

Harbury & Ladbroke News



MARCH 2025



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Week Commencing Monday	Thursday Collection - Harbury Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge	Wednesday & Friday Collections - Ladbroke
3 March	F - R - G	F
10 March	F	F - R - G
17 March	F - R - W - G	F - W
24 March	F	F - R - G
31 March	F - R - G	F
7 April	F - W	F - R - W - G

F = Food caddy - R = Recycling (blue bin) W = Waste (black bin) G = Garden (green bin)

Wednesday Collection - Parts of Ladbroke - Thursday Collection - Harbury

Friday Collection - Deppers Bridge and Parts of Ladbroke

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

MARCH 2025

No. 612

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

April Edition Deadlines

Adverts to: 36 Manor Orchard, Harbury or e-mail to
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Articles to: Harbury Pharmacy, High Street or e-mail to
articles@hlnews.co.uk by 5.30pm, Monday 24th March



Cover photo: Spring Lamb taken by Jackie West



EDITORIAL

A round up of local news

The magazine's annual subscription is due next month. Unfortunately, due to increased production costs, we will need to raise the subscription and advertising rates for 2025/26. The magazine has been heavily subsidised for a number of years by our advertising income, with subscriptions covering only two thirds of total revenue. 2024 saw us for the first time having to dip into our reserve account. We do hope that you will understand that this is necessary to be able to keep our lovely magazine in print. The subscription will increase to £10 for the year. Even with this increase it still means your full colour magazine costs under £1 per month when taking out a subscription!

With this edition you should find an insert detailing the three ways of how you can make your payment. To pay by electronic transfer please visit our website hnews.co.uk and click on the 'Subscriptions and BACS Payments' tab. Complete the Google form and then make payment from your bank account. Alternatively, you can deliver the money yourself to your distributor or wait for your distributor to call. Thank you!

With spring fast approaching, green-fingered residents are reminded that by 1st April they will need to renew their subscription to the garden waste collection service run by Stratford District Council. The annual charge for this year is £48 for each green bin.

Are you a carer for a loved one or know someone that is? Then spread the word that there is a lovely group which you can come along to which helps and supports carers in our community. The group is to support those who care for people with any conditions as well as those with dementia. The next meeting is on Wednesday 19th March where you can be assured of a warm welcome. See page 50 for more details.

Ladbroke Church is in the process of planning their Easter trail, if you and your family fancy getting involved then please contact the organisers. Tours and More at the Church on Sunday 16th March coincides with the start of National Lottery Week, a Lottery grant enabled much work to be done to the church building recently.

Finally we extend our sympathy to the family of Ian Credland.



HARBURY DIARY

For local events

MARCH 2025

Sat 1 Litter Pick, 10.00 - 11.00am, meet Village Hall
Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury WI

Sun 2 SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Said Holy Communion, 9.00am, Church
Little Saints, 10.30am, Church
First Sunday Youth, 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
New evening worship service, 7.00pm, Church
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall

- Mon 3 Harbury Toddler Group, 10.00 - 11.30am, Scout Hut
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 4 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)
- Wed 5 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall - Lapworth (3 miles, flat)
Mothers' Union, service 2.00pm, meeting starts 2.30pm, Speaker - Jo-Anne Wilson
from Galanos House, Tom Hauley Room
Last day for purchasing Village Cinema Tickets from Library (film Sat 8th)
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thu 6 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
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 7 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn
- Sat 8 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Harbury Society
Repair Café, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Village Library
Village Cinema presents 'The Trouble with Jessica,' doors open 6.15, film begins
7.00pm, Village Hall (Tickets in advance only from Harbury Library)

Sun 9 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Sung Holy Communion with Children's Church, 10.30am, Church
Messy Church, 3.00 - 5.00pm, starts in Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall

- Mon 10 Harbury Toddler Group, 10.00 - 11.30am, Scout Hut
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 11 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 12 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall - Charlecote - Wellesbourne
(5.5 miles flat)
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 13 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury WI, Sally Ratcliffe - clothing through the ages, 7.30 for 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 15 Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Agnes Court,
Leonard Cheshire Care Home

Sun 16 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Said Holy Communion, 8.00am, Church
All Age Service, 10.30am, Church
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall
Harbury Heritage Centre open - 2.00 - 4.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)

- Mon 17 Harbury Toddler Group, 10.00 - 11.30am, Scout Hut
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall
- Tue 18 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Theatre Group, 7.00 for 7.30pm, Village Club
Harbury Society talk, 'Cicely Lucas' presentation by Christine Cluley, doors open 7.30 presentation starting 7.45pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Wed 19 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall - Wroxton (4 miles hilly)
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
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall
- Thu 20 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Classic Book Group, 7.30pm, Village Library
- Sat 22 TRIX TWIN Railways Exhibition, 9.30 - 2.00pm, Village Hall
Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of RNLI Leamington Spa
- Sun 23 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
Sung Holy Communion, 10.30am, Church
Muddy Church, 10.30am, starts in Tom Hauley Room
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall
- Mon 24 Toddler Group, 10.00 - 11.30am, Scout Hut
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall

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
- Tue 25 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
The Collective - 'Science and Spirituality: Do I have to choose?' 7.30pm, Shakespeare Inn
- Wed 26 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall – Newbold Common (4 miles flat)
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 27 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury WI Jigsaw Challenge, 2.00 - 4.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Parish Council, 7.30pm, Village Hall
- Fri 28 Sparkling Wine Tasting Evening (in aid of Pre-school), 8.00pm, Tom Hauley Room
- Sat 29 Councillors' Corner, 10.00am - 11.00am, Village Hall
Coffee Morning, 10.00am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room in aid of Galanos House
British Legion
Harbury Local Market, 10.00am - 12.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 30 MOTHERING SUNDAY

Sung Holy Communion with Children's Church, 10.30am, Church
Zumba, 9.00 - 10.00am, Village Hall

Mon 31 Toddler Group, 10.00 - 11.30am, Scout Hut
Badminton, 10.00am - 12 noon, Village Hall
Martial Arts, Juniors 5.45pm, Seniors 6.45pm, Village Hall

APRIL

Tue 1 Bumps & Bundles, 10.30am - 12 noon, Tom Hauley Room
Harbury Heritage Centre open, 7.00 - 9.00pm, Harbury School (Park Lane entrance)

Wed 2 Wednesday Walk, meet 9.35am, behind Village Hall - Hampton on the Hill
with coffee stop at canal lock café (4 miles)
Mothers' Union, service 2.00pm, meeting starts 2.30pm, Speaker - Rev. Mary
Cramer from Shotton on Holy Week, Tom Hauley Room
Spellbound Dance Classes, 5.00 - 5.30 & 5.30 - 6.15pm, Village Hall
Hereburgh Morris Practice session, 8.00 - 10.00pm, School Hall

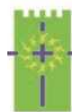
Thu 3 Table Tennis, 9.30 - 10.30am, Village Hall, Tel: 01926 612951
Holy Communion, 10.00am, Tom Hauley Room
Folk Club, 8.00pm, Village Club

Fri 4 Meeting Point, 12.30pm, The Crown Inn

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

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@hnews.co.uk



**All Saints
HARBURY**

FROM THE RECTOR

Rev. Andy Batchelor

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

As I write my reflection for this month, General Synod, the main governing body for the Church of England, is meeting, and one of the principal emphases of this meeting is safeguarding. No-one can be unaware of the tragic history of abuse, often perpetrated by those in positions of power, and held in high regard, which has damaged many victims lives and highlighted the organisational deficiencies which allowed such abuse to take place. There is still much work to be done to ensure our current processes are fit for purpose, but there is a real determination to make sure this happens.

However I recognise that many of us, both clergy and lay, feel that our Bishops have failed us, particularly in regard to this issue, which led to the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, but also in the chaotic mess that the debates on same-sex relationships have become, raising the prospect of a real split in the worldwide Anglican church. As a simple parish priest I have had to deal with a number of safeguarding issues, some very serious and dating back many years, so I am well aware of the lasting harm that clerical abuse can cause, and I am ashamed

that those who share my calling could have acted in this way. Sadly it seems that some of our senior leaders have failed in their responsibility to protect victims, and have been acting more to guard their friends and reputation than being driven by simple compassion. We are about to welcome our new Bishop Sophie to our diocese, and she will need our prayers as she takes on this new responsibility in such a dark time for our church. Our Diocese is looking forward to this new chapter in our life together and let us all ask God to bless her and all of us as we join together, both in repentance for the failures of the past, but also in hope for what God has in store for the future.



FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Andy & Liz

March sees us entering the period of Lent where Christians prepare for Easter. There will be a service on Ash Wednesday (5th March) at 7.30pm at Ladbroke.

Things remain busy in the church. We continue to fund raise for urgent repair work to the exterior of the church and a new Audio Visual system.

On 2nd February we started our new series of evening services in the Tom Hauley Room. It was in a cafe church style, whereby we sat around tables in small groups with coffee and cakes and had a time for chat before our service began. The music was more contemporary than our usual Sunday morning services and Rev Andy preached on new beginnings. The evening services are going to continue at 7.00pm on the first Sundays of the month and you would be very welcome to join us. The next ones will be on 2nd March and 6th April.

Looking forwards, our Annual Parish Meeting of the church will be on Sunday 18th May after the 10.30 service in the Tom Hauley Room. This year is one where we have to renew the electoral roll of the church (the list of people that are able to vote at the Parish Meeting). We're very grateful to Liz for adding to her responsibilities by taking on the organisation of this, and she will no doubt be giving forms to fill in to all those that are currently on the roll.

If you have any questions, we can be emailed on warden@harburychurch.org or phone us - Liz McBride 01926 612421 or Andy Dean 07753 497967.

From the Registers

Funeral

Thursday 6th February

Kenneth Stephenson (79 years)



WHAT'S ON FOR CHILDREN AT HARBURY CHURCH?

Julie Batchelor

First Sunday - Little Saints 10.30am. Story and Bacon Rolls. First Sunday Youth 4pm in the Tom Hauley Room.

Second Sunday - Children's Church 10.30am and Messy Church 3 - 5pm.

Third Sunday - All Age Service 10.30am. For all ages and stages, family friendly informal service.



Fourth Sunday - Muddy Church 10.30am. Outside activities, hot chocolate and a firepit. Dress appropriately for the weather.

Fifth Sunday - 10.30am Children's Church.

Bumps & Bundles for expectant mums and children up to two years old meets every Tuesday 10.30 - 12.00 in the Tom Hauley Room.



MOTHERS' UNION

Gillian Hare

In February, we cheered up a dreary afternoon with a belated party. The traditional Pass the Parcel had us groaning over the jokes whilst pleased and surprised by the gifts therein. Thank you Marion. And we smiled at Pam Ayres poems about Portaloos and telephone answering services.

On 5th March we have Jo-Anne Wilson to tell us about Galanos House - the much appreciated British Legion care home in Southam. I am sure we will be surprised and impressed by the range of services they offer and we do warmly invite anyone interested to come as a visitor that afternoon. We meet in the Tom Hauley Room at 2pm, with a short service before the speaker.

And on 2nd April we will welcome Rev Mary Crameri from Shottery. Appropriately, at the midpoint of Lent, she will be musing on the women of Holy Week.



LADBROKE NEWS & DIARY

MARCH

Sun 2 SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Family Service, 10.30am followed by refreshments

Tue 4 Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 5 Heritage & Friendship Group, 10.30am - noon, The Old School
Ash Wednesday Service, 7.30pm

Thu 6 WI, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 9 LENT 1

Holy Communion, 9.00am

Tue 11 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 12 Parish Council, 7.45pm, Village Hall

Sun 16 LENT 2

Holy Communion (BCP), 9.00am

Tue 18 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 23 LENT 3

Holy Communion, 9.00am, followed by Annual Meetings

Mon 24 ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE TO: HARBURY PHARMACY, HIGH ST OR EMAIL TO
ARTICLES@HLNEWS.CO.UK BY 5.30PM

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

Tue 25 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 30 MOTHERING SUNDAY

Family Communion, 10.30 am

APRIL

Tue 1 Photography Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Wed 2 Heritage & Friendship Group, 10.30am - noon, The Old School

Thu 3 WI, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Sun 6 LENT 5

Family Service, 10.30am followed by refreshments

Tue 8 Table Tennis, 7.30pm, Village Hall



LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

Peter Rigby

www.ladbrokechurch.org.uk

The Christian period known as Lent, which marks the run up to Easter, always at least partly takes place in March and this year it begins on 5th March (Ash Wednesday). There will be a special service in church, beginning at 7.30pm. We will also be holding some Lent Lunches, when we meet in people's homes for home-made soup, bread and cheese and good company. Details of these are still to be finalised but will be circulated via Ladbroke e-news.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally Mothering Sunday. This year this falls on 30th March, so instead of our normal 5th Sunday said service we shall be having a special Family Service at 10.30am, so time to enjoy that cup of tea in bed before coming along 😊

On the previous Sunday (23rd March) we shall be holding our Annual Church Meeting after the morning service. This is when we receive reports of all the church's activities and vote in our PCC for the coming year. All are welcome.

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In order to vote at the meeting you will need to sign up to the Electoral Roll. Please note that this year, everybody needs to sign up for the Electoral Roll in order to be able to vote. This is because we are required by law to have a completely new Electoral Roll every six years, and this is that year. Application forms are in church, or please email ladbrokechurch@gmail.com if you would like one to be sent to you electronically.

Finally, advance notice that Easter this year is on 20th April, full details of our services will be given in next month's edition.

We have started planning this year's Easter Trail and wondered if any families would like to meet up in advance to help. While the children do some supporting art/craft their adults can have a chat and catch up. We will provide drinks and cakes for all. If you are interested or would like more info please contact Sue Wright on 07768 333675 or email Jackie on ladbrokechurch89@btinternet.com



From the Registers

Funeral

Monday 3rd February Linda Doyle

Future Services

Wednesday 5th March	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Sunday 2nd March	10.30am	Family Communion
Sunday 9th March	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16th March	9.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 23rd March	9.00am	Holy Communion followed by
	10.15am	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 30th March	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Family Communion
Sunday 6th April	10.30am	Family Communion

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



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**

There was an extra meeting on Thursday 4th February, with one topic on the agenda: the outline planning application for the triangle of land to the north of Windmill Lane. A representative from Pierpont Rose Holdings who is working with the owner explained there is a contract between them and, if the land is developed for housing as proposed, they will both benefit financially.

The outline planning application is for up to five self built/custom built homes with all matters except access reserved, i.e. to be subject of more detailed application(s) in future. This application gives details about the proposed access from Windmill Lane and a possible layout of the development. A number of individual responses from villagers supporting the application had been submitted already and the Parish Council agreed they would also support it.

At the meeting on Thursday 6th February Alan Godfrey's talk was entitled 'Postman's Knock'. This phrase meant something very different from the children's game we might think of today, as a knock on the door from the postman meant that a payment was due for the letter you were to receive, based on the distance it had travelled. Alan took us back to the 16th century to the first Master of the Posts but as this was still very expensive, only the rich were able to send letters and parcels through the post. In 1635, Charles 1st opened the first postal service for the public as a way of helping to fund his wars.

However for MPs and peers of the realm the service was free and they abused this privilege, for example one MP apparently sent two maids as a 'free letter'. Post was delivered via six major routes and horses were changed at inns about every 15 miles. In 1660 Charles II opened the first post office but it wasn't until 1784 that the first mail coach was used and the Penny Black, the first adhesive stamp was introduced in 1840. Over the years coaches were improved, mail was carried by trains with mail being sorted en route, the introduction of village post offices and the installation of post boxes.

Between telling us about these major events, Alan entertained us with stories of the postmen being supplied with uniform coats and caps but not trousers, the horns on the coaches which heralded the arrival of the post at the inn and the armed mail coach guards to ward off highwaymen.

During the business meeting, led by Sue Moore, this year's resolutions were discussed and voted on. The four shortlisted topics under discussion this year are: Let's talk about Incontinence; Bystanders can be Lifesavers; Join the Repair Revolution and Eliminate Landfill of Medication Packaging. All of our votes will now form part of the National debate leading to a vote at the 2025 Annual Meeting. More information will be sought before Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge WI registers to join the WI National Lottery. The names of Jill Norgate and Pat Kennedy have been added to the Book of Remembrance.

The next Group Meeting will be at Napton on Monday 9th June. It will be Ladbroke's turn to organise the competition and ideas for this and for a venue for our Summer Outing are welcomed by Sue. The Food and Friendship Group are continuing to meet for lunch once a month.

The March meeting will be held on the 6th in Ladbroke Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Clive Garner will be demonstrating silk painting. All are welcome.



LADBROKE MATTERS

David Wright

Our Website

Our website 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 ****Date Change****

In the previous two issues we encouraged you to diarise Sunday 25th May as the date when we are planning to hold a village fete with live music, food, and other activities on the Millennium Green to celebrate its 25th anniversary and the new play area.

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, we have had to postpone this event until **Saturday 21st June**. We apologise to all who diarised the previous date, especially if you planned your holiday not to coincide with it. However, if you are free on the new date, please diarise it and come along if you can.

The Tesco Blue Disc Challenge

We are delighted to report that the Tesco Community Fund has allocated £1500 towards the new play area on the Millennium Green. This is because we had amassed more blue discs in Tesco Southam by 12th January than the other appeals. Thanks to Helen Morten for arranging this, and to everybody who kept the discs piling up in the store.

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.

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 rates will revert back to £15 and £12 on the 1st April.

Non-residents may be asked to pay a £50 deposit on booking.

....And finally

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 our larger Ladbroke Matters team takes care of maintenance and organises fundraising events. In addition, we 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 January 2025

£50	Alan Lord	£25	Bev Bradley
£50	Debra and Martin Neal	£10	Chris Ennew
£25	Miranda Lowman	£10	Steve Morten
£25	Debs and Seth Brown	£10	Avril Court

Margaret Bosworth



LADBROKE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Richard Bedwell

The February meeting for the Ladbroke Photography Club saw us trying to capture an image of a drip, yes you did read correctly, a drip. Technically this was a great challenge for the members who had to manage the balance of shutter speed (fast to 'freeze' the image), aperture (letting in enough light whilst still managing to keep the drip in focus), camera sensor sensitivity (not letting the image get 'grainy') and dexterity by trying to trigger their camera at the right moment to catch the droplet in midair.



We used a wooden simple setup that supported an eye dropper above a tray with a shallow water layer. Whilst there were many disappointments, in the end the results were quite beautiful. We hope you agree.



The 4th March meeting will be our AGM, during which we shall gather ideas for our forthcoming programme and have a competition on shots taken at night. Visitors, guests and new members are all welcome to our meetings which are usually in Ladbroke Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month. For more information please contact ladbroke.photoclub@btinternet.com

Photographs are © the photographer

Photos by Richard Bedwell, Steve Gale and Jackie West



LADBROKE GENERAL NEWS



LADBROKE HERITAGE

Jackie West

Heritage and Friendship Group

Our February meeting was on the topic of Local Characters. After toasting the late Bernard Worrod who would have been 99 that day, and enjoying delicious home baked raspberry sponge cake, the reminiscing began in earnest. The most memorable story was of a man who lived in Bellview Cottage many years ago. He was a short chap and always wore wellington boots, except when he cycled over to Warwick Races. The tale was that the evening before his wife's funeral he went to inspect the grave diggers' work, fell into the hole and it was too deep for him to get out. Eventually a neighbour, concerned he hadn't returned home, went looking for him and helped him escape!

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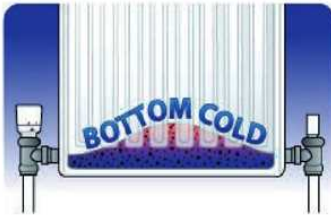
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The theme for March is Eating and Drinking Establishments. I'm expecting stories about the The Bell and other pubs, dining at the Captain's Table on a cruise and perhaps memories of Fish and Chip shops or listening out for the ice-cream van. We meet 10.30 am - 12 noon, on the first Wednesday of the month at The Old School. To let us know you are coming or for more information please phone 814715.

Rocks and Fossils

My most recent foray into a local school to run a rocks and fossil lesson was at The Dasset School in Fenny Compton. These sessions started in 2021 as one of our activities to share our heritage and this was the 13th school to request them. Although there have now been almost 900 participants, the ones at Fenny were the first pupils to have fossils in the school walls. The children loved showing off what they knew already or learnt that afternoon, making sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous chocolate and handling the various fossils I brought along. You do not have to be under 10 to enjoy learning about local rocks and fossils nor do you need to travel far, as Ladbroke Church has all you need to get started, and you could have a free, guided introduction on 16th March.

Tours and More, Sunday 16th March

Come to Ladbroke Church and discover 200 million year old fossils and/or learn about the stunning stained glass.



Fossils

Ladbroke was underwater 200 million years ago, so our fossils are of Jurassic marine life - ammonites, belemnites, brachiopods, crinoids etc. Our guide will introduce you to some of them, then discover more yourself in the walls and buttresses with our Jurassic leaflet. Fossil tours start at 10.30am and 2pm, the guided part takes 15-20 minutes but stay as long as you like carefully handling samples in the exhibition and searching for more in the walls outside. Free Jurassic colouring sheets, wordsearch, folding booklets to make too.

Stained Glass

Ladbroke Church has beautiful stained glass windows from the 15th to early 20th centuries made by many different studios. Your expert guide will explain some of the symbolism and codes, you can then "read" more of the windows at your own pace. **The stained glass tour starts at 11.30am** and lasts about 30 minutes, but the guide is happy to continue for longer.

Tours and More coincides with the first Sunday of National Lottery Open Week as we wish to say thank you once again to Lottery players and everyone who helped us repair Ladbroke Church over the last few years. All are welcome. You do not need a National Lottery ticket to join our tours but if you bring one along (it can be any date) you can claim a free geology or stained glass guide booklet. Between 15th – 23rd March 2025, a National Lottery ticket also entitles you to many other offers from places and organisations which have benefitted from their grants, see www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/open-week



OBITUARY

Chris Ennew & Jackie West

Caryl Thompson

At Caryl's funeral last month the tribute began with the quote "A life lived well is long enough" and went on to remind us of her strong sense of purpose, service and responsibility as well as loving the thrill of new places and new people and having a wicked sense of humour.

Caryl was born in 1962 in Newport, into a family with two older brothers and sport was a big part her life. She represented her county and Wales in U-18 hockey, played squash and even took up shot putt. Later in life she played tennis, supported Liverpool Football Club and Nottingham Forest. Caryl was the first person in her family to go to university. Started studying law at LSE but it was not right for her so she changed to studying history at Nottingham University, an experience that would have a life changing impact.

Following graduation, Caryl made pork pies in Beeston, picked tomatoes by the Dead Sea, backpacked around Egypt, studied in America and worked in London before returning to Nottingham. There she landed the perfect job in the University's International Office, looking after American students, the start of a career in international student recruitment, admissions and marketing which provided the opportunity to travel widely, working with schools and colleges worldwide.

It was at Nottingham that Caryl met Chris and it was Nottingham that propelled them to work in Malaysia, where Caryl played a pivotal role in setting up the first overseas campus of a British University anywhere in the world. And, some 13 years ago, it was at Nottingham that Caryl's career went full circle as she gave up work to return to student life – a Masters degree in International Relations followed by a PhD. The latter was completed during a second stint in Malaysia where Caryl also managed to adopt three dogs, care for her mother and transform the house she shared with Chris into a vibrant social hub welcoming a constant stream of visitors.

Her job and a love of travel and adventure shared with Chris, ensured Caryl enjoyed, and photographed, some of the most fascinating places on earth and had many experiences that most of us only read about or see on TV: from hiking across Alaskan glaciers to riding horses across the Mongolian Steppes. Caryl met Komodo dragons face to face, cuddled baby orangutans and even fed wild hyenas by hand!

She returned to the UK from Malaysia, and moved to Ladbroke in 2017 with Chris, Mum and the three dogs. This meant less travel but more music, theatre and art, new friends and another community to support. Caryl became a trustee and the secretary of the Ladbroke Millennium Green and Village Hall charities, a regular cook for Ladbroke Matters events and she mobilised teams of volunteers to collect churchyard memorial information for the heritage project. In 2022 she acted as "co-sponsor" helping a Ukrainian family settle into the village. She had great empathy for people living in a foreign country and taught herself Ukrainian to help these new friends. Then, having enjoyed the challenge of learning a new language, Caryl decided to learn Welsh, routinely practising this new skill on her adoring dogs.

Caryl's love of life, courage in new or difficult situations and her selfless concern for others made her one of the special people who have been part of our village.



Agnes Court (Leonard Cheshire) in Banbury is a home for 24 adults with physical disabilities resulting from cerebral palsy and brain injuries, for example. My personal experience of this wonderful home is watching the care given to my son-in-law following a severe stroke eight years ago. The atmosphere is as warm and lively as it can be with such a diverse range of disabilities where the residents who are able to operate their wheelchairs take themselves about watching out for others slowly manoeuvring their walking frames.

The patience needed to provide the individual care is boundless but I have never seen anything but kindness and love from the members of staff. The Friends of Agnes Court raise money to purchase items above and beyond the day to day needs, from craft and cooking wares to help with activities, money for organised outings and entertainment at the Home. At the moment we are hoping to secure a MOTomed bike for the physiotherapy room. This device can be individually customized to the needs and constraints of each resident to keep as much strength and mobility as possible.

I am hosting the Tom Hauley Room Coffee morning on 15th March and am really grateful for all the support the regulars attending always bring to these events. Do join us if you can and help the Friends of Agnes Court raise funds for this worthy cause.



VACANCY FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Alison Biddle – Clerk to the Council

We currently have a vacancy for a parish councillor. If you are interested in joining the council, we would like to hear from you.

The parish council is the grass roots of local government. We are best placed to listen to the concerns of local residents and understand the needs of the local community. Harbury PC has 10 councillors who are supported by the parish clerk. We provide some basic services such as maintenance of all the village greens and verges, the playing fields and play area, street lighting and the cemetery.

We are consulted on all local planning applications and planning policy, traffic and highways issues, and also respond to wider consultations by the Government. We support local clubs and organisations including the village hall, the library and the tennis club as well as many smaller groups. Our work is diverse and interesting. If you want to play an active role in your local community, this is the ideal opportunity.

No special qualifications are needed to become a councillor as we need people from all walks of life with a wide range of experiences. However, you must be able to regularly attend the parish council meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month. All parish council business is conducted electronically and no hard copies of documents are provided, so you must also have access to, and be a competent user of, the internet and email.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the parish clerk, Alison Biddle, on 01926 614646 by 13th March 2025. We are hoping to co-opt someone at the March parish council meeting on 27th March 2025.

We look forward to hearing from you.



HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Nicola Thompson - H&L News Correspondent

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

Ordinary Meeting of Harbury Parish Council – 23rd January 2025

Public Participation

A resident of the Oakfields estate raised ongoing problems with anti-social behaviour. Both the police and Orbit Housing are aware of the issues but have to date failed to act. Cllrs sympathised with the resident and agreed to write to Orbit and the Safer Neighbourhood Team to once again highlight the problems. District Cllr Ostrander also agreed to work with the council on this issue by attending a meeting of the SNT with a PC representative.

In Memory of Former Chairman

The council remembered Ken Stephenson, a former chairman of both the Parish Council and the Twinning Association who passed away recently. Mr Stephenson was remembered as a proactive and enthusiastic chairman and member of both organisations.

Outside Bodies

Harbury Library

Cllr Lockley reported that the new heating system had been successfully installed and is now in operation.

Harbury School Governors

Cllr Thompson reported that the school had successfully appointed a new school caretaker after some recent struggles with recruitment.

Harbury Future Energy

Bob Sherman expressed frustration at the lack of progress with the project to install electric car charging points at the playing fields car park. Warwickshire CC had put the project out to tender but Future Energy had heard nothing since and communication with the County was proving to be difficult. On a more positive note, the group has now purchased the thermal imaging camera and recruited 10 volunteers to operate it and record the results. They are now looking for households to volunteer to participate in the project.

Stratford District Council

Cllr Ostrander highlighted that the consultation period for the South Warwickshire Local Plan is now open. Residents have until the 7th March to respond. The Plan can be accessed at www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp. Cllr Ostrander stressed that more sites than are needed have been put forward with a ranking system in place to show favoured options. The sites include one within the parish in Deppers Bridge and one at Ufton, although these are shown as lower ranked options. With regard to devolution, a decision to move to a one tier structure of county and district councils will be made quite quickly but there are differences of opinion on how this can best be achieved.

Warwickshire County Council

Cllr Kettle predicted that there would be no two tier authorities remaining at district and county level within the next three years and, as a result of this, local council elections could be delayed. With regard to the perennial issue of potholes, residents may be interested (and perhaps surprised!) to hear that Warwickshire has the third best maintained road network in

England. The county is, however, struggling with increased flooding. Locally, Mill Street, Church Terrace and High Street gullies have recently been cleared which should ease flooding in those locations. The signs for the long awaited extension of the 40mph limit on Bush Heath Road have now been installed. Cllr Kettle has seen the completed sails for Chesterton Windmill at their production site in Berkshire but the planning permission to install these has been delayed due to issues around bat protection. Hopefully, however, planning will be granted by the end of the month.

Planning

The council gave the following responses to current applications:

Planning ref 24/02880/FUL (under delegated powers) - Land adjacent to Northfields, Mill Lane: Creation of outdoor riding arena 20m x 60m for private use - No representation.

Planning Ref 24/02146REM – Land off Bush Heath Lane: Reserved matters relating to Condition 2 details of the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of plot 3 – No representation.

Planning Ref 24/02954/FUL – Western House, Station Rd: Proposed garden room for ancilliary use – No representation.

South Warwickshire Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation

As discussed in Cllr Ostrander's report, 12 sites for new villages have been identified, largely by outside consultants, for consideration. Cllr Lockley observed that some are slightly odd – for example the site at Ufton is on a newly developed solar farm and an area designated for "strategic growth" includes the site of the Roman fort! Cllrs agreed to draft a response to the consultation to be submitted by 7th March.

Properties

Hall Lane Allotments

Cllrs agreed that the existing pedestrian access needed to be widened and will submit a planning application for this as the site is within the Conservation Area. It was noted that WCC Highways will need to be consulted as part of the planning process but the council hoped that this would not be a problem.

Environment

Replacement of Stiles

It was agreed that a site meeting with the landowner was needed before the new gates for footpath SM64 can be ordered.

Climate Change

It was agreed that Cllr Stockdale will take over as chairman of this working party.

Finance, Budget and Precept

The council agreed that councillors' allowances should remain unchanged for this year. Allowances are paid only to elected members not those co-opted onto the council. It was also agreed that the cemetery fees will rise by £3 this year and £2 the year after.

It was noted that the level of reserves is healthy but that £17,000 will be taken from reserves this year to help meet the council's spending plans. The precept is the amount that the council raises from all council tax payers in order to fund its activities, including the maintenance of all the streetlights, the children's play area, the cemetery etc. It was resolved that the precept for 2025/26 should be £147,711 which gives a Band D rate (for the parish council only) of £122.87. This is a 6% increase on the previous year.

Calendar 2025

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (where the chairman is elected) will be incorporated into the start of the Annual Parish Meeting. Both take place in May but there will still be an ordinary meeting of the council later that month.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 27th February 2025 in Harbury Village Hall.



HARBURY SOCIETY

David Turner

New Year Feast

A delicious New Year Feast for 35 members of the Harbury Society was provided by John and his team at The Crown, Harbury, on 21st January. Two quizzes provided light-hearted and competitive entertainment. It was a very convivial and social gathering and a great way to start 2025.

Dates for your 2025 diary

Saturday 8th March – Coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room.

Tuesday 18th March – ‘Cicely Lucas’ – a presentation by Christine Cluley, award-winning historian & researcher who has worked on Heritage Education projects at Warwickshire Record Office and Museum.

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

May – TBC – Details to follow.

Saturday 7th June – Annual Harbury Carnival.

Tuesday 15th July – Bat Walk in Harbury. Details nearer the time.

Tuesday 19th August – Harbury Tour and Tea.

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 – ‘The Railway comes to Harbury’. A presentation by Bill Timson, Chair of Harbury Heritage Group.

November – TBC – Details to follow.





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HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Tel: 614646

Website: www.harbury-pc.gov.uk

Open: Monday - Thursday
10.00am 12.00pm

CHAIRMAN:

Tim Lockley

Email: chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk

CLERK:

Alison Biddle

Email: clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council meetings are
open to the public.

To speak on any issue, please
contact the Parish Clerk

Harbury Village Library & Biblio's Café

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Harbury Village Library, The Wight School,
High Street, Harbury CV33 9HW
01926 258776

- library@harburyvillagelibrary.org.uk

Our February meeting was our members' night so we enjoyed a glass of wine or a soft drink to start our evening. We then had a very interesting presentation by Michael Luntley about an exciting embroidery project that he is involved in. He explained that each country (and county in the UK) had a flower associated with it. For example daffodils for Wales, honeysuckle for Warwickshire. If you take the flowers associated with your grandparents', your parents' and your own place of birth, you then had an 'Ancestry bouquet' of seven flowers.

An embroidery is planned, with the help of a talented local embroiderer, which will feature a stylised map of Harbury with a bouquet of many flowers featuring residents' places of birth. It will be completed with the help of local people, and will hang in the library. It all sounded wonderful. We all filled in forms detailing our own bouquets to help with the research.

After this we heard some amusing and interesting tales from members on the theme 'Weird, Wacky or Wonderful'. We heard about, amongst other things, the sexiest toilet in the world, and a levitating Indian mystic!!

Our last cinema of the season is on 8th March, and is 'The Trouble with Jessica', a comedy drama about a couple, Sarah and Tom, who have trouble with a difficult and uninvited dinner guest. Tickets are available from the library, £13 to include fish and chips or £7 without. Please buy by 5th March to enable us to order the food.

Our cinema night profits all go towards our Community fund which is available to local organisations with specific projects in mind. Our coffee morning on Saturday 1st March in the Tom Hauley Room is also going to raise money for the fund, so do go along and support this good cause. You can pick up a form while there to apply for funds.

On 27th March there is a Jigsaw challenge from 2 to 4pm also in the Tom Hauley Room. If you fancy that, do come along or come to one of our regular meetings, second Thursday of the month in the Tom Hauley Room at 7.30 for 7.45pm. We are a friendly bunch and there is always lots going on to join in with. Next month's meeting sees Sally Ratcliffe giving a talk on clothing through the ages: 'Dressing the Past'. There will be an opportunity to try on costumes and feel how the clothes felt. Sounds like fun! Hope to see you there.



HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Andy Lewin

As you would expect, the "Theatre Group" is spearheaded by a group of "characters" who thrive on being out on the stage entertaining friends, family and the community. To enable these "Thespian types", support is needed from mostly unseen individuals to ensure that the lights put the spotlight on the right individual, the lines come across clearly through the sound system, and the chairs and other props are there ready when the actors strut their stuff.

Fortunately there are members of HTG who are not so enthusiastic about being in the limelight on stage, but are happy to share in the enjoyment of entertaining the audience by

providing that essential support “backstage”. As one of those individuals, I have often donned the black clothing to make myself almost invisible, as I quickly bring props on or off the stage in between scenes. As you would expect, this activity does need a little practice, and with only a few dress rehearsals where all the components are present, sometimes the audience has an extra unscripted giggle at the stage-hands whisking the odd bus stop sign or similar prop onto the stage at the last second. The banter back-stage is one of the joys of working as a team to provide the best possible performance in the spirit of a community activity.

The highlight of the events HTG puts on is always the Pantomime, which is put on every second year. As you would expect, the Panto is partially aimed at the children in the audience, but with plenty of comedy for the amusement of the adults as well. Often there is a dance routine with some slapstick elements which lead to absolute chaos. This often brings about the best bits from the audience’s perspective, and also for the cast. Also, the Panto typically requires some inventive designs of props, such as the beanstalk needed in the last Panto.

The fantastic work of art designed and built by one of our backstage crew (thanks Chris) was able to grow out of the trap door on the stage as required, and collapse (in the right direction) after Jack had swung his axe. With one of us hiding below the open trap door and one heaving on pulleys above, what could go wrong you might ask? Of all the unlikely events, who would have expected one of us (sorry Paul) to get hit by a “container” of beans discarded by Jack, as per the script!

All in all, playing a supporting role backstage has been found to be a rewarding activity as well as a vital enabling one for the group. Should any of you out there reading this feel they would also enjoy getting involved, feel free to contact us on harburytheatregroup@gmail.com or come along to our AGM on 1st April at 7.30 in the Tom Hauley Room. Our next performance will be “Death by Detective” which will be on 15th to 17th May. We look forward to seeing you there.



FOLK CLUB

Steve & Maureen Darby

The theme for the evening was “Relationships” and Steve and Maureen were concerned that, with so many friends and regular performers away in Birmingham at a concert, it would be a quiet evening. As it was, the evening turned out being very special, with so many surprises, debuts, wonderful performances and exceptional musicianship.

The evening opened with a first-ever get together of Maureen and Liz, combining their harmonious voices to sing “Two Brothers” and “A Cobweb of Dreams”. They certainly set the standard for the evening. It was good to see Des back at the Folk Club as he sang “Sammy’s Bar”, a tale of the relationship between a man and his car followed by Les Barker’s “The Turn of the Road”. Jason made his debut playing his guitar and singing “I will keep you warm tonight” together with “Daffodil Girl”. He performed very well considering it was his first ever solo. Next up came Rebecca accompanied by Jobe.

Rebecca was making her debut at the Folk Club performing her own songs whilst playing the piano. Jobe apologised that he had forgotten his violin so produced his Penny Whistle from his inside pocket - he was rather good. Rebecca’s first song was “It was a true love” and then she told us the story of how her Jewish grandparents had escaped from Germany so she

wrote the song "Where do we go from here?". She finished her set with "To the Days" and the audience gave a loud round of applause. Steve invited her to return to the club as she would be most welcome. Rik sang "Sweet Mermaid" and then led the audience down the garden path as he introduced his next song about the challenge of having a three-way relationship. He began singing and we eventually realised it was "Alexander Beetle" written by A. A. Milne.

A nanny had let Alexander escape from his match box which made her upset with guilt. The first half closed with Pete and Liz singing a Hebridean song, "Lad of Lovely Hair", described as the lyrical account of a pregnant girl's loyalty to her faithless young lover. They then sang "Valentine's Day Song", which was an absolutely beautiful finish to the first half.

The second half commenced with a wonderful performance from Kim, singing and playing her guitar, initially with a self-penned number called "Late September," followed by a Sandy Denny song, "End of the Day". Dave Fry then came up with two lovely pieces which he sang extremely well, "Cinderella Shoes" and "From Galway to Graceland", which obviously included a few verses of Elvis. Ruth, with some piano support from Jobe, sang her own song, "The Elephant (in the room)", which related to the Covid years when people couldn't live normal lives. She then sang Sting's "Fields of Gold" and finished with a Joan Baez number, "Diamonds and Rust" – Ruth was on form, the audience loudly applauded her exceptional voice and Jobe's piano playing.

Alan followed on, maintaining the high standards of the evening with "Kentish Town", and the very humorous number, "The Lovers' Gift", which was all about a woman's partner making excuses for not getting her a Valentine's Day present. Bob told us the background to his choice of songs and what an emotional time it had been over the last year. So he sang Ralph McTell's "Let me Down Easy", followed by one of the main songs from the Coen Brothers' version of the film "True Grit", "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms". The audience felt for Bob and the challenge of the difficulties he and his family have had to cope with.

Keith Donnelly carried his guitar bag up to the front, carefully placed it on the floor and explained at length the making of his new guitar. He picked up the bag, opened it and produced this shining new instrument – we all laughed loudly as we realised he had made it totally the wrong way round and yet he played it superbly and sang "Relation Ships" followed by "Son of a Gun". Keith was well on form as usual. To finish the evening Jobe brought out his Hammer Dulcimer which looked a magnificent instrument and the sound he produced was just wonderful. He then picked up his Electric Accordion and closed with a Valentine's Day tune.

It had been a superb evening of debuts, songs, instrumentals and humour with every performer giving of their best.

The theme for next month's Folk Club is "Songs with Happy Memories" and Sue Hartland will be running the evening.

The raffle raised a very generous £130 which will be donated to the family of Dan Neal who is only just out of a coma in Warwick Hospital, following an incident with a falling tree, that hit his car on 7th December in Leamington. His partner and his 10 month old daughter were rescued by the emergency services with minor injuries but Dan was in a critical condition, immediately put on life support and rushed to hospital where he is still in a serious condition.



HARBURY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Tony Thomas

We started the year by celebrating the “Fête des Rois” on Sunday 5th January. The members of the Association met at the home of David and June Eaves, to whom we extend our grateful thanks. This event is the custom in France and across the Iberian Peninsula and Spanish islands, where it is a vibrant and joyous fiesta where families celebrate the anniversary of the coming of the Three Kings to visit the baby Jesus. This date being also the anniversary of the christening of Jesus by John the Baptist thirty years later.

Four members had made galettes (Kings Cake) and while they were warming up in the oven, we again enjoyed the brain teaser set by David where we had to identify the location where he had taken photographs. This was followed by a quiz where we were required to identify entertainment celebrities from photographs cut out from magazines.

Then it was time to have a generous slice of the galette. Hidden in each galette was a fève (some purists in France still use a bean, but we use the more usual fève today which is a small porcelain trinket). The four lucky ones who found fève in their slice of galette, Joan Thomas, Rosemary Harley, Andrew Patrick and David Eaves were crowned king (“le roi”) or queen (“la reine”) for the evening with a cardboard gold crown.

Plans for the coming year have commenced with a Supper and Skittles evening at “The Masons Arms” in Long Marston on 10th April. This is one of our social events and always a fun evening.

The big weekend commences on the 15th May when we make our bi-annual visit to meet up with our twinning friends in Samoie-sur-Seine. We will be staying en-route overnight in Albert, in the Somme, and visiting the area before continuing the journey to Samoie.



HARBURY HERITAGE CENTRE

Bill Timson

It's always exciting to receive ‘new’ material into the heritage collection. In February a visitor brought some old photographs which we scanned, saved and returned during their visit. Another brought along an original programme from a Harbury Drama Group production. We also acquired a folder entitled ‘Geography Field Work Study’ by Anna Beaumont, daughter of the late Jean; it makes interesting reading about the state of the village in the mid 1970s. Chronologically it bridges the gap between the present and a similar study donated by the Hopker family written in 1954. (HM-1607).

Anna's study, hand-written and consisting of over 70 pages, includes maps and graphs, mostly hand drawn, questionnaire finding etc. It was submitted as part of her A level Geography course at Southam School in May 1977.

It includes sections on the following: the history of the village, people's views on Harbury, shopping habits, how Harbury has changed over the years, age and types of buildings, public transport, land use, working habits and field names.

On page 13, Anna has summed up ‘what improvements people would like to see in the village’ after conducting a questionnaire, it makes interesting reading. Squash courts, a wet



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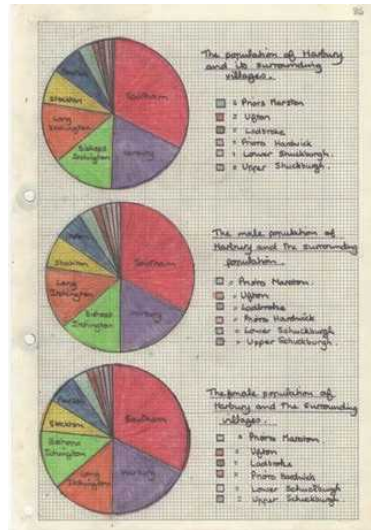
For further information please contact Hansons Warwickshire 07470 459309
e:clivejones@hansonsauctioneers.co.uk www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk
Hansons Derbyshire, Heage Lane, Etwell, Derby, DE65 6LS

Refreshments in aid of WCS Care

fish shop, a bread shop, a café where young people could meet and a chemist were all mentioned. Emma summarized by showing her concerns about more people coming into the 'pretty, quiet' village and was worried that if the village grew too much it would become a town. No-one would argue that the chemist has been a vital addition to the village and we do have a café in the library. There is obviously a lot more 'food for thought' in Emma's study, it does however, provide a thought provoking view of the village from nearly half a century ago.

Thanks to Geraldine, a friend of Emma's, for delivering the study and to Emma for kindly donating it. If you want to know more about Emma's findings visit the Centre; open days and times are at the end of the article.

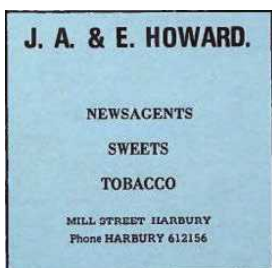
Also, on the 70s theme and continuing our look at the news in the village 50 years ago, the Harbury News edition for March/April 1975 contained the following items:



A page from Emma's study

- Long Itchington Parish Council asked for advice from the Harbury News committee, as they were thinking of starting their own magazine.
- A talk was held in the Village Hall re the 'pros and cons' of joining the 'Common Market', a forerunner to the EU.
- In sport, the first XV rugby team were having a mixed season. Played 19, Won nine, Drawn one and Lost eight. The newly formed 3rd team had their first match on March 3rd.
- There was a lovely profile written by Anne Moore on Miss Bird who lived in Mill Street and taught in the Wagstaffe School for over 50 years.
- Sharon Hancock, in her professional role, had written an informative article about 'Health Risks Abroad'. The need for immunization against Smallpox, Cholera, Typhoid and Paratyphoid was becoming more important with the increase in people travelling abroad for holidays and work.
- Chris Blunt, an editor of the magazine, had written an article encouraging people to take up sailing.
- And finally, in the 'general section', the ladies of the 'Harbury Singers' were looking for men to join them – tenors and basses ideally!

The advert below was included in the magazine and the photograph shows the shop in 1972.



Open Days in March

We will be open to the public on **Tuesday 4th March 7 – 9pm** (come along after your pancakes!) on **Sunday 16th March 2 – 4pm**. Please use the Park Lane school gate.

Don't forget we post on Facebook – 'Harbury Heritage Centre' and you can contact us via our website 'www.harburyheritage.org.uk'



HARBURY FUTURE ENERGY

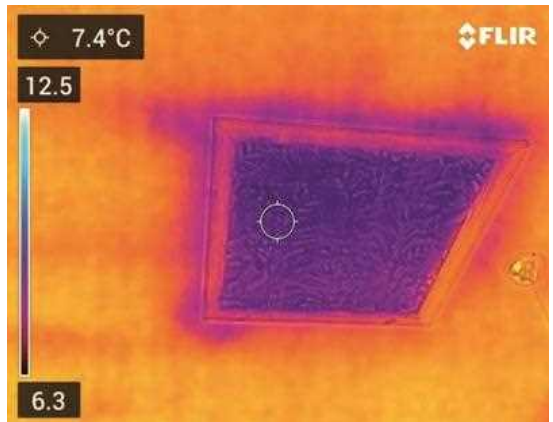
David Bristow (07511 679312)

Last month, I wrote about our new professional thermal imaging camera, and said that our intention is to offer heat surveys so that Harbury householders can see where heat - and money - is escaping from their homes.

Since then, our group of volunteers has been trying out the camera. It turns out to be very easy to take indoor images - you can just point and click. Unfortunately it is rather more difficult to interpret the results! Outside images are a different matter, and we are still working out what weather conditions we need, and which camera settings give the best results.*

Thank you to those who responded to my last article and said that they are prepared to be guinea pigs for our initial trial surveys. We have continued with our training, and have been experimenting with taking the best images and wrestling with their interpretation. In parallel we have been working on our administrative procedures. We have now decided what information people will need about the surveys we can offer, how we should collect the preliminary details that are necessary, what reports we will produce, and how we can operate our volunteer rota. However, by the time you read this, we hope we will have carried out a number of trial surveys, and at least sent an information sheet and a formal request form to everyone who contacted us last month.

We think we may soon be able to deal with a few more requests, so if you would like to volunteer as a guinea pig, please let us know by emailing thermal.camera@harburyenergy.co.uk.



This image is from our sister project in Napton. It shows a well insulated loft, with an uninsulated loft trap!

* This is because infrared radiation does not behave in the same way as visible light. Essentially, the camera has sensors which measure how much radiation is falling on them, but then it has to do a great deal of computation to infer the temperature of the object that the radiation is coming from. This depends on the physics of the situation. Apart from their temperatures, radiation from different objects depends on factors like their emissivities (what proportion of their heat they emit), their distances from the camera, the humidity of the air, and whether the object might reflect radiation falling on it. The camera is set so that reasonable temperature readings are given by its automatic mode indoors, but all the parameters have to be entered manually for outside images.



HARBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Steven Kittendorf



Away to Coventry Welsh, Harbury went into their first league game of 2025 with 10 senior absentees thanks to an horrific string of injuries, with us unlikely to see many if any of them again this season. The Villagers were desperate for an injury free game but shortly after the start, TK was hoisted up in the lineout, won the oppositions throw but then came down awkwardly breaking his collarbone and seriously injuring his hamstring/hip. A trip to Warwick Hospital followed by an MRI scan revealed a six month layoff and number 11 on the absentee list.

Despite the early setback, the forwards dominated up front starving the hosts of possession; albeit they did threaten when occasionally getting their hands on the ball and were rewarded with a try on the cusp of half time. With an ample supply of good early ball, Harbury's back division were able to exploit several opportunities to run in three tries before Foster bagged a score of his own.

The second half started well with Twinberrow immediately scoring in the corner before the hosts replied with a score of their own in the opposite corner. Welsh indiscipline saw them reduced to thirteen men and the visitors took advantage to round off the match 10-54; scoring a total of nine tries by eight different scorers.

Whilst the ones were away at Coventry Welsh, the twos entertained Sutton Coldfield at home. The side was bolstered by four colts (Harding, O'Kane, Broadhurst and Coulter) as well as the return of O'Connor recovering from a shoulder injury. Sutton had brought a strong side and were hoping to complete the double over the home side.

The Villagers looked to get off to a good start when Broadhurst picked a pass off his bootlaces and dived over in the corner. Having initially awarded the try the referee then chalked it off deciding there was a foot in touch on the way in. Sutton then took the initiative and scored two unconverted tries before Broadhurst dotted down for a second time, and this time was rewarded with a debut try.

Sutton extended their lead early in the second half to make the score 5-15. From here on in Harbury began to dominate the game scoring two penalties and two further tries to win the match 23-15.

Next up, the ones were due to play Earlsdon at home on a cold and very wet day. The referee and opposition coach were reluctant to take to the pitch on safety grounds and the match was pulled. To be fair, the groundsman was not too disappointed!

The twos however travelled to Coventry to face Manor Park. On a rapidly deteriorating surface it's fair to say that Harbury made the best of the conditions and took the game to the home side running in five converted tries and a penalty to make it 0-38. The twos have now won seven in a row and sit comfortably near the top of the table.



*Saturday 15th February 2025.
Manor Park 0 – 38 Harbury II XV*



GUIDES AND SCOUTS SUPPORT (GASS)

Paul Quinney – Group Scout Leader

We have ambitious plans for improvements to the scout hut, which have received planning approval but will need a significant amount of fundraising, and wider support to fully realise.

However, we are pleased to make a start with our first floor extension following a 45k grant from UKSPF fund awarded through Stratford District Council. By the time you read this you would have seen from the initial scaffold the roofs removed and a new first floor space been created. This space will allow a flexible meeting space for wider use of this valuable village facility.

We will then have the challenge to complete interior works and the replacement of the main hall itself.

We would appreciate any help to realise this, be it time, materials or fundraising grant assistance.

The committee apologise for any inconvenience caused during this phase of the works and look forward to reporting further on our progress.



HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL

Staff and Committee



Chinese New Year

2025 is the Year of the Snake and the children have been enjoying learning all about China and snakes! We have transformed our role play in to a Chinese home corner with lights, Chinese dress up costumes, Chinese 'noodles' and lanterns. The Children have also been making colourful dragon heads using our home-made Chinese Dragon as a guide.

The Chinese Dragon dancing is always a favourite with children and staff and the children get into groups and each group take it in turns to bang the drums, wave the flags or dance around under our infamous dragon to traditional Chinese music.



The children have also enjoyed eating Chinese noodles, prawn crackers and stir fry and carefully cut up their own vegetables with a safety knife.

Music, music, music!

We have been getting even more musical at Harbury Pre-School. We have a wide array of

instruments for the children to use and have been using them to play a guessing game. A staff member plays an instrument out of sight and the children try to match the sound to one of the instruments on the table. They were so good that we had to add even more instruments to the table. The children then took it in turns to play an instrument for their friends to guess. We have also been practising playing slowly, fast, loud and quiet.



Board Games

Here at Pre-School, we love a small group and games are always popular with the children. A child who recently celebrated his birthday brought in one of his presents to play with his friends – a crocodile game. This was not as scary as it sounds! The children loved fishing things out of the crocodile before he snapped. We have also been playing the odds socks game where children need to find the odd socks. This encourages team work, turn-taking and sharing and the children loved it!



Spring

Spring is almost upon us and the daffodils are blooming in the outdoor planters. We are hoping for lots more outdoor play in warmer weather.

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.



SPARKING WINE TASTING EVENING

Julie Batchelor

On Friday 28th March at 8pm in the Tom Hauley Room to raise funds for Harbury Preschool. Taste six different wines £15 per ticket, from 07754 993501 or email harburypreschool1@gmail.com.



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

Children's Mental Health Week

We have been celebrating Children's Mental Health Week, focusing on the theme of empowering young people to embrace self-awareness. Through reflection and discussion, our pupils have been exploring what self-awareness means to them and how it can help them build resilience, grow, and develop.

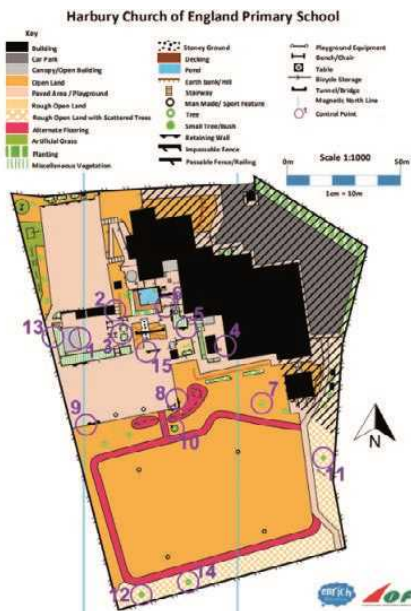


This theme connects beautifully to the journaling activities our pupils have been completing in their My Happy Mind sessions throughout January as part of Growth Mindset Month.

These sessions have encouraged them to recognise their strengths, embrace challenges, and develop a positive mindset - valuable skills that will support their well-being now and in the future.

Orienteering

We are thrilled to announce that, thanks to our Sports Premium grant, we have established an orienteering course equipped with markers throughout our school grounds. This initiative provides all our pupils with the chance to



enhance their map-reading skills, engage in teamwork, and enjoy physical exercise, all while making valuable connections to our geography and PE curriculum. The markers are designed so that all age groups can access them using symbols and animals initially and then letters and numbers for pupils in KS2.



As part of this exciting opportunity, we hosted an orienteering day for all pupils, featuring pre-made resources from Enrich. This event not only promoted physical activity but also fostered collaboration and problem-solving among the children.

If organisations in the village would like to use the course. Please get in touch.



HARBURY SCHOOL PTA

Alice Mellings

Fundraising this Month

We had a fantastic time at the Mini Street Chef's kitchen workshop. Children got to learn how to prepare food and develop food safety skills, a brilliant key skill for children to have, along with completing fun games and quizzes. The children loved the experience and we got to raise money for the school.





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What we have contributed towards

This month our fundraising has enabled us to purchase **globes** for each year group. They are specifically designed for the different year groups learning abilities. We were also able to purchase **Maths** text books for all Infants classes.



Our target is to provide additional **iPads** for school to further the children's IT, Maths and Comprehension skills, with future projects looking towards creating an outdoor **forest school**.

Ongoing Fundraising

We will be completing an auction of promises where we will be auctioning off superb prizes such as tickets to **Warwick Castle**, a **month of free dance** classes with **Spellbound Academy of Dance** and a meat voucher from **Aubrey Allen** along with many more exciting items to bid on.



Dates for the Diary

Friday 11th April – we will be holding an **Easter Egg tombola**, Children will be able to come into school in **non-uniform** for a small donation of an easter egg. We will then be selling raffle tickets to win the eggs in the tombola.



Whole School **Sponsored walk**, will be on Friday 23rd May.

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. Use this link to sign up: tinyurl.com/mscibt3mr



HARBURY LIBRARY & BIBLIO'S CAFE

Michael Luntley

Moving forward/holding memories.....We are starting to move things around - all part of making the Library building a single space for books, art, cultural events and, of course, great coffee at a great price alongside scrummy home-made cakes.

As we move forward, we also fondly look back. Absolutely delighted to report that we have a new 'story-telling/reading chair' in the children's section of the library. It was bought with monies gifted to the Library in memory of Terry Timms by Louise and the children. The chair is full of character. When I first saw it, it made me smile. Much like Terry. A fitting reminder of a much loved volunteer.

All of us who work to make the Library and Biblio's cafe a success are volunteers. If you would like to be part of the team that keeps this community resource going, let the desk staff know next time you're in. We are always looking for new ideas, new people, new ways of ensuring we serve the needs of the whole community.

In the past, we have found it difficult to find a suitable place for young volunteers in the library (e.g., those looking for experience that might go towards a Duke of Edinburgh award) because we lacked an appropriate safeguarding policy. We have, however, now sourced the appropriate policies and have recently accepted an offer of work experience on IT issues for a young person from the village. If you think this is something you, or someone you know, might want to explore, do get in touch.



Finally, an update on the 'Harbury Threads Project' - many thanks to the large number of you who have recently completed an 'ancestry bouquet' to generate data for the embroidery piece that will trace the village roots. And especial thanks to two local businesses who are sponsoring the work: Alsters Kelly and Southam Carpets. We now have the data to start on the embroidery. Like all good things, this will take time. If your local business would like to join our sponsors, do get in touch.



GARDEN JOTTINGS

Christine Dakin from Bridge Nursery

I have started to propagate plants for this coming season on those rare days when it isn't too cold. But the big question is what shall I grow and how many of each plant? If I'm dividing a clump of say Geranium shall I make 10 or 20 or more? The same with taking cuttings, maybe start with 10 then do more in a month or so. There are fashions and trends which I can't keep up with. Hydrangeas, Mexican daisy and shrubby salvias were some of the best sellers. But bamboos, hostas and ferns were more or less shunned last year. The ornamental grasses were less popular than in recent years. The only thing I can do is to keep growing a good range of plants, offer advice when needed and hope for the best.



This can be a busy time of year depending on the weather so here are some reminders....

Prune roses, sow hardy annuals, sow sweet peas, when daffodils have finished flowering remove seed heads and allow the foliage to die back naturally, lift and divide snowdrops and replant, prune winter flowering jasmine and honeysuckle, cut back ornamental grasses and late flowering clematis, plant garlic and onions, sow broad beans and peas and parsnips.

Once again I am (wistfully) hoping for perfect gardening weather this year.

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



NATURE NOTES

Martin & Amanda Randall

The rich and varied patterns of hedgerows in the UK are part of our cultural and landscape heritage, as we have a much higher density of hedgerows compared to other European countries. Their presence in agricultural land is largely due to historical farming practices. Many hedgerows have their origins in the Enclosure Acts of the early 19th Century, which led to the division of land into smaller fields using hedges. However, others are hundreds, some even thousands, of years old. It is estimated that in Devon over a quarter of the hedges are more than 800 years old!

In this way, many of our hedgerows are ancient and of historical interest in their own right. Many hedges of medieval origin are often curved at the end to leave room for a team of oxen to turn a plough. More recent hedges tend to be straight and dominated by hawthorn. About 200,000 miles of this latter type of hedge were planted in the English Midlands during the 18th and 19th centuries. Since then additional species such as Field Maple, Hazel, Dogwood and Spindle have colonised the hedges and their presence gives an indication of the age of the hedgerow.

Hedgerows form one of the UK's largest wildlife habitats and are considered vital for biodiversity, providing habitats for wildlife and corridors for movement. Often they are the only link between other isolated patches of wildlife habitat scattered across the landscape. Thick, flora-rich hedges provide valuable nesting and foraging opportunities for a huge range of wildlife. They are, in effect, a mixture of woodland, scrub and grassland, containing a wealth of different plant and animal species. Some of these species are rare and threatened, such as the Brown Hairstreak butterfly and the Dormouse.

Hedgerows have a positive effect on soil health and also 'capture' more carbon per hectare than surrounding grasslands. However, in the last 75 years the UK has lost 50% of its hedgerows, and much of what we do have left is being removed and sometimes mismanaged. Many remaining hedges have been savagely trimmed, neglected or affected by drifting agricultural chemicals, leaving narrow strings of closely trimmed scraggy hawthorn bushes sparse in wildlife. A further problem with mechanised hedge cutting is the decline



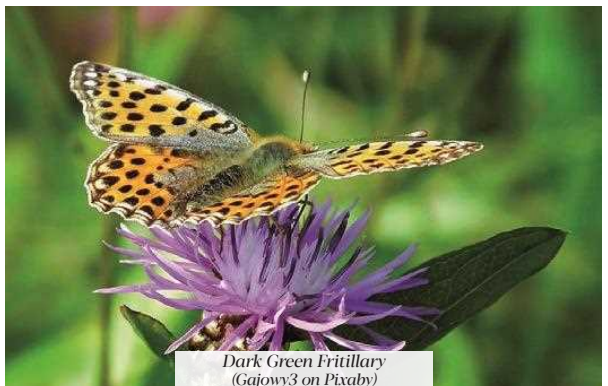
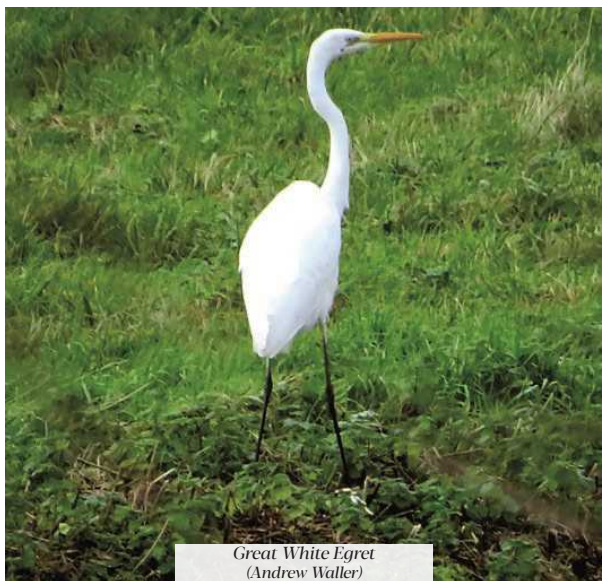
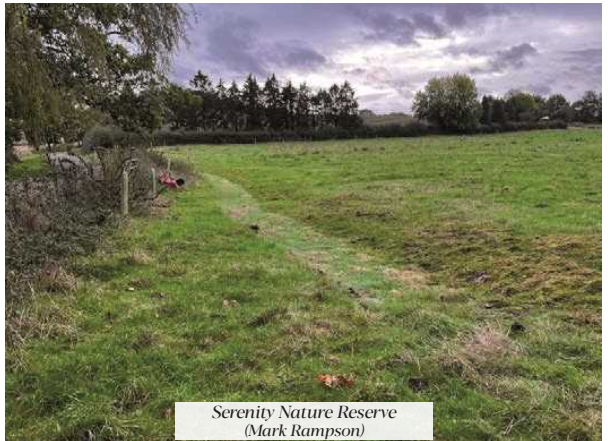
*New hedge
(Martin Randall)*

in the number of saplings left in hedges to grow into mature 'standard' trees and those older ones that are left may be in poor condition.

On our recent walk on the Chesterton estate we were pleased to see, therefore, that a new hedge was being planted along a field edge that currently is only a wire fence. Protected from grazing by rabbits, the new hedge plants were a good mixture of typical Warwickshire hedge species – Hawthorn, Blackthorn (Sloe), Hazel, Dog Rose and Field Maple. Hopefully they will quickly establish to form a valuable natural feature.

We also noticed another hedge had been planted, at the other end of the Chesterton Estate, which is more good news of positive change for wildlife locally. We have heard from Mark Rampson of Kineton; he and his wife have set up a small Community Interest Company (CIC) called Serenity Nature in memory of their young daughter Seren, who had passed away. Last February they acquired a plot of nearly seven acres at the Chesterton end of the estate. This parcel of land has not been used for agriculture since the times of plough and farrow. Presently, it's a monoculture of grass which, through living memory, has been used to graze sheep. His initial aim was to slowly rewild this meadow, with the hope that it will keep Seren's memory alive for many generations to come.

He told us that the land has already proved to be a little gold mine as far as nature is concerned. He says "We have taken great joy in seeing all sorts of wildlife while we have been on site. Species seen include Barn Owl, Badger, Fox, Roe Deer, Buzzard, Green Woodpecker, Kingfisher, Toad,





WHAT'S COMING UP...

MOTHER'S DAY Sunday 30th March

Make this Mother's Day unforgettable with a delightful set lunch here at The Bell!

Book your table now and treat Mum to the celebration she deserves.

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!

MILLENNIAL GREEN PARTY Sunday 25th May

Celebrate the opening of the refurbished Millennial Green here in Ladbroke Village, the Freespirit Foodtruck will be there with delicious food and drinks! Keep an eye out for more details.

WEEKLY DEALS

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

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Rated 'Excellent'

Newt, Mole and Great White Egret.” They have also recorded four species of bat and over 15 butterfly species. The site is bisected by the Tachbrook, meaning there are a number of different ecological habitats.

Over the next five years, Mark’s ambition is to plant a number of native trees, reseed the four acre meadow with wild flowers and plant a 350 metre long hedge. All will be native species, to create an ‘explosion’ in wildlife, especially butterflies, other insects, birds and small mammals. Initially Mark intended to fund its reseeding himself and expected the project to take some years to get this far. However, he has told us that they have been very lucky to have wonderful support from the ‘Tree Planter’ and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust over the last year. Together they planted 54 trees, over 20,000 wildflower seeds and over 2,000 hedge plants. Obviously all these things will take some time to establish, but eventually we should see a meadow of flowers, a haven for birds and the beginning of established trees. They have recently installed bird boxes made by Mark’s uncle and, over the next year, newly planted Marsh Violets may encourage the very rare Dark Green Fritillary butterfly. With the help of WWT and the volunteers they are now five years ahead of schedule, but there is so much more to do. Over the next few years they will complete a number of surveys, especially for butterflies to see if they can increase both count and species diversity.

If wildlife is something you are interested in, or you feel like getting out and volunteering, Serenity Nature, as well as The Tree Planter and WWT are always looking for support. Mark says “Just imagine, a hedge or tree you helped plant will outlive all of us and prove a serene haven for wildlife potentially for 100s of years.”

If you want to know more about Serenity Nature, they have a website: www.serenitynature.org and a Facebook page too.



HARBURY GENERAL NEWS



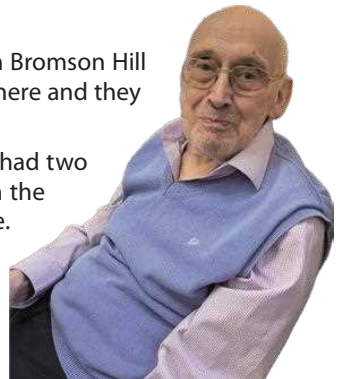
IAN CREDLAND – OBITUARY

Jill Baker

My husband, Ian Credland, died on the 29th January 2025 in Bromson Hill Nursing Home. He was 88 years of age. He was very happy there and they treated him with respect and understanding.

Ian had four children, three daughters and one son, he also had two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Ian had lived in the village with me, his wife Jill, since 1994. Originally in Pirie Close.

In 2015 Ian was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease. Ian met many people in the village who were always happy to listen to the stories of his travels. He joined the Art Group in the village and the members of the group were very supportive towards him.



Ian often came into the Library and always sat and had a coffee in Biblio’s Cafe. He met another group of people some of whom came from Sheffield, which was where Ian was born and lived until he moved south, to Derbyshire. He became a teacher for some years and then

moved to work in Further Education Colleges. He eventually became the Principal of Henley Further Education College in Coventry.

When he retired, from Henley College Coventry, he carried on working for an organisation based in London. They organised international competitions for young people who were studying practical subjects such as engineering, building skills, catering, hairdressing, and many other practical skills. He travelled the world during this time of his career.

He eventually retired. However, he got bored and decided that he would volunteer at Charlecote House and Upton House. He was a room volunteer. It wasn't long before he had decided that it might be useful to undertake some research for the houses. He loved this work and enriched the information that was already there. He undertook research for Upton House on many aspects. These included etchings by Hogarth and other items including the family's links with the Shell Company. Lord Bearsted, the owner of Upton House, was one of the founders of the Company.

As his dementia worsened, he was unable to do basic things, it also affected his mobility, however we managed to go to France and Majorca for holidays with friends. Ian spent the last few months of his life in Bromson Hill Nursing Home.

My thanks go to our families, everyone in the Village and Bromson Hill who made the end of his life as pleasant as possible.



A FOND FAREWELL TO OUR FANTASTIC TRIO OF POSTIES

Emma Brangwin

As you may know our three village posties were recently given notice to leave their rounds for pastures new. A collection was organised as a thank you from the village. We raised a fantastic £1,057.31 online and £144 from the library collection, making a total of £1,201.31.

This means that Christine, tall Steve and Steve received just over £400 each which is now in their bank accounts and a cash envelope which they can put towards a well-earned treat. The lovely comments that villagers had written were displayed on the wall for them to read through. Thank you to everyone who donated, they were all very grateful and also quite overwhelmed.



HARBURY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Susan Ostrander (Cllr Harbury Ward)

I'm sure that like many of you I have been cheered by the lengthening days and the sight of some of the late winter/early spring flowers. These will hopefully compensate for having the beautiful Christmas lights come down last month. The lights are appreciated by so many of us – thank you to the dedicated team that put them up and took them down.

From me this month it is a reminder to make your comments on the South Warwickshire Local Plan as the Consultation closes on the **7th March**. I hope that you share my view that having a plan to take us up to 2050 is critically important so that our local area can grow and develop gradually, in a coherent way that serves the needs of local people.

The South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP):

- The South Warwickshire Local Plan – search: Preferred Options consultation web page (or scan the QR code) contains links to and details of the below:
- Guidance Note on how to view and Comment.
- The interactive SWLP consultation Portal
- The SWLP Interactive Map
- Consultation events – at publication date for H&L News these will have passed.
- Informative Videos



Additional pages found on the SWLP website that people may find useful are as follows:

- Technical Evidence page
- FAQ page

Whilst using the online portal is strongly encouraged as the best way for comments to be captured and this will aid subsequent analysis of representations by officers, it remains possible for residents and stakeholders to view the South Warwickshire Local Plan in PDF format and to use a downloadable comment form which the public can complete and send back by email to swlp@stratford-dc.gov.uk or swlp@warwickdc.gov.uk

You can respond to each part of the consultation document using the following four questions:

- Do you agree with the approach laid out in the draft policy/policy direction?
- Do you have any further comments on this section?
- Do you have any comments on this Strategic Growth Location/New Settlement?
- Do you have any comments on a specific site proposal or the Housing Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) results?

Each question can be answered with either 'Yes/No/Other' and there is the opportunity to add further comments.

You do not need to comment on each section, only those that interest you. However, you may wish to comment on the suitability of the two proposed settlements, F1 and F2, that are located very near this area. They are two of the 12 proposed new settlement sites which will go down to just three in the final reckoning. Your local Councillors do not favour these sites as they will be very car dependent locations despite being on the railway line. This is because there is no realistic option of new stations being installed as the line is at capacity.

Thus if new settlements were built here there would be a huge increase in road traffic towards the M40 junction.

Devolution Update

I wrote about the English Devolution White Paper last month. This proposes that all District, Borough and County Councils will be dissolved, and new unitary authorities established in their place. These unitary authorities are required to be in the region of 500,000 population and will then be organised into larger Strategic Authorities with other unitaries to make a total population size in the region of 1.5 million. Because the proposal suggests this should happen within a tight timeframe, there was some uncertainty that the May County Council

elections would go ahead, particularly as the leader of Warwick County Council had asked central government to delay these for a year. However, these elections WILL go ahead as planned in May.

Further to this, on the 10 February, Stratford-on-Avon District Council held an Extraordinary Full Council meeting to discuss the implications for the Council from Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation arising from this recent government white paper.

There were several invited speakers and those that attended in person and addressed the Council included Councillor Izzi Seccombe, Leader of Warwickshire County Council; Councillor Ian Davison, Leader of Warwick District Council and Elisabeth Uggerloese, Chair of Stratford-on-Avon District Area Meeting for Town and Parish Councils.

Statements from the two local MPs, Manuela Perteghella for Stratford-on-Avon and Sir Jeremy Wright for Kenilworth & Southam were also read out and also a statement from Ja'Neen Day, Chief Executive Officer, Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils.

Following a lengthy debate the Notice of Motion was approved by Full Council.

The Notice of Motion was as follows:

That this Council notes the publication of the English Devolution White Paper and recognises that Local Government Devolution and Reform could offer considerable opportunity if we agree to work collaboratively with those within our ceremonial and economic geographies to establish the right deal for our local populations.

That this Council notes with regret the Decision of the Leader of WCC to request that the WCC elections are delayed for a year and endorses the joint letter from the Leaders of this Council, North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, and Warwick District Council in response.

That Council will ensure that all Councillors are involved with working with all Councils (County District/Boroughs, Towns and Parishes) across Warwickshire to look at the options for appropriate service delivery models for unitary status, taking into account the views of residents, this must consider:

1. Protecting the level of services and associated assets currently delivered to the community of Stratford-on-Avon District by this Council
2. The geography, population and economic and community footprint of Warwickshire
3. A realistic evaluation of the potential savings which could be delivered
4. Warwickshire's relationships with its neighbours
5. Views on which strategic authority the Council would be best to look at aligning with.

Cllr Susan Juned, Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council said: "What the Notice of Motion was seeking to do was to enable officers to properly and legitimately engage and continue to engage with all political groups, neighbouring Councils and Warwickshire County Council to find the best solution for residents."

"Councils are not just service delivery bodies, they help shape communities, they are an essential part of a healthy local democracy, and it works best if there is a local community identity and that's what we must work to."

Chesterton Windmill - update

Just this week I received an email to say that Stratford District Council have now signed off the planning application for the replacement sails on Chesterton Windmill. These will be somewhat smaller than the originals so that they are safer for (tall) visitors. Owlsworth Conservation have been busy building the new stocks and frames for the sails and it is hoped that these will very soon be up for us all to enjoy.

You may contact me via email on: susan4harbury@gmail.com or at sue.ostrander@stratford-dc.gov.uk



LITTER PICK IN HARBURY

Ian Reynolds

Join us this month for the litter pick on Saturday 1st March and next month on Saturday 5th April. Meet at the village hall car park, 10.00 - 11.00am, litter pickers, hoops and bags provided.



CONNECTIONS: A CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP

Janice Montague

Ten years ago, Jill Baker and Janice Montague, drawing on their experiences caring for parents with dementia, established Connections Café. This monthly gathering provided a valuable space for dementia carers to connect, chat, and find support. The format provided carers and those they cared for with the opportunity to chat with our loyal volunteers, and engage in activities in a supportive and relaxed environment.

It is well known that being a carer can be an overwhelming and isolating time. With this in mind, Judy Timson set up a Carers' Support Group in 2024 in Harbury where carers could come along, relax and engage in supportive discussions regarding their specific needs and experiences.

We began to recognise the shared needs of all carers who are looking after loved ones with not only dementia but with various conditions and diagnosis. Therefore we are delighted to inform the community of Harbury and the surrounding district that we have decided to merge the two groups, which we believe will be more inclusive and sustainable for the future, whilst still maintaining the ethos of being a dementia-friendly environment.

We know how difficult it can be for a carer to factor in 'time out' and, although we cannot provide a drop-off service, as a carer we invite you to attend with those you care for so you get the opportunity to have some 'me time' whilst your loved one is entertained by our lovely volunteers. Refreshments will be made available; a donation being gratefully accepted.

We believe this will offer the best of both worlds: a welcoming space with refreshments, activities, and volunteer support for those being cared for, alongside dedicated time and space for you as carers to discuss your specific needs, share experiences, and hear from invited speakers.

From March 2025, we will become Connections: **A Carers' Support Group**

Meetings will be held on the **third Wednesday of each month**, from 2-4 pm in the Tom Hauley Room (behind Harbury Church).

The first meeting is **Wednesday 19th March**.

The first meeting in March will be an opportunity for you as carers to shape the group's

future by suggesting topics and speakers for upcoming sessions. We encourage you to come along to find out more and we look forward to seeing you!

For further information, please contact one of the following:

Jill Baker - 01926 612483 / 07747 430470

Janice Montague - 07956 195405

Judy Timson - 07835 506008



THE COLLECTIVE

Rev. Andy Batchelor

Events in today's world trigger a multitude of questions on issues to which our modern society is wanting answers. All Saints Harbury engages in discussion on such issues from both a secular and Christian perspective by meeting on a regular basis in the Shakespeare pub. The next meeting of THE COLLECTIVE will take place on Tuesday 25th March at 7.30pm. Our next subject for discussion is Science and Spirituality: Do I have to choose?



HARBURY LOCAL MARKET

Steve Ekins

The Harbury Local Market this Month is Saturday 29th March 10.00 to 12.30 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 Harbury Theatre Group.

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 and also on Facebook @Harbury Local Market, please join our group for regular updates.

Our Sponsors:



SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mike McBride – on behalf of the Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association

We had a fundraising coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room in early February. Thank you to everyone who came along, donated raffle prizes and bought cakes. After expenses, we were able to add £188.35 to our funds. A long way off, our next fund raiser will be at Harbury Carnival in June. It is a bit early to discuss our summer outing, but watch this space.

We hope you had a chance to meet members of our committee at the coffee morning and we look forward to future activities.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

FEMALE CARER REQUIRED

Would you like to join my team of carers to enable me in my active and independent life?

I am a lady in my mid 30's, living in Harbury, looking for a personal assistant/carer to provide extra hours support for my social outings

I have some physical needs, and for mobility I use a wheelchair.

I am looking for a personal assistant/carer/companion to work alternate Mondays 9.15am -2.15pm, and alternate Wednesdays 6.30pm - 10.30pm.

(Hours can be more flexible for the right candidate.)

You must be a competent driver and willing to drive my Motorbility car.

I am looking for an active, sociable, cheerful person who is reliable and willing to learn.

There may be instances where assistance with personal care is needed, but mainly the role will be driving to social events or shopping etc.

Some cleaning will be involved.

Training will be provided. A DBS check will be required.

This is a flexible contract at £11.10 per hour and includes 6 weeks paid holiday per year.

Please email my advocate Sarah for further details:
sarahsmart13@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS, THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



If you would like to include:

- * A birthday message
- * Congratulations to anyone for their achievement
- * Wedding or special occasion wishes
- * Thanks to someone

We will be more than happy to include your message in the magazine.

There is no charge for this, just email your message to articles@hlnews.co.uk or drop it into Harbury Pharmacy by the advertised deadline date.





HARBURY POET HOPES TO INSPIRE OTHERS

Anna Harper

Celebrating her first poetry book Harbury's Anna Harper has written poetry from an early age sharing her experience as a person with an acquired brain injury using a wheelchair.

Anna said 'I don't want my poetry to focus on my disability, as it is secondary to why I write poetry, the main reason being that I enjoy it, and want to share it with other people.'

Anna is eager to encourage people who have disabilities to focus on what they can do instead of what they can't. It also encourages non-disabled people to see beyond the wheelchair, and see the person.

Anna describes herself as a mutlimedia artist, she believes there is little between poetry and art, and anything creative is beautiful. The book is illustrated with Anna's own paintings.



Looking Through My Wheelchair

I'm in a wheelchair

Me on 4 wheels

Like an alien

That's what you see

You're jumping to conclusions

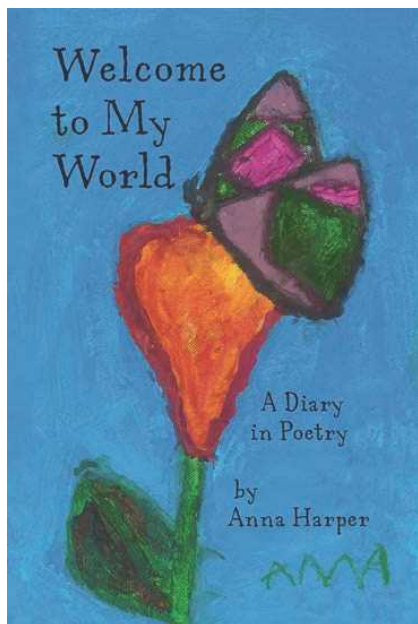
Have a good stare

Now tell me what you see

I hope you find me.

Anna's book was launched in October, and is available to purchase for £10 by contacting Anna: annaish87@gmail.com

Anna is currently working on her second book of poetry. This shows how Anna's poetry has developed over the years.





WEDNESDAY WALKERS

Gillian Hare

At last we are seeing signs of Spring with snowdrops in abundance in Coombe Abbey park, and egrets and skylarks near Grandborough. And again we have been lucky not to be rained on, although the ground is still pretty soggy. We have been delighted to welcome some new walkers this year but have no limit on numbers so do come and meet us. We meet in the car park behind the village hall every Wednesday morning, soon after 9.30am.



HARBURY CARNIVAL – SATURDAY 7TH JUNE 2025

Carnival Committee

It's time to start planning your fancy dress or float for this year's carnival.

As planning starts for the carnival the committee are desperately in need of more volunteers who can spare a couple of hours each week to help source raffle prizes from local firms or advertisers for the programme or one of the many other jobs that need doing to make the carnival a success.

We always want to make the carnival bigger and more successful and fun for everyone but we do need your help to do that.

If you have just a little bit of time each week please help – call Haidee on 07775 857054 or email harburycarnival@gmail.com



HARBURY GARDEN WALKABOUT SAT 28TH & SUN 29TH JUNE 2025

Peter Walshe, Trustee, Harbury e-Wheels

Call for Gardens

The Walkabout is the main annual fundraiser for Harbury e-Wheels, the charity that transports those in need for free to appointments, shopping and vital visits.

We would love to have garden owners volunteer to open their gardens (11am - 6pm on Saturday 28th June and 12 noon - 6pm on Sunday 29th June). It doesn't matter whether your garden is big or small, or whether you have opened it before. We are looking for a wide variety to represent the lovely community that is Harbury.

This year coincides with a Warwickshire Open Studios weekend so we will have a number of gardens with free exhibitions and the Harbury Heritage Centre will also open for some of the time.

We are listed in the Open Gardens National Directory website (opengardens.co.uk) and Super Gardens (supergardens.co.uk) SEARCH 'Harbury Garden Walkabout'. Last year these brought many visitors to Harbury to add to the fun atmosphere over the two days.

Please contact Peter Walshe on 07446 779879 or peterdouglaswalshe@gmail.com.



PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Judy Timson (chair)

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) of Harbury and Bishops Itchington surgery are delighted to welcome three new members! Following our recruitment drive last August, we are now stronger and ready to represent your views.

The first step we are taking this year is leading on a Patient Satisfaction Survey. All patients registered at the practice with a mobile phone number on their record have now received a text or message via the NHS App from the practice with the link to complete the survey. The survey is completely anonymous and primarily uses a tick-box format. We encourage all patients to participate by completing the survey which takes about five minutes to complete. Paper copies are also available in the waiting room.

This survey aims to gather valuable feedback on your experiences with the surgery's services. Your input will help us understand what's working well and where improvements can be made.

The survey will close at the end of March. After the survey closes, the PPG will analyse the results to identify any trends and then work collaboratively with the surgery to address any areas for service improvement.

If you need to contact the Patient Group with your feedback, suggestion, comment or question, send an email to: ppg.harburysurgery@gmail.com

Please note that this survey or the PPG email is for general feedback and not for individual complaints, these should always be directed to the Practice Manager.



Warwickshire East
Primary Care Network

FREE NHS HEALTH COACHING SERVICES

Ludmila Enticott

Find out more at Harbury Library

Do you know about the NHS efforts to implement more personalised care and focus on a whole person approach?

Primary Care Networks (PCNs) have been created to group together local surgeries and create new services that focus on patient choice and wider aspects of health. Additional roles have been created to support patients with lifestyle changes and other social aspects that can impact their health more holistically.

These roles include Health Coaches, Social Prescribers and Care-Coordinators amongst others. Harbury surgery is part of the EAST PCN belonging to South Warwickshire GP Federation. The other local surgeries in the EAST PCN are: Southam Stowe Drive, St Wulfstan Surgery, Kineton Surgery and Fenny Compton Surgery. If you are registered with one of these five surgeries, you can access all of our free lifestyle-based services.

We offer Health Coaching sessions to patients who want to work on their lifestyle and contribute to the management of their own symptoms. Sometimes, patients are interested in taking a more active role in their care but there might be limited time to discuss the links between lifestyle and health.

This is where Health Coaches can help as there is plenty of time to sit together and talk. It is common to talk about topics like exercise, diet, sleep, emotional health and stress management but Health Coaches are open to discuss all aspects that someone considers important for their health.

Health Coaching is patient-led, which means coaches are there to offer support and help patients explore for themselves resources outside drugs and surgery. The main criteria to access Health Coaching sessions are patient interest in getting involved with their care and willingness to make changes for themselves. In other words, everyone interested is welcome to come talk to the coach and the conversations are tailored to each person's needs and interests.

So where to go and how to start?

In the EAST PCN, we offer one to one telephone appointments, which can last around 1 hour depending on your preference. We also offer face-to-face group coaching programmes in the community and we have three different ones on offer: Weight Management Education Programme, Menopause Group Coaching Sessions and Chronic Pain Management Programme. You can contact the EAST PCN for more details or to sign up for sessions with coaches.

Every first Thursday of each month, during term-time only, the NHS Health Coach is also available at Harbury Library to explain the services or chat with any patients that would like to meet the coach and find out more about the services on offer.

There is much to explore and other services to find out about so do consider coming along on a **first Thursday** for an informal **'Chat with the Coach' at Harbury Library from 12.30 to 2.00pm (term-time only)**.

We look forward to being of help.

EAST PCN – www.wepcn.co.uk

Email contact for self-referral: cwicb.we.connect@nhs.net



EASTER ART EXHIBITION

Howard Collerson

Napton Art Group are holding their annual Easter Exhibition of members' work at Napton Village Hall (CV47 8LS) on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th April 2025 between 10am and 4pm.

There will be about 200 paintings in all media including oils, watercolour, acrylics and pastels and greetings cards of some of these will be available. Admission is £1 with free entry for children and there will be light refreshments in the pop-up cafe. Everybody who comes can vote for "The People's Favourite" painting.

The nominated charity this year is the Air Ambulance. Group members will be displaying small paintings that will be for sale at a cost of £10 with the proceeds going to the charity. Payments for items for sale can now be made by card/phone as well as cash/cheques.

The Art Group has a membership that now stands at over 50 and meets every Thursday afternoon at Napton Village Hall and has a programme featuring a wide range of demonstrations and weekend workshops.

Visitors who might wish to join the group are welcome on any Thursday afternoon 2 - 4 pm. Further details from Howard Collerson 01926 813181.



READERS' LETTERS

Dear Editors

We would like to thank everyone who attended our mum, Jeanne Beaumont's funeral (send off) at Oakley Wood Crematorium on the 24th January. We think she would have approved of the ceremony!

Thank you to everyone for the kind words, messages, cards and donations to Myton Hospice in Mum's name, a charity close to her heart.

Many thanks

The Family of Jeanne Beaumont

Dear Editors

Ian Credland

He died peacefully in Bromson Hill Care Home on the 29th of January 2025 at the age of 88. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2015. He made many friends in the village, particularly U3A, the Art Group and people who had coffee in Biblio's Café in the library.

I would like to thank everyone who chatted to him and/or transported him to various places.

Many thanks

Jill Baker (his wife)

Dear Editors

Grass verge backing onto cemetery

This verge has for the second time been planted with bulbs and heathers etc. to brighten up the dull fence we are forced to view from our properties opposite. Sadly the hedge was removed without any notice to us two years ago, but that was ordered by the Parish Council.

Please can we request that this verge is respected and these new bulbs and plants be given a chance to grow and develop, bringing colour and hide some of the fence.

Thank you.

Janet Pratt

Dear Editors

We would like to send our heartfelt thanks to everyone who came to the funeral of Ken and also the celebration of his life at Harbury Village Club. It was a brilliantly sunny day and he was given a fabulous send-off by such a wonderful crowd of family and friends.

Thank you also for all the cards, messages and letters of condolences which shared so many lovely memories of Ken's life, his sense of humour and his strong and supportive community spirit for the village he loved and beyond. They meant such a lot to us and were a source of comfort and support during this difficult time.

Together, so far through your generous donations, we have raised an amazing £850 for The British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research UK; two charities which are important to both us, and so many others.

Thank you all again,

Joan Stephenson and Family



Function Rooms and Premises AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

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Leah Wallington Tel: 07736 804904 hrfc.roomhire@gmail.com	Naomi Moir Tel: 611966 nandpmoir@googlemail.com	Tel: 241566 - evenings harburyvillageclub23@gmail.com
HARBURY VILLAGE HALL	HARBURY VILLAGE LIBRARY	TOM HAULEY ROOM
Claire McGurk Tel: 07963 110522 harburyvillagehall@googlemail.com	Michael Luntley communityhub@harburyvillageclub.org.uk	Moirs thr@allsaintsharbury.org



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

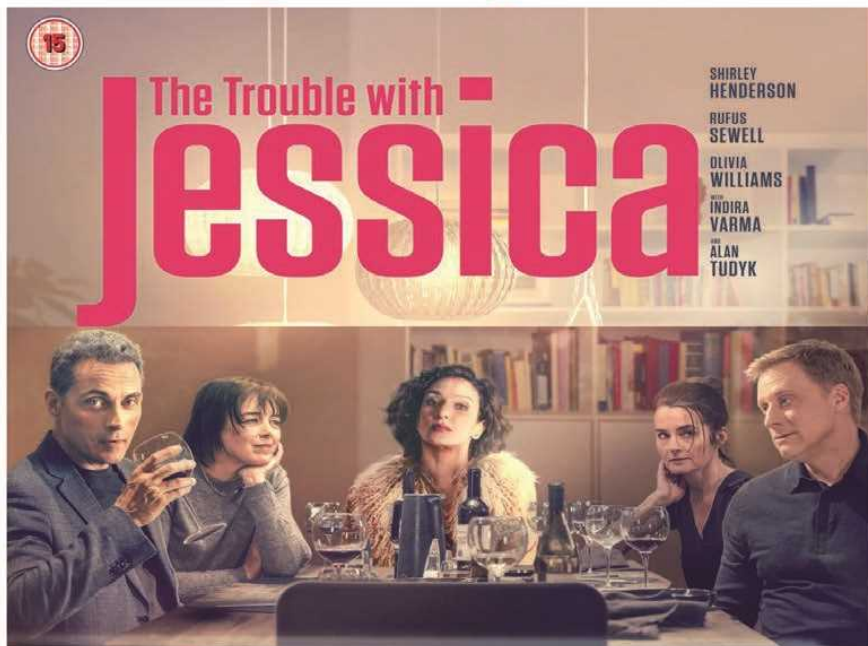
Harbury Village Library Foyer
(Wight School when open)

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.

Harbury Village Cinema



Saturday March 8th 2025

Tickets available from
Harbury Library

Cash or card.

Please buy tickets
by 5th March

Licensed Bar

Tickets are £13.00
to include fish'n'chips
& 2 raffle tickets

or £7.50 to include 1 raffle ticket only

No tickets will be sold on the door.

Doors open 6.15pm Film begins 7pm

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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 Website: www.niftyneedle.co.uk



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kind. helpful. excellent

Terena Barnacle, Associate, Chartered Legal Executive, Residential Property

01926 359357 or email terena.barnacle@alsterskelley.com



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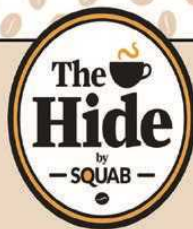
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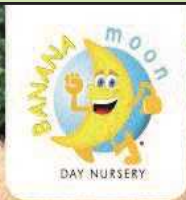


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