

# The Harwell News

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## Harwell Parish Council

Report from County Councillor – Mr. Lamont reported that he had attended a meeting of the County Council on 13<sup>th</sup> September at which the new Structure Plan and Youth Justice Plan were adopted. At a Cabinet meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September, transport schemes for the local area were considered, in connection with the proposed development in Didcot. The Cabinet also offered two options for the siting of 8000 new houses in the area, allocated by the South East Plan for 2010 - 2020; either 4000 each in Bicester and Didcot, or 2000 each in Wantage/Grove and Bicester and 4000 in Didcot. Local Councillors believe major improvements to infrastructure will be required if these houses are to be built in Didcot, to include upgrading the A34. However, the Highways Agency, which owns the A34, would prefer not to upgrade the road, but try other options, such as road pricing, to combat congestion. Consultation forms are to be sent to Councillors in order that they may suggest their own options for housing distribution; the most likely alternative site is south of Grenoble Road in Oxford. (See also the KHR item on Page 2).

Report from District Councillor- Mrs. Turner reported that a study is being commissioned by SODC concerning future plans for Didcot, but that it seemed public involvement in the study would be limited.

### Planning matters

a) Applications

Formal notice of permission has been received in respect of the following:

HAR/19210- Erection of single storey extension at 25 The Croft.

HAR/13790/3-LB - Erection of partition wall in existing utility room at Homeleigh, High Street.

HAR/5456/1 - Extension and alterations at Yewsley, Didcot Road.

HAR/19151-LB - Internal remodelling to bathroom and kitchen, insertion of rooflights and window at Abbey Timbers, Broadway.

HAR/14745/6 - Demolition of rear extension and outbuilding. Erection of two storey extension at Cherry Trees, High Street.

HAR/17849/5 - Retrospective application for the erection of 1m high garden wall and boundary fence at Adnams Farmhouse, High Street.

HAR/17849/4-LB - Insert two conservation rooflights in north roof slope. Rooflights on south slope to be moved. (Barn 2), at Adams Farmhouse, High Street.

New applications have been received as follows:

HAR/18863/1-D - Erection of a dwelling and detached garage at Land front of Dormers, Reading Road. The Council asked that neighbours comments should be borne in mind; one objection has been lodged by a neighbour.

HAR/19229 - Demolition of existing conservatory. Erection of two storey and single storey extensions at 12, Tyrells Close.

HAR/9868/7 - Erection of timber open fronted gazebo at Wellshead House, Wellshead Lane.

V.14/05 - Demolition of existing changing rooms and erection of telescopic swimming pool cover for existing pool at Harwell Primary School.

HAR/17849/7 - New 1800mm brick wall, retain existing 1800mm high close boarded fence adjacent to proposed brick wall of car port. Erection of trellis fence above existing 1000mm high brick wall at Adams Farm Barns, High Street.

Two applications for information only:

MIL/7643/4 - Conversion of existing barn to provide single dwelling at Grove Farm, Milton Hill.

One refusal was received in respect of:

HAR/19160 - Demolish cob walls. Rebuild with two cottages plus rear extensions at Thatched Cottage, Reading Road.

The annual safety inspection report has shown that the condition of the play area is satisfactory but that some remedial work on the cement rings was necessary.

Bus stop outside Montpelier House, High Street is to have a new sign and road markings in the near future.

**From our MP - Mr Ed Vaizey** For the last two months, I have technically been on holiday, because Parliament is in recess. In fact, I have used the time to sort out how my office works, and to meet as many of the key players in the constituency that I can. That includes health professionals, businesses, scientists, teachers and many more.

The main local issue has been the new Licensing Act. A lot of pubs, even in rural villages, have applied to open late, and I have been supporting the objections of local residents. I can't see why a village pub should want to stay open until 2am every week end. I have also met the Licensing Minister to discuss the impact of the new law on village halls. It seems to me that there is too much bureaucracy involved, and that unnecessary extra costs are being imposed. I didn't get very far, but he has promised to review the law in a year's time.

If you need to get in touch with me, write to me at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, e-mail me on [vaizeye@parliament.uk](mailto:vaizeye@parliament.uk) or telephone 0202 7219 6350

### **News from Harwell School Association**

The main focus for our fundraising this year will be to replace the changing rooms for the school swimming pool. The new arrangement will be a telescopic structure that covers the entire pool area and incorporates the changing facilities within it. This will enable the pool to be operational for a significantly longer period each year than has been possible to date. The HSA programme of fundraising & social events is being planned and kicks off with the annual quiz on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November in the school hall. We are looking for teams of 6 adults. Use it as a warm-up for the Village Quiz! A movie is shown for the children (so no babysitters required!) & supper is served in the interval. For details please contact Fiona Tankard on 861593.

### **Shop of the Year Competition**

The annual Village shop of the year competition has begun, it closes on 15<sup>th</sup> October. Voting slips are available to download from the ORCC website [www.oxonrcc.org.uk](http://www.oxonrcc.org.uk) or a few voting slips are available in the Harwell Parish Office.

## Keep Harwell Rural Campaign

In the February *Harwell News* we wrote: *“Looking further to the future, the report of the Examination in Public into the Oxfordshire Structure Plan 2016 has just been published, and public consultation is just starting on the South East Regional Plan, which has its sights on 2026 and projects further growth in the County and Didcot in particular. Publicity on this should come out soon”*. By “further to the future” we meant beyond 2011, by which time the SODC and VWHDC Local Plans aim for 3,200 houses to be built at Didcot West.

The Oxfordshire Structure Plan to 2016 will be adopted soon after 21 October 2005 and it implies 350 more houses at Didcot over and above the 3,200 at Didcot West. The 350 will probably be built on the Vauxhall Barracks site. However, plans for 2016 – 2026 have just come out for public consultation. The South East Regional Assembly (SEERA) has decided that 21,000 new homes must be built in Oxfordshire in this period. The County Council is consulting on options, especially for the 8,000 homes envisaged to be built on greenfield land in central Oxfordshire. The consultation questionnaire gives two options, both of which involve 4,000 more houses at Didcot.

The *Keep Harwell Rural* Committee thinks this should be opposed, given the problems – many still unresolved – anticipated with plans to 2011. If you do too please make your views known to OCC as part of the consultation, which closes on 28 October. It is possible to propose alternatives. KHR will be putting together comments that you can use if you wish – watch out for posters and forms that will be available, e.g. in the Newsagents.

Alternatively contact OCC direct on 01865 810434 or look at their website [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk).

The Keep Harwell Rural Committee

Contacts: Tony Hughes tel 835301; Carol Quarini tel: 835419; Jane Woolley tel: 221030

## Harwell Produce Show 2005

The Produce Show again was a great success with nearly 600 entries from 90 people. A record number of people and entries making it a great Silver Jubilee and a Good Swan-Song for me. Ernie Bird is now taking over and I am sure you all join me in wishing him all the best. Thank you, everyone, for all your support over the years and taking the show from strength to strength.

*Adele Harris*

### Harwell School

#### **Computer Art**

1<sup>st</sup> Anna Hobin; 2<sup>nd</sup> Andrew Convery;  
3<sup>rd</sup> Georgia Williams; H/C Joshua Buttery

#### **Hand Writing**

1<sup>st</sup> Vincent Tang; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack Bartlett; 3<sup>rd</sup> Oliver Moore  
H/C Joshua Marner-Smith; H/C Dominic Beith

#### **Jubilee Crowns**

1<sup>st</sup> Clare Passau; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sorrel Gibson;  
3<sup>rd</sup> Harry Edwards

#### **Model from Kitchen Waste**

1<sup>st</sup> Jessica Brady & Eleanor Clarke; 2<sup>nd</sup> Katy Laing;  
3<sup>rd</sup> Becky Shrimpton

#### **Gummed Paper Picture**

1<sup>st</sup> Mohamed Amn; 2<sup>nd</sup> Eve Lumsden; 3<sup>rd</sup> Josie Juniper;  
H/C Ailsa Rhodes

#### **Art**

1<sup>st</sup> Michael Culliford; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jemma Convery;  
3<sup>rd</sup> Peter Killingback

#### **Handwriting**

1<sup>st</sup> Alex Downes; 2<sup>nd</sup> Eleanor Turner; 3<sup>rd</sup> Jade Eyre  
H/C Laura Passau

### Children's Results 2005

#### **3-4 years**

Animal made from Fruit & Veg – Amber Baker

#### **6-10 years**

*Model from Kitchen Waste* – Callum Cockburn

*Handwriting* – Eleanor Barry

*Animal made from Fruit & Veg* – Fiona Linnard

#### **10-15 years**

*Six Marzipan Fruits* – Rachel Nickerson

*Make a Mobile* – Rachel Nickerson

*Model Made from a Kit* – David Charles

#### **Any age up to 15**

*Something you have made* – Katy Laing

*Marrow with Name grown in* – Harry Baker

*Miniature Garden* – Katy Laing

*Gingerbread Men* – Michael Charles

*My Favourite Snap* – David Charles

*Flower Arrangements in a Cup* – Eleanor Barry

*A Computer Made Card* – Fiona Linnard

### Produce Show Results Adults 2005

- 1 – *The David Dewey Memorial Shield* (Member of Gardening Club Gaining Most Points) - Mike Kerswell
- 2 – *The Produce Show Shield* (Competitor gaining most points in all classes) - Mike Kerswell
- 3 – *The Harwell Rose Bowl* (Most points in Horticultural Classes) – Mike Kerswell
- 4 – *The Chairman's Trophy* (Most points in Flower Classes) – Joy Gee
- 5 – *The Rowstock Orchard Trophy* (Most points in Fruit Classes) – Lynn Wilkinson
- 6 – *The Floral Art Trophy* (Most points in Floral Art) – Debbie Davies
- 7 – *The Novices Trophy* (The Person who has never won a Prize in Harwell Show) – Pam Hancock
- 8 – *The Vegetable Trophy* (Most points in Veg Classes) – Fred Gee
- 9 – *The Domestic Cup* (Most points in Domestic Classes) –Mike Kerswell
- 10 – *Young Persons Cup* (Young Person gaining most points in all Classes) – David Charles
- 11 – *The Handicraft Trophy* – Lyn Nickerson
- 12 – *The Laurie Chumbley Photographic Trophy* – Janice Markey
- 13 – *The Mary Turner Salver WI* (Member gaining most points in Show) – Betty McNiven
- 14 – *A Prize for most entries in the Show* – Mike Kerswell

*For Little Pippins winners see Little Pippins item on page 10*



### talking science – Autumn 2005

The entertaining series of popular science lectures at the CCLRC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory continues this autumn.

**Friday 11 November - 10.30am, 1.30pm, 7pm Age: 16+ - The secret chemistry of the mobile phone - Jason Riley and Julian Eastoe**

It is hard to believe that chemistry has had anything whatsoever to do with the communications revolution. However, buried deep inside your phone you will find some of the most advanced chemicals ever invented. Using interactive demonstrations we will take you on a journey to the heart of your beloved mobile, explaining how things have got so small.

Dr Jason Riley and Professor Julian Eastoe work in the School of Chemistry at the University of Bristol. They research complementary aspects of chemical nanotechnology; smart sensors and detectors (JR) and novel ways of stabilizing nanoparticles (JE).

**Friday 9 December -10.30am, 1.30pm, 7pm Age: 11+ - Our Planet, Our Future - Laura Grant and Karen Bultitude**

This presentation looks at the ways in which science and technology are helping us understand the impact that human life has had on the planet, and ways in which we can plan for a healthy and happy future here on earth. The show features a 'choose-your-own-lecture' format and is highly interactive, with many demonstrations and experiments used to bring the material to life.

#### How to book

Admission is free but booking is essential as places are limited. *Bookings open four weeks before the date of each lecture.*

#### To book your ticket:

Email: [talkingscience@rl.ac.uk](mailto:talkingscience@rl.ac.uk) or  
Phone: **01235 445959** (24hr answerphone)  
Please include the following information

- the title of the lecture and the time that you would like to attend
- your name, full postal address and contact telephone number
- the number of places you require

We look forward to seeing you.

Let's get talking .....

## Is your hearing not as good at it used to be?

A new Oxfordshire County Council class 'Lip-reading and coping with hearing problems' will be held at Didcot Civic Hall on Wednesdays 9.45 – 11.15, starting on 21<sup>st</sup> September. Apart from helping with the problems of everyday conversation, there will be a wealth of information on practical matters such as amplified telephones and loop systems.

The aim of the classes is to give hearing-impaired people greater understanding, ability and confidence in order to cope better with the frustrations of hearing loss. The classes are helpful, interesting, friendly and fun.

The classes are open to anyone aged 16 to 90+, with any degree of hearing loss, and with or without a hearing aid. The fee is £16.50 per term (10 weeks) but anyone is welcome to try the class for a week or two free of charge. Students may enrol beforehand via the Adult & Community Learning brochure, but prior enrolment is not essential.

For any further information, please contact the tutor on 01235 832174 or write to: Didcot Lip-reading Tutor, c/o Tanya Irving, ENT Dept, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford OX26 6HE.

### **The Oxfordshire Children's Information Guide for the Vale of the White Horse**

The Oxfordshire Children's Information Service (OCIS) have produced their guide which contains information about childcare, early education, children's leisure and play, family support and information for parents of disabled children and children with additional needs. OCIC wish to thank all who provided information in this guide. Free copies of the guide may be obtained from OCIS Tel: 08452 263626 E-mail: [enquiries@oxoncis.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@oxoncis.org.uk).

### **Report on Shopper Survey**

The Parish Council organised a Shopper survey of the newsagent's and Bob's Butchers in order to help residents come to a view about the potential impact of a Harwell bypass on these two vital amenities.

The survey of shoppers took place in the week of the 4th July, designed to help get an up-to-date picture of how much trade the two main village shops and Post Office get from non-residents (the assumption being that a bypass would reduce the amount of passing trade for the shops). Again we'd like to thank the shop keepers for their help and over 50 villagers for undertaking the interviewing. Below are the key results.

We surveyed both shops on the Monday and Saturday morning and all day Friday of that week. We continued the survey of the Newsagent until closing times on Friday and Saturday and also on Sunday morning. In all 1020 people were interviewed outside the newsagent and almost 500 outside Bob's/PO. This represents a very good sample from which we were able to estimate the proportion of trade from residents, those passing through the village and other non-residents who had reasons for coming to the village and used the shops. For both shops this last group were important and it's reasonable to assume that many of those people would still have a reason for coming to the village even if it had a bypass.

It must be emphasized that these results are only estimates, accurate figures could only be produced if we were able to obtain every shoppers' receipt, home address and reason for using the shop across a long period – say a year. But we believe that the results obtained give a useful up-to-date estimate of the value of non-resident trade to our shops. Passers stands for passing trade, Visitors means someone who doesn't live in the village but is shopping while on a visit for some reason. Residents speak for themselves (and do!)

**Post Office:** - figures are in terms of number of users – no questions about money were asked.

**Passers - 7%, Visitors - 11%, Residents - 82%**

**Bob's Butchers and Newsagent's:-** figures show the percentage of trade by estimated value.

**Bob's Butchers**

**Passers - 7% , Visitors - 23%, Residents - 70%**

**Newsagents**

**Passers - 8%, Visitors - 15%, Residents - 77%**

The shop owners' comments are shown below. Everyone will form their own view of how important non-resident trade is to our shops. A bypass for Harwell is a long way off, if ever in our time. But bypass or not, the well-known motto used by many sub-post offices is true of all our shops and enterprises – “use them or lose them”

**Bob and Danyelle (owners of Post Office & Bob's Butchers) say .....**

*The recent shopper survey outside our shop was conducted over a relatively short period of time. We have concerns about the low figure recorded for our passing trade. We certainly feel the numbers recorded as visitors were gained mainly from the passing trade segment originally. A 70% resident to 30% non resident split is not the way our customer base is recognised. Over the last ten years of trading in Harwell we have surveyed our business on a daily basis recording customer numbers and spends. We especially take a detailed customer survey at Christmas when we record where all of our customers live. Having shopped with us during this period you will know that you are required to supply us with these details. This has consistently shown a 40% resident to a 60% non resident split to our trade.*

*The potential impact of Didcot West development is unknown and there is no way of fairly predicting what the increase or decrease in our customer or trade would be. We feel that to comment on a bypass with no route planned or discussed with developers or planner would be premature but we follow all developments affecting our livelihood very closely.*

*You may also like to note that we feel that any survey on the post office is insignificant as this part of the business incurs a cost to the overall business and is operated basically as a loss leader and a service to the community.*

**Mohan (owner of newsagent's) says.....**

*As far as I am concerned, the survey has expressed the real situation of our village shop turnover. I would not think any changes due to the bypass will affect our shop. I hope the village shops will remain going concerns.*

## POPPY APPEAL

This year's Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service will take place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November. All welcome. Parade assembles at Townsend at 10.30 am.

We are short of Poppy Collectors around the village; anybody interested please contact the Poppy Appeal Organiser Mr Charlie East on 819730.

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November there is a dance at the Club in aid of the Poppy Appeal. The group is “Cooking on Gas”. Again all welcome.

## GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club's **August** outing went to West Silchester Hall near Basingstoke. This beautiful one and half acre garden had many roses, shrubs and lovely herbaceous borders with many unusual plants. There was also a small pond and bog garden. The owner was an accomplished floral artist and had lots of her work on show. The garden was totally maintained by the owners with no outside help and they spend three hours every day in order to keep it in this lovely condition.

At the Clubs' first meeting back in the Village Hall in **September** after some lovely summer garden visits, members were treated to a very informative talk entitled ‘Perennials for a Long Season’ given by Donald Everett. He illustrated his talk with some beautiful slides, and gave members some good ideas on how to group your perennial plants into colour grouping. There were also lots of plants for members to buy.

*Shirley Walker*

## Oxfordshire Children's Fund (OCF)

A copy of OCF's Summer 2005 Newsletter is available for interested parties.

*Editor 221073*

## **NEWS FROM FAMILIES AGAINST DRUGS (FAD) (Didcot)**

Families Against Drugs was formed in 2000 by a group of parents in the greater Didcot area who had experienced drug addiction amongst their own children

FAD provides a confidential atmosphere for mutual support through meetings once a month, home visits, or telephone contact, plus occasional social events. It is represented on the Oxfordshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team – see [www.oxfordshiredaat.org.uk](http://www.oxfordshiredaat.org.uk) for more details.

Enquiries about this or about FAD in general to Keith Nichols, FAD Chairman, **on 01235 811668**.

## **Mobile Library**

**The Mobile Library will be outside the Harwell Village Hall between 2.45 – 3.20 on alternative Wednesdays, 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November.**

## **WI**

Do you still think of the old image of the W.I. - Jam and Jerusalem? Or are you afraid that you have to strip naked for a calendar?!

Neither of these things could be further from the truth. Harwell W.I. aims to provide a varied, lively programme of monthly speakers. Just take a look at the last few months. We have been entertained by a stand up performer (Betty Page) of original and hilarious monologues, heard all about the enlightening confessions of a pantomime dame (Richard Westcott) and been fascinated to learn about the sex, violence and cast of a million making up the world of bugs by Dr George McGavin. These speakers are some of the best in their field and been well worth listening to.

We have even more lined up for the future. In October we have David Day from the Pendon Model Railway Museum with a talk entitled 'Preserving the Past for the Future'. Menfolk may also be interested in this topic so our doors are open to welcome them.

In November we have Sylvia Brown on '35 years on a Milk Round' and in December we have a Christmas party with entertainment by the ever popular and superb Bags Tree Buskers as well as dinner out at Home Farm Trust.

As you can see we have fun and education but at the same time we would like to be seen as showing our concern for society and community in the village. To this end we have been involved in raising funds particularly for the local charity ABC (Against Breast Cancer) for the Air Ambulance and for Douglas House as well as featuring in village events.

If you feel you would like to be part of all this, please do come along and join in. There could not be a better time to consider joining, as October, November and December would be free- annual membership commences in January.

Meetings take place on every second Wednesday in the month in the Village Hall at 7.30pm  
Come and be part of the new image W.I.

*Joyce Doughty, Press secretary*

## **Thames Valley CRIME STOPPERS**

Crimestoppers lets people inform the police about crimes without giving their name. Calls are made to 0800 555111. Nobody is asked to say who they are and the calls are not traced or recorded.

Thames Valley Crimestoppers can work quickly when there is a local problem. Examples include campaigns aimed at:

- Dealing with bogus callers who target elderly people.
- Drivers who are over the drink limit or who are known to be banned.
- People who have illegal guns.
- Drug dealers.
- Those who steal from cars, take cars or attack people in the street.

## **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - HARWELL BRANCH**

Westfields, Harwell  
01235 221126

**New members always welcome - including non ex-service people  
call in during opening hours.**

**Subs due 1<sup>st</sup> October**

### **FORTH-COMING EVENTS ON SATURDAYS**

1<sup>st</sup> October - 21st Birthday Party - open to all  
8<sup>th</sup> October - Senior Citizens Auction  
15<sup>th</sup> October - Dance - Music by Maurice  
22<sup>nd</sup> October - Dance - Music by Time Machine  
29<sup>th</sup> October - Dance - Music by Just John  
5<sup>th</sup> November - TBA  
12<sup>th</sup> November - Dance - Cooking on Gas  
In aid of Poppy Appeal  
19<sup>th</sup> November - November Birthday Boys Party  
Music by Julie Marie  
26<sup>th</sup> November - Xmas Dinner & Dance  
Music by Tony Casper

Saturday night events start at 8.30pm

### **ROOMS FOR HIRE**

Weddings, Christenings, Funerals, Parties etc. For further information please contact Sybil Frost, 30 The Park, Harwell.

Further RBL information, visit our website - [www.rblharwell.freesevice.co.uk](http://www.rblharwell.freesevice.co.uk)

**Harwell Village Hall**  
**Visiting Theatre Groups**

***Pinocchio***

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October (1/2 term) 3pm  
 Tickets now available from Bobs Butchers  
 Cost £7/£5 concessions.

***Peter Pan***

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January - 3pm

***Beauty & The Beast***

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 3 pm

***Under Milk Wood***

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April - 7.30pm  
 All proceeds to Village Hall Funds

***Village Hall Pantomime***  
***Robin Hood and Friends***

To be staged January 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> 2006

Auditions Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October – 7.30 pm  
 Village Hall

Parts available: - Solo singers (male and female) – come with a piece to sing, chorus singers, dancers, musicians, crowd scenes, children, scenery makers and Shifters, costumiers, hair and make-up, front of house. All ages welcome. Rehearsal nights will be on Thursdays.

**Little Pippins Pre-school**

Apologies for the lack of a Little Pippins item in the August issue of Harwell News - it seems to have got "lost" in cyberspace!

Another school year has ended, and what a busy time we had in term 6.

As well as saying goodbye to a number of children this term (many of whom are moving on to Harwell School) it also means that Mums who have worked very hard as committee members are also leaving us. We do thank them for all their support and we would like to thank the village for the support given to us in our fundraising efforts this year. Work towards a new preschool building continues and we very much look forward to seeing you at our fundraisers in the next academic year.

We welcome all our new children to Pippins at the very start of another school year and hope that they will enjoy their time with us, I'm sure they will. We also hope that all the children who moved on to school have settled in well, we do miss them!!

We put lots of entries into the produce show this year, under "Little Pippins" and had two tables to display everything.

The Miniature Gardens were a great success - **Owen Pickles 1<sup>st</sup>**, **Polly Mirren 2<sup>nd</sup>** and three thirds **Francesca Stanchus**, **Harry Moreton** and **William Porter**. Gingerbread men - **Juliet Hartley 1<sup>st</sup>**, **Owen Pickles 2<sup>nd</sup>**, **Polly Mirren 3<sup>rd</sup>**, **Harry Moreton**, **Abigail Cairns** and **Adam Woolley** all got **Commended** which was excellent. It doesn't stop there! **Abby Hennem** got **1<sup>st</sup>** for her lovely painting of her house, the Gummed Pictures came in as follows **Abigail Cairns 1<sup>st</sup>**, **Polly Mirren 2<sup>nd</sup>**, **Beth Charles 3<sup>rd</sup>** and **Beth also got Highly Commended** for her colouring picture of Mickey Mouse, and last but not least **David Mercer** (my husband!) grew a pumpkin and said that we could put it in the show and to his glee it came first! I'll never hear the end of it!!! So a big well done to everyone.

- Playscheme in August went very well with 10/12 children coming to both the Tuesday and Thursday sessions of each week.
- We will be going to the Harvest Festival at the church in the coming month and taking with us our gift of apples from the orchard.

We will be hosting one of our cake stalls to raise funds (outside Bob's) towards the end of November.

The Breakfast club is providing before school care for those families who need an early start Monday through to Friday. Places are available to book and also at short notice if needed. Members of staff will escort school-aged children to Harwell Primary if necessary.

We have a number of spaces in our regular sessions. Term 1 will begin on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. If you would like your child to come to our setting please ring the Pre-school on **01235 821741** (term time only) or just call in any day from 8.15am until 3.00pm and have a look around to see what we have to offer the children.

Children can start with us from the age of 2.5 years initially with their parent/carer and by the time they are 3 years old, they should be ready and able to stay unaccompanied. The term after their third birthday, your child will be entitled to 5 free sessions with us and this carries on until children start school. You can choose from any of the 10 sessions available and increase the total number of sessions your child attends depending on need.

*Nicky Mercer Pre-school leader*

If you would like to know more about Little Pippins Pre-school or are interested in supporting the pre-school please call the above number. Alternatively contact **Lorraine Moore** on **832713** e-mail [littlepippins2004@yahoo.com](mailto:littlepippins2004@yahoo.com) or visit our website <http://home.btconnect.com/harwell>

## Harwell Feast Committee

At the September meeting applications for funding were considered and the following grants were made: -

Harwell Evergreens	£250
Harwell School Playscheme	£300
Harwell Rainbows	£200
Village Produce Show	£200
Foundation Class – Harwell School	£50
Memorial Rose Gardens	£400
Natalie Brisland	£100
(World Challenge Expedition to Borneo)	
Melissa Warwick	£100
(World Challenge Expedition to Venezuela)	
Harwell Scouts	£450
Little Pippins	£500
Harwell Village Hall	£1,000
Harwell School Swimming Pool Project	£1,000

**The Harwell Feast AGM will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 8pm – Freeman Hall .  
The Village Quiz is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.  
Teams of up to 6 Entry Fee £3 per person**

## Playscheme

This summer 80 children attended Harwell School Playscheme and were offered a fortnight of choosing between varied activities such as cooking, sports, arts and crafts, trips out and lots of free choice play.

We were inspected by Ofsted this year and were judged to be outstanding in all areas of regulation: - Helping Children to be Healthy, Protecting Children from Harm or Neglect and Helping them Stay Safe, Helping Children Achieve Well and Enjoy What They Do, Helping Children Make a Positive Contribution and Organisation.

Amongst the comments made by the Inspector were “Children’s behaviour is exemplary; they are lively and curious, very polite and need no encouragement to say please and thank you spontaneously ..... praise and encouragement from the staff builds children’s self esteem ... partnership with parents and carers is outstanding ... staff spend time playing with the children and listening to them ... the children are secure and supremely confident in the setting.

It is thanks to a strong dedicated committee that we have reached such a high standard.

The committee would like to thank all the parents and teenagers who have helped this year. We also thank our sponsors: - Harwell School Association, Harwell Parish Council, Vale of the White Horse District Council, Harwell Feast Committee, UKAEA and the Lankelly Chase Foundation.



## FUN CLUB NEWS

We meet in the Village Hall on Tuesday mornings in term time between 9.30 and 11.30. All parents and carers of babies and toddlers, as well as mums-to-be, are welcome. Just to make it clear, we do also welcome men – some dads do come and one is even on the committee!

Each week we provide a variety of toys and puzzles, a craft table, juice and biscuits for the children and tea and coffee for the adults – all for only £1 per family (first visit free).

Our next **Nearly New Sale** of baby/toddler/pre-school clothes, books, toys and equipment is on **Saturday 12 November**. All the sellers’ tables have already been allocated for November, and I have people on a reserve list too. But we can sell for you on commission still. The sale after that will be on **Saturday 13 May**. So if you’d like to reserve a table to sell then, do contact me now.

The **Health Visitor** will be with us on **15 November** for consultations about any aspect of child/family health. No need to pay £1 entry if you just wish to see the health visitor.

We will be having our **Christmas party** on **Tues 13 Dec 10-12** in the village hall, featuring an entertainer, gift distributed by Father Christmas and lunch for the children. Entry only by ticket bought in advance (£2.50 per child; free entry for adult accompaniers + for babies not old enough for lunch or gift).

We always welcome more volunteers for the committee, or anyone who would just like to come along to see how Fun Club is managed.

Contact: Jane Woolley Tel 22 10 30.

## Nurse Violet (Cissie) Garside

Villagers who have lived in Harwell for many years may recall Nurse Cissie Garside who, with her colleague and longstanding friend, Mollie Wood, ran the small surgery at the Nurses Bungalow in the High Street. As District Nurse to a number of surrounding villages, Cissie and Mollie nursed and cared for the villages and brought many children into the world. In a particularly bad winter, just after the war years, a farmer called for the nurse to assist with his wife's labour, with a carthorse to ride across the snow clad fields, as the roads were impassable. In those days villagers would call with gifts of jam and produce to be left on the Bungalow step in gratitude for the nurses care. Cissie planted hundreds of daffodil bulbs around the wall of the Church and she was delighted to see masses of them on return visits some years ago. While at Harwell she was presented with the Nursing Medal by Princess Alexandra. Cissie passed away on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2005 at age 91.

***Editorial Notes:*** Harwell News is published at the beginning of alternate months. Other than in reports of Parish Council matters, any opinions expressed are not those of the Parish Council or the editorial team. Items for the next Newsletter should be with the editors **before the 28<sup>th</sup> November**. Items received after this date may not appear in the December issue. Articles to 12A Kings Lane, ☎221073 or e-mail [d.levy@ntlworld.com](mailto:d.levy@ntlworld.com)

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