

Harbury & Ladbroke News

Is published monthly and reflects all aspects of local life.

January 2020

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*The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team.
The Editors reserve the right to amend articles as they see fit.*



Editorial

Congratulations to Frances Road on their wonderful light display over the festive season and for holding their Christmas fundraiser for the Guide Dogs - a lovely community event. The photos below were taken by Lisa Birnie and we thank her for letting us publish them.



If you are looking to start a new hobby in the New Year, the Southam College Community Education Spring term programme starts on Monday 13th January. Continuing at Harbury Village Hall will be the Ballroom and Latin American dance classes and new members are welcome. So if you fancy giving it a go, the beginners class commences at 7.30pm on Wednesdays and no dance experience is necessary! In Ladbroke you could learn how to ring the church bells; practice night is Tuesdays, 7.30 - 9pm. This is suitable for all ages and no musical knowledge is required.

Finally, we extend our condolences to the families of Mary Rosamond Haynes and David Perry.

Harbury Diary

JANUARY 2020

- Sat 11 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Church work with children
Harbury Village Cinema presents 'Late Night', doors open 6.15pm, film starts 7.00pm
- Sun 12 **BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
Holy Communion (Said Service), 8.00am
Holy Communion and Children's Church, 10.30am
Messy Church, 3.00 - 5.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Youth Group, 6.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 13 Martial Arts, 5.30pm, Village Hall
Yoga, 8.00 - 9.00pm, Village Hall
- Tue 14 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
French Classes begin, 6.00pm, Harbury Village Library
- Wed 15 Pilates, 9.30am, Village Hall
Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park - Little Kineton (5 miles)
Connections (Dementia) Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Inspire Dance, 4.30pm, Village Hall
Southam Safer Neighbourhood Team - Home Security drop in session, 6.30 - 8.30pm, Harbury Village Library
Ballroom and Latin American Dance, beginners 7.30pm, Improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
- Thurs 16 Holy Communion followed by coffee 9.45am
'Pound' Fitness, 11.15am - 12 noon, Harbury Village Hall
Mini Reds Tennis, 4.45 - 5.45pm, Village Hall
Jazz Club, doors and bar open 7.30; music starts 8.00pm, Village Hall
- Fri 17 WI New Year Party, 7.00 for 7.30pm, Village Hall - singalong with Cathy Morris
- Sat 18 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Leonard Cheshire Care Home
Centenary Celebration event, 7.00pm, Harbury Village Club
Harbury Society Members Social, from 7.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Sun 19 **SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**
Holy Communion (Said Service), 8.00am
"Saints Alive" Informal All Age Service 10.30am
Evensong, 6.00pm
Zumba, 9.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 20 Martial Arts, 5.30pm, Village Hall
Yoga, 8.00 - 9.00pm, Village Hall

- Mon 20 ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD,
HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Tue 21 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Classic Book Club, 7.30pm, Harbury Village Library
- Wed 22 Pilates, 9.30am, Village Hall
Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park -
Napton (4 miles - hilly)
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Inspire Dance, 4.30pm, Village Hall
Ballroom and Latin American Dance, beginners 7.30pm,
Improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
- Thurs 23 Holy Communion followed by Coffee 9.45am
'Pound' Fitness, 11.15am - 12 noon, Harbury Village Hall
Mini Reds Tennis, 4.45 - 5.45pm, Village Hall
ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY,
HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY
5.30PM
Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm, Farley Room, Village Hall
- Fri 24 Southam 2000 Rotary, Burns Night Celebrations, 7.30 for 8.00pm,
Village Hall
- Sat 25 Councillors' Corner Session, 10.00 - 11.00am, Harbury Village
Library
Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid
of Myton Hospice
Local Produce Market: 10.00am - 1.00pm, Harbury Primary
School
Wednesday Walkers Lunch in Tom Hauley Room, 12.30pm
Booking required.
- Sun 26 THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**
Holy Communion (Said Service), 8.00am
Holy Communion and Children's Church, 10.30am
Youth Group, 6.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 27 Martial Arts, 5.30pm, Village Hall
Yoga, 8.00 - 9.00pm, Village Hall
- Tue 28 Holy Communion, 7.30pm
Julian Meeting, 8.00pm
- Wed 29 Pilates, 9.30am, Village Hall
Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park -
Broadwell - Leamington Hastings (3½ miles - flat)
Inspire Dance, 4.30pm, Village Hall
Ballroom and Latin American Dance, beginners 7.30pm,
Improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
- Thurs 30 Holy Communion followed by coffee 9.45am

FEBRUARY

- Sat 1 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid
of Harbury Pre-School

- Sat 1 Folk Club Concert, doors open 7.00, starts 7.30 - 10.00pm, Village Hall (Tickets only - sold out)
- Sun 2 **PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE/CANDLEMAS**
Holy Communion (Said Service), 9.00am
Little Saints Service, 10.30am, Tom Hauley Room
Candlemas Evening Service, 6.00pm
Zumba, 9.00am, Village Hall
- Tue 4 MeetingPoint Lunch, 12.30pm, Crown Inn, booking required
Heritage Room Open, 6.30 - 8.30pm, Harbury School
- Wed 5 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park - Castle Farm Kenilworth (4 miles - flat)
Mothers Union Act of Worship followed by Meeting, 2.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Ballroom and Latin American Dance, beginners 7.30pm, Improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
Self-Publishing talk by Jeremy Atkins, 7.30pm, Harbury Village Library
- Thurs 6 Holy Communion followed by coffee, 9.45am
Mini Reds Tennis, 4.45 - 5.45pm, Village Hall
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Sat 8 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Senior Citizens
- Wed 12 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car Park - Edgehill (4½ miles - hilly)
Ballroom and Latin American Dance, beginners 7.30pm, Improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
Away Day, 10.00am - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Thurs 13 Mini Reds Tennis, 4.45 - 5.45pm, Village Hall
Harbury WI, 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room - Members' Night

Refuse Collection Rota			
	Deppers Bridge	Harbury, Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge outlying properties	Collection Week
January	Wed	Fri	
	15	17	Grey Bin
	22	24	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	29	31	Grey Bin
Feb	5	7	Green & Blue Lid Bins
	12	14	Grey Bin
	19	21	Green & Blue Lid Bins



From the Rector

Gemma Took (Reader)

January 2020 – I am finding it hard to believe that when you read this, Christmas will be over and we will have welcomed in 2020! Is it really 20 years since we waited for the clocks to strike twelve and herald in the new millennium? Would our computers crash? Would all our timed appliances still work? Would the world be in technological melt down? However, everything continued very much as before and we all breathed a huge sigh of relief!

Every year seems to bring new problems and stresses to our lives and 2019, in particular, was a complex and unsettling year, culminating with a general election in December. But now the election is over and whether you are happy, sad or indifferent with the result, let us hope this new year will bring some stability in our nation as well as this village. We might not think we can influence or be of use in any way, but small acts of kindness, looking after an elderly neighbour or helping harassed parents, have a ripple effect. Everyone can make a difference.

We are still without a vicar and the team are working hard to keep everything going. Not an easy task, but with the help of God, I firmly believe we can achieve a calm and peaceful handover time.

This Christmas has been especially difficult and sad, as Harbury said “goodbye” to three of the older and much-loved members of our village, Tony, Pearl and Mary. These three represented for many of us the stability and essence of Harbury – a caring, loving village, and all three have left their own individual mark on the lives of many of us.

In addition, we lost a young wife and mother, whose absence within her family can hardly be imagined. Our hearts go out to all families coping with the empty seat at their table.

In her Christmas message (in the December Harbury and Ladbroke News), Rev Ann asked us to “look” into our hearts, to look up at the universe, to look back to that first Christmas, and to look for the true wonder of Christmas. Rev Ann asked us to go beyond the razzmatazz that surrounds Christmas and in that simple birth 2000 years ago find the true meaning of love and peace to all. Over the Christmas period, we have hopefully had time to rest and look at our lives, our worries, our stresses, but also our delights and joys; to put life into perspective and make those resolutions for the New Year that will bring us those things money cannot buy.

So, what about 2020? If we have taken Rev Ann’s suggestions to heart, and if we focus this year on those things that bring us real happiness, then we can be resolute and go forward.

We all have great expectations of ourselves and our families and friends. Perhaps the best New Year resolution we can make is to live and enjoy

today; to appreciate our families and friends and to be thankful for them, however irritating they can be at times. Let that light that the Christ child brings at Christmas be our light, lift our spirits and let every day be a "Christmas" day.

From the Churchwardens

Liz & Michael

Our Christmas Fayre was a success and thank you to all who ran stalls, made cakes, sold raffle tickets and generally entertained us - both the Morris dancers and the singers and instrumentalists who formed a "pop-up" group. We have sent £2503 to Save the Children as a result of the raffle and a further £1085 was raised for church funds.



Photos by Bill Timson

The Village Carol service on Christmas Eve was well attended and we wish to thank Felicity Harris for masterminding the readings, to Matt Penn and the choir and the Folk Club Choir. As a result of the generosity of the congregation both at this service and at the Christingle £392 has been sent to the Children's Society. A further £120 has been given to the Leamington Night Shelter which was raised at the coffee morning on 21st December.

We thank our clergy Reverends Bob and Ann and our readers, Gemma, Peter and Alison for all the services they have lovingly given us over this period. Also to all those who helped decorate the church and move "stuff" in readiness for the Christmas celebrations.

It was sad to say goodbye on Sunday 29th December to Matt Penn, our organist of six years, as he has greatly enhanced our worship on Sundays. We will miss him.

A host of woolly angels descended on the church and lych-gate delighting many people who took them home to "share joy" at Christmas. Thank you to

Helen Robertson and her Mum Isobel along with other knitters who have placed these angels all over the village.

Unfortunately it's not only the angels who need their woollies but also us as yesterday the church boiler failed and it looks as though it may be some time before permanent heating will be on in church. (The good news is that the Tom Hauley Room is unaffected and remains heated.) No doubt we will be bending your ears on this subject in 2020. In the meantime have a very happy new year!

Please do contact either of us should you have any queries relating to church life.

Liz McBride (tel: 612421) and Michael Vincent (tel: 614806)

From the Registers

Baptism

22nd November Dolly Ada Jenkins and Martha Mary Clarke

Funeral

26th November David Perry (93 years)

30th December Mary Rosamond Haynes (88 years)

	<h2>Mothers' Union</h2>	<p>Gillian Hare</p>
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Christmas and our New Year party are now behind us and we hope all our members have had a pleasant time.

Our next event is our 5th February meeting with a Valentine theme. The member led worship is at 2pm followed by Chris talking about the many faces of love. We always welcome visitors.

Our programme for the year is now available and looks very interesting.

Our stall at the Christmas Fayre raised £103. Any remaining toiletries will be taken to the Blue Sky Centre (formerly Rape Crisis Centre) in Coventry; if you have any more to add to them please bring them to the February meeting.



Ladbroke News & Diary

<http://www.ladbroke-pc.org.uk>

JANUARY

Sun 12 EPIPHANY 2

Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am, followed by update on the All Saints for All Generations project

Tue 14 Ladbroke Photography Club, New Year Meal, 7.00 for 7.30pm, the White Hart, Ufton

Wed 15 Table Tennis, 7.00 - 8.00pm, Village Hall

Sat 18 Fund Raising Coffee Morning for Agnes Court (Leonard Cheshire Home), 10.00 - 11.30am, Tom Hauley Room, Harbury

Sun 19 EPIPHANY 3

Holy Communion (BCP), 9.00am

Mon 20 Homegroup, 8.00pm, 2 Hedges Close

ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK

Wed 22 Table Tennis, 7.30 - 8.30pm, Village Hall

Thurs 23 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR EMAIL ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM

Sun 26 EPIPHANY 3

Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am

Wed 29 Table Tennis, 7.30 - 8.30pm, Village Hall

FEBRUARY

Sun 2 CANDLEMAS

Family Communion, 10.30am followed by refreshments

Mon 3 Pause and Pray, 7.00 - 8.00pm, Church

Tue 4 Photography Club, 7.30pm Village Hall

Wed 5 Table Tennis, 7.00 - 8.00pm, Village Hall

Thurs 6 WI, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Fri 7 Ladbroke Players present "Anything you Ask", doors open 7.00pm, play starts 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sat 8 Ladbroke Players present "Anything you Ask", doors open 7.00pm, play starts 7.30pm, Village Hall



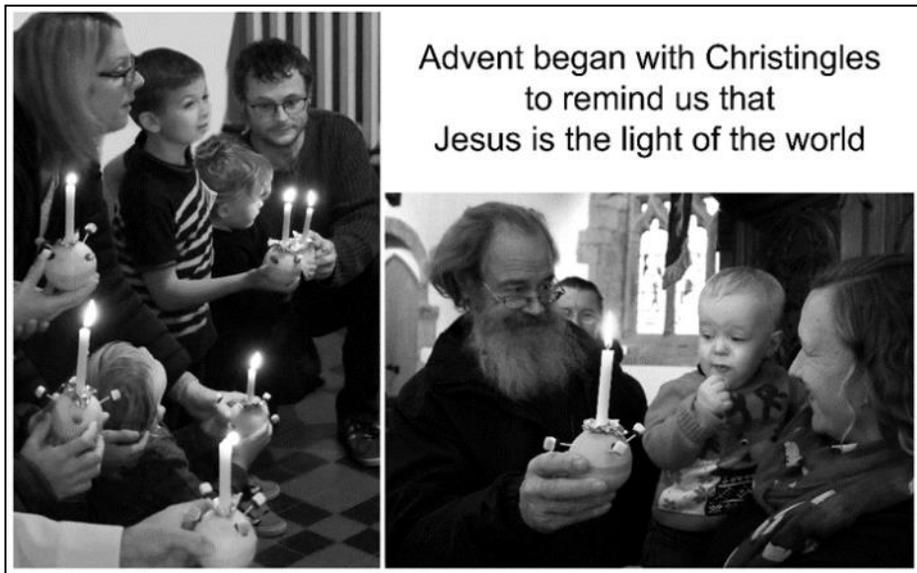
Ladbroke Church News

Peter Rigby

As we enter 2020 and look forward to the new decade, it would be remiss not to first take a brief look back and to thank all those who have helped to make our Christmas events and services a success:

- to Rob at the Bell for welcoming us to the Beer and Carols evening
- to Joe and Pam Collins, who kindly donated the Christmas tree for the church, as they do every year.

- to Bill, Kate and all the choir for their hard work rehearsing and leading our Carol Service
- to Betty for taking on the Crib Service this year
- to Rev Bob for leading the Beer and Carols and taking all our services in Christmas week
- to all who joined in our services – there were good turn outs to the principal services, with a total of over 100 adults and 20 children at the Crib Service and Christmas Day service.



Looking forward, as I write this, we shall be starting 2020 with our normal family service at 10.30am on Sunday 5th and with “pause and pray” on Monday 6th at 7.00pm Home group will restart on Monday 20th Jan.

Wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year.

	<p>Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge Women's Institute</p>	<p>Carol Lane</p>
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The Christmas Social Evening was held in the village hall on Thursday, 5th December where the main item of the meeting was drinking mulled wine and sampling a buffet, but we did play a couple of games of Bingo. Many of our number had never played it before but managed to follow the 'rules'! Surprisingly it was good fun - but maybe I thought that as I won one of the games (should that be houses?) and was awarded a bag of chocolates!

The other December gathering was on Wednesday 11th when a coach load of us went down to Denman College, a fine Georgian house acquired by the WI in 1948 as a centre, giving opportunities to learn new skills whether you are a member of the WI or not. You don't even have to be a woman as men are also welcome. A guided tour of the house and accommodation was given before the Christmas meal. As to be expected of this establishment, the food was of excellent quality and we were one of about four other WIs who had chosen this as the venue for their Christmas meal.

I was amazed recently, when I mentioned being in the WI, that a friend's response was 'you have to be a really good cook and make all sorts of things to join that!' This idea would cause much laughter in our WI. Even though there is lots of talent, there is an even greater willingness to participate and learn new skills when the opportunity arises, or you can just sit and listen.

By the time the January magazine is delivered we will have heard Felicity Howatson talking about her life as a textile artist. The February meeting will be held in Ladbroke Village Hall on Thursday, 6th starting at 7.30pm. John Butterworth will give a talk on 'Hitting the Headlines as a Newspaper Editor'.

All are welcome.



Ladbroke Matters

David Wright

The Ladbroke Matters team looks after the Village Hall and the Millennium Green. To help with this we organise regular fundraising events so that we can continue to offer both facilities for the benefit of our community.

We wish all our supporters **a very happy New Year** and hope to see you again at our events this year.



Work has now been completed on our new entrance and toilet facilities. We hope you agree it is a worthwhile improvement.

During this year we also hope to upgrade the car parking facilities and the kitchen area.



Our screening of *It's a Wonderful Life* last month was once again a great success. Special thanks must go to our accomplished chefs for the excellent food and to all who helped decorate the hall (apologies for the slight accident when moving the Christmas tree!).

More film nights are planned for 2020 - so watch this space.



We commence our **2020 programme** with another of our acclaimed drama productions. The village thespians, techies, and scene builders have been working tirelessly on a comedy by Nick Planas entitled 'Anything You Ask' - *a retired couple get an attractive domestic robot: what could possibly go wrong?*

There will be two performances: on **Friday 7th February and Saturday 8th February** both at 7.30pm in Ladbroke Village Hall. A bar will be available.

Tickets £12 each available from Kip - 01926 815004 or kip.warr@gmail.com



Don't forget that you can hire the Village Hall for your party or celebration at a very reasonable rate (£15 per hour with a 20% discount for Ladbroke residents). We have a kitchen, and room for up to 80 people. To book your special occasion contact Nicky (tel 815196 or email nicolalewis1958@gmail.com).

If you would like to join the Ladbroke Matters team, have any suggestions for future events, or any other comments please contact the Trustees (details on the Ladbroke website).

Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Draw for November 2019

£50	Miranda Lowman	£50	Helen Hay
£25	Keith Tancock	£25	Jo Horne
£25	Sue Moore	£10	David Rose
£10	Barbara Bicknell	£10	Carol Locker
£10	Brian Whitehorse	£10	Scott and Siobhan Roberson

Margaret Bosworth



Ladbroke Photography Club

Kip Warr

We had a viewing bonanza at our December meeting. First was a competition on the theme of 'Vintage'. We had old cars, motorcycles and steam engines as well as a pocket watch, penny-farthing bicycle and even Concorde (remember that?). We then had a photopic session on the same theme where we discussed the background and merits of our pictures of more vintage items including a 'New Look' dress and bottle of wine ('vintage' has many meanings).



Vintage Alpha Romeo by Mike Todman



Our keen
photographers in
Southam by
David Hannan

We had intriguing comparisons between Southam 'Then and Now' as our photographers had been out taking pictures to match those on SouthamHeritage.org, a website that is well worth a visit. With two screens side by side we compared the old and new photos, spotting some big changes and many small ones.

Finally, we viewed photographs of Stratford that had escaped our previous meeting. They reminded us that there was a time when days were long and warm - called summer.

Visitors and guests are welcome at our meetings which are usually at 7.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month (there are some exceptions this year) in Ladbroke Village Hall; for more information see our website (tinyurl.com/ladbrokephoto) or contact jackieszone-photogclub@yahoo.co.uk. In January, though, we shall have our winter meal at the White Hart in Ufton.



Ladbroke General Section

From Your District Councillor for Ladbroke

Due to a hiccup in transmission to the magazine there are two updates this month - Editors

December

On 23rd October there was a fairly busy District Council meeting. With a number of controversial items which are difficult to summarise, however I will try.

An announcement was made about an investigation into allegations of sexist behaviour at the Council. Two Councillors had breached the Code of Conduct relating to respect and bringing the role of Councillor into disrepute; they both

agreed to take certain actions to remedy the breach, including a full and unreserved written apology.

An independent panel had been appointed to look at the expenses and allowances paid to councillors. Personally, I'm not comfortable with the idea with anyone setting their own income level so someone independent coming up with figures is a good idea, and overall they seemed to have used a rational approach based on the activity required of councillors. Where this related to the lack of adjustment over a number of years and the much larger area to be represented, I was content to go along with the recommendations, but I, and colleagues in my Group were not happy with some of the more extreme increases proposed. There was a long debate about reducing those increases but an amendment to do so was defeated. As a result, I and my colleagues voted against the package in its entirety, but it was still passed by a majority. One thing I did not think right was the back-dating of increased allowances, and I intend to refuse this payment.

The Council meeting then moved on to HS2. The Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership are minded to express support for the project to the 'Oakervee review' and the Conservative leadership proposed that SDC should have a new policy of supporting the delivery of HS2, reversing their long standing policy of opposition to HS2. There was a passionate debate, where I and Councillor Louis Adam from Long Itchington argued that the Council should keep its existing policy stance, as the line passed through our Wards. We were supported by other councillors. After a series of close votes, with my Group voting *en bloc* to maintain the current position of objection, and other groupings split, all proposals were defeated, meaning that the Council's policy position of objection is unchanged. I feel that just as the whole project is under review and nothing has changed, apart from seeing how much the cost has increased, there is no justification for the Council changing its stance now. There are better ways to achieve capacity improvements, economic benefits and value for money.

Having been talking about HS2 at a long and difficult council meeting, I have since been to visit the site of the 'heave trial' cutting, along with representatives of the Parishes of Wormleighton and Priors Hardwick. A section of cutting near Stoneton has been excavated, almost to the full depth of the line and ground conditions are being monitored. Even though a short section, this is a considerable amount of earthworks 16-18m deep. Separately, between Wormleighton and Ladbrooke some archaeological trenching will be starting shortly. I have also learnt there will be an office block for 250 people on the main road between Ladbrooke and Southam.

The working group at the Council formed to address the climate emergency, chaired by Cllr Dr Susan Juned, has published its report. It includes recommendations on community engagement, housing, tree planting, an audit on land use, renewable energy, a dedicated staff member, leadership, and having an annual forum. The report will now be considered by the Council's cabinet, who will decide upon the next steps.

January

At the last Council meeting of 2019, a controversial move to introduce a £40 annual charge for the continued collection of green waste was voted through by 17 to 13 votes. There had been a rather poorly advertised public consultation on this proposal, portraying this as a necessary fundraising measure which I am afraid did not stand up to scrutiny. I, and my Lib Dem colleagues, found the stated claim that 'There has been a 60% reduction in central government grant funding' to be misleading. Investigation shows there has actually been a significant overall increase in government funding to the District Council in recent years. Furthermore, we felt the change is premature because the government is considering a national scheme for green waste and is considering whether this should be funded centrally. I could not see a net environmental benefit from the proposed new charging system. Accordingly, I voted against this change. However, details will be published in coming months explaining how the scheme will be implemented next summer.

I would like to wish all residents health and happiness for 2020.

Nigel Rock
Councillor for Napton, Fenny Compton and Ladbroke Ward
 nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk
 07971 343065



From Ladbroke Bell Tower

'Ring out the old, ring in the new,
 Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
 The year is going, let him go;
 Ring out the false, ring in the true.'

From 'In Memoriam' Alfred, Lord Tennyson

“Stand to. Treble’s going - she’s gone....”

This is the command to commence English change ringing in small parish churches and great cathedrals throughout the country. The familiar sound of bells sounding in a repetitive descending scale 12345, is called 'rounds'. The highest pitched bell is the lightest and is called the 'treble' and the lowest pitch is the heaviest and is called the 'tenor'. At Ladbroke we have five bells ranging from 5cwt to 12cwt, each controlled by an individual ringer, to a fraction of



The Ladbroke Christmas Day ringing team

a second by a thin rope in the ringing chamber below. Ringing is not a question of strength but of technique, so once a learner has mastered this it is up to him or her how far they become involved in the technicalities of bell ringing. Each of our five bells has an inscription cast on them. The treble bears the motto *Cantate Domino Canticum Novum - Sing to the Lord a new song*, which we hope to do in 2020. Ring out the old year and ring in the new.



Ladbroke Bell Ringers' Christmas Drinks

Happy New Year to one and all and everyone is welcome to practice night to find out more.

Ladbroke Practice night is Tuesday 7.30 - 9pm.

Contact: Keith Archer phone/text or WhatsApp: 07484 212863

Laura Taylor

Coffee Morning Tom Hauley Room - Saturday 18th January

The coffee morning on the 18th will be in aid of the Leonard Cheshire Home, Agnes Court, in Banbury.

This wonderful Home cares for up to 24 disabled residents, including our son-in-law. Despite the very many problems, there is always a happy atmosphere.

The money raised will be used to provide the residents with 'extras'. Money recently raised by the Friends of Agnes Court has helped to purchase a smart TV, equipment for the computer room, a camera and entertainments for the residents.

Donations of raffle prizes, cakes and bric-a-brac would be very gratefully received.

Carol Lane
Tel. 01926 814715

Hidden Nature

I'm very pleased to report that not one, but two Duke of Edinburgh participants are volunteering this year with Ladbroke Church. Charlie, who is keen on nature, is preparing a display about our resident bats ready for The National Lottery Heritage Fund assessment visit at the end of this month and you may see his brother Sam taking photos around the village for us to use in leaflets and publicity for future heritage related events.

Heritage is not just about old buildings, events and people who lived long ago in the past. It includes our natural environment too; in fact Heritage Open Days later this year will be on the theme Hidden Nature. We have lots of that around Ladbroke and some not so hidden, such as the wide variety of birds that can be seen in the village. Recognising that 25th - 27th January is the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch, Charlie has created this wordsearch for you to try. It's quite a challenge as the names may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal or even backwards. We hope you can find them all in the grid and you are lucky enough to see or hear these birds around Ladbroke too.

Jackie West & Charlie Lambert

Ladbroke Birds

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L P F L G G F F Z G R G V G C O P R W
T F P W L R L J J C O A L N R T J J F
H G U T V R E B L L I W O I O N F B O
W C O L L A R E D D O V E L W C N T I
U Q N X K N N F N R R X Q R O U I A M
E W N I E J I O R F M X J A O D B F I
A N O V F N B A E Z I M G T D U O L F
T J A O C F P G T G F N B S P N R S O
B R U H D S A I P N I U C E E N L W C
Q L X B E A T H S X Z P O H C O K W B
D G U S B T I O C Z E W A D K C A J O
A K U E A P H E A S A N T D E K Z F I
T O H E T J N R L G J W M G R C T B E
H N R S L I D R B M I W P Y B D S D D
P G R G Y U T R N L R M P F J C U U L
D R I B K C A L B E F X D S N F T N H
X I L R C Q F M N P P Z I S N R E Z T
W A P Z B E Y S C Y N S B C Y B N N R
  
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BLACKBIRD
BUZZARD
COLLARED DOVE
DUNNOCK
GREAT TIT
HOUSE SPARROW
OWL
PIGEON
ROBIN
WOODPECKER

BLUE TIT
CHAFFINCH
CROW
GOLDFINCH
GREENFINCH
JACKDAW
PHEASANT
RAVEN
STARLING
WREN





Harbury Parish Council

Linda Ridgley
Harbury News Correspondent

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

November Meeting Report

Warwickshire County Council Localities and Partnership Officer, Charles Barlow, gave a short presentation encouraging the parish to have their say at a stakeholder meeting on 11th December.

Public Participation

The Footway to Churchlands had been approved. Harbury Junior Football Club is seeking space to put a storage unit on the playing fields. Linda Ridgley drew attention to plans to fell an important ash tree in the Conservation Area, and expressed concerns about potential drainage problems with the proposals for the Old New Inn.

Other Organisations

After a very long gestation, the Tennis Club lease was finally signed.

Southam School is advertising for a new Headteacher.

Village Hall - new rear doors are on order for the back of the Hall which will be used when the main entrance is closed for the planned improvements.

Harbury Energy Initiative received "in principle" support for its wind powered generation project.

Stratford DC Cllr Harris reported that green waste charges were about to be considered.

County Council Cllr Stevens said some villages (Long Itchington etc) had been flooded. Traffic was increasing and the planned work on the Cutting would generate more.

Planning

Tree Felling at 41 Farm Street: The Chairman advised objecting as there was no plan of the site and the ash tree to be removed was an important feature of the Conservation Area.

Tree works at Temple House: Councillors made no representation on this application.

Churchlands Caravan Site: Cllr Gibb had voiced concerns that the bus stop should remain and complained that the bus timetable was wrong. Cllrs were pleased that a footpath was promised

The Churchlands owner said he would have temporary access to his site and had to work with Murphy's on his own development. Cllrs decided to support these plans as they were a local business.

Works on Harbury Cutting: The Chairman had obtained a promise from Murphy's that the road would be regularly swept clean of mud. He wanted better landscaping, as that on the previous, western side, had not successfully reinstated the Site of Special Scientific Interest. He asked where the spoil would go. Murphy's representative said it would be stockpiled; they had taken further advice on landscaping and the western site was now better. Cllr Thompson pointed out that Churchlands Field was an example of old Ridge and Furrow that would be lost in the course of the works. He had assurances that pedestrian access would be maintained and that the company hoped to arrange visits for the school children. Following these assurances the Council made no representation on the plans.

Demolition of Old New Inn and Construction of Seven Dwellings on the site. There were many concerns about this application. It was pointed out that these proposed new houses were in the Conservation Area, where modern houses built more recently in Farm Street/Temple End, were set back from the road. This proposal also has a thatched cottage fronting onto Temple End. Cllr Allen felt it was over-development of the site; the frontage layout contravened the Neighbourhood Plan and she wanted the houses set further back from the road. There were concerns too about the sight line at the junction of Farm Street and Temple End. Cllrs wanted porous paving installed to counter the danger of surface water flooding. There were no plans on where refuse bins would stand on collection days. Most Cllrs thought there were just too many houses planned for the site.

The Chairman accepted the site could be redeveloped but not over-developed. He made it clear he was not happy with the developer's assertion that the Parish Council had already approved the plans, nor that they had failed to take up his suggestion of running a public consultation. There was a further problem with the present layout as the northernmost dwelling would take the daylight from the south-facing windows of an adjacent property in Farm Street. It was resolved to object to these plans.

Properties

Cllrs decided on the type of youth shelter they wanted at a cost of £13,500 but will undertake a public consultation on where to put it. If they get approval for this it will be installed in the early Spring.

Cllr Rutherford (Chair of the Village Hall Committee) had researched the installation of CCTV cameras to cover the playing field, car park and Village Hall at a cost of around £5,400 plus VAT.

Bad weather had delayed the installation of the new play equipment.

There was long discussion about the ruts in the playing field caused by the Bonfire traffic. Members of the Football Club had been attempting to level out the ruts. The Junior Football Committee needs storage space and is looking for somewhere to put the goals. They will explore the possibility of using the area to the east of the tennis courts.

Work on the Cemetery chapel roof will not take place until at least the New Year. The Parish has budgeted for replacing the path and will have that done in the Spring.

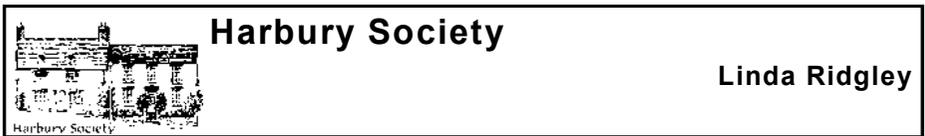
Finance and General Purposes

They signed off the lease on their office; amended the Community Grants form; signed one cheque; delegated the Clerk to deal with extracting Section 106 moneys from the County in consultation with the Chair and agreed that in future they would only put up one paper notice (on their office window) advertising their next meeting, using the Harbury & Ladbroke news and social media instead of laminating notices that do not recycle.

Next Meeting: Thursday 23rd January 2020, 7.30pm in the Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall

Current Parish Council members contactable via the Parish Office are:

Tim Lockley (Chairman), Keith Thompson (Vice-Chair), Samantha Allen, Steve Ekins, Chris Gibb, Alan Knowles, Tony Mancell, Andrew Rutherford, Pat Summers, Janet Thornley



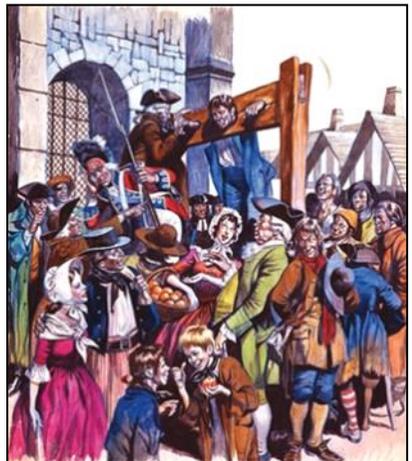
A society for the villagers of Harbury which celebrates the heritage of the area by way of lively talks and outings.

At the November meeting our speaker was Ginny Davis who, it transpired, read law at Cambridge, became a criminal barrister and married a High Court Judge! For someone who claimed not to be an historian as well, she gave a thorough and fascinating account of Crime and Punishment throughout the ages.

First she revealed how originally different trials and criminal sentencing were with the victim doing the “prosecution” and the person arraigned obliged to defend him or herself. This did not change until 1898 when the defendant was at last allowed someone to represent their case. From the 16th to the 18th Centuries those found guilty were physically punished as a deterrent.

Some examples of what punishment involved were: use of a “scold’s bridle”, the ducking stool and restraint in the stocks. From the 14th Century every town or village was obliged to provide stocks or they were deprived of the right to hold fairs. (Warwick’s was at the Market Hall). For “drinking unwisely” even Cardinal Wolsey suffered this humiliation.

Then there was the pillory or “Stretchneck” a particularly cruel punishment as the hands could not defend the face as all manner of objects could be thrown at the unfortunate prisoner. Daniel Defoe was



pilloried for making fun of the Church and was said to have been pelted only with flowers.

In the 18th Century there were over 200 “Capital Offences” for which offenders could be hung - one of which was “impersonating a Chelsea Pensioner”! Execution was by beheading for the Peers; traitors were hung, drawn and quartered but women were burned at the stake. Executions continued in public until 1868 and in 1872 the law required all hangings to be within prisons. Thousands of people (including children) watched these events. The famous Tyburn Tree saw multiple hangings. The prisoners were conveyed by a wagon which stopped at inns for the condemned to have a drink. At this time they were said to take “a leap in the dark” as hanging was by the cruel “short drop” which caused a slow painful death by strangulation. The last woman to be executed was Ruth Ellis in 1955. The death penalty for treason, piracy and military offences, was finally abolished only in 1998, although it ceased for murder in 1965 and the last hanging took place in 1964.

It is surprising that despite all this it was possible to avoid the death penalty. There was the Royal Prerogative of Mercy where the condemned could petition for a pardon. By 1830 97% of those condemned to death were reprieved. Sometimes thieves survived because the price of what they stole was reduced and so they were tried only for “petty larceny” for which they were only whipped. Women could be saved by claiming to be pregnant and up to a third of those arraigned did so. Men too had a get out by claiming “Benefit of the Clergy” which only required them to be able to recite Psalm 51.

In the Georgian period serious offenders were often not sentenced to imprisonment – they were transported. This was a banishment or exile, at first to America, but Independence in 1776 meant this was no longer available and they were put in “hulks” on the Thames and sentenced to hard labour in these decommissioned naval ships.

Then in May 1787 came the solution and 736 convicts went via Tenerife, and Rio de Janeiro to Botany Bay. Convicts had to stay below decks and 48 died on the journey. The second fleet had a higher death rate and, as there was no harbour, the colony was moved up to what was then Port Jackson, now Sydney. Those transported were usually young Londoners - half guilty of minor thefts. They were forced to make the place habitable and then were slaves in chain-gangs. The colony was abandoned in 1857.

In Warwick the prison was in Barrack Street – later part of the County Council building. The night-fellows dungeon was 18 feet below ground level with a cess pit in the middle. There, prisoners were chained to poles round the central hole. As the prison was privately run they had to pay for their own food and drink. The poor were thus very badly off. “Jail Fever” was a problem. The old gallows in Warwick were in Barrack Street and in 1860 the prison was moved from Barrack Street to Cape Road where the Governors House still stands.

Our next event is the Society Social in the Tom Hauley Room Saturday 18th January at 7.30pm.

Please find below details of our Spring programme of talks.

Tuesday 18th February

A talk by Sean Neill 'Interpreting Canal Towpaths: Traces of Horses'. Sean's talk focuses on canal architecture and how it developed to 'accommodate' working horses.

7.30pm for 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room.

Tuesday 17th March

A talk by Gordon Robbins 'The Honey Bee and Beekeeping - What's the Buzz?'. Gordon's aim is to raise people's awareness of honey bees.

7.30pm for 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room.

You don't have to be a member to attend, so please come along as a visitor.

We won't press visitors to join the Society, but hope that you might consider it having seen what we do.

24 members attended the WI group Carol Service which was held at the Catholic Church in Southam on 9th December.



At our meeting on 12th December, we were entertained by Anne Marie Lambert from "Get Cooking". Anne Marie is a professional cook who has worked at Gleneagles, Costa and McDougall's. She now works at a children's centre where she helps people cook from scratch and she also teaches in schools and runs adult and children's cooking parties. She also works with widows and widowers as part of a project to reduce isolation.

She brought along lots of biscuits and gave us tips on making and decorating biscuits - members were then encouraged to have a go at decorating the biscuits.

We then enjoyed festive drinks, mince pies and a gift from the bran tub.

Membership starts again in January and we look forward to welcoming some new members. We have a varied programme of speakers, socials and visits planned. We meet in the Tom Hauley Room on the second Thursday of the month at 7.45pm.

Our first speaker on 9th January will be Charlie Demetrious who will be talking about reducing the use of plastic. Charlie has recently opened "Zero" in Russell Street in Leamington and also has a mini stall in Harbury supermarket. Visitors will be most welcome.

Our New Year Party will be held in the Village Hall on 17th January when we shall be entertained by Cathy Morris.

WI members will continue to run the cinema in the Village Hall on 11th January, 29th February and 28th March. Keep your eyes open for posters.



Harbury Theatre Group

Snow White and the Jealous Queen



What are the ingredients for a great traditional Panto? Singing, dancing, great audience participation, corny jokes, delightful children, a wicked Queen, a glorious Dame, a jolly entertainer, a Heroine and her Prince - well the Harbury Theatre Group's production of Snow White and the Jealous Queen certainly had them all in spades (or were they shovels the dwarfs were holding?)

The story unfolds with the Wicked Queen, Vanity attempting to lure the handsome Prince Leopold away from the delightful Snow White. Her friends Jolly Julian and Dame Dingle help her along with the (rather grown-up!) dwarfs so that ultimately Snow White and Prince Leopold marry and live happily ever after as in all the great traditions!

Along the way there were many stand-out performances.



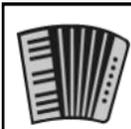
Firstly, amazing, professional acting and singing from Queen Vanity, Dame Dingle's (Double D!) fantastic, colourful costumes and wigs with many changes throughout the performance along with her range of extremely corny jokes, enjoyed by all, Jolly Julian's entertaining style, dancing and singing encouraging lots of audience participation (Hello JJ), Snow White's beautiful singing voice, some delightful children dressed as woodland animals, a chorus of singers and dancers to open the show and possibly the funniest sketch of the whole Panto when Snow White sings

with the dwarfs about what they want to be when they grow up. The sense of comedy timing, actions and singing brought the house down with everyone applauding.



I spoke to some small children after the show who had thoroughly enjoyed the evening with their mother and grandmother so it was truly a Panto for all ages. Credit must also go to all the others involved - the director, producers, prompter, piano, sound and lighting, costumes and make-up, set design, beautifully painted scenery and helpers front of house. It all culminated in a very professional performance. What a lot of talent in Harbury! Well done to all - a good start to the festive season.

Daralyn Warren



Folk Club

Ian Hartland

The December edition of the Folk Club had a decidedly sparse feeling about it. The theme being "Geography" it looked for all the world as if some of our artists had lost their maps, atlases and SatNavs and couldn't find Harbury. The truth was that a number of regular artists were unable to make the evening due to illness or extenuating circumstances. As a consequence, we had just eight acts to see us through the two halves. This was probably the smallest number we've seen performing at the club for some considerable time. However, what was lacking in quantity was compensated for in quality.

Sue and I opened the evening with "I've Been All Around This World" and "The Shores of Jordan". Rik followed with the shanty "Rolling Down to Old Maui" and Alan Bolt's re-write of a classic song, now called: "A Polar Bear Sang in Berkeley Square". Diana gave us two unaccompanied songs, starting with Katie Melua's "Nine Million Bicycles in Beijing" and then "No Frontiers". Don was next and performed "Sunshine on Leith" and a lovely version of "In The Bleak Midwinter", cleverly interspersed with instrumental snippets from George Harrison's "Here Comes the Sun". Pete Grassby is always a welcome visitor and he started his set with "Admiral Benbow" and tacked the tune

“Princess Royal” onto the end of it. His version of “The Lakes of Ponchartrain” was a gem. The first half was brought to a rousing crescendo by Harbury Folk Club favourites, The Daft Dames. Brandishing handbells (after an amusing on-stage discussion as to who played which) they performed the Kipper Family Christmas classic “Hark, Hark The Bells”.

The second half was opened by the Harbury Folk Club Christmas Choir with performances of two carols: “In Bethlehem City” and “Pentonville”, an alternative setting of “While Shepherds Watched...” Peter McDonald gave us Paul Metsers’ “Riversong” with its infectious chorus and followed that with an amusing song about Australia “They Never Mention The Flies”. Next it was time to ask performers from the first half to provide another song, if they were willing. Ric was happy to sing “The Road and the Miles to Dundee”. Don performed a lovely version of “Cry Me A River” and Pete Grassby sang the amusing “Ballad of Brock the Badger”. Sue and I closed the evening with Kris Kristofferson’s “Me and Bobby McGee” and then the almost obligatory Bing classic “White Christmas”.

The raffle raised a creditable £77.00 from an enthusiastic and generous audience. The sum will be going to Myton Hospice.

January’s Folk Club will have been and gone by the time you read this, so our next gathering will be Thursday 6th February at 8.00pm, Village Club.



Harbury Twinning Association

Tony Thomas

On Friday 13th December we held a very enjoyable Italian themed Christmas Party. The members made extremely tasty lasagnes and supplied a range of salads or delicious puddings.

John Stringer set us an Italian knowledge quiz which made us realize how much we did know and how much we did not know about Italy and its foods.

The evening concluded with the singing of the carol Silent Night in the German (the original), the Italian and the French languages.

Some even appropriately dressed for the occasion.



HARBURY Harbury Heritage Room



Bill Timson

Memories of growing up and living in Harbury

A new year, a new set of documents based on the memories of some of Harbury's more senior residents.

This month we feature a couple who have lived in Harbury for over 65 years, Pete and Pearl Sheasby.

Pete was actually born in Long Itchington in the early 1930's and is one of seven children.

As a youngster during the Second World War he remembers the heavy German Bombers flying overhead and the sky lit up

over Coventry during the Blitz. He also remembers the American Soldiers marching down the Marton Road; 'Got any gum chum?' he would cheekily ask. Pete worked on Grimes' Farm as a youth and looked after 13 shire horses as well as tending the sugar beet crops.



Pearl is originally from Southam. She spent her working life in the catering profession, making meals for the doctors at the Warneford Hospital and later working at the Barclay Restaurant in Leamington. Pete married Pearl in 1953 at the time he was working for Leslie Thwaites. They moved into Poole Cottage on Park Lane and this has been the family home ever since. The cottage was in a poor state of repair and the toilet was a shack in the garden. Slowly but surely the cottage became a cosy home for the Sheasby family.

Before the development of houses in Farm Street you could see the petrol station in Mill Street from their upstairs window. The houses in Manor Road were just being built when Pete and Pearl move in. Opposite their cottage on the corner of Park Lane and Farm Street was a large allotment which belonged to Joe Caswell.

As a young man, Pete worked on Hurdiss Farm, part of the Thwaites Estate; his duties included driving the tractor and milking the dairy cattle as well as filling and lifting the heavy milk churns ready for collection. Pete remembers Leslie Thwaites as a very good businessman; he was the son of Captain Sidney Herbert Thwaites, a retired soldier-turned-farmer and a member of the Yorkshire brewing family. Leslie Basil Thwaites, engineer and inventor, set up Thwaites Agricultural Engineering Company in Cubbington, today still making dumper trucks for the building industry.

Leslie's nephew Basil helped to modernise Poole Cottage having an upstairs bathroom built as well as installing a new kitchen. He also had the detached garage built at the side, before this Pete could drive his tractor around behind the cottage and plough the farmland.

On the corner of Bush Heath Lane, Pete remembers two small cottages with tin roofs, demolished in the 1960's and replaced with a pair of semi-detached houses. Later the pond was filled in and the extension built to the right hand side semi by local builder George Marshall.

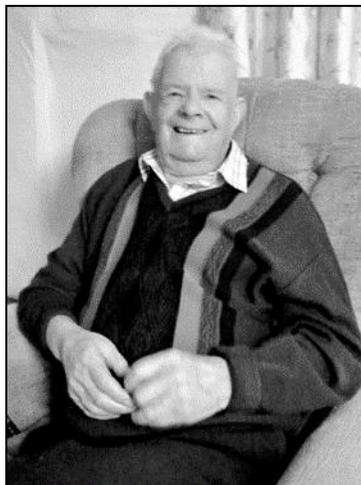
In Harbury, where Pete and Pearl have lived for most of their lives, they remember the grocery shop owned by Jack Tandy, later Kath Ellis' hairdressing shop in Chapel Street. Jack also owned the Barclay Restaurant at the top of the Parade in Leamington. Also, in Chapel Street, was Cecil (Bonzo) Bloxham's greengrocers with the 'bookies' upstairs, later Mugleston's Country Fayre. Other village shops included Cowley's and Sheasby's the butchers, no relation, and Stan Smiths' cobbler's shop, a wooden shack next door to the butchers in High Street.

Pete moved from farming to work at Thwaites in Cubbington, initially driving a forklift truck in the factory and later as a fitter. He retired after 23 years' service.

A much loved hobby and highlight of their lives has been to take part in sequence dancing, they have travelled all around the country and farther afield dancing, including a cruise through the Panama Canal where they danced on board with 23 other sequence dancers entertaining the other guests. Pete and Pearl have one son, Nigel.

Sadly, just days after this photograph was taken Pearl passed away.

Please note this is my transcript of Pete and Pearl's memories, we accept no responsibility for total accuracy but hope that you find it interesting.



**Pete pictured at home in
December 2019.**



Kids' Corner

Happy New Year Kids!

I hope you have a happy and healthy one.

Congratulations to Grace, Millie, Ted, Seren and Willow for colouring the Christmas tree picture so brilliantly last month. I decided to give you **all** a prize!

*This month's competition is a riddle to solve. Find a **letter** from each line of the riddle and tell me **the word** it spells.*

My **FIRST** is in Crisps but not in ripens

My **SECOND** is in church and also in parish

My **THIRD** is in Chimp but not in chum

My **FOURTH** is in porridge and also in potato

My **FIFTH** is in pip and also in grape

My **SIXTH** is in sixty but not in six

When you have the letter from each line email the word you think it spells to:

harburyheritage@gmail.com by 31st January.

Include your name and age (Age limit is 11 years old and under) make sure you have permission from a parent / carer to do this.

Good Luck! There will be a prize for the winner!

	<h2>Harbury Energy Initiative</h2>	<p>Bob Sherman</p>
		<p>☎612277 ✉info@harburyenergy.co.uk</p>

So, how did it go? Very well thank you. 2019 turned out quite well on the whole (politics aside). I thought that you might like to know what we did. But first I would like to celebrate the fact that HEI is now 10 years old. Hurray!

That's enough celebration. Now the news.

Some perspective

Ten years have passed since a group of us set up Harbury Energy Initiative in January 2010. We had aims and ambitions but acted entirely opportunistically from moment to moment. I am not sure that has changed. It seems to have worked. In those ten years we have achieved quite a lot and become a recognised force not just in the village but even nationally to a few rather important people, e.g. Chris Skidmore, Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation. Our activities were referred to him by local MP Jeremy Wright, who forwarded his lengthy reply to us (several months after receiving it).

As the year progressed public concern over the climate emergency has grown away from shrugging off the problem to realising urgent action is needed. It finally became an election and thus vote winning issue for all the main parties. At the same rate of progress HEI has moved from a village oriented group to a county wide actor through the new network we are slowly building. Creating change takes patience and persistence, as you will see from some of the stories below. We seem to have those.

Eco Church

For several years we have been working with the church on carbon reduction and awareness of climate and environment issues. The parish electoral roll numbers well over a hundred people, so not an insignificant group of people. In January we were able to announce that the church had achieved Bronze level in the national Eco Church scheme. This is no simple process although it is self- assessed - by a very lengthy questionnaire. The route to Silver has begun but it will take a great deal to achieve the requirements with this ancient, draughty building. It has survived with various changes, which makes it sort of 'sustainable' but not in the green sense by any means. Philip Mayer is now working, with some HEI input, on plans to transform the energy use with new heating and lighting but against a tide of problems, the kind you would expect from ancient wiring, ad hoc 'improvements' and crumbling masonry.

School solar

Patience was stretched to breaking with the school solar project. Beginning with Paul Quinney's initiative, we had been trying to get solar panels on the school for eight years. Then Alison Hodge and I met Angus Rose from Ineco, a school solar specialist company, at a conference in Coventry in 2018. We invited him to come and see Harbury Primary and things started to move. The involvement of Chris Gibb, incoming Chair of Governors, was another key moment, as Chris is a seasoned negotiator. It took brazen defiance by Chris to drag a reluctant Council officer into taking us seriously and signing off on the plans. On 22nd February the panels were installed just in time to gain the last vestiges of a Feed-in Tariff. The installation was supported by small grants from Community Energy Warwickshire's fund, administered by Heart of England Community Foundation, and the CarbonTrust. The bulk of the finance is as an interest-free loan from the government's SALIX fund.

Car Club

The electric car club lasted four years before E-Car pulled the plug (quite a good pun, really). Europcar bought E-Car Club in 2017 and has since been steadily rationalising their portfolio. Finally, E-Car was merged with Ubeeqo - and we were found out. We have to accept that car sharing has not worked in our village setting. The replacement scheme with Electric Zoo is no longer a car club but allows Harbury e-Wheels to continue, albeit with higher costs. So far this is working well.

Action - Lights

We have continued our work on installing LED lighting in community buildings, following our success with the school. Not all applications for funding are successful and we were turned down by Naturesave Fund for the Pre-School. On the other hand we succeeded in a bid to the CEW fund, managed by Heart of England Community Fund, for money to cover LED lighting for the Scout Hut. Work has now been completed. Elsewhere in the village, other organisations have already installed LEDs, including our street lighting (Parish Council).

The Network

Our major project for 2019 has been the initiation of a county wide network of low carbon groups, with the aim of sharing ideas and solutions with those that have them and of stimulating new activity where there is none. This began with our event on 29th April, supported by the RSA and entitled 'How low carbon is your community? Sharing solutions'. Nearly 50 people attended from various communities and this has now led to two further events, one at Napton and one at Henley-in-Arden. In each case a new group is developing. Napton Environment Action Group (NEAT) hold their first event next May. There is every indication that this network project will develop steadily and we are now planning the creation of a Steering group to manage and support it. Three more groups are planning events in the series. The next event is planned for spring 2020 in Kenilworth. Events will follow at Church Lawford and Snitterfield. In mid December I submitted a preliminary bid framed round this network concept to the new National Lottery Climate Action Fund on behalf of a consortium of HEI, Act on Energy, Community Energy Warwickshire and the RSA. We should know if we can proceed to a full bid soon.

Harbury Future Energy

We end the year with a major project being orchestrated by a task group from Harbury e-Wheels, called Harbury Future Energy (HFE). Whilst this is not strictly an HEI project, it has its origins there and is relevant to our aims. HFE has received a £34,000 grant from the Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) via the Midlands Energy Hub to cover the cost of a feasibility study into a vertical axis wind turbine proposal (see previous issues of Harbury and Ladbroke News). This is a major project that could well provide a local exemplar for other communities to adapt. There is still a long way to go.

New Members

In 2019 we gathered in a few new members, one of whom can genuinely be described as young. A few more of those would be most welcome. Membership costs you nothing and does not require you to commit to do anything. You can just turn up to one of our infrequent meetings or contact me. Easy.



Harbury e-Wheels

Bob Sherman

✉ harburyewheels@gmail.com 🌐 www.harburyenergy.co.uk

I am sure that one thing missing from your life at the moment is a list of statistics. Now, therefore, to add to the indigestion you have suffered over Christmas and New Year's Day, I offer some really exciting data about Harbury e-Wheels. Believe me, you need to know. Just accept it.

2019 was an eventful year for us. On 2nd October the E-Car Club presence in Harbury came to an end. The signs had been there for a while; we just ignored them. The months before, however, had involved the trustees in fevered discussions and planning for the future. The one thing that was not going to happen was that Harbury e-Wheels would grind to a shuddering halt and move no further. In the end we negotiated a deal with Electric Zoo and now have two second hand electric cars all to ourselves. There was also the matter of sorting out insurance, creating a new booking system and changing our charitable status to Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee.

First bit of data: our costs went up by 30%. That was a definite improvement on the probable 75% increase we would have faced to continue with E-Car but means that we have to boost the fundraising.

The transition was seamless, meaning that we covered more hours and more miles than ever before.

Next bit of data: In 2019 the volunteer drivers will have covered about 17,000 miles, driving for almost 1,600 hours and the volunteer co-ordinators will have processed and organised about 1,000 requests for help.

You may not have enjoyed that quite as much as the wine and excess food you consumed over the holiday but it was fairly digestible, wasn't it?

The fund raising goes on. We have plans for 2020 that include an Open Gardens weekend and another Murder Mystery evening that I am told is already in planning. We are also hoping to attract business sponsorship for the cars. If you think your company might be interested we would be happy to discuss options with them.

Happy new year from Harbury e-Wheels.



LOCAL FOODBANK - there is a facility in the village to donate any non-perishable food to your local Foodbank, which supplies the area around when need arises, including Harbury. Please put your contributions into the large plastic box located inside our Parish Church open 8.30am to 5pm. Enter the main door and you will find it on your left, just in front of the red curtain. Thank you.



Guides and Scouts Support

Laura Harris
G.A.S.S. Committee

End of Year Awards

2019 ended with some fantastic achievements for members of the Harbury unformed groups. The Explorers were shortlisted for county objectives in growth, community and youth shaped awards, and recognised at the annual ceremony with presentations to Paul and Joe Quinney and Mark Harris.



Isobel Clarke received her 30 years in service award from the Leamington district commissioner. This is an amazing level of commitment and there are hundreds of children who have benefited from her hard work over the years.

G.A.S.S. Christmas Post

The Christmas post service delivering local cards was a huge success this year. Thanks to the village library for hosting the post box, to all the sorters, stampers and post people for going out on three delivery rounds to get all the cards to the right homes in time for Christmas. We had lots of positive comments and raised over £400 in donations.

Help Required

We currently have a fantastic and creative team providing cubs sessions but it's a large group and an extra pair of hands on the Wednesday evening sessions is needed - speak to Cub Scout Leader Chris Beaton or Group Scouting Leader Paul Quinney harburygsl@hotmail.co.uk if you'd like to get involved. In addition to experiencing the joy of showing kids new skills for life, you may even learn something new yourself!

Our 2020 Wish List

- A new leader for the Beavers in January so that the colony can continue all of its activities with 6-8 year olds.
- A well-attended and successful coffee morning in March, Beer festival in September and Fireworks event in November.
- On-going support from all of our volunteers and maybe some help from a few new faces.
- The most energy efficient, well equipped and comfortable scout hut ever!

None of our work would be possible without the support of the village community so we thank everyone who has manned a stall, bought a bonfire/ raffle ticket, baked a cake or brought along family members to an event. You are all helping to keep the Harbury uniformed groups running into 2020 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Harbury Tennis Club</h2> <p style="text-align: right; margin: 0;">Colin Mercer https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HarburyTC</p>
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2019 was a really good year for the Club on all fronts! Lots of tennis has been played in all age groups, the courts and facilities continue to be maintained to a high standard, and we finally managed to sign a 25-year lease with the Parish Council, so there's a real buzz in the Club! It was a very wet end to the year, which resulted in frequently having to cross the muddy field from the car park to the courts and then having to negotiate the large puddle by the courts' gate! However, that didn't put too many people off, the club sessions continue to be well attended, and on the social side we finished the year with an excellent Christmas Dinner at the Bell in Ladbroke with over 30 members celebrating and enjoying themselves. And weather permitting, by the time you read this we will have played our traditional New Year's Muffler Tournament, always a very popular event.

At the halfway point in the winter leagues, Harbury Floodlit A are the only unbeaten team in Division 3, having claimed victories over Harbury B, Towcester B, Towcester A, and Brackley B in the last month. Harbury Floodlit B finished the first half of the season, with their first victory, 7-1 against Towcester B, which has lifted them to sixth place in the division. The most notable match of the month was Harbury Floodlit B (Emma, Josh, Olly and Sue) vs Harbury Floodlit A (Adam, Ben, Caroline and Eira). It is only the third "head to head" between two Harbury teams in the last 20 years, and everyone agreed that it was "a bit weird" playing against each other. Several people also commented that they didn't feel that they played their best tennis that evening, (which probably had a lot to do with knowing each other's strengths and weaknesses at the start of the match rather than having to work them out as the match went along). The evening ended with post-match

refreshments, but in a change from the usual hot drinks and snacks, Floodlit B had laid on hot food (bowls of chilli) and mulled wine which went down very well indeed. The return fixture is in February, so Floodlit A have a couple of months to work out their menu.



In the weekend format the weather limited us to just one match and that was at home against unbeaten Kings Sutton A, Division 2 leaders. The visitors continued their winning ways with a convincing 7-1 win but Eira, Karen, Steve and Joe put up some stiff resistance. Eira and Steve had the satisfaction of winning a set, only the second set Kings Sutton have dropped so far this season. Despite the result, the Harbury 4 were getting into the festive spirit after the match!

The Ladies' doubles tournament was finally held at the beginning of December. There were just four players this year. Having drawn partners at random, it was straight into a best of three sets final. Sue and Clare (the 2017 champions) vs. Louise and Caroline. It was a warm and sunny day with a bit of a breeze – or to put it another way, the sun was in your eyes at one end of the court and you could not really distinguish who was who at the other end, let alone see the ball. The final result was a 6-3 6-0 victory for Louise and Caroline, although it was somewhat closer than the score line would suggest with many long rallies and deuce games.

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Our Winter 2019/20 coaching programme, delivered by **coolsportz** coaches Rob West and Elizabeth Holding, has also been going well despite the weather. Fortunately, we were able to use the Village Hall for our youngest

group the Thursday Mini Reds, which was much appreciated by children, parents and coach! This group will stay indoors from January to March. The programme starts again on Thursday 9th January and caters for Juniors ages 4 to 16 years with Rob running sessions on Thursdays and Elizabeth on Mondays. There are also sessions for adults on Monday and Thursday evenings and a Ladies' group on Friday mornings. All sessions are open to members and non-members (small surcharge applies) and **coolsportz** offers a free introductory session. For more details please contact Lianne Candappa, lianne@coolsportz.co.uk or phone/text her on 07919 104093.

Finally, in 2020 we celebrate our 40th Anniversary, the earliest recorded committee minutes being 2nd April 1980. We're thinking about how we should celebrate this and if any Harbury News readers are former members of the club and have memories or photos of the club they'd like to share please let me know.

	<h2>Harbury Toddler Group</h2>	<p>Lynne Barton</p>
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Bye Bye 2019

Christmas Party

Our end-of-year Christmas Party went with a swing with thirty-five children plus their parents coming to the Tom Hauley Room at All Saints Church for a festive feast.

They really enjoyed a sensory, physical experience with a bouncy castle and soft play equipment providing a great hour's entertainment. Thanks once again to Reena, founder of Harbury based SoftPlay Take Away.

We all tucked into sandwiches, cakes, fruit and jelly and ice cream with mince pies for grown ups.



We must offer a huge thank you to Rachel from Rhythm Time who came dressed as an elf to lead our Christmas singing, huge Christmas goodwill as she gave her services 'free of charge' what a star!

No Toddler party would ever be complete without Father Christmas who arrived just in time to a chorus of 'Jingle Bells' and 'When Santa got stuck up the Chimney' to delight the children with presents for all. Thank you to our real Father Christmas all the way from the North Pole.





Toddler Christmas Party 2019

A Review of the Year

What a great year we have had financially, supported by our local Women's Institute, Harbury Carnival and Entrust Care Partnership - thanks everyone.

We have welcomed many families, new and familiar faces, with an average weekly attendance of 24. We are grateful for your support and hope that you have enjoyed your time with us however brief. We have been an inclusive group with parents embracing children of all abilities which makes a huge difference to families who have a child with additional needs.

We have been blessed with our group of volunteers who have come week after week to provide the service for the joy of it and not rolled their eyes when introduced to the concept of 'dressing up' whether it be space suits, funny hats or Christmas ears !

We have been blessed with a great group of mothers who have provided some activities for us and led singing and dancing at very short notice.

We have welcomed twelve different organisations to our group who have cooked, danced, painted, made dens, read stories, sang, entertained as princesses and offered wellbeing treatments to parents.

We have travelled out to space - the final frontier, saw the milky way and made rockets.

We all went to Mary Arden's House for a summer trip, enjoyed the delights of the animals, the falconry, the play area and shared picnics.

Wow-wee! A bumper year with more to come in 2020.

We take the opportunity to wish everyone a healthy, happy and peaceful New Year.

Looking Forward

We are open from **Monday 13th January at 9.30am** during term time.

Look out for our new and exciting calendar, make sure you get yours - we wouldn't want you to miss a thing.

If you want to join in the fun then Lynne, Selina, Suzi, Judi and Reg look forward to welcoming you - come on round, the kettle's on.

We are based at the Scout Hut, High Street, Harbury, CV33 9HW and meet every Monday at 9.30am saying bye bye at 11.15am. Sessions are just £1.50 and an additional £0.50 pence for a second child in your family. Thinking of coming along or need more information? Please do ring Lynne on 01926 612748 or email lynnebarton@btinternet.com



Harbury Pre-School

Staff & Committee



Hedgehogs: We were excited and delighted to welcome Christina Sherman from Warwickshire Hedgehog Rescue – a charity which helps injured, abandoned and orphaned hedgehogs in Warwickshire - to our Pre-School this month. The children learnt all about how to care for hedgehogs and met a hedgehog. We learnt that hedgehogs are nocturnal and that they hibernate in the winter. Many thanks to Christina and Warwickshire Hedgehog Rescue.

Nativity Songtime: The children have been busy practising for our traditional Pre-School Nativity Songtime. The children certainly looked beautiful in their costumes and the audience were captivated as Mary and Joseph, an innkeeper,

shepherds, angels, a star, some sheep and a donkey all took their places around little baby Jesus in his manger.

Everything went to plan and the children sang beautifully to their parents and relatives and finished by signing the Makaton version of "Silent Night".

As a staff team, we are incredibly proud of the children for taking part and standing in front of an audience, which is



not an easy thing to do. We hope the parents enjoyed watching it as much as we enjoyed preparing for it!



The Nativity Story: We had a lovely morning with Rev Ann and Gill Guilford when they visited the Pre-School.

They shared the Nativity story with the children using a beautiful Nativity Set and they brought with them some genuine Frankincense and Myrrh for the children to look at and smell. Reverend Anne and Gill were impressed by how much the children already knew about the story of Baby Jesus.

A huge thank you to Rev Ann and Gill for a thoroughly enjoyable and informative visit.

Christmas Preparations: The weather has not been kind to us over the last few weeks but luckily, there have been a variety of different Christmas-related activities that have kept the children busy indoors.

Our role-play area is a 'Nativity Scene' with a manger, baby Jesus and a variety of costumes for the children to dress up as kings, shepherds, angels or sheep. They have enjoyed re-enacting the story alongside practising for our Nativity Songtime.



Our Christmas tree is now looking rather splendid with the children's decorations which they have made by sticking collage materials onto old CDs. Collage materials have also been used by the children to make their Christmas crowns in preparation for our end of term Christmas party!

A Christmas tree is not complete without presents, therefore the children have been busy wrapping boxes, bottle lids, in fact anything and everything they could find! We have got through an enormous amount of Sellotape and paper and are grateful to those parents who have donated paper.

Event News: Over the last few weeks, fundraising events have been raising money for our village Pre-School – Santa’s Grotto at the Christmas Fayre and a coffee morning held at the Produce Market at the end of November.

The events would not have been possible without the help and support of others. Thank you to our fabulous parents and everyone who supported either event, either by helping out on the day, attending, donating prizes or buying raffle tickets.

If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please contact e-mail enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk text 07907 598461 or look at the web site www.harburypre-school.org You can also find us on Facebook.



Village Hall Update

Andy Rutherford

2019 finished on some positive notes. Despite the incessant rain and waterlogged grounds, the roof repairs we had carried out in the summer have proved quite effective – no more leaky ceilings in the Farley room. The doors at the back of the hall will be replaced in January, providing a more wheelchair friendly fire exit, and improved security. Work on improving this room will continue in the New Year.

We have had quite a search for a new Booking Secretary for the hall and are pleased to announce that Pam Keane will be taking on that role very shortly. Our very best wishes to Celia Neill, and many thanks for the years of effort she has put into keeping us organised. A big welcome to Pam!

January is looking quite a promising month, with the Village Cinema on the 11th, Jazz Night on the 16th, and Burns Night on the 24th. There is the Folk Club Fundraiser Concert on the 1st February, an event much loved by many.



Harbury Village Library & Biblio's Café

Janice Montague

At the time of writing this piece, New Year's Eve, it is appropriate to look back at the year 2019 with some pride. Most notably, in June we were awarded the prestigious Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, which, as many of you will know, is the equivalent of the MBE for volunteers, and in October we were presented with this by the Queen's representative, the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire. This was very welcome recognition of the hard work and dedication of all our volunteers over nearly eight years in keeping a thriving Library and vibrant Café operating in the village. And thriving it is: over 19,000 daytime visitors this year, up nearly 700 on last year. In addition, we have started new initiatives such as regular language classes and continued a tradition of staging a successful Murder Mystery and running children's activities in the summer holidays, among other things.

Our plans for 2020 include expanding the language classes, and a series of varied and stimulating speakers - keep a look out for news of these in future editions of the *Harbury and Ladbroke News* and on our website and Facebook page. In January, our activities include the following: **French classes** will begin on Tuesday 14th January with a free introductory session at 6pm, and **Spanish classes** re-start on Thursday 9th January from 6-7 (beginners) or 7-8 (beyond basics). There will also be the second meeting of the **Classic Book Club**, discussing *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, on Tuesday 21st January at 7.30pm. Anyone interested in joining in with any of these activities should check out further information on our website or just turn up on the night. You are also welcome to attend a drop in session run by our local police force on **Home Security** from 6.30-8.30pm on Wednesday 15th January.

In the meantime, if your list of New Year resolutions includes volunteering in an interesting and enjoyable environment, then do contact us through one of the means below. We will be happy to talk to you about the various opportunities, be it helping on the library desk, or baking and serving cakes in Biblio's. No experience is necessary, as training will be provided. We all wish you a happy and healthy new decade.

library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk biblios@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk
www.harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk 01926 258776 @HVLBC



Spread the Word

On Wednesday 5th February at 7.30pm in Harbury Village Library you will be able to learn all about self-publishing.

Harbury's resident national publisher, Jeremy Atkins, will outline his new self-publishing venture and answer all your questions on getting your work to a wider audience.

Tickets are free and available in the Library from Monday 6th January.

Peter Walshe



Harbury Village Club & Institute

Judy Morrall

We have been busy at the club for the last four weeks and look forward to a busy New Year. All who held events have been very grateful to our hard working bar staff for their help and have expressed their thanks to the committee. We tried something different on Boxing Day in the afternoon when we held a family disco. It was lovely to see the younger children chasing the spotlights around the floor. Big thanks to Sally, Becky and their family for organising this.

The run up to Christmas was busy too with the various team games supporting the club. Our new card machine has been very well used. It has made such a difference. The festive family bingo was a huge success with some familiar and some new faces. All the children enjoyed themselves and asked when the next one was! We raised £300 which is a record and a big thanks to all who came to support the evening.

All of the plants in the pots along the wall and those either side of the drive are thriving and I have had some really nice comments about them. At least with the weather the way it has been I have not had to do any watering. The last hanging baskets were taken down on 1st December and most of the plants will be reused next year. There are even a few early narcissus bulbs poking through so let's hope we do not get a really cold snap to thwart them!

The new signage has been delivered but we need to dig out the old one then dig an even bigger hole either side of the new sign for the foundations so not an easy task to undertake. Hopefully this will be done in the New Year. It is in our garage at the moment and looks very splendid! At our last committee meeting there were no new members to approve but one new booking. Lisa was thanked for all her input on our Facebook page; it has made an impact on the events we have held in December. After the committee meeting we held a short sub-committee meeting to discuss the two centenary events.

The first one is on Saturday 4th January in the afternoon for all children. I will report back on the event in my next article. Everyone is really looking forward to it when the children will be playing old fashioned games. There will be soft drinks, nibbles and free raffle tickets for the children for a chance to win a prize. Can't wait to see how they enjoy hopscotch, snakes and ladders, Ludo, draughts, table top skittles and many more traditional games. I was loaned some of these games from Upton House where I volunteer in the House, some I obtained from charity shops and Bill Timson will be bringing many more.

The display boards were put up in our lobby on 29th December which is exactly 100 years since the club was formed. Do have a look when you visit us. There is also a centenary tribute to the Osborne family who gifted the club to us. I am attaching a copy of this to my article and a huge thank you to Janet for all of the research she has undertaken.

The next big event will be on Saturday 18th January in the evening for adults, non members are very welcome to join us. The evening will start at 7.00pm and there will be a chance to read our history of the club in the foyer. There will be music from the Ukulele Group for about 20 to 30 minutes. For visitors who have not been to the club this is an opportunity to see what we have to offer. There will be a very tasty buffet and we can use our new tablet and Spotify for appropriate music of the 1920's whilst we enjoy our food. We will also be holding a centenary raffle with some fabulous prizes. As if that wasn't enough the Folk Club will then play for us. So, something for everyone and we really look forward to welcoming everybody. You can tell how excited I am to be able to share our club with our wonderful village.

No recipes this month (do I hear a sigh of relief) but I do hope that the vegetables not all eaten up were made into soup. I put mine in empty litre milk containers and they keep for quite a while in the freezer. Just when you thought you couldn't face another sprout!!!

A quick reminder re your annual subscriptions which are due from 1st January, £12.50 for adults and £5.00 for senior citizens. Please leave your money and card with the bar staff who will ensure that I receive this and stamp your card and leave it for you to collect. Due to our centenary days and my commitments at Upton House the only days in January when I will be at the club to receive your subscriptions in person will be on Sunday lunchtimes on 12th and 26th January, then Sunday lunchtimes in February.

Sorry this has been a lengthy article but I am sure you will understand as 100 years to celebrate is quite unique. Thank you for all of your support and continuing complimentary comments. A Happy and healthy New Year to you all.

CENTENARY TRIBUTE

TO THE OSBORNE FAMILY

Helen Osborne, the widow of the late Captain Frank Osborne, gifted by Trustee Deed (dated 29th December 1919) the property in Pump Street (re-named Crown Street) to 18 trustees who were residents of Harbury.

The Osborne family lived at Harbury House in Bullring Farm Road in the early part of the 20th Century. Captain Frank Osborne and his wife, Helen, had two sons; Gerald born in 1887 and Brian born in 1888.

Brian Osborne was killed on 11th November 1914 in World War 1. He was unmarried and had no children.

Gerald Osborne married Georgina Mary Leaf in March 1917. Georgina died in 1925. They had one child, a daughter Audrey, born in 1921 but sadly Audrey died in 1923. They had no other children and Gerald died in 1953.

This Tribute, in the Centenary Year 2019 is in recognition of their very generous gift by the Osborne family to the residents of Harbury Village on 29th December 1919.



Garden Jottings from Bridge Nursery

Christine Dakin

Latin plant names, love them or hate them, I bet you all know a few, think of chrysanthemum, rhododendrons, delphiniums and more. But wait, botanists are studying plants and finding that some of them are not what we thought they were. They are being reclassified and in turn, causing some consternation among plant buyers. Here are a few examples.....

Aster (michaelmas daisy) should now be known as symphiotrichum.

Sedum has morphed into hylotelephium!!

Schizostylis (kaffir lily) is hesperantha (maybe that is slightly easier to say).

But the one that everyone will be flummoxed by is that the well known rosemary (Latin name Rosemarinus) is now....wait for it...sage. Are you going to Scarborough Fair, parsley, sage, sage and thyme.

What next one wonders?

I might change some plant names but not in a hurry because there was a time a few years back when chrysanthemums were subdivided into several different names. Somehow it didn't catch on and they are all called the same familiar name again. The same happened with some of the bamboos, in fact the name of one seemed to change yearly then it settled down to the original name.

It's not easy learning something new but think of it as a New Year challenge instead.

Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton
www.bridge-nursery.co.uk



Nature Notes

John Hancock

I have started to write this article before Christmas as life gets fairly hectic during the holiday. Now, Friday 18th December, we are under thick cloud and it is raining hard. A low pressure area is stationary over the country. Gloom has descended and I have come up to Harbury Village Library which is well lit and decorated for the festive season. I can gain further inspiration from the art work on display. David Eaves' photograph of a chalet in snow plays on the senses.

The U3A Natural History Group met in the Tom Hauley Room for our last session of the year on 9th December. John Roberts, a very knowledgeable, local naturalist, came with his wife Val to show a cornucopia of wildlife photographs taken on a trip to the Seychelles. This archipelago in the Indian

Ocean lies 1000 miles north of Madagascar. The climate is such that birds breed throughout the year. As is common with isolated land masses, animals have evolved to be giants of their species. The Aldabran Tortoise can reach 250kg and measure 1.2m from head to tail. In this same Indian Ocean, a pigeon with no predators lost its power of flight and became the size of a goose. Sailors arriving from Europe in the 16th century sealed its fate. The Dodo was hunted to extinction in less than 100 years.

Our tiny Groundsel is here represented by a plant the size of a bush. A colony of Sooty Terns is estimated to number over half a million birds. Even these huge numbers can crash if conditions, usually induced by man, change. The Passenger Pigeon in North America was once so numerous that migrating flocks darkened the sky for days on end. They were wiped out when their land became the domain of men on horseback armed with rifles. There is even a film of the last known Passenger Pigeon in a zoo. Its name is a corruption of the French 'passager' due to its migratory habit.

I am looking forward to reading Peter Marren's book 'Rainbow Dust'. The title refers to the fact that the colours exhibited by butterflies are due to the scales forming the wings which sit together rather like slates on a roof. (Lepidoptera translates as scale wing) Each scale is just one cell thick, hence 'Dust' of the title. Pigments obtained from the insect's food plant are utilised. Melanin, for instance, provides the colours brown and yellow.

Planting more trees enhances the environment in many ways not least by absorbing carbon dioxide. Near our daughter's home in Bath a new wood on the Cotswold scarp, planted over ten years ago, is filling out and provides a habitat for wildlife. The primary school close to our son's home in the village of Dore, on the outskirts of Sheffield, is also doing its bit. Each pupil, over 150 in all, planted a tree in the autumn. It's a wood in embryo. Dore is mentioned in early history. A stone has been set up on one of the village greens and is inscribed as follows: 'King Ecgbert of Wessex led his army to Dore in the year AD829 against King Eanred of Northumbria by whose submission King Ecgbert became first overlord of all England.'

A reader reported an unusual sight in Leamington. Halfway up the Parade, opposite Rymans, is a tree. Here, a large roost of Pied Wagtails can be seen congregating at dusk. The birds group together for protection.

It just leaves me to wish you all a happy and healthy 2020.

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General Section

Christmas Quiz in aid of Macmillan Cancer Information & Support Service at the Aylesford Unit, Warwick Hospital

“Which royal title did Warwickshire cricketer Ashley Giles receive?” could have been a question in our quiz in December. However, the answer, King of Spain (due to a misprint on a commemorative mug which should have said King of Spin!) was in fact the name of the winning team whose impressive performance secured them victory in a hard fought contest.



The victorious King of Spain!

We would like to thank everyone who took part in the quiz at the Village Club on 1st December as well as the many people who helped in all sorts of different ways. The amount raised for the charity was £562.

In particular we would like to thank the following who donated food and raffle prizes:

Asda, Biblio's Cafe, Cana Wines, The Crown Inn, Homebase, Little Himalaya Salt Rooms, Mad Museum, Morrisons, Present Days, Sainsbury's, The Shakespeare Inn and Tesco.

Sheila Burt, Angela Cook, Sue Ward & Pat Whorton

Wednesday Walks

We are now starting our 10th year of these walks and have developed into a friendly mixed group of over 20; most weeks about a dozen turn up. We meet at 9.40am in the Village Hall car park and fill up cars, so no problem for anyone who doesn't drive. We travel less than half an hour and walk, on average, four miles – approximately two hours. There is no register or membership fee, just a shared enjoyment of being out in the countryside. And, from time to time, a pub lunch!

Last autumn, though admittedly often muddy, we were not actually rained on (other weather systems are available!). The diary page of this magazine details venues and distances so why not dig out your boots and come and check us out?

Gillian Hare, Tel: 614809

Harbury Senior Citizens Committee Update

We had 115 people come along to our Christmas Party and we hope that you all enjoyed it. Thank you for your cards, letters and your thanks on the night. The entertainment was provided by Ian and Sue Hartland and we think they enjoyed doing it as much as we enjoyed them. Thank you both for coming along to entertain us.

We must also thank everyone who donated raffle prizes and especially the two hampers full of goodies. They were all much appreciated.

As a committee, we could not run this event without the help of all the volunteers and this year we would like to say a special thank you to the Explorer Scouts and to Brendan and Fran and family who came along to help serve at table. Our guests very much enjoyed the intergenerational nature of all involved. Thank you to everyone who came along to help and we hope to see you again next year.



The Harbury Scouts helped us again this year to erect and decorate the tree, put up the ceiling decorations, set up the tables and layout the plates, cutlery and glasses. Thank you to the scout leaders and scouts.

As we roll into 2020 the committee would like to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and we look forward to seeing you at our events during the year and for giving us your support. As usual, look out for our schedule of activities in the Harbury and Ladbroke news and occasionally on Facebook!!

Mike McBride
On behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association



Senior Citizens Christmas Party 2019



Beginners Ballroom and Latin American dance classes at Harbury Village Hall

The Strictly Come Dancing Champion has been crowned for 2019. If you are feeling a Strictly gap in your life, why not have a go yourself? If you are looking for something to do together as a couple, that will keep you fit, exercise the brain and is good fun, then dancing is the thing!



Classes run on Wednesday evenings at Harbury Village Hall. As well as an opportunity to learn a new skill together, it's a great social night. We learn to dance, but have a lot of fun too, and there are no judges to say how well or badly we have done! Also, if you're new to the area it's a great chance to get to know some your new neighbours.

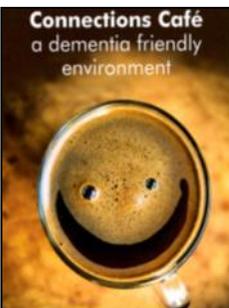
Our 2020 seasons starts on 8th January, so come along on any Wednesday evening at 7.30pm to

join the Beginners' class. Be assured that we assume that you've never danced before! The class runs at a steady pace to enable everyone to feel comfortable whilst learning.

If you have danced before we have an 'Improvers' class that runs from 8.30pm.

Interested? Contact Jo at Harbury.Ballroom.Dancing@gmail.com

Gordon Robbins



Connections Café: For Those with a Dementia Diagnosis and Their Carers

For the past four years, we have run a monthly café in the village for people with a dementia diagnosis and their carers. Each two hour session involves games, puzzles and singing accompanied by drinks and cake, plus the chance to talk and access information in a supportive and friendly atmosphere. It is held in the **Tom Hauley Room behind the Church from 2-4pm on the third Wednesday of every month**, and we extend a warm welcome to newcomers. There is no charge and no need

to book a place, but if you require further information or help with transport to get there, please phone either Jill (612483) or Janice (612340). Our next session will be on **Wednesday 15th January 2020**, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Janice Montague



**Southam Heritage
Collection**
Preserving Southam's past for the future

Southam Heritage Collection Exhibition

“Southam Bobbies” - Policing in Southam since the 1800s

Before Sir Robert Peel established the London Metropolitan Police Force in 1829, policing principles remained the responsibility of individual towns and Southam looked after its own with the surrounding villages. When Peel's Bobbies made it harder for criminals to survive in London, they spread into the countryside and it became clear that a more co-ordinated police force was required.

In Warwickshire in 1840, Southam became a division of the Knightlow Hundred Police Force and Inspector George Smallbones took up residence somewhere in Oxford Street and looked over several town constables as well as the ones from villages. In 1857 Southam became a part of the new Warwickshire Constabulary and in 1863 a new police station with three lock-up cells was built in Oxford Street opposite the Factory Shop car park and the first purpose built Court House was built nearby.

In the early days the pay was poor and the constables were on duty 9 hours in 24 and mainly at night, hence a need for the old watch-box in Warwick Street. Work was every day of the week, with one day's leave every three months.

The “**Southam Bobbies**” exhibition opens in Tithe Place on 14th January until the end of May, on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday mornings, 10am - 12 noon. Come and find out who these Inspectors and Constables were between 1840 and 1940 and what jobs they did from finding lost dogs to murderers!

Linda Doyle
01926 814214



**Southam
College**

Community Education Courses

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For enquiries and to check availability/book, contact Sue Hawthorn on 01926 810942 or email commed.s@welearn365.com

Sue Hawthorn



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

We would like to thank all our friends in Harbury for their thoughts, prayers and support following the untimely death of our lovely daughter-in-law, Marie. She passed away in the early hours of 10th December.

Yours sincerely

Peter and Liz Bones

Dear Editors

Doris, Keith and Martin would like to thank everyone who sent messages and cards of sympathy following the death of my husband David Perry. I would also like to thank all those who attended David's funeral and for their donations to the Alzheimers Society and Prostate Cancer UK which totalled £247.

Thank you.

Doris, Keith and Martin Perry

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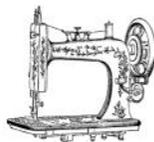
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