

Harbury & Ladbroke News



KING CHARLES III
CORONATION 6th MAY 2023

MAY 2023

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HARBURY & LADBROKE News

Published monthly to reflect all aspects of local life

May 2023

No. 590

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Editorial Office

31 Binswood End

☎ 612155

✉ articles@hlnews.co.uk

Article drop off point:
Harbury Pharmacy,
High Street

Advertising Office

36 Manor Orchard

☎ 612687

✉ advertising@hlnews.co.uk

Distribution Manager

49 Mill Street

☎ 07900 852236

✉ distribution@hlnews.co.uk

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Editorial Team

Chris Barber - Paulette Kavanagh - Peter McDonald
Daralyn Warren - Jackie West

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

Cover photo: King Charles III by Hugo Burnand



EDITORIAL

A round up of local news

Thursday 4th May will see local elections being held all over the country. Don't forget when you vote at both of our Village Halls you will need photographic ID otherwise you will be turned away and be unable to vote.

If you are getting together with family, friends and/or neighbours during the King's Coronation weekend please do take some photos to record the event for posterity and send them into the magazine so that we can print them in our June edition.

Volunteers are in need again. Harbury Toddler Group are looking to expand their team. If you have some time to spare and could help support them on Monday mornings, call into the Scout Hut between 9.30 and 11.15am or email Lynne who runs the group. More details are on page 40. With Carnival day being held on Saturday 10th June, their small committee are also asking for help on the day and beforehand with selling raffle tickets. Please see page 54 to see how you can get involved. The Repair Café are looking to increase their pool of volunteers too.

Both Harbury & Ladbroke Churches are reaching a couple of milestones. Harbury's heating and re-wiring has been completed, with new lighting to be installed at a later date. Following all the work, cleaning up the church will be a big job but once services can resume, we are sure that our parishioners will appreciate all that has gone into making this happen. Ladbroke's All Saints for All Generations project has reached an end and a final celebratory event being a Birds of Prey day on 13th May will take place. All welcome.

In Ladbroke, villagers also recently celebrated the centenary of their Village Hall, which was opened on the 9th March 1923. A 1920s themed evening was held with dancing and a casino game. The event was a great success. We have some wonderful photos in the magazine taken by Russell Griffith showcasing the evening.



For Harbury & Deppers Bridge residents, enclosed with this month's magazine is a copy of the 2023-25 Harbury Directory which provides a range of information about local services, groups and organisations. We hope you find this useful and you will keep for future reference. We would like to thank Harbury Parish Council for providing financial support to enable this to be printed.

Finally, we extend our condolences to the family and friends of Joan Downer.



HARBURY DIARY

For local events

MAY

- Mon 1 **BANK HOLIDAY**
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 2 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 3 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Wootton Wawen Bluebell Wood (4 miles - slight hill)
Mothers' Union, Communion Service and Tea, 2.00pm, followed by speaker 'Refuge for women and children in Azerbaijan,' Tom Hauley Room
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 4 Voting in local elections - Photo ID needed, 7.00am -10.00pm, Village Hall
Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Fri 5 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn
- Sat 6 **KING'S CORONATION**
No coffee morning due to the King's Coronation
Extended Clinics, 9.00 - 3.00pm, Harbury Surgery (pre-booked appointments only)
Family Fun Day for King's Coronation, 12 noon onwards, Village Club
- Sun 7 EASTER 4**
Said Communion, 9.00am
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
Free Bouncy Castle time, 12 noon onwards, Village Club
Icon Youth Club, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Mon 8 **BANK HOLIDAY FOR KING'S CORONATION**
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 9 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 10 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Eathorpe to Hunningham (3.5 miles flat, no stiles)
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 11 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Mothers' Union visit to Southam Branch for 'King's Coronation Tea', 2.00pm
Harbury WI, 7.30 for 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room - The Resolution
- Fri 12 Ben and Soph's Jazz, tickets - 07515 275655, 7.00pm, Village Hall

- Sat 13 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Muscular Sclerosis
Quiz Night, 7.30pm, Village Club
- Sun 14 EASTER 5**
Holy Communion with activity for children, 10.30am
Messy Church, 3.00 - 5.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 15 Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 16 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Society Tour of Wolfhampcote, meet 2.00pm
Harbury Theatre Group, 7.00 for 7.30pm, Village Club
The Collective - Topic: Money, Money, Money, 7.15 for 7.30pm, The Shakespeare Inn
- Wed 17 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Fenny Compton / Avon Dassett (4.5 miles, hilly)
Connections (Dementia) Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 18 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Theatre Group presents, "Ridiculous Allsorts" doors open 7.00, curtain up 7.30pm, Village Hall
Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 7.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Fri 19 Harbury Theatre Group presents, "Ridiculous Allsorts" doors open 7.00, curtain up 7.30pm, Village Hall
Bingo, 8.00pm, Village Club
Sheep Dip Session with Owen Spafford & Louis Campbell, doors 7.30pm, music 8.00pm, Village Library - tickets at library desk or michael.luntley@gmail.com
- Sat 20 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Toddler Group
Harbury Theatre Group presents, "Ridiculous Allsorts" doors open 7.00, curtain up 7.30pm, Village Hall
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Sun 21 EASTER 6**
Said Communion. 8.00am
All Age Service, 10.30am
Icon Youth Club, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
Merv's Trains, 12.00 - 4.00pm, Village Club
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury School - (Park Lane entrance)
ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM
- Mon 22 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall

- Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 23 Bumps and Bundles, 10.30 - 12.00 noon, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 24 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Newbold Common (4 miles, flat)
Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thurs 25 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
WI Social - Mexican Train Dominoes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- Sat 27 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Environment Group
Harbury Local Market: 10.00am - 12.30pm, Village Hall
Repair Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library
Urban Greek Food Van, 7.00pm, & Live Band 'Six Feet Drop' 9.00pm, Village Club
- Sun 28 PENTECOST**
Holy Communion and Muddy Church for children, 10.30am
Zumba, 9.00am - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 29 SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Wed 31 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Stockton with optional pub lunch (5 miles, flat)
Ballroom Dancing, beginners 7.15pm, improvers 8.30pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- JUNE**
- Thurs 1 Said Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Fri 2 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn
- Sat 3 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge WI
- Sun 4 TRINITY SUNDAY**
Said Communion, 9.00am
Icon Youth Club, 7.00 - 8.30pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Mon 5 Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 6 Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School - (Park Lane entrance)
- Wed 7 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.40am, Village Hall Car park - Combrook to Butlers Marston wild flower meadow (4 miles, hilly)
Mothers' Union, Communion Service and Tea, 2.00pm, followed by speaker on Coventry Haven (Women's Aid) in Coventry



June Edition - Harbury & Ladbroke News

Adverts to: 36 Manor Orchard, Harbury or e-mail to advertising@hlnews.co.uk by Saturday 20th May

Articles to: Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to articles@hlnews.co.uk by 5.30pm, Sunday 21st May



Refuse Collection Rota

Week Commencing Monday	Thursday Collection - Harbury	Wednesday & Friday Collections - Ladbroke Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge
1 May	F - R - G	F
8 May	F	F - R - G
15 May	F - R - W - G	F - W
22 May	F	F - R - G
29 May	F - R - G	F
5 June	F - W	F - R - W - G

F = Food caddy - R = Recycling (blue bin) W = Waste (black bin) G = Garden (green bin)
 Wednesday Collection - Parts of Ladbroke - Thursday Collection - Harbury
 Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge and Parts of Ladbroke



**All Saints
HARBURY**

FROM THE RECTOR

Barry Coleman - Assistant Minister

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury ☎ 01926 714295 ✉ rev.andyb@gmail.com

I wonder how you see yourself and think that others see you?

A basic Christian belief is that each one of us is deeply valued by God. Regardless of our skin colour, gender, social status or any other characteristic, we are all equally precious in God's eyes. This belief is grounded in the Bible, which tells us that each one of us is made in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1:27).

Because we are made in God's image, we possess intrinsic worth and dignity. We are not defined by our appearance or accomplishments, but by our identity as beloved children of God. This means that every person, no matter how insignificant they may feel or seem in the eyes of the rest of the world, has immense value and worth.

Unfortunately, our culture often sends the message that our value and worth are tied to

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our performance, success, or popularity. We are bombarded with messages that tell us we need to look a certain way, achieve certain goals, or accumulate certain possessions in order to be truly valuable. These messages can be incredibly damaging, leading us to feel insecure, inadequate, or worthless.

However, as Christians, we should have a different perspective. We know that our value and worth come from God, not from anything we can do or achieve. We don't have to earn God's love or approval, because God already loves us unconditionally. This frees us from the pressure to perform or impress others, and allows us to rest in the knowledge that we are deeply loved and valued just as we are.

This belief in the inherent value of every person has important implications for how we treat others. It's difficult, but if we truly believe that each person is created in God's image, then we must treat them with respect, kindness, and compassion. We shouldn't judge others based on their external appearance, social status, or any other superficial characteristic. Instead, we must look at them with the same eyes of love and acceptance that God looks at us.

We may never know the impact a kind word or action may have on the people we meet.



FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Liz & Michael

The installation of the new heating in church is almost complete. It has been tested with both boilers and it should be signed off by the architect by the end of April. Re-wiring has also gone ahead taking advantage of the scaffolding whilst in place. Next will come the clean up and then we can return to church for services. We hope to install new lighting soon but this can be done whilst the church is in use.

So that could be Heat and Light almost complete!

The next major project is the repair and re-pointing of quite a lot of the stonework. Philip Mayer has already turned his attention to this after spending a considerable amount of time managing the projects in church and the hall. We are so grateful to Philip for his time, patience and energy. I also have to say that David and George, the heating engineers, have been great to work with as has James who has come in at all hours to complete the electrical work.

Easter services were held in the Tom Hauley Room (THR) which, in some ways, was a bit odd but nevertheless we celebrated Easter Sunday well. This was followed by an egg hunt organised by Julie Batchelor who managed to hide about 200 small eggs all over the place. Thank you to Julie and to all who donated the eggs.

Before that Messy Church met on Palm Sunday and about 20 children and 20 adults did activities and crafts which led us through the events of Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. The next Messy Church is on Sunday 14th May from 3pm in the THR. Muddy Church takes place during the 10.30 service on the last Sunday of the month - so 28th May is the next one.

Michael Vincent is standing down as churchwarden this year and I would like to thank him for working alongside myself for the last six years on what has been a bit of a

rollercoaster time managing vacancies, broken boilers and a cold church, a pandemic and all the rules and guidelines arising from that and now, a closed church with services in the hall. Thank you. (Liz)

If you have any questions or want to join in and find out more about what goes on then please contact either of us. Liz McBride (612421) or Michael Vincent (614806).



MOTHERS' UNION

Gillian Hare

At our last meeting we were given a fascinating insight into the workings of a Victorian household. Our speaker, Ruth Smith, was inspired by her support of the Children's Society. She told us about her own grandmother, who, typically of the 18th century, had to leave her home in Huntingdonshire at the tender age of 12. With her few belongings in a little tin trunk, she travelled by horse and cart to Rushton in Northants to work as a scullery maid. She had one afternoon a month off, but couldn't get anywhere in that time from the deep country side. She was eventually lucky as she had help to train as a dressmaker. This at a time of closely tailored gowns so plenty of work. Ruth also gave out copies of guides to housekeepers - no easy job there - and recipes. Who would guess how many sparrows are needed to make a pie, or which bits of a rook are bitter?

A few dates: 11th May we are invited to join Southam branch for tea to celebrate Lady Day. We shall sort out lifts at the next meeting but if you cannot be there but wish to join us do let Chris know.

Also at that meeting, Jo will be taking the numbers and money (£7.50 including tea) for the visit to Chedhams Yard in Wellesbourne on 5th July.

We are running the Tom Hauley coffee morning on 10th June.

At our May meeting the speaker, Mandy Williams, talks about a refuge for women and children in Azerbaijan. And on 7th June we shall learn about Coventry Haven (women's aid) in Coventry.

We meet in the Tom Hauley room for a communion service at 2pm. Visitors are always welcome.



LADBROKE NEWS & DIARY

MAY

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| Mon | 1 | BANK HOLIDAY |
| Tues | 2 | Photography Club Outing to Chedham's Yard
Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall |
| Wed | 3 | Friendship & Heritage Group, 10.30am - 12 noon, Village Hall |
| Thurs | 4 | Voting in local elections - Photo ID needed, 7.00am - 10.00pm, Village Hall
WI, 7.30pm, Church |

Sun 7 EASTER 4

Family Service with baptisms, followed by refreshments, 10.30am

Mon 8 CORONATION BANK HOLIDAY

Tues 9 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sat 13 Bird Day at Ladbroke Church, 10.30am - 4pm, Ladbroke Church

Sun 14 EASTER 5

Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am

Tues 16 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sat 20 ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD,
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Sun 21 EASTER 6

Holy Communion (BCP), 9.00am

Mon 22 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY,
HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM

Tues 23 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 24 Parish Council, 7.45pm, Village Hall

Sun 28 PENTECOST

Holy Communion (sung), 9.00am

Mon 29 BANK HOLIDAY

Tues 30 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

JUNE

Thurs 1 WI, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 4 TRINITY SUNDAY

Family Service followed by refreshments, 10.30am

Tues 6 Photography Club - 3D photography by Dr Bob Pryce, 7.30pm, Village Hall



LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

Peter Rigby

www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk

Our Church AGM (or Annual Parochial Church Meeting as it is officially called) was held after the service in the last week of March. Following the elections, we welcome Kathryn Smith on to the PCC for the first time, replacing David Wright who has stood down - our thanks to David for his work over the past several years. This year's PCC comprises:

Church Wardens: Sue Moore and Peter Rigby

Deanery Synod Reps: Sue Lord and Jenny Rigby

PCC Members: Margie Bosworth, Janet Moore, Joan Perry, Kathryn Smith,
Jackie West

The Annual Reports and the Accounts were also received and approved. If anyone would like copies, please email us at the address below.

During Holy Week, we held a special service on Maundy Thursday to commemorate Jesus washing his disciples' feet and on Good Friday we were able to listen to a musical reflection "The Way of the Cross". This was well attended with over 50 present to listen to an ambitious and beautifully performed programme. Thank you to Bill and the Choir for what was a quite memorable evening.

We celebrated Christ's resurrection at our Easter Sunday service which was also well attended. Thank you to all who decorated the Church with flowers and for Sue Lord for organising an Easter Egg hunt for the children afterwards.

Services and events this month:

Sunday 7th May	10.30am	Family Service including Baptism.
Sunday 14th May	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 21st May	9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 28th May	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 4th June	10.30am	Family Service

www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk ladbrokechurch@gmail.com

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

17th April Joan Downer (of Harbury), aged 90



LADBROKE & DEPPERS BRIDGE WI

Dianne Surgey

In April we took part in the Warwickshire Coronation curtsy. It was great fun and we shared a video with the Federation to be sent to Buckingham Palace to help celebrate the big event.

We ran a Beetle Drive evening and it was hilarious - not sure everyone stuck religiously to the rules so there were a lot of laughs!! Unfortunately we were few in number as so many of our members were unwell - Covid appears to be doing the rounds again.



Our Food and Friendship group had a delicious lunch in Avon Dassett and we look forward to the next event when we meet in Dunchurch. The cocktail evening in Willoughby was most interesting (and flavoursome!) and we enjoyed their fashion

show which looked at how clothes have changed over the past century. Wanda's Fashions provided a super selection of garments, ably modelled with fun and flourish by ladies of the village.

Our meeting on 4th May takes place in Ladbroke Church because of the elections. It is our AGM and discussion on this year's Resolution on clean rivers. We will also have a talk by Jackie on the adventures of our very own 'Alice' and refreshments will be served. Entries for the Group competition will be judged and it is hoped that there will be a good array of headwear on show! Tickets for the Group Meeting in Napton, starring the wonderful Lesley Smith as Catherine of Aragon, will be on sale at our May meeting.

Our coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room takes place on 3rd June and items for sale will be gratefully received. We also need a few more volunteers to run the event. There are a number of interesting events coming up in Warwickshire and details can be found on the WFWI website. As ever new members are most welcome to come and find out more about what we do.



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.



Regretfully, our boules tournament has had to be postponed until later in the Summer. We hope to start selling tickets for this event in July for the preliminary matches before the final at the village barbecue in September. We will give you the exact dates in next month's Harbury & Ladbroke News.



Later this year we are planning a quiz night in the autumn; and another supper and film night (date to be confirmed). Watch this space for more events too!



To book your special celebration in our village hall, or if you wish to hold regular classes or meetings, contact Debs (07779 225105 or email debs.dptv@gmail.com). Despite rising costs we have been able to keep our hourly booking rates for 2023 at £15 per hour, or £12 for Ladbroke residents.

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

LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL MILLENNIUM DRAW FOR MARCH 2023

£50	Richard Walker	£25	Richard, Emma Hampson
£50	Kevin and Kate Picken	£10	Trevor and Jan Jay
£25	Debs and Seth Brown	£10	Josh and Toni Robison
£25	Helen and Steve Morten	£10	Geoff Lane

Margaret Bosworth



LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

David Wright

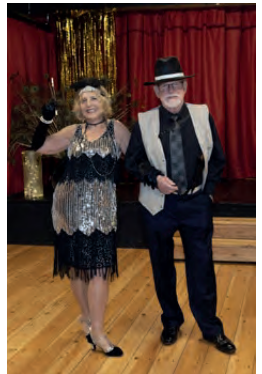
Extracts from an article in the Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser dated 17th March 1923:-

"Ladbroke village hall was formally opened on the evening of Friday 9th of March 1923. The ceremony, presided over by Major Fell, commenced with part songs and solos by the choir followed by the opening of the hall by Mrs. Wheeler who said that Ladbroke owed the erection of the hut to a great extent to the men who had worked voluntarily in building it. Refreshments were then served free of charge by a committee of ladies. The real hit of the evening was a parody of the song 'Our's is a Nice House, Our's is' the title being altered to 'Our's is a Nice Hut, Our's is' which was rendered by Mr Ellis Timms. The room was then cleared for dancing which was kept up until 2am with music supplied by the Southam String Band."*

*Mr Ellis Timms is the father of Ladbroke's current resident, Mr Geoffrey Timms.

So in acknowledgement of the language style of the 1920's here is an account of our evening 100 years later....

The centenary celebrations of Ladbroke village hall took place on Saturday 25th March 2023. The evening commenced at 7pm with each of us given a free drink of either kir royale or nosecco, and a box of popcorn. The hall was decorated for the occasion with a 1920's theme including gold wall hangings, balloons, and flamingoes. Most of the guests were dressed in 1920's fashion. The ladies glamorous in their finery and the men also very smart. 1920's style background music set the mood.



At 7.30pm Mrs Linda Doyle gave a short informative talk on the history of the hall. This was followed by Miss Lorraine from Love Ballet encouraging us all to learn the Charleston. Many of the guests attempted the dance, which was enjoyed by participants as well as spectators.



After the Charleston, the casino was declared open. This was for amusement only with no real money involved. The first session was for roulette. Later in the evening this was replaced

by a blackjack table. Both games proved very popular and caused much excitement.

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Meanwhile the hall was cleared for dancing to recorded music from the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's supplied by Mr David Wright. The bar, manned by Mr Graham Lewis, supplied alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. During the evening Mr Russell Griffith mingled with the guests taking photographs which were displayed on a big screen on the stage. Some of his photos are included with this report.

The revelries ended at 11.30pm. We didn't quite match the 2am finish in 1923, but the evening was declared a great success and our thanks go to all who helped us celebrate this important milestone in the life of our community.



LADBROKE PHOTOGRAPHY

Kip Warr

Birds, butterflies, buds, baa lambs and blooms (but sadly no bees) were all on display at our April meeting for which the theme was Spring. We had the brilliant colours of the Dutch tulip fields, the delicate close-up details of daffodils, snowdrops and dandelion seeds nearer to home and a sprinkling of lambs.



Mike Todman

Our May meeting will be at Chedhams Yard in Wellesbourne where we expect to see the sparks and wood shavings fly as we see their blacksmith and wood turning volunteers in action. On 6th June we have the fascinating prospect of 3D photography by Dr Bob Pryce. It will include time lapse photography of the life cycles of butterflies and 3D images of wonderful medieval sculptures. This will be an open meeting (£2 for non-members).



Tony Mancell

Visitors, guests and new members are all welcome to our meetings which are usually in Ladbroke Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month. For more information please contact ladbroke.photoclub@btinternet.com

Photographs are © the photographer



David Hannan



LADBROKE HERITAGE

Nicky Lewis & Jackie West

Come and join us for our Final Celebratory Event.

We have finally arrived at the last milestone! Once more we would like to thank everyone who has supported us through the All Saints for All Generations project. What a challenge for a small village and what a difference it has made both to the condition of our church building and the number of people who have come and experienced our heritage here in the village, or discovered more on-line, in school or at talks at their clubs. We are most grateful too to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Lottery Players who fund its grants, without which it would not have possible.

We do hope you will all come along to our final celebratory event, a **BIRDS OF PREY DAY** on **Saturday 13th May** between 10.30am and 4pm so we can thank everyone in person and of course show off our beautiful church once more to you, your family and friends. As well as the stained glass and fossils that you can discover year round, that day we have information and a quiz about birds and other winged creatures, with prizes for the youngsters. The highlight of the event will be the **LIVE BIRDS OF PREY** from **Arden Falconry**; you'll be able to see the owls and hawks on their perches most of the day and they will put on a flying display outside at 11.30am and again at 3pm,



conditions permitting. So come along and remember to bring you camera or phone to photograph these beautiful creatures. Everyone is welcome, there is no need to book and it's free... but as we are already organising the next round of repairs (!!) any donations will be gratefully received. SORRY NO DOGS due to the live birds in the churchyard.



LADBROKE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Cllr Nigel Rock

This month I make an 'end of term' report! It is my last report as Councillor for Ladbroke as part of the 'Napton and Fenny Compton' Ward. Boundaries will be changed after the election on 4th May.

District Council Election

Although I am seeking election for most of the area which I presently serve, the new enlarged ward of 'Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton and Napton' does not include Ladbroke. (New parishes have been added to the Ward that was Napton and Fenny Compton. These are Bishops Itchington, Farnborough, Avon Dassett, Shotteswell, Warmington & Arlescote.)

Ladbroke will be part of Harbury Ward, which also includes Chesterton and Ufton. My colleague, Susan Ostrander will be standing for election in this ward, along with the other candidates - for a complete list see: tinyurl.com/bdxuhyp8

It is worth yet another reminder about **Photo Identification**. Under the new system, you can't vote at the polling station unless you take with you an 'official' photo ID document. Examples are Driving Licence, Passport, Bus Pass, or an armed services pass. See details at:

www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/voter-id-at-polling-stations.cfm

Parish Council Elections

95 Parishes in Stratford have an 'uncontested' election, where the number of candidates is less or equal to the number of council seats and those people will become Parish councillors next month. All Parishes in our present Ward are uncontested and Parish Councillors have been decided upon without a vote in Ladbroke and also in Napton, Fenny Compton and Priors Marston. (Elsewhere across the District there will be 17 contested elections.)

More detail about elections can be found on this web site:

www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/elections--general.cfm

It has been a privilege to support the people of Ladbroke. I wish well to the communities of Ladbroke, Harbury, Chesterton and Ufton.

nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk Deputy Leader Liberal Democrat Group

PS. Whilst I am a candidate myself, I am writing here in the capacity as your Ward Councillor. If you wish to ask about election campaigning please contact us at nigel@nigelrock.org.uk or at susan4harbury@gmail.com 01789 295970.



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*Prestige Photography
by Russell Griffith*





HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

John Holden - H&L 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

March 2023 Meeting Report

Public Participation - Bill Timson from the Heritage Centre spoke about a bid to fund an Interpretation Panel (providing a history of the Village) which would be situated by the Library. Cllrs later agreed to this, although the exact location of the Panel would need to be decided upon. A parishioner then spoke about concerns she had regarding dog owner's etiquette on the Playing Fields. A few owners allow their dogs to run up to other dogs, even though that dog may not like to be approached. She was advised to contact the dog warden over this. A grant application by Harbury Juniors FC for nets and footballs to resurrect the U15 team was agreed to.

WCC

Country Cllr Kettle in his report, advised the work on the traffic lights installation at Harbury Lane cross roads was on schedule. The issue with the traffic lights being stuck on red on some nights was down to a 'public spirited person/s' helping themselves to the central battery pack. This then resulted in all four sets of lights defaulting to red for safety reasons. The chairman queried as to why Swish Fibre were now digging up the village streets in the same places that Gigaclear had a few months earlier. Cllr Kettle said the County had not been happy with Gigaclear's work but he would investigate what was happening now.

Planning

The PC would make no objection to applications for re-tiling at the Manor House and a new building at Churchlands Business Park. They would withdraw the holding objection they had made for external wall insulation and rendering at Cranford. Regarding the application for TyNi in Hall Lane, which was to vary the previous planning approval which had denied permission for a rooftop garden. The variation was seeking to retain recently installed planters and a green surface finish on a flat roof. The chairman stated that the PC did not like to see retrospective applications for something not permitted in an original application. The Council would put in an objection on the basis of loss of privacy to the neighbours.

Environment

The Swift box installation was underway. The open waste bin in Church Street would be replaced with a new square bin. The street lighting maintenance contract would be renewed, noting the cost had risen by 12%.

Properties

The on-line questionnaire on the Village Hall Car Park had had around 200 responses; although in order to access the results, a subscription to Survey Monkey was required. Cllrs agreed to paying for a month's subscription so they could see what people had said. The inspection programme for the playing equipment on the Harbury playing fields and at Deppers was discussed. It was agreed that besides the annual insurance



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HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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Website: www.harbury-pc.gov.uk

Open: Monday - Thursday
10.00am 12.00pm

CHAIRMAN:

Tim Lockley

Email: chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk

CLERK:

Alison Biddle

Email: clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk

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open to the Public.

To speak on any issue, please
contact the Parish Clerk

Harbury Village Library & Biblio's Café

Harbury Village Library

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Please check the Harbury & Ladbroke News, on Social Media, www.HarburyVillageLibrary.org.uk and village notice boards for information about current opening times



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- library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk

inspection, there would be one interim paid for inspection. The Cllrs own inspections would continue at other times.

The 'No Mow May' initiative would only apply to the Manor Road Green this year and be used as a trial. So part of that green will not be mowed during this coming May but will in the following months.

As a consequence of some of the village greens being dug up for cable work, the PC has discovered that their ownership has not been registered with the Land Registry. The PC will have to engage a Solicitor to register the PC as the owner of the greens.

Finally, Cllr Janet Thornley was presented with a bouquet of flowers to mark her retirement from the Council after 22 years.

Next Meeting - 27th April, 7.30pm in the Village Hall



HARBURY SOCIETY

David Turner

Our meeting on Tuesday 21st March was preceded by our AGM and the treasurer, John Holden gave his report highlighting the healthy state of the bank account. Chairman Ed Wilson then gave his report detailing the events and talks held by the Society over the past year. Following the upheaval of lockdown the Society has recovered well with healthy attendances at meetings together with an increase in membership. The Society continues to monitor and comment on planning issues such as the South Warwickshire Local Plan and a proposed solar panel farm. A new scheme that was launched by the Society has been the Harbury Society Heritage Medal with the first medal being presented to Linda Ridgley in recognition of the successful efforts to save the Manor House. This project led to the foundation of the Harbury Society which celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year. Ed finished by thanking the committee for their work and support during the year and made a request for new committee members. Finally, all the committee were re-elected and the AGM was closed.

Following this Ed Wilson presented a Harbury Society Heritage Medal to Iain and Katherine Geddes in recognition of their preservation of the Church Paddock.

With the formal business over, secretary Sue Turner introduced the speaker, the ever-popular David Howe for a talk about 100 years of the BBC.

David has been passionate about the BBC all his life. He quizzed the audience as to whether they recognised some theme tunes - the first being Sports Report - compulsory listening each Saturday evening and said he recalled his father



religiously writing out all the scores as they were read out - for reasons, for the life of him, he could not fathom. He said he became fascinated by the names of some of the Scottish place-names: Kilmarnock, Dunbarton, Dunfermline, Stenhousemuir, Alloa, Queen of the South, Airdrie, etc. and he vowed to visit one each year - with varying amounts of success!

Two Way Family Favourites was next and Cliff Michelmore and Jean Metcalfe were remembered as being the presenters. The Billy Cotton Band Show with his 'Wakey Wakey' trademark call followed along with the Navy Lark which apparently launched Ronnie Barker's career. Lawrie Wyman wrote over 30 Navy Lark scripts yet he's virtually unknown today. Comedy scriptwriting was a tough career, with a blank sheet of paper in front of you and a deadline looming, coming up with something funny was tough. Scriptwriters Frank Muir and Denis Norden would give their secretary scripts to type up and secretly listen to see if they made her laugh - if silence was all they heard, then some serious rewriting ensued.

Lord Reith was the general manager of the newly formed BBC in 1922, he applied for the job, which had been advertised in the Morning Post, with no previous broadcasting experience, but managed to convince the committee to give him the position. With nothing else for comparison, Reith felt it was the BBC's role to inform, educate and entertain which remains its mission to this day. He deplored accents, which was ironic because Reith had a strong Scottish accent but he felt that the BBC should be setting standards for the nation. Having established a set of rules, comedians down the ages have continually pushed the boundaries to see what they could get away with. Rules were broken; Round the Horne with Kenneth Horne was able to get away with many double entendre simply because they weren't understood by the BBC executives. Kenneth Horne had a phrase - 'slow burn laugh' - where initially one or two people saw the funny side and eventually everyone else would join in.

The Crazy Gang were a comedy team who did many Royal Command performances and their risqué humour had to be tamed for the BBC. They did private performances for George VI, who was a big fan, on the understanding that it was uncensored.

David Frost recalled he was given a dossier of subjects that were never to be mentioned, such as lavatories, effeminacy in men, honeymoon couples, chambermaids, fig leaves, ladies underwear, commercial travellers, lodgers, etc.

Wilfred Pickles, was an occasional newsreader who was the first person to read the news with a Yorkshire accent. He went on to host the radio show 'Have a Go' with his wife Mabel which ran from 1946 to 1967.

We were informed that the longest running radio programme in the world is Desert Island Discs, which was first devised and broadcast in January 1942 by Roy Plomley and celebrated its 80th anniversary last year. One castaway was Alistair McLean who was asked 'when did you begin writing?' He replied that 'I have never written a book in my life - you're not confusing me with Alistair McLean the author are you?' Roy Plomley, said 'of course not' and had to quickly rethink his questions as the castaway turned out to be the Tourist Minister for Nova Scotia!

David's lifelong enthusiasm for the BBC was plain for all to see and he was warmly thanked at the end of the talk by Chairman Ed Wilson for a very entertaining evening.

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 16th May: Tour of the medieval village and church of Wolfhampcote. Full details will be sent to members nearer the time.

Saturday 10th June: Stall at Harbury Carnival.

Tuesday 4th July: Talk/Tour of Lighthorne. Full details will be sent to members nearer the time.

Tuesday 19th September: 'The Last Man in the World' a presentation by local actor Peter Walshe throwing a spotlight on his acting career. Meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Doors open 7.30pm. All welcome - free to Harbury Society members - guests £1.

Tuesday 17th October: Stuart Pierson from Wessex Archaeology will be giving a presentation featuring the excavations carried out at Coleshill Manor. Meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Doors open 7.30pm. All welcome - free to Harbury Society members - guests £1.

Tuesday 21st November: Watch this space! An event TBA to celebrate the formation of the Harbury Society 50 years ago.



HARBURY WI

Mary Thompson

At our monthly meeting on 13th April we had a crowded Tom Hauley Room including a number of new faces.

We welcomed Margot McCleary with her talk entitled "Velvet Glove" - we didn't quite know what to expect, but what a delightful evening we had. Margot is an amateur actor based in Stratford on Avon. She entertained us with a collection of her own monologues - "The unwanted gift", "Woking to Waterloo" "Wild West" and "Ghost Story". She also recited "Terrible Worrier" and "Ethel" by Joyce Grenfell and "Bed Among the Lentils" by Alan Bennett. She added her defence against Woke by reading the final speech from "A Comedy of Errors". A really talented speaker who we all enjoyed and hope to welcome again.

A group of members and husbands will be visiting Morton Hall Gardens in Redditch at the end of April hoping to see their famous tulip display.

We have our normal monthly meeting in the Tom Hauley Room on Thursday 11th May, 7.30 for 7.45pm when we shall be discussing the resolution which will be debated at the National AGM to be held in Cardiff in June. At last year's National AGM, the problems of adults, particularly women, with ADHD and Autism was debated. We are hoping to welcome Ann Clucas to talk on this subject.

Lin is organising another social afternoon in the Tom Hauley room on Thursday 25th May (2pm to 4pm) when we shall be discovering Mexican Train Dominoes - a game which has just the right mix of skill and luck!



HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Nikki Holt

Spring is here (someone please tell the weather!) with lighter evenings and the Harbury Theatre group bring even lighter entertainment with our Ridiculous Allsorts ensemble in May. Look out for our posters and social media posts for further details and where to buy tickets.

All profits will go to the Church's Heat, Light and Stone project.

The group's AGM is being held on 23rd May at 7.30pm in The Tom Hauley Room. There is no obligation to commit to any particular role so please do come along and meet the group and see what it's all about.

It's much more than just acting on stage. There are a variety of roles both front and back stage. It's also a great opportunity to meet new people and have some fun.

If that's not tempting enough there will be cheese and wine!

Should you have any questions or require further information please do not hesitate to send us an email: harburytheatregroup@gmail.com

We look forward to meeting you!



FOLK CLUB

Peter Boves

The only thing one can be sure about at a meeting of the Harbury Folk Club, is that it is never predictable.

This was never more so than on 6th April when we held our 435th meeting of the folk club in Harbury Village Club.

Being spring, the chosen theme for the evening was growth and growing. After Liz and I opened with the well known Robbie Burns song "Green Grow the Rushes", it became apparent that the audience was in fine voice, and eager and willing to join in with any chorus songs.

This enthusiasm continued as there followed a number of excellent performers, and when their items included choruses or refrains to join in with, the response was very good. Perhaps the best example of this was Peter McDonald singing the beautiful Dougie MacLean song, "Wild and Windy Night".

Although there was a good number in the audience, we had fewer than usual performers, so it was a case of quality rather than quantity.

As the evening's entertainment was coming to a close, Keith Donnelly was doing his usual fusion of music and comedy, when he was interrupted by a man who was probably not used to a Folk Club environment. In a somewhat over-enthusiastic manner, he requested the singing of "Streets of London".

Keith, in his usual professional style, turned this situation into one of good-natured humour, and we all finished the evening aching with laughter, including our unexpected visitor.

This brought an end to what had been another very good evening. Thanks to all who took part.

Thanks also to those who supported the raffle which raised £68.00 for the Salvation Army.

For a list of who sang what please visit the Folk Clubs website at tinyurl.com/harbury-folk-club

The next meeting of the club will be on 4th May and hosted by Sue Crum and Maureen & Steve Darby. Being near the time of the Coronation, the theme is to be "A Right Royal Occasion".



FOLK CLUB - Fun and Foolishness Concert

Doug Freeman

Our 11th annual concert was held on Saturday 1st April 2023, and we had to think long and hard to come up with a theme.

The concert featured 29 local performers/support crew. Debbie Ellis, our MC, introduced the splendid variety of acts: Harbury Folk Club Orchestra, Morris Oxford, Maureen & Sue, Pete & Liz Bones, The Somerville Gentlemen's Band, The Harvesters, The Daft Dames, Rumble-O, Peter McDonald, and the Harbury Folk Club Choir.



The hall was dressed for the occasion with bunting courtesy of Liz Bones, and Celia Neill provided freshly-cut flowers for each table. Dave Shuttleworth was our master of the sound, Rich Bloxham operated the lighting, and Carsten Weidmann was our international photographer.

The fine evening of entertainment was sprinkled with a mixture of fun and foolishness, along with some more thought-provoking contributions. We ended with a tribute to Les Barker with the audience joining in singing 'Earwig O'. From a member of the audience: "It was so brilliant as always from the very first tune (which was just wonderful, it sort of soothed us and wove the whole audience together) to the mad Earwig O ending, the entire evening was a huge treat. A combination of such incredible talent, we are really lucky to live in this fabulous village."

Thank you to all the amazing performers, support and setup crew who put so much effort into the concert, and to our audience for supporting the event. This year's concert raised £788 for Harbury Village Hall.

We have already started planning for our 12th Annual concert which will be on Saturday 13th April 2024, and the tickets will go on sale on Saturday 13th January 2024. If you would like to be added to our distribution list, to receive details when the tickets go on sale, please contact me (01926 612002 or douglasfreeman@gmail.com).



HARBURY HERITAGE CENTRE

Bill Timson

By the time you read this article the Coronation of King Charles III and the Queen Consort Camilla may well have taken place. There appears to be no set day for a coronation to take place and Saturday seemed a likely choice and particularly favorable as the country was granted an additional day's holiday on the following Monday.

In the archives we have some information regarding coronations that took place in the 20th century; noticeably that of King Edward VII, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II.

King Edward's Coronation in August 1902 caused a stir in our village when money, left over from Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, was earmarked for a party. Some villagers felt the money would be better spent on providing a cleaner water supply for the village.

A copy of a programme titled 'Harbury Coronation Festivities', kindly donated by Tony Ceney, 'paints' a lovely picture of the events that took place in the village on Wednesday 12th May 1937 to celebrate King George's Coronation.

A full day of activities was planned lasting from 7.30am in the morning until after 10pm at night. The previous day, judging had taken place for 'The Best Decorated Cottage' with first prize of £1. There was also a second and third prize. On Coronation Day there were two church services, both in the morning and a lunch for the adults in the WI Hut which I understand was a wooden structure on the car park of the Village Club. A later lunch was taken in the 'Dance Hall', off Ivy Lane; both by invitation only.

Children's sports followed at 2pm and at 4.30pm a Children's Tea, was provided. At the tea each child was presented with a mug donated by Mr. F.D Farley. Does anyone still have their mug?



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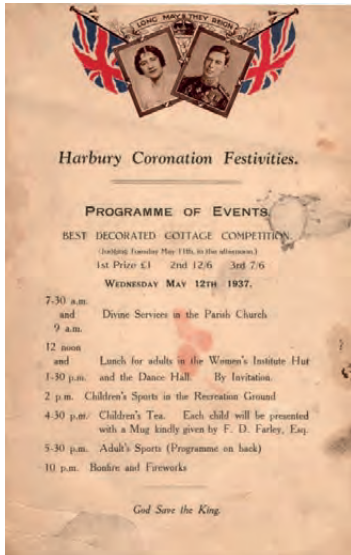
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At 5.30pm a series of Adult Sports took place which included running races, tug of war, egg and spoon races and a slow cycle race open to the whole village. I wonder how that was judged? All ages were catered for, 14-17 years old being the youngest category of adults.

There was a series of side shows including a coconut shie (shy), skittles, Aunt Sally and something called 'Devil among the Tailors' a version of table skittles.

The day ended with a bonfire and fireworks at 10pm.

Shown left is the front of the programme for the day. It was double sided and printed on card.

Fifteen years later, a similar day was organized once again. On Tuesday 2nd June 1953 the Harbury and Chesterton coronation committee organised festivities to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. In our archives we have a copy of the programme from

that memorable day although it is not in very good condition. A request on the village Facebook page for a better copy was answered by Mr. and Mrs. Crossan who kindly made a very good copy of their programme for us to keep in the archives. The back third of the publication was missing; presumably it formed a tear off slip for a lucky programme draw; I wonder who won? The programme is now on display together with other coronation archives at the Heritage Centre. Thanks go to John Guilford and Mary Thompson who helped put the display together. Why don't you come and have a look?

A similar time-table of events was arranged to that of 1937 but starting a little later at 10am with a church service and finishing at 11pm' once again with a bonfire and grand firework display. At 4.30pm children had tea in the High Street which was closed off to traffic for the day; at the same time there was an 'Old People's Tea in the WI Hut. Sports (including 25 children's races), and side shows, including 'bowling for a live pig!' took place on the Playing Field. There was an additional event, a Fancy Dress Parade in the High Street at 8pm. First prize was 5/- (shillings).

An interesting note in the programme informed that there might be a shortage of tables and



Outside 4 Farm Street, decorated for the 1953 Coronation.

An entry for the 'Best Decorated Cottage Competition'.

Frances Leonard, who provided the photograph is the toddler sitting on her mother's lap.

seating accommodation for the children's tea; urging parents to provide a table, chair or both so that they could all sit down for tea together.

The committee in 1953 consisted of Mr. H.R. Wilkins (chairman), the secretary was M. Keeling, treasurer Mr. Farrow, catering Mrs. Sollis, sports and entertainment Mr. Brain and the music was arranged by Mr. R Turner.

Whatever you do to celebrate King Charles' III Coronation have a great time and take some photos so that a record of this unique can be preserved.

If you have any photographs, comments, or questions about this article please contact us by email at 'group@harburyheritage.org.uk'

Other News

- ***Our next open days are on Sun 21st May 2 - 4pm and Tue 6th June 7 - 9pm.***
- ***We are sharing a stall with Harbury Society at the carnival on 10th June. Come and have a look at our display of 'Carnivals from the past'.***



HARBURY ENERGY INITIATIVE

David Bristow

Tel: 07511 679312

We were delighted with the response to our village hall event in March! Many of you must have been there, because more than 100 people came to work out how we can make our houses warmer or cheaper to heat - and help save the planet.

If you missed the event, you can find the presentations and speakers' contact details on the HEI website. Go to www.harburyenergy.co.uk/energy-initiative/ and scroll down the page to the entry for 2023.

Apart from HEI, in the end there were displays and information from seven different companies and organisations. Between them, they covered a very wide range of 'retrofit technologies' - in other words the things that can reasonably be done to make an older house more energy efficient.

Our first speaker was Dr Sarah Price, who is a building physicist and a retrofit planning consultant from Bishops Itchington. She set the tone for the event by saying that every householder in an older house needs a retrofit plan. There is a great deal you can do to improve energy efficiency, but some measures are very expensive, and some are very disruptive. Most people are unlikely to be in a position to do everything all at once. But that is OK - rather than giving up altogether, you just need to think things through and plan to do things when you can. For example, loft insulation and cavity wall insulation are relatively cheap and cost effective, and do not cause any significant disturbance to the household. On the other hand, internal wall insulation and floor insulation are much more disruptive - but are really worth thinking about, because they are relatively easy to do if you are ever doing a serious refurbishment of a room or building an extension.

Sarah also drew attention to the need for ventilation - there can be problems if it is

not considered when insulating a loft or seriously reducing draughts such as when installing new windows.

Susan Needham from Act On Energy, an organisation which gives free advice to householders living in Stratford District, gave information about Eco 4 and Eco+ grants which should now be available for house owners and renters who live in poorly insulated houses and who receive certain benefits or meet other criteria. You are welcome to contact me if you would like details for yourself or for someone you know.

Other speakers covered topics including heating controls, insulation, glazing, solar PV and battery storage, and air and ground source heat pumps, while HEI itself displayed a range of draught excluders, and gizmos such as a consumption meter and different types of thermometer.

Anyone who has organised a big event knows that there will be hiccups - in our case we lost two speakers to Covid just before the day! Fortunately we were able to use the slides that they had already prepared for the presentation, and make contingency plans to take the names of people interested and pass them on. We are particularly grateful to Mark Thompson of Boddington, who came at very short notice to show how their Parish Council's infrared camera is helping their residents.

The event was organised by HEI on behalf of the Parish Council, who funded the event. We would like to thank the Council for their financial support - and also for the support of those councillors who came to the event itself. Our sincere thanks also go to all the speakers who gave up their Saturday on our behalf, and everyone from the village who baked delicious cakes or helped in other ways to make the event such a success.

HEI always welcomes new members - please give me a ring if you would like to know more, or have any questions arising from the event.



HARBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Steven Kittendorf

Harbury v Kings Norton

This match was billed as the game to showcase Harbury's squad after the Vice President's pre-match lunch. However, the visitors were unable to raise a team and so it was left to the 2nd team to entertain the crowd with a match against Coventry Welsh 2's. They did not disappoint and with too much to report here, they ran out winners 62-12.

Harbury 15 Birmingham & Solihull (Bees) 9

This was the final league game of the season and Harbury were up against a Bees side sitting comfortably at the top of the table; losing only one game out of nineteen to date. Both sides were keen to finish the season on a high. The game started and Harbury conceded a breakdown penalty early on allowing Bees to open the scoring, 0-3. A determined response by the home side from the kick off forced Bees deep

into their own half and after a couple of crunching tackles from Ben Knott and Luke Winchester the ball was passed out to Rory Pond who powered over from close range. Ricky Alford converted from a difficult angle to put Harbury in front, 7-3. The game was growing into a cagey affair with both sides defending well and after sharing a penalty apiece, the score board showed 10-6 at half time.

Points were hard to come by and Bees opted to kick for goal from just outside the halfway line making it a one point game, 10-9. Harbury unloaded their bench which worked in their favour and whilst they crossed the Bees try line Pond was held up and unable to ground the ball resulting in a goal line drop out by the visitors. They decided to put in a short kick which was collected by Tom Kittendorf who joined forces with Pond to set up a ruck on the 22m line. Retaining possession, George Bostock shipped the ball out to Tom Arnold who took it forward before passing to Winchester; he threw a miss-pass out to Toby Whelan on the wing who was confronted by the last defender and so passed back inside to Hector Smith who darted over untouched for the winning score. The celebrations that followed reflected on how far they had come this season; finishing third, just missing out on promotion.

Whilst the end of April brought the playing season to an end; fitness and touch rugby sessions will continue on Thursday nights for the Seniors, Colts, U16s and U15s.

Harbury Ladies Touch Rugby continues throughout the Summer with Sunday Tournaments and Thursday fitness and training sessions.

The first match of the cricket season commences at Harbury on Saturday 22nd April.

We are delighted to announce that Tom McKenzie has agreed to step into the position of Vice Chair.

Seven teams from South Warwickshire have been invited to take part in an U14s seven aside tournament at Waterloo Fields, Harbury.

The M&Js awards will be combined with the 60th Anniversary family fun day on Sunday 11th June.

FINAL TABLE

	TEAM	PD	POINTS
1	B'HAM BEES	170	90
2	COVENTRIANS	334	71
3	HARBURY	160	70
4	PERSHORE	16	60
5	STOKE OLD BOYS	256	58
6	RUGBY WELSH	40	55
7	BEDWORTH	66	54
8	KINGS NORTON	-114	39
9	OLD YARDS	-218	26
10	UPTON	-412	21
11	B'HAM EXILES	-288	16

GAME BY GAME

@	KINGS NORTON	7 - 13	W
V	OLD YARDELIANS	26 - 5	W
@	PERSHORE	55 - 5	L
V	RUGBY WELSH	32 - 35	L
@	STOKE OLD BOYS	26 - 32	W
V	BEDWORTH	15 - 18	L
@	BHAM BEES	32 - 21	L
V	BHAM EXILES	48 - 12	W
V	COVENTRIANS	13 - 24	L
@	UPTON	0 - 29	W
@	OLD YARDELIANS	7 - 24	W
V	STOKE OLD BOYS	36 - 5	W
@	BEDWORTH	7 - 27	W
@	BHAM EXILES	19 - 33	W
V	PERSHORE	HWO	W
@	COVENTRIANS	24 - 0	L
@	RUGBY WELSH	14 - 89	W
V	UPTON	HWO	W
V	KINGS NORTON	HWO	W
V	BHAM BEES	15 - 9	W



HARBURY TENNIS CLUB

Colin Mercer

The 2023 season started with our traditional “Chequebook” tournament to encourage payment of the annual subscription. No chequebooks these days but “BACS Online” doesn’t have the same ring! Our seasoned tournament organiser Peter Walshe did his usual excellent job and followed it up with this report of the day:

A cold day but hot tennis! A chilly breeze greeted the sensational sixteen who arrived on time to commence the ‘Chequebook’ Challenge - a fiendish test that paired different players for each match according to a now ancient algorithm.

Two groups of finely tuned athletes raised the temperature with some superb tennis in a series of very close matches.

So close that the final person to make the semi-final play-offs had to be decided by the spin of a racquet amongst six players (bad luck Katherine Giblin, Dan Chand, Ed Lockley, Andy Smith and Nigel Eaton!). So, Ash Chand scraped into the deciders and was paired with Ian Reynolds. Wendy Lewin with David Bristow and Jeunine Crabtree with Peter Walshe (I wonder who created the seeding and pairings?) then fell at the next hurdle leaving Karen Bristow with Ben Fish to take on Ash and Ian. There followed the closest of all finals that can be remembered with the result decided on a tie-break sudden-death deuce (three games all, six points all). The lucky participant, Ash, triumphed with the tournament top scorer Ian Reynolds.



At the time of writing, we still have winter league fixtures to play thanks to some horrible wet nights that led to numerous postponements and delayed the start of the summer season by a month. The Floodlit “A” team completed its Division 2 fixtures with an excellent 6-2 away win against Middleton Cheney. Emma Brangwin, Sue Panton, Josh Marshall and Ben Fish were too strong for the home team and the win secured runners-up spot. This will see a Harbury team in the top division next winter for the first time, great effort!

The “B” team also enjoyed a good win, this one at home against Byfield “C”. Jeunine Crabtree, Clare Callaghan, Rick May and Steve Attridge endured a very wet evening and won 5-3. There is one Division 3 fixture to go and there is still a chance of finishing in third place.

The “B” team also enjoyed a good win, this one at home against Byfield “C”. Jeunine Crabtree, Clare Callaghan, Rick May and Steve Attridge endured a very wet evening and won 5-3. There is one Division 3 fixture to go and there is still a chance of finishing in third place.

The “C” team’s most recent match in Division 4 was away against league leaders Hook Norton “C”. The team of Wendy Lewin, Mikaela Hurtubise, Nigel Eaton and James Edge gave a good account of themselves but went down to a 2-6 defeat. That leaves them in fourth place but, with two fixtures to play, still an outside chance of claiming the runners-up spot.

The weekend team completed its Division 2 fixtures with a home match against Byfield “C” which turned out to be a relegation battle for Lucy Ewen, Wendy and Andy Lewin and Ian Reynolds. Harbury needed a convincing win to overtake their opponents but had to settle for a 4-4 draw, not enough to avoid the drop!

Away from the league Harbury entered a team in the Warwickshire LTA's Seniors Classic Mixed Team event. This is usually dominated by the bigger clubs, but the main aim was to visit one of the bigger set-ups and just enjoy it. So, on a super-sunny Sunday in February, the newly-formed team of Emma, Sue, Rick and Olly travelled to Sutton Coldfield to take on their "A" team on astro. The men sadly lost their 2 sets in a fairly quick match but the ladies had a much longer battle losing the 1st set 3-6 but getting the 2nd 6-4. They were unlucky to lose the final set tie-break 8-10 but it was still an enjoyable match. The mixed saw the second pairing lose to a very strong Sutton pairing but Rick and Emma managed to take their first set which led to another tie-break decider. However, Sutton proved too strong again, taking it 10-6 so a 4-0 loss overall. However, the aim was achieved, a really enjoyable trip to a much bigger, but really welcoming club.



The coaching programme delivered by Coolsportz coaches Lianne Candappa and Ian Shorrocks offers sessions on Mondays and Fridays for all age groups. Hopefully the weather will be kinder to coaches and players as last term there was some pretty miserable weather. If you're interested, please contact Lianne Candappa on 07919 104093 or lianne@coolsportz.co.uk



And finally, unbeknown to me, the Club Committee nominated me for a Warwickshire LTA Lifetime Achievement and delighted to say I won it! Many thanks to everyone who has been on the committee in my 30 years as Chairman and of course to all the members who have made Harbury such a great place to play tennis!



HARBURY TODDLER GROUP

Lynne Barton

Hello from everyone at Toddlers

Something a little different for our newsletter this month.

We are taking time to celebrate our volunteers who make the running of Harbury Toddler Group possible and reaching out to the Harbury Community to see if you could spare a little time and lend a hand.

Lynne who lives in Harbury and is the current driving force behind the group has volunteered and managed Harbury Toddler Group for 10+ years. She works tirelessly to make sure





THE BELL INN
at
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MID-WEEK OFFERS!

Wednesday Night is STEAK NIGHT:

Enjoy Chef's 8oz Rump Steak and a selected drink £18.95

Thursday Night is PIE NIGHT:

Chef's Pie and a selected drink £15.95

CHARITY QUIZ & CURRY

Monday 22nd May. Take on the quiz master and enjoy a half time delicious curry too all for just £10pp upon booking and donation to the charity "Dog For Good" on the night - Booking essential.

KINGS CORONATION

Save the date! Saturday 6th May we will be putting on a delicious hog roast and watching the landmark celebrations live. No Pre-booking Required.

MAY BANK HOLIDAY

Saturday 27th May join us for a bank holiday knees up with live music and cocktails!

FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 10th June, we will be filling the day with street food, live music, gin tasting, bouncy castle, face painting and more! Adults £20pp Food Ticket & Entry Gin - Children £7.50pp Food Ticket & Bouncy Castle.

FATHERS DAY

Sunday 18th June - Treat dad to the best Sunday lunch in the shire! Pre-book now to avoid disappointment.

CHARITY QUIZ & CHILLI

Tuesday 20th June - Take on the quiz master and enjoy a half time delicious Thai Dish too all for just £10pp upon booking and donation to the charity "Alzheimer UK" on the night - Booking essential.

Contact us on
bellinn@freespritpubs.co.uk
01926 811224
The Bell Inn, Banbury Road, Ladbroke, Nr Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 2BY

"When I began to find walking increasingly painful about four years ago I asked for advice and was directed to Health First at Southam. This was really good advice and after two appointments the problem had been solved and it continues to be solved." C.L.



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Fungal infection Diabetic feet

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Est. 1956

that there are different visitors and fun activities for the group each and every week.

Her lovely and very supportive other half Simon helps her to set up the session ready for a Monday Morning. Then there is always tidying the shed!!

Our lovely Judi has been with the team since 2019, there is no end to her talents, she can sing, dance, tell stories and has so many ideas for arts and crafts that there is something new each week.

Debbie (with us for two years) and Selina (with us since 2015, travel from Rugby each week to help run the busy and bustling sessions.

There is always a hot drink

ready and waiting for the parents, and willing volunteers to offer cuddles to babies or support the older siblings when a parent/carer is looking after more than one child.

Last but not least, our fabulous Suzi - who loves to offer a warm welcome and meet and greet and the door with Lynne.

Could you be a Volunteer?

We are looking to expand our volunteer team.

- Do you have a little time on your hands? Would you like to be a special part of your local community's children's early years? We promise the smiles are well worth it.
- Could you be part of a team to help set up on a rota basis? Would you like to support children's early years development and support the sessions on a regular basis?
- Could you be a 'stand in' when we are a volunteer down?

For more information please pop along on a Monday to see us, we meet at the Scout Hut each week (Term Time) or email lynnebarton@btinternet.com to find out more.

From Harbury Toddler Group then, a great big shout out to all the volunteers that make it possible. Many parents have said that "it is the best toddler group that they have known".

And Finally

With much affection, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all very soon. Monday @ 9.30 to 11.15am

Love from Lynne, Selina, Debbie, Suzi and Judi x x





Welcome Back

We are delighted to be welcoming four new children to Pre-School when we return next week. We are also looking forward to seeing everyone back fresh from their Easter break and hearing about what they have been up to in the holidays. The first few weeks will be mostly about welcoming our new starters and settling them into Pre-School with their new friends.

Easter Nests

At the end of last term, we were very excited to see that our Pebble Point Jar was full! Children earn pebble points frequently during the day for kindness towards their friends, sharing, 'wow moments' and being helpful to name but a few. When the jar is full, Pre-School gets a treat!

For their treat, before the holidays, the children made some tasty Easter Nests. They followed the pictorial recipe card and directions and broke up some shredded wheat and thought about ways of melting the chocolate. The adults then placed a bowl of chocolate into a bowl of boiling water and the children watched it change as it melted.

They then stirred the shredded wheat and chocolate together.

The children carefully spooned the mixture into a cake case and counted out five mini smarties and a little Easter duck to place on the top.



Road Safety

Following on from learning about fire safety, we have been learning about how to stay safe when out and about on the street. The Fire Resources box kindly lent to us by the Fire Service contained a multitude of stories, puzzles and games to help consolidate children's learning so much so that 'stop, look, listen, think' became the children's mantra over the week, whatever the question!

As always, the children independently grouped together to take their learning to the next level, by using the outdoor resources in their role play. Before long, we had drivers, pedestrians, traffic light operators, zebra crossings and lollipop men. The children didn't need any assistance in playing along, stopping each other at the crossing and looking before crossing the 'road'. Thanks to some parents,



we have some helmets which the children can wear on the bikes and the scooters. Before coming inside, the children decided to responsibly park their vehicles in the numbered bays!

The children all went home for the holidays with their own 'Warwick the Bear' road safety bear and we are looking forward to seeing pictures on Tapestry of how the children and their bears stayed safe on the roads in the holidays.

Looking forward

By the time you read next month's article we shall hopefully have five little live Caterpillars in our Pre-School. We will be eagerly waiting to see what they become!

Places filling fast

We have a record number of Pre-Schoolers currently enrolled and some of our sessions from September 2023 are already full. If you are considering Harbury Pre-School for your child, please do get in touch.

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



HARBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lucy Bosley - Headteacher

To love, learn and grow together.

"Let us not love with words and speech but with action and in truth" 1 John 3:18

Easter celebrations

We had a thoughtful assembly to end the Spring term where we talked about Easter and the sacrifice which Jesus gave for all of us. We were kindly provided with 216 palm crosses from All Saints Church so each child was able to take one home.



I had a wonderful Maundy Thursday Service at Coventry Cathedral where I was commissioned as a headteacher of a Church of England Primary School. It was a very moving service and I felt very privileged to be there.

Bringing the past to life

In KS1, they have had a fascinating time learning about 'Who has the biggest footprint?' as part of their science and history topic. They were able to visit the Heritage Centre to find out about local fossils. It's really brilliant to have this fantastic resource on our doorstep. Thank you to Bill and Mary for leading the session and bringing local history to life. This is a key skill. We need to inspire pupils' curiosity to know more about the past.



History is such a fascinating subject and allows children to ask perceptive questions, think critically, weigh evidence and develop perspective and judgement.

Superheroes to the rescue

Reception class had an exciting visit from the fire service from Gaydon. This linked perfectly with their topic 'Superheroes to the Rescue'. Even the children and the teachers got to use the hosepipe!



On Top of the World

KS2 have been mountain explorers this term as part of their topic 'On Top of the World'. We were thrilled to have a visit from Al Sylvester, who worked for RAF Mountain rescue and is an intrepid explorer. He described how he and his team survived in tents on Antarctica for seven weeks while skiing unsupported the 600 nautical miles to the Geographic South Pole. He even showed the children the effects of frost bite!

We have indeed had a busy Spring term and we can't quite believe we are already in the Summer term.



HARBURY LIBRARY & BIBLIO'S CAFE

Rich Fowler

With a particular emphasis on the education of children and young people, Harbury Village Library provides services in the nationally defined areas of Reading, Health and Wellbeing, Information and Digital, and Culture and Creativity.

FindMyPast has now been available from our Public Access Computers since the beginning of the year. Findmypast is a searchable online archive of over 10 billion records, covering everything from parish and school records to migration and military collections from across the globe. Subscriptions include access to the 1921 census and to the 1939 Register. Our subscription also includes access to the British Newspaper Archive.

Every month new additions are made. In March these included:

- Ireland Calendars of Wills & Administrations 1858-1965 (Northern Ireland)
- Ireland, Inland Revenue Wills & Administrations 1828-1879
- Lancashire, Barrow-in-Furness Shipbuilding & Engineering Employees
- Legacies of British Slavery 1883
- United Kingdom, Commemorative Plaques
- Four new record sets from the Nottinghamshire Diocesan Archives who cover Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Rutland, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire. The earliest addition is a 1641 baptism records rolling until 1931, all with images

- Over 190,000 transcriptions and records across three British Army collections
 - British Army, Local Armed Forces' Enrolment Forms, Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902
 - British Army, East Surrey Regiment 1899-1919
 - British Army, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment 1901-1918
- Four new titles have been added to the British Newspaper Archive
 - Grimsby Target, 1986-1992
 - Luton on Sunday, 1997
 - Wrexham Mail, 1993
 - Camberley News, 1987-1988

Home Delivery



Have you been a regular borrower in the past, but are no longer able to get to the library? Is the library not open at convenient times for you? Don't worry, we can come to you instead.

- We can deliver and collect books.
- Just browse our Online Catalogues and Click on "Request" when you find a book you want to borrow.
- Alternatively, provide us with a list of your favourite authors and we'll choose some books for you.
- When you've finished, let us know and we'll come and collect and deliver a fresh set of books.
- There is no charge for the service, and we deliver on foot, by bike, or in an electric car, so it's all environmentally friendly as well.

If you want books delivered email us at library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk or phone us on 01926 258776.

National Crime Reading Month



Run by the Crime Writers' Association in partnership with national charity The Reading Agency, National Crime Reading Month is a festival that takes place throughout June across the UK and Ireland, culminating in the prestigious CWA Daggers ceremony at the end of the month. It aims to promote and celebrate crime reading across the genre through exciting events and activities in bookshops, libraries, museums, theatres and online.

We could tell you what Harbury Village Library is planning for June, but that's a mystery! Watch this space.

Activities and Events

Tunes and Tales continues on Thursday mornings from 9.15 to 9.45am. Stories and songs for babies and toddlers.

Board Game Fridays Come along with friends to play some of the board games in our collection, or bring your own. Board Game Fridays start at 1.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits available.

Classic Book Group

Our group meets in the library on the 3rd Thursday of every month. We aim to read, and discuss, those “classic” books you always meant to read, but never did. If you’re interested in joining us please email BookGroup@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk.

Warm Welcome

When Biblio’s is closed you can still drop in just to work using our WiFi or public access computers; print, copy, scan and laminate; sit and read, including a daily copy of the iNewspaper and the weekly copy of the Leamington Courier. All while helping yourself to free tea, coffee and biscuits.

Biblio’s



Why not meet friends for a hot drink and homemade cake? Our friendly volunteers will be waiting to serve you in Biblio’s Cafe on any of the days and times when the Cafe is open, as stated in this article.

Closing times for Bank Holidays and the Coronation

Monday 1st May - Early May Bank Holiday

Saturday 6th May - Coronation Day

Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday for the Coronation

Monday 29th May - Spring Bank Holiday

Regular Opening Times

Library - Monday and Tuesday - 10am to 4.30pm; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - 9.15am to 4.30pm; Saturday - 10am to 12 noon.

Biblio’s Cafe - Wednesday to Saturday - 9.15am to 12 noon, Saturday - 10am to 12 noon.

Bookings can be made via email: bookingsbiblioscafe@outlook.com



HARBURY CLUB & INSTITUTE

Club Committee

Thank you to everyone that have supported and attended our events during March, the band, the bingo, the quiz and the train demo’s. We have received some lovely feedback. The March quiz winner’s ‘Team 147’s’ very kindly donated their prize money back to the club.

Please join us for our May events (open to all).

6th Family Fun Day celebrating the Kings Coronation. Free bouncy castle, Crown decorating, 12pm onwards and live music from the ‘JayKays’ from 4pm

7th Free Bouncy Castle, 12pm onwards

13th Quiz (cash prize), 7.30pm

19th Bingo (snowball £100), 8pm

21st Merv’s Trains, 12pm - 4pm

27th Urban Greek food van, 7pm and ‘Six Feet Drop’ live band, 9pm

Sadly we have had to make the decision to increase our bar prices due to our suppliers increasing theirs. We still have the cheapest prices in the village when your member's discount is applied.

Become a member for £13.50 a year and get discounted bar prices and discounted function room hire. Harbury Village Club is a welcoming and family friendly venue for a quiet drink or get together with friends. Dogs also welcome on leads.

The club has to offer you:

- a large private function room
- full size table tennis table
- Two full size snooker tables
- children's games room
- lounge
- meeting room
- pool table
- children's garden games
- multiple dartboards

The committee welcome any feedback/suggestions, good or bad. These can be placed in the white box by the main door. Please include your name and contact details, to enable us to reply.

For enquiries or bookings: 01926 612498 or harburyvillageclub@outlook.com



GARDEN JOTTINGS

Christine Dakin from Bridge Nursery

Reading through old gardening books reminds me of how much time (and money) must have been spent applying chemicals to plants, lawns, fruit trees and vegetables. These days gardeners can only buy a limited range of products and most are now wildlife friendly. I would like to think that slug pellets are a thing of the past and that, instead, nematodes are used to control these destructive pests.



I can just about tolerate slugs and snails, greenfly, and other bugs but my main problem is ants particularly in the tunnels. They make nests deep inside some of the potted plants which disturbs the roots and can kill a plant. It is very difficult to get rid of them. There seems to be an endless supply of them as soon as the weather warms up. If anyone has a tried and tested solution please let me know.

Later this month you can start to plant dahlias out. Bedding plants can be planted into hanging baskets, window boxes or other containers to brighten up your front door or patio. Plant cabbages, courgettes and sweetcorn, sow more carrots, peas, French beans and runner beans. Your houseplants might need to be re-potted into slightly larger pots then put outside for a few weeks. This is a good time to take softwood cuttings of things like penstemons. Cut pieces which are about four inches, remove the lower leaves, insert round the edge of a three inch pot, water and place somewhere shady, you'll have new plants within a few weeks.

This can be one of the best months of the year, everything is so fresh and promising, try to take time to enjoy it.

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



NATURE NOTES

Martin & Amanda Randall

Celia Neil told us of two unexpected encounters she had in her garden at the end of March. Her first surprise was to see a weasel by her kitchen door! Weasels belong to a group of animals known as Mustelids and are related to otters and stoats. They have a long, streamlined body and short legs. They are widespread in much of the UK, occurring in many different habitats including woodland, and grassland, and moorland. Weasels and stoats look similar, with russet-brown backs, creamy white throats and bellies; consequently, they are sometimes confused with each other. If you only catch a glimpse, you may notice that a weasel has a running gait, with a straight back, whereas a stoat bounds along, arching its backs as it goes. A closer view will reveal that the larger stoat has a black tail tip, while the smaller weasel has a shorter tail with no black tip. According to rural folklore, a weasel is small enough to squeeze through a wedding ring, whereas an adult stoat cannot!

Weasels are the UK's smallest carnivores. Despite their appealing looks, they are ruthless killers, preying on voles, mice and small birds. Celia wondered if the weasel in her garden was on the lookout for the mice that come to her bird table!

A few days later, Celia spotted a Hummingbird Hawkmoth on her Japonica. She commented that she had never seen one so early in the year. You are most likely to see a Hummingbird Hawkmoth in the UK during July and August, so Celia's sighting was unseasonably early. This day-flying moth is usually a summer visitor to the UK, migrating from Southern Europe in variable numbers each year. There is a possibility that rising temperatures mean a growing number are able to overwinter in the UK, tucked away in thick vegetation or even a garden shed. It is quite likely that the individual that Celia spotted had done just that. Adult female moths do sometimes breed in the UK, laying their eggs on plants such as cleavers (sticky-weed) and bedstraws. A single female can produce as many as 200 eggs that grow into stripy green caterpillars up to six centimetres long.



Hummingbird Hawkmoth by Dirk from Pixabay

The British Trust for Ornithology Garden BirdWatch survey, showed that last year was a record year for Hummingbird Hawkmoths in the UK, with a fourfold increase in the number of gardens recording the species.

These large, colourful insects are often mistaken for hummingbirds because of the way they hover over flowers and use their long tongues to drink the nectar. They even make an audible hum!

Hummingbird Hawkmoths are attracted to pink and purple flowers like Buddleia and Red Valerian. Watching these plants on a warm, sunny day would be a good way to spot one for yourself. Just look out for a chunky moth with a long proboscis (tongue), orange wing patches and black stripes on its body. Celia's Hawkmoth was fortunate to

find the pink-flowered Japonica in her garden to feed from. You can watch a video that Celia took by scanning the QR code below:

The summer migrant birds are starting to return. We were in Spain near Barcelona at the end of March and saw many Swallows heading north. We spotted our first Swallow here in Harbury on 8th April, flying over the fields of Bullring Farm. Three warbler species have arrived as well. We heard our first Chiffchaffs on 29th March, Blackcaps on 5th April and Willow Warblers on 11th April.

Willow Warblers and Chiffchaffs look very similar but their songs are quite different, which is the best way to tell them apart. Chiffchaffs are easily identified because their call is the repeated “chiff-chaff, chiff-chaff”, like a creaking hinge, whilst Willow Warblers are more musical, with a melancholy, descending song of falling notes. These two warbler species have had mixed fortunes in recent years. The Chiffchaff populations have increased slightly but analysis has revealed that Willow Warbler numbers across the UK fell by 41% between 1994 and 2018, and as a result it is now on the amber list of concern in the UK. However there have been different regional trends in Willow Warbler populations with continued severe decreases in England, stable populations in most of Scotland but increases in the far north west. A recent study, published in the journal *Ibis*, shows that these Willow Warbler population changes are related to the changing climate, since they are now more successful in the north as it gets warmer there, but having a more negative effect in the south.



It was interesting to read the Parish Council's proposal to set aside some of the green spaces in the village for “no mow May”, to encourage a greater variety of wild flowers that will be positive for pollinating insects and, of course, the animals which feed on them. And as we anticipate the Coronation, we were also pleased to read that English Heritage are planning to enhance and create one hundred wildflower meadows at their castles and abbeys, prehistoric stone circles and palaces to celebrate the Coronation. Kenilworth Castle is one of the sites proposed. English Heritage explain that since the 1930s and the advent of modern post-war farming practices, the UK has lost 97% of its meadows. They recognise that grassland surrounding many of their historic monuments has become ‘municipalised’ over the past century, mainly as mown grassed areas. They hope that the Coronation Meadow initiative will not only benefit nature but also evoke something that would have been familiar to the historic occupants of those sites. You can read more about this on their website. Wouldn't it be super if we could have our own Coronation wildflower meadow here in Harbury!

Celia's Hawkmoth video

English Heritage “100 Meadows”





HARBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Jacqui Harris

Hello everyone! I hope this month finds you enjoying the better weather.

This piece was submitted for publication before the election, so it is hard to comment on the results right now. I wished all candidates the best and whomever wins do their best for Harbury.

The work on the crossroads continued over April. I know it has caused some disruption but the unsettlement is so worth it! Safety is paramount.

Our King had his Coronation and we all move forward in hope and anticipation.

I wish everyone well, a warm summer and if I am lucky enough to be re-elected as your Councillor I will continue to represent and help you as best I can.

Over the last eight years representing Harbury and the rest of the area, has been an honour and a privilege

Best wishes.



THE COLLECTIVE

Rev. Andy Batchelor

Events in today's world trigger a multitude of questions on issues to which our modern society is wanting answers. All Saints Harbury engages in discussion on such issues from both a secular and Christian perspective by meeting on a regular basis in the Shakespeare pub. The next meeting of THE COLLECTIVE will take place on Tuesday 16th May at 7.30pm, and monthly thereafter. Our next topic for discussion will be 'Money, Money, Money!'

The aim is to get to know each other better, hear a short presentation on a hot topic, and spend time discussing it together over drinks in an informal setting. Everyone is welcome and questions and challenges are encouraged! Please do come along.

Any questions, please contact me: rev.andyb@gmail.com 01926 714295.



HARBURY LOCAL MARKET

Steve Ekins

Is normally held on the last Saturday of the Month in the Village Hall 10.00am until 12.30pm.

The next Market is Saturday 27th May with up to 30 stalls selling local Produce, Food, Art and Crafts. Free admission, Tea Coffee and Bacon Rolls available.

The Community Group we are supporting this Month is Harbury Rugby Club.

Please come along and "Shop Local"

We are also on Facebook @Harbury Local Market join for regular updates.



REPAIR CAFÉ

Rich Fowler

The success of our Repair Café depends on the availability of our excellent Volunteer Repairers. Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, too few of them were available to allow us to safely, and effectively, run the planned Repair Café on 22nd April.

In order to avoid this happening again we need to increase our pool of potential volunteers. So, if you'd be interested in volunteering for two hours a month to help prevent broken household items ending up in landfill please email us at repaircafeharbury@gmail.com.

Our next Repair Café will be on Saturday 27th May. In the meantime you could always check out the Repair Café in Southam which takes place from 10am to 12 noon at the Graham Adams Centre on the second Saturday of the month.

Something to watch out for

BBC Studios are currently developing a new series for UKTV which focuses on repairing and fixing everyday items across the UK.

The series will celebrate and highlight the repair communities and cafes in Britain, that are tackling waste and empowering people to become more self-sufficient and sustainable.

The premise for the show would see a team of tv repair experts visit Repair Café groups across the country, getting stuck in to help mend things and teach people who bring their items along some fixing skills, alongside the resident repair experts of the cafes.

Broadcast dates to be announced.



HARBURY BALLROOM & LATIN AMERICAN DANCING

Amanda Randall

Harbury Village Hall Wednesdays - Beginners 7.15pm Improvers 8.30pm

By the time you read this, we will have had the first class of this new session. However, it isn't too late to join the beginners' class as they learn two new dances: the very useful Social Foxtrot, which can be danced to all sorts of music, and the Latin American Cha Cha Cha. The Cha Cha Cha is fun and lively, and you will be learning a routine called the "Turkish Towel", a move guaranteed to impress on the dance floor!

Dates for this term: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st May

Dances: Beginners: Cha Cha Cha (new routine) and Social Foxtrot
Improvers: Foxtrot and Rumba

Do follow us on Facebook (Harbury Ballroom Dancing Group) or Instagram [@harburyballroomdancing](https://www.instagram.com/harburyballroomdancing) for updates.

The fee is £15 per couple, per session, 'pay as you go'. Please bring someone to dance with - we don't swap partners.

We look forward to welcoming you, new beginners or regulars alike!

Contact: Email: harbury.ballroom.dancing@gmail.com or Phone: Jacqui Powell: 01926 612887 or 07769 683888.



Joint Paso Doble practice session last month!



HARBURY CARNIVAL GAMES WEEK 2023

Mike McBride, John Broomfield

Pub Games

Last year we had TEN teams take part but we can easily accommodate a few more. Although we try and have some outdoor games those of you who have come along in the past will know that we can move inside should the weather not be “flaming June”. Over the years we have had hundreds of people (and generations) join us to play a variety of games.

This year they will start Monday 5th June through to Thursday 8th June, commencing at 7.30pm each evening.

The schedule this year will be:

Monday 5th	Horseshoes	Tuesday 6th	Table Skittles
Wednesday 7th	Aunt Sally	Thursday 8th	Quiz

We will let you know the venues for the games later.

While there is a maximum of 12 players per team, only four players are needed for each game so there is nothing to stop a team having just four players as long as they are happy to turn up to play every evening. This gives plenty of flexibility for friends, neighbours, and colleagues etc. to get together and enter a team, so why not come along and enjoy the fun?

Apart from the quiz, the games usually last less than a couple of hours.

Points are allocated for each event and the team with most points at the end of the four nights will be presented with the Pub Games shield.

We do ask for an entrance fee of £1 per person per team.

Should people just want a night out to do the quiz, you are welcome to come along to the Thursday to take part for a bit of fun.

Entry forms will be available in the local pubs and club in May or you can contact me on 01926 612421 or John Broomfield on 01926 614258 to register or if you have any questions.



HARBURY CARNIVAL 2023 - SATURDAY 10TH JUNE

Ceri Edwards - Carnival Committee

After a successful carnival last year, preparations are well underway for this year's event. Now is the time to start planning your float/costume for the carnival parade if you have not already done so. Dress up with friends, family or neighbours and get involved!

The first part of the carnival parade will be led by Shirley Pipe Band and the second half by Hereburgh Morris. They will be followed by this year's Harbury Carnival King and Queen, the floats and people in fancy dress.

We have a very small carnival committee and are in desperate need of volunteers to sell raffle tickets before the carnival, marshals on the day and ticket sellers on the

gate. If you can give up just a little bit of your time to help, please call Haidee on 07775 857054 or e-mail harburycarnival@gmail.com



CARNIVAL STALL

Julie Clarke - Senior Citizens Committee

The Senior Citizens Committee are holding a Sweet Tombola stall at the carnival on 10th June. All the money raised will go towards the day outing on 14th June and the Christmas Dinner in December.

We are looking for donations large or small, can be chocolate or sweets anything would be greatly appreciated. If you wish to donate please drop them off at 32 South Parade or 4 South Parade. We can also collect just give me a call on 07799 375264 or 01926 612066. THANK YOU.

See you on Carnival day.



HARBURY SENIOR CITIZENS BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

Mike McBride

The committee have decided that we will have a summer outing this year and that it will be a trip to **Salisbury**, "a Cathedral city of ageless beauty and captivating history, Salisbury has been welcoming travellers since 1227".

Keeping with tradition, we will be going on the Wednesday after Harbury carnival so that will be **14th June**. Invitations will be delivered to those on our distribution list in early May.

Last year we hired one coach and will be doing the same this year. Again, fuel costs and inflation have meant that the cost of the coach hire has increased and so, once again, we will be asking for a voluntary contribution to the cost of the trip of £5.00 per person, which still means we will be mostly subsidising the trip.

Could we ask that these voluntary contributions be returned with your completed invitations, should you wish to come on the trip? Thank you.

Seats will be allocated as the invitations are returned for collection from the Village Library by **Friday 26th May** which gives us time to confirm the coach booking. As we have one coach, first come, first served.

Prior to the trip will be the Harbury Carnival. We will be running a chocolate and

sweet tombola as well as “name the teddy” as a fundraiser so chocolate and or sweet contributions are welcome and can be delivered to Julie at 32, South Parade.

We are sometimes asked how you get on to the invitation lists for Harbury senior citizens. Well, you have to be a Harbury or Deppers Bridge resident and be in receipt of the UK state pension. You must also agree to have your details, such as name, address and contact number kept by the organisation to conform to the GDPR legislation on data privacy and which allows us to deliver the invitations to you.

If you have any queries or require further information, please call Julie Clarke on 612066 or Mike McBride on 612421.



Watch out! From the middle of June, Harbury will be alive with artists.

Well, they're there all the time really but on 17th June they'll open their doors for a couple of weeks to welcome you all in to have a look at the wide range of art which goes on in this village. Ranging from ceramics, textiles and jewellery to painting, printing, photography, pens and glass.

So please take the opportunity to come along and browse in the five art locations around the village which will be showcasing the work of 13 local artists. We are part of the Warwickshire Open Studios Summer Art Weeks running from 17th June till 2nd July. Later this month, in Harbury library and many other places, you'll find brochures containing details of locations, opening hours and images of work for all the Harbury Artists, also the six artists based in Bishops Itchington and many more throughout the county.

You can find all the information on www.warwickshireopenstudios.org



CHESTERTON WINDMILL PROPOSAL

Bryan Reid

Quite a co-incidence. The front of the Harbury village calendar for 2023 shows a picture of the Chesterton windmill which was, in fact, my painting of it. Recently I was in my shed/studio with my grandson Chris, who was visiting, when he spotted the original. He then showed me a photo which he had taken the previous day at the windmill with his friend Mitch on one knee proposing to his girlfriend Jess. Unknown to Jess, Mitch had asked Chris to take some pictures for him and I am pleased to say the answer Jess gave was 'Yes'. Of course, I couldn't just let the matter pass and offered to give the picture to Chris, duly framed, for him to pass on to the couple as a memento. We hope they will be very happy together.





HARBURY GARDENS WALKABOUT

Call for gardens to open (1st and 2nd July)

Peter Walshe (on behalf of e-Wheels)

We still need a few more gardens to open on 1st and 2nd July this year - particularly ones that have not done so for a while or have not opened before.

This event is the major annual fund raiser for e-Wheels, the local charity that transports, without charge, those in need within a 15 mile radius of Harbury.

This year coincides with the last two days that Open Studios are exhibiting and Harbury Heritage Centre will also be open on the Sunday.

If you would like to support Harbury e-Wheels and open your garden please contact Peter Walshe on 07446 779879 or peterdouglaswalshe@gmail.com. The plan is to open 10am - 6pm on Saturday and 12pm - 6pm on Sunday.

Let's make it a colourful and fun July to remember!



HARBURY VILLAGE SHOW

Show Committee

The Village Show gives the community the opportunity to showcase its talent, and although it may seem a long time until 9th September, the committee has already had two meetings this year to plan for the day.

There will be a wide range of categories to choose from and these hopefully have been selected to appeal to all age groups. Although we have special sections for young people, there is nothing to stop our younger villagers from entering any category. As usual there will be prizes for the best entries in each category with special prizes for Top Vase, Top Container and for the most points scored in the show. The schedules are already available for download at hnews.co.uk/harbury-village-show.html

Paper copies will be available from the library, the post office and the milk shed.

Looking back at previous reports of the show in the Harbury and Ladbroke News, it is interesting to see that the cups and trophies awarded have changed over the years. We know the origins of most trophies, but there is one awarded for the best entry in the Flower Section, which is the Rosamond Schofield Memorial Salver. This plate is first mentioned in 1998, but despite discrete enquiries we haven't been able to trace who this lady was! If anyone has any knowledge of her, please email [Gordon Robbins on g.d.robbins@outlook.com](mailto:Gordon.Robbins@outlook.com).



We will always welcome new members to the committee, so if you are interested in supporting us, please contact the above. Being a member of the committee does not exclude you from entering the show.



Lisa Stone

You may have seen an article I wrote about my dog Marlow in the December edition of the Harbury & Ladbroke News. It was about him being reactive to other dogs due to an attack by another dog as a puppy. With lots of training he is much less reactive than he used to be and can tolerate dogs much closer but not in his personal space.

I wanted to thank those who have approached me about this article as they too have either a reactive, nervous, or elderly dog / with mobility issues and have had issues with off lead dogs. Also, thanks to those who have enquired more about his bright yellow "bat cape!" and been very considerate and kept their dog away to avoid anxiety.

I am trying to raise awareness about dog etiquette and dog legislation via the District Council for the playing fields and why some dogs are on leads and how other dog owners can help. Progress is slow, but I am determined to see this through! It's all about raising awareness and understanding to make life better for all dogs and their owners.

I would particularly like to hear from any Guide Dogs for the Blind fosterers who may have experienced issues, as I am reliably informed by a fosterer of such issues. This has sadly resulted in some puppies not continuing with their training due to being attacked / played with too aggressively by off leads dogs not under the owner's control.

If anyone is interested and would like to know more, get involved, add thoughts or suggestions, please feel free to email me on lisa.stone4.ls@gmail.com



Amanda Randall

After a 6000 mile journey from Africa, the swifts will soon be arriving back in Harbury, where they will discover a wonderful selection of bespoke new homes awaiting them! All thanks to the terrific response of Harbury residents and the Parish Council to the Harbury Swift Village Project. This community initiative has really captured the imagination of people throughout the village, with many offering their properties to give swifts a home.

*Fifteenth of May. Cherry blossom. The swifts
Materialize at the tip of a long scream
Of needle. 'Look! They're back! Look!' And they're gone
On a steep
Controlled scream of skid
Round the house-end and away under the cherries. Gone.*
'Swifts' by Ted Hughes

The newly installed swift nest boxes look very welcoming. Thank you, Harbury Parish Council for funding and arranging the installation of such a large number of nest boxes:

and many thanks too, to Chris Beaton for fixing so many of them to the house walls. We are very grateful to all the property owners who have provided locations for these potential swift nest sites and to those who have purchased their own boxes in response to the initiative. The photograph shows a selection of the swift boxes that have been installed so far. Please let me know if you see swifts showing interest in yours. Fingers crossed that some birds will select one to make a nest this year. It may take a while for the birds to locate their new homes, so please don't be disappointed if there aren't swifts nesting in your boxes in the first year: Harbury Swift Village project is to aid the long-term recovery of this incredible species.

In a single swift's lifetime it may fly a million miles, at speeds exceeding 100 kilometres per hour! A swift doesn't land at all for the first two or three years of its life, feeding and sleeping on the wing. Swifts only come to land when they return to the area where they were born, to find a mate and raise a family. Swifts pair for life, meeting up each spring at the same nest site. A pair bond may be formed when the birds are only a year old, but swifts do not breed until they are four years old. After mating on the wing, a dish-like nest is built by both adults out of any material that can be gathered on the wing, including feathers, tree seeds, straw, and hay. It is cemented together with saliva, and renovated and reused year after year. Your swift box should not require cleaning out!

Swifts usually start egg-laying between mid-May and early July and lay a clutch of up to three eggs. The parents share all the nesting duties equally. The incubation period is about twenty days.

After hatching, the young swifts remain in the nest for between five to eight weeks, depending on the weather conditions. If it gets too cold and their parents struggle to find sufficient food for them, baby swifts fall into a sleepy state called torpor - a bit like hibernation - during which they don't feed until conditions improve. This is unusual for birds; the young of most species cannot go into torpor and would generally die under such difficult conditions.



A collage of a selection of the swift nest boxes that have been installed on Harbury properties as a consequence of the Harbury Swift Village Project.

For several days before fledging the chicks spend long periods at the nest entrance looking out. When they do take to the wing for the first time, they usually leave the nest in the early morning. Youngsters are independent as soon as they leave the nest, and may set out immediately on migration, without any guidance from adults.

*They've made it again,
Which means the globe's still working, the Creation's
Still waking refreshed, our summer's
Still all to come*

'Swifts' by Ted Hughes

Amanda Randall - Tel: 01926 613871 Email: a.l.randall0657@gmail.com



Bob Sherman

Over the next two or three months I aim to give some personal thoughts on solar panels and solar farms to you. I do this not as a representative of HEI but as an individual with a passion to see rapid and well planned carbon emission reduction. This month I am giving a perspective on solar installations on farmland. I have taken most of the information from a well researched article by John Stott, Chair of Heart of England Community Energy, which has three 5MW solar farms on former Defra land that cannot now be used for agriculture (too many experiments).

Solar farms are steadily becoming a major feature of our landscape. We have one already with consent at Eastfields Farm, another in process of gaining planning permission off Middle Road, an existing one nearby on the Fosse Way and another at Bishop's Itchington. Solar farms are frequently sited on farmland. Some say that the trouble with solar farms is that they use up good agricultural land. Solar panels, they argue, should be on rooftops. I totally agree but we urgently need energy from renewables, so it is important to get some perspective before committing to an opinion on not putting panels anywhere else.

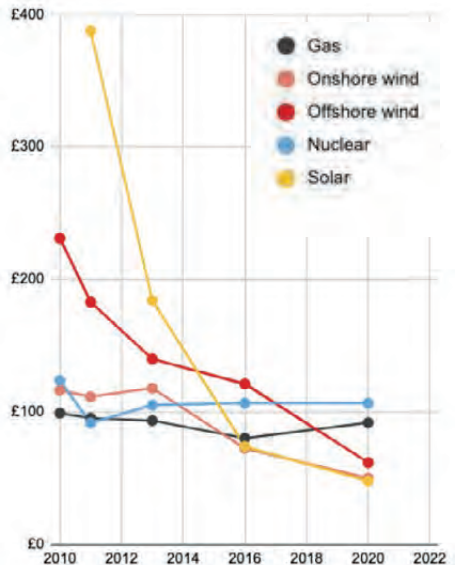
Note how rapidly costs of solar and wind power have fallen. (Costs of transmission are not included)

Even before the recent surge in power prices (due to high gas prices), new solar and wind power were the cheapest ways of generating electricity. Solar was about 50% of the price of gas-fired power. Now, solar costs are only 20% of gas power costs and not affected by the actions of other governments. This makes a very strong case for more solar power.

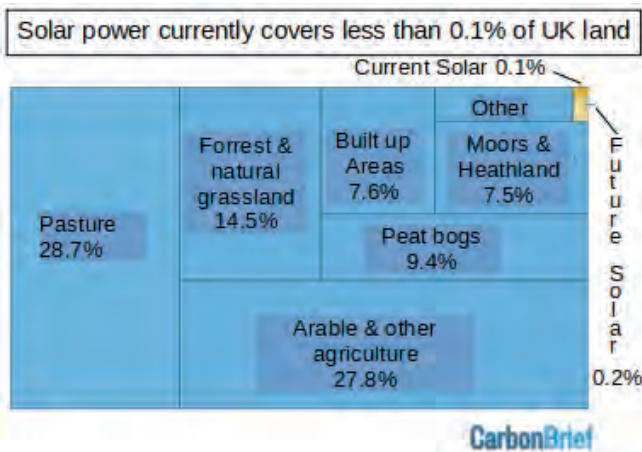
The diagram opposite gives uses of UK land by categories including, in yellow, the land currently used for UK solar farms.

Also shown is the projected increase, as more solar farms are built. Just 0.1% of UK land area is solar farm and future solar will take this to 0.3%. Note also that the area assigned as 'other' in the diagram includes golf courses (0.5% of UK land) and airports (0.2%). Presumably, these were once farmland and it was considered acceptable to convert them to their current use.

Not all agricultural land is of high quality. The government has a classification system with grade 1 as the best going down to 3c and lower. Land from 1 to 3b is considered 'Best and Most Versatile' land and thus not usually ideal for development, although



Levelised cost of generation (figures from 2020)
££ per MWh



that decision is left to the local planning authority. We should not assume that any land covered by solar panels is unusable for agriculture. It is perfectly possible to graze sheep under and alongside panel installations, meaning that the land, possibly grade 3b, is retaining its previous use as pasture as well as generating valuable energy. It is also interesting to note that housing development is permitted on grade 1 and 2 land, which seems odd.

John Stott poses a provocative question, “I would ask which is more important to the UK as a whole, land which generates low cost power needed by everyone or land which is used by a small part of the population (only 1.1% play golf)? Perhaps you consider this use of land to be reasonable, so maybe we should look elsewhere for space for solar farms. Notice that pasture, a most inefficient source of food production, occupies 28.7% of UK land. Converting a tiny part of this to solar would meet the projected needs of solar power development, whilst having only a minute effect on food production. In fact, the small loss of food production could easily be made up by converting a tiny bit more pasture to arable farming, a much more efficient use of land in terms of nutrition produced. As a rough guide, beef farming uses about six times more land than wheat farming to produce the same amount of protein and calories. So, perhaps the trouble with solar farms using agricultural land is an imagined problem or if it is a problem, there’s an easy solution.”

Something to ponder!



LOCAL FOODBANK - there is a facility in the village to donate non-perishable food to your local Foodbank, which supplies the surrounding area, including Harbury. Please bring donations to the Wight School (library) car park on Mondays between 11.30am and 12.30pm, one of the e-Wheels drivers will be there to receive your items. Alternatively, donations may be dropped off at the library foyer during its normal opening hours. Thank you.

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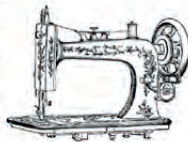
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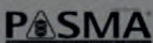
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