

Girls Brigade

On Feb. 27th 1952 the 1st Harwell Girls Brigade was formed by Mrs Muriel Wright; subscriptions were 1 penny per week, and Rev. Clifford Mason had just been appointed Vicar of St. Matthews. Since then many hundreds of girls have passed through the company and it is still going strong with 65 members with ages ranging from 5 to 17.

Each year we have an annual Camp, and this year's will be held at St. Ives, Cornwall. Also this year we are planning a celebration display on June 20th, and a reunion party for all former members on 21st November. If you were a member, we look forward to seeing you on this date. If you know any former members, now outside the village, please let them know.

There is always a welcome for new members - we meet on Wednesday evenings, 6pm for 5 to 11 year-olds, and 7.15 - 8.45 for 11 upwards. Further details are available from Hilary Crossman, tel 835300.

Harwell Feast Committee

The Valentines Dance will be held on Saturday 15th February, in the Village Hall, 8-12 p.m. Tickets are available from Fanfare stores, Dearloves, and Committee members.

Harwell Feast Day - Monday 25th May

Plans are now underway for this year's Feast, which will include a parade of floats (open theme), Donkey Derby, Fun Run, Car Boot Sale, Didcot Diamonds, and all the fun of the fair etc. If anyone feels they could spare an hour to man a stall, tea urn or even a donkey (!) the Feast Committee would appreciate your help. Sign up on a list at Dearloves or contact Janice Markey (835802). Proceeds from Harwell Feast 1992 will be divided between the Scouts and the Bowls Club.

We are planning another Open House & Garden afternoon in the summer. If anyone feels they have an old or interesting property that they would like to open, kindly contact Alison Brisland (835218).

There will shortly be a video available of the Old Tyme Music Hall. The cost is not known at the time of going to print but details will be posted on our noticeboard in Dearloves telling you the cost and how to order.

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION WINNERS

- | | |
|-----|--------------------|
| 1st | Matthew Hinchliffe |
| 2nd | James Merrifield |
| 3rd | Samantha Edwards |
| 4th | Carly Stott |

Harwell Playgroup

A dance was held in the Village Hall on New Year's Eve, organised by Gwen Froud and friends, and the £100 raised was kindly donated to the Playgroup. This will now be an annual event, so we would be grateful of any support in the future.

Playgroup takes place four mornings a week during term time - Monday to Thursday, from 9.15 until 11.45, in the Freeman Hall. There is always plenty for the children to do - sand and water play; painting; playdough; games; dressing up box; a playhouse and a reading corner for those quieter moments. Playgroup is for children aged 3 to 5 years but on Tuesdays we welcome younger children, but please stay with them. Your child will also be offered milk and biscuits - all this for just £1-40 per morning!

If you have any enquiries, please ring Gwen Froud on 835491.
Sue Curran (Chairman)

Harwell Gardeners' Club

On Monday 3rd February Mary Spiller will talk on *Planning the Small Garden*. There will be a competition - a *Winter Arrangement* - your own choice.

On Monday 2nd March Mr John Mattock, well known rose-grower, will give his postponed talk - *Roses, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* - refreshments - raffle.

All meetings commence at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

HARWELL - Village for 1000 years

This book, published in our millenium year, has been sold out for over a year. A total of 1440 copies were sold, although a few reference copies are available on loan. Since then there has been a steady number of enquiries and so it has been suggested that there should be a reprint. Costs have increased considerably since 1985 and the price per copy would have to be at least £6, which means the Book Committee would have to approach the Harwell Parish Council for a considerable loan. Before any decision can be made we should like to know what support we could expect from the Village. Would those who would be interested in purchasing a copy please let a member of the Book Committee know so that demand can be assessed:

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Betty Pike | Peter Oliver | Ruth Woollen |
| 6 Tyrrells Close | 7 The Croft | Greensward |
| | | Townsend |
| Tel. 835324 | 835277 | 835253 |

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Parish Council

A drinks-can bank is now in place adjacent to the bottle banks, sponsored by AEA Harwell, in the recreation ground car park. There are also now bottle, drinks-can and clothing banks at the Harwell (AERE) shopping centre (although the siting of these appears far from ideal - ed).

Would those who cycle along the Winnaway please remember that pedestrians have the right of way on the footpath, and thus they need to take particular care in the dark, and should use the track where available.

We have been asked to republish the footpath map, and have endeavoured to bring the previous map up to date, by consulting the Oxfordshire C.C. footpaths officer for our area, David Jones. Notes are given of recent changes and 'problem' paths.

John Doyle

It is with sadness that we record the passing of John Doyle who died in the early hours of Tuesday January 14th at Sobell House. It is fitting that we should pay tribute to his outstanding contribution to Harwell Village and its inhabitants.

John was the epitome of a "gentle man". Always willing to help out if the need arose, never afraid to offer his service to any worthy cause or organisation. He was an active member of many village groups, most notably the Royal British Legion, the Parish Council, and had given many years of unwavering support and leadership to the Senior Citizens of the village. He will be greatly missed by the Tuesday Club, for whom he organised social events, including day and memorable long weekends trips.

He was also a very popular man, loved by old and young alike. This affection and also close family bonds were reflected at his funeral service, where a packed congregation gathered to pay their final respects. He will be sadly missed by many in Harwell but our lives should be that much richer for remembering John Doyle and his unflinching commitment and devotion to his family, friends and fellow man.

THE WHITE HART, HARWELL

Tel. 831872

Pete & Lyn FASSAM Evening meals are now available in our refurbished Wells Bar - Mon - Sat
7 - 9.30 pm

Lunches on Sundays 12 - 2pm.

Party Bookings for 5-course Christmas Dinners
£7-50 per head. Buffets £3-50 per head.

Harwell Village Hall

Among the matters discussed at the meeting on Monday 9th December were the following:

(1) The Treasurer reported the receipt from the Parochial Charities Committee of £123.65, and the generous donation from the Feast Committee of £1150. Purchase of the piano from this gift cost £850, due to a discount from Broadway Music of Didcot. The new curtains have now been installed at a cost of £1556. The Musical Evening and Flea-market stall raised a total of £311.

(2) Hall hire charges were increased by approximately 5% from 1st January. The schedule of charges may be obtained from the Booking Secretary Mrs M. Allan, Beech House, High Street. (832856)

(3) Discussions are continuing on the creation of an information centre for the Village and on improving the stage facilities for dramatic performances.

(4) A detailed proposal is being submitted to the Parish Council in support of a request for a grant to enhance the appearance of the Hall and its surroundings. (The Parish Council has since made a grant of £1000 towards the cost of this work).

(5) The advice received suggests that the heating of the Hall could be carried out at much less cost, and more effectively, using gas. This is being pursued as a matter of urgency.

(6) Forthcoming events - on Friday 11 April there will be a **Talent Auction** - see the separate item for details. And on Friday 29th May there will be **Recital of Operatic Arias and Ballads** by Michael Neill, currently singing with the English National Opera.

Blood Donor Clinic

The next local session will be at the Didcot Civic Hall, on Wednesday 4th March, 10.30 - 12.25 & 2pm to 3.55. New donors are always welcome - for more information ring 0800-300-333 (free, anytime).

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Harwell

Rights of Way

Notes:

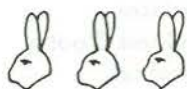
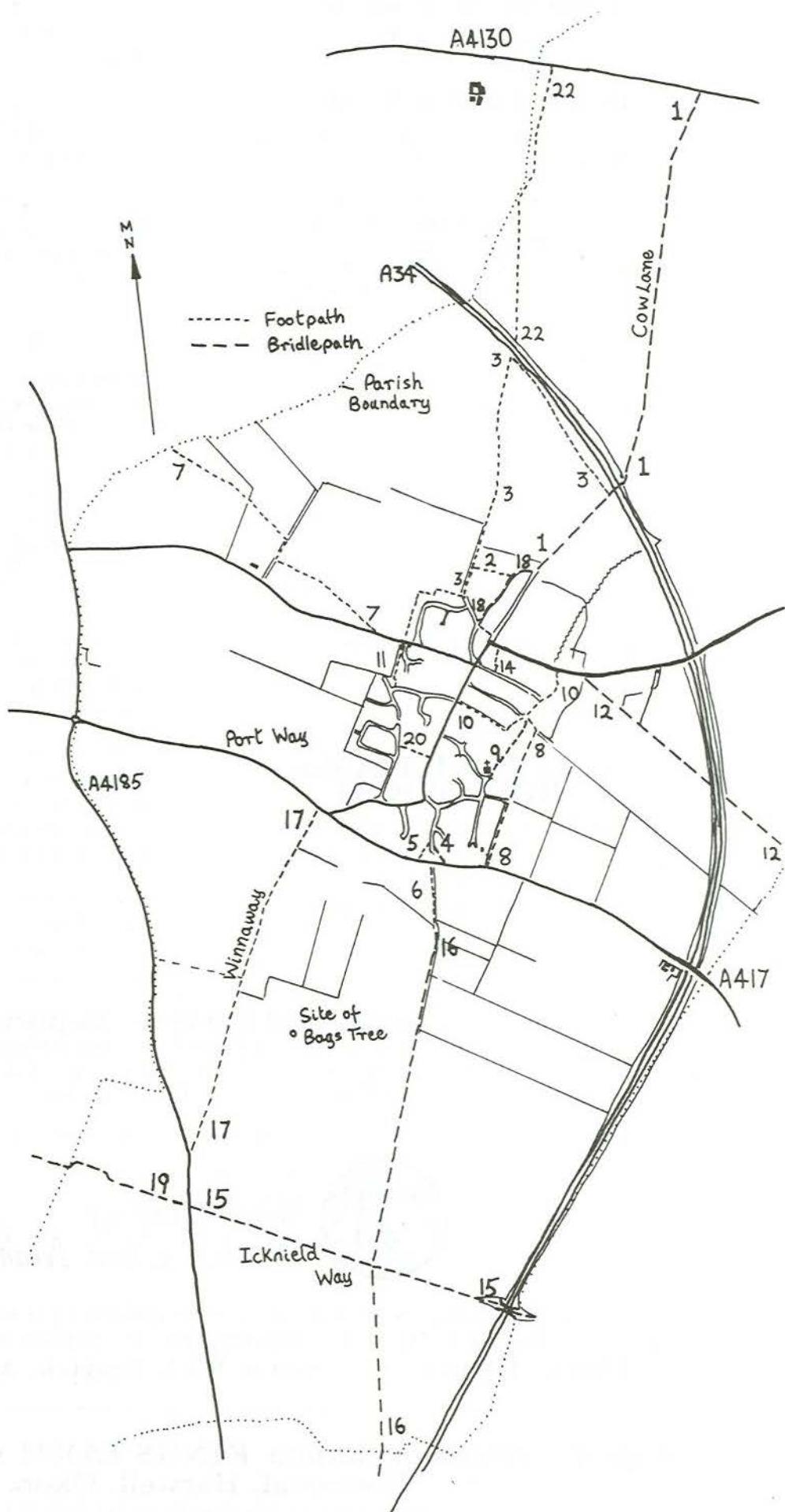
No. 4 was recently converted to a Bridleway.

No. 7: This path terminates at the Parish boundary, as the continuation in Milton Parish has not yet been confirmed. The line on the definitive map of the eastern section cannot be followed at present. The Oxfordshire CC Rights of Way officer for our area, David Jones, is currently discussing this with the owner.

No. 12: This is cut by the A34.

No. 22: Previously known as the northern section of no. 3, this is not easy to follow on the ground and is not linked to No. 1 by a definitive path. There could / should be a path along the top of the embankment above the A34, and indeed there are stiles into it at each end. However the top of the embankment is currently somewhat overgrown. The A34 is an 'all-purpose highway' so cannot have a definitive footpath within its boundaries (so we are told). It is the responsibility of the Oxfordshire Highways Dept. to provide and maintain any path within the boundary.

Nothing is implied by the presence or absence of other features on the map - the roads etc. are intended to supply sufficient detail to enable the rights of way to be located.



Village Hall Talent Auction

Auctioneer: Mr Tom Taylor
Saturday 11th April

Licensed Bar - Refreshments

By popular request the Village Hall is holding another Talent Auction and Social Evening.

What have you to offer in the way of Talents and / or Favours for this most enjoyable occasion?

Please Contact:

Jan Plumb	Gwyneth Lee	Mary Allan
835597	835449	832856

Winterbrook Youth Club

The club is now running well again

Monday evenings - Freeman Hall

Juniors 8 - 12 yrs. 6 - 8 pm

Seniors 13 - 18 yrs. 8 - 10 pm

Subs 30 pence per evening. Future events:-
ice-skating, cinema, swimming, bingo!

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Mobile Library

This is available in the Village Hall car park on alternate wednesdays, between 2.50 and 3.30pm. The February dates are 5th and 19th; March 4th and 18th.

Neighbourhood Watch

Harwell has now been registered as an official Neighbourhood Watch Village and thanks to the generosity of the Feast Committee signposts have been erected at the 4 approaches to the village.

Reported incidents:

Motorcycle stolen from the High Street.

Lady claiming to be a Social Worker - Gaveston Rd

More broken Windows in the Village Hall.

Interference with a High Street letterbox.

Hints on keeping your property yours:

Have you post-coded your tv, video or bicycle?

Have you listed, and ideally photographed, your valuables?

Your local co-ordinator, who should be wearing a Neighbourhood watch badge, will be visiting houses in their area within the next few weeks, to enquire if you wish to have your name entered on the new list of those interested in the scheme.

Please notify Sandy Carter (835645), your local co-ordinator, or Tim Elvin of Didcot Police (776501) if you see anything suspicious in your area.

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Gardening Notes

With the warmer weather and lengthening days things are really beginning to move in the garden now and many folk get the urge to get on and do things particularly sow seeds - but it's best to make haste slowly - we can still get some cold spells yet. The recent cold snaps with temperatures dropping to -9 or -10 centigrade are an example as many plants suffered then and it reminds us not to be too tidy in the autumn - a little of the old foliage left on plants serves as a protection.

Nevertheless some seeds benefit from being subjected to cold and even frost; most Alpine seeds benefit in this way; other seeds need a long season of growth if we are to get the best from them. Brussels sprouts both need a long season and firm soil when planted out; Pelegoniums (Geraniums) especially the new F1 hybrids need a long season of early growth as do Impatiens (Busy Lizzie) which also need light to germinate and the seed should be sown on the surface and not covered or only by a thin sprinkling of vermiculite, to keep the sand moist while at the same time allowing light through.

Troughs, tubs and hanging baskets may be prepared in advance by adding one of the water retaining gels to the compost (allow plenty of room for the gel to expand as it absorbs moisture) and at the same time a slow release fertilizer may be incorporated in the compost - this should last the whole season and save having to keep feeding the container.

Start pest control in the greenhouse now - yellow sticky traps should be in place early; in that way they catch any early pests and prevent a build-up - hang them on a string just above the plants and shorten the string as they grow.

In spite of what many textbooks say I find it does pay to feed bulbs as soon, as they show through the soil, with a high potash fertilizer and to feed them again once they have finished flowering, with a balanced fertilizer to build up the bulb for next season.

As last year was the third year running in which

this area experienced a shortage of water, do try to get as much mulching done as possible as soon as the soil warms up and whilst it is still moist. I hope that you will be preparing your containers and gardens in order to enter the Most Attractive Gardens Competition.

Laurie Chumbley

Recipes from the W.I. Warming soups for cold days

German Lentil Soup:

Ingredients: 1 cup lentils
6 cups water
1/2 tin chopped tomatoes
1 carrot, 1 med onion, 2 sticks celery (diced)
1/4 tsp oregano & pinch thyme (dried), seasoning
1/2 german pork sausage ring or 4 frankfurters

Simmer all the ingredients together until the lentils are mushy. Remove sausage - cut into slices. Liquidise the other ingredients until smooth. Replace sausage slices and reheat before serving. A 1/2 cup of red wine added when reheating gives a good flavour to the soup!

Minestrone soup

Ideal for making after having a chicken. Cut the carcass into pieces and simmer in water to cover for 30 to 40 minutes. Strain stock and remove any meat from the bones. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a large pan. Add 1 large chopped potato, 1 sliced carrot 1 sliced courgette, 1 sliced stick of celery, 1 diced onion and 1 crushed clove of garlic. Stir into the oil - sweating gently for 5 mins. Then add the stock and a 7oz. tin of chopped tomatoes (contents of). Bring to the boil and simmer for 40 minutes.

Then add 4oz. finely shredded cabbage, 1oz. short cut macaroni or pasta shapes and any chicken from the bones. Cook for another 20 mins. then season well and sprinkle with parmesan cheese. - Will keep 1 to 2 days refrigerated, or will freeze well. J.M.

SURGICAL CHIROPODIST: M.S.S.Ch. M.B.Ch.A.

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In & Around Harwell

February

- 1 R. Jackson available for interviews
9.30 - 11am. Didcot Conservative Club.
- 3 Gardeners' Club - *Planning the small garden*
- 5 Didcot & dist. Arch. & hist. Civic Hall
7.30pm Archeological investigations at
the new Tesco site, Didcot.
- 8 2pm Jumble Sale Village Hall, in aid of
Fitzwaryn Special Needs School, Wantage.
- 12 W.I. Meeting: Easy Entertaining - Cookery
demonstration by Jane Dodds
- 15 Feast Valentines Dance, Village Hall
- 26 09.45 From AERE Harwell shops 12m walk to
Lockinge with Roy Burton (bring Lunch)
- 29 R. Jackson available for interviews
9.30 - 11am Wallingford Mayors Parlour.

March

- 2 Gardeners' Club John Mattock on *Roses*
Yesterday, today and tomorrow
- 4 Blood Donor Clinic, Didcot Civic Hall
- 13 R. Jackson available for interviews
5.30 - 7pm Grove, Old Mill Hall
- 26 09.45 Steventon Village Hall 11m walk with
Roy Burton (bring lunch).
- 28 R. Jackson available for interviews
9.30 - 11am. Didcot Conservative Club.

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Sundays 12 - 2.30pm, 7 - 10.30pm

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From the archives

50 years ago Ploughing the recreation ground -
on January 5th 1942 it was reported that an agree-
ment had been reached with Mr E Bosley whereby
he would rent the recreation ground and take over
all liabilities for cropping.

75 years ago on Jan. 11th 1917 the Parish Coun-
cil agreed to place a bulk order for seed potatoes,
having received a number of replies to its advertise-
ment. 15 cwt of *Arran Chief* was ordered.

The Clerk's salary had been unchanged for 10
years and 'as its present purchasing power is little
more than half of prewar days the Chairman pro-
posed that the Council agrees to augment the As-
sistant Overseer / Clerk's salary by £10' to make it
£40 per annum - it was carried 'with unanimity'.

Editorial Note

Harwell News is published at the be-
ginning of alternate months. Details of
your club meetings, reports of events
are welcomed for inclusion. Also any
other contributions will be considered
for publication. Send them to one of the
Harwell Parish Council Publicity Com-
mittee - Margaret Turner, 15, Tyrrells
Close, or Martin Ricketts, 16 The Park,
(or phone 835628) by March 15th for
the next issue which will be distributed
about 1st April.

We would like to thank all the many
kind people who deliver the Harwell
News, for their continued support. If
you have any problems or need to ad-
just the numbers you receive please ring
Margaret Turner on Didcot 817005 dur-
ing the day.



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