

The HARWELL NEWS

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Harwell Feast Committee

At the AGM held on July 11th proceeds for the financial year ending July '91 of £3098.94 were declared. The following donations were made:

Almshouses, proceeds from	£2,300
Harwell Feast Day	
Harwell School	£110
Playscheme Fun Club	£140
Village Hall, for the purchase of an electric piano	£850

Election of Officers - Pete Davis continues as Chairman, Janice Markey as Treasurer. The new vice-chairman is Sue Cooke and the new secretary is Vicki Done.

Applications are invited from clubs, organisations, societies, etc. requiring funding during our next financial year to July '92, in writing please to the secretary at 13, Kings Lane. All applications will be considered.

The next committee meeting will be Monday 9th Sept. at 8pm at Cherry Tree Court. New members are always welcome. **Future Events:**

Village Quiz Sat 12th October. A team comprises 3 members and you must be either resident in Harwell or be representing a village club, pub, organisation, business, etc. Entry forms are available from Dearloves in September.

Old Tyme Music Hall 14/15/16th November. Further details of tickets will appear in the next Harwell News. There are still a few cast gaps to fill so if you would like to take part in the show contact Janet Spence, Ab. 835336.

Christmas Dance Saturday 21st December. We are also planning some Bingo sessions in the winter months.

Gardener's Club

Monday August 5th: Visit to Colegrove Seeds; depart 7pm - own car or shared transport. Further details from Ruth Alexander - 835359.

Monday 2nd September: Talk on *Antique Plants for your garden today* by Mrs J. Andrews.

Saturday 14th Sept: Outing to Chilton, Hungerford - the Victorian Kitchen Garden. Arrangements will be made at the regular meetings.

Looking ahead, on 7th October John Mattock will talk on *Roses yesterday, today and tomorrow*.

Winterbrook Youth Club

We are now closed for the holidays and are due to re-open on Monday 16th September. However, Malcolm Birkinshaw has now retired after 6 years of hard labour - God bless him - and we are looking for two new leaders aged 25+ (at least one male).

We have a very lively Youth Club catering for ages 7 - 18 on Monday evenings in the Freeman Hall and it would be a shame to have to close.

However unless at least one male leader can be found the club will be unable to re-open in September!

Training Courses are available but common sense and enthusiasm to organise and supervise games and activities are all you really need to get you started.

Anyone out there interested???

Contact Janice Markey on 832802.

Harwell W. I.

Younger Harwellians - why not become a member of the village's W.I.? Come to a meeting or two and then decide - planned for future meetings (start 7.30 pm) we have:

11th Sept. *Corndollies* talk and demonstration; Quiz: plants and foliage

13th Nov. *Dabble* evening - a chance to try several crafts

For other events see posters in the Village Hall, Dearlove's and Fanfare stores.

WI 75th Anniversary Celebration Dinner
Wednesday October 23rd.
For details contact Audrey Poffley - 835450

Do come to the Harwell Village Produce show on Saturday September 7th - entry forms with details in Harwell shops. WI members have entries as well as the village gardeners and crafts people.

Harwell Village Hall

The exterior painting, funded by the Parish Council, has been completed. Unfortunately, within weeks several further windows had been broken, and then the repairs to these damaged. This may be a 'lark' for the young person or persons doing the damage, but parents are reminded that it is both the Community-Charge Payers money and that raised by villagers to carry out more worthwhile work that is being squandered with each act of vandalism.

The Hall Committee is grateful for the Feast Committee's generosity (see above) in providing the Hall with funds to purchase a new keyboard instrument. The Committee has long had requests for us to replace the aged piano, and the new instrument should fulfil a variety of needs. The old piano will shortly be redundant - offers of cash or just to take it away are welcomed.

The Committee agreed at its last meeting to increase the deposit for private parties to £50. The next meeting will be in the Hall on 20th August at 7.30pm.

The Village Hall Committee invites you to a coffee-morning with bring-and buy sale in the garden of Pillar House, home of Mrs Greta Whitehead and Family on Saturday September 14th, between 10am and 12 noon. 50 pence charge for refreshments. Proceeds will go towards the cost of the new curtains in the Hall. In case of rain it will be indoors in the old schoolroom where Mrs Irene Clarke & her sisters used to teach. Entry and parking - School Lane.

NSPCC Autumn Market

This event will be held on Saturday 21st September between 10am and 12 noon at Church Farm, Church Lane. There will be all the usual stalls plus games and attractions for all the family. Please come and support the NSPCC.

Harwell Parish Council

The meeting of the Council on 17th June agreed to give £2,500 towards the Almshouses renovation, which will shortly be carried out by the Parochial Charities, converting the present dilapidated accommodation for four into modern accommodation for two.

Villagers are reminded that obstruction of the pavements by parked vehicles is both illegal and a source of danger to pedestrians. Please consider all types of road and pavement user when parking.

As residents of Westfield are aware, the Vale WHDC sought views on changing the name of part of the road to *Old Westfield*. Due to lack of support, this is not being proceeded with, but in order to assist visitors to the area, the Vale WHDC will shortly be adding to the existing road signs to indicate the house numbers in the two areas.

Friends of St. John Ambulance

Is there someone, or a group of you, who would consider forming a *Friends of St. John* in Harwell?

As you may know, St. John Ambulance is a voluntary organisation receiving no official or regular funding from Government or any other source. At present monies for the provision and maintenance of equipment (from ambulances to bandages), training resources, uniforms, the provision of Divisional HQs and their maintenance is all raised by the Brigade itself.

This appeal and the concept of forming a *Friends of St. John in Oxfordshire* to support the Brigade will not only relieve Brigade members from the task of fundraising but will, we hope, involve volunteers like you who may care to support the work of St. John Ambulance. Our ideal is to form groups of *Friends* in every community in Oxfordshire.

The numbers of recruits to St. John Ambulance are not as great as they used to be, yet each year

they are asked to perform even more public duties. They need to recruit and they need funds. They are all volunteers with full-time jobs. They have not enough free time to be on duty, recruit new members and raise money. Can you help by organising one fund-raising activity a year in Harwell or by recruiting 50 *Friends of St. John* (or more) at £2 per person per year in your area? If you feel able to help or would like more information please telephone St. John Ambulance County Headquarters (08675 78229) and leave a message for Georgina Stonor or Gillian Ovey. We will give you all the support we can to launch your group. Do come and join us. Thank you.

Vale of White Horse D. C.

Grants to Repair and Improve your Home

Minor works assistance is a package of discretionary financial assistance offered by the Vale of White Horse District Council.

The assistance represents the full cost of all *reasonable* expenses incurred to carry out specific works of repair and/or adaption to your home. The maximum award allowable is £1000, meaning that more major works will have to be considered under the separate *major renovation / adaption grant* legislation (which is also administered by the Council). Where a DIY project is proposed, assistance may be available for the purchase of materials.

In brief, the following types of work may be eligible:

1. Adaptions to allow for the care of an elderly, frail or disabled person in a family home.
2. Adaptions to allow a disabled person to remain independent in their own home.
3. Basic repairs to a home to render it safe and weatherproof.
4. Simple security measures (window locks etc.).
5. Basic loft, tank and pipe insulation (energy conservation works).

Who qualifies for help? Firstly, all minor works assistance is *income related*, and you will therefore only qualify if you or your spouse is in receipt of at least one of the following benefits:

Housing Benefit
Community Charge Benefit
Income Support
Family Credit

In addition, you are only eligible for assistance if you are an owner-occupier, a tenant of a Housing Association, or a private tenant. Assistance is not available to Council tenants or to landlords.

There is also an age restriction in respect of eligibility, whereby the householder (or the person to be cared for) must be at least 60 years old, except in respect of energy conservation works, for which there is no age bar.

If you would like more information, then please contact (address from 1st August):

The Environmental Health Division
Val of White Horse District Council
Abbey House, Abingdon,
OX14 3JE Tel. (0235) 520202

Continence Clinic

Incontinence of urine is a problem which affects all age groups, causing embarrassment to many people. However, in many cases there is a cure or at least

the problem can be made more manageable. If you are a sufferer or wish to assist someone else, there are clinics at the Didcot Health Centre. Mrs Applebee (Didcot 813969, evenings) will take referrals for Heather Paterson and Wendy Smith.

Editorial Note

Margaret Turner, who arranges the distribution, would welcome one or two volunteers who would be able to distribute some copies if any of the regulars are unable to assist with a particular issue (Tel. 821248).

Details of your club meetings or occasional events are welcomed for inclusion. Also any other contributions will be considered for publication. Send them to Martin Ricketts, 16 The Park, (or phone 835628) by September 15th for the next issue.

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