

Harbury & Ladbroke News

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John Holden - Chris Finch - Marian Millington - Janice Montague
Ralph Swadling - Jackie West

*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



Our photograph shows Her Majesty reluctant to hand over her copy of the Harbury & Ladbroke News! Thank you to Mask-arade Ltd for capturing this topical picture.

This month there are many congratulations due: to Quona and Phil Huntley who have recently celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary, to Mike McBride on winning this year's Spirit of Harbury award, to Windmills Nursery supporters on raising £900 by climbing Mount Snowdon and, lastly, to Harbury Rugby Club which has been awarded R.F.U accreditation.

At the recent Harbury & Ladbroke News AGM, it was reported how successful the advertising income has become. Many local businesses advertise in the magazine and we would ask that readers would mention the News when responding to adverts.

This month is a first for the magazine; we are including *colour* photographs of the recent Theatre Group production and of the new Library Café, Biblios, of which there are very good reports of the coffee and cakes.

June is a month of celebrations for both villages including a fete, festival, carnival and games – not forgetting the Jubilee of course!

Harbury Diary

JUNE

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| Sat | 2 | Coffee Morning, 10.00am – 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of STEPS |
| Sun | 3 | TRINITY SUNDAY
Sung Eucharist, 9.00am
First Light Service, 10.30am, Tom Hauley Room |

- Sun 3 Quiet Contemplative Service in the Celtic Tradition,
6.00pm
Wheelbarrow Race, 12.30pm for 1.00pm start at
The Shakespeare Inn
- Mon 4 SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
Aunt Sally Pub Game, 7.30pm at the Dog Inn
- Tues 5 DIAMOND JUBILEE DAY HOLIDAY
Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Horseshoes Pub Game, 7.30pm at The Gamecock
- Wed 6 Wednesday Walkers 4m Walk, Radford Semele to
Crown Hill, 9.45am at Village Hall
N.B. No 2.00pm Communion Service today
Mothers' Union Meeting, 2.30pm Tom Hauley Room
Topic: 4 Million Members: Mary Sumner and the Mothers' Union
Skittles Pub Game, 7.30pm at the Old New Inn
- Thurs 7 Blood Donors, 1.30 – 3.30pm and 4.30 – 7.30pm in Village Hall
Art Group Early Summer Watercolours, 10.00am – 12 noon in
Scout Hut
Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee
Men's Group Outing to Morgan Cars, followed by supper
Quiz, 7.30pm at the Village Club
Folk Club 8.00pm in Dog Inn
- Sat 9 Coffee Morning, 10.00am – 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in
aid of Inner Wheel
CARNIVAL – Judging of floats 12.15pm, Carnival Procession
departs Sutcliffe Drive at 1.00pm
- Sun 10 TRINITY I**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am
- Mon 11 SCHOOL STARTS
- Tues 12 Toddlers Service, 2.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Holy Communion, 7.30pm
- Wed 13 Harbury Senior Citizens Summer Outing to Bournemouth
leaves 8.30am from the Village Hall
Horticultural Society trip to Anglesey Abbey Gardens leaves
9.00am from the Village Hall
Wednesday Walkers 4m Walk Snitterfield – Welcome Obelisk,
9.45 am at Village Hall (Lunch Optional)
- Thurs 14 Holy Communion 9.45am, followed by coffee
Village Hall Management Committee, 7.30pm in Village Hall
WI 7.45pm in Tom Hauley Room – Thatching by Amanda Davies
- Fri 15 ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: 31 BINSWOOD END,
HARBURY BY 5.30PM
- Sat 16 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7.30am, Tom Hauley Room
Coffee Morning, 10.00am – 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid
of British Heart Foundation

- Sat 16 Harbury Games on Playing Fields – Opening Ceremony
10.00am, Closing Ceremony 6.00pm
- Sun 17 TRINITY II**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Family Communion Service, 10.30am
Evensong, 6.00pm
PTA Beer Walk and BBQ – Register for walk at school between
11.30am and 12.30pm, BBQ starts 5.00pm at the
Shakespeare Inn
- Mon 18 Harbury Society Visit, 7.00pm to Reeves Farm
- Tues 19 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
- Wed 20 Wednesday Walkers 4m walk Fawsley to Badby Woods, meet
9.45am at Village Hall
Tea 3.00pm Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 21 Holy Communion 9.45am, followed by coffee
Warwickshire Young Voices, 6.30pm in Village Hall
- Sat 23 Coffee Morning, 10.00am – 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in
aid of W.I.
- Sun 24 TRINITY III – St. JOHN THE BAPTIST**
Holy Communion, 8.00am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am
- Tues 26 Drop in Tea for the Bereaved 2.30 to 4.30pm, 19 Farm Street
Holy Communion, 7.30pm
- Wed 27 Wednesday Walkers 4m Walk Herb Centre to Ratley, meet
9.45am at Village Hall
- Thurs 28 Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee
Thursday Club in Village Hall, 2.30pm
ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO HARBURY PHARMACY
HIGH STREET OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK
BY 5.30PM
Parish Council, 7.30pm in Village Hall
- Sat 30 Coffee Morning, 10.00am – 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in
aid of Cricket Club
Revd Annie Goldthorp's Ordination in Coventry Cathedral
Windmills Nursery presents The Maharaja's Ball 8.00pm –
midnight at the Village Hall
- JULY**
- Sun 1 TRINITY IV**
Revd Annie Goldthorp's First Eucharist, 10.30am in Harbury
Church
N.B. No First Light Service today
Evening Taizé-style Service, 6.00pm
Harbury Society Afternoon Guided Tour of Warmington and Tea
- Tues 3 Tennis Club Strawberry Mixed Doubles, 6.00pm for 6.30pm
Holy Communion, 7.30pm

- Wed 4 Wednesday Walkers 4m walk Wrington – N. Newington meet 9.45am at Village Hall
N.B. No 2.00pm Communion Service today
M.U. Outing to Offchurch, followed by Strawberry Tea, Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 5 Art Group Beech Scene, Watercolour/Acrylic/Gouache, 10.00am – 12 noon Scout Hut
Holy Communion, 9.45am, followed by coffee
Folk Club, 8.00pm at Dog Inn
Men's Group AGM and "Hobbies", 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 7 Coffee Morning, 10.00am – 12 noon in Tom Hauley Room in aid of Mothers Union
PTA Summer Fayre, 12.00 noon – 3.00pm at School

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

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

	From the Rector	Reverend Craig Grocock The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury ☎612377 ✉ kankudai43@aol.co.uk
	All Saints HARBURY	

Long to reign over us . . .

To mark the sixtieth year of the Queen's reign, a series of events are being organised right across the county to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Queen came to the throne in 1952 and this year will become the second monarch in British history to celebrate a Diamond Jubilee, the first being Queen Victoria. Diamond Jubilee events will focus around the extended weekend June 2nd - 5th.

Ladbroke will be having its own focus on the Jubilee that weekend; The village fete on the Saturday afternoon, from 1pm, will have a Jubilee theme with lots of red, white and blue! On the Sunday morning All Saints' will be having a Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving at 10.30am and then on the Monday at Church, 10am-4pm, there will be a Festival of Arts, Crafts and Hobbies which will celebrate the creativity of local people.

Whatever you are doing on this weekend do take some time to thank God for the sixty faithful years of service our Queen has given to Britain and the Commonwealth. The following prayer has been written at the Queen's direction by the chapter of St Paul's Cathedral – you may like to use it.

'God of time and eternity, whose Son reigns as servant, not master;
We give you thanks and praise that you have blessed this Nation,
the Realms and Territories with Elizabeth our beloved and glorious
Queen.

In this year of Jubilee, grant her your gifts of love and joy and peace
as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her Lord and God and in
devoted service to her lands and peoples, and those of the
Commonwealth,

now and all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen'

From the Registers

Funerals, All Saints' Harbury

19th April Roland Padbury (76 years)

Baptism, All Saints' Harbury

13th May Hugo Banbury



From the Churchwardens

Liz & Will

We have a cunning plan! The Church and the Tom Hauley Room both need work done on the fabric of the building. Our architect's report (the Quinquennial report) tells us which jobs need doing and the timescales for

achievement. We have also identified shortcomings in the Tom Hauley Room – namely painting the external window frames, refurbishing the toilets, redecorating the whole place internally and, at some point, looking at the kitchen design and layout.

A rough project plan with tentative costings was presented to the PCC in May.

Some of these projects could be done by volunteers – e.g. re-treat the main timber doors. Others should be carried out by craftsmen and projects of certain types need to be done together – e.g. all masonry repairs or roof repairs. We reckon the cost will be about £40,000 over three years. The list isn't endless, it is do-able and we will put this plan up on the Church notice boards for all to see.

However, quite rightly, we don't have the freedom to do what we wish and we need to apply for faculties (a sort of church planning permission – we are a grade II listed building) for a number of these projects. But planning is vital so we don't waste money, energy and time.

If you have the skills, time, and energy (2 out of 3 will do!) to help, then please contact Liz McBride (612421), William Jones (611914) or a passing vicar who would love to hear from you. Money would be handy too – some kind souls have already pledged funds for the toilet refurbishment.

	<p>Mothers' Union</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Gillian Hare</p>
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At the May meeting we decided to send £80 from our funds to the Mothers' Union in Southern Sudan who are empowering women there through their literacy and numeracy project.

Our members are taking part in a government consultation on same-sex civil marriage and are answering a questionnaire on the subject.

After the business part of the meeting, John Guilford told us about his work with the Leamington Night Shelter. John started volunteering when he retired, at first with Business in the Community and later helping homeless people to find work through Action on Homelessness.

In 2009 he heard a talk on Leamington Night Shelter and decided to volunteer to help there. After their premises in Bath Place school burned down, the Radford Road Church offered to host the Night Shelter one night and later two nights a week. The shelter is open on Wednesday and Sunday nights from 9pm. The homeless people are welcomed in and,

after being searched for drugs or alcohol, are given washing facilities, a good meal and somewhere to sleep. Food is provided by a number of organisations including Sainsburys and the Sikh Temple. Volunteers talk to the people who come and try to help them with advice on housing, jobs etc.

John told us stories of some of the people who come to the shelter and his talk was very interesting and moving.

He is now also working in Rugby helping ex-offenders.

At our next meeting on 6th June, we shall hear about the life of Mary Sumner who started the Mothers' Union.



Toddlers' Service

Barbara Thistlethwaite

Our service started with Mr Hare playing our chosen song for us. We then sang our prayer.

Mrs Bedford then said that she would tell us the story about how Moses crossed the Red Sea. Moses and his people, who were all slaves, had to work very hard for the King which made them very unhappy. God had told Moses that his people would be set free to go and live in the Promised Land. They all prayed very hard to be set free.

One day the King decided that he would let them free, so Moses then had to decide which way to go. Moses did not have any maps or SatNav to help him so he prayed to God and asked him to help.

God sent a dark cloud for Moses and his friends to follow during the day. We then set off on our journey round the Church singing "One more step along the world I go." We went all around the Church until Mrs Bedford said that it was now night time and God had sent a bright red light for us to follow. We followed the light back into the Tom Hauley Room where we came to a river which we had to cross and we sang "How did Moses cross the Red Sea."

God sent a big wind (we all blew hard to make the wind); the sea then parted and we were able to cross it just like Moses and his men did all those years ago to reach the Promised Land.

We made some great pictures of clouds, flames and a sea to take home.

The next Toddlers' Service will be on 12th June at 2.00pm in the Tom Hauley Room. All babies and toddlers, accompanied by an adult are welcome. We look forward to seeing you then.


First Light
Alison Abbott

We seem to have a lot to celebrate at the moment.

This year our cathedral in Coventry is 50 and there are many things going on to celebrate this. In a small way we joined in with this last month at First Light. Our theme was power and how we can use power for good or misuse it. It was a very destructive power that burned Coventry Cathedral down in 1940, but out of that rose a very constructive power – The Community of the Cross of Nails which works for reconciliation.

Unknown to me, one of the ladies present, works on the Schools' team at Coventry Cathedral so we had a very interactive time as she kept chipping in with information and comments. (All good, and very much in the informal spirit of First Light.). We had a lovely little play about a very stressed mother, her disobedient children and a delightful granddad, and finished by going into Church to gather round the wooden Cross of Nails for a time of prayer.

No prizes for guessing that on 3rd June we will have a royal theme! Linking in with the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Usual time -10.30am, usual place - Tom Hauley Room.

Please note that there will not be a First Light in July. This is because on 30th June, Annie is being ordained as a priest so, on 1st July, instead of having First Light, we are joining with Ladbroke for a special communion service to celebrate this important step for Annie.

Ladbroke News & Diary

JUNE

Sun	3	TRINITY SUNDAY Civic Service, 10.30am in Church followed by refreshments
Mon	4	Festival of Arts, Crafts and Hobbies, 10.00am – 4.00pm in Church
Sat	9	Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
Sun	10	TRINITY I Holy Communion, 9.00am
Mon	11	W.I baton handover, 3.00pm at Church
Fri	15	ADVERTS FOR NEXT ISSUE TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY BY 5.30PM

Sat	16	Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
Sun	17	TRINITY II Holy Communion, BCP, 9.00am Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
Sat	23	Whist Drive, 7.45pm, Village Hall
Sun	24	TRINITY III Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am
Thurs	28	ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH STREET OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK, DEADLINE 5.30PM W.I Jubilee Party, 7.30pm in the Village Hall
JULY		
Sun	1	TRINITY IV Joint Service, 10.30am in Harbury Church NO SERVICE IN LADBROKE
Tues	3	Ladbroke Photography Club Walkabout – location to be decided



Betty was so flattering about my summary of the Annual Village Meeting last month that I accepted her invitation to go along to the Parish Council meeting on 16th May and do the report for this magazine. The official minutes are still taken by the PC's secretary, Jane Cove, and once approved are available on the village website; what follows is my take on the proceedings.

Motorbike Monitoring – this perennial question should be asked of the police at the next Warwickshire Community Forum. Some villages have people trained to use a speed camera. This might cause bikes to slow down during actual monitoring but since you can't get the licence number of a fast motorbike it is unlikely to be a long term deterrent. Also there is little that can be done about the noise from bikes which have the silencer baffles open since these can be adjusted by the rider to a quieter setting to pass the MOT and then back again.

Items from previous meetings - progress, or lack of it was as follows: the containers at the back of Ladbroke Farm have gone; the name change of Windmill Lane east of the by-pass has "slightly stalled" with the SDC solicitor and the merger between the Village Hall and Millennium Green is ongoing.

The village website is now at ladbroke-pc.org.uk. Despite the work involved, the change from .gov has saved money. Note the .co version reported at the annual village meeting last month had been superseded as that was not considered appropriate for long term use.

Financial - payments relating to the web (once checked that .org is working OK), insurance and electricity etc. were approved.

Planning matters - the Parish Council had made no representations for felling two willows and one poplar at Tollgate Cottage and no representations except to refer to previous original comments and to SDC's legal department regarding the non-compliance with holiday let conditions and change of use to dwelling house for several cottages at Manor Farm. Ladbroke Hill Farm had applied for one Gaia wind turbine, 25.8m to blade tip, a replacement for the one which was not working. The Parish Council had also been invited to comment on the proposed five wind turbines, 125m to blade tip, and ancillary development on land between Bishop's Itchington, Gaydon & Knightcote. Councillors were aware of many adverse comments from the locals and the CPRE about the visual impact and amplitude modulation (noise) but it was questioned if it was appropriate for Ladbroke PC to send comments - apart from saying that they do not comply with the draft strategy to keep Warwickshire a rural idyll - since the turbines would not be seen or heard from the Ladbroke. However, the district councillor present confirmed that comments were invited from adjoining parishes on how they would impact their own residents e.g. when using the area for leisure, work, travelling etc.

Jubilee celebrations - the Fete, Civic Service and Festival on 2nd, 3rd and 4th June were noted and planting a tree in the autumn was discussed - one idea is to replace the Copper Beech lost from Farmyard Field; this is to be discussed with the owner of the land.

Flooding review - tenders are being invited for a modelling exercise and the Parish Council would be able to review the tendering reports.

HS2 - the next HS2 Community Forum meeting will be on 20th June. The notes of the previous one were reported to be available on the web (*but I haven't been able to find them yet, only the agenda*). There will be two Judicial Review hearings – a seven day one in October to consider all the environmental applications and a separate one on compensation with the results available about Christmas. Judicial reviews are about the process and will not stop HS2 but may delay it. The Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping and Methodology Consultation is in progress, comments must be sent by 30th May. The Parish Council will discuss with the Ladbroke Action Group (who were not invited to comment) as this document will define among many other things how noise impacts will be calculated and deemed significant or not.

WCC - Warwickshire Community Forums will continue – these meetings are not empowered to take decisions but are to communicate

information to/from representatives of all locations covered by one county councillor. Some see it as duplication or another level of bureaucracy!

SDC - In the recent elections for Stratford District Council the apathy party won as only 32% of the electorate voted. The Conservatives and Liberals Democrats lost just two seats each so it remains Conservative controlled.

Next meeting – Wednesday 18th July 2012.



Thursday, 24th May was the meeting during which this year's Annual Resolution was to be discussed and there was only one topic under consideration this year.

The Resolution stated:

'There is a chronic shortage of midwives. The National Federation of Women's Institutes calls on the government to increase investment in the training, employment and retention of midwives in England and Wales to ensure services are adequately resourced and are able to deliver a high standard of care'.

Sue Moore read out the statistics and justification for this choice. The only point which was questioned against this proposal was if money was spent on this objective, would it detract from other branches of the care services, for example, the elderly. Some of the members had personal experience of the difficulties currently being experienced in maternity services and, after discussion, the majority of members agreed that the motion should be carried. A delegate representing six local W.I. groups will take our views forward to the Annual Meeting to be held later in the year.

The business meeting followed after wine and cheese had been distributed.

Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge had been well represented at the group meeting and at skittles and darts events and a darts board will be put up in the Village Hall to allow more practice to make us even better next year.

The W.I. is going to be busy over the Jubilee weekend. We will be serving tea and cakes at the Fete on Saturday and help in the form of cakes for individual consumption and hands on the day will be appreciated.



Mushrooms by Allan Ballard

After a break for coffee and some excellent cake, (now there is an incentive to join us if you have been hesitating), we had a display of 'ten of the best' from four members. They showed a selection of their best photographs on the screen, explaining how and why they had taken them. Richard Crompton had a very striking picture of streams of people climbing Mount Fuji in the early morning. Nathalie Crompton wowed us with a shot taken from her

window just the day before when the sun lit up Weddington Hill following the rain. Kip Warr, determined to show his long experience (or age), included some black and whites taken in the 1970s. Allan Ballard showed us remarkable close-ups of flowers in his garden - the fine detail of plants that we take for granted or just don't notice at all.

We usually meet on the second Tuesday of the month in Ladbroke Village Hall and visitors are welcome (and don't forget about the cake). However, because of the Jubilee celebrations, our next meeting will have been on Tuesday, 29th May. For more information, contact jackieszzone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk.



Ladbroke General Section

Ladbroke Treasure Hunt - Saturday 14th July

Put the date in your diaries now and come and join in the Treasure Hunt around the village on Saturday 14th July, starting approx 4.30pm. There will be a mixture of simple and cryptic clues taking you around the village on foot to find the answers and pieces of "treasure", concluding at the Village Hall where there will be a delicious meal (roast in a roll, salads and puds) in the early evening. Tickets, which include the food are £10, £5 for under 12s. For more information contact Margaret Bosworth on 01926 817312.

Jackie West

Trumpet Concert

The last weekend in April brought us terrible weather but also a ray of sunshine in the form of two extremely talented musicians. From beginning to end the concert was a real treat for the 70 or so in the audience at All Saints' Church. It started with the history of wind instruments demonstrated by ram, ox and ibex horns before moving onto simple and then more complex brass instruments. Bill Houghton's playing was superb; my personal favourite was Czardas by Vittorio Monti, though it was hard to decide between this and the beautifully lyrical rendition of Music of the Night by Andrew Lloyd-Webber or the amazingly executed Carnaval de Venise by JB Arban. As well as the formal classical pieces listed in the programme, we heard other tunes such as Eddie Calvert's 1955 smash hit Cherry Pink and the encore was a traditional tune played on a non-traditional hosepipe and funnel!



Bill was accompanied by pianist Sophia Rahman, whose finger work was stunning, the church piano has never worked so hard! Between each piece Bill told tales of his time in various orchestras. If there is nothing to play in the early parts of a concert, the brass section don't like to wait around twiddling their thumbs, especially if there is a pub nearby. Consequently, several stories were linked with Bill and his colleagues being locked out of the venue and so unable to get back in time for their grand entrance.



I rather suspect that this Ladbroke concert may feature in a future tall tale. For, when they arrived late afternoon Bill discovered to his horror that he had left two of his instruments at home! A quick calculation confirmed there wasn't enough time to fetch these himself. So a series of phone calls were made first to Bill's neighbour who had a key to his house and then to

the concert organiser's wife who had a fast car and the missing trumpets were delivered just in time.

Jackie West

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Club

£80	Alan Lochhead	£10	Graham and Pauline Long
£50	Steve Copley	£10	Georgina Middleton
£25	Pete Edgar	£10	Alan Lord
£10	Colin and Kay Constable	£10	AE and HD Dowdeswell

Margaret Bosworth



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

We began with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council where, apart from a few minor changes to the Working Parties, Tim Lockley was again confirmed as PC Chair and Keith Thompson as the Vice Chair.

Then began the ordinary meeting and a long session of “public participation” where Ken Stephenson spoke for residents opposed to the plans to redevelop the Dovehouse Autos site. They had argued that the applicant did not own all of the site, however this was no longer relevant as Stratford District had validated the application. Other objections were that the building was too tall and/or too big for the site, that car movements would cause problems and there was not enough room for bins. Ken pressed on with an appeal that the residents be allowed to plant a hedge on the verge. Cllr Hamburger nailed his colours to the mast, saying the development was “inappropriate”.

Responding, Richard Wright (the developer), said the parking met standards, that at Stratford’s suggestion the houses were moved back from the verge area to give them more front garden and that he had submitted a Section 106 agreement that would restrict sales to local people. He pointed out that there was still a Commercial Use on the site and that there were frequent vehicle movements into and out of the site when Dovehouse Autos had been in business.

The Netball Club’s appeal for funding for kit, posts etc was quickly approved (who would deny Alison and Becky?). The Councillors appreciated their work for a “vibrant” and rapidly growing club – which

provided sport for 47 teenage girls - and awarded them £565 saying if in six months time they had not managed to find the remainder they needed they could apply again. County Councillor Stevens said the county's Community Fund would be open in August.

Cllr Keith Thompson moved that the Council should congratulate the Library Group and all the volunteers who had worked to get the building ready for re-opening on 10th May. Cllr Tony Mancell set out the practicalities. The lease between the Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council had to be agreed (this was approved), and then a Licence set up between the PC and the Library Group.

The Councillors had to decide how much responsibility for the car park maintenance they wanted to take on, and set up a Sinking Fund to pay for this and another to cover the building and boiler maintenance. They agreed to take on 50% of the responsibility for the car park and set aside £5K p.a. for the maintenance aspects of the building, having already agreed to underwrite the running costs for three years. They calculate this will cost the average household £10 a year for three years then £5 thereafter.

District Councillor Beverley Mann was congratulated by the Parish and her fellow Councillor on her re-election. County Councillor Bob Stevens gave an update on flooding and the sewerage problems in Deppers. He warned that HS2 would be presented as a "hybrid bill" on which there can be no appeal and that Primary Schools were now being targeted to federate. His attempts to justify government changes to the NHS were met with "Sorry Bob, but you don't convince me" from Dr Sharon Hancock.

Cllr Ekins reported that WCC accepted responsibility for the third piece of damage to the Deppers' sewer pipe, but no-one admitted to the other two breaks and Severn Trent wanted to establish the state of the whole length before they committed to the £3K repair bill.

Planning

Stratford approved pruning work at 4 Farm Close and approved with conditions the felling of a Blue Atlas Cedar at Herons Cabin, Bush Heath Lane. New applications included the re-pointing with lime mortar of The Cottage, High Street and the proposed erection of five wind turbines and ancillary works south east of the B4451.

The Parish made representation on plans to fell a Cypress at 19 Farm Street. They supported details for the local housing second phase off Bush Heath Lane saying that the design and materials blended well with the village's existing buildings; there was a good proportion of open space to be planted with native species; a mix of house types and adequate

parking and that they supported the mix of affordable and local market homes for local people.

There was much discussion of the plans for an “Eco” house behind Co-op Terrace in Ivy Lane; land that has a previous planning history. The flat-roofed, L shaped modular bungalow takes up much of the plot and is backland development which Councillors thought was an over-development. They agreed to consult the Village Design Statement and make a decision just prior to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Properties

The quote of £3K+ for repairs to the multi-play equipment will be queried. No Fouling Signs and replacement bins for dog waste will be installed at the Playing Fields. A cemetery tree which overhangs an adjacent property will be inspected by Colin Sheasby for the Council. The Co-op will install metal railings outside its door to protect the public.

District Cllr Mann reported residents’ complaints about long term flooding in Penelope Close. There was confusion over whether the area had been resurfaced. District Cllr Hamburger reported the extension of Dovehouse Lane to the Pound was in a bad state, but it was not clear if this was adopted as a highway in which case he said, should we levy tolls?

There was consternation at the very short notice of the closure of the top of South Parade and the diversion of the bus down Vicarage Lane and Church Street. Would a double-decker get down there?

Other Business - There were persistent complaints that busses were being parked outside a residence in Percival Drive and the landlord would be alerted.

The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting which takes place at 7.30pm on Thursday 24th May and will be preceded by a Parish Council Meeting at 7pm where a decision will be made on a response to the Ivy Lane back-land plans and the Dovehouse Autos site.



Councillor’s Corner

Bev Mann

District Council Election Result

I would like to thank all residents for their support in my election campaign for my second term as Harbury Ward District Councillor.

I also would like to thank my team of helpers who helped in the design of literature, leaflet distribution, telling, displaying window and garden

posters and moral support in what has been an extremely tiring few weeks.

A big thank you also to Andrew Patrick who paced the streets with me while canvassing. If I missed you on my canvassing days and you would like to have a chat about District matters please give me a call or email.

Tel:01926 614006, beverley.mann@stratford-dc.gov.uk

District Councillor for Harbury, Bishops Itchington, Chesterton and Deppers Bridge.



Harbury Women's Institute

Jeanne Beaumont

We enjoyed a pleasant group meeting at Priors Marston, meeting up with old friends. There was an interesting speaker and lovely refreshments. Delighted that Norma Bicknell came first in the competition with her super card which was an "Invitation to a Royal Event",

Fifteen members went to Birmingham Botanical Gardens and had a lovely tour round the grounds with Nigel, a great guide who knew so much about the trees, plants and their history. They have done more alterations since we were there in September.

At our meeting we discussed and voted for the resolution "Employment of more Midwives".

We were pleased to welcome Louise Griew who is the chair of South Warwickshire Maternity Forum, who spoke of the facts. Our vote will be taken to the AGM at the Royal Albert Hall.

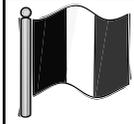
Jean Mann gave an interesting "know how" of showing her dogs. She is also a judge and spoke of her experiences over the years, some very funny. She and her husband Fred have travelled all over the country and abroad. She is like a lot of us now and says Crufts is not like it used to be.

We congratulate Gillian Hare on winning the Denman Bursary. Also congratulations to Jo Spur on winning the croquet at Napton.

A reminder to members to please provide cakes for the Carnival stall, 12pm onwards.

Hope to see you all at the WI coffee morning on Saturday 23rd June.

Next meeting: Tom Hauley Room, 14th June, 7.45pm. Speaker: Amanda Davies – "Thatching".



Harbury Twinning Association

Tony Thomas

What a busy month. 27 members of the Association enjoyed an evening of supper and skittles arranged by Margaret McDonald on Friday 27th April at the Navigation Inn at Wootton Wawen. Once again it was a great success with medals (chocolate ones) being presented to the winners.

Then the highlight of the Association's year, the visit to Samoie-sur-Seine. On Friday 4th May, 48 of us left Harbury at 4.30am to make our bi-annual visit to our twinning partners. The early morning start was necessitated because of a failure to get a booking on the Euro Tunnel or on the short sea crossing from Dover to Calais which meant we had to cross from Newhaven to Dieppe. This four hour sea crossing was smooth and pleasant but did considerably increase our journey time.

We were met by our hosts at the Samoisienne (their village hall), reunited with the numerous friends we had previously made, and served a welcome drink before departing to enjoy a pleasant evening meal with our host family.

On Saturday morning we were treated to an interesting and enjoyable boat ride on the river Seine from Samoie to St Manes. We then returned to the homes of our hosts for lunch. Some French families entertained other families from Harbury together with their host family for a French style lunch which lasted several hours. Others had a shorter lunch and visited Milly-la-Foret, an authentic French market town with a wooden 'Halle' or covered market place and the interesting old chapel of Saint Blaise des Simples, which was all that is left of a 'lazaret' where lepers were successfully treated by the 'simples' or medical plants. So it is not surprising that on the outskirts of the town is the National Conservatory for Medical and Aromatic Plants. Their exhibition centre was certainly worth a visit as it explained, in English, the medical uses of plants; many of them are still being used in the preparation of the medicines we take today.

Saturday evening's theme was based on the province of Brittany and we all gathered in the Samoisienne to be fed and entertained. Many of the Harbury visitors and their hosts took the opportunity to dress-up in traditional Breton sailor outfits. We were fed an assortment of freshly made crepes, both savoury and sweet, with cider and entertained by a group of Celtic Breton singers and musicians who invited us to join them in their traditional dances.

Sunday morning was free time and, as the French were holding their Presidential elections, many of us took the opportunity to go to the polling stations with our hosts to see how it differed from the British system. Others went to the market in Fontainebleau or went walking in the forest.

A communal picnic had been planned for the afternoon but the heavy rain we had on Saturday afternoon put a damper on this so we lunched with our hosts in their homes. After lunch some of those who had not visited Milly-la-Forêt the day before took the opportunity to do so, others partook in a petanque competition or went into the forest to see a demonstration where work horses dragged out felled trees.

In the evening we again gathered in the Samoienne for an evening of wine tasting; on this occasion we sampled wines that were suitable to be drunk with the Quiche Lorraines and chocolate desserts that had been made by the Samois members.

At mid-day on Monday we left Samois, as usual with emotion on the faces of both visitors and hosts, having had another warm, friendly and entertaining visit, for the long journey back to Harbury, arriving at the Village Hall at 1.30am tired but happy.

To complete this visit report I include the views of three of our youngest members, Nuala and Saffie Chiba (ages 5 and 8 respectively) and Millie Stagg age 11.

“I went to France on a bus then a ferry then a bus again. We stayed with a French family and they had lots of animals. I fed the rabbits. We went in the woods and we saw two horses pulling a tree trunk. On the way back I saw the Eiffel Tower.”

Nuala (aged 5)

“I really enjoyed my first trip to France. The house we stayed in was next to the wood and we heard wild boars. One day we went for a walk in the woods and I did lots of rock climbing. We got lost and it started to pour. Luckily we found our way out. The family we stayed with had nine different types of pet. The family were really nice and they taught me how to make a French quiche and rhubarb tart. Samois was a really pretty place and I didn’t want to leave.”

Saffie (aged 8)

“The trip to Samois was great fun; everyone was so friendly and welcoming. The atmosphere on the coach as we travelled to France was cheery and exciting as everyone waited to arrive in Samois. Ian the brilliant driver drove the giant coach all the way to be met by the citizens of Samois and a welcome party. Nous etions arrives!

After the party, we went home with our French families. My friend Pauline Gallet was there and we greeted each other with 'Bonjour' and over the course of the visit had great fun together, sharing our passion for music (Pauline plays the cello and I play the violin) and we also love to sing.

While we were in Samois, the French election took place. It was a fascinating experience and I enjoyed watching the political news in French on the television! Thierry and Carole, Pauline's Mama and Papa, took me to the polling station on Sunday, the day of the Presidential election. They picked up two pieces of paper with the candidates' names on them and walked into a cubicle. They selected their choice of future President and popped it into an envelope which went in a large tub. It was counted at the end of the day along with all the rest of France and revealed that Monsieur Hollande had been selected as President of France.

If you haven't been to Samois already, I should definitely try it because you will have a great time."

Millie Stagg (aged 11)

(John and Sharon Hancock's granddaughter)



Harbury Theatre Group

Chris Beaton

What a busy month! Our last meeting was the AGM, and for reasons best left to themselves the group have decided to keep me as their Chairman (!)... Alice Price has kindly stepped forward to take up the role of Secretary, taking over from Jo Banbury who has decided to stand down after several years of sterling service, but otherwise everything remains in the same capable hands as before.

As I'm writing this we've just finished our May production and I'm pleased to report it was a complete success! Each performance drew a large audience who enjoyed two one-act comedies as well as fine musical accompaniment from the folk trio "Guy, Morris and Thompson" on the Thursday and Friday, and a lovely supper evening on the Saturday night. Many thanks to "Guy, Morris and Thompson" as well as to Lin Hayes and her team who worked very hard to provide the lasagne supper, Jo Banbury and Ali Hodge for directing the plays, Malcolm Bloxham and all the backstage crew for their usual hard work and everybody who appeared on stage – and especially hats off to Keith Hayes and Janet Thornley who took on two truly mammoth roles as Roy and Norma Hubley in the Plaza Suite play and gave superb performances

every night. Finally, I promise never to appear in my underwear on stage **ever again** so long as you all have a go at our Carnival stall...

Talking of which, this year we've got a new game for you to try your hand at! Can you choose a winning bottle bag from the multitude on the table? There'll be random bottles of wine, cider/beer and water placed amongst the losing bags, as well as a separate version for the children which promises a prize every time, so come and have a go!

Following on from the success of last year's "Throwing a Tantrum" event at the Harbury Games, we're sponsoring TWO events this year! Brace yourself for the "Tug o'War" and "Harbury's Got Talent" as both should be a lot of fun!

Finally, I should just mention that Kineton is hosting this year's ACT festival (Association of Community Theatre Groups) at their village hall on Friday 22nd/ Saturday 23rd June. Six local theatre groups are taking part over the two nights, with Harbury Theatre Group performing on the Friday night (oh alright, one last outing for me in my long-johns then!) Tickets are only £3 for three plays, which has to be an absolute bargain for an evening of quality entertainment – hope to see you there!

Our next meeting is at the Shakespeare from 8pm onwards on 26th June – it's the Panto next, so all help welcome!! As ever I can be contacted on 611930.



Folk Club

Steve & Maureen Darby

It was the thirteenth time that Steve and Maureen had hosted the Folk Club which was reflected in the theme for the evening, "unlucky for some, **maybe** lucky for others". Unluckily for some, the torrential rain during the day may have put them off from making the journey to Harbury, but those lucky enough to attend were in for a treat as we enjoyed yet another evening of great music and singing.

Maureen and Janny kicked off the evening's entertainment with two songs from the Threlfalls, "Searching for Lambs" followed by "Hedger and Ditcher" which was unlucky in two respects. Firstly, a young woman was out of luck because no one would marry her and then she was even unluckier when some rascal did marry her. Rik then reminded us it was Pete Seeger's 93rd birthday and then sang a song he had stolen from Ron Shuttleworth about luck being on the up. He then proceeded with a song he first heard some fifty years ago from Rambling Jack Elliott. Steve then spoke some Malawian as he read a letter of thanks from the village

of Namachete where a Folk Club donation had enabled them to purchase 500 exercise books and one eraser. “Ndikuthoza kwambiri chifukwa cha zithandizo zochulaka” translated to “we thank you for your continuous support”. Pete Grassby told us the story of a lucky Friday 13th when he sat in his car looking at a £20 note on the pavement; he eventually picked it up and went to a charity shop where he purchased his “lucky” guitar for £15. He then sang, “Down Where the Drunkards Roll” beautifully followed by “The £40 Wedding” by George Thomas. Ted had been unlucky enough to get a booking at the Upton on Severn festival; he had planned to take the caravan but needed a barge instead. He sang two songs where the blokes had bad luck and the women good luck. The second song, “Rambling Sailor” told of the mariner who left the sea seeking “negotiable affection”. He does the deed but whilst asleep, the fair maiden wakes up and steals all his belongings. Peter McDonald closed the first half and had selected two Hugh Williams songs with contrasting fortunes. The first was, “Struck it Right This Time”, a song of optimism and the second “Rosemary’s Sister” was very sad indeed. Rosemary’s sister never heard the bomb that fell on Bethnal Street that fateful night during the Blitz.

The Folk Club Choir opened the second half with two songs appropriate for the month of May, “Padstow” and “The May Song” (where the tenors in particular shone!). Des came up and was heard “Bending his Cordwangle” to the tune of “What shall we do with the Drunken Sailor?” followed by “Deep Blue Sea” where poor old Willy got drowned. The emerging talents of Guy, Morris and Thompson entertained us with a song about not getting locked in the cupboard if having an encounter with the neighbour’s wife – David played a very confident double bass section. They followed this with “Pity Mans Pay”. Mike gave us a monologue about the struggles of Richard the Lion Heart who, unluckily for him, just couldn’t escape from Blondel’s signature tune. We then had a surprise performer all the way from Denmark. Ebbe sang about the Danish window cleaner that believed he was the best in the world at his job; as it was sang in Danish we had no way of validating the story! Keith Donnelly sang a song about “Falling in and Climbing out of Love” which he originally wrote for accompaniment on an electric guitar but played on an acoustic for us. He then captivated us with a superb acoustic version of Fleetwood Mac’s “Albatross”. Sue and Ian closed the second half with a Bob Dylan song about sailing away for good, never to return, followed by “Make Me a Pallet on Your Floor” where Sue played the banjo with Ian on guitar.

The final half included the Choir singing “Now is the Month of Maying”, Peter McDonald singing John McCutcheon’s “The Red Corvette”, Guy Morris and Thompson played “If I were a Blackbird”, Des had the audience accompany him with “Roll Alabama Roll”, Pete Grassby sang an

unnamed Danish song, Keith sang "We all Live in a Yellow Submarine" in shanty mode and Sue and Ian drew the excellent evening's entertainment to an end with "Sail away Ladies".

The raffle raised £70 towards the Friends of Chernobyl's Children charity, which will gratefully be doubled to £140 with a matching donation from Bibby Plc. Next month's Folk Club theme is "Colours".



1st Harbury Guides

Jane Minchin



1st Harbury Guides went on a camp to Shipston on Stour. All of the Guides really enjoyed all the activities especially Bucking Bronco. The activities included Archery, Lassoing, Pony Riding, Bucking Bronco, Craft, Tracking and building a Teepee. Altogether the Guides had a brilliant time and can't wait for next year.



Chloe Kempton and Sophie Kirk

The Guides have also taken part in the Swimathon - between those who took part, they swam ten miles in Southam Pool and have raised over £380 with money still to come in! All money raised goes to Marie Curie.

We look forward to enjoying the summer term where we'll be orienteering, Morris Dancing, canoeing, our fish and chip walk, finishing the Warwickshire Jubilee Badge and looking forward to our next camp in July.

Chairman's report - Ian Jones

Firstly, I'd like to say a massive "thanks" to all the kids, parents, coaches, helpers, club officers for all their effort and hard work during the season. It's been a great season, with around 100 kids of different ages learning, training and playing the game. Next season promises to be great challenge with four teams playing in the Mid Warwickshire league and another strong intake anticipated with the youngest (year 1) kids. As always, we rely on and continue to need new help on the coaching and administrative side of the club. If you are able to help please speak to your coach/manager or contact me (isj@talk21.com tel.: 612201). I'd like to also say a massive thanks to Nicola Perrett who has been our Treasurer and Child Welfare Officer for the last few years. Nicola, has decided to step down. We will be appointing into these open positions before the start of the new season so, if you are interested in stepping up to help keep the club running smoothly and continuing to be a safe place for your children to be enjoying "the Beautiful Game", please contact me on the details below.

It was brilliant to see all the smiling faces at our Annual Presentation Evening on the 26th May. It was a great night and a wonderful celebration of all that's been achieved by the kids and the club during the season. Great thanks to all those that helped make the night another success and well done to all, especially those who won awards.

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone that we will be holding our internal tournament on Sunday 1st July. This will be a great day out with lots of fun and loads of footy. The theme this year will be Euro 2012. As usual, there will be a BBQ with bacon baps in the morning and burgers/hot dogs at lunchtime, a tombola and refreshments from Cana wine from lunchtime. This year we will be running a football boot stall to raise money for the club. Please bring any kids footy boots (that may be of use to someone) that you no longer need. We will sell these on a very reasonable price. Finally, we will be aiming to finish a little earlier than usual so people can get off to see the Olympic torch in the area.

Enjoy the summer break, enjoy the Euros and come on England!

HJFC 2011/2012 Presentation Evening Awards:
Under 6:

Player of the Season: Tate W

Mr 110%: William G

Most Improved Player: Sam G

Clubperson: Matthew G

"Chocolate Bar" award for achieving a Cruyff Turn - Jacob R

Under 7:

Player of the Season: Harry L

Clubperson: Ben G

Most Improved Player: Josh C

Mr 110%: Finn M

Under 8:

Managers Player: Euan J

Clubperson: Serena P

Managers Player Runner Up: Sam C

Players Player: Charlie C

Most Improved Player: George C

U9:

Player of the Season: Beau C-S

Clubperson: Cameron D

Most Improved Player: Joe D

Golden Boot: Morgan J

Special Commitment Award: Ryan A

Special Commitment Award: Oscar B

Special Commitment Award: Beau C-S

Special Commitment Award: Millie T

Special Commitment Award: Emmanuel V

Special Commitment Award: Liam O

U11:

Player of the Season: Jordan B

Clubperson: Peter G

Most Improved Player: Danny L

Golden Boot: Riley B

Golden Boot: Harry W

H15:

Player of the Season: Toby P

Clubperson: Jamie H

Most Improved Player: Sam H

Golden Boot: Sunny K

Special Loyalty Award: Toby P

Special Loyalty Award: William A

Special Loyalty Award: Thomas C

Under 6's end of season report - Steve Darby

We started coaching in September 2011 with just five children at the first session and now have twelve boys on the player register including Reception and Year 1 children. The focus at this age has been for the boys to learn some basic ball manipulation techniques to help control and move the ball. They have all learnt some "magic " words - Control. Look, Shout, Pass and more recently, Move. In addition, they have learnt to "feel" the ball with different parts of their feet, their instep, outside of their foot, use of the toe part to bring the ball under control. We have seen

them grow in confidence which was seen as they attempted various skill based tricks during both training matches and also during the competitive 7-a-side games against Wellesbourne and Byfield. We were very lucky to have few training sessions being led by Ted Grizzell from the Football Association. Ted introduced some new ways of working with the children to help further improve their ball manipulation skills and also provided some very useful tips to the coaching staff about the way the FA wants to improve coaching at grass roots level.

Four of the group joined the U7's to play in the Southam U7's tournament on 20th May - it was a big ask of them as there was both a physical and maturity difference, in particular when you consider they were up against several town sides. They all acquitted themselves well with their parents being very proud of their contribution.

A big thanks to Jane Workman for her assistance throughout the season and more recently Jez Gulliver.

Next season as part of the changes being introduced at younger age groups, we will be moving to 5 - a - side friendly games only. We hope to see numbers increase again next season and I look forward to continuing to work with the group - they really are a great bunch of kids even if I do occasionally have to raise my voice!!

Under 7's end of season report - Steve Darby

This is the second year this group have been together and despite the loss of some players during the season, we have seen numbers increase from ten to sixteen registered players, which bodes well for the future of the group. The Club philosophy at this age group is to ensure we continue to provide safe, structured football coaching, irrelevant of a child's ability with equal opportunity for all to participate in any matches we play. We have also endeavoured to ensure during the season that whenever we played a friendly game each child had an equitable amount of time on the playing field. All parents have appreciated this approach!

We have continued to coach basic ball manipulation skills but latterly have introduced more focus on dribbling, passing and movement off the ball. Ted Grizzell from the FA introduced some new games that helped with these three aspects of the game and in particular two new phrases for the children to learn. "Dribble when you can, pass when you need to" and "good players make good decisions, great players make great decisions" - this is in stark contrast from the days of trying to teach them to keep passing the ball to retain possession within the team. It's a move towards more individual skill development and a player taking responsibility for making the right decision.

During the season we played a small number of friendlies and also participated in the Southam Tournament where we took two teams who had mixed results, but overall did themselves proud with their efforts.

A thank you to Liam Morgan who has helped during the season and also special thanks to Evan Jones who has been helping out for the last three seasons as he works his way towards his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award (I think he will miss his Saturday morning outings when he finishes).

This is my last year with these children and it has been very enjoyable working with them; I wish them well for next season.

Under 8's end of Season Report - Bob Church

Saturday 26th May saw the final whistle blown on the Harbury Juniors under 8's season. This season has been a step-up for the squad with training becoming more match-focused and the players taking part in a number of friendly games against local teams. The players have worked very hard all season long and have really started to 'gel' together as a team. There are currently 12 players in the under 8 squad, the majority of which have been with the club for the past three years.

Unfortunately the team will be saying goodbye to Sarena Panaich who has been a very committed player and well liked team member. Sarena will be joining a local girl's football club for the forthcoming season and the coaches and players wish her the best of luck.

The 2012/13 season will see the squad enter the Mid Warwickshire Junior 7-a-side League at Under 9 level. This will see them play 22 games per season all of which will be on a Saturday morning. As Harbury Juniors Football Club continues to grow we have had to find new venues to play our fixtures. Home games will be played at Bishops Itchington Primary School and the club would like to thank the Headmaster Mr Richard Hawkins for allowing the club to use the school football pitch.



50 Golden Years

In March 1962 Glen Hales founded a new rugby club at Whitnash. Originally located at the Sports and Social Club, their tenure lasted just five years and the then Chairman John Bromley went on a mission to find a new home for the fledgling rugby club. He approached Harbury Parish Council who agreed to leasing land on the playing field and changing accommodation in the Village Hall with the proviso that the name of the

club should be changed to Harbury Rugby Football Club. The early years were tough but the work of both Glen Hales and John Bromley augmented by Graham Shurvinton and Charles Gath helped to steady the ship.

In 1971 Graham's brother John, a former England under 19 and Northampton player, became player-coach for a season. His arrival coincided with the charismatic Chris Miller, a talented player who had played for Broughton Park amongst other first class clubs. Chris, had only intended to play a couple of matches before joining either Redditch or Pershore. He was persuaded to come across by Bill Clarke and captured by the 'Harbury magic' he played until 1980. His contribution as a player and his encouragement of new players was immense. At the same time a hugely significant arrival in the village was Dave Andrews and much of the progress of the club has to be put down to his contribution which continues to this day.

The aim of the club was to find their own ground and when the Village Hall Committee agreed to the establishment of a bar within the Hall in October 1976 this was the starting point for an effective gathering of funds. This went on for the three years of the Club's presence in the Hall. A newcomer to the village, Ian Holroyd was introduced to the Rugby Club in the summer of 1976. Initially Entertainment's Officer, then Chairman and latterly President, Ian's contribution, through his outgoing personality, diplomacy and generally being a 'good egg', has added so much to the progress and development of the club.

In 1978 club member George Mann was instrumental in gaining his father-in-law Ralph Gurden's agreement to selling six acres of land for two rugby pitches, a training area, car park and clubhouse. In August 1979 HRFC moved to their new home. Following an official opening in September 1979 progress began to pay back the loans from the RFU, Middlesex and Warwickshire RFU's and to promote Harbury RFC in the area.

A key driver in this aspect was Dave Andrews, who set up the Mini Rugby Section in 1979, which over the years has produced many players, a number of whom have contributed much to the senior sides. The expansion of this section and the adding of a 3rd and 4th XV led to the acquisition of a further four acres for two further pitches.

In the late 1980's a major change to the clubhouse was undertaken with an upper floor added with clubroom and lounge and the ground floor set aside for changing facilities.

Whilst the mini and junior section continued to develop, the Cricket Club moved from Deppers Bridge to Middle Road with an all weather pitch and

a well prepared and managed square included. In 2006 under the guidance of Chairman John French a new entrance was added at the front of the building, which increased the area of the clubroom and storage facilities. All of which has added to the quality of the building.

On the playing side HRFC has enjoyed three promotions and also two relegations and now plays in Midlands 4 West (South). However, as a Club we aspire to greater heights. We have achieved RFU 'Whole Club Seal of Approval' which establishes standards of management for playing, coaching and development. This was an 18 month rigorous exercise that was finally met in Autumn 2010. An essential part of this was a requirement for a Development Plan. This indeed is what we have in place for the period 2009-2020. This is the basis for our entire decision making in both the short and long term on both the playing and facilities aspects.

Since achieving Seal of Approval the club has undertaken a major drainage project on our top two pitches, increased car parking and provided an enhanced access from Middle Road. We have recently incorporated a lift for the disabled to enable access to the Clubrooms for all. These jobs were funded by considering and chasing a diverse range of funding bodies, promotional efforts and club funds.

Where are we now?



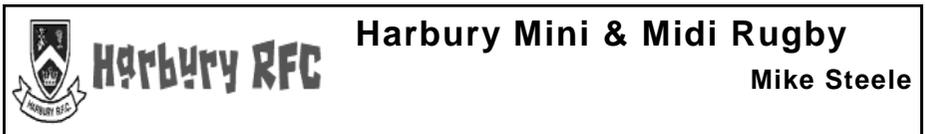
Harbury RFC receiving "RFU Accreditation", left to right: Ian Holroyd, Paul Murphy (RFU), Dave Andrews & Jerry Birkbeck

It is fitting that in April this year Harbury RFC were awarded RFU Accreditation in an event held at Twickenham. This has to date only been awarded to 46 clubs out of nearly 3000 across England. An excellent way to mark '50 Golden Years'. The 1st XV finished fifth in Midlands 4 West (South) which was a disappointment but we were not helped by a long list of injuries to key squad players, a number of whom were out for almost the whole season. Club Coach Hendry Rheeders is looking

forward to building on this by aiming for promotion in 2012/13.

The 2nd XV have enjoyed some excellent results under the stewardship of Team Manager Ben Linnett and were unlucky not to be in with a shout of promotion from Warwickshire 3, though they had a superb close win over Manor Park in the final of the Warwickshire 2nd XV Shield.

The season ended with a brilliant 'Blind' Tour organised by Ken Robertson, Charlie Gladden, Jeff Foster and Matt Knight to Sharm-el-Sheik in Egypt where a match was played against Sharm Sharks RFC, an ex pats team. The tourists won well but the hosts were absolutely outstanding in their organisation and one of the highlights was the sight of 34 lads in full fancy dress, with characters as diverse as Marilyn Monroe, Madonna, the Spice Girls, Jedward, Chas and Dave and Rolf Harris, passing through an Arab market on the way to a Karaoke! The local traders had just no idea of what to make of it! At the end of May a celebration dinner dance will be held at the Club to commemorate 50 years of Harbury RFC!



2011/12 Season

This season saw the largest ever mini and junior section registration with over 160 children participating in mini tag games, through to full 15 aside matches for the older players.

The season started with the annual Harbury Festival in the first weekend in October with brilliant sunshine and fantastic rugby from Harbury and



three other local clubs with age groups under 8s through to under 12s. The excellent day ended with Harbury's under 9s and 11s winning their age groups - well done them.

Pictured left: Henry Steele (Harbury U14s) in action against Banbury, one of many players to have been with the club since U7s.

Throughout the winter months Harbury visited and played many other teams in the area such as Alcester, Rugby St Andrews, Stratford, Daventry, Leamington and Old Leamingtonians to name but a few, with varying degrees of success, but always with enjoyment and fun the main focus.

At the end of the season, as well as participating in some more festivals at other clubs in the area, some of the age groups managed to

incorporate rugby tours into the busy schedule. The under 9s,10s and 11s went to the depths of Wales, visiting an activity centre where they were able to have a go at abseiling, caving and archery, amongst other things, ending in a three way fixture for all the age groups on the Sunday morning. The under 13s went to Wootton Bassett, again visiting an activity centre, and playing the local side on the Sunday morning. The under 14s went to North Devon wearing their obligatory



The under 14s, coasteering at Baggy Point

silly wigs. As usual they participated in silly tour games, received tour fines and were subject to a Kangaroo Court. They went coasteering (throwing yourself off cliffs and rocks into the sea) and indoor climbing and ended the weekend with a game against South Molton on Sunday. The under 15s had a day out karting, taking in a match at Gloucester and ending in a meal back at Harbury club, I believe this was all done dressed in fancy dress as kings or queens (worryingly, the majority seemed to opt for queens!).

The year ended on a fantastic note with the club acquiring RFU Accreditation.

The Club Accreditation scheme is based upon the six Key Drivers identified as crucial to a strong club:

1. Retaining and developing players
2. Recruiting new players
3. Recruiting and retaining high quality coaches, volunteers and referees
4. Effective and efficient facilities
5. Effective and efficient management and governance
6. Integration with the local community

Each of these Key Drivers, together with the Core Values of the game, are represented within the Club Accreditation scheme and together they represent the component parts of a strong, sustainable club.

We are only one of 46 clubs in the country at the moment with this accolade and one of only four in Warwickshire. As you can imagine we are very proud of this and, if you would like your child to come and give rugby a go, there is not a safer, more fun place to do it at than at Harbury.

Next year we will be able to cater for age groups from under 6 to under 16 so if you want to give rugby a try (pardon the pun) the new season starts on Sunday 2nd September, 10am for 10.30am registration.

For any further information please contact Michael Steele 07941108481 or email michael@michaelsteele.plus.com.



Harbury Tennis Club

Colin and Sue Mercer

www.tennis-today.net/harbury

First of all, thank you to everyone who generously supported our coffee morning on 19th May when we raised £138.76 for Club funds.

It's been a cold damp start to the summer league season with two matches already lost to the weather and a fixture backlog in prospect. However it's been a successful start with two home wins to report. In the first, against Deddington "C", Harbury got off to a flyer winning all three rubbers in the first round. Caroline Morland and Sue Panton won the first ladies doubles, Steve Stark and Geoff Prince the men's, with Sara Peters and Colin Mercer taking the mixed on a tiebreak. The remaining six rubbers were all closely contested but Harbury won four to gain a 7-2 win on the night to record their second win of the season. This was followed with a third win, this time against Hook Norton "D" when Caroline, Sue, Steve and Colin were joined by Tracey Pettifer and David Bristow. The three men were on good form and comfortably won all three doubles. The



other six rubbers were shared with the visitors giving Harbury a 6-3 win to remain unbeaten and take us to the top of the league!

The Junior programme is going well with 11 sessions a week covering all age groups. The Orange group (8-10 year olds) is pictured with Coach James Marsh and Assistant Liam Crossling.

Open Evening

Finally, on Thursday 14th June (from 6.30pm onwards) we're having an **open evening** for members and non-members. This will be during a normal club session but in the run-up to Wimbledon we're opening our "doors" to anyone who would like to try tennis, or has played before but is a bit rusty, to come and see what the Club has to offer which is plenty! If anyone who falls into either category would like to know more about the evening please do not hesitate to contact me at sucol-mercer@tiscali.co.uk.



Harbury Toddler Group

Sarah Hanson

Our toddlers have been busying themselves with a variety of activities. We were preparing for the coffee morning at the Tom Hauley Rooms by growing some lovely potted plants from seeds to sell which the toddlers took home to water and grow and some fine plants we had indeed! The coffee morning was a success and raised Toddler Group £150 which will be going towards our annual summer outing to an attraction. Thanks to all those who contributed cakes to sell, gave raffle prizes and helped out on the day.

We have been preparing for Carnival day, for which the toddlers have been creating their very own items to decorate their push chairs for our walking float. We are very much looking forward to dressing up and being part of the carnival procession!

Daddies are going to be very pleasantly surprised when they receive their Father's Day gifts made by the little ones!

We are looking forward to spending more time in the outdoor area now that the sunshine has finally come and will be bringing out the trikes, cars slides and rockers to keep our toddlers amused!

If you are interested in joining us at Toddler Group we are always pleased to see newcomers. We run every Monday from 9.30am to 11.15am at the Wight School (behind the library), and cater for children from birth to school age. We are open throughout the school holidays, except Bank Holidays, and older siblings are welcome to come along too!!

July Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News

Adverts to 31 Binswood End by 15th June

Articles to Harbury Pharmacy or e-mail to articles@hlnews.co.uk by 28th June



Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee



The Very Hungry Caterpillar:

The colours theme continued throughout May, starting with green and The Very Hungry Caterpillar. The story was told and the children delighted in dressing up as the caterpillar to illustrate it. Maths took a hand in

the story, as we counted the assorted items of food eaten by the caterpillar and then it moved to the creative table, where the children produced a magnificent caterpillar display, using paint and collage materials.



Outing



At the second attempt, the rain held off so that the children could make the walk through the village to Jake's lovely garden and paddock, where they had story time and a mini beast hunt and snack time in the garden. Our thanks to Jake

and his family and to all the helpers who walked with the children to make the outing possible.

Japanese Children's Day





We were delighted to welcome Masa Chiba who told us about Japanese Children's Day and showed the children how to make carp streamers and to do origami. The children proudly took their streamers outside and waved them in the breeze alongside the commercially made streamers brought by Masa.

Carnival Colours

In preparation for the Carnival, blue, green, purple and orange were introduced, accompanied by appropriate stories such as Blue Balloon, Blue Tortoise, Five Little Speckled Frogs, Smiley Shark and Foxy. More artwork was produced for the Carnival float, but the theme for the float will have to remain a secret until it is unveiled on the day!



Jubilee Colours

In preparation for the Jubilee celebrations, the children practised symmetry with red, white and blue, painted a cotton sheet to make bunting and made Jubilee crowns to wear at the Pre-School Jubilee "Street Party".

Staff Training

In preparation for the introduction of the new Early Years Foundation Stage in September, all members of staff underwent training on its implementation. In addition, all members received instruction on the Time to Talk, communication and language system which has been introduced into Pre-School and implemented initially by Lisa and Angie.

If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please contact Bud Jackson, Pre-School Administrator, e-mail enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk phone 07833 597973 or look at the web site 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 two years. If you would like to register a place for your child you can email us at info@windmillsnursery.co.uk, visit our website

at www.windmillsnursery.co.uk, call Tina/Sally on 07906 519148 or contact Katharine on 01926 613084. We have Nursery Funded places available and also accept childcare vouchers and offer an assisted places scheme.

In Nursery

The children have been exploring the concepts of day and night in Nursery. A special dark corner has been erected where the children can play with torches in the dark. They have also been doing chalk drawings on black paper.



Lacey – “I saw a shooting star and it was flickering in the sky”.

Lily – “Daddy’s got a telescope and the stars are little and they light up and they’ve got real fire on”.

Other activities have included looking at x-rays and the children had a go at making their own using a laminator. They have also been making



bridges and seeing how much weight they can hold. Preparations are now underway for Harbury Carnival with the children producing lots of artwork in Nursery ready for the float.

The children have been learning about vegetables in French and made seed pots out of newspaper and produced their own paper carrots. They have also been looking at growing real carrots and potatoes in the outside garden area.

Charlie’s dad came to visit with his keyboard and the children sang some songs with him. There has been the monthly visit to Church to the Toddler Service where the children learnt about the story of Moses and the parting of the sea and the children also went to see



the Maypole dancing in the School Hall performed by the infants in Reception, Y1 and Y2.

Forest School and Pond Visit

In Forest School the children have been shown how to use a bow saw and brace and bit under the close supervision of our trained Forest School Leader Amanda Randall. They have done letter weaving and have made musical instruments and have also been den building and looking at opposites.

In other outside activities there has also been a visit to the school pond where the children had a go at pond dipping.

Staff News

Mrs Varriale, Mrs Lines and Mrs Wilson have been to a SENCO surgery and had a tour of Ridgeway School.



Fundraising

A group of staff and parents braved the elements and heroically climbed Mount Snowdon to raise money for the Nursery. Thank you to everyone who supported the group in their epic climb and helped raise £900.

We will be having a stand at the Harbury Carnival on 9th June so please come along and support Windmills Nursery.

Tickets are now on sale for The Maharaja's Ball on Saturday 30th June in Harbury Village Hall and can be purchased from Cana, Windmills Nursery or ring Katharine on 613084.

Dates for the Diary

4th - 8th June – Nursery closed for Half Term

Saturday 9th June – Stall at Harbury Carnival

Tuesday 12th June – Toddler Service, 2pm.

Saturday 30th June – The Maharaja's Ball.



Harbury Primary School

Denis Daly

Miss Holly Brain - I am delighted to inform parents that the Governors last week appointed Miss Holly Brain to the teaching staff at the school,

starting next term – I am sure that you will all make her very welcome in September.

Organisation for 2012-13 - There are to be a number of changes to the organisation of the school next year, and rather than have people speculating on what might, or might not, be happening, I thought that I would take the very unusual step of letting parents know now what the class arrangements are for 2012-13:

Reception Group A	Miss Maher (Mrs Nalci as she will be then)
Reception Group B	Mrs Rea
Year 1	Miss Woodcock
Year 2	Miss Price
Year 3	Miss Fowler/Mrs Payne
Year 4	Mrs Booth
Year 5	Miss Brain
Year 6	Miss King/Mrs Kluth

Mr Cousens, the Headteacher-elect, has been consulted about the arrangements for next year, and was present at the interviews for the new teacher last week.

Maypole Dancing - Congratulations to the Infant Department, who put on such a wonderful display of maypole dancing recently despite the restrictions placed on them by the weather forcing the event indoors. Well done, everyone.

Good Luck -To our Year 6 Steel Pan groups, who are playing at the opening of the “Spirit of the Countryside” festival at Stoneleigh on Sunday 27th May in front of the Archbishop of Canterbury. I understand that Warwickshire Young Voices, the local choir which includes many of our children, is also performing at the event – our steel pan groups will be performing to greet the Archbishop at 11.15am.

Congratulations – It is always nice to hear of past pupils doing well, and so it was great to read in the local press about Alice Woodhouse, who was the National winner in the 6th form section of Amnesty International’s “Young Human Rights Reporter of the Year” with a very mature article on prejudice against the Roma, Gypsy and Traveller Communities. Well done, Alice.

Vacancy - The school has a vacancy for a cleaner to work for two hours per week, on a Friday afternoon from 3-5pm. Please contact the school for further details.



Harbury Primary School P.T.A.

PTA Committee

Father's Day Beer Walk – Sunday 17th June

Father's Day sees the annual Beer Walk. The route will be set by Nigel Chapman and involves stops at the Harbury pubs, with a beer stop run by the PTA somewhere along the way. Registration is at school between 11.30am - 12.30pm, at a cost of £4 for adults and £2 for children, where you will receive your map. Please come and find the PTA beer stop and enjoy a locally brewed beer or soft drink and a snack. There will be rolls, crisps and sweets available and we'll be open from 11.30am - 3pm Why not treat dad or even granddad!! Check your map to see where we are.

Father's Day BBQ at The Shakespeare – Sunday 17th June

Fancy a burger or hot dog amongst other parents, while your children play happily together? You don't have to attend the Beer Walk to be able to go to the BBQ nor do you need children!! Please come along for a lovely end to the day. The BBQ starts in the Shakespeare garden at 5pm and will run until around 8pm. We would like to thank John and Elaine in advance for allowing us to use their garden.

Summer Fayre – Saturday 7th July

This year's Summer Fayre will be held at school from 12pm-3pm. There will be stalls, games and entertainment, with a BBQ for lunch and also a cafe for tea and cakes. Please come along for a fun afternoon. It's a great afternoon out.

We would be grateful for donations of good quality soft toys, second hand toys and prizes for the raffle and tombola. If you have any that you can donate or would like to help in any way please contact Vikki at vikkiahall@btinternet.com.

BOOKINGS FOR

SCOUT HUT	TOM HAULEY ROOM	THR COFFEE MORNINGS	VILLAGE HALL	VILLAGE CLUB CONCERT ROOM
Debbie Dimmock Tel: 612036 debbie@dimmock.org.uk	Sally Stringer Tel: 613214 sal.47@hotmail.co.uk	Sally Stringer Tel: 613214 sal.47@hotmail.co.uk	Celia Neill Tel: 612819 harburyvillagehall@googlemail.com	Tel: 612498 (evenings) harburyvillageclub@hotmail.co.uk

Harbury Theatre Group presents

Visitors from Forest Hill taken from Plaza Suite



Breakfast for One



Photographs supplied by: John Holden

Harbury Village Library

Re-opened Thursday 10th May 2012



Biblio's Café



Photographs supplied by: Gael Conway, Laura Harris, Gill Holden, Carol Jackson



Village Hall Update

Chris Finch

Oh dear! The Village Hall committee had no sooner thought that they had made a giant leap for mankind (personkind?) in Harbury by completing the refurbishment of the kitchen (almost) when they suddenly found that they would need to take a step backwards for man (woman and children!) when it was discovered that there was a disastrous leak from the roof over the gents toilets, which needs urgent attention. As a result, some of the funds, which were intended to build up towards the next phase of development will have to be side-lined to replace all the flat roof above the toilet block and kitchen. It's a major disappointment for the guardians of our community building, as it would be to any private householder who finds that plans have to be put on hold to cope with essential repairs. Oh well, one step forwards – or maybe two steps forwards and one step back won't derail the committee in the long run from their avowed intention – further improvements in the coming years.



Another unforeseen problem, which will need to be addressed shortly is the compulsory felling of the horse chestnut tree in front of the Village Hall. It has been inspected by three arboriculturists, who have each proclaimed that the tree is in a d a n g e r o u s condition, as are

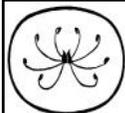
many other diseased horse chestnuts in the area, so must be removed to prevent accidents. It will be sad to see the magnificent specimen removed, especially when the candles are in bloom, but the cost of bringing in a specialist tree surgeon will also include the planting of a replacement sweet chestnut tree in a similar position.



There have been a number of events in the Hall since the new kitchen was installed and there have been an overwhelming number of positive comments about its appearance, especially about the inclusion of a dish-washer, which takes both glasses and crockery (separately!). The machine was first used for the Rural Cinema night when the film was 'War Horse' with curry and appetisers, prepared by The Dog served in the interval. Again, there was much praise for the food and the efficiency of the service, which was in the hands of three young

people who are working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award. Beren Long and Harry Morris are aiming for the Silver Award, whilst Ollie Singleton is working towards his Bronze Award. Thanks to them and the new warming counters in the kitchen, the food was served hot and in very impressive time – including the clearing up!

The next major events at which food will be served in the Hall will be the Carnival tea; followed by the Heart of Harbury Games on 16th June. As last year, a team of volunteers will be preparing some excellent refreshments throughout the 'Games' day, so it will be possible to come to the Recreation Grounds for the whole day to watch the superb spectacle of the many and varied challenges; without the need to go home 'for a bite'. Food and drinks will be available for 'all comers', so put the date in your diary; bring a folding chair, if necessary, and make a day of it. You won't be disappointed!!



Horticultural Society

Judy Morrall

What a way to finish our season of talks on 1st May. Over fifty members came along to listen to Howard Drury with his excellent presentation about Madeira. It is a few years since he took a group of people there but he intends to revisit. The plane landing was rather scary with much turbulence and dangerous rocks very close. However they did land after all these problems and had a tour of the Island in a minibus with tour guide Carlos who was a font of all local knowledge.

The route took them along very narrow roads near to high cliffs. At the first stop they looked down a sheer drop to the sea, but even here there were prickly pears, echiums, and lots of large blue thistles. The cliffs are 1900 feet high and are the highest in Europe. All along the route at the top of the Island were crotons which we grow here as house plants just growing wild alongside hibiscus and elegant palm trees. In the villages the back street gardens were full of cymbidium orchids in abundance all colours and sizes.

At Encumera, which is 3000 feet above sea level, the weather is very different from the south. In the north there is not much grass and cacti seem to flourish here. The cathedral falls were a magnificent sight and the volcanic conditions are ideal for aeoniums. The south is lush and greener. The wisterias were amazing, very large flowers and scented. All kinds of ericas were seen on the descent with proteas which are very at home in South Africa. Deep terraces just oozed colour and scent. Sedums draped around rocks and clouds of lovely irises in all colours. Above Funchal the strelitzias were growing in the wild, as were

tibouchina, brugsmansias and much more. All these plants we can only grow in a hot conservatory. At Funchal, we saw a huge African tulip tree - what a sight. The botanical gardens too held many gems with lots of bottle bushes and huge bananas. Here too, the orchids put on a magnificent display with various agapanthus and bugle lilies.

In the old market there were so many different sorts of fruit, some I had never seen before and they were all able to sample some. It did look to be very appetising. There were some peculiar fish too including black scabbard - an acquired taste! Here we had a short break to recover from all the sights, sounds etc.

Then we were shown around the Monte Palace Gardens, an exhibition of precious stones contained huge pieces of rocks. There is also a wall of murals and ceramics depicting the story of the Islands. Carlos the driver knew so much about these and was able to pass on all his knowledge to them. The tree ferns were huge amongst clivias, a judas tree, a rock garden and water cascades and pools of koi carp. Carlos then drove to a private garden of two elderly British residents. The garden was full of air plants, wisteria clad walls on the house, loquats, orchids climbing up trees with apple and plum trees interspersed. The apple blossom geranium has been lovingly tended and dates back 80 years. The couple's love for their plants just shone through.

Then on to Mr Blandey's garden, where the family still live in the house and there are ixias and freesias growing with mahonias daturas and jasmine. Lots of topiary and bamboos with English style planting of lavenders and irises. There was a great topiary elephant, ruling over all of the garden. Huge grasses and eucalyptus trees also dominate part of it.

Then back down towards the airport through Nun's Valley, a very steep road with great sea views all round. It is hard to describe the descent, you almost felt that you were in the minibus going around hair pin bends and trying to take in the colours of the wild flowers. At the bottom of the climb the village holds a flower festival in late April and May where the pavements are decorated and floats parade around the streets. So colourful and vibrant; a fitting end to an incredible journey. Howard's presentations are always concluded with something different; this time we were shown a very young American girl singer whose voice was similar to Kathryn Jenkins but so mature; I think she was only about 11 or 12. The sound effects were brilliant. Another one of Howard's superb presentations.

No more talks now until October but we have our two day trips to look forward to. We will leave the Village Hall on Wednesday 13th June at 9.00am for the first one when we will be spending the day at

Anglesey Abbey and gardens near to Cambridge. Looking forward to that. I will report back in my next article.

There are some really good gardens not far away to visit in June; here are just a few suggestions. Hunningham Village gardens on the Fosse are having open days on 9th Saturday and 10th Sunday from 12.00 to 5.30pm. Admission is £3 and there are four lovely gardens to visit, including Hilltop Farm which I'm sure you all know. Whichford and Ascot Gardens are opening seven gardens on 17th Sunday from 2.00pm to 6.00pm, admission £5. Included is the pottery of Jim and Dominic Keeling, always worth a visit. Refreshments are available at Whichford House. On Sunday 24th at Leamington Hastings there will be a variety of interesting gardens open and refreshments in the Church. Admission is £5 and gardens open from 2.00pm to 6.00pm. Lastly on Saturday 30th there will be six gardens open at Welford on Avon between 2.00pm and 6.00pm and admission is £5. Teas will be available in the Village Hall.

I hope that you will enjoy some of these gardens; most are open under the NGS scheme so proceeds go to many worthy causes. The weather has now changed, hurray, so do enjoy it and I look forward to seeing you on the trips.



Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

How ironic that my last article gave you plenty of information about how to cope with drought conditions and, since I wrote it, we have had continuous rain! There has been very little opportunity to do gardening of any kind for about four weeks. Even when it isn't raining the ground was far too soggy and wet to get out there to do any of the jobs. I've had a quick look around and noticed the weeds growing at an alarming rate but, compared to last year, other plants are about 3 or 4 weeks behind.

Consequently we have had a very quiet time at the nursery, not many sales but lots of potting has been done so that when the weather does behave itself we shall have a good selection of plants for sale. Luckily we are still able to deliver plants to the National Trust properties.

Have you noticed how good the cowslips are this year? They have become well established in our garden and are spreading themselves all over the place. Not so welcome are the large number of dandelions that are also colonising in the field and are popping up in the garden usually right in the centre of another plant which makes it difficult to eradicate. A shrub which has done extremely well this year is Viburnum Burwoodii. It has been in the garden for about eight years and is now about 4ft high.

It has the most wonderfully scented white flowers which have flowered for 6 or 7 weeks. Do come and have a sniff.

A follow up regarding the piece I wrote about recycled compost. It seems that the council carefully collects it every fortnight, composts it in the digester thingy and then sells it to farmers to put on their fields!!! The amateur gardener doesn't get a look in.

Jobs - The main thing to do this month is to try to catch up on everything you couldn't in April and May. (Look up your old parish newsletters).

Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton Tel: 01926 812737

www.bridge-nursery.co.uk



Nature Notes

John Hancock

On Friday 29th April, a day after last month's magazine deadline, I heard the first cuckoo call in Hampton Wood Nature Reserve. In fact, whilst cycling down Fulbrook Lane from Sherbourne which leads to the wood, I had seen a cuckoo sitting in a wayside tree. It took off as I came up with its unmistakable flight and streamlined profile. The Reserve (OS sheet 151. SP. 254600) is a little gem. There was a profusion of bluebells together with other spring flowers such as Yellow Archangel, Lesser Celandine, Red Campion, Bugle and Garlic Mustard otherwise known as Jack-by-the-hedge. Woodland paths lead down to the River Avon and a water meadow. Look back from this and you will see a hut perched up a steep slope. This is a small bird hide and a good place to spend a while sipping coffee and seeing what comes to the bird feeder. I saw a nuthatch.

Back in the wood, I lifted the lid of a low lying bird box and got a fright. A hissing sound caused me to jump backwards. It was not a snake, just a Great Tit doing its best to scare me, a good example of mimicry used as defence.

Over in France with the Twinning Association, the weather kept in the damp cool groove we had had since Easter. The forest of Fontainebleau was leafing up. I did not hear a nightingale this time but, while out in the woods with my granddaughter Millie, heard another cuckoo and felt spring had truly arrived. At Dieppe, Millie saw an interesting sight; a gull dropped something from a height onto the deck of the ferry boat. It was a large mussel. One half smashed and the gull got its meal. Millie rescued the other half of the bivalve which measures 10cms (4") in length.



I hope some of you have managed to get to Draycote Meadows which I recommended last month. The Green-winged Orchids, predominately purple in colour but many pink or even paler, have been spectacular. The ridge and furrow of this old, unimproved grassland is a cornucopia for botanists. Some plants are showy like the orchids and cowslips, others hide away. The Reserve notice board pictures the Moonwort. My friend Dave said “that should be easy to find, it’s huge”. Beware, the notice shows an enlargement and the actual fern is just 10cms high disappearing into the grassy background. We were lucky on our visit to meet Steven Falk [author of Warwickshire’s Wildflowers published by Brewin Books] together with Val and John Roberts who were there to photograph the rarity. They happily showed us the only Moonwort found this year. It’s at the southern edge of its range here. A lot of superstition hangs about this fern. It was once believed to be capable of opening locks and unshoeing horses. It was thought to be responsible for pulling horseshoes from the hooves of the Earl of Essex’s cavalry during the English Civil War. Our luck was in as the botanists found another specimen before we left.

Look for the Adder’s Tongue Fern at Draycote together with the semi-parasitic Yellow Rattle. (*Rhinanthus minor*). At present, the yellow flowers are yet to appear and you just have a distinctive rosette of leaves. After the flowers in June/July, the calyx dries and the seeds inside rattle when ripe.

David Taylor told me of the animal he had seen at close quarters while on the farm road near Itchington Holt. It was long with a bushy tail and a distinctive black and white striped colour akin to a badger. David identified this as a polecat. As it had walked over David’s shoe, Joe Van Hoorebeck reckoned it was an escaped ferret. They are, after all, domesticated polecats. Since then I have seen a dead one on the road over our railway tunnel.

Now, we have flipped into summer. It happened yesterday afternoon (21st May). I was up on Prestbury Hill overlooking Cheltenham Racecourse with David Brown’s Lepidoptera Group. We found the Duke of Burgundy butterfly (*Hamearis lucina*) amongst its food plant, the Primula. Few British butterflies have experienced a more rapid decline. It once inhabited most sizeable woods in the south but, with the end of large scale coppicing, has been shaded out. Now, scrubby downland is its refuge. It’s the only European representative of the Metalmarks or Riodinidae. The ‘Duke’ is very handsome, somewhat like a small Fritillary.

The Metalmarks of Central America have some of the most vibrant colours of any butterfly.

The shades of green as trees open their leaves are not to be missed. A wonder and a delight. We will not have it repeated for another year so enjoy the moment.



General Section

Spirit of Harbury



It was entirely appropriate that this year's Spirit of Harbury award was presented at the coffee morning organised by the Senior Citizens committee, as the person nominated to receive the shield was Mike McBride who is currently the treasurer for the committee. He joined the committee several years ago, when Jenny Evans who had been the secretary, left the village to live with her husband, Rick, in France. Although he expected to join as a member of the committee, he

suddenly found himself voted to take on the role of secretary. Since then he has acted as Chairman and more recently he has taken on the role of treasurer. As with many facets of Mike's contribution to village life over many years, he accepted one role in support of an organisation and eventually found that another position needed his 'guiding hand' and he took on a greater contribution.

Mike and Liz have lived in Park Lane for over 26 years, having previously lived in Leamington after they moved out of London where they met. Mike was originally from London, working for IBM and met Liz, who originated from Wales, when he visited colleagues with whom she was sharing a house. Eventually Mike transferred to



IBM in Warwick and Liz found employment in accountancy, which has led

to various roles, including her current position as finance manager for Somerston Hotels in Stratford. As Mike acknowledges, he and Liz interact to support each other with Mike helping Liz when she was treasurer (and now churchwarden) for All Saints Church and Liz in her role as 'head gardener' ensuring that Mike follows her informed suggestions about gardening, where his main responsibilities are cutting the grass, weeding (once he is told what a weed looks like) and looking after the pond.

In recommending Mike for this year's award, villagers mentioned several of the activities in which he has become involved from the time he moved into Harbury, including his role as a Governor at Harbury School for ten years and a stint as Chair of the Governors for four years. Again, an instance of starting out in a supporting role and eventually taking on greater responsibility, as a need arose. Maybe this explains how he moved from assisting John Moore (last year's recipient of the award) in organising the annual bonfire; to managing the collection of bonfire material and arranging the lists for food and fireworks to the ultimate accolade for pyromaniacs everywhere – being allowed to take charge of arranging the sequence in which the fireworks are lit! He, and Liz, organised the bonfire for 13 years and Mike now controls the buying of the fireworks and setting off of the annual firework display, with several volunteers helping, a role that he does not want to relinquish just yet!

In 1999 he was part of a small group of enthusiasts who conceived the idea of 'Harbury in Light on Millennium night' and was responsible for positioning the 2000 symbol at the top of the windmill, as well as decorating the streets in the centre of the village. Since then, each New Year is welcomed with a new illuminated date, strings of lights around the centre of the village and more recently the large evergreen outside the Library has been festooned with lights, which needs someone with a cool head for heights to ascend the cherry-picker to ensure they are in working order.

Mike also gets involved each year with the annual Carnival and is responsible for stall bookings and creating the plan of the field, which shows each organisation their allotted site, and for communicating with the Fair rides and side-shows. He also works with Danny Killian on the Wheelbarrow Race and all the other activities which take place during Carnival week. It's a non-stop week and the success of all the events is a testament to Mike's planning and organisation in the previous weeks along with other members of the Carnival committee and the chair, John Broomfield.

Mike also worked collaboratively with Danny and others to arrange the first Victorian Street Fayre, and a few subsequent Fayres, which

transformed Chapel Street into a Victorian market with stall holders in period costumes selling their wares on attractively decorated stalls.

Apart from being part of several village organisations, Mike is always giving a ‘helping hand’ to many individuals and groups who might need assistance from time to time, including offering to help villagers with transport or DIY jobs. Not surprisingly, his hobbies include woodwork and he designed and constructed the impressive summer-house in his garden (with a little help from a builder friend). He is also one of the legion of village golf enthusiasts who venture forth on the local greens to keep fit and maintain their handicaps. Liz, on the other hand, relaxes by reading on a regular basis, as she is a member of one of the village book clubs, which meets each month to discuss their chosen book over a glass or two of wine.

As with all of the previous recipients of the Spirit of Harbury Award, Mike has supported many organisations over a period of several years, often in a quiet unnoticed manner, which is the reason why Alison and her family conceived the award in memory of John Hunt – to recognise the activities of ‘unsung heroes’ who make Harbury the special community we all enjoy living in.

Chris Finch



Blood Donors

A last minute reminder of the session on 7th June in the Village Hall; 1.30pm – 3.30pm and 4.40pm – 7.30pm.

Gillian Hare

Harbury Library & Community Café is Open!

Biblio's, the new café in Harbury's reopened library, has created a very positive buzz in the village. With a loyalty card scheme, pensioner discount, and selling only FairTrade freshly ground coffee and organic produce, including the delicious local home-baked cakes, there has been lots of appreciation from customers, such as “who needs Starbucks when we've got this in the village!” This is all very encouraging news for the hardworking, voluntary café team and bakers.

There are 30 people signed up to the café rota over the coming months, and different teams of three work together at a session. It has been a learning curve in mastering the coffee machine and the nuances of making Cappuccinos, Americanos, and remembering which buttons to press on the till. Not to mention attaining their basic food hygiene certificates and keeping abreast of the ingredients in the great value

cakes that the bakers' team (now 35 people) are scheduled to deliver every week. Customers have loved choosing from the tasty selection.

The task of managing the café operations is currently shared between Lynn Macwhinnie, Jill Credland and Bobbie Sharpe who welcome your feedback on the café or interest in getting involved. The purpose of the café profits is to ensure your village library stays open. Once the café is established, the plan is to recruit a paid café manager.

Your village library is headed up by Chris Rutherford, and her team (more volunteers always welcome) are working equally hard, and with the new hours of Monday – Friday 9am-5pm, it is really helpful in making the library more accessible for the wider community. There are three computers, connected to broadband and also Wi-Fi for anyone popping in with their laptop.

The café opening hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9.15am – 12 noon and also Thursday's 2-5pm. As the café grows, so will the hours it is open. "It is fantastic that there has been such support for this venture; the positive community spirit is marvellous", said Lynn. And as Jill added, "This last week we have seen lots of people from every age group in the village, come in and enjoy what the café has to offer." "And they were all saying they will be back every week!" reported Bobbie.

Let us all put Biblio's on the map!

Lynne MacWhinnie

From the Editors: A couple of comments, praising Biblio's Café received in the Harbury & Ladbroke News mailbox:

"I really enjoyed my visit to the cafe and library today, such excellent service and everyone really friendly, a lovely atmosphere, so looking forward to my next visit."

"I can recommend the coffee and cakes and the service was excellent, welcoming and very friendly."

Harbury NSPCC

Many thanks to all the ladies who attended our lunch on the 17th May in the Tom Hauley Room. We raised an excellent amount of £463.00. Our next event is an "Any Questions?" evening on the 28th September and then our second ladies lunch is on the 8th November. More details will follow later.

NSPCC Committee



Harbury Art Group

On 3rd May we enjoyed a “Pen and Wash” workshop. For the first couple of hours our tutor Nick wanted to get us into the frame of mind for some serious drawing, so he brought along a large supply of sea shells, and we each picked a selection to draw. Some decided to draw in pencil first, whilst the braver amongst us went straight in with ink. We added just a touch of colour wash to the drawings, and produced some pleasing results. The main focus for the rest of the day was drawing a street scene in Hanoi, featuring a grandmother bathing a child, with various other figures in the background. This proved to be a real challenge, and was certainly a very different type of subject for us. Again some interesting interpretations of the scene were produced.



Our workshop on Thursday 7th June will be a return to traditional watercolours with a session entitled ‘Early Summer’. Then on Thursday 5th July we will be tackling a ‘Beach Scene’ using watercolours, acrylics or gouache.

Our workshops are fun and informal, and are run on a ‘pay as you go’ basis of £15 per day. There is no joining fee, and new members are always welcome. We meet on the first Thursday in the month in the Tom Hauley Room behind Harbury Church, between 10am to 3pm. All levels of ability attend, from beginner to the more experienced. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided but please bring your own packed lunch. For more information about Harbury Art Group, please contact Pam on 01926 814923 or the tutor Nick on 01295 276465 or e-mail harburyart@hotmail.com.

Pam McConnell

Harbury Duke of Edinburgh Award Group - Quiz Night

We are holding our very popular annual quiz night on **Friday 15th June** in the School Hall, doors open at 7.30, quiz starts at 8pm. All proceeds will

go towards the running of the ever-growing group and the funding of equipment for expeditions – maps, compasses, tents, stoves etc.

Cana will be running the bar, sandwiches and crisps provided during the interval and a raffle will be held during the evening.

The cost to enter a team of four is just £20.

There will be prizes for the winning team and a 'Duke of Edinburgh - themed prize' for the losing team!

If you would like to enter a team, please call Caroline Hill on 613780 or email caro.hill@btinternet.com as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

Caroline Hill
Harbury Duke of Edinburgh Group

Get on your Gear, Carnival is Here!

Harbury Carnival - Saturday 9th June

(Parade Judging Starts 12.15pm from Sutcliffe Drive)

Carnival has arrived!

It's June already and that means it's Carnival time for you to dress up and have fun.

Please buy your raffle tickets from volunteers who will be knocking on doors – remember the proceeds go to local charities and organisations.

The Parade: Vehicles, floats and walking entries in position in Sutcliffe Drive by 12 noon and judging begins at 12.15pm

We look forward to seeing you with your local organisation, pub, street or friends and see what ideas you have come up with for either a float or a walking group for the procession. Here is a reminder of the list of categories for the Parade: *(NOTE: Parade leaves at 1pm)* 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.

The programme:

12:00 pm	Float vehicles must be in position
12:15 pm	Judging of floats at Sutcliffe Drive
1:00 pm	Carnival Procession led by the Shirley Pipe Band
1:45 pm	Fancy Dress Competition

- 2:30 pm Punch and Judy
 3:00 pm Shirley Pipe Band
 3.30pm Royal Leamington Sparklers (leaping cheerleaders)
 4:00 pm Dog Show
 Followed by Lucky Programme/Grand Carnival Draw
 5:00pm Carnival closes

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

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

Many thanks to our twenty five great SPONSORS: *A J Brunt Carpentry, Avonvale Veterinary Centre, Cana Import, Mr Brooks The Chimney Sweep, Bull Ring Garage, communication & me (Bev Walshe), The Door Store, Fosse Garage, The Gamecock, TM & JM Grey, Harbury Pharmacy, Harbury Supermarket & Post Office, Jasmine Spice at the Dog Inn, Kleinmann Properties, S Mehra Decorators, Miles of Tiles, Mugleston's Country Fare, Nifty Needle Curtain Shop, The Old New Inn, Rollasons Solicitors, The Salon, Serenity, The Shakespeare, Warwick Cleaners, and ZoeKate Photography.*

Dress up and cavort at the Carnival! See you there...

Peter Walshe
On behalf of the Carnival Committee

2012 Carnival King and Queen



I'm Finn, I have two cats called Jinx and Jasper and two chickens called Sheila and Maisy. I like going to the park to meet up with my friends. My hobbies are playing football and rugby.

My name is Jasmine, I have lived in Harbury nearly all my life, with my Mum, Dad and younger sister Eleanor. I like swimming, art, learning violin and piano, as well as listening to music.

Congratulations to them both!



Come and Enjoy the Fun at this Year's Heart of Harbury Games

16th June 2012 on Harbury Playing fields

- You will be thrilled by the excitement of watching great performances in running, jumping, throwing, Tug of war and all sorts of other athletic skills.
- You'll crease with laughter at events like "Throwing a tantrum" and "Harbury's Got talent".
- You can feast on delicious food and drink served up by our team of excellent caterers.
- You can cheer your friends and relations as they are presented with medals on the Olympic style podium.
- If you sponsor an event (for £25) you will be invited to be a celebrity medal presenter. (Contact one of the numbers below).
- You will be in the presence of some royal visitors (but we can't give any details for reasons of protocol).

Here are some quotes from last year:

- "It was obvious to everyone who attended that a huge amount of work had been done on the organisation and that this led to an event that was both enjoyable and also profitable for the Village Hall." Harbury Parish Council.
- "Every conversation I have had since, with all manner of people who competed, has been about what a great event it was. What fun we all had." Rachel Brown, Banana Bunch

- “I really hope the event can be repeated and only hope it has been as successful in monetary terms as it was in all other respects.” Peter Rollason, Twinning.
- “It was a thoroughly enjoyable event and the football team can’t wait for the next one”. Macolm Tanner, Junior Football.
- “Can we just say a massive thank you and well done to all the organisers. It looked like a logistical nightmare to keep the events on time and everyone in the right place at the right time, but you did it.” Rob and Libby Darlason, Cana.
- “Cheers for this. The buzz from the games has been great.” Andy Jackson.
- “Today was brilliant”. Andrew Patrick.
- “Very impressed how everything went. I know a few people were a bit apprehensive before but, talking to them afterwards they thoroughly enjoyed it”. George Simpson.
- “A big thank you to everyone who helped yesterday. What a great day.” Geoff Thorpe, chair of Village Hall Committee.
- It was wonderful to sense the rampant enthusiasm and enjoyment which arose from everyone – young and not so young, cheering each other on for the glory of the team.” Chris Finch.
- “As Gill Gurden said, it was like going back to Harbury when we first came here where there was tremendous enthusiasm for family days like this.” John and Sharon Hancock.
- It was truly a “Heart and spirit of Harbury day”. Doug Freeman.
- Thanks for making Linda and I feel so welcome at your Games. We thoroughly enjoyed the day and there was a great atmosphere despite the dodgy weather.” Dave Moorcroft (Former 5,000m World record holder).

For more information please phone: Peter Walshe (612477), Trevor Monatgue (612340) or Andrew Lawrence (614937).

Andrew Lawrence (on behalf of the organising group)

Movement 2 Music

The articles in the Harbury and Ladbroke News and the leaflets around the village have generated enough interest for a **taster session** for the over 60’s exercise class to be arranged for **Thursday 12th July** from 2.00pm-3.00pm in the Village Hall.

The dance instructor, who runs the Kineton session each week is unavailable in June, as she assists with shows put on in the Royal Spa Centre for the junior groups she coaches on a regular basis. It is not meant to suggest that our proposed group might at any time in the future contemplate public performance, emulating 'The Zimmers' who featured in one of Britain's Got Talent 2012's semi-finals!!

It is hoped that there will be exercise, which suits all those who try out the first session, from coordinated movements carried out whilst sitting down, to more energetic dance moves for those who wish to be more active. The idea is that there will be something to suit everyone, so that each person will feel they have taken part in some exercise to keep the mind and body, as active as they would individually like to be.

The cost of the 1 hour session will be £2.50, which should cover both the cost of the instructor and the hire of the Hall. At the taster session, there will be a form for everyone to sign, so that it will be possible to gauge the reaction to the class and, if following this trial run there is a sufficient number of people who express interest, then the sessions will commence on a regular basis in September. It has been suggested that a Thursday afternoon would be the best time, but the session would only run for three weeks out of four, as Thursday Club is arranged for the 3rd Thursday of each month. It was thought that August should be avoided as many people might be on holiday or involved with family visits.

If you want to know further details about the proposals for this new group in the village, please get in touch with Jackie on 612750 or Chris on 612305. If the timing for this Movement 2 Music for the over 60's is not suitable, there is a class on Wednesday, 9.30am – 10.30am in the Graham Adams Centre in Southam. For this group, please ring Sue at the Community Education Centre on 810952 for details.

Chris Finch



Windmills
Nursery School

Windmills Parents Snowdon Climb for Charity

A group of Harbury parents and friends successfully climbed to the summit of Snowdon over the Bank Holiday weekend and have raised much needed funds for Windmills Nursery School in the village.

Eight climbers completed the challenge on Sunday 6th May, taking around two and quarter hours to reach the top of the 1085 metre mountain along the Pyg Track.

We were lucky that we had a nice clear day on the way up to enjoy the magnificent views from the top of the mountain. Only when we reached



the top did the snow start to fall and we then descended to complete the task.

In total we have raised £900 to help buy some equipment including a sensory garden and an outside covered area for Windmills Nursery. Those who took part and helped raise money included Wes Strange, Corinna Butler, Katharine Giblin,

Sarah and Keith Hanson, Kirsty Watkinson, Chris Chetwood and Michael Varriale.

We would like to send thanks to all those who sponsored us for this event – a great day and well worth doing for the money we raised. If you would like to make a donation now please go to <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/windmillsnursery/75174>.

Sarah Hanson on behalf of Windmills Fundraising Committee



Bumps and Bundles

If you go to the Carnival
on the 9th day of June
If you go in Harbury
the procession will be along soon.
For every baby that ever was
will gather there for certain
Because that's the day the
Bumps and Bundles have
their picnic.

Come and see Bumps and Bundles at the Carnival!

Kelly Jones

A Night with Harbury Theatre Group

The Visitors from Forest Hill (taken from Plaza Suite by Neil Simon)

Director: Jo Banbury

The curtain opened and in walked Norma (Janet Thornley). Norma's opening monologue was well timed and delivered, setting the scene ready for the appearance of her husband Roy (Keith Hayes). The action takes place in a room of an American hotel where their daughter Mimsey

(Emily Jackson) has locked herself in the bathroom and refuses to come out and attend her wedding to her fiancé Borden (Chris Beaton).

The relationship between Norma and Roy was absolutely exquisite. They delivered each punchline with such skill that I thought I was going to die laughing. Both Janet and Keith have been involved with the Harbury Theatre Group for as long as I can remember and this was their best performance that I have ever seen. The physical comedy was well executed, even the smallest gag showed a high level of attention to detail. When Borden arrived to persuade his bride to come out of the bathroom, his one line was delivered with the same quality as the rest of the script. Finally Mimsey came out of the bathroom looking radiant as the bride and her acting "piece" put the icing on a very well made cake! I was also impressed that there was **no** need for the prompt throughout the performance.

The set and the costumes complemented the script and the attempt at the American accent was well done too. The Director Jo Banbury has shown us that even amateur dramatic companies can also provide a high level of entertainment.

Morris, Thompson and Guy

This wonderful trio comes to the Harbury stage from the local Folk Club. Following on from the format of last year, Morris, Thompson and Guy were asked to provide entertainment between each one act play. Tina Morris played guitar, David Thompson played the double bass and Harriett Guy played the violin and did the vocals. They entertained us with *The Wee Croppy Tailor*, *Green Grows the Laurel*, *Bright Eyes*, *Go to Town* and *Over the Lancashire Hills*. They played well, beautifully sang and helped the audience recover from the laughter of the previous performance.

Breakfast for One by David Foxton

Director: Ali Hodge

Marcel Morisot (Chris Beaton) gets into what he thinks is the Paris apartment of the actress Marie Celeste, who he is smitten with. He bumps into the maid Honorine (Emily Jackson) who mistakes him as somebody else. Then Yvette Signac (Karen Ellis) arrives and she has a habit of bringing back to her apartment her *unfortunates* to feed. Soon after the unfortunate Claude Vallette (Andrew Lawrence) arrives to be fed but his identity is quickly mistaken as well. The next character to turn up is Vincent Signac (Keith Hayes) the husband of Yvette. Now this is a play that is all about mistaken identities and the farce that goes with it. The action is fast paced and the punchlines thick and fast too. At the end of the play we discover that Honorine is in fact Marie Celeste when she lifts

up her skirt to display a wonderful pair of bloomers! She then begins to sing and to do the can can!

This was Andrew Lawrence's first outing onto the Harbury stage and what a magnificent debut he made too.

Once again the set and the costumes complemented the script and the French accents reminded me of the fantastic 'Allo 'Allo!. The Director Ali Hodge showed us that Harbury Theatre Group might be an amateur theatre group but can still provide not one but two very funny and entertaining one act plays in one evening.

Congratulations must also go to the *behind the scenes* personnel. They are just as important to the success of a production as the performers. I would like to add that for those people who did not get to see this latest production that you missed a treat!

Deborah Ellis

Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

At the time of writing, we have several seats available for the trip to Bournemouth. If you have had a last minute change of mind, please contact Thelma Gulliver on 613269 or Mike McBride on 612421 to book your place.

We are also able to offer some seats for £10 return, which is great value for a day out. These will be available to both Harbury and non Harbury residents who would like to join us on the trip. Please call Thelma or Mike on the numbers listed if you are interested in going.

The coaches will leave the Village Hall at 08:30am on Wednesday 13th June come rain or shine. We hope that you all enjoy yourselves.

A note for your diaries. We would like to remind you that the next event is the Summer Lunch which is a fund raising event and as such the lunch is open to anyone who wants to come, subject to availability. The lunch includes a Ploughman's, Dessert, Tea or Coffee for £5 and will be held in Harbury Village Hall on **Saturday 28th July** between 12:00 and 14:30pm. More details will be in the next edition and on posters around the village.

Mike McBride,

On behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association

A Harbury couple celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary

It is doubtful whether many couples in the UK are able to celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary by revisiting the Church where they made

their vows 60 years previously, but a recent photograph taken by Eddie Newbold shows Phil and Quona Huntley from Bush Heath Lane, taking up their exact places under the lych gate, as they recalled their Spring wedding on March 29th 1952. After the service they held their reception, as many village couples did in the 50's and 60's, in the W.I. hut situated off Crown Street – behind the Village Club.



Quona, an exceptionally sprightly 89 was born in Harbury and met Phil, now a very fit 85 year old from Coventry, when they both worked at Lockheed in Leamington Spa. Quona is well-known in the village for her superb baking, as she has made mince pies and cakes for many village organisations over the years and she still produces wonderful pastries whenever she is asked to support one of the Saturday coffee mornings, which she attends very regularly. Phil still drives to 'his roots in the City', tends his garden and can often be found 'chopping up sticks' for villagers from wood he has delivered from several local sources. Phil and Quona are definitely not the average 80 year olds and their zest for life is amazing – maybe Quona's cooking has a lot to answer for their impressive fitness – that and their determination to remain very active.

The couple were delighted to receive a card in celebration of their diamond wedding from the Queen, which was requested by Phil's brother Gerald and his wife Jenny. As Quona said, this was 'very unexpected', as was the total of 40 cards the couple received from friends and relatives and the flowers and gifts with which they were showered. They were taken out for a meal at the Chequers in Ettington by Gerald and Jenny when they visited from Scotland and they also went to Hilltop Farm with

nephew, Kevin Biddle and his wife Jackie who live in the village, along with niece Rose Lazell and husband, Brian.

Quona was the subject of a Harbury and Ladbrooke News article some years ago as she recalled working at the Bonnickson's airfield, which was situated on Harbury Lane where the Brakes F.C. and the scrap-yard are now located. In the sitting room, there is a large mounted photograph of one on the many planes which were built on the site before they were delivered to the RAF for active service. Quona worked in the staff canteen for the owner of the aerodrome and Phil remembers that Jaguar and Massey Ferguson also occupied some of the buildings, so that an impressive engineering operation was 'down the road' and employed many local families.

Although, Phil and Quona moved about quite often in their early married life from Coventry; to Frances Road, Harbury, Lillington, Claverdon, Northampton and back to Frances Road, they eventually settled in their present home in Bush Heath Lane, 43 years ago. It is where they feel at 'home' because of all the friends they have made and they would like to thank everyone from the village who remembered them as they celebrated their 60 years together.

Chris Finch

Warwickshire Young Voices

Warwickshire Young Voices has a busy month ahead.

The whole choir will be performing at the Spirit of the Countryside event at the National Agricultural Centre to an expected audience of 1000 plus, including the Archbishop of Canterbury. We will be singing a selection of upbeat pop songs as part of a village-fayre style celebration of rural life in Warwickshire.

Then, just two weeks later, we are incredibly pleased to be performing at the wedding of our singing teacher, Natalie Pinfield-Williams as she marries James Taylor at All Saints Harbury. The wedding will be a music packed event, featuring four songs written especially for the choir, as well as one with music and lyrics written especially for Natalie and James on their wedding day. We wish them every best wish for their new lives together and are very proud and privileged to be part of their special day.

The Chamber Choir also has two upcoming engagements, having been invited to sing as part of a four part choir for an evensong in Baddesley Clinton and at the Civic Service, for the inauguration of the Lord Mayor of Birmingham.

Four of our youngsters will also be taking their practical singing examination in the next month for their white level RSCM

Voice for Life award, gaining entry to Chamber Choir as a result - we wish them luck with their exams!

Do You Love to Sing?

Warwickshire Young Voices is an exciting community youth choir for 7-16 year olds. It is run by a team of volunteer singing teachers, all with a professional music background, who aim to give children the best possible experiences of live singing and performance.

We rehearse on Thursday evenings, 6.30-7.30pm and sing a wide range of music, from pop songs to songs especially composed for the choir. Your child will work with a published composer on a weekly basis, learning all the skills of singing and performance. We perform regularly at both local and high profile events, giving each singer fantastic opportunities.

We currently have a waiting list to join, so please put your name down early to get a space for next year. You can find out more and add your name to the waiting list at www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org and clicking on 'join us' in the menu.

We hope to be able to expand the number of places available in the choir from September, following the recruitment of a new singing teacher to the team, so it is well worth getting your name down now to secure your place!

Music is a skill for life - Let's pass it on!

Helen Iles
www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org
01926 614 150

Harbury Pre-School Fundraising Group

The Harbury Pre-School 80s/90s Disco proved to be a great success, raising £750 for the school funds, buying puzzles, role play equipment, magnetic puzzles and paints. Many thanks to Mark Evans and friends for providing the disco free of charge, and to Cana Wines for their generous donation having run the bar during the evening.

Future Pre-School Fundraising Events for your diary:

Thursday 14th June - 9.00am - Final day of collection for Bag2School - a collection of adults'/children's clothes, shoes (tied together), hats, belts, bags, soft toys, curtains & bedding (but no duvets or pillows, thanks). Please drop any donations to Julie, at Saddler's, Chapel Street, Harbury from June 7th. Any bag can be used.

Sat 14th July - Quiz Night at Harbury C of E School Hall (£20 per team of up to four).

December - Christmas Disco at Harbury Village Hall.

9th December - Christmas market at Harbury Village Hall.

At the Pre-School, we are also collecting unwanted electrical leads, mobile phones, and used ink cartridges. Please drop them in to the box in reception.

For more information about any of the above, please call Sarah on 07791 807970.

Helen Edwards

Harbury Energy Initiative

After emerging windswept from our dash through 2011 and into this Spring, we might be expected to feel a little in need of some calm days. On the other hand it would be good to have something to get on with and we certainly aren't short of ideas. Harbury Energy Initiative is now planning its next energy surge. Our plans will involve helping to find funds to complete the work we started through LEAF and Energyshare but may also include electric cars and bikes, ecopods, another event, community orchard, biodiversity and more 'low carbon' ideas than I have space to mention.

We intend to be at the Carnival, so look out for us there. We are hoping to have an electric car from Mitsubishi and some advice on waste reduction as well as a host of information following the 'Green Futures' event and, of course, advice. Come and talk to us about how to reduce your energy use and see what all the LEAF work told us about Harbury, the community buildings' energy assessments and Energy Performance Certificates.

I am still keen to catalogue all PV users in Harbury and get an idea of what results people are getting and how much energy Harbury is now generating without the help of fossil fuels. Such has been the rush to get panels arrayed on roofs that we have not kept pace with the changes. It would be really useful to be better informed so that we can show others the potential and, as a result, attract more grants as a progressive and active village community working together. If you are happy to let me know about your installation, please contact me via bob@churchterrace8.freeserve.co.uk.

I have no intention of publishing any names or addresses.

I hope that many of you will have seen the new digital display in the foyer of the Village Hall. This was just one of the benefits from the LEAF programme. You can see just how much electricity is being generated and cumulatively how much carbon has been saved. The fact is that everyone will want to know how much money the Village Hall is saving on energy use and I'm sure it won't be long before the Hall Committee tells us.

Bob Sherman - 612277

Warwickshire Whizzkids Set For Crufts...



Local Flyball team, the Warwickshire Whizzkids, are thrilled to have won a place at Crufts 2013. Affectionately known as 'the world's greatest dog show', the event takes place at the NEC in March and, this year, attracted over 145,000 visitors.

The Whizzkids will be competing in the Young Kennel Club Flyball Finals, where eight teams will take part in this fast paced and exciting knock out competition. The team consists of seven young people with the youngest member, Keris, aged only six, delighted at finally being old enough to join the team having cheered them on from the sidelines for the last two years.

Flyball is essentially a relay race for dogs, with four dogs charging over hurdles to release a tennis ball and returning to their handler ready for the next dog to go. The first team to successfully complete the course and have any part of their final dog cross the finish line wins. Any dog can take part in the sport, although the Whizzkids team is dominated by collies, and at one recent competition this was proven by Great Danes competing alongside Jack Russells!

The Young Kennel Club welcomes young dog lovers aged 6-24, and hosts a number of events across the country. The Whizzkids were competing in the Flyball Crufts Qualifier against teams from Cambridgeshire, Gloucestershire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, the West Midlands and Leicestershire and, for some members of the team, this was their first experience of a competition. The recent wet weather meant that training prior to the event had to be abandoned on a number of occasions, and at the final training session before the event the team were understandably nervous. The Whizzkids held their nerves on the

day, sailing through the qualifying rounds to the final, and when they qualified for Crufts even the rain and hail didn't dampen spirits as they waited to be presented with their rosettes.



The Warwickshire Whizzkids train in Harbury, and will be taking part in a number of demonstrations at local events

over the summer in preparation for their big day at Crufts. They are also very excited to be able to design and choose their own team kit, due to very kind support from Feldon Veterinary Centre.

Jo Hicks

Windfarms Again

The application for Planning Permission for five wind turbines at Knightcote Bottoms is now being considered by Stratford District Council. This Wind Farm is the first of many currently expected by the local Planning Authority; in total some 42 turbines are anticipated within ten miles of Southam, but this first one is right on our doorstep.

The site, below the Burton Dassett Hills, is in a wide valley that runs between Knightcote and Bishops Itchington. Standing on the top of the hills looking across the valley towards Bishops, the wonderful view enjoyed by so many will be destroyed. The turbines will stand above the highest of the hills in order to catch whatever wind may be available (125 metres). There is little wind on average in this particular valley in central England surrounded by hills.

However the developers are not really worried since their money is made by simply erecting these old technology eyesores. Yes of course they will produce some electricity, when it's windy. But not a great deal, nor is it free. Our electricity suppliers currently pay approximately 19p per unit (index linked) to the Wind Farm operator. We pay 13p or less on our home meter. The cost of distribution is on top. It is not difficult to see what will happen to our fuel bills. This is not sustainable.

So we lose the wonderful view to and from the hills. We have to pay for the developer's cost of build and their crazy profit; approximately £1.5m per turbine, all from your electricity bill. Furthermore we have to pay a vast premium for the electricity generated. We already have traffic problems

on the Gaydon Road. This will add a further 10,000 lorry movements to the traffic. There are 1,500 tons of concrete to replace the earth below each turbine that has to be dug out, digging down 30 metres into the earth. Where will the earth go? The turbine blades are 45 metres long. They have to be delivered in one piece. Are our roads up to this?

For every unit of electricity generated we still need an equal amount of conventional generating capacity for the days when the wind does not blow, in our case many. Surely we have to question the whole concept of building outmoded generating capacity at vast expense, paid for out of your pocket in areas that don't have enough wind, to make astounding profits for none but the industry. Please, if we must have Wind Farms put them where there is wind and a fair chance of making electricity most of the time. Not in valleys in beauty spots in rural Warwickshire, where they produce little but damage to Shakespeare country and massive bills.

Stratford District Council has for the first time given us some real grounds on which the application can be turned down. Now they need to hear from you; your opinion is finally valid. They need you to write about the birds, the bees, animals and reptiles. They need to hear what you consider important about our countryside, its views and its importance to you and the tourist industry. Finally they need to hear about other alternative energy schemes, which are not turbines. Solar, water, waste recycling, etc. Every bit of written evidence is a further step to getting rid of this unwanted menace from our County.

So please write to Stratford's planning department. Starting: I object to the Wind Farm application because.....Don't wait, it has to be in by 8th June 2012 to be valid; even if you're a bit late do it anyway. The more voices the better, for us all. The address is Stratford on Avon District Planning Department, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford on Avon, CV37 6HX or you can e-mail me - richard.hamburger@stratford-dc.gov.uk and I will pass it on.



Richard Hamburger - District Councillor

Community Forum - Including Surrounding Villages Southam/Feldon

Wednesday 13th June 2012

Bishops Itchington Primary School, Ladbroke Road CV47 2RN. Police surgery 6.30pm, Community Forum starts at 7.00pm.

Community Forums give YOU the opportunity to raise issues of local concern and keep up to date with what is happening in YOUR community. If you have a specific concern or problem then come along to the drop in surgery at 6.30pm where you will can speak informally to officers from your local Fire and Rescue and Police Teams, Councillors and Officers from Warwickshire County and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils. Join us for a cup of tea.

Main Topics for discussion at the next forum:

Have Your Say on the State of the District – What’s Most Important to You?

Hear about the District’s emerging policy on Renewables – What are your views?

Help Set Your Local Police Priorities for the next three months.

Bev Mann

Leamington Hastings Open Gardens - (CV23 8DY)

The village is holding an Open Gardens day on Sunday 24th June from 2.00pm to 6.00pm with all proceeds going to Warwickshire Air Ambulance and the Village Hall.

There will be six or more varied and interesting gardens, plant stall, several wheelchair friendly gardens, refreshments in the Church and children’s activities. Entrance is £5 per person or £10 per family.

Sandra Rice



Dear Editors

I would like to say a big thank you to all the people who have sent me cards, flowers, chocolates, cakes and many good wishes, after my hip replacement surgery - everyone has been so kind to me and I know that I am fortunate to have so many caring people near. I am progressing well - don't think I shall

be ready for the Olympics this time, but will soon be out and about again as per usual.

Many thanks again to everyone.

Jan Playdon

Dear Editors

To all our friends - Colin and I thank you all for your prayers, cards and good wishes which have sustained us at this time. Many, many thanks.

Every blessing

Colin and Jen Ingram

Dear Editors

Harbury recently seems to be plagued by a plethora of door to door salesmen. We have had five such visits in the last three weeks. When you answer the door these people are most aggressive and threatening and display the characteristics of drug dependency. I am very concerned for older or vulnerable residents who may be less able to deal with this type of nasty intrusion.

If other residents are suffering from this activity, maybe the Parish Council could investigate and consider how we can operate a 'No Cold Calling Zone' which a number of Councils in the UK have recently implemented. The police know of this activity and have taken action to deter these people, however they are aware that the problem has now returned to the area.

These other Authorities have reported a reduction in this nuisance activity due to the erection of official signs on the lampposts at entry points to problem areas, complemented with appropriate matching signs in house windows.

Kind regards

Paul Cockell
South Parade

The Editors would like to apologise to Andrew Teeney for the error in naming his wife Joan, when it should have been Jean, in last month's letter thanking friends for their support whilst she was in hospital.



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4.30pm - Pre-Syllabus (5-6yrs)
5.00pm - Pre-Primary (7-8yrs)
5.45pm - Primary (8yrs+)

Dance Classes

Thursdays, The Grange, Southam



4.00pm - Funky Dance 1 (4-6yrs)
4.30pm - Gymnastics (all ages)
5.00pm - Grade 1 Ballet (9yrs +)
5.30pm - Funky Dance 2 (7yrs +)
6.00pm - Grade 2 Ballet (11yrs+)
6.45pm - Grade 3 Ballet (13yrs+)

Tap Lessons

Fridays, The Grange, Southam



4.00pm - Little Tappers (3-5yrs)
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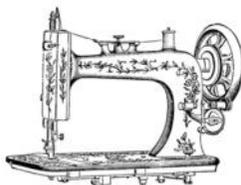


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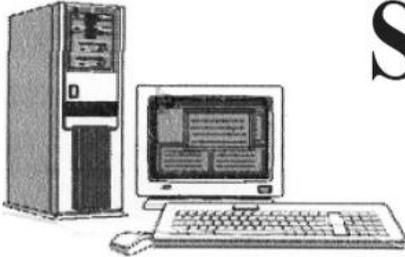


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