

# Harbury & Ladbroke News



APRIL 2025



# Chauffeur Service

**Reliable**  
**Comfortable**  
**Discrete**

Events  
Meetings  
Days Out  
Airport / Seaport



Ensure that you reach your destination on time and relaxed.

**07817897813**

Fully qualified and licenced chauffeur



**B CHAUFFEUR DRIVEN**

**Harbury**

[bchauffeurdriven.net](http://bchauffeurdriven.net)

[warwick@bchauffeurdriven.net](mailto:warwick@bchauffeurdriven.net)

## Refuse Collection Rota

Week Commencing Monday	Thursday Collection - Harbury Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge	Wednesday & Friday Collections - Ladbroke
7 April	<b>F - W</b>	<b>F - R - W - G</b>
14 April	<b>F - R - G</b>	<b>F</b>
21 April	<b>F</b>	<b>F - R - G</b>
28 April	<b>F - R - W - G</b>	<b>F - W</b>
5 May	<b>F</b>	<b>F - R - G</b>
12 May	<b>F - R - G</b>	<b>F</b>

**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

This magazine is available by subscription and delivered within Harbury, Deppers Bridge and Ladbroke. Telephone 07900 852236 for details.

# HARBURY & LADBROKE News

Published monthly to reflect all aspects of local life

APRIL 2025

No. 613

EDITORIAL.....	4
HARBURY DIARY.....	4
FROM THE RECTOR AND CHURCH NEWS.....	7
LADBROKE NEWS.....	9
HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL.....	20
CLUBS & SOCIETIES.....	21
SPORTING ACTIVITIES.....	32
EARLY YEARS & SCHOOL.....	40
LIBRARY.....	45
GARDENING & NATURE.....	46
GENERAL SECTION.....	50

## Editorial Office

31 Binswood End

☎ 612155

✉ [articles@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:articles@hlnews.co.uk)

Article drop off point:  
Harbury Pharmacy,  
High Street

## Advertising Office

36 Manor Orchard

☎ 612687

✉ [advertising@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:advertising@hlnews.co.uk)

## Distribution Manager

49 Mill Street

☎ 07900 852236

✉ [distribution@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:distribution@hlnews.co.uk)

Inserts by prior arrangement with  
the Distribution Manager

Andy Goss – Paulette Kavanagh – Peter McDonald – Sue and David Turner  
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.*

## May Edition Deadlines



**Adverts to:** 36 Manor Orchard, Harbury or e-mail to  
[advertising@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:advertising@hlnews.co.uk) by Monday 21st April

**Articles to:** Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to  
[articles@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:articles@hlnews.co.uk) by 5.30pm, Monday 21st April



Cover photo: Cherry Pickers at Hire Safe Solutions, Churchlands taken by Olli Barrott Shearsby



# EDITORIAL

*A round up of local news*

At last.... after a wait of four years Chesterton Windmill has its new sails! It has been sad to see this local landmark without them and I'm sure everyone is delighted with the result. Thank you to Bill Timson for visiting the site on numerous occasions whilst the work to install the sails has been going on and taking the photos that we are displaying in the magazine. Bill has told us that the Project Manager on site has sent him the detailed drawings of the new parts. A copy will be printed and archived in the Heritage Centre if anyone is interested in seeing it.

Still on the theme of the windmill. If you fancy an early start on Wednesday 1st May, Hereburgh Morris will be holding their traditional 'Dancing the sun up' at Chesterton Windmill, set your alarms to be there for 5.00am!

Most of us are aware that the Great Western Pub at Deppers Bridge has been in some decay for years and has seen better days. A group, along with a local businessman, has got together to try and save the building in the hope of returning it to its former glory. A meeting will be held in Ladbroke Village Hall on Tuesday 8th April with presentations taking place. If you are interested, please do attend to hear all about it – see page 55 for details.

This month there are a number of requests for help. The Pre-School are fundraising for donations to repair their section of the roof on the library building. The senior citizens benefit committee are looking for a couple of new volunteers to join their team. As part of the 80th VE Day celebrations, relatives of a handful of village soldiers killed in World War I and World War II are being looked for.

From Saturday 12th to Sunday 27th April, Ladbroke will once again be running their Easter Trail. You can pick up a map from the Church Porch or Point 1, the Phone Box. An event for all to enjoy.

Finally, we send our condolences to the families of James Joseph Bradbury and Ian Holroyd who did much for Harbury Rugby Club.



## HARBURY DIARY

*For local events*

### APRIL

Sat 5 Litter Pick, 10.00 - 11.00am, meet Village Hall  
Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Open the Book

### Sun 6 PASSION SUNDAY

Said Holy Communion, 9.00am, Church  
Little Saints, 10.30am, Church  
First Sunday Youth Group, 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall

Mon 7 Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

Tue 8 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room

- Wed 9 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall - Norton Lindsay with optional pub lunch (5 miles)  
 Quiet Space, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
 Knitwits and Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library  
 Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
 Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thu 10 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951  
 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
 Harbury WI, Ruth Chipperfield - 'What to do with heirloom jewellery you don't wear', 7.30 for 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 12 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Village Library  
 Repair Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library  
 Ben & Soph's Jazz Night, doors 6.30pm / show 7.00pm, tickets via [www.ticketsource.co.uk/bsjazz](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bsjazz), Village Hall
- Sun 13 PALM SUNDAY**  
 Sung Holy Communion, 10.30am, Church  
 Messy Church, 3.00 - 5.00pm, starts in Tom Hauley Room  
 Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 14 Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall  
 Harbury & Ladbroke News AGM, 7.30pm, Village Club
- Tue 15 Harbury Society talk, 'Archaeology in Harbury' a presentation by Ed Wilson, Archaeologist, doors open 7.30, presentation starting 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 16 No Wednesday Walk today  
 Connections: A Carers' Support Group, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
 Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
 A reflection on the Passion, 7.00pm, Church  
 Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thu 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY  
 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951  
 Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
 Last Supper with stripping of the altar followed by vigil for an hour, 7.00pm, Church  
 Classic Book Group, 7.30pm, Village Library
- Fri 18 GOOD FRIDAY  
 An hour at the Cross - a service of reflection, 2.00pm, Church
- Sat 19 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Rugby Club
- Sun 20 EASTER SUNDAY**  
 Easter Sunrise service, 6.30am, Church  
 Easter Family Communion, 10.30am, Church  
 Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall  
 Harbury Heritage Centre open - 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)

- Mon 21 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM  
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall  
ADVERTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO 36 MANOR ORCHARD, HARBURY OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK
- Wed 23 No Wednesday Walk today  
Knitwits and Pleasant Pastimes, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library  
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thu 24 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951  
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
Harbury Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- Sat 26 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Southam Twinning Association  
Councillors' Corner, 10.00am - 11.00am, Village Hall  
Harbury Local Market, 10.00am - 12.30pm, Village Hall

### Sun 27 LOW SUNDAY

Sung Holy Communion, 10.30am, Church  
Informal Evening service, 7.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall

- Mon 28 Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 29 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 30 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall - Oakley Wood (4 miles flat, no stiles)  
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
Deanery Alpha Course, 7.30pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

### MAY

- Thu 1 Hereburgh Morris Dancing the Sun Up, 5.00am, Chesterton Windmill  
Local Elections, 7.00am - 10.00pm, Village Hall  
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room  
NHS 'Chat with the Coach', 12.30 - 2.00pm, Village Library  
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club
- Fri 2 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn
- Sat 3 Litter Pick, 10.00 - 11.00am, meet Village Hall  
Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Children's Air Ambulance
- Sun 4 EASTER 2  
Said Holy Communion, 9.00am, Church  
Little Saints, 10.30am, Church  
First Sunday Youth Group, 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall



- Tue 6 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room  
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)
- Wed 7 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall - Bubbenhall with optional  
pub lunch (4 miles)  
Mothers' Union, service 2.00pm, meeting starts 2.30pm, Speaker - The work of the  
Food Bank, Tom Hauley Room  
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall  
Deanery Alpha Course, 7.30pm, Tom Hauley Room  
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

**The Refuse Rota can be found on the inside of the front cover.**

**Dates for inclusion in the Harbury Diary please to:**

The Editorial Office, 31 Binswood End, Tel: 612155 or email [articles@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:articles@hlnews.co.uk)



**All Saints  
HARBURY**

## FROM THE RECTOR

*Rev. Andy Batchelor*

The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury ☎ 01926 714295 ✉ [rev.andyb@gmail.com](mailto:rev.andyb@gmail.com)

As I write this the signs of spring are all around us. Daffodils are everywhere, the days are warmer, and as the spring solstice arrives there is a sense of moving from the dark days of winter into the light and warmth of a new season.

During April we continue our journey through Lent which culminates in the celebrations of Easter Sunday, where we also greet the dawn of a new day, as we remember how the resurrection of Jesus defeated the powers of darkness and gave everyone a way to begin a new relationship with God. In our churches there are also signs of new beginnings.

We have just begun a new informal evening service at Harbury, which now meets at 7pm every 4th Sunday in the Tom Hauley Room. This brings a more relaxed and contemporary opportunity for worship, and we will also be hosting a Deanery Alpha course which begins on Wednesday 30th April at 7.30pm, again in the Tom Hauley Room.

Alpha has been running for many years in parishes across the nation, and in many other countries too, and provides an opportunity for everyone to explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus, as well as offer a refresher on the basics of the faith for those who are already churchgoers. We would welcome anyone who wishes to join us.



## FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

*Liz & Andy*

Easter Sunday will be celebrated again this year at 6.30am to greet the sunrise with bacon sandwiches served after a short service outside round a fire. However, there will be a family communion service at 10.30am too for those of us who prefer a later start. We look forward to seeing lots of people celebrate our Risen Lord. (And, I suspect, look for an egg or two.)

But before that we have Palm Sunday when Messy Church will be led through the Easter Experience which is a little like the stations of the cross. About five areas in church will tell the story of Easter. These will stay throughout Holy Week, so please pop in to church when you are passing.

There will be a reflection on the Passion on Wednesday of Holy Week at 7pm. The evening Maundy Thursday service will include the stripping of the altar followed by a short vigil – “Could ye not watch with me one hour?”.

Our hour at the Cross on Good Friday is the last hour – 2 to 3pm.

The new informal evening service has now moved to the fourth Sunday in the month after feedback of clashing with another service that is held locally. Over 30 of us gathered at our March service, with coffee and cake served before an informal service with worship music and a talk from Rev Andy on discipleship. The next one will be at 7pm on 27th April.

If you have any questions, we can be emailed on [warden@allsaintsharbury.org](mailto:warden@allsaintsharbury.org) or phone us - Liz McBride 01926 612421 or Andy Dean 07753 497967.

To book the Tom Hauley Room email Moira on [thr@allsaintsharbury.org](mailto:thr@allsaintsharbury.org)

### From the Registers:

#### Funeral:

Wednesday 5th March 2025 - James Joseph Bradbury (50 years)



### EXPERIENCE EASTER

*Julie Batchelor*

Harbury Church will be introducing “Experience Easter” at Messy Church on Palm Sunday, 13th April. Experience Easter is designed to help children and young people explore the Easter story. Six stations cover key moments in the Easter narrative, exploring the events of Holy Week in ways that are interactive and stimulating. The displays will be in church all week running up to the Easter Services. Please feel free to drop into church any time during the day that week (13th – 17th April 2025).



### MOTHERS' UNION

*Gillian Hare*

The speaker in March, Jo Anne Wilson, gave us a wonderful picture of the work of Galanos House, the British Legion care home on our doorstep in Southam. Yes, it certainly is a “home” in the best possible meaning of the word, but so much more. A vibrant cafe open to the public, activities of every sort from gardening to board games, music to crafts. How hard they work to make the residents’ lives interesting and fulfilling. It must be such a comfort to their families, who are also offered support as they need it. Now they are planning their commemoration of VE Day; for some there a poignant memory.

Before you read this we will have had our April meeting with thoughts on the women mentioned in Holy Week. And some members will have been to Holy Trinity Coventry to



meet Kathleen Snow, our new world wide President. We will also have prepared and given out daffodils on Mothering Sunday.

19th May, 9.30-1pm: Members' morning at Stockingford - lifts will be available.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th May. This will be another occasion when non-members are invited to join us, to hear a talk about the work of a foodbank. I know many in the village give to the collection boxes in the library or the Co-op; if you are interested to hear how its distribution is managed do come to the Tom Hauley Room for 2.30pm. Or 2pm if you would like to join in our communion service first. You will be most welcome.



## LADBROKE NEWS & DIARY

### APRIL

#### Sun 6 LENT 5

Family Service, 10.30am followed by refreshments and Easter Trail craft

Tue 8 Lent Lunch, 12 noon, Chapel Ascote Farm

The Return of the Great Western Meeting, presentations at 6.00pm and 7.00pm, Ladbroke Village Hall

Sat 12 Ladbroke Easter Trail Starts 10.00am, Phone box - Millennium Green - Churchyard - Church (NB daily until Sunday 27 April)

#### Sun 13 PALM SUNDAY

Holy Communion, 9.00am

Fri 18 GOOD FRIDAY

Service, 6.30pm

#### Sun 20 EASTER SUNDAY

Family Easter Communion, 9.00am

#### Sun 27 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Holy Communion, 9.00am

Ladbroke Easter Trail finishes, 4.00pm

Wed 30 WI, 7.30pm, Village Hall

### MAY

Thu 1 Local Elections, 7.00am - 10.00pm, Village Hall

#### Sun 4 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Family Service, 10.30am followed by refreshments

Tue 6 Ladbroke Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 7 Heritage & Friendship Group, 10.30am - noon, The Old School

Fri 9 Spa Chorale Concert - music and prose for a spring evening, 7.30pm, Ladbroke Church



# LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

*Peter Rigby*

[www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk](http://www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk)

The Church held its Annual Parochial Church Meeting (in effect, its AGM) at the end of March. The following were elected to serve for coming year:

Church Wardens: Sue Moore and Peter Rigby

PCC Members: Margie Bosworth, Sue Lord, Janet Moore, Jenny Rigby, Kathryn Smith (Deanery Synod Rep), Jackie West

The Annual Report and the Accounts were received and approved and a summary of the findings of the recent questionnaire were also circulated. Some spare copies of all of these documents are still available from the church if anyone would like to know more. A new Electoral Roll has been drawn up this year, it was pleasing to learn that the number signing up has risen this year, the church now has 43 'members'.

We are now in the run up to Easter and we shall again be holding a Tenebrae service on Good Friday (the Maundy Thursday service will be at Harbury). Our Easter Day service will be at 9.00am this year.

## Future Services:

Sunday 6th April	10.30am	Family Communion
Sunday 13th April (Palm Sunday)	9.00am	Holy Communion
Friday 18th April (Good Friday)	6.30pm	Service of reflection
Sunday 20th April (Easter Day)	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 27th April	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 4th May	10.30am	Family Communion

[www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk](http://www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk)   [ladbrokechurch@gmail.com](mailto:ladbrokechurch@gmail.com)



## LADBROKE EASTER TRAIL

*Jackie West and Sue Wright*

This year the Ladbroke Easter Trail for the young and young at heart runs from Saturday 12th to Sunday 27th April. Pick up a map in the church porch or point 1 (the phone box) or download from [ladbrokechurch.org.uk](http://ladbrokechurch.org.uk). Most of the trail can be done at any time as it is outside but points 9 and 12 are in Ladbroke church, open 10am - 4pm daily. The trail features Dotty the Donkey. We've had help making some Dotty stick puppets so kids can collect one up at the start and take it round with them. At the other points there is a very simple activity for those that wish to do it and you can pick up a small Easter gift at point 12.



Follow my trail to discover the story of Easter

We have a special version of the trail that can be done in almost any location if you are going to be away from Ladbroke over Easter and would like to do something similar. Copies will be available on the website and at church. You can even print off, or collect, a Dotty to colour and take around with you.

RECTORY FARM COTTAGE, HARBURY ROAD, LADBROKE, CV47 2DF

# SEAL

ROOFING SOLUTIONS

Our services include:

- Pitched roof repairs & replacements
- Traditional & modern finishes
- Flat roof replacements
- Fascia & guttering replacements

Contact Terry  
07506535419

[sealroofing@outlook.com](mailto:sealroofing@outlook.com)

**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

# Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service of individual items through to complete property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or email [info@leauktion.co.uk](mailto:info@leauktion.co.uk)

**SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED**

[www.leauktion.co.uk](http://www.leauktion.co.uk)



**LOCKE & ENGLAND**  
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

**01926  
889100**

**18 Guy Street,  
Leamington Spa,  
CV32 4RT**



**HOMEBUYER SURVEYS,  
BUILDING SURVEYS & VALUATIONS**

If you need **honest and pragmatic advice**, but also appreciate a friendly face and heaps of enthusiasm, then **Karena** is the lady to go to for all your surveying solutions.

- RICS Chartered Surveyor
- RICS Registered Valuer
- RICS Level 2 & 3 Property Surveys
- Short Property Reports
- Party Wall Awards
- Valuations for Help to Buy, Shared Ownership & Probate
- Over 33 years' experience



Please contact **Karena** for more information.

**01926 612121 / 07752 134874**

[admin@greenchameleon.net](mailto:admin@greenchameleon.net)  
[www.greenchameleon.net](http://www.greenchameleon.net)



**F**rank  
**M**ann  
**F**armers



- Commercial & domestic mowing
- Fencing ■ Landscaping & more

*"Attention to detail"*

Michael Mann or Emma Mann

Tel: **07759863269 / 07931491417**

[michael.mann1@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.mann1@btinternet.com)

[www.frankmannfarmers.co.uk](http://www.frankmannfarmers.co.uk)





# LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL

Jackie West - H&L News Correspondent

**Official minutes can be viewed on the noticeboard by  
The Bell Inn and the parish council's website - [www.ladbroke-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ladbroke-pc.gov.uk)**

## 27th February 2025

This was an additional meeting to discuss the South Warwickshire Local Plan and agree the response to be sent in from Ladbroke Parish Council. This plan started in 2021 as, in the absence of a long term plan for new housing, developers had been dictating where new developments should happen. The plan covers the period to 2050 but some building will start much sooner as the area needs approx 2000 new homes per year.

The current proposals have 12 potential "new towns" with F2 joining on to Ladbroke and F3 not far to the south. These areas appear to have been included as they are close to an existing railway line, although it was unlikely this line has capacity for passenger trains stopping at a new station. Cllr Ostrander advised that while not all areas would go forward and F2 and F3 were not the most favoured, if there were no adverse comments received this would be seen as acceptance of the proposals by local residents.

However the quality of comments (especially any raising considerations not already covered), was much more important than the number of comments received. Therefore it was important for people in Ladbroke to send in focussed responses. The council agreed the points to be covered in their response and residents would be advised by Enews to respond, stressing existing weaknesses and adding their local knowledge. It was hoped that many more people would do this than had come to the meeting.

## 12th March 2025

I raised the point that the official minutes had not been put on the website or notice board regularly for many months. Maybe someone beat me to it, as the minutes for July, September, October and November 2024 had been loaded on to the website the day before! The more recent ones, including the draft minutes of this meeting, are there now so you can see the full set on [ladbroke-pc.gov.uk](http://ladbroke-pc.gov.uk). Recent minutes have also gone up on the noticeboard by the pub. Readers will see that the official minutes always focus on decisions, whereas I try to capture the essence of discussions during the meeting. I'm unable to attend on 14th May so if anyone could stand in for me at this meeting, I'm sure readers of this magazine would appreciate it.

## WCC

Of a total budget of £414M, the largest costs: adult social care (£250M) and children and family care (114M) are both demand led and have increased rapidly. As a result there is limited resource available to spend on things more visible to the general public: environment, transport, highways etc. Warwickshire is considered the second best county in England for potholes, which may be because it has one team specifically focussed on rural roads; if you cross the county boundary and you can see the difference!

We are also fortunate that the Head of Highways is keen to get things done more timely and the local highways surveyor, who is responsive to requests, lives in locally, in Bishops Itchington.

The WCC budget will increase 2.99% plus the permitted 2% surcharge for adult social care. A task force is looking into making buying and delivery more efficient.

Devolution White Paper - All two-tier authorities with separate County and District Councils will need to become unitary within three years. Warwickshire will not be in the first tranche but needs to submit by end of March outline proposals and in November more details on how services will be delivered. There are two proposals being considered: WCC wish to have one authority whereas the districts suggest a split: North (Rugby, Nuneaton and Bedworth) and South (Warwick & Leamington and Stratford), however if split they are significantly below the minimum population of 500,000 and would require two organisations for adult social care, education and SEND support, ie splitting up the existing county-level teams.

Most secondary school applicants received their first choice but it is still very important, for both primary and secondary school applications to include the catchment school within the first three choices. Otherwise you risk getting neither one of your choices nor the local school. Cllr Kettle is happy to speak confidentially with parents of SEND children who feel that their children are losing out because of lack of support at their school. The Government say that the county SEND budget can be overspent without reducing reserves, although it is not clear how such overspend will be addressed. Our parish councillors, several of whom have or are school governors asked for more information (ideally written) about WCC's SEND budget and how it can be used.

Good news, the new sails are going on Chesterton Windmill during March.

### **SDC**

The District component of council tax will increase 3% which is 42p/week for a band D property. Although the district council collects the tax, WCC receives 76.6%, the Police 12.8% and town/parish councils 3.5%, and SDC only gets 7.1%. Cllr Ostrander also mentioned the Devolution discussions and thanked everyone who had responded to the South Warwickshire Local Plan, stressing that it is good this plan will be well established before any changes to local authorities happen. Livestock worrying by dogs can be a concern in rural areas, especially for pregnant sheep and lambs so dog owners are reminded of their responsibilities; stock owners can get Dog on Lead signs by emailing ruralwatch@warwickshire.police.uk.

### **Planning**

Consents had been granted for tree works at Ladbroke Farm and Attwood Cottage. The decision date had not been reached yet and some formal consultation responses were still awaited regarding outline planning permission for the triangle of land at the end of Windmill Lane.

### **HS2**

The Liaison Officer had contacted Cllr Neal. She floated one idea and asked if Ladbroke had any others to manage extra traffic through the village when the A423 was closed, possibly for 10 weeks starting in October plus the Kineton Road for another four weeks. Cllr Kettle took exception to this approach and said HS2 should be discussing with WCC and they would say if it was legal and assess the impact. To me as mere observer of this fraught subject, it seemed sensible to get as many ideas as possible and local opinion on which we think beneficial, before making proposals to WCC.

It was agreed to ask residents via Enews if they have any suggestions. If you are not the Enews distribution list and wish to be (or you have not been getting any of the recent messages), please email Cllr Neal at martinneal@hotmail.co.uk

**Next Meeting** - 14th May, 7.45pm



On Thursday 6th March, there was a bumper turnout of WI members to watch Clive Garner, an ex-teacher, demonstrate painting on silk. Silk is a natural fibre which was first produced from silkworms in China 5,000 years ago and came to us via Russia and France. The Bombyx Mori is known as the domestic silk moth which produces the longest, finest strands, leading to a very smooth silk.

Clive had already set up an easel with stretched silk on which he had outlined a pattern of flowers and leaves in gutta, a viscous sap, which stops the paint from spreading. While talking about the colours and techniques he was using Clive painted part of the picture.



The dye used needs to penetrate the silk so the painting would be steam-fixed for a couple of hours. There are now man-made fibres so good that it is difficult to tell the difference. If the material burns it is silk, if it melts it is man-made. A table was laid out with beautiful scarves, pictures, small bowls and cards to demonstrate other techniques.

To arrange talks, demonstrations and workshops or to buy gifts, Clive can be contacted on 07729 334132.

During the Business meeting which followed, Sue Moore told us that she will be representing our WI at the Annual General Meeting on 4th June. The competition which Ladbroke WI is organising this year at the Group Meeting on Monday 9th June will be to make one metre of bunting on the theme of VE day. Each WI will submit one entry. Sue, Carole Rhodes and Alison Pollit had attended an officers' briefing meeting, which, among other information, talked about changes to the Warwickshire Federation newsletter.

The annual subs of £51 are now due.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 3rd April. Elisabeth Dunleavy's talk 'No Way Home' is a story of being separated during the war. All are welcome.

Please note that the May meeting will take place on **Wednesday, 30th April** as voting will be taking place in the village hall on the Thursday.



## LADBROKE MATTERS

David Wright

### Our website

Our website [www.ladbrokevillagehall.org.uk](http://www.ladbrokevillagehall.org.uk) contains photos of the interior and exterior of our village hall and general information. Please use the contact form on the website to get in touch with us for any reason.

### Millennium Green Festivities

We will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Millennium Green on Saturday 21st June from 2pm. There will be live music, exhibitions, and activities for children

and adults. The Bell's food truck will provide delicious food and there will also be a licensed bar. All taking place on the green.

We apologise if you diarised the publicised date in May, and you planned your holiday not to coincide with it. However, if you are free on 21st June, please diarise this date and come along if you can.

### What Next?

We have two events planned for later this year:

- Friday 10th October - a quiz night in the Hall.
- Saturday 22nd November – a village Safari Supper.

...and possibly another film night – date to be confirmed.

### Hall Bookings

Our hall has a small kitchen, a stage area with sound and lighting, and can accommodate up to eighty people. To book your special celebration, or if you wish to hold regular classes or meetings, contact us through our website or telephone Debs on 07779 225105.

From 1st October last year our hourly booking rates increased to £16 per hour, or £13 for Ladbroke residents to cover the additional cost of heating during the Winter months. The good news is that the rates are reverting back to £15 and £12 from the 1st April. Non-residents may be asked to pay a £50 deposit on booking.

### A Reminder

The Village Hall and Millennium Green are separate registered charities whose admin and finance are overseen by a group of trustees. However, because the upkeep of the Village Hall and Millennium Green is the responsibility of all who live in Ladbroke we have a larger Ladbroke Matters team which takes care of maintenance and organises fundraising events. We also have a dedicated team of volunteer villagers who bake and supply delicious food for our film nights.

The more you support us with your skills, time, and/or money, the more we can continue to maintain these facilities for the benefit of us all. We are looking for new team members, so if you would like to join us get in touch via our website.

### Ladbroke Village Hall Millennium Draw for February 2025

£50 Sue Moore	£25 Carol Lane	£10 Steve Palmer
£50 Steve and Val Copley	£25 Josh Robison	£10 Russel Griffith
£25 Anthony and Sarah Tierney	£10 Clive Coleman	

Margaret Bosworth



## LADBROKE GENERAL NEWS



### LADBROKE HERITAGE

Jackie West

The Heritage and Friendship Group last month heard tales of dining from the sublime (a posh dinner with Charles and Diana at the Albert Hall), to the almost ridiculous (being regularly invited to the pub by an older work colleague, whose conversation lapsed from English into excited German as he became more inebriated). On 2nd April we will meet at The Old School

**ADVERTISING IN THE  
HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS**

EMAIL: ADVERTISING@HLNEWS.CO.UK

	¼ PAGE	½ PAGE	FULL PAGE
1 MONTH	£13.75	£25.00	£45.00
3 MONTHS	£37.00	£65.00	£119.00
6 MONTHS	£67.00	£120.00	£218.00
12 MONTHS	£124.00	£218.00	£406.00

Adverts with payment to:

Sue Dronfield,  
36 Manor Orchard, Harbury  
See Diary for deadline dates

Cheques payable to 'Harbury & Ladbroke News'  
or BACS details upon request

**FENCES  
& TREES**



**All types of fencing and gates**

**Tree felling and reduction**

**Hedge laying and trimming**

**Patios**

**Seasoned logs available**

**Call Adrian Dollar on  
01926 817077 or  
07914 623989**

**Qualified and Insured**



**FREE QUOOKER!**

3 in 1 Boiling Water Tap with this Advert

T'S AND C'S APPLY

**KITCHEN  
RETAILER OF  
THE YEAR 2024**



RFK Rugby  
Cottage Leap, Rugby, CV21 3XP  
01788 547647

RFK Warwick  
47 Coten End, Warwick, CV34 4NT  
01926 419165

sales@rfkkitchens.co.uk  
www.rfkkitchens.co.uk

**RFK  
KITCHENS**



# Modern Homes

for everything inside your home



Call to book a free consultation on 01926 883 338



As a family business in our 56<sup>th</sup> year of trading we are proud of our exceptional levels of customer care and quality of service.

Let our award winning team manage the planning, design and installation of your new kitchen, bathroom and bedroom.

We will guide you at every stage from concept to completion, ensuring a stress free experience that delivers the room of your dreams.

We have a fantastic team of quality tradesmen from bathroom and kitchen fitters to plasterers, plumbers, builders, carpenters, tilers, decorators and many more. Whatever your project involves we can provide the help you need.

With a wide range of products from market leading British suppliers, quality and value for money is guaranteed.

No matter what your style and taste we can come up with a design perfect for you.



Find us on Facebook and Twitter

[www.modernhomesleamington.co.uk](http://www.modernhomesleamington.co.uk)

[info@modernhomesleamington.co.uk](mailto:info@modernhomesleamington.co.uk)

37 Longfield Road, Leamington Spa, CV31 1XB

10.30am to noon. The topic is Old Ladbroke and Around, so it's time to dig out old photos either your own or in books to share. For more information about the group please contact Carol on 814715.

It was a select few that came to Tours and More last month but low numbers has one major advantage, participants receive a very personalised tour. Our guest for the stained glass tour had never ventured inside Ladbroke Church before and was very impressed with what she saw. We do hope she'll return, perhaps bringing others with her as our stained glass is quite stunning for such a small village.

There were a few more people for the fossils tour with ages ranging from eight to mid-sixties. Holding large fossils, seeing the intricacies of tiny ones close up and hunting for those in the church walls never fails to disappoint. One of the group was a keen photographer, clicking away constantly and he asked if he could bring a small group of like-minded friends and their cameras in future. "Of course we'd be delighted and with advance notice can bring the fossils on display today along too."



## SPA CHORALE

---

*Margaret Bosworth*

If you enjoyed or missed the Spa Chorale Xmas concert, here is an opportunity to enjoy the choir again. On Friday 9th May at 7.30pm in Ladbroke Church the Spa Chorale will be presenting "Where are the songs of spring" music and prose for a spring evening. There will be some well-loved favourites and some songs maybe less well known, all directed by Kevin Stannard.

There will be refreshments served in the interval. No tickets but donations to be shared between the church and the choir will be gratefully received. We look forward to seeing you there.



## CHESTERTON NEWS

---

*Ann Warhurst*

### **In the garden in April**

The old adage of four seasons in one day does seem to match the reality of April in the garden and on the farm. Seedlings need to be protected from frost and from scorching sun; from torrential rain and drying out; from hail and cruel winds.

There is plenty of bird activity. Blackbirds bicker, blue tits flit about, sky larks soar and sing, and best of all the swallows return. We take such pleasure observing them all in, or from, the garden. There is the occasional skirmish in the garden shed as returning swallows wish to reclaim their nesting space to the intense irritation of robins raising an early brood.

Hedgerows are burgeoning. Hawthorne is the earliest to show green, with hazel hot on its heels. Blackthorn and wild cherry show early frothing white blossom, with celandine dotted underneath,

Early potatoes shooting towards the end of the month, fruit blossom promising summer and autumn harvests. The glory of bluebells under a canopy of sharp emerging green never fails to lift heart and spirits.





# HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

John Holden - H&L News Correspondent

**Official minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council website  
[www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk) or obtained from the Parish Clerk, Tel: 01926 614646**

## **Parish Council Report – Thursday 27th February 2025**

There is again a vacancy on the Parish Council and it was noted that adverts have been posted to seek a candidate to fill the position.

### **Public Consultation**

Two residents from Mill Lane were present as a result of an item on the agenda regarding vehicle access problems in the Lane. The background being that Mill Lane is not an adopted County Council highway but a public footpath. Recently, one of the households in the Lane has constructed a low wall in front of their property which has resulted in the narrowing of the Lane. This is causing problems for larger vehicles in reaching the bottom two houses in the Lane. Northfields has a septic tank and whereas previously the lorry to empty this could get down Mill Lane, with the resultant narrowing it now cannot. Temporary arrangements to empty the septic tank had been made but a recent issue with a blocked pipe requires a jet washer to drive down the Lane. The owner of Montgomery House had a recent near miss with a supermarket delivery van which swerved when the driver spotted the low wall.

Councillors were sympathetic with this predicament. County Councillor Kettle, who had been involved in the issue, explained that, as the County Council had no responsibility for the Lane, there was no enforcement action they could take. However, he had asked both the Legal and Highways Departments to see if any other action could be taken. Parish Councillors suggested that the householder contact SOA DC Environmental Health regarding the Septic Tank problems and the Fire Brigade to see if a Fire Engine could get past the width restriction. It was also noted that as Mill Lane is in the Conservation area, the PC would investigate whether planning permission was required for the construction of the offending wall.

### **Other Organisations**

Bob Sherman from Harbury Future Energy was present to give an update on the Village Hall Car Park EV chargers project. Two personnel at WCC running the project had moved on but there was a new person taking over. Hopefully, the CC would shortly be reissuing the tenders for EV charging equipment with revised penalty clauses and some contractors would tender this time.

### **SDC**

Councillor Ostrander talked mainly about the South Warwickshire Local Plan which is out for consultation. She stressed that the consultation would not be influenced by bulk objections to proposed areas identified for development. The consultation was seeking comments on issues such as flooding etc. on proposed development sites. She stressed that development would not happen all at once but in phases up to 2050. Cllr Ostrander also reported that there is currently a rise in crime in the locality, mainly with vehicle theft through organised criminal gangs. The Southam Safer Neighbourhood Team were seeing how this could be reduced.

### **WCC**

Councillor Kettle reported that WCC budget for 2025/26 is £414m of which £250m will go on



Adult Social Care. Children's services take another 25% of the remainder. The Government's proposals for devolution do not fit well in Warwickshire. A new Unitary Authority should have a population of half a million population. Strategic Authorities population should be around 1.5 million. Proposals have to be submitted later in the year. The sails on Chesterton windmill should be installed by the end of March.

### Planning

It was noted that the planning application for the construction of a low wall outside the Homestead in Crown Street would be amended and re-issued due to the wrong stone being specified. The PCs response to the South Warwickshire Local Plan would be formulated in the next few days.

### Properties

The repairs to the wall at the Hall Lane Allotments do not require permission but it was not clear if the forming of an entrance would require it.

### Environment

The Council agreed to the purchase and installation of gates to replace the Stiles on footpath SM64 (The Beeches to Chesterton Road).

CLlr Stockdale has been passed the Climate Change brief and is currently assembling a working party to work with him on this. Initial thoughts were on reducing speed limits on the approach roads to the Village and a 20mph limit in the village centre. CLlr Kettle advised that WCC were unlikely to support a 20mph limit in the village.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday 27th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

#### Current Parish Council members contactable via the Parish Office are:

Tim Lockley (Chairman), Julie Balch (Vice-Chair), Samantha Allen, Kate Gard, Alan Knowles, Ed Mulley, Alex Potter, Robert Stockdale, Keith Thompson.



## HARBURY SOCIETY

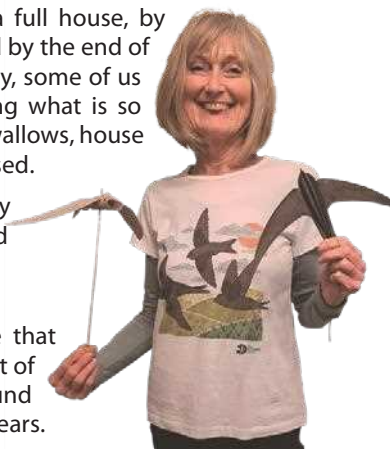
David Turner

Amanda Randall began her presentation about swifts, to a full house, by informing us how passionate she is about this bird and hoped by the end of it we would understand why she feels this way and, hopefully, some of us would become 'swifties' also. She commenced by explaining what is so special about swifts and also the difference between swifts, swallows, house martins and sand martins because people do get them confused.

Amanda announced that swifts are in peril and explained why this was so and what is being done in Harbury to help them and furthermore what we can do to help them.

### What's so special about swifts?

They evolved some 60 million years ago, around the time that tyrannosaurus went extinct and, are perhaps one of the oldest of bird families. We were shown a picture of a fossilized swift, found in Germany in oil shale and dating back around 49 million years.



There are about 100 species of swift but only one species comes to the UK each year – the common swift, sadly though, not so common now.

They are fantastic acrobats and spend nearly their whole lives in the air, eating, drinking, sleeping, bathing and mating on the wing, only touching down to lay their eggs and rear their young. The young, when they have fledged, spend three years of their lives in the air and not touching down until they mate in their fourth year.

Most people are aware of the 6000 mile journey they make each year to spend the winter in Sub-Saharan Africa. They arrive back in the UK in May, spending just three months here before returning to Africa in July and it is estimated that they fly over 14,000 miles each year.

The reason they make these journeys is related to the length of day. Between May and July the UK has the longest days which gives swifts a longer feeding window. They make the journey to Africa and back without stopping, unlike other species which need to rest, because the swift is able to shut down half of its brain in order to sleep while still flying. Swifts normally fly at a speed of 69 miles per hour but when in sleep mode it slows down to around half of that. All this activity is fuelled by insects upon which swifts feed. At the altitude that they fly, around 19,000 feet, is a phenomenon known as 'aerial plankton'; in effect, a soup of insects; aphids, mosquitoes, even bees, which get drawn up by air currents enabling the swifts to scoop them up at the rate of about 20,000 insects a day. Amazingly, swifts are able to differentiate between a bee that will sting and a drone that won't because each make a slightly different noise and fly at different altitudes.

### **What makes them different?**

Swifts, swallows, house martins and sand martins are cousins.

Swifts are here for the shortest time, unlike swallows which arrive in April, and hang around till September. Swifts are dark underneath which makes them appear black while in flight. They never perch and you never see a swift's nest. They are the largest of the four species and have an aerodynamically shaped head which allows an efficient airflow over it. They also have stiff bristly eyelashes in the corners to stop the aerial soup getting in to their eyes and also act a bit like sunglasses.

### **Nesting and Breeding**

Swifts pair up for mating when they are three and are very faithful birds as they remain together for life, but they won't actually mate until their fourth year. Their mating takes place in the air.

They are also extremely site-faithful, once they have found a suitable nest site they will continue to use it for the rest of their lives and they can live for up to 20 years.

Swifts live in colonies some of which are very old and have been used by successive swift generations for tens, if not hundreds, of years, but the swifts' loyalty to the colony and the site makes them very vulnerable.

When the Romans invented terracotta roof tiles, swifts started nesting under those in that period. They like nesting under the eaves of buildings, they love crevices and



*They have an aerodynamic shaped head with stiff bristly eyelashes*

gaps in masonry – their nests are quite rudimentary, just a few feathers and straw glued together with saliva and they are never visible.

They have one brood of two or three eggs per season and the incubation period is quite long – 19 to 25 days which means that the young are born quite developed. Both parents feed the young up to 40 times a day, each collecting as many as 20,000 insects daily and travelling as far away as 500 miles hunting for food. Consequently, the babies may have to go for long periods without food, so the chicks are able to enter a state of torpor, for up to three days. This reduces their metabolic rate and body temperature and allows them to survive longer without food.

During this period the chicks start preparing to fly by doing press-ups and after five to eight weeks they leave the nest and begin flying and won't land again for another three years!

Almost immediately, without the help of their parents, they navigate a journey of 6,000 miles to Africa, possibly using stars and earth's magnetic field to find their way.

They return to the UK the following year, arriving in late May rather than at the beginning of the month as mature birds do.

The young birds can be seen flying around buildings, in gangs known as screaming parties because of the sounds they make, looking for potential nest sites.

### **The Harbury Swift Village Project**

Amanda showed us some photos of the Old New Inn, the earliest dated around 1900, and she said that the building hadn't altered much until now and had always been a home for at least six pairs of swifts which nested under the eaves. When plans were announced to develop the site, Amanda felt that something had to be done and so began the Harbury Swift Village Project.

She asked the Parish Council if they would approach owners about having nest boxes and asked if the council would fund these to help build Harbury's swifts colony. The Parish Council agreed to fund 40 boxes and people who agreed to have them also agreed to purchase a second one. Amanda carried out surveys to ascertain the best location on the properties. She thinks there are currently approximately 60 swift boxes around the village.

### **Declining population**

Over the past 25 years the swift population has plummeted by 60% for a number of reasons:

- Changing agricultural practices • Planting large area with only one type of crop
- Use of pesticides harming beneficial insects • Habitat loss and fragmentation
- Increased predators • Losses on migration due to climate change

### **What we can do to help**

We were encouraged not to use pesticides, as swifts eat aphids and mosquitoes; don't mow your lawn in May (No Mow May); cultivate native flowers in your garden to encourage insects.

Install a swift box (we were shown a variety of designs) and, in the longer term, install an integrated brick which can be installed retrospectively.

Volunteer to carry out a swift survey – it is important to find out how many swifts we have and how many are being lost.

Amanda hoped she had convinced us just how special swifts are and, hopefully, convinced us to be as passionate about them as she is. As their decline has been so frighteningly rapid, we need to take concrete action to help them.

After answering a number of questions, she was thanked by Chair Ed and very warmly applauded for a wonderful talk.

### **Forthcoming Events:**

**Tuesday 15th April** – ‘Archaeology in Harbury’ – a presentation by Ed Wilson, archaeologist.

**Wednesday 14th May** – Visit to Shuckburgh Estate. Tour of Shuckburgh Hall (guided – approx. 30 mins), grounds and church.

**Saturday 7th June** – Harbury Carnival.

**Tuesday 15th July** – Bat Walk with Tricia Scott from the Bat Conservation Trust.

**Tuesday 19th August** – Harbury Tour and Tea. Organised by Harbury Heritage Group.

**Tuesday 16th September** – Presentation by Martyn Brunt from Sustrans, the charity which makes it easier for everyone to walk and cycle, about how they create and maintain greenways.

**Tuesday 21st October** – Presentation by Bill Timson, Chair Harbury Heritage Group, entitled ‘The Railway comes to Harbury’.

**Tuesday 18th November** – Presentation by Catherine Evans, Community and Charity Adviser for the Heart of England Co-operative Society, focusing on the history of the Heart of England Co-op Society.

All talks are held in the Tom Hauley Room. Doors open 7.30pm with the presentation starting at 7.45pm. All welcome – no need to book. Free to Harbury Society members – visitors £2 (pay at the door).

If you would like further information about the Harbury Society or would like to become a member, please contact Sue Turner, Secretary, on 07917 055920, email [sue@turners.co.uk](mailto:sue@turners.co.uk) or visit the website [www.harburysociety.org](http://www.harburysociety.org)



At our meeting on 13th March we were entertained by one of our own members – Sally Ratcliffe. Sally’s grandmother taught her to sew and she clearly has a love of materials and styles. Sally took us on a thrilling journey through fashion history and members enjoyed trying on stunning clothes from different eras. She demonstrated how different styles informed movement and the way you stand and sit. A really enjoyable interactive evening.





# Sun Rising

Natural Burial Ground  
and Nature Reserve

Lower Tysoe

A place of deep peace where loved ones can be laid to rest in growing woodland and wildflower meadows.

All are welcome at this beautifully managed site.

01295 688488 sunrising.co.uk



## W. Goodwin & Sons Funeral Directors

38 Coventry Street, Southam  
CV47 0EP

Telephone: 01926 812445

**Private Chapels of Rest  
Monument Service provided**



*Generations of Care*

# R. Locke & Son

Independent Family Funeral Directors – Est 1853

As a family owned business serving our local area, we take great pride in offering a dedicated and compassionate service.

For more information about our services, to view our funeral announcements and online donations, please visit

**[www.rlockeandson.co.uk](http://www.rlockeandson.co.uk)**

Traditional / Simple services - Direct Cremation  
Natural burial - Pre-paid funeral plans

No 6 The Precinct, Wellesbourne, CV35 9NL

**t. 01789 840744**

*Offices also at Brailes, Kineton & Shipston*

**GOLDEN CHARTER**   
FUNERAL PLANS





## TOM RODGERS Tree Services

- Professional Tree Care
- Tree Dismantling
- Stump Grinding
- Hedge Trimming

Free No  
Obligation  
Quote

Established 2003  
Member Arboricultural Association  
Fully Qualified & Insured



Mobile - 07958 794180 Office - 01926 710383 Email - tom@tomrogers.co.uk  
www.tomrogers.co.uk

# T.M. & J.M. GREY

## BUILDERS



KITCHENS - BATHROOMS - WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES  
EXTENSIONS - ALTERATIONS - RENOVATIONS  
GREY GABLES, 46 BANBURY ROAD, SOUTHAM CV47 1HJ  
☎ Southam 01926 817744 Mobile: 07885 495384  
Email: tmgrey@tiscali.co.uk

## HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Unit 2, Bull Ring Business Centre  
Church Terrace, Harbury CV33 9HL  
Tel: 614646

Website: [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk)

Open: Monday - Thursday  
10.00am 12.00pm

### CHAIRMAN:

Tim Lockley

Email: [chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk)

### CLERK:

Alison Biddle

Email: [clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk)

Parish Council meetings are  
open to the public.

To speak on any issue, please  
contact the Parish Clerk



Your Library where...

You can borrow books, meet friends for coffee  
and cake in Biblios....



and then...



bring your toddlers' to tunes and tales...

Brush up your languages:  
Spanish and French conversation classes...

Friday Board games



Home schooling group - sharing, supporting...



Pleasant pastimes

Repair café



Book groups: Bookworms and Classic book group



Music & theatre - the 'Sheep Dip  
Sessions', live & local shows,  
occasional 'murder mysteries', Art  
Gallery, two PCs for public use +  
printer, food bank, recycling, seed  
share....



At our meeting on 10th April we shall welcome Ruth Chipperfield who will tell us what to do with heirloom jewellery we don't wear. We meet in the Tom Hauley Room – 7.30 for 7.45 - new members and visitors are always welcome.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning in the Tom Hauley Room on 1st March – we raised £179.19 which will go into our Community Fund.

Our cinema evenings have finished until 20th September. Thank you to everyone who has supported the cinema over the autumn and winter. As a result, we have built up our Community Fund and would like to invite village groups to apply for a grant from this fund. Information and forms can be obtained from the Village Library and should be returned by 31st May.



## HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

*Andrew Lawrence*

Mystery is in the air! There has been a very strange murder that no-one can explain – not in reality we hope - but this is the starting point of Harbury Theatre group's latest production: "Death by Detective (corpsed by a copper)". It's an intriguing story by David Pemberton, rather like some of the wonderful Sherlock Holmes tales by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. We have started rehearsals and we'll be performing the play on 15th, 16th and 17th May in Harbury Village Hall. Lots of us are now busy building sets and props, choosing the right music and costumes and designing some amazing lighting and sound effects whilst the actors are learning their lines and making their characters come alive (well, all except the one that was found dead of course!) Details have already been posted on social media and tickets can be bought online. They will also soon be available at the library.

We hope you will come and see the show and have a great evening.

In the meantime, here's a picture of some of us having a great night out in The Crown.



# Chesterton Windmill gets its new sails!





## FOLK CLUB

Sue Hartland

Happy Memories was the theme for the evening and Ian and Sue opened with "Spencer the Rover" and "Garden Party". Rik sang "The Trees they do Grow High" and followed it with the Charles Aznavour song "She", which he accompanied on the concertina. Jason and Liz followed with "When Sister Rosetta Sings".

Then, recalling happy memories, Michael recited a poem entitled "Sailing at Wells Next the Sea" and then he sang "The Turning of the Day". Pete and Liz followed, singing "Bread and Fishes", with the audience joining in the chorus. In complete contrast they then performed "Chastity Belt". Peter McDonald closed the first half with a fine version of the Dougie MacLean song "Talking with my Father" followed by Huw Williams' song: "Struck it right this Time".

Ian and Sue started the second half with "Country Roads" and continued with Ian's self-penned song "Middle England". Rik was next, singing "Secret Garden". Michael returned, entertaining us with "The Cocktail Hour's Been and Gone" and "Elizabeth went to Marylebone". Kim was next to entertain us with a song about Cobwebs and a second song about a scythe. Pete and Liz returned and sang "The Isle of Eigg" and Peter McDonald closed the evening with "The Hard Times of Old England" with the audience singing the chorus.

The raffle raised £54 for Cancer Research. Thank you for your generous donations. Ian will be running the April Folk Club and there is no theme, so performers, the choice is yours.



## HARBURY FOLK CLUB – "NATURE" CONCERT

Doug Freeman

Our 13th annual concert was held on Saturday 15th March 2025 and, as in previous years, it sold out months before. For those who have not attended one of our concerts, it is a cabaret-style evening in a suitably decorated village hall showcasing amazing local musical talent.

The concert featured 35 performers/support crew. Debbie Ellis, our MC, introduced the splendid variety of acts: Harbury Folk Club Orchestra, Maureen and Sue, Peter and Liz Bones, The Harvesters, The Somerville Gentlemen's Band, The Daft Dames, Rumble-O, Peter McDonald, and the Harbury Folk Club Choir.

The artists performed a wide range of material, with a 'Nature' theme, delighting the audience with their fine singing and instrumental skills. We were treated to beautiful melodic and more upbeat items, some thought-provoking, and, as always, comedy. Some performers wore costumes and donned fine headgear and we even had a visit from a polar bear. It felt right to finish the evening with the performers and audience giving a hearty rendition of Flanders and Swann's Hippopotamus Song.

We received warm praise from the audience as they departed out into the cold from the warmth of the village hall, saying how much they enjoyed the evening. Thank you to all the performers, support and setup crew who put so much effort into the concert, and our audience for supporting the event. This year's concert raised £733 for Harbury Village Hall. Our concerts have raised a total of £9,935 for the Village Hall plus a one-off donation to DEC Ukraine of £675 in 2022.





We have already started planning for our 14th Annual concert on Saturday 14th March 2026, and tickets will go on sale on Saturday 10th January 2026. If you wish to be added to our distribution list, contact me on [douglasrfreeman@gmail.com](mailto:douglasrfreeman@gmail.com) to receive details when the tickets go on sale.



## HARBURY HERITAGE CENTRE

*Bill Timson*

As we enter April, the season of Spring has well and truly arrived. Many of us are heartened by seeing shrubs, plants and flowers appearing through the soil as the weather gets warmer and the growing season begins. The tree and bushes too are budding and will soon be in leaf, all adding to our beautiful English countryside. Eighty years ago in 1945, Spring was bringing a different kind of hope, one that World War II would finally be coming to an end. The following month it did.

At the start of May, on the 8th to be precise, we will be commemorating the 80th Anniversary of 'VE Day'. Victory in Europe Day to give its full title, is the day celebrating the formal acceptance by the Allies of World War II of Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces.

The preceding Early Spring Bank Holiday on Monday 4th will be a day when the country acknowledges this milestone and people will be holding street parties, just as they did in 1945 in thankfulness that the war, at least in Europe, had ended. It wasn't until the 15th of August, 'V-J Day' (victory over Japan) that the war finally ended, worldwide.

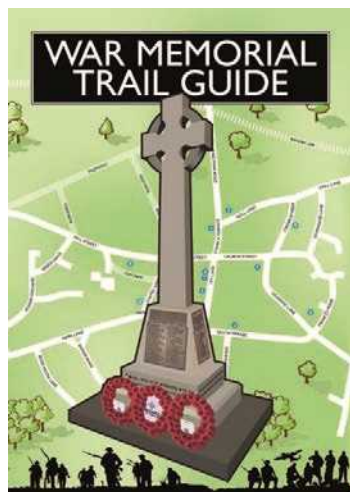
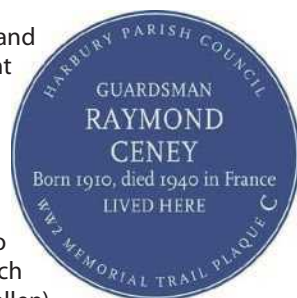
Of course, for many, life would gradually return to normal, although it would be another nine years until rationing ended. Servicemen and women would be returning home to their cities, towns and villages, to the people they loved. In Harbury, just as in the First World War, some were not so lucky. There are ten names on the World War bronze plate on the war memorial in Crown Street. Names remembering the 'fallen' who did not make it home.

I am sure you will have seen the World War I Blue Plaques around the village, erected in 2017 around the time of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. These everyday reminders of ordinary people who lost their lives doing extraordinary deeds, have been greatly commented on by visitors to our village. So, it was decided that we should add the plaques for the WWII men to the 'Trail' on this 80th anniversary.

The Parish Council, with the support of Chairman, **Tim Lockley** and project leader Chris Gibb, have already established an excellent link to the WW1 plaques; more information on all of the men can be found via the PC website at [www.harbury-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk). On the site it is possible to read a memoir of each individual and there is also a link to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to see more information. Plaque number one, Edmund Astell, also has a QR code on it which can take you to the link. In conjunction with Tim and the excellent research compiled by **Sharon Hancock** (who also researched the WWI fallen), the Heritage Group have been involved in a project to fund not only the plaques but also an interpretation panel, to be sited by the war memorial and booklets entitled 'War Memorial Trail Guide' to provide a map and information for those who want to follow the trail or simply find out more. All of the artwork has been designed by Heritage vice chairman, **David Turner**.

The project would not have been possible without the above mentioned and, of course, grant funding, secured, as in the first round of plaques, from the **National Lottery Community Fund**. I am also grateful to the house-owners who have given permission for the latest plaques to be erected on their properties. Chris Roles-Wain of 'Just Anything' who many people in the village have used for their 'building needs' has kindly offered to fit the plaques and the panel, all of which we hope will be in place for our own commemoration on Sunday 11th May in the Library. We also hope that amongst other guests on the day will be relatives of the names on the plaques.

We are appealing to anyone, through this article, who may know the whereabouts of relatives of the WWII men so that we can invite them along. **The names are listed on the next page; if you have any information please get in touch.**



Names on the WWII panel on the Harbury War Memorial in Crown Street:

**Thomas Henry Griffin Biddle**

**Henry Gornall Boynton**

**Charles Geoffrey Boynton**

**Raymond Ceney**

**Dennis Ira Dale**

**Ernest William Field**

**Frederick Ernest Rex Gurden**

**John Henry Hodges**

**Richard William Morris**

**George Windsor Tanner**

Any trace of **Dennis Ira Dale's** relatives would be particularly helpful; we already have some information on the other nine.

We trust that the addition of these plaques around the village will serve as a daily reminder of the sacrifice made in times of conflict and that all of the fallen will be in our minds and hearts not just on Remembrance Day. We intend the 'War Memorial Trail' to be a legacy for the next generations of Harbury people to carry on.

### Other News

The Heritage Centre will be open to the public in **April, Tuesday 1st 7-9pm** and **Sunday 20th 2-4pm**. In **May, Tuesday 6th 7-9pm** and **Sunday 18th 2-4pm**. Come along and learn more about the Harbury men who lost their lives in the world wars, pick up a booklet and walk the trail – it may be warm and sunny.

### Apology

*In last month's magazine article I incorrectly named **Anna Beaumont**, Emma. My apologies to Anna whose A Level Geography Field Study of the village in 1977 was the feature of the article.*



## HARBURY NETBALL CLUB

*Beccy McDaid*

Well, in the blink of an eye that's another season nearly over.... And what a busy season it has been! With two senior Saturday teams, over 20 ladies joining the back to netball group and five junior squads Harbury Netball club is definitely thriving.

Both senior teams were promoted at the end of last season, an incredible achievement for a small village club playing in the Coventry and Warwickshire League. Both teams have secured their places in Div 1 and Div 4 this season and we are looking forward to a good performance from the club at the End of Season Tournament in April. Well played to all the ladies in both teams. It has been a privilege as ever to see such brilliant netball being played all season.

Our back to netball group has grown this season with a mixture of players coming back to netball and girls continuing to play after they are too old for juniors. This group has been great fun to coach and the girls have just joined a mid week league on Monday evenings which I am sure they will absolutely love playing in.

Junior netball is key to the club's success with many of the players now playing at senior level originally starting out in our junior teams. At present our five junior teams are doing extremely well, the U16 squad finishing mid table and putting in a sterling performance in their end of Season Tournament to finish off a great season. The U15 squad finished an amazing fourth and the U14 squad also finished fourth, a fantastic result. Both teams had outstanding final matches jointly scoring 98 goals... WOW!!






- Stratford District Council Licensed
- Enhanced DBS
- First aid trained via Warwickshire Search & Rescue

# Nicholson's

Executive Transfer and Chauffeur Service

 07470 504 178

 07470 504 178

 [simonnicholson1@outlook.com](mailto:simonnicholson1@outlook.com)

-  • Private hire
- Airport transfer
  - Wait and return

Get in touch today for a quote!



## FREE ANTIQUES VALUATION DAY

St Francis of Assisi Church Hall,  
110 Warwick Road, Kenilworth CV8 1HL

Thursday 10th April 2025 | 10am - 2pm

**Bring along your Textiles, Gold, Jewellery,  
Watches, Silver, Antiques and Collectables**

Items may be consigned into Auction  
Free Home Visits for large/multiple items,

House clearance and downsizing advice Probate and Insurance Valuations

For further information please contact Hansons Warwickshire 07470 459309  
e:[clivejones@hansonsauctioneers.co.uk](mailto:clivejones@hansonsauctioneers.co.uk) [www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk](http://www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk)  
Hansons Derbyshire, Heage Lane, Etwell, Derby, DE65 6LS

**Refreshments in aid of WCS Care**

# 10 Reasons To Switch To Gigaclear?

So, why would you consider switching to Gigaclear? Well . . .

- Our full fibre broadband is up to 15 times faster than part fibre.
- You'll be able to speed up *and* save! With Gigaclear's full fibre broadband prices starting as little as £19\* per month, you could save hundreds of pounds a year.
- Gigaclear's 100% full fibre technology is future-proofed and delivered straight to your door.
- We have an Oxfordshire-based customer service team at the end of a telephone line ready to help you.
  - Our full fibre broadband is up to five times more reliable than part fibre.
- If you have a landline telephone, you could find yourself switching to our digital Home Phone service for as little as £5 a month\* *and* keep your existing landline telephone number.
  - We have an 'Excellent' 4.7 customer rating on Trustpilot\*\*.
  - We have a range of broadband packages to suit your needs.
- Using One Touch Switch, we can handle the switching process on your behalf, and we'll contact your existing provider so you don't have to.
- If you have a friend, neighbour or family member who's already a Gigaclear customer, you and they can each earn a £40 gift card through our 'Refer A Friend' scheme.

So, why not find out more at [gigaclear.com](http://gigaclear.com) or give us a call on 0370 774 0514?

*\*All prices quoted are correct on December 1, 2024. Visit [Gigaclear.com](http://Gigaclear.com) for latest offers*

*\*\*Correct as of December 1, 2024.*

**100% FULL FIBRE BROADBAND FOR HARBURY**

We've landed in your rural community to deliver a digital boost to homes and businesses.

Upgrade today  
**0370 774 0514 or [gigaclear.com](http://gigaclear.com)**

UP TO **15X** FASTER THAN PART FIBRE

UP TO **5X** MORE RELIABLE THAN PART FIBRE

★ Trustpilot  
★★★★★ 4.7  
Rated 'Excellent'

**Gigaclear**  
Faster broadband for rural Britain

Both U13 and U12 Squads are new to the league this year, and what progress they have made this season. Both squads had heavy losses at the beginning of the season but this did not dampen their spirits. All the girls have taken on board all the coaching and skills they have been taught. Now both squads are growing in confidence and skill and have secured wins in the second half of their season. Amazing performances all round.



Special thanks most go to **Farol Mowers and Garden Machinery** for supplying Hoodies for both the U12 and U13 squads. We are so grateful to them for this as it helps make everything more affordable for our netball families AND the girls love turning up to their matches in matching club kit. I swear it makes them play better!!! See pictures....



As this season draws to an end I look back with huge pride at what our club achieves every year. It encourages so many girls and ladies to enjoy the sport I love at so many different levels, from grass roots to junior to high level league netball. There is something for everyone. If you fancy giving netball a go.. please contact us via instagram @harbournetball....



## HARBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

*Steven Kittendorf*

Harbury RFC's 2nd XV has showcased exceptional performance throughout the 2024/25 season, culminating in their triumphant victory in the Warwickshire 2B league. Their journey to the top was marked by a series of impressive matches that demonstrated their resilience and skill.

### Season highlights include

21st September 2024: The season commenced with a commanding 61-31 victory over Coventry Welsh 2nd XV, setting a positive tone for the matches ahead.

9th November 2024: Harbury's dominance was evident in their 50-12 win against Manor Park 2nd XV, reflecting their growing momentum.

18th January 2025: A remarkable 68-0 triumph over Coventry Welsh 2nd XV underscored the team's defensive strength and offensive prowess.

15th February 2025: Continuing their winning streak, Harbury secured a 38-0 victory against Manor Park 2nd XV.

22nd March 2025: Bees secure the title in fashion beating Berkswell and Balsall in front of the VPs crowd.

The team's success is all down to the collective efforts of both seasoned players and emerging talents.



Harbury RFC's 2nd XV's league victory not only reflects the players' hard work, but their achievements serve as an inspiration, highlighting the depth of talent and commitment present in the club.



### Ian Holroyd – Club President

It is with great sadness that Harbury announce the passing of Club President, Ian Holroyd. Ian first joined Harbury in 1976 and played for the club as a 'utility' forward until his retirement from playing in the 1990s. Despite hanging up the playing boots, Ian remained an important member of the club, organising VPs Day Lunches and the then Annual Harbury vs Boddington Cricket match. In 2010 Ian Became Club President (after John Bromley passed) in a role he held for 15 years. Ian met his wife, Vikki, at the club, and really was part and parcel of Harbury Rugby.



Ian was a staunch supporter and President of Wooden Spoon - the rugby charity set up to help disabled and disadvantaged children in the UK. He was a founder member of Warwickshire Wooden Spoon, set up nearly 20 years ago. For most of this period he was the Chair - helping the charity grow within our county, raising nearly £400,000 and supporting 35 capital projects. These projects range from sensory gardens, libraries, outdoor classrooms, wheelchairs for rugby and woodland walks. His charismatic leadership saw the committee grow and led to the charity having a high and well-respected profile in the area. The committee will miss his enthusiasm, support and amazing network of contacts. Ian was a remarkable man who will be sadly missed by all who knew him. There are many children throughout Warwickshire who have cause to thank Ian for the difference he has made to their lives.



In early February Harbury Scouts set off on our customary annual adventure to the Peak District. The article below is written by one of our oldest Scouts, Noah. I hope his dry humour makes you chuckle as much as it has me!

We started the camp on Saturday 8th February promptly at 8 in the morning meeting in the scout hut. As soon as everyone arrived it was straight onto the minibus. While I would like to say it was a wonderful trip up, it was mostly filled with the singing of the younger scouts, who at their best were only slightly out of tune. After three hours, when the singing eventually

*"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.*



Ingrowing toenail  
 Corn / Callus Verruca / Wart  
**WE CAN TREAT ALL THESE**  
 Fungal infection Diabetic feet  
 Plantar fasciitis Foot pain  
 Bunion / Arthritis



**Jonathan Small**  
**Lead Podiatrist**

- ASSESSMENT ✓
- DIAGNOSIS ✓
- TREATMENT ✓
- RESULTS ✓

**01926 811272**

**Health First**  
**Foot & Gait Clinic**

[www.healthfirstsoutham.co.uk](http://www.healthfirstsoutham.co.uk)

**'We fix the feet that others can't fix'**



**ARE YOU PAYING FOR CARE WHEN IT SHOULD BE FREE?**



Continuing healthcare funding is NOT means tested. We have a specialist team who can help with:

- Continuing healthcare assessments – how to get started
- Eligibility review
- How to challenge a non-eligible decision
- 3 month and annual reviews
- How to prepare for an appeal

CONTACT US FOR A FREE INITIAL TELEPHONE DISCUSSION



**JUDY TIMSON RGN**  
 (Previously continuing healthcare assessor and appeals nurse)  
 E | [JudyT@moore-tibbits.co.uk](mailto:JudyT@moore-tibbits.co.uk)  
 T | 01926 354704



Moore and Tibbits have a 100% success rate on appeals in relation to NHS continuing healthcare funding.

[www.moore-tibbits.co.uk](http://www.moore-tibbits.co.uk)  
 Westgate House, Market Street, Warwick, CV34 4DH







New Roofs • Roof Repairs  
Flat Roofs • All repointing  
Dry Ridge and verge systems  
Guttering  
Fascia & Soffit fitted

CALL STEVE  
**07974918098**

died down and the leaders were deemed to have been sufficiently deafened, we finally arrived at the YHA Edale centre where we would be staying. This break would be short lived however as we immediately started our hike through the Peak District.

The hike got off to a good start as we made our way out of the YHA and onto the track. The activities of different scouts varied throughout the hike: The more sensible of the bunch walked ahead and at the back talking while the rest spent their time chasing each other as well as a certain scout, who I will not name, making it his mission to stand in every animal poo he came across. It is safe to say his shoes in the evening were kept far away from everyone else's. After we made it to the top (*Mam-Tor, John*) there was a brief period where the temperature dropped below zero and started to snow, funnily enough this happened to be at the one point where we stopped to eat lunch.



While most scouts tried to keep pace, after a few hours the leaders realised that it was very unlikely we would get back before dark, so we made our way down to Castleton and proceeded to call every possible taxi service in the area to try and get a leader back to the youth hostel to get the minibus and pick us up. After being denied several times one leader eventually won one over with an edited version of events that apparently gained sufficient sympathies. Finally we found our way back to the youth hostel and proceeded to spend the rest of the evening sitting down feeling sorry for ourselves until dinner. Later we played games and then watched a film.

The next day began as we all went down for breakfast at 8 to stuff ourselves with whatever we could get our hands on. We then packed up and loaded our bags onto the minibus and proceeded to wait five minutes for one scout who apparently hadn't realised we were already leaving.

We then made our way to The Roaches, where we did a small hike up the ridge and, on the way, climbed a few rocks to get some photos. Me, a leader, and another scout, went up ahead of everyone else to hide different sweets



and chocolates around the rocky area up top. This was followed by all the other scouts searching for them and putting them all into a big stash that was later shared out. We were going to play wide games after this like capture the flag, but considering that the wind was so strong that some of the smaller scouts were getting knocked over and the fog meant you could barely see ten metres away, we decided to make our way back down and eat our packed-lunch.

We then got back in the minibus and had a small drive to get into Stoke-on-Trent where we spent the next two hours in the local water park "Water World", going on the slides and possibly dunking each other in the lazy river and wave pool. After two hours of messing around in the water park we finally got changed and, after enjoying some home-made cakes from some scouts, we made the long drive back.

I would like to thank the scout leaders for organising this trip for us. We all had lots of fun. It was a great adventure.



**HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL**  
*Staff and Committee*



## World Book Day

Last week was World Book Day! The children had the option of dressing up as their favourite character and brought their favourite book in to share with the rest of the children. This year, we had some fantastic characters including Mr Bump, a Gruffalo, a Witch, a Spider, Bluey, some beautiful princesses, two pirates and a Very Hungry Caterpillar. The staff joined in the fun and dressed as a Dinosaur, a girl with lots of pockets, the Gingerbread Man and a Zebra. We had a lovely day reading and celebrating books and stories.

## The Tiger who Came to Tea

Following on from World Book Day, our theme this week has been the Tiger who Came to Tea. We have set our role play area up as a little kitchen with dressing up clothes, a tea set, food items and plates. We also have an all-in-one tiger costume and dress so the children can dress up as Sophie or the Tiger! They have loved taking it in turns to dress up as a Tiger and act out the story.



In the creative area, we have been making tiger faces using orange and black paint on paper plates and next week the children will have the opportunity to make their own 'meal' for the tiger, by cutting out pictures of some food that they think the tiger will enjoy and sticking them onto a paper plate.

### Kind Hands and our Safe People

The children love to paint, especially their hands so we have paired them up and instead of painting their own hands they have been painting each other's. It is lovely to see how carefully and gently they have been using the paint brushes.

We have also been looking at the people who we can turn to if we need help. Using a picture of our hand we have been filling in each finger and identifying a person for each who we can ask for help if we are sad, worried or scared.



### Spring

Our planters have been looking a bit empty so the children have been planting strawberry plants and dry peas to grow into pea shoots. Next week we will be planting runner beans and sweet peas. The children have loved watching the changes in the plants weekly and have been helping to water everything when the soil is becoming dry.



### Preschool Roof Repairs

Unfortunately, our roof is in need of some serious repairs, costing in the region of £15k. As a not-for-profit charity, that is a huge amount of money. We have gratefully obtained grant funding from several sources, but are still short of the full amount. That is why we are asking for your help! Any donation, big or small, would help safeguard the future of our Preschool. We have a "Go Fund Me" on the QR code here. Thank you!



### Little Bo Peep has lost her sheep!

We are also raising funds for our roof repairs with a baa-rilient Easter trail around Harbury village over the Easter holidays. Maps and activity sheets will be available to buy from Harbury Library. Look out for posters soon with more details.

If you would like further information, or to register a child for Harbury Pre-School, please contact us for a chat or to arrange a visit via e-mail enquiries@harburypre-school.org.uk text 07907 598461 or look at the web site www.harburypre-school.org.uk 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*

## Science Week

A prototype Defender on the playground, blood pressure monitors and stethoscopes in action, the secrets of MRI scanning revealed and an interview with a bio-chemist: it could only be Science Week!

A massive thank you to all the community volunteers for giving up their time to make these experiences possible for our children. Who knows what seeds they may have planted...

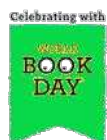


## Festival of Holi

We had a visitor in school week to speak about The Festival of Holi. She is from the Sanatan Dharma or Hindu Worldview. Holi is a popular and significant Hindu festival celebrated as the Festival of Colours, Love, and Spring. It celebrates the eternal and divine love of the deities Radha and Krishna. This year it was celebrated on Friday 14th March!



## World Book Day 2025



A huge thank you to all for yet another successful 'Bedtime Stories' Event. The rooms were decorated beautifully and the atmosphere was magical. Thank you to the parents who stayed to listen to Mrs Preen's presentation about Oracy and Dictation. We hope you found it useful to understand a new area of our curriculum and the ways to support these skills at home. This is now on the school website for any parents who missed it.

[www.harburyschool.com/curriculum/writing/](http://www.harburyschool.com/curriculum/writing/)

There were dens under tables, fairy lights, dinosaurs, hot chocolates and roaring fires... what a special time.



## HARBURY SCHOOL PTA

Lucy Biddle - Chairperson

## Fundraising

This year for Mother's Day, we ran a Plant shop, where students could purchase a plant, pot and a handwritten message to a beloved person in their life. The children always love choosing gifts for loved ones.





## WHAT'S COMING UP...

### EASTER WEEKEND

Enjoy fun for all the family from 18th - 20th April with our 'Easter Extravaganza Hunt' out in the garden, with some Easter themed specials and some speciality cocktails for you to enjoy!

### SPRING QUIZ AND CURRY

Monday 28th April

Get ready! Brad is returning to put your brains to the test with another thrilling quiz! Booking is essential, £12.50 per ticket.

### THE BELL'S FARMERS MARKET

Saturday 17th May

We're excited to announce that the Farmers' Market will be returning in May! Join us for fresh produce, local goods, and community fun for the kids too!

### WEEKLY DEALS AT THE BELL

#### PIE NIGHT

*Every Tuesday tuck into a Chef's pie and a complimentary select drink*

#### STEAK NIGHT

*Every Thursday enjoy delicious, local sourced steak with a complimentary select House Drink*

#### HAPPY HOUR

*Every Friday from 4pm-7pm*

*Draft Beer: £4.75 a pint (Excludes Guinness & TT)*

*House Wine: 175ml Glass of one of our House Wines £6.00*

*Prosecco: Glass of Prosecco, just £6.50*

[www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk](http://www.bellinnatladbroke.co.uk)

01926 811224

The Bell Inn, Banbury Road, Ladbroke, Nr Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 2BY



## Painting & Decorating by Lana

.....

please get in touch to arrange your  
free quotation and to discuss your  
project further

.....

07535 622707  
homeandgarden33@gmail.com




HAWTHORN  
& CO

ESTATE AND LETTING AGENT

Looking to sell or let your  
home this spring?

Independent & family-run

Harbury's top-rated agent


Modern, data-driven marketing

Personalised customer service

Local experts, real results

**CONTACT US NOW**

01926 919553  
enquiries@hawthornandco.co.uk  
www.hawthornandco.co.uk



# Simons Systems

Available for all your computer requirements including:  
PC's & Laptops, New & used systems, Repairs & upgrades  
Virus/Malware Removal, Data back & Windows re-  
installation

Upgrading memory/Hard drives/Rom drives/Graphics, etc  
Internet - modems fitted, wireless.

Any repairs or computer problems. **No call out charge**

T: 01926 316 119    E: sales@simons-systems.co.uk  
M: 07751 811 097    W: www.simons-systems.co.uk

Coming up in April, we have our first Easter Egg Tombola on Friday 11th April. Children get to come into school wearing non-uniform in exchange for an Easter Egg. The eggs are then raffled off for £1 per strip at the end of school. Any numbers ending in 0 or 5 are winners!

### What we have contributed towards

This month our fundraising has enabled us to invite Ian Bland to school to carry out a fun packed poetry workshop with all year groups.

We have also contributed towards a Festival Of Fun day for all of the infants which consisted of a variety of non-competitive sporting challenges. Finally we made a contribution for the Year 5 WOW Day which was a Mount Everest workshop to help enhance their learning on this topic.

We are also very excited to announce that after receiving a recent local grant, we are very close to being able to stock school up with those all-important iPad's for which we have been fundraising, for some time.

### Dates for the Diary

**Friday 11th April** – Easter Egg Tombola and Non-uniform day

**Friday 23rd May** - Whole School Sponsored walk

Use code: HarburyPTA and get 5% off all orders over £40, with **CANA WINES**

Please follow us on Facebook: **Harbury School PTA** for all your PTA updates.



### We Need You!

We've registered **Harbury School PTA** with **easyfundraising**, which means over 8,000 retailers will now donate to us for **FREE** every time you use **easyfundraising** to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long. Please visit [tinyurl.com/mscbt3mr](http://tinyurl.com/mscbt3mr)



## HARBURY LIBRARY & BIBLIO'S CAFE

*Michael Luntley*

We're settling in to our new layout. We have a couple of adjustments to make, but feel that the whole building now looks brighter, welcoming, open and inclusive. Great to have the splash of colour in the new carpet in the children's area. And don't forget the sofa tucked into its own little niche for a quiet coffee and cake while you select your next book. Apart from tweaking the positioning of a couple of shelves, we think we're getting to the end of manoeuvres since the heating installation.

April sees the first in a new initiative for the art display in the Library. The Association of Midland Artists has rented the hanging space for five weeks and all the art on display during April will be from members of the Association. The display will be hung on 5th April. Works on display will be available for purchase.

We also have a new more lightweight card display rack for purchases of cards by local artists.

We had another large audience for our second Live & Local performance from storyteller Phil Okwedy from Adverse Camber. 'The Gods are all here' was an utterly gripping piece of solo theatre. We will be looking for further 'spoken word' events for next season.

In addition to previous announcements, we are delighted to report that the Library Threads Project has received sponsorship from The Co-op's 'Helping Hearts Awards Scheme'. Big thanks to the Co-op for their support! We start sewing in April.



## GARDEN JOTTINGS

*Christine Dakin from Bridge Nursery*

Did you know that approx. 90% of all cut flowers sold in the UK are imported? They come mainly from Holland but also Kenya, Columbia and many other countries. The production of flowers abroad can involve frequent use of insecticides and herbicides. Flowers from the Farm is an umbrella group promoting the sustainability of British grown cut flowers and foliage. One of the members is Heather Ward, a florist, who is growing her flowers for her business Catkins and Clematis here at Bridge Nursery. She doesn't use chemicals and plastics which means there is a low carbon footprint. Her growing area is expanding year by year as is the demand for locally grown produce. Do come and see some of the wide range of perennials, annuals and bi-annuals growing alongside my plants in the sales area.



April is one of the busiest months of the year now that there is more warmth and more daylight hours. Some reminders to keep you occupied.....

Trim back lavender to help prevent the bushes getting too straggly....do some weeding.... plant potatoes....weed.....sow seeds of cabbage, broccoli, carrots and peas, lettuce, beetroot..... weed.....cut out older branches of winter jasmine, shrubby honeysuckle and Viburnum 'Dawn' and V. tinus.....weed.....finish pruning roses and apply some fertiliser, don't forget to weed!!

**Bridge Nursery, Tomlow Road, Napton | [www.bridge-nursery.co.uk](http://www.bridge-nursery.co.uk)**



## NATURE NOTES

*Martin & Amanda Randall*

Early Spring and the Chiff Chaffs are already singing in the woods and coppices after their return from their winter haunts around the Mediterranean and Northern Africa. Now the sun is coaxing the Brimstone butterflies from their winter hiding places into flight around our garden. The Brimstone is a fairly large butterfly, with distinctive, leaf-shaped wings. The males are a striking yellow colour, whilst the female is paler and whitish-green. They both also have a small orange spot on each wing. There is a common belief that the word "butterfly" is from "butter-coloured fly" and is attributed to the yellow of this species.

The Brimstone is long-lived compared to other butterflies. It spends the majority of its life as an adult butterfly and is one of the few species that hibernates as an adult through cold weather. Although seen flying on warm days throughout the year, they are most common in the spring. They lay their eggs on Buckthorn where the caterpillars feed on the leaves.

The new adults can live for a year after emerging from their chrysalises in July. Adults feed on nectar, preferring purple flowers such as knapweeds and thistles; bluebells are an important early nectar source. They will also feed on primroses.





*Brimstone butterfly*  
(Key on Pixabay)



*Hazel tree with catkins*  
(Amanda Randall)



*Female Hazel flower*  
(Martin Randall)



This time of year sees trees clothed in subtle shades of green, a colour palette to rival that of autumnal leaves. Often it is the trees' flowers that are first visible before the leaf bud-burst. The familiar long, thin, dangling tassels of Hazel catkins are hanging in profusion at present. These golden lambs' tails are long clusters of male pollen-producing flowers; up to two hundred tiny flowers in each catkin.

They shed their pollen, which is carried by the wind rather than by insects, to the female flowers. The female flowers are much more inconspicuous, merely tiny tufts of red filaments that peek out from a round bud. Being wind-pollinated they don't need brightly coloured petals or scents to attract pollinating animals. Hazels carry both male and female flowers on the same plant but are not self-pollinating; they need the pollen from a nearby



*Poplar catkins*  
(Martin Randall)

hazel to start the process of forming the hazelnuts in autumn.

Some other tree species have separate males and females. One tree will produce only pollen, and another produces only seeds or fruit. Poplar trees are a good example of such trees. As with the Hazel, Poplar flowers are wind-pollinated. Male catkins are red and female catkins are yellow-green. Once fertilised, female catkins develop into fluffy, cotton-like seeds, which fall from the tree in late summer.

There are several species of poplar, and some hybrids. The Black Poplar is a native species; once a common sight in the British countryside it is now one of our rarest trees. It grows to a massive size, with a distinctive wide, rounded crown, a straggly outline and a thick, fissured trunk. Black Poplars have formed an important part of our landscape and culture for centuries. Constable included Black Poplar trees lining the river in the background of his

painting “The Hay Wain”. Sadly, this declining species is now rarely found, growing only in isolation on boggy ground such as in wet woodland, around flooded gravel pits or along ditches on flood plains.

To reproduce, male and female Black Poplars need to be sited close to each other. The fertilised seeds need to fall on damp ground, making river valleys perfect places for this species. But the drainage of the land for agriculture has made it difficult for these wetland trees and they have slowly disappeared from the landscape. A recent survey estimated there are only 7000 Black Poplars in England, Wales and Ireland, of which only 600 are female.



*Black poplar*  
(Chris Dyson)

It has also been suggested that more female than male trees have been cut down because the woolly seeds from the females cause a ‘mess’, particularly near more urban areas. This sad state of affairs means that many of the remaining females are too far from the males to be pollinated, so there will be fewer seeds in future to ensure there are enough young saplings.

A native Black Poplar grows on the banks of the River Leam in the Jephson Gardens, close to the Leam Boat Centre. You can download a map of the ‘Trees of the Jephson Gardens’, using the QR code here. The Black Poplar is mentioned as a target species in the Warwick District Council’s Biodiversity Action Programme, highlighting its importance.

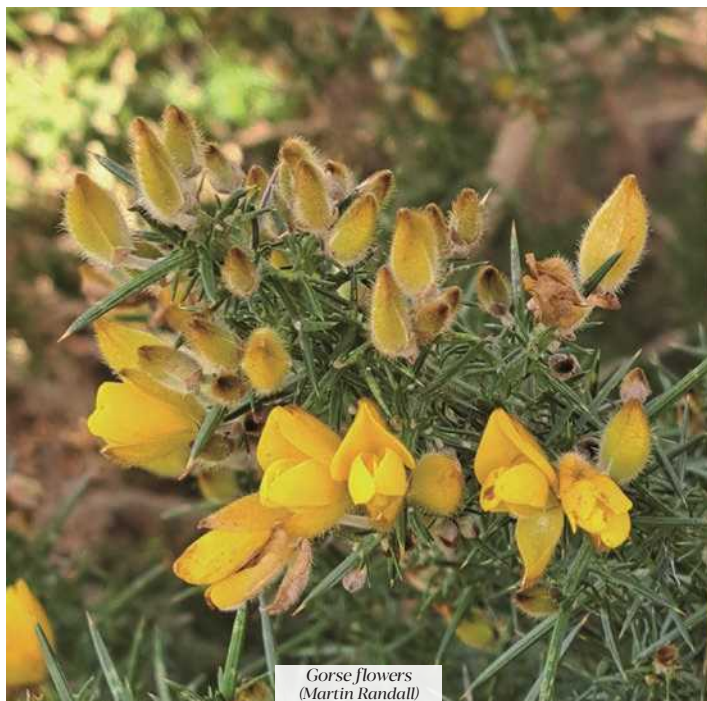


In the early months of the year, there’s something very cheering about seeing the bright golden flowers of spiny gorse bushes ablaze in hedgerows and on rough ground. Also known as furze (or “whins” in Scotland), the name gorse is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *gorst* and means “a waste” or “wasteland”, reflecting the plant’s common habitat on open moorlands and heaths.

Gorse flowers are at their best around this time of year although the plants stay in flower most of the year, hence the saying “When gorse is in bloom, kissing is in season”! When the sun shines, the flowers smell of a heady aroma of coconut. Bees love gorse and it’s a good

source of food for them in early spring. The flowers have a lot of nutritional value and animals such as horses, sheep, cattle and goats love to snack on them.

Cows are said to give good milk when eating a gorse diet, although it must be difficult for them to pick the flowers amongst the minefield of thorns on the bushes! Near to hand, you can find it flowering on the Thwaites Estate and along local roadsides. There must have been a lot more gorse growing when Harbury Heath really was a proper heath.



## HARBURY GENERAL NEWS



### IAN HOLROYD – OBITUARY

*Katie Holroyd*

2nd October 1946 – 20th March 2025

Ian Holroyd passed away peacefully after 78 years of a life lived to the full. He is survived by his daughter, Katie Holroyd.

A proud Yorkshireman, Ian was truly the friend that everyone wishes to have.

Always the most gregarious person in the room, Ian's friendships were far reaching.

A lifetime member of Harbury Rugby Club, and president for the last 20 years, the community that is Harbury RFC, and the wider village would not be what it is without Ian Holroyd.

Through his business, Look Who's Talking, and his position as president of the Warwickshire Wooden Spoon rugby charity, Ian has had a huge impact on many people's lives.

He was a loving husband to Vikki, and father to Katie, and someone everyone would call their best mate.

Please join to celebrate Ian's life at All Saints Harbury at 1.30pm, Wednesday 9th April. Followed by a good pint at Harbury Rugby Club.



## HARBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Susan Ostrander (Cllr Harbury Ward)

I hope that when this is published the sails on Chesterton Windmill will be turning and that this beautiful local landmark will be functioning again for all to enjoy. This month sees a very late Easter with hopefully some sunshine over the Bank Holiday weekend. A good time to pause, reflect and appreciate time with others, and perhaps enjoy a little chocolate as well!

And now for something far less popular than holidays and chocolate – taxes!

### Council Tax Level for Stratford District Council:

Stratford-on-Avon remains one of the lowest taxing authorities in the country, ranked 18th out of 164 district councils nationwide for the 2024/25 financial year. At the end of February, Stratford-on-Avon District Councillors met to set the district portion of the Council Tax for the coming year. For a Band D property, the amount residents will be required to pay is £169.12, which represents an increase of £5, or 3.1%. For an average household, this amounts to an additional 42p per month in District Council taxes for the year ahead.

This increase means that, on average, residents in Band D properties will contribute £3.25 per week towards the cost of various services provided by the District Council. These services include recycling and waste collection, planning, street cleaning, housing, housing benefits, leisure facilities, and children’s play areas.

Although Stratford-on-Avon District Council collects the Council Tax, it only keeps 7.1% of the total amount paid by residents. The lion’s share of Council Tax revenue - 76.6% - goes to Warwickshire County Council, while 12.8% is allocated to the Police, and 3.5% is distributed to Towns and Parishes. This means that for every £1 paid in Council Tax, the District Council retains just 7.1p to fund its wide range of essential services. This, I hope you feel, represents good value for money.

For the 2025/26 Council Tax year, the breakdown of the total Band D Council Tax is as follows:

Authority	2024/25 (£)	2025/26 (£)	% Increase / (Decrease)
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	164.12	169.12	3.05%
Warwickshire County Council	1,736.19	1,822.95	5.00%
Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner	289.71	303.71	4.83%
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,190.02</b>	<b>2,295.78</b>	<b>4.83%</b>
Town and Parish Councils (average)	73.83	84.13	13.95%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,263.85</b>	<b>2,379.91</b>	<b>5.13%</b>

### Stratford District Council Recognised for Supporting Ukrainian Medical Charity

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has been honoured with a Certificate of Merit from the Order of St Pantalaimon in Ukraine in recognition of its ongoing support for Ukrainian Medical Charity during the ongoing crisis.

At the Full Council meeting on Monday, 24th February, the certificate was presented to Noel Clements by Tania Hébert, Deputy Chair of the Order of St Pantalaimon in the UK and a local GP originally from Ukraine.



Since September 2022, the District Council offices in Stratford-upon-Avon have served as a collection point for donations to Ukrainian Medical Charity (formerly Medical Aid Ukraine). These donations are carefully sorted and sent to hospitals in Ukraine that are most in need of supplies.

If you would like to contribute, donations can be made at the Council offices on weekdays between 9am and 5pm. Every donation helps provide vital medical aid to those affected by the war.

### **Operation Recall: Protecting Livestock and Wildlife from Loose Dogs**

At this time of year it is good to be reminded of Operation Recall, a national initiative aimed at tackling the serious issue of livestock worrying. It brings together the Police, National Rural Crime Unit, NFU, National Sheep Association, CLA, Nature Watch Foundation, and the RSPCA to raise awareness and prevent harm to animals.

### **What is Livestock Worrying?**

Livestock worrying occurs when a dog is not properly controlled in areas where farm animals are present. This doesn't just mean attacking livestock - chasing, barking, or even running around near them which can cause severe distress, injuries, and even death. Animals may suffer broken limbs, miscarriages, or heart failure due to stress.

In some cases, dogs have been shot by farmers as a last resort to protect their livestock - a heartbreaking outcome that can be avoided with responsible dog ownership.

### **How Can You Help?**

You can play a part in preventing unnecessary suffering by following these simple guidelines:

- ✔ **Keep your dog on a lead** whenever near livestock.
- ✔ **Secure your garden** to ensure your dog cannot escape.
- ✔ **Stick to public footpaths** and follow any signs or local guidance.
- ✔ **Leave gates as you find them** and avoid disturbing animals.
- ✔ Keep vaccinations and worming **up to date** to prevent the spread of disease.
- ✔ **Always bag and bin** your dog's waste—even in fields and parklands.

Sadly, Warwickshire sees several cases of livestock worrying every year, leading to distressing consequences for farmers, animals, and dog owners alike. Each of these could have been prevented if dogs had been kept on a lead or properly secured at home.

By working together, we can protect our local wildlife, farm animals, and pets while enjoying our beautiful countryside responsibly.

If you would like further information or think your local area would benefit from a visit from the District Council's Rural Crime Advisors, Rebecca Jenkins and Alison Packer, or would like 'Operation Recall' leaflets to distribute in your local area please email: [community.safety@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@stratford-dc.gov.uk) or complete the online form [here](#). If you have livestock and would like a 'Dog on Lead' sign, please email: [ruralwatch@warwickshire.police.uk](mailto:ruralwatch@warwickshire.police.uk)

### **Changes Ahead for Local Government**

The Government's English Devolution White Paper outlines plans to restructure local government by replacing existing councils with larger Strategic Authorities led by elected mayors. This means that by April 2028, our current District and County Councils may be replaced by a unitary system.

On 5th February 2025, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and others in Warwickshire were invited to submit proposals for how this new system should look. Two options are being considered:

1. A single unitary council covering the whole of Warwickshire (population 617,000).
2. Two unitary councils, one for North Warwickshire, Nuneaton & Bedworth, and Rugby (323,000 people) and another for Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick (295,000 people).

The Council is working on a proposal, and there will be opportunities for public input before the November 2025 deadline.

## LOCAL ELECTIONS MAY 2025

*We have invited the main political parties to send in a profile for their candidate standing in the local elections on 1st May 2025. Other candidates may well be standing.*



### Conservative - Christopher Kettle

I am standing again in the Election on 1st May, having been your County Councillor for the last four years,

During that time, WCC have finally delivered the much-needed traffic lights on the Harbury Lane / Fosse way junction, paid for by the developers of the Lighthorne Heath site, not Council tax payers. The project took longer than expected, but now completed, the crossroads are much safer. This month we have seen the return of the sails on the Chesterton Windmill. Both of these took up a lot of my time, trying to speed up the delivery of both projects.



Trying to minimise the impact on local residents of the HS2 works has been a continuous challenge, with two constructors, BBV and EKFB, in my division impacting both Harbury and Ladbroke. Some have been successful, but regrettably not all but hopefully now work on the track in this area is well under way, further disruption will be reduced.

Less publicly, but of equal importance, I have been able to support a number of families with their challenges over schooling. It is so important that all our children are given access to the education they need, regardless of the challenges they face.

I have funded from my Highways budget, working with the local WCC surveyor, the clearance of a number of blocked roadside gulleys in the village although there is more to do in Mill Street. From my Councillor grant fund, I have supported work for the Allotments Well-being project and more recently, the Preschool roof repair project.

On top of my Division responsibilities, I chair the WCC Local Government Pension Scheme investment committee ensuring that the scheme delivers the returns necessary to provide the pensions for the 58,000 Warwickshire members of the scheme. I am also the County representative on the regional Local Access Panel.

I look forward, with your support, to another term being able to support Harbury and your Parish Council.



### Labour - Rachel Frenguelli

I am a maths teacher who has worked in state education for over 30 years. During the last 15 years I have watched as funding, resources and morale has dwindled, leading to fewer opportunities for our young people. Staffing has become a huge problem with teachers leaving the profession in droves and new positions often receiving no applicants. I still love my job but see the strain on all staff. Education is just one of many areas where people have been let down by the previous Tory Government and Councils, our towns and villages are struggling with lack of investment in health, businesses, transport, police... the list is endless. As your Labour councillor, I will fight to ensure vital services are supported and speak up for residents of Feldon. I have been a Labour Party supporter for 14 years and recognise their commitment to change. Vote Labour on 1st May for a fairer local council.



### Liberal Democrat - Louis Adam

I am delighted to stand as the Liberal Democrat candidate for Feldon Division in the Warwickshire County Council Elections 2025. As a resident of Long Itchington and a dedicated District Councillor since 2019, I have worked hard to represent our communities, listening to local concerns and fighting for real improvements.



Professionally, I am a structural engineer, bringing problem-solving skills and a practical, results-driven approach to everything I do. I believe local government should be about delivering solutions that make a genuine difference to people's lives - whether that's ensuring better transport links, supporting our schools, protecting our environment, or maintaining essential public services.

Over the past five years, I have seen first-hand the challenges our villages and rural areas face. From tackling road safety issues to ensuring new developments are sustainable and well-planned, I have worked closely with residents to achieve positive change. I am passionate about making South Warwickshire a greener, fairer, and more prosperous place to live.

As your County Councillor, I will continue to be a strong, proactive voice for Feldon, ensuring our communities get the support and investment they deserve. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the coming months—listening to your concerns and working together for a brighter future.

If you share my vision for a more responsive and effective County Council, I would be honoured to have your support.



### LITTER PICK IN HARBURY

Ian Reynolds

Join us this month for the litter pick on Saturday 5th April and next month on Saturday 3rd May. Meet at the Village Hall car park, 10.00 - 11.00am, litter pickers, hoops and bags provided.



## THE RETURN OF THE GREAT WESTERN AT DEPPERS BRIDGE —

*Yvonne Lanchester*

As a lot of you will know the Great Western Pub in Deppers Bridge closed in 2016 and has been subjected to vandals, thieves and weather. A group of us set about to try and save it.



There was an incident in September which attracted the attention of a local business man. At the beginning of the year, he contacted us and we have had a couple of meetings with him. Having listened to his proposals, he is as passionate as we are and had the same ideas to benefit the community, so it was agreed to back him.

If you would like to know what the future holds for the Great Western, or are interested in the renovation please join us at **Ladbroke Village Hall on Tuesday 8th April**. There will be a **presentation at 6pm, repeated at 7pm** and plenty of time to discuss the plans and opportunities and to ask any questions you have.



## CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP @CONNECTIONS —

*Janice Montague*

After our successful session last month, we are looking forward to our next meeting of the Carers' Support Group on **Wednesday 16th April at 2pm in the Tom Hauley Room**. We welcome all carers, with or without their cared for companion, to a session of support and companionship, while volunteers are available to entertain the other guests with activities and refreshments. We aim to provide a dementia friendly environment, but are not only for those with such a diagnosis. Please do join us: if you need further information please contact one of us below.

Jill Baker - 07747 430470

Janice Montague - 07956 195405

Judy Timson - 07835 506008





## HARBURY LOCAL MARKET

---

*Steve Ekins*

The Harbury Local Market this Month is Saturday 26th April 10.00am to 12.30pm in Harbury Village Hall.

There you will find local traders selling: art, crafts and food.

The Community Group we will be supporting this month is GASS.

Come join us for tea or coffee and a bacon roll.

Harbury Parish Councillor's will be there 10.00 – 11.00 with Councillor's Corner to answer any questions you may have.

If you would like to contact us, you can email us [harburylocalmarket@gmail.com](mailto:harburylocalmarket@gmail.com) and also on Facebook @Harbury Local Market, please join our group for regular updates.

Our Sponsors



## HARBURY SENIOR CITIZENS

---

*Julie Clarke*

### Join Our Team

Volunteer Committee Members Wanted!

Harbury Senior Citizens is looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our committee. This is a voluntary organisation. We meet around six times a year to organise two main events, The Summer Day Trip and The Christmas Party.

If you feel this is something you would like to get involved in or would like to discuss more, please call Julie Clarke 07799 375264 or Mike McBride 07919 815267.



## THE COLLECTIVE

---

*Rev. Andy Batchelor*

We are sorry to say that meetings of the Collective which have taken place in the Shakespeare pub for the past 18 months have been suspended for the time being. As an alternative, the parish are joining in a Deanery wide Alpha course beginning after Easter which we would encourage all those who came to the Collective to try out - details of venue and dates to follow.

The course will provide an opportunity for everyone to explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus, as well as offer a refresher on the basics of the faith for those who are already churchgoers. We would welcome anyone who wishes to join us. Once the Alpha course has ended, we will be reconsidering the future of the Collective and will keep everyone informed.

In the meantime we would like to thank Helen, Alice and staff at the Shakespeare for making us welcome and thanks to all those who have come along to the Collective evenings - we hope to see you at Alpha.



## WEDNESDAY WALKERS

---

*Gillian Hare*

Last month saw a few adjustments to the advertised programme, resulting in another month of great walks and some real Spring weather. The cafe at Hatton Locks as ever proved to be a welcoming coffee stop. Our only cancellation so far this year led to a quick walk to Biblios in the rain; quite enough, thank you. On 9th April there will be a chance of a pub meal at Norton Lindsay - always popular especially with our growing number of male walkers - welcome to you all. And another at Bubbenhall on 7th May. If you think this might be for you, just turn up in the car park behind the village hall by 9.40am or ring Gillian on 614809.



## BUMPS & BUNDLES

---

*Carol Jackson and the Bumps Team*

Bumps and Bundles meet every Tuesday morning (term time only) in the Tom Hauley Room. We welcome any parents, child minders, grandparents with a child up to three years old.

It is a lovely opportunity for the adults to chat to each other whilst their little ones play with the toys and the helpers make a cup of tea/coffee and offer biscuits. New Mums often pick up lots of tips from others!

Last month we welcomed Alison from Sparklemuffins to show us her soft play equipment which is available to hire.

By the time you read this we will have celebrated Mothering Sunday with the children giving their parents a bunch of daffodils.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday mornings. There is no need to book, even if you haven't been before just turn up about 10.30am at the Tom Hauley Room - just follow the path round the church.

Please look at our Facebook page for more information.



## BLUE PLAQUES

---

*Sharon Hancock*

On 8th May, the nation will mark the 80th Anniversary of VE day so it is appropriate that thanks to the efforts of Heritage Centre volunteers and the support of the Parish Council there will soon be a Second World War Memorial trail around the village. This will honour the ten men from the village who were killed. In addition, it has now become possible to have plaques honouring four more men killed in the First World War.

There will be an inaugural event on Sunday 11th May and we would like to invite relatives of the men. We have been able to identify some relatives but would particularly like to hear from family members of Corporal Arnold Andrew from World War I and Marine Dennis Dale and Driver Ernest Field from World War II. Please contact me at 32 Mill St or email [sharonhancock28@gmail.com](mailto:sharonhancock28@gmail.com)



## HARBURY SWIFT VILLAGE - UPDATE

---

*Amanda Randall*

**Contact Harbury Swifts:** [swifts.harbury@gmail.com](mailto:swifts.harbury@gmail.com)

There is only a month to go before we see the first Swifts returning to Harbury. They have spent the last seven months in Africa, flying and feeding, without ever touching down. Swifts start to arrive in the UK at the beginning of May, and depart around the end of July. They arrive in the UK in two waves. The first group are the breeding birds. Swifts mate for life and once they have found a suitable nest site they will continue to use it for the rest of their lives. Unless their old site has been destroyed they will not be looking for a new place to nest.

The juvenile birds return to UK a couple of weeks later. These are our target! They are the ones on the look out for a nest site, and the older the bird, the more seriously it takes on the quest. By their third or fourth year they should have found their nesting site, along with a mate. The following year they will be back with the intent to breed. Therefore in late May and into June we should be most watchful of the Swift nest boxes. I will write more about surveying Harbury's Swifts next month.

Swifts prefer to nest close to one another in the safety of a colony. Some Swift colonies are very old and have been used by successive swift generations for tens if not, hundreds of years.

Setting up a Swift call box can be a rewarding way to attract Swifts to your nest boxes. As I wrote in my previous piece, some generous donations to the Harbury Swift Project has enabled the purchase of five Swift call boxes and five timer switches. These sound systems will be installed during April, in appropriate places adjacent to some of the nest boxes. A sound system will increase the chances of birds 'discovering' and nesting in the boxes. The volume can be set quite low so it is clear to birds but not so loud as to annoy the human ear. The calls only need to be played for a few hours each day, in the early morning and late evening when swifts are most active.

Swift Awareness Week 2025 will take place from 28th June to 6th July, which coincides with the Harbury Garden Walkabout on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th June. We are planning on having a small display with some beautifully illustrated leaflets about Swifts to take away and I will be happy to try and answer any Swift-related questions you may have.



**Warwickshire East**  
Primary Care Network

**FREE NHS HEALTH COACHING SERVICES** —

*Ludmila Enticott*

**Pain, tiredness and low mood – scattered symptoms or a logic sequence?**

**Are there links amongst these common symptoms?**

### **The logic of the body**

People who suffer with chronic pain normally tend to suffer with chronic fatigue as well. In fact, a lot of those go on to develop depressed mood disorders and changes in behaviour. Could there be a link to tie these symptoms together?

The fact is there is always a link that ties everything together in the human body whether we understand it or not. Our bodies are highly dynamic and sophisticated systems that interconnect and self-adjust with a precision we are yet to appreciate. The trouble is however human physiology is full of 'black boxes' which have not been 'opened' yet and sometimes not even discovered. Science is constantly trying to catch up with nature and it is humbling to observe the innate wisdom behind our survival needs.

There is a logic for everything that happens in the body but also with our behaviours and emotions. If we take the time and interest to reflect upon the network that interlinks organs, systems, and behaviours we might find out what hides in the 'blind spots'. The old separation between mind and body is finally on its way out; but somehow the ins and outs of how different symptoms interconnect with the whole are still elusive.

### **Warning lights**

In any case, if we consider the knowledge we have to date, in light of the more recent advances that have brought about the notion of every part belonging to the whole, we can look at symptoms with different eyes. Symptoms should really be taken as signs rather than nuisance. Warning lights that come up in the control panel of a car are taken seriously and no one who intends to keep the machine in good working order would just remove the bulbs behind the signs as solution to the problem.

It is time we learn to treat our bodies and our 'warning light signals' (i.e. symptoms, pain, fatigue) with similar curiosity, giving some thought to the way we run the system day-to-day.

### **Putting the puzzle together**

So how can we look at the common cluster of symptoms that group together pain, tiredness and low mood when considering the whole picture, or in this case, the whole person? First and foremost, we need to back away from the 'keyhole' approach that focuses on symptoms in isolation. It is important to think in terms of connections and what is now known as 'systems biology'. What goes on with a particular part of the body cannot be the exclusive object of our attention if we take a holistic approach.

We need to engage with curiosity and consider the context, circumstances and social aspects. Neuroscience shows us that pain conditions are no exception. Persistent pain that continues after 12 weeks demands more than just painkillers. We are learning about pain neurocircuits that can persist even after healing or removal of a limb. How to approach such complexity? It can be a hard puzzle to put together but the more pieces you can work with, the better the picture you will have.

Consider exploring wider aspects of health with the support of NHS Health and Wellbeing Coaching sessions for a new perspective and ideas on making progress. Where to start? Come 'Chat with the Coach' at Harbury Library every first Thursday of the month (term time only) between 12.30 and 2.00pm.

Alternatively, you can ask your GP or a member of staff at your local surgery for a referral to the Health & Wellbeing Coach. EAST Primary Care Network – Harbury, Southam, St Wulfstan, Kington and Fenny Compton Surgeries.

We look forward to being of help.

EAST PCN – [www.wepcn.co.uk](http://www.wepcn.co.uk) Email contact for self-referral: [cwicb.we.connect@nhs.net](mailto:cwicb.we.connect@nhs.net)



# Harbury & Ladbroke News

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2025/26

The Annual Subscription is due this month, the cost of this will be £10.00 covering the year up to March 2026.

If you would like to continue having the magazine delivered and you have not already paid your subscription. You can still pay in one of three ways.

- Payment by BACS. Visit [www.hlnews.co.uk](http://www.hlnews.co.uk) and select the 'Subscription and BACS payments' Tab. Complete the online form and **then make the £10 payment from your bank account**. It is vital that you give us the first line of your address (number/name/road) as the reference when making the online payment.
- You can put the £10 subscription in an envelope marked with your address and deliver to your distributor. If you are unsure who your distributor is please email [distribution@hlnews.co.uk](mailto:distribution@hlnews.co.uk) or call 07900 852236.
- Alternatively, if neither of the above is an option for you, your distributor will call for the money when delivering a future edition of the magazine.

**Many thanks and we look forward to your continued support.**

## Function Rooms and Premises **AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

<b>HARBURY RUGBY CLUB</b>	<b>HARBURY SCOUT HUT</b>	<b>HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB</b>
Leah Wallington Tel: 07736 804904 <a href="mailto:hfc.roomhire@gmail.com">hfc.roomhire@gmail.com</a>	Naomi Moir Tel: 611966 <a href="mailto:nandpmoir@googlemail.com">nandpmoir@googlemail.com</a>	Tel: 241566 - evenings <a href="mailto:harburyvillageclub23@gmail.com">harburyvillageclub23@gmail.com</a>
<b>HARBURY VILLAGE HALL</b>	<b>HARBURY VILLAGE LIBRARY</b>	<b>TOM HAULEY ROOM</b>
Claire McGurk Tel: 07963 110522 <a href="mailto:harburyvillagehall@googlemail.com">harburyvillagehall@googlemail.com</a>	Michael Luntley <a href="mailto:communityhub@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk">communityhub@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk</a>	Moir <a href="mailto:thr@allsaintsharbury.org">thr@allsaintsharbury.org</a>



**LOCAL FOODBANK donations of non-perishable items as listed below which supplies the surrounding area, including Harbury, can be left at:**

**Harbury Village Library Foyer**  
(Wight School when open)

**e-Wheels driver**  
Wight School car-park on Mondays  
between 11.30am - 12.30pm

**Harbury Co-op**  
Tall basket by door

- Potatoes - tins and packets of instant mash
- Tins of meat
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Tins of spaghetti in sauce
- Tins of fruit
- Sponge puddings
- Custard
- Small bags of sugar
- UHT milk
- Toiletries such as: shampoo, shower gel, soap, toilet rolls and cleaning products.

# Nifty Needle

## Curtains and Soft Furnishing

Nifty Needle specialise in creating stylish custom curtains, blinds and soft furnishings, individually designed to create beautiful solutions.

Free measuring service.

At our shop in Kineton we now stock a range of home wares, including lamps, cushions, footstools and other items to accessorise your home.

We're open Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm  
and Saturday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Nifty Needle Curtain Workroom, 1 Banbury Street, Kineton, Warwickshire, CV35 0JS  
Tel: 01926 641741 E-mail: [info@niftyneedle.co.uk](mailto:info@niftyneedle.co.uk) Website: [www.niftyneedle.co.uk](http://www.niftyneedle.co.uk)



## Are you worried about spiralling moving costs?

With Alsters Kelley fixed rate conveyancing, there are no unexpected costs. Plus there is an experienced team to guide you through the stages of your move!

- Instant no obligation quote via our website
- No additional administration charges
- Personal service with allocated contacts

kind. helpful. excellent

Terena Barnacle, Associate, Chartered Legal Executive, Residential Property

**01926 359357** or email [terena.barnacle@alsterskelley.com](mailto:terena.barnacle@alsterskelley.com)

4 High Street, Southam, CV47 0HA

[www.alsterskelley.com](http://www.alsterskelley.com)



  
**LOVE TO DANCE?**  
 SOUTHAM CLASSES

**FREE TRIAL CLASS**

<p><b>Ballet</b></p> <p><b>Tap</b></p> <p><b>Modern</b></p> <p><b>Gymnastics</b></p> <p><b>Musical Theatre</b></p> <p><b>Street Dance</b></p>	<p><b>Commercial</b></p> <p><b>Contemporary</b></p> <p><b>Mini Movers</b></p> <p><b>Funky Dance</b></p> <p><b>Cheerleading</b></p> <p><b>Adult Classes</b></p>
---	--

★ confidence   ★ fun   ★ friendships

Professional Purpose Built Dance Studios in  
**Southam**  
[www.loveballet.co.uk](http://www.loveballet.co.uk)    07921 853773



SMALL GARDEN MACHINERY


Service & Repairs

For service and repairs to your  
 push mowers, strimmers, hedge  
 cutters and many more small  
 garden machinery items  
 please call Aid on  
07447 967861

CHRIS HILL M.C.I.A.T

LOCAL DESIGN PRACTICE TO PREPARE  
PLANS FOR YOUR IDEAL HOME

**EVER THOUGHT OF EXTENDING YOUR HOME?**  
**DOES IT HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CHANGE?**  
**DO YOU NEED MORE SPACE?**




**CONTACT**  
 CALL: 01926 613780 (EVENINGS)  
 07772189266 (MOBILE)  
 EMAIL: CHRISHILL100@BTINTERNET.COM

A Member of the Alliance of Private Sector Practitioners

Jackie Biddle

Healthy Feet are Happy Feet

Foot Health Practitioner



Dip CRIP MPS Pract  
 CRB Checked

- Nail Trimming
- Corn Removal
- Verruca Treatment
- Ingrown Toenails
- Calluses Reduced
- Footcare for Diabetes

Home Visits Telephone

T: 01926 612503  
 M: 07872 907429

## **WIPE-OUT WASPS**

Family-run business since 2005

Fast response  
Competitive rates  
Full pest control service

For a local friendly service call

Alan or Dawn Whyte

**07867 768533**

**01926 889711**

enquire@wipeoutpestcontrol.co.uk  
www.wipeoutpestcontrol.co.uk



### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Enjoy hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, salads, and cakes from our converted shipping container at Squab Hall Farm.

Relax in our outdoor seating area surrounded by plants from the original farmhouse garden.

Local produce and crafts available for purchase.

**Opening Times**  
**Monday to Friday**  
**9 am to 4 pm**

# **fitrite**

wardrobes of leamington spa  
**01926 312654**

## **Bespoke fitted bedroom and home office furniture since 1983**

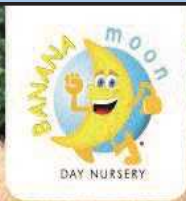


**Call 01926 312654 for your free  
design visit.**



# Childcare from 3 months to 5 years of age

at Banana Moon Day Nursery Harbury



Providing a safe, caring environment for children from 3 months to 5 years of age.

- Open 7.30am – 6.30pm
- All major childcare vouchers accepted
- Full-day and half-day sessions available
- Highly experienced, friendly staff
- Sibling discount
- Outdoor learning environment.



Outdoor learning environment



Home-cooked food

To find out more or to book a visit, call **01926 612374** or email [info@bananamoon-harbury.co.uk](mailto:info@bananamoon-harbury.co.uk)



Banana Moon Day Nursery Harbury  
Ivy Lane, Harbury, Warwickshire CV33 9HN  
Call us on 01926 612374  
or visit [bananamoon-harbury.co.uk](http://bananamoon-harbury.co.uk)

\*Subject to terms and conditions. \*\*Government funding available.

## TONY'S ROOFING

Roof repairs - Tiles/Slates,  
Re-pointing, Ridges,  
Leadwork, Chimney repairs,  
Flat roofs (torch on felt),  
Velux windows fitted,  
UPVC Soffits, Fascias & Guttering,  
Gutters cleaned

**We won't be beaten on price.**

**All work guaranteed**

**Tel: 07881 411265**



## HOUSE PARTY FLOWERS

FLOWERS FOR ALL EVENTS

Weddings, Parties, Special Events,  
Bespoke Workshops & Funerals

Studio located in Harbury

Contact: Katy 07470 180 220

[www.housepartyflowers.co.uk](http://www.housepartyflowers.co.uk)

email: [info@housepartyflowers.co.uk](mailto:info@housepartyflowers.co.uk)

FRIENDLY · RELIABLE · PROFESSIONAL

# LOCAL ELECTRICIAN



### Fully Insured Free Estimates

- Fault finding
- Outdoor lights & sockets
- Fuse board replacements
- Power to outbuildings: sheds, workshops & home offices
- Extra sockets & switches

“ Steve’s work is excellent. I would definitely recommend him to anyone. ”

“ Very polite & efficient. The job was done on time and to a high standard. ”



## ROOLIVE

Call Steve on: 07792 971018

Email: [steve@roolive.co.uk](mailto:steve@roolive.co.uk)

[www.roolive.co.uk](http://www.roolive.co.uk)

## Ed’s Music Tuition

- Do you want to learn keyboards, guitar or ukulele with a qualified teacher with a passion for music?
- Lessons available for all ages.
- Learning an instrument is rewarding and great fun, and I can help you on your way.
- Fully DBS checked.
- Competitive rates and flexible timetable with lessons tailored to your own individual learning style and needs.
- Tuition in playing, reading music, performance and theory.
- Give me a call to discuss your musical future!



Ed Hudson, Harbury.

Mob: 07801 430029

email: [eddhudson@me.com](mailto:eddhudson@me.com)



## Inside Homes

*your small and mighty agent*



# X

## Inside Interiors

*we dont just sell homes, we make them*



### Inside Homes

At Inside Homes, we deliver our comprehensive property sales and marketing services with total professionalism and integrity - because we know just what it's like to walk in your shoes.



[www.insidehomeslimited.co.uk](http://www.insidehomeslimited.co.uk)

Discover your dream home  
76 Coventry Street, Southam, CV47 0EA

### Inside Interiors

At Inside Interiors, we offer a range of furnishings for your home, catering to all your styling needs, whether you're moving, revamping or searching for the perfect gift.



[www.insideinteriors.co.uk](http://www.insideinteriors.co.uk)

In store and Online shopping available  
76 Coventry Street, Southam, CV47 0EA

*you have to be seen to be sold*



[www.stratfordlandscapes.com](http://www.stratfordlandscapes.com)

*(We live in Harbury)*

Small garden experts | Garden Design | Porcelain & other types of Paving  
 Real & artificial lawns | Stunning plant collections | Decorative Pergolas & Fences  
 Privacy Solutions | Low Maintenance Gardens

*"Let Dave & the boys work their magic & you won't be disappointed"*

**Contact David Lewis on 07990975158 or visit our website**



*Emily Jayne's*  
*Hair & Beauty Unisex Salon*

All types of Hairdressing Services

Brazilian blow dry,

Luxury facials & pedicures

Hot stone massages

All types of waxing

Individual lash extensions

Acrylic nail extensions

Sunbed



*Bella U Aesthetics are  
 holding clinics in the salon  
 every Wednesday evening*

Opening hours:

Tuesday - Thursday 9am til 7pm

Friday 9 am til 6 pm

Saturday 8.30 am til 3 pm

Poplar Road, Bishops Itchington CV47 2RQ - Tel: 01926 611944





# SUNILMEHRA

PAINTING & DECORATING

PAINTING IS AN ART. YOUR SPACE IS OUR CANVAS.

T: 01926 613158 M: 07976 241949 E: s.mehra@btinternet.com



## Your Local Professional Chimney Sweeping Service

Full Range of Chimney Sweeping Services  
Open Fires, Stoves, Rayburn and Aga's Cowsls  
& Bird Guards Fitted. Bird Nest Removal

Please contact Martin Jakeman  
07816 337962

Email: [theshiresweep@gmail.com](mailto:theshiresweep@gmail.com)  
[www.theshiresweep.co.uk](http://www.theshiresweep.co.uk)



# Domestic Gas Services

## MARTIN EVANS – 07980 740720

[admin@domesticgasservices.co.uk](mailto:admin@domesticgasservices.co.uk)

40+ years experience, British Gas trained

**CENTRAL HEATING - SERVICE AND REPAIR**  
**LANDLORD CERTIFICATES - POWERFLUSHING**

*Powerflushing* – removes sludge build up which is preventing your radiators getting hot and working efficiently.

**THE NEXT BEST THING TO A NEW HEATING SYSTEM!!**



**A LOCAL RELIABLE  
LEAMINGTON COMPANY**



# DOOR & KITCHEN STORE

Making your space a better place

Quality Fitted Kitchens – Internal & External Doors - Supply & Fit.

T. 01926 888806 or E. doorandkitchenstore@gmail.com

Alveston Place Oxford Street Leamington Spa CV32 4SN

More! Service - Expertise - Quality - Range - Value

## Southam Carpets

Carpets, Vinyl flooring, Karndean, Blinds  
and Curtains. Free quotes and advice.  
Professional installation.



01926 814944

www.southamcarpets.co.uk  
39 Coventry St. SOUTHAM

*Quality, Value & Service since 1979.*

# THE SALON

LADIES & GENTS HAIRDRESSERS

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT CALL 612400 & 07778 454528

CHAPEL STREET HARBURY



**Which?**  
Trusted trader

10% DISCOUNT  
WITH THIS ADVERT

DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL HIGH QUALITY  
CLEANING FOR CLIENTS WHO DEMAND THE BEST

BEFORE

AFTER



Tel: 01926 889 691

Email [info@steamingsam.co.uk](mailto:info@steamingsam.co.uk)

[www.steamingsam.co.uk](http://www.steamingsam.co.uk)

STEAMING SAM specialise in **professional** cleaning, work is carried out by **fully trained, trustworthy** technicians and we are insured for your peace of mind.

Call us or check out our website for further information

### WHAT WE DO:

- deep 'van mounted' carpet cleaning
- stain removal
- fabric protection
- specialist oriental rug cleaning
- hard floor, tile and grout cleaning
- upholstery cleaning
- leather restoration
- end of tenancy cleaning

...AND MORE!