

HARWELL NEWS

Betty Pyke

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Recreation Ground

One or two misunderstandings arose on Feast Day over payment for admission to the ground. The Parish Council can legally close the ground on 12 occasions a year and allow an organisation to charge for admission. Traditionally one of these occasions in Harwell has been the Spring Bank Holiday when the Feast Committee has taken over the ground.

SALE PROCEEDS

Betty Pyke would like to express her thanks to those who helped to make her Jumble Sale a success. The sum of £260 was obtained for Cancer Research.

Harwell Feast WHEN ?

Allotments

Those wishing to obtain an allotment available on Hagbourne Road, Harwell please contact Mr. W. Woollen, Clerk, P.C.

Didcot Expansion

The Inspector conducting the inquiry has recommended the rejection of Wates Appeal to be allowed to develop Didcot towards Harwell. He has said that any development should take place to the north east of Didcot.

The Harwell Parish Council would like to thank everyone (the majority of the village) who completed their referendum forms and lodged their objection in this way.

Overhanging Trees

Trees and shrubs overhanging paths are again causing one or two problems. Can we appeal to householders to make sure that their garden doesn't encroach. The council has powers to have any encroaching growth cut back and bill the landowner!

Best Kept Village

The village entered the best kept village competition this year. Although the judging has taken place we hope that people will attempt to make a special effort so that we can enter again next year.

DR RICHARD RICE

Dr Richard Rice was a well known and beloved Doctor and Surgeon in and around Harwell from 1882 to 1947. He was not only the village medical adviser, but he had always shown himself ready and anxious to take a share in the organisation and welfare of the village. The village community showed their love and respect for him by arranging a large 70th Birthday Party on 17 August 1928 in the Greenwood Hall - once situated behind the Harwell Brewery, presided over by the Rev J Cohen who remarked that they had gathered together for the largest Birthday Party ever known in the village and the community wanted to express their appreciation and love and good wishes to Dr Rice, and to assure him of the respect and affection held by both old and young alike.

Dr Rice was handed a gift of a handsome piece of Sheffield Plate, Cake Basket of the year 1790, a very rare specimen and one most difficult to obtain. Accompanying this, was a small leather book containing 250 names of the subscribers. On the cover in gilt letters was written Richard Rice, 17 August 1928, whilst inside was the following inscription "This Book contains the names of residents of the parish of Harwell, Berkshire, who have subscribed toward the gift presented to Richard Rice Esq on his 70th Birthday, in grateful recognition of his many years of untiring and faithful work as Doctor,

Counsellor and Friend".

That day Dr Rice had attained the age of 70 years, but there were other reasons why the villagers had gathered together that evening. One was that they were not the sort of people who believed in waiting - and this was said with all reverence - until the "Flag flew on the Church Tower at Half-mast" before beginning to say how they appreciated Dr Rice, as when a man died all sorts of wonderful things were said about him, which were perfectly true, but they had asked Dr Rice there that evening because they wanted him to know whilst he was still enjoying wonderful vitality and strength - the great affection with which he was held in the parish. It might be asked whether the surrounding district might be included in this grand affair by helping in subscribing one shilling - the amount subscribed by every villager for this purpose, but if they had done this they would have had to include nearly every part of Berkshire. Dr Rice fulfilled his duty to God and his Neighbour, he was a regular church-goer and friend to the whole village.

At 6 o'clock on that Birthday morning the Harwell Church Ringers rang a peal of 1,200 Grandsire doubles in honour of Dr Rice.

Finally, I would like to say "Thank you" to Dr Rice's granddaughter Mrs Saxby who lives in

Harwell, for permitting me to write this article.

Betty Pyke

HARWELL OUT-AND-ABOUT CLUB

No outings will be arranged for the holiday months of July and August but for September we are considering a combined Theatre/Shopping expedition, for October a visit to Westonbirt Arboretum with an alternative venue in the event of inclement weather, and a visit to a Pottery or Chinawork Factory towards the end of the year.

THANKS

It is perhaps worthwhile at this stage saying a word of thanks to the Committee who make all these arrangements possible. They each one play their part and are jointly responsible for preparing the programmes, booking theatres and coaches, distributing the information etc. but I am sure you would all wish to join me in offering a special word of thanks to our Secretary Mrs Jean Campbell and to wish her a speedy and complete recovery from her recent operation. In the meantime we are most grateful to Mrs Meg Griffiths for temporarily taking over the role of secretary.

So please address all enquiries and make all bookings through her.

Mrs M Griffiths
Byways,
Church Lane
Harwell

HARWELL FEAST

Although conditions were somewhat dull and the event proceeded by rain there were nevertheless around 2000 people at the Feast this year.

Harwell Feasters do manage to enjoy themselves any time and this year was no exception, the day started well with the parade of dressed floats and fancy dress led by The Swindon Swans, that colourful, energetic group of youngsters found by Kath Luker. The standard for decorated floats was very high and it was pleasing to see that more effort went into presenting the vehicle as a solid display, due to this factor it was possible to retain the floats on the field for spectators to admire. Each year people have complained they leave the field too soon, the reason being that the floats were too bare when the occupants dismounted, please keep this in mind when you construct your entry next year.

The winning entry this year was The Whole Wide World by Harwell Girls Brigade followed by The Four Seasons, Ladies Section of the Royal

British Legion. Thirdly USA Crispin Style by the Crispin Inn. The full results for all the fancy dress classes are in the comprehensive report in the South Oxfordshire Mercury of 1 June. Congratulations to you all.

I personally thank the members of my committee for their efforts this year and all those villagers who have taken part in one way or another to make the day a

success. There are of course a few unsung heroes who I trust will forgive me mentioning them, but where would we be without Michael and Pat Dearlove with Colin Vass who spent all day Sunday and Monday roasting the pigs, James Mulford and Andrew Kimbrey who got very wet assembling the pig roast with the Dearloves and assisted in many other ways, Steven Froud and his gang who suspended the bunting in working time, Joan Froud with Pat Cooke who have continued their lonely task of making the bunting. Ken Fleetwood for painting our signs and altering the date each year. Finally thank you Joe Henderson and Geoffrey Lay for the generous gifts of pigs for roasting.

Don Langford

As next year is the millennium year we would like an extra special effort. Don't just tell your children and grandchildren that you were present at Harwells 1000th birthday, tell them you took part!!!!

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.

PLEASE SUPPORT

The Annual Auctions for the Blind run by Eric Cannings and his team. These Auctions take place each year in The Royal British Legion Club Room, The Kicking Donkey, and the Crown. Please make an effort to attend at least one, you can have an entertaining evening and support a worthwhile cause at the same time. Dates will be announced later in the shops and pubs.

CAR PARKING

There have been a few instances of careless and inconsiderate parking in the village. Please try not to park on the pavement or blocking the road.

HARWELL VILLAGE GARDENERS CLUB

The Club continues to flourish with well supported meetings to listen to a variety of speakers both local and professional outside Harwell.

A pleasant Christmas Party was held in December when Mrs Blair showed us ways of making decorations using everyday items from a winter garden. In February Mr Ken Cotton told us of his work as Head Gardener at Pusey House. The March meeting was more down to earth with our own Laurie Chumbley talking on a year in your garden. In April Mr A J Halstead from the RHS at Wisley gave an interesting lecture on garden pests and how to deal with them, accompanied by excellent slides to enable us to identify the little beasties.

The Committee is organising an attractive programme for the rest of the year which we hope will interest gardeners of all types.

Anyone with the slightest interest in gardening is most welcome at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the 1st Monday in each month (the 2nd Monday where a Public Holiday intervenes). Admission is free to members at £1 per annum but we do ask visitors to contribute 30p to defray the increasing cost of providing speakers.

Ken Plumb
Hon. Secretary

PLANNING APPROVALS

HAR/7445

Crispin Public House. New toilets.

HAR/3154/2 Mr L J

Williamson "Rosemead"
Abingdon Road,
Alterations/Extensions

HAR/4984 AERE. Bld 173 wing into offices.

HAR/1994/2-LB Dr K Beswick

"Limetree House" High Street, Swimming pool.

HAR/SUT/7541 CEGB Power Station. Storage and car parking.

HAR/7653 Mr & Mrs Brinkley, 24 Orchard Way.

Alterations/Extensions.

HAR/7443 Mr & Mrs Miller

"Voila" Reading Road.

Alterations/Extensions.

HAR/7427 AERE coal handling re-arrangements.

HAR/3854-T RAL Chilton.

Temp. buildings.

HAR/2737/8-LB Mr R G

Pearson. Almshouse Farm High Street, Garage, porch and wall.

HAR/7501 RAL Chilton, R26 Extensions.

HAR/7324 Anchor Housing, 21 Flats in Rectory garden.

HAR/7570 Mr Cumberland, 6 Chilbrook.

Alterations/Extensions.

HAR/4130/1

Kicking Donkey.

Alterations/Extensions

HAR/1311/1 AERE Police Club.

Alterations/Extensions.

HAR/7679 Mr G

Winterbourne. "Idaho" Wantage Road.

Alterations/Extensions.

HAR/7681 Mr D Jephcott, 2 Chilbrook.

Alterations/Extensions

HAR/3566/1 Mr J Froud.

"Le Manel" Winnaway.

Alterations/Extensions.

PLANNING REFUSALS

HAR/5945 Mr A Greatbank, "Ranger Cottage", Jennings Lane, Dwelling.

HAR/7680X Mr J Heyward, Middlefarm, 1.47 Hectares for housing.

SCOUTS

The Scouts started '84 with their annual January Camp at Youlbury. This year they stayed in the HQ building and were joined by a patrol from 15th Didcot Scouts. Activities undertaken included backwoods cooking, constructing a missile launcher, making Kendal mint cake, log racing and car electrics.

During January a Computer afternoon was held with eleven scouts and cubs completing their hobbies badge after learning about ROMs and RAMs and writing a number of interesting programs.

Also in January, a new scouter joined the troop, Adrain Hough who is a leader trainer for Oxfordshire and will be helping as an Assistant Scout Leader.

February's programme was based on expeditions, with a visit from Oxfordshire Climbing Club showing slides from and equipment used in the Alps. Also we had our own expedition of a Night Hike on the Downs.

A number of badges have been completed with J, Beswick receiving the Advanced Scout Standard and R Liney and D Lister the Scout Standard. Other badges completed are Artist, Camp cook, Craftsman, Hobbies, Ambulance, Musician, Instructor Forester and Forester at Youlbury plus a few others started including Airman, Geologist and Astronomer. Future events include a survival camp at Youlbury, Summer Camp at Corfe I of W, a weekend at the National Boating Centre at Marlow, District Football and Sports, BCU1 star course and Hike Oxfordshire.

Andy McNiven

SL

CUBS

Our summer programme is already well filled, and includes visits to the Submarine Museum at Gosport and HMS Victory, the Didcot Express Dairies, and the Brass Rubbing Centre of Oxford. Harwell will be represented at the Sixers/Seconders Camp at Didcot Power Station Nature Reserve. Our own summer camp takes place at Youlbury, where our 'Harwellympics' reflects the slightly larger event in Los Angeles!!

The waiting list to join the pack is growing, so if you wish your son to enjoy the excitement and adventure of Cub Scouting get his name down - now!! (Contact Graham Cox and David Harris).

Graham Cox
Akela

Winterbrook Youth Club

1984!!!! The year of so called reckoning has commenced exceptionally well for the club. During the first two weeks of January, members and helpers set about redecorating the interior of the Freeman Hall, their headquarters. It was decided to keep to the harlequin colour scheme as this would make it easier for future touching up exercises and would also produce a bright effect in the hall. Members like the bright colours which are highlighted on disco nights and both members and helpers agreed the environment would be well suited to the playgroup, the new users of the hall.

Membership is in the 50/50 ratio for boys and girls and have once again begun to increase. At present facilities in the club are somewhat biased in favour of the boys but we hope to overcome this by the introduction of girl orientated events.

A last minute decision to enter five boys in the Didcot and District Youth Organisation Senior Superteam event paid off with the boys much to their amazement becoming champions. The five lads Steven Knight, Spencer Jefferies, David Hargreaves, Robert Hogan and Mark Davies won two out of the five events (football, video test basketball, gym tests and relay race.)

February saw more success for the club when Richard Law was winner of the OABC Senior Table Tennis Competition at the Old

Gaol and will represent Oxfordshire in the Regional Finals to be held in Winchester in April.

Five junior members of the club tried to equal the senior members achievement when they took part in the OABC Junior Superteam event at Wolvercote but unfortunately had to settle for third place. The lads, Mark Davies, Jason Winfield, Scott Brown, Darren Phillips and Simon Smith fought hard against the other 7 teams taking part in football, basketball, video test, rifle shooting and gym tests.

March commenced with the area round of the County General Knowledge quiz. The team, Spencer Jefferies, Richard Law, Jamie Butler and Mark Davies took the title by a very narrow margin of one point. This was the third successive year the club were to hold the title.

Eighteen members of the club went on an iceskating trip organised by Michelle Robbins our area supervisor for youth clubs. The five coaches arrived at Richmond in good time for the afternoon session and members enjoyed 3 hours on the rink many of them for the first time.

March proved to be a booming success for the club with Rodney Law, Jamie Butler, Jamie Muldoon and Mark Davies battling their way through to the Final of the OABC Darts, being runner-up was sufficient to give them a place in the Regional Finals at Winchester. Nina White cast care to the wind and shrugged off shyness and nerves to take part in the Didcot & District Area

Youth Organisations Disco Dancing Competition and much to her amazement took third place in the senior section.

Our campaign for help produced good results. I am pleased to welcome 3 male members to our staff Marshall Cumming of Harwell and Les Elliot and David Irving from Didcot, and they have quickly been accepted into the club by the members. I thank them for making the effort to join our happy band and also thank our other regular helpers. Thanks also to the members for your continued support, your enthusiasm and appreciation makes my task worthwhile.

The club opens on Monday and Thursday 7.30 till 9.30 pm plus an occasional extra night for special activities. We are always open for new members so if you are bored with watching TV or from aimlessly roaming the streets please drop in and see for yourself the activities we provide which now include a space invader, pool table and piano.

CUBS continued.

The most notable event of the pack's winter term was the award of the Chief Scout's Commendation for Meritorious Conduct to Andrew Mann. The County Commissioner for Oxford made his first ever visit to Harwell when he presented Andrew with his badge and framed certificate in recognition of his brave act of rescuing his brother Stuart. Andrew's award will enable him to be Oxford's only cub scout at the Annual St Georges Day Parade at Windsor

WHAT'S ON

- 14 July Produce Show
- 17 July Harwell Church Ladies - Meeting at Muriel Taylors (Bring and share supper and a friend).
- 26 July Womens Fellowship - Mrs Olive Clarke (Didcot Free Church)
- 27 August Rabbit Show
- 1 Sept Jumble Sale
- 12 Sept Womens Institute
- 13 Sept Womens' Fellowship - Assessment Afternoon
- 22 Sept School Jumble Sale
- 29 Sept Scouts Jumble Sale
- 6 October British Legion Sale
- 7 October Rabbit Show
- 10 October Womens Institute

Dog Fouling

A bye-law now exists to enable action to be taken to restrict the fouling of footways and grass verges. The Parish Clerk has a copy of this bye-law and two passages are worth publishing here.

.....No person in charge of a dog shall allow the dog to foul a footway or grass verge....

.....Any person offending against this bye-law shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds....

Harwell Football Club

In the past emphasis has always been on Saturday Football in the form of Harwell First and reserve teams which are regularly quite successful with seldom a year passing by without a trophy of some kind being awarded. However times are changing fast, for several years now Sunday football has become an important feature in village entertainment. Both the White Hart and Crispin field two teams on most Sundays. These teams cater for the needs of those lads who work on Saturdays or for some other reason are unable to take part in Saturday games. The White Hart has been playing football for about the last 10 years and at present play in Div.I of the Upper Thames Valley League. This year has not been quite so good for them in the league and they expect to finish midway but this is compensated by reaching the quarter finals of both the Berks and Bucks Sunday Cup and the Upper Thames Valley Devenney Cup. As the team will agree, winning is not everything, enjoyment of the game plays a most important part. The Crispin play in Div.II of the Upper Thames League and have been top of the league for most of the season. They have reached the final of the Devenney Cup and the Ridgeway Cup.

Harwell's Saturday teams have been successful for many years. The first team as holders of the Charity Shield have battled their way through to the final again this year. Runners-up in last

years North Berks Cup they will again take part in the final this year. They are also strong contenders for league champions. the reserve teams, positioned about midway in the league, have also reserved a place in a final, that of the Kingham Cup. Harwell will soon celebrate 100 years of football in the village and it is hoped to organise a grand re-union dance to give past and present players to talk over old times and of course to enjoy themselves.

HARWELL MILLENNIUM

Have you any tales of haunted Harwell houses, prancing poltergeists or gentle ghosts? If so, the Harwell Millenium Publicity Committee would like to hear about them.

Please forward details, preferably in letter form to:-

Mrs Patricia Cooke
Evergreen
School Lane

HARWELL VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW

This year sees a change in the arrangements for the Village Show in that we shall be holding a Summer Show rather than an Autumn one as in other years. It was felt that this would result in a more colourful show and give greater scope to the majority of Householders as there should be many more flowers in bloom at this time.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Parishioners are reminded that the Citizens Advice Bureau in Didcot is available for help with problems.