

HARWELL NEWS

PUBLISHED BY HARWELL PARISH COUNCIL NO 22

Editor: Brian Metcalfe Distributor: John Child

HARWELL '1000'

It is believed that in 1985 the parish of Harwell is officially 1000 years old. For the historically minded the reference (Kemble 648) reads:

985 AETHELRED, King of the English, raised to the throne of the whole Kingdom of Britain to his 'minister' Aethelric. 17 'cassatos segetibus mixtis' in the place called Harewillan (Harwell), free of all but the three common dues. This charter supersedes any earlier ones which may be produced.

It is probable that the bounds described in this charter describe the present parish of Harwell.

If you have any comments or ideas for events for 1985 contact Dr Keith Beswick (Harwell 338) or Alan Wood (Harwell 623)

Royal British Legion

Chairman Mr A Cowie
Harwell 314
Hon.Sec Mr R East
Harwell 260
Hon.Tr. Mr B Mulford
Harwell 327

Meetings: Every last Tuesday in the month in the Club Room, Kings Lane, all are welcome.

Our thanks to all organisations who attended the Remembrance Day Parade.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION

1st Tuesday every month. Club Room, Kings Lane, Harwell at 7.30 pm.

President Mrs Freeman
Chairman Mrs J East
Secretary Mrs W Appleby
Treasurer Mrs J Knight

All are welcome to come and join.

HOOLIGANISM

Much of the vandalism that occurs in Harwell is typical of the mindless hooliganism that happens throughout the country. It is both pointless and, like so many other things today, expensive. It is not, however, the financial aspect which is causing the greatest concern. People in Harwell have been disturbed and, in some instances, frightened, by loutish behaviour, and damage to property, particularly in the vicinity of the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground. The police are doing all that they can to improve the situation but they do need our help. Just a telephone call to them may prevent further damage and help deter a youngster from a more serious offence.

DAFFODILS

It will soon be time for the daffodils to bloom along the sides of the road. They were planted to be enjoyed by all, so please refrain from picking them.

STREET LIGHTING

In the Parish there is on average a street light per nine dwellings, the greater density is in the centre of the village.

WINTERBROOK TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Sadly this club exists in name and equipment only. A club which in its first year in the Didcot and District Table Tennis League achieved fifth position and was quoted in the local press as being an up and coming useful club, has had to disband through lack of support.

The club was formed initially by the Youth Club but with the idea of becoming a club for all age groups in the village. My thanks to Alan Glaysher who, as the club coach, was the backbone of the club. Unfortunately Alan moved out of the area and we were unable to find a replacement. However, it is not too late to start again so why don't you table tennis players and would be players get together and reform the club? Surely this village is not completely void of table tennis players. The equipment is just waiting to be re-used so don't be shy, contact Kath Luker for further information. The only problems we ever faced were transport ones and this you find in all purely youth organisations. If adults became involved these problems would soon be resolved.

WINTERBROOK YOUTH CLUB HARWELL

Some time has elapsed since our last report.

Several members of the club have been on a camping trip to Avon Tirrol in the New Forest. My thanks to Ralph, Scottie, Janet and Ron for making the weekend a successful one.

Club was closed for six weeks during the summer holidays to allow time for extensive repairs to the Freeman Hall. After a rather slow start the club is again beginning to thrive.

A recent bazaar raised £135 for club funds and this has been ploughed back into equipment in the form of netball posts, rounders equipment and badminton.

We now have DISCO's on a monthly basis plus additional ones which just happen to coincide with members birthdays.

Being a good loser paid off for one member of the club when Spencer Jefferies was presented with the Cummings Trophy. Spencer had taken part in most of the inter-club and County Events and had been runner-up in many of them. The leaders jointly decided that he had always been keen to take part and had never minded losing, he had never been aggressive nor cheeky.

The club offers the following activities snooker, table tennis, table squash, darts.

netball, football, rounders, cricket and many other sports, television, pop music and many other small indoor games. We are always willing to try something new at members suggestions.

Once again we are very depleted in staff with two of our leaders having resigned because of travel difficulties and other commitments. We need people, especially with ideas on amusement activities, who are willing to give up one night a week to help the youth of the village.

The club opens on Monday and Thursday 7.30 till 9.30 pm plus an occasional extra night for a special activity. Anyone interested in helping should contact the Youth Leader Kath Luker or the Club Chairman Dr A E Hughes. Come on the men of the village let us see some proof of your existence!!!

GRAND DRAW IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE, OXFORD

I would like to thank everyone for their help in making the Draw a success. The helpers, the people who bought and sold tickets, the people who donated prizes, the people who came on the night of the Draw and supported the stalls. A cheque for £920 has been sent to the Research Institute. Once again thank you very much for your support, and a Very Happy New Year to you all.

Audrey Poffley

HARWELL SENIOR CITIZENS FUND REPORT FOR 1983

Our Fund has again had a successful year due mainly to the weekly selling of bingo tickets and various fund-raising events throughout the past year. This Christmas 187 Senior Citizens received a gift of £10 each which we put into a Christmas Card and give to them a couple of weeks before Christmas. May I, through this column thank everyone involved in our Fund especially bingo agents who so kindly turn out every week of the year and sell the bingo tickets. If you would like any tickets, they are only 10p each and you could win £50. Please telephone our bingo promotor Ken King on Harwell 228 and he will send your nearest agent around.

Yvonne Hinchliffe (Secretary)
A Leach (Chairman)
D Bosley (Treasurer)

PLANNING APPROVALS

HAR/7172/1

Mr A Spence, 'Highbury' Winnaway. Extensions.

HAR/7315

Mr & Mrs Evans
'Sungrove'
Downs Close.

Extensions

HAR/4809/5

Mr L McDonagh
'House of Van Rem'
Didcot Road.

Extensions

HAR/566/2

British Legion
Clubhouse on Rec.Ground

HAR/7296

Mr J Mulford
Adjacent Beech House
High St.

New Dwelling

HAR/7386

AERE

CO₂ Store at Fire Station
HAR/7435

Mr D Sims
7 Broadway Close
Extensions

HARWELL VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW

The Third Harwell Village Produce Show held on 10 September 1983 continued to maintain the interest of previous Shows in spite of a very difficult season. The number of entries was about the same as last year but spread over a larger number of competitors. In fact about 25% more people made entries.

The awards being as follows:-

1. Harwell Gardener's Rose Bowl
(Horticultural Classes)
Awarded to Mrs A Pepper
2. Chairman's Trophy
(Flower Classes)
Awarded jointly to Miss M Cliff and Mrs E Thompson
3. Rowstock Orchard Trophy (Fruit Classes)
Awarded jointly to Mr E Griffin and Mr M D Child.
4. Floral Art Trophy
Awarded to Mrs Wendy Sinclair
5. Novices Trophy
Floral Art.
Not awarded.
6. Largest number of entries in Show.
Mrs A Pepper
7. Produce Show Shield
(Highest total of points in Show).
Awarded to Mrs A Pepper

Our congratulations are due to all winners who received prizes in kind this year and we hope that more newcomers will be encouraged to enter any future Show when they see the new names amongst this year's winners.

Without exception the Judges commented on the high standards achieved in spite of the difficult season.

The only disappointing feature was the drop in the number of entries in the Floral Art Classes and any future schedule will be reviewed with the object of correcting this.

Our thanks are due to everyone who helped in any way to make the Show success.
L Chumbley

HARWELL'S OUT AND ABOUT CLUB

The advent of the General Election interrupted our programme in June and we had to postpone our trip to the Houses of Parliament but we did have a very enjoyable river trip to Mapledurham House and Mill. The AGM was well attended and a new Committee elected, this was followed by some very welcome refreshment and the showing of some Travel Films.

A new programme has now been arranged

Sat Feb 4 1984
American Museum - Bath
Thursday Feb 23 1984
Littlecote House and a Theatre visit in March or April.
Details of membership (£1 per person per annum) or information about any of the outings from the Secretary:
Mrs Jean Campbell
Harwell 479

NOUGHT TO FIVE GROUP

The Harwell 0-5 Group continues to meet every Wednesday of the school term from 2.15pm to 3.45pm at Harwell School. There are many toys for the pre-school child and company for their mums. The cost is 20p per family for each visit. The Health Visitor joins us on the third Wednesday of each month to weigh babies, have a chat with mums and sell milk and vitamins.

New mums are most welcome, so if you have not visited us yet why not come along?

Each week two mothers take charge of the group as well as giving out tea and squash. We are looking for volunteers to help to allow the mothers to be free to ensure that everyone is making full use of the facilities.

Chairman
Michele Anderson 594
Secretary
Penny Marsh 430
Treasurer
Betty Sievwright 245
Publicity
Sue Moore 7822
Register & Events
Nancy Stott 504
Events
Elaine Kerswell
9 832283

AN APOLOGY

We wish to apologise for the late appearance of this issue of Harwell News. There have been various reasons for this and we hope that future issues will be on time.

CUBS

When the pack restarted in September, we welcomed four new cubs, bringing our complement up to the present 21. As usual, the boys show a commendable enthusiasm in all activities, working well for many arrow and proficiency badges. Among these, four World Conservation badges, awarded to Rodney Green, Andrew Harris, Darren Patt and Stuart Stevens, deserve special mention. The badge is one of the hardest for a cub to earn, but the pack has now had eight such awards in the past five years.

In September our postponed London Trip to the Hendon Air Museum and Cutty Sark expanded to a joint village event, with the 1st Blewbury and 1st Chilton packs accompanying us. Some 50 boys and parent/scouters enjoyed a very interesting day - hopefully we can arrange more joint outings for the village packs in the future.

The following month saw Harwell well represented at a Didcot District 'fun day' and camp fire at Youldbury. This new event proved a great success, with the boys expending much energy in games organised in the afternoon, utilising the 40 acres of the national camp site. The day ended with a magnificent camp fire, arranged and run by David Harris and John Edwards.

In District competitions the honours go to our superb chess team who, under their manager David Harris, won the championship in November, and brought the trophy back to Harwell after its absence of three years. Village packs were prominent in the competition this year, with the holders Chilton taking second place, and Blewbury third. Harwell also did well in the Arts and Crafts, our team coming second in the model building competition. The soccer team drew 2-2 with Chilton in a friendly match, but were not as successful in the 9-a-side tournament in October, finishing 4th.

Two cubs, Rodney Green and Stuart Stevens, broke new ground for Harwell cubs in joining the bell ringers.

Unfortunately I have to report that our cub scouter strength is again barely enough even for pack nights, especially in the event of one or more scouters being unable to attend. Cancellation has been dangerously close at times (since it is not possible to run a pack meeting without a uniformed scouter being present). I am grateful for the help of Mike Hill, our soccer manager, who has recently assisted us, but if you can help, even for a half hour with badge work on Thursdays, please contact me on Harwell 353

We have a few places for boys who are already eight, so if you would like your son to join in the fun and adventure let me or David Harris know. You can, place his name on the waiting list if he is not old enough to join now.

Graham Cox - Akela

FOOTBALL CLUB

After a slow start to the season both teams are now beginning to settle down and look forward to future success in the Berks and Bucks and North Berks Football Cup Competitions. The first team still maintains a high position in Division I of the North Berks League as do the Reserves in Division II. Both teams have won their second round games in the Berks and Bucks Cup, the first team in the Intermediate and the Reserves in the Junior.

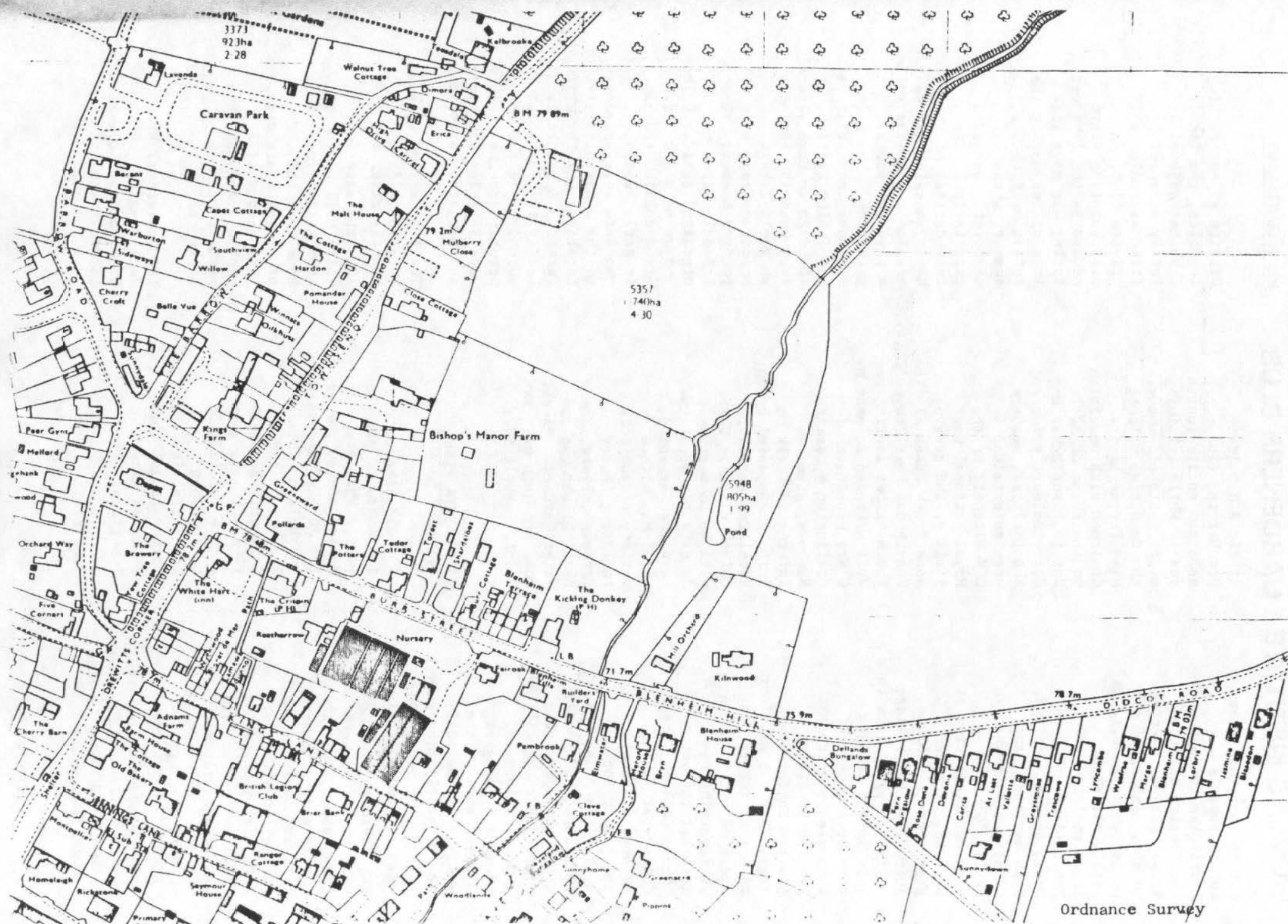
The club provides first class entertainment for a Saturday afternoon and are pleased that more people are beginning to give them support.

STREET NAMES

These are the responsibility of the District Council. If you see any missing or in need of replacement please let the Clerk know and he will attempt to get the District Council to rectify the damage.

Village Hall

You are reminded that bookings for the Village Hall should be made through Mrs. Cherry Packer, Sunnyside, High Street. Tel. Harwell 436.



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

For the next eighteen months Women's Institutes throughout the Country will be having various events to show members of the public what the W.I. is really all about. There will be Exhibitions and Open Days, Coffee Evenings, Open Meetings, and finally a week when we really "Go to Town" with our Exhibition at Olympia. I am sure that a coach will be going from the village so if you would like to join in and see the very best of the WI, then please watch out for the publicity posters in the New Year. Why not go along to any of the events and find out if there is something of interest for you. Denman College, the WI College at Marcham will be open for members of the public for a weekend in June - the Buildings and grounds are well worthy of a visit and there will be demonstrations and classes in progress showing some of the activities included in the yearly programme. Meantime if you would like to come along to our February meeting to hear Mr Ted Hesketh speak about "Sundials" then please ring Mrs Millward on 563 or Mrs Poffley on 450. Our financial year begins in April and new members are always welcome.

ALLOTMENTS

Vacancies occur from time to time for the Parish Council Allotments. Details from the Clerk, Mr W.B. Woollen, Greensward, Townsend, Telephone 253.

GARDENERS CLUB

At the AGM held in October the Club embarked on its fourth year. While retaining most of its old members the Committee welcome Mike Pepper as its Chairman with new faces in the shape of Adele Harris, Jane McKay and Gerry Palmer. Prior to the business, members were entertained by Mr F C H Witchell of the Royal National Rose Society, who gave us some fresh ideas of 'The Unorthodox Rose Grower'. The November meeting was well attended to hear Mr & Mrs Hopkinson of Hollington Nurseries Newbury, give an informative talk on Herbs accompanied by an excellent series of colour slides. There will be no meeting in January but speakers have been arranged, until May with a variety of subjects including 'Pusey Gardens', Pests, The Small Greenhouse and Water Gardens. Please come and join us. Ken Plumb, Harwell 597.

LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND

I would like to say thank you to all the people who came, helped and supported the Jumble Sale that was held on 15 October in aid of Leukaemia Research Fund. I have sent a cheque for £270.50 to the John Radcliffe, for this worthy cause. This included many Donations.

June East

HARWELL VILLAGE TENNIS CLUB

Despite a few teething troubles, the Tennis Club has enjoyed a fairly successful first season as a private club. A disappointing start caused by the long wet spring was more than made up for during the latter half of the summer, when membership exceeded expectation. The introduction of the Monday morning ladies session has proved to be a pleasant social gathering. The main disappointment lies with the Junior Section, although we have several very keen 15 year olds, we would like to encourage many more younger members. One friendly match was organised against Culham and we held a Round Robin mixed doubles tournament in early September. Gift vouchers were presented to the winners, Salvador Estabanez and Christine Turner. A single tennis ladder ran for about 3 months up to the end of October and the winners were Salvador Estabanez and Margaret Henderson.

The 1984 season will re-open in April, shortly after our AGM, the date for which will be posted nearer the time. We hope that the promising start made this season will continue and many new members will be attracted.

The Secretary, Mrs Jane Cummings, 8 Orchard Way, Harwell (Harwell 289)

1st Harwell (St. Matthews) Scout Group

Scouting caters for boys between the ages of 8 years and 16 years old. To help

them with their activities it needs leaders, instructors and administrators of either sex between the ages of sixteen and sixty five giving help according to the time they have available.

P G McNiven
Group Scout Leader

SCOUTS

Camping is one of the main activities in the summer. The first camp was the main summer camp (one week) at Broadstone Warren in East Sussex. The camp was run by M Hinkley and many activities were undertaken which included grass skiing, building a bridge, local visits and lots of fun.

The second camp was at MAPEKING which was the Oxfordshire County Rally to meet the Chief Scout. The camp was attended by over 1,000 Scouts from Oxfordshire, with scouts taking part in many activities to earn medals. Marc Casale (who returned safely from the World Jamboree in Canada) and David Parry had their Chief Scout Award Certificates presented to them by the Chief Scout.

With a couple of hikes and overnight camps many of the scouts have passed parts of their badge

work with Simon Smith, Tom Smalley and Simon Taylor gaining the Scout Standard.

A number of days canoeing have been undertaken by the troop with D Parry and J Beswick passing the BCO 2 star award and K Prentice, D Gibson and myself the BCV 3 start award.

With the older scouts now having the necessary skills to teach and with the troop building their own canoes over the winter months it is hoped that next year most of the scouts will pass the BCV 1 star (elementary canoeist) award.

With the dark nights the scouts have been turning their attention to indoor activities, a number of badges have been undertaken with five scouts gaining the Hobbies badge (Dungeons and Dragons or Football), and three gaining the Quartermaster badge.

Another first in badge work is David Parry gaining an Instructor Forrester badge after attending a course at Youlbury and by returning to teach. On later courses he was awarded the Service Flash.

Other troop night activities have included a visit from Casualty Union to make replica wounds, a wide game by Sinodun Venture Unit and a competition for the Patrols. Each

patrol undertook a series of activities ranging from water proofing matches to knot tying with spaghetti. Prizes included equipment for their patrols and rifle shooting at AERE

Future activities, include a weekend camp in a log hut, a computer afternoon and a sponsored night hike.

With the extra help the troop is now receiving from Simon Black and Clive Parry from the VSU, now is a good time to send your son if he is 10½ or more to SCOUTS.

Andy McNiven

Girls Brigade

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and friends who have helped to make 1983 a very worthwhile year.

I would also like to explain a little about 'Girls Brigade'. We are a Christian organisation with a very balanced and varied programme consisting of Spiritual, Physical Educational and Service subjects. We believe we are a happy fun loving organisation and would like to invite any girls from the age of 5 years to come along on Friday nights to join us.

Further information from Hilary Crossman
Harwell 300

WHAT'S ON

JANUARY

- 11 WI New Year Party
- 12 Women's Fellowship
Deaconess Joan Impey
- 17 Knitting Machine Club
Ladies Group - Slides
of India by Edwina
Thompson
- 26 Womens Fellowship -
Kate Ullmer
- 28 Church Barn Dance
- 31 Knitting Machine Club
Playgroup AGM

FEBRUARY

- 4 Out & About Club
American Museum (Bath)
- 5 Rabbit Show
- 6 Gardeners Club
- 9 Womens Fellowship
Mrs R Rolls
- 10 Conservative Association
Dance
- 14 Knitting Machine Club
- 18 Jumble Sale in Aid of
Cancer Research
- 21 Ladies Group
Mrs Blair - Pressed
Flowers
- 23 Womens Fellowship
Rev. G Taylor
Out & About Club
Visit to Littlecote
House
- 28 Knitting Machine Club

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

If anyone would like to make an individual written contribution to the 'Harwell News', or act as a reporter for any items of information which may be of interest, please get in touch with any parish council member.

MARCH

- 5 Gardeners Club
- 8 Womens Fellowship -
Rev. Ken Atkinson
- 11 Confirmation in
Church - The Bishop
of Reading
- 14 WI AGM
- 17 School Jumble Sale
- 20 Ladies Group AGM
Recipe Exchange
- 22 Womens Fellowship
Mrs Roland
- 27 Annual Parochial
Church Council Meeting

APRIL

- 1 Mothering Sunday
- 12 Womens Fellowship
- 22 Easter Family
Communion
- 26 Womens Fellowship

OVERHANGING HEDGES

We have had a number of complaints about overhanging hedges during the past year. As the spring is approaching please make an effort to keep yours under control.

DIDCOT EXPANSION

At the time of going to press we have no further news regarding the outcome of the public enquiry. Any information which comes to the Parish Council will be made known as soon as possible.

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup will be moving to the Freeman Hall in January, and the new term will start on 11 January, unless anything unforeseen should happen in the meantime.

Playgroup is open to all children between the ages of 3 and 5 years old, for more details contact our supervisor - Gwen Froud on Harwell 491.

On Tuesday mornings we invite Mums with 2 to 3 year olds to come along for the morning. We have found this to be a good introduction to playgroup for both mums and children, so why not come and see for yourself what Playgroup is all about?

Cost: 70p for coffee, milk and biscuits and a happy morning.

Last term was a busy one with lots of fund-raising activities. We held a very successful Jumble Sale in September, a sponsored walk in October and a coffee morning sale in November. The term was rounded off with our annual Christmas Party.

We hope 1984 will be just as busy and enjoyable in our new surroundings. Our opening times will be altered slightly to help mums with children at school. From 11 January we open at 9.15am until 11.45 am.

Susan Greatbanks
Chairman
Playgroup Committee