hen and Green King IPA as well as wines, spirits and soft drinks.



The Shakespeare, with its conservatory style restaurant, is open Monday to Saturday from 12.00 noon to 9.00pm for food. Their menu offers home cooked food accompanied by local fresh vegetables. Main courses range in price from £6.50 up to £11.95 for a steak. Other choices on the menu are steak and ale pie, gammon, scampi and chilli. Snacks such as sandwiches and jacket potatoes are also available.

John and Elaine offer afternoon tea or coffee with sandwiches and freshly baked cakes. Tea for two which includes cake is from £5.00. Sunday lunch is available between 12.00 noon and 3.00pm, with a traditional roast always on offer as well the full menu selection being available. The roast costs £6.95 for one course with a range of starters and desserts from £3.50 to also choose from.



Private functions such as birthday parties, anniversaries and after funerals gatherings can also be held at The Shakespeare. The Theatre Group, Ukulele Group and Book Club hold their regular meetings at the pub. Many ramblers also decide to visit the pub when passing through the village on a walk.

The Shakespeare provides a pool table and darts board with teams in both in local leagues. During the summer months, John and Elaine hope to welcome families who can enjoy the beer garden with the added attraction of a bouncy castle. Future plans include internal redecoration, live music nights and scalextric evenings.

The Shakespeare is contactable on 613822.

Gill Holden

Business Networking Group

Readers might be interested to know that the networking group that I have been running for eighteen months in Southam has been moved to The Crown in Harbury and our next meeting is on the 13th April 2011 starting at 7am. The purpose of the group is to encourage local business within the Southam district and we meet on the third Wednesday of every month at the same time. There is no membership fee and bookings can be made in advance by emailing dwrist@rollasons.com. Our speaker next month will be Dean Walton of Mask-arade entitled "The Dragon Slayers - from Dragons Den to High Street Stores".

Peter Rollason

Chesterton Church

We have some exciting events coming up at Chesterton Church.

'Horse and Rider Blessing' - Saturday 21st May at 2pm. A special service to Bless horses and their riders followed by an option 'Happy Rural Hack'. Light refreshments available. Please book up front for the hack with £5, otherwise £8 on the day. All horses welcome for the Blessing. This will be a lot of fun.

'Mid Summer Prom' - Saturday 25th June 6.30pm. A follow on from the tremendous success of last year's concert. Once again, performed by 'Espressivo' with the Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir. Tickets £12, children under 14 free. Tickets available from Mugleston's Country Fayre, Harbury.

Photographic Exhibition - 1st May Bank Holiday: 'Winter Scenes' and 'Portraits'. Mount your photos with name and title of photo and bring them along to the Church over the Easter weekend. Let everyone enjoy your photos.

We look forward to your support. For more information, contact Jo Spurr – 614431, 15 Hillside, Harbury.

Jo Spurr

Ufton Fields Nature Reserve

Dog walkers and runners who use the path round the nature reserve may have been puzzled by the clearance work on the far side of the reserve. Warwickshire Wildlife Trust says that the calcareous (lime rich) grassland is a very rare habitat in Warwickshire, virtually confined to quarry sites and often swamped by scrub and planted with non-native tree species.

The clearance work is vital conservation work to save the nationally rare Man Orchid (only found at Ufton) and to allow the Small Blue butterfly to recolonise once kidney vetch (sown in 2009) has become established.

Gillian Ingham

Southam College Community Education Centre Summer Term 2011

Looking for a change? Would you like to try something different, meet new people and have fun? Why not join one of the many local courses offered by Southam Community Education Centre at Southam College and other local venues. We run a varied programme of courses, both daytime and evening, in the following areas:

- Creative, arts and crafts,
- fitness, dance and well being
- computing/IT

General interest/personal development

Flyers are available from Easter in libraries, the leisure centre or your local shop/PO in most local villages.

You can also telephone us on 01926 810942 and visit our website www.southamcollege.com. Follow the Community Education link to view our latest programme and find a short description of most of our courses.

Courses commence week starting Tuesday, 3rd May, 2011.

Sue Hawthorn
Southam Community Education Centre



Southam Lions

Southam Lions will be holding their Spring Dance at Southam College, Southam on Saturday 9th April, 7.30 – 11.30pm.

Come and dance to our new band 'Dynamite Slap' who will be playing 50's, 60's and 70's music. There will also be a licensed bar and raffle. Tickets cost £10.00 per head and are available by contacting me on 814436.

Peter Guy



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

We would like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages of sympathy on the loss of our mother, Ruth Merrick, also a grandmother and great-grandmother. Thank you to all who attended the service; special thanks to Father Craig for his words of comfort, help and advice, to Mavis for the music, Mary and Paul for the floral tribute and to all for the £200 raised for the National Lifeboat Association.

Anne Edwards and Alan Merrick

Dear Editors

Clive and I have been very touched by all the enquiries, cards, telephone calls and messages of support since my illness began after Christmas. Sadly, due to my ill health, I feel unable to renew my shop lease at the end of June. I would like to thank everyone for their support over the last three years and I particularly thank Chris and Jo who have been such stalwarts during this time.

Jan Watts

The Fragrant Room

Dear Editors

Local Boys' Second Book

As proud parents, through the pages of this publication, we would like to congratulate our son Martin, on the publication of his second book. Martin was born and brought up in Harbury, and attended Harbury School and Leamington Boys College.

Both books are based on his experiences as a Marketing Specialist.

The first book, entitled 'Crowd Surfing', explains the effect that the internet is having on business and political leaders and explores the lessons that we can learn from corporate and political crowd surfers.

In his latest book, entitled 'Loose', he describes how through employee empowerment with loose, more open ways of working, thinking and operating, organisations can be helped to change their terms of business before it is changed for them.

Joan and Tony Thomas

Dear Editors

Thank you to everyone who let me know that one of our Old Girls, otherwise known as Scaly Legs, had made a bid for freedom and was found enjoying the worms in the gardens of Constance Drive.

She is now back home and happily telling her friends all about her excitement! Let's hope no more do a Chicken Run!

Many thanks

Karena and Family

Dear Editors

On behalf of the President and Rotarians (Southam Rotary Club,) may I say a very sincere thank you to all of those who supported our coffee morning on 12th March. A total of £163.35 was realised towards Rotary Charities.

Grateful thanks.

Jean Foster

Secretary, Rotary Club, Southam

Dear Editors

I would like to thank everyone who supported our recent coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room.

As a result we have been able to donate £175 to the Village Hall Restoration Fund.

Many thanks also to all who helped.

Judy Morrall

Chairman

Dear Editors**My year with Stratford District Council**

In May 2010, I was privileged to be elected to Stratford District Council for Harbury and Bishops Itchington. Thanks to my company being supportive, it was possible to combine the challenges of my job and being a Councillor. I really enjoyed the experience of meeting so many of my fellow-residents and listening to their issues, and I hope I was able to achieve some good results.

But then my company made me an amazing offer which I was unable to refuse. Unfortunately, it just doesn't leave me enough time to do justice to the Council work as well, and requires me to undertake extensive European travel. So, very regretfully, I have had to resign from SDC. If I had known this in the spring of 2010, I wouldn't have stood as a candidate - but how many of us can predict the future? I'm really sorry to let the residents down, but I hope you will understand my position.

With best wishes to you all for the future,

Richard Tonge

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- * Children's Games
- * Magician (to be confirmed)
- * A selection of live Music



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Chicken Burger & Chips	£4.25
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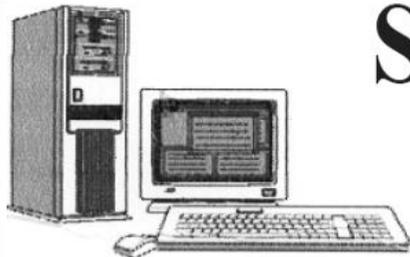
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