

The HARWELL NEWS

Published by Harwell Parish Council

Number 106

April 2000



Parish Council

At the February meeting, it was reported that Harwell Nursery School's closure had been deferred, giving the school 6 months to increase its numbers. The County Council will review the position in Sprint 2001. Visits to the school by local District and County Councillors were planned.

Under Council-owned lands, there was discussion of the provision of a surfaced area and kick-wall, as well as a youth shelter / meeting area. This was referred to the Lands Committee, which reported to the March meeting that locations near the Aunt Sally site would be suitable, being accessible but not adjacent to any residential property. The Council agreed to enrol with Entrust, this being a precondition to making a grant application the Hanson Environment Fund for assistance with the two proposals.

The Council had heard from OCC regarding the strip of land adjacent to the A417 inside the Recreation Ground. The County Council is willing to sell it to the Parish Council for £250 + £250 towards costs, when the lease of the part in the Rec. extension has been surrendered by the previous owner of that part of the land.

A parishioner had written on several matters including legibility of some 'No Cycling' signs - the Clerk agreed to contact the OCC regarding this. Also, the increased on-road parking near Cherry Barn due to lack of off-road provision was raised. Again, the Clerk will contact OCC to see if anything can be done.

Colin Lamont reported on the proposed Council Tax increases for both the OCC and Vale WHDC. Although the 'Capital Settlement' had increased, this was just what the County could borrow, but little has been allocated to local projects. Mrs Margaret Turner explained how the stringent arrangements to ensure 'Best Value' in the Vale WHDC were no doubt giving public accountability, but using resources and manpower that could be better used elsewhere.

At the March meeting, among the topics discussed was traffic in Church Lane and the possibility of a one-way system. The last newsletter may have given the mistaken impression that the Parish Council would survey residents opinions, whereas it was asked of the resident who had made the suggestion. Of those who have since contacted the Council, the majority were against such a scheme. However, the Parish Council would consider it further if it were shown that a majority of residents were in favour. The points were made at the meeting that (a) the section past the Church is probably more dangerous, and drivers might think they could drive faster there if it were one-way, putting pedestrians at risk, and (b) people can drive around to Wellshead if they regard the egress onto the High Street as dangerous.

A request from the Tennis Club for assistance with repainting the Tennis Courts was discussed. A decision was deferred, pending their application to other grant-making bodies such as the Vale WHDC, which is able to make grants for such purposes.

Under environmental matters, the Council agreed to one new dog-bin on Blenheim Hill at the junction with Green Lane, and to move the one at the junction of Barrow Lane and Barrow Road to the junction of footpath 11 and Barrow Road.

The Council has received details of the OCC's proposals for 30mph speed limits in the Parish. The main changes are that the Reading Road east of the Winnoway and around Rowstock are to become 30 mph areas; for the latter the restricted lengths of the A4185 are to be reduced. Although the Parish Council requested some limit on the A4185 near the Harwell Business Centre, this area has not been included in the current changes, because it is anticipated there will be new junction arrangements in the area, including small roundabouts, and a 'suitable' speed limit will be decided then.

It was agreed to enter the County's Best Kept Village Competition again. The Clerk was asked to write to our MP regarding the possible threat to rural Post Offices by the direct payment of benefits.

It was agreed that the **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on Thursday 11th May at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Parish Council Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month in the Recreation Ground Pavilion, at 7.30pm. The next two are 10th April and 8th May. Items for the agenda should be with the Clerk, Debbie Roberts ten days before the meeting - contact her on 820006 (office, answerphone) or 832727 (home). The deadline for the next newsletter is Harwell Feast Day, with distribution about a week later.

As you will probably have heard, and is reiterated in Colin Lamont's report elsewhere in the newsletter, The County Council Environment Committee did an about-turn at the recent meeting on the direction for Didcot development. Not only did they reject the findings of the independent government panel, appointed by John Prescott, they approved a proposal that the 3,200 houses needed for Didcot should be built to the West of the town.

Obviously Harwell Parish Council, the Keep Harwell Rural Campaign, and the other local groups affected must now consider the most *continued* →

Annual Parish Meeting
will be held on
Thursday 11th May 8pm
at
Harwell Village Hall

→ effective way to proceed in the light of the new situation. We hope to discuss the matter shortly with the Vale WH District Council. In the meantime, keep your pens ready - we may have to go through the process all over again!

It has been noticed that household waste and garden refuse are sometimes being put in litter and dog-waste bins. There would not appear to be any need for this, and prevents their proper use - please could those involved desist! We have also received complaints of dog-waste being bagged and then thrown into hedgerows - it would be better not to bag it, but better still to get to know where the bins are and use them!

Casual Worker Required

Harwell Parish Council is seeking a casual worker for the Summer months to carry out general duties, in the Parish, including litter-picking and grass-cutting. Work will be for one day per week (actual periods negotiable). For any further information or to apply contact the Clerk, phone numbers above.

Planning Matters

Notice of Permission:

HAR/16236 Conversion of part of garage to living space, 25 Manor Green.

HAR/14234/2-X Erection of detached dwelling and garage on land at rear of Downs Close - outline permission subject to access improvement.

Notice of Refusal:

HAR/15106/2 Demolition of existing garage, erection of new garage with hobby room in loft at 35 Loder Road.

New Applications:

HAR/13992/2 Ammended plans for erection of new dwelling at Brookview, The Cleave. The Council's comments to the Vale WHDC were that neighbours complaints had not been satisfied by the changes.

HAR/5602/4 Hay Barn and stables, and change of use of land from agricultural to domestic to graze and exercise horses at Cherry Tree Orchard, Reading Road (retrospective).

HAR/15719/2 Erection of new house and garage, Padua, Old A34. The Council considered the proposed building too large, given that its on high ground; any replacement should be single-storey.

Waste Collection - Holiday arrangements

Normal Date	Will be collected on:
Friday 21st April	Tuesday 25th April
Monday 24th	Wednesday 26th
Tuesday 25th	Thursday 27th
Wednesday 26th	Friday 28th
Thursday 27th	Saturday 29th
Friday 28th	Tuesday 2nd May
Monday 1st May	Wednesday 3rd
Tuesday 2nd	Thursday 4th
Wednesday 3rd	Friday 5th
Thursday 4th	Saturday 6th
Friday 5th	Monday 8th
Monday 8th May to Friday 12th	One day later

The Vale WHDC is repeating the sale of Composter bins and water butts, on Sunday 16th April, 10am until 3pm at Dalton Barracks near Abingdon and Grove Technology Park - you can order in advance, until 10th April, paying by credit / debit cards on 0870 849 4850 - see leaflets from the Vale.

County News - Didcot Development

I was most distressed, as I am sure most people in Harwell are, that on 22nd March the Environmental Committee reversed its previous decision to build the new Didcot development of 3,200 houses to the north-east of the town. As things stand now the new houses will be built to the west, encroaching into Harwell Parish.

The Committee did this by refusing to accept the decision of the Examination-in-Public, even though the Panel had confirmed that the Council's earlier decision was correct. This is an eccentric move by the Environmental Committee and it is likely to be open to legal challenge, so the latest vote is not necessarily the end of the story. It is, however, a serious setback and local people who care about this issue must be ready to support a renewed publicity campaign to counter the very effective one that was mounted from South Oxfordshire. Their campaign may have been crucial in gaining the support of councillors from the north of the county who did not have any real understanding of the issues involved.

Colin Lamont

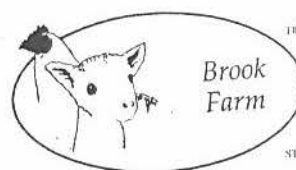
Chiropodist

Jane A.Cumming, MSSCh, MBChA,

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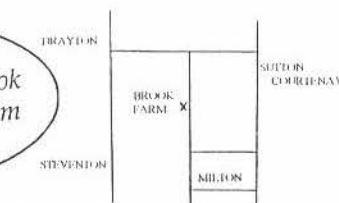
8 Orchard Way,
Harwell,
Oxon., OX11 0LQ
Tel. 01235 835289

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NEW OPENING HOURS



Free Range Eggs and Potatoes available

Mon - Thurs 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fri 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Harwell School

Harwell School is holding another auction of items and promises on Saturday 24th June at 8pm in the Village Hall. Our last auction, in 1998, raised £2,500 which went towards the completion of the School's Adventure Playgrounds. We are hoping to raise even more this year. If you would like to donate any auctionable items or promise to do gardening, dog-walking, chauffering for an evening etc etc we would like to hear from you.

Three weeks later, on Saturday 15th July, there will be a Grand Summer Fête on the School Fields. We're planning non-stop entertainment, side-stalls, roundabouts, competitions, Bar-B-Q, Cream Teams, Car Boot, and Table-top sale, Candy Floss, Tug-of-War competition, Fire Engine display, etc. Why not get a team together and enter the Tug-of-War, or have a car-boot pitch or sidestall? For further details phone Debbie Warwick - 8204499, Ann Laing - 835640, Penny Barwell - 834291, or Mandy Ponting - 820177.

Meanwhile be sure to keep both dates free in your diaries! Thank you in anticipation - see you all there.

Harwell Environment Group

Many of our readers will have noticed the daffodils in flower in the south east corner of the recreation ground. They have done surprisingly well considering that they were planted only five months ago. This is a great communal effort by members of the Bowls Club, Environmental Group, Evergreens, Gardeners Club and the Women's Institute. Let us think of more events involving all village groups.

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held at 8pm in the British Legion Club on **Wednesday** April 19th. Please note that this is NOT the third Thursday in the month because it is so close to Easter that many members could be away on holiday.

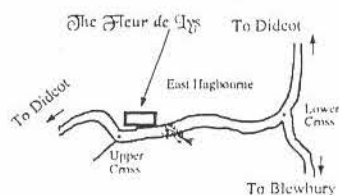
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Steve & Eve Collier



Harwell Calling All New Mums

Last year we began a 'New Mums Group' in Harwell, just a small group of first time mothers who meet once a month to talk about issues surrounding bringing up children. We discuss areas such as feeding, sleeping, potty training and sibling rivalry; normally we have a good laugh and feel supported and reassured at the end of the evening. It works well and is now an established group, but the 'babies' are on the way to two years old and some have even got brothers or sisters now, so it's time to start a new group. So if you have recently (within the last six to nine months or so, we're flexible!) had a baby, and would like to join a group of other new mums, to meet monthly in the evenings at each other's houses, please give us a call to find out more. There's no obligation to hold a meeting at your house or come every month, but it is a good way to keep in contact with other mums in the village, particularly if you're going back to work. Everyone is friendly and the content of the meetings is confidential; give it a try! The first meeting will be 8pm on Thursday April 13th, babies welcome, but if you can't make that, give us a call anyway to find out about the next one.

Looking forward to hearing from you, Sarah Fishburn 820921 and Fiona Tankard 861593.

Winterbrook Youth Club

Monday evenings Freeman Hall

7 - 10pm Ages 11 to 18

All young people in Harwell, plus their friends are welcome to join Youth Club. Any enquiries contact Janice Markey on 832802 or just drop in at the Freeman Hall on a Monday evening.

Spring Jumble Sale Saturday 8th April 2pm

Hall open 10 - 12 to receive items. If you're having a spring clearout - please remember us!

We are looking for an additional **male Club Leader** to assist the existing team of 3 senior leaders and 2 young adults. Is there anyone who would consider joining us for one or two Monday evenings a month? If so, contact Janice Markey or drop in on a Monday evening.

Sobell House Hospice Churchill Hospital Oxford

We need drivers from the Wantage area (ie including Harwell) to join our team of volunteer drivers. They: drive patients from home to our day centre in Oxford and back take patients out for local trips - shopping etc. take essential equipment out to patients at home bring patients from home to Sobell House for clinic appointments.

Volunteers use their own cars but are paid a mileage allowance to cover expenses; they offer 3+ hours a week but take generous holidays! They are a central part of our team of volunteers. If you are able to help, please call 01865 225868 during office hours.

Harwell Village Hall

At the Hall Committee meeting recently it was agreed, that, due to continuing problems with parties, and the need for cleaning following them, an A rate would be reintroduced for Friday and Saturday evenings, for bookings from anyone not resident in the Parish. Recent repairs to the gas heater cost £464. There had been a double booking problems, due to incomplete transfers from the previous diary; our apologies to anyone inconvenienced by this. Some safety improvements were discussed, and these will be implemented in the near future.

With several committee members' assistance, a new 'user's guide' is being prepared, which will include details of hall facilities and equipment, which we hope will be beneficial to Hall users. It is hoped to make a grant application to upgrade the kitchen equipment - crockery etc.

Of the recent shows, the children's one in half-term was very well attended, and the recent one, *Rehearsing Brief Encounter*, deserved a better attendance - the Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company puts on some very good performances, and this was certainly one of them. Readers may not realise the quality theatre available a few minutes walk from their doors, with support from various bodies including the Vale WHDC. There is one more children's show this season, *Sky High* on the Tuesday before Easter, at 10.30 in the morning. See elsewhere for full details.

The next meeting of the Committee will be the AGM, on Tuesday 27th June, at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Millenium Committee

We hope you all enjoyed the fireworks display we put on in March. A good crowd watched a short but spectacular display. Thank-you to all who contributed to the bucket collection which raised £100 towards further Millennium events. We hope you will enjoy:

Fenice Ensemble

St. Matthews Church

Saturday 6th May 8pm

Strings & Wind Chamber Music

including Brahms, Mozart, Berio, Zelenka & Vintner.

Entry £6, £4 concessions.

Harwell Senior Citizens Fund

We recently held our Annual General Meeting, and we thought we should let everyone see where our money goes. Don't forget to phone Mrs. Harmer on 832717 if you would like to put your name on our Christmas List. As you can see by the Balance Sheet below, we paid out 239 members 20.00 each last Christmas, which takes a lot of raising throughout the year, this is done by selling bingo tickets door-to-door every week, the tickets are only 10p each, if you would like to purchase some every week, please phone our Chair, Ursula Moore on Abingdon 834238 and she will arrange for an Agent to call or you can purchase your tickets at the Paper Shop every week.

Balance Sheet as at 31.12.99

Cash in Bank	1,694.93	Photocopier Expenses	623.46
		Cups & Engraving	40.00
		Xmas Cards	4.00
Home Bingo	3,479.02	V.W.H.D.C. Gaming	
		Licence	17.50
		239 Members @ £20.00	4,780.00
Auction & Raffle	696.50		
Donations	40.00		
Interest	33.36		
Cash in Hand	16.46		
	£5960.27		
		Cash in Bank	5465.76
			494.51
			£5960.27

Harwell Women's Institute

Our Annual General Meeting was held in March, and Audrey Poffley was elected President. Members enjoyed a Fish & Chip Supper. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall; visitors and new members welcome. At our forthcoming meetings we have:

On 12th April Mrs Shirley Jones will give a talk entitled *Read it again Nan*.

On 10th May The agenda includes Resolutions and Social Time, sketch by four Members.

Gwen Froud, Press Secretary.

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Scouts@harwell.freesevice.co.uk



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Little Pippins Pre-School

All of the children who attend our Pre-school have now had their Millennium Gifts, these were given out at our recent social morning - the theme being - dress up in your favourite Nursery Rhyme characters. We had a cake stall and sang some of the new rhymes that we had learned over the last six weeks. The children all looked wonderful, what some talented parents we have amongst us!

Just to remind you of our opening hours, we start at 9.15 a.m. and go through to 3.00 p.m. We have very few vacancies left for after Easter, so if you would like your child to come along, please give me a ring on 835397 or phone Little Pippins on 821741 and I will gladly give you more information.

Our setting is expanding in so many ways, we have the flexibility to accommodate your children's needs and help parents as much as possible, you can choose how many sessions you require, the children can stay for lunch, you can choose either a morning or afternoon place, or both if you need to. We encourage Parents/Carers to get involved in our setting, we have a social gathering every half-term, where everyone is invited to come along and see what the children have been doing over the previous half-term.

We always have a Summer Outing and take the children out of the setting for little walks, practice their road-safety skills, visit local shops, farm etc. We also invite other agencies to come along i.e. Fire Engine, Police etc. So you can see, we are trying to provide everything that your preschool child should have, lots of fun, lots is involvement with other adults to promote good social skills and confidence, lots of outside interest as well, and when they are nearly ready to go to School, we try to help with the transition period, this is a big step for little children, they can become quite anxious, but with our continued good links with local schools, we try to make this a more positive move.

Jane Hindliffe - Playleader

New Harwell Medallion from Terrycotta

If you would like a memento of the Millennium, similar to the children's one, why not buy one of the new-style ones, presented in its own hardwood mount. These will be available soon from me and also at the Post Office, for the very reasonable price of £5.50,
Terry Doughty

Bed & Breakfast

The Old Brewery
High Street, Harwell,
Oxon OX11 0EQ

Spacious and comfortable en-suite rooms
with colour T.V. and tea/coffee
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Also Holiday Cottage to Let
(Sleeps 5/7 in Harwell Village)
For details please ring 01235 832880

FUN CLUB NEWS FUN CLUB NEWS

We meet in the Village Hall on Tuesday mornings between 9:30 and 11:30. All parents and carers with babies and toddlers, as well as mums to be, are welcome. Each week we provide a variety of toys and puzzles, an activity table, juice and biscuits for the children and tea & coffee for the adults - all for only £1 per family.

Special Events: On Tuesday 11th April the photographer will be coming to Fun Club. On that date we will also be holding a grand prize draw. This is our main Fundraiser for the term and any donations of prizes would be much appreciated. We have also arranged free face-painting for the children (after their photo of course!)

Harwell Feast: The hard work has already started in preparation for this year's Feast. We would like to say thank-you to *Do It All* in Didcot and also to the Bacofol company for supporting our cause. If you would like your child to ride on our float please speak to Sally Begley on 851921.

Lastly we would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter - see you next term when we will reveal details of our fabulous Thai curry evening in the Village Hall on June 3rd. Any queries please ring Annie on 821254.

Musical fun for
the under fives

Busy Bees Music Group



Harwell Village Hall
on Friday mornings

'buzz-in' for a free trial or phone Rachel Shearer on
01235 521039 for more details.

WINNAWAY KENNELS & CATTERY

The Bield, Winnaway, Harwell.
Tel. 0235 835207

New, purpose-built kennels with
thermostatically-controlled heated sleeping quarters.
Collection and delivery service at small extra charge.

Every need of your cat or dog catered for.

Hours: 10am - 12 noon; 2pm - 5pm Mon. - Sat.,
10am - 12noon Sunday.

McTimoney Chiropractic

Lorna Walton D.C. M.M.C.A.

Highbury, The Winnaway, Harwell OX11 0JG

Appointments: 01235 821858

McTimoney Chiropractic is a particularly gentle and effective whole body manipulative technique. It aims to correct the alignment of the bones of the spine and other joints of the body, to restore nerve functions, to alleviate pain and to promote natural health. McTimoney Chiropractors work in cooperation with doctors wherever possible.

Harwell Feast 2000

Bank Holiday Monday 29th May
Entertainment for all the Family

11am Parade Townsend to Rec.
 Floats by Village Organisations

Harwell's May Queen & Princesses

Harwell Horizons
 Baggs Tree Buskers
 Paddy & Taff

Reading Scottish Pipe Band
 Wantage Silver Band

Traction Engines, Vintage Cars & Tractors,
 Stiltwalkers, Silverdown Horses.

On the field:

West's Fairground
 Large Fairground Rides
 Animal Tent, Balloon Race
 Craft Fair, Fun Run
 Car Boot Sale
 Fun Dog Show
 Wallingford Dog Agility Demos
 Children's Fancy Dress Competition
 Bonny Baby Competition
 Country Dancing
 Tug-of-War
 Uncle Brian, Bouncy Castle
 Scouts Showcase
 Children's Races
 Double Pig Roast

Evening Event - 6pm: Hot-air Balloon Lift
 Weather-permitting up to 6 hot-air balloons will
 inflate and rise over Harwell
 Round off the day by watching this spectacle -
 barbecue provided.

Harwell Feast Sponsors 2000

Main Sponsor: Harwell International Business
 Centre
 Nightingale Associates
 Lankelly Foundation
 Crabtree & Evelyn

Programmes for Harwell Feast and Balloon Race
 tickets should be available in the village shops from
 May 13th.

Entry Details

Craft Fair: 6ft space - £18, 6ft table £20. Extra
 space £2.50 per foot. Contact Nora Dearlove 210620.

Floats: Theme - An event in history - entry **Free**.
 Contact Trevor Packer - 835436.

Walking Entry in Parade: Any group of friends
 or neighbours. Theme - An event in history - entry
Free. Contact Janice Markey (832802) or Trevor
 Packer.

Downland Community Millennium Passion Play

This is being performed at Hendred House, East Hen-
 dred, and The Dene, Hampstead Norriss. Sorry we don't
 have the date for Hendred House, but for the latter venue
 it's on 28th and 29th April at 8pm.

Children's Fancy Dress: All entrants are invited
 to ride in the parade on the Fancy Dress Float. As-
 semble at Townsend by 10.40am. Entry **Free** Classes
 0 - 5 years, 6 - 11 years. Judging in the Rec at 12
 noon.

Bonny Baby Competition: Up to 1 year. Judging
 at 12.30pm. Entry **Free**

Car-boot Sale: 11a.m. onwards, set-up from 9am.
 £7 per pitch; no advance booking facility;

Stalls: Village organisations are invited to set up
 craft, game, books, stalls etc. Entry **Free**. Enquiries
 to Janice Markey - 832802.

Children's Races: 3pm. Entry **Free**. Open to all
 children.

Fun Dog Show: 2pm. Entry **Free**, classes:

1. Naughtiest Puppy (under 12 months).
2. Best long-coated adult (over 12 months)
3. Best short-coated adult (over 12 months)
4. Dog most like its owner - dressing up encouraged!
5. Sausage refusal
6. Fastest recall

Enquiries to Jose Rostagni (tel. 221209)

Fun Run: 12.15pm. Entry £1 adults, **Free** juniors.
 See the Feast Programme for full details

May Queen & Princesses: Would you like to be
 entered in the draw to be May Queen 2000? If you
 are a Year 6 girl living in Harwell and would like to
 have a special rôle in Harwell Feast this year, put the
 following details on a sheet of paper and pop it into
 the box in White Horse Printing or Bobs Butchers:

Your name

Age on Feast Day and date of birth

Address, and telephone number if possible

The closing date for entries is Tuesday 2nd May, and
 the draw will be made on Wednesday 3rd May.

Calling all members of the Panto Cast We
 would like to see you all again in the Feast Parade -
 contact Janice Markey for further details.



Flower Craft
 by
 Ann Laing

Flowers for all occasions.

Fresh, Dried & Silk Flowers

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 Floral Tributes etc.

For more details ring
 Ann Laing (01235) 835640

From the Archives - *plus ça change ...*

50 years ago ... The Annual Parish Meeting in 1950 was held on Friday 31st March at the Technical Institute. After some discussion of footpaths 'it was decided that the Parish Council should be requested to take hastening action, particularly The Cleave and the footpath on Turnpike.' ... 'Mr Woodall gave a resumé of the work of the Parish Council for the past year, and gave some details of the proposed activities for the next twelve months, which included the surfacing of the Winnaway Path with asphalt, & the completion of the development of the recreation ground. ...

'The Chairman then asked for the approval of the meeting to the application of the Parish Council for a loan of £850 for the development of the Rec. Ground. Mr Smith moved that the meeting approve of the application, Mr Day seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Under AOB, Mr Cox asked the Chairman if action could be taken to reopen the footpath from Milton Hill to Grove Road, which had been fenced off. The Chairman agreed that the Parish Council would investigate the matter to see what might be done.

At the Parish Council Meeting that followed directly on, it was agreed that the question of the Ham Footpath be investigated and if still officially open, it should be referred to the Parish Council Association for advice.

Mr Day reported on the work carried out in the Churchyard, and recommended that the rate of wages paid for labour employed by the Cemetery Committee should be the standard agricultural wage. This was agreed by the Council, the rate being 2/- per hour.

Under General Purposes, Mr Worrall reported that he had asked for an estimate for the resurfacing of Winnaway Path. Verbal estimate was approx. £200. Mr Smith moved that, subject to a satisfactory estimate being received, the work should be carried out

And this Millennium's first? ...

We have a contender for the first child born to Parishioners - Chloe, born to Sarah and Angus on January 21st - congratulations to them; for logistical reasons we can't include her picture, but might be able to include it in the next issue.

Editorial Notes: Harwell News is published at the beginning of alternate months. Other than in reports of Parish Council meetings the opinions expressed are not those of the Parish Council.

Advertisement rates are £30 per year for the column width (80mm) by 45mm high (inc. vat), £7 for a single issue, and *pro-rata* for larger sizes. Normally adverts larger than 90mm high will not be accepted.

MOTABILITY/DIALABILITY OPEN DAY

THURSDAY 11th MAY 2000 AT M.M. BELLINGER & SONS IN GROVE

'MOTABILITY OPERATOR OF THE YEAR' 1999.

10AM TILL 8PM

COME AND SEE US REGARDING HELP AND ADVICE ON MOTABILITY AND
DISABILITY RELATED ISSUES

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT ADAM ON
01235 772255

100 years ago ... The first entry in the minute book for 1900 records the Annual General Meeting, on March 27th at 7.30 in the Board School. Those present were Dr Rice (Chairman), & Messrs Hutchings, Bosley, A Thomas, Greenaway, & Armer. The Agenda was: (a) A statement concerning the work of the Council during the past year. (b) An approximate statement as to the Council's Financial Position. (c) Charity Matters.

'The Council business was soon disposed of. Mr Hughes charge for Cemetery gate was criticized as being very heavy and Mr Hitchman's payment for painting Engine-house doors was deferred till the work is completed.

Mr Thomas stated he had not made out a Balance Sheet of the Charity Accounts for the past year but would do so. Those who wished were invited to run through the cheque-book concerning payments and the minute book shewing the Trustees transactions during the year. As no one availed himself of the offer the meeting terminated.'

On April 20th, The Annual Council Meeting was held at the Board School, after the elections of Overseers, Chairman of Council etc. the minutes record: Enquiries were made if Mr Thomas had supplied the Clerk with a copy of the 1899 Charity Funds Balance Sheet. This being answered in the negative the Clerk was requested, at the suggestion of the Chairman, to ask that a copy be supplied forthwith. As all the allotment rents had been paid a cheque to pay Mr Lay for Allotment ground viz £4-3-9d. was signed.'



The Electrical
Contractors Association

National Inspection Council for
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**HARWELL VILLAGE
NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH**

SUMMER IS COMING

Do be sure to lock your house and garden sheds, even if you are only going to be absent for a short time, or even in the garden.

GARDEN ORNAMENTS

Do you have any valuable Garden Ornaments? If so you should have them Post Coded and take Photographs of them, which increases the chance of them being returned to you if that are recovered by the police.

BOGUS CALLERS ARE STILL IN THE AREA

Beware of being distracted when answering the front door to strangers. Others may be trying to gain access through another unlocked door. If possible lock rear door first.

DO SAFEGUARD YOUR BICYCLE

Ideally they should be Post Coded and locked, even when they are in the garden shed or garage. Insurance Policies do not normally cover the loss of bicycles that are not **locked to an immovable object**.

Do look out for useful reminders as to how you can help reduce crime, displayed on posters in the Parish Council Notice Board by the bus stop in the High Street. If you have any information for these notices please contact Mr Jim Mein, Telephone Number 01235 834384.

If you do see anything SUSPICIOUS Please DO REPORT IT immediately to the Wantage Control Room (Phone 01235 776000). Relevant messages will be sent by Ringmaster to Village Co-ordinators.

Free Training for employees

West Oxfordshire College, in partnership with OCC, Business Link and the HoE TEC, has funds available from the European Social Fund for training needs analysis and then further training, at no cost other than employees time, for small and medium-sized businesses. If you think the firm you work for might benefit, get them to contact the ESF coordinator on 01865 351794, soon - as funds are only available until June.

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8



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FRIDAY JUNE 9TH

3.30pm start

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IN THE RECREATION GROUND

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TEA AND A SING-SONG WITH US,
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BELOW

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YVONNE HINCHLIFFE	835397
URSULA MOORE	834248
PAT CONNOLLY	835366
SYBIL FROST	221053
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Gardening Notes, April - May

The past few days have been a reminder that we haven't finished with winter yet. After a lovely warm and sunny spell when the temperatures were 12 to 14c and when we hadn't had any measurable rain for over 20 days we suddenly get temperatures of 5 or 6c and biting cold with showers of hail in places, and this just as the fruit is coming into bloom. The crocuses and other early bulbs have given us a good show and the daffodils are still in flower, with the various varieties now available it is possible to have them flowering over a long period. But do remember to dead head them and split them up when they have finished flowering.

Amaryllis are usually regarded as autumn flowering plants and allowed to die down and become dormant until August, when they are brought to life again by starting to water and feed them. I find however, that if they are kept watered and fed they will go on and produce both side bulbs and flowers about now, in fact I've got several coming into flower right now. Freesias, too, are another good flower to have indoors and have a wonderful fragrance even from a single flower. Dry off the corms after flowering and replant in the autumn.

Whilst on about bulbs and corms and the like why not plant some summer flowering 'bulbs' and have all the benefit of them coming up year after year with very little attention except to thin them out from time to time. There are plenty of bulbs to choose from the various types of lily and begonia to more exotic types like *Dierama pulcherrimum* (Angel's Fishing Rods), then there are the *Crocasmias* (Montbretias) and *Gladiolas*, *Iphenon*, hardy cyclamen, and the deciduous types of *Agapanthus* (the evergreen types are not hardy and need protection over winter). Plenty to choose from and covering the whole season.

Trials have been taking place both at the National Rose Gardens and Wisley (RHS) about dead heading roses, firstly the traditional method of cutting back to three leaf axils, then cutting back to one leaf axil and finally just snapping off the head at the abscission layer. (That is the slightly swollen part of the stem immediately below the flower stalk) The snapping off method was remarkably successful producing more roses and produced the next flush sooner. So

now you can walk around the garden at any time after they have flowered and snap the heads off roses.

The sweet peas sown earlier should be ready for planting out now and early sowings can be made of carrots, leeks, lettuce, parsnips, peas, all sorts of brassicas, and parsley and, under cover, tomatoes, marrows, sweet corn, and basil for planting out later.

The weather as I mentioned earlier has been variable - February gave us 69mm of rain whereas March went for 23 days without measurable rain. The first few days gave us 8mm, the next 23 days were dry and it was beautifully warm and springlike but the last few days have very chilly and damp and brought the total up to 10.5 mm of rain so far for the month. Let us hope it will improve and get warmer, although we need the rain. Also look out for those late frosts - we are not out of the wood yet ! Good gardening !

Laurie

*For the garden of your dreams -
consult a professional*

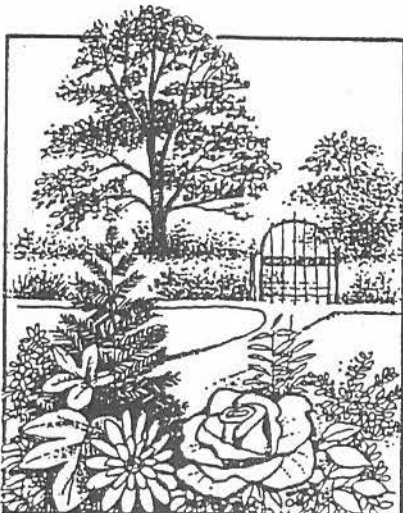
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Gardeners Club

The next meeting is on **May 8th**, when Jennifer Harmer will talk on *Look Who's in our Garden* and the competition is *Small branch of a shrub*. We visit Wisley on 24th May and the following two meetings are garden visits.

The Gardeners Club meets in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm, normally on the first Monday of the month. Visitors always welcome.

Sky High

'Able' Auntie Mabel has her feet firmly on the ground. She's building one of her wacky machines, and is far too busy to wonder what is going on in the sky above her head!

But King Cirrus is in serious trouble, the Skyvers are on the loose in Thin Air, and clouds are beginning to lose their silver linings!

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