



The Harwell News

www.harwellparish.co.uk

Published by Harwell Parish Council Number 135 – December 2005

**The Parish Council wishes all parishioners
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

Harwell Parish Council

a) **New Co-opted Member**

The Parish Council welcomed Dr. K. Beswick to their meeting on 11th October. Dr. Beswick was formally co-opted as a member of the Council.

b) **Housing**

Mrs Turner, in her role as a Vale District Councillor, reported that it was revealed that some 700 houses would be built in the Harwell Parish part of the Great Western Development instead of the 500 previously proposed. These extra houses were not part of the Vale's housing allocation, Mrs Turner and County Councillor, Mr Lamont, expressed concern that the County Council had ignored strong local opposition to the proposal to build a further 4,000 houses in Didcot by 2026.

c) **Web Site**

The Parish Council would like to record its thanks to Webmaster David Marsh for all his hard work in setting up the Harwell Parish website. The website – www.harwellparish.co.uk - aims to be the preferred source of information about Harwell Village life for all residents who have access to the internet. Items for the web site should be sent to the Parish Clerk (email: accounts@harwellparish.co.uk) The Harwell Newsletter appears on the website (minus advertisements) but items for the Newsletter should continue to be sent directly to the Editor. [The Website has received its first visit from someone from the USA. Ed]

d) **Surgeries**

During the last 6 months only 1 member of the public had attended a monthly surgery. Due to the lack of interest from the public, it is likely that the surgeries will be discontinued after November.

Planning Matters

Approvals

HAR/19229 – Demolition of existing conservatory. Erection of 2 storey and single storey extensions at 12 Tyrells Close.

HAR/17849/7 – New 1800 mm brick wall, retain existing 1800mm high close boarded fence adjacent to proposed brick wall or car port. New gate between fence and carport for Adnams Farm Barns, High Street.

HAR/18863/1-D – Erection of a dwelling and detached garage at Land Front of Dormers, Reading Road.

HAR/4612/2-LB – Change of use of redundant barns to office with link. Demolition of pig rearing building to provide associated parking at Princes Manor Farm, Church Lane.

HAR/3361/3 – Erection of a single storey garden room at Applegarth, Reading Road.

HAR/5066/16 – New signage (part retrospective) for Rowstock Limited at Rowstock Corner Garage, Rowstock Corner.

New Applications

HAR/19327 – Reinstatement to two separate dwellings at 5/6 North Drive.

HAR/14892/2 – Erection of a garage and porch extension at Bluebells 8 Broadway Close.

HAR/15307/4 – Retrospective application for the erection of wooden boundary fence two metres high with trellis work on top at 4 Hengest Gate.

HAR/74337/1 – loft conversion with rear dormer at 7 Broadway Close.

Planning applications are listed weekly on the VWHDC's web page:

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/development/control

NEW SPORTS CHANGING FACILITIES

As you may be aware Harwell has a village plan. This was put together after much consultation with you as villagers and many meetings of a committee chaired by Councillor Colin Lament. One of the priorities highlighted was the need to replace the presently outdated changing rooms and shower facilities for sports people using the Recreation area.

Since that proposal was adopted and accepted into the plan much has happened. Harwell Rugby Union Football Club is looking to relocate their playing area to the village recreation ground. Harwell Village Football Club is enjoying a new lease of life and hopefully this will rekindle an interest in the game in the village. The bowls club is hoping to encourage younger members to join and learn to use the well looked after facility that they enjoy. The Tennis club has a history of encouraging young people *and* families to join and use their facilities and is hoping that this will continue.

While the present Parish Council is doing all it can to upgrade and maintain the dreadfully outdated facilities that are in place, they are fully committed to support and help the proposals to build new accommodation on the Recreation ground. Several meetings have already taken place between interested parties. The next stage of this particular proposal is that a feasibility study is carried out to ascertain the problems facing this project, mock up some plans and drawings and importantly give a ball-park figure of the expected cost.

During enquiries being made by interested parties into funding avenues it became clear that there were many sources of revenue. They all however carried one quite clear message. Funding can be found as long as there is a quite clear plan in the applications showing how these facilities when built will include and benefit youth. Whilst we have received assurances from all parties that they are prepared to offer substantial opportunities for young people to be encouraged and involved in the different disciplines there are of course many other things that young people have interests in.

The rebuilding of adequate and proper facilities for our sports teams is already a priority. There is a commitment to this and a will to succeed. There are however many pressing problems facing our community and facilities for our young people is and quite rightly should be high on the agenda. To this end the Parish Council and the village school are seeking the help of our young people to find out what the pressing needs are in their opinion. There are for instance several projects already being planned to increase the learning chances for the children in our village school. These deserve our support as there is at present greater desire for our schools to become community centres offering facilities before and after school for all.

It is planned to hold a series of meetings in the school hall and each group will be informed of the dates. In February 2006 there will be a public meeting in the school where hopefully plans and ideas for development will be displayed and an open meeting for comment and suggestions from the community will be actively sought and encouraged. These dates will be advertised well in advance of the meetings. If in the meantime you have any positive ideas to help please contact a member of the Parish Council.

From our MP – Mr Ed Vaizey - Since I last wrote in this space I have got married and enjoyed a wonderful honeymoon!

The return of Parliament has meant that the past few weeks have been especially busy. I have had meetings with a range of groups from Oxfordshire County Council to the local health authority, the Police and local businesses in order to better understand the range of issues that affect us in the constituency.

If you need my assistance, please contact me at The House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, 0207 219 3000 or vaizeye@parliament.uk.

My upcoming surgery is Saturday 10 December at the King Alfred Community Centre in Didcot from 9.30 – 11am.

Footpaths/Walkways

Householders are asked to ensure that footpaths are kept clear for pedestrians. The Parish Council has had some complaints about hedges, branches and brambles obstructing paths. While on the question of footpaths, the Parish Council would also like to request that all cyclists using the Winnaway to behave courteously and responsibly and to take account of gravelled surfaces, which require extra braking distances.

GARDENING CLUB

At the **October** meeting members enjoyed a very informative talk given by one of our members Mr Tony Twigger. His talk, which was illustrated with some beautiful slides, was about 'Orchids' and he has travelled to many countries around the world in his search for unusual and some rare specimens growing in the wild.

In **November** members were treated to a talk and slide show given by Mr Ken Hill. He had taken these pictures on the Gardeners' Club holiday to Northumberland this summer and it was lovely to relive all the interesting places members visited. He also brought along last year's holiday slides showing the beautiful Lake District too. The meeting was very well attended as some members of the Harwell Out and About Club also went on these holidays.

Shirley Walker

Harwell Environment Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday January 19th, when Martin Ricketts will give a talk on 'Aspects of the Victorian (Australia) Environment', with examples ranging from domestic, through the urban - Melbourne - to the natural environment. Meeting is the British Legion Meeting Room at 8pm. All welcome.

Christmas Competition

You are going to need some exercise over the holiday!
So get your family out and locate the Harwell views we
will be putting on the Parish Council web site,
www.harwellparish.co.uk <<http://www.harwellparish.co.uk>>

Don't forget that the library has free internet access if you need it - available in hourly slots,
but you may need to book.'

The competition will be open for the duration of the holidays,
so find out all about it from December 17th onwards; there will
be a map there and you will have to work out where the photographs were taken from.

There will be prizes!

Thanks to our sponsor, we expect to have as prizes:
1st - Basket of fruit including exotic varieties
2nd - Deluxe Box of Biscuits
3rd - Box of chocolates. And maybe more!
To be drawn from correct solutions if necessary.

Harwell Village Hall

Village Pantomime
Starring
Your Friends and Neighbours

ROBIN HOOD

Friday 20th January – 7.30pm
Saturday 21st January – 3.00pm
Saturday 21st January – 7.30pm

Tickets £7 and £5 Concessions
Available from Bobs in the New Year

All proceeds to Village Hall Funds

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Visiting Theatre Groups

Fundraisers for Village Hall Upkeep

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Peter Pan

Proteus Theatre Co
Sunday 8th January - 3pm

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Beauty and The Beast

O.T.T.C.

Saturday 4th February - 3pm

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Talking Heads

Abingdon Touring Theatre Co

Saturday 18th March - 7.30pm

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Under Milk Wood

O.T.T.C.

Saturday 15th April - 7.30pm

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

All tickets £7 & £5 concessions

Available in due course from Bobs

If you have never seen any of the visiting theatre companies do consider coming to one – the quality is always excellent and there are no travel expenses!

Harwell Feast Committee

Village Quiz

10 teams competed in this 17th year of the annual village quiz.

After much brain power and strategic playing of the joker the trophy was clinched by ‘The Cleavers’ a team comprising Debbie Davies, Sue Quinton, Gloria McLaughlin, Sheila Raw, Graham Raw, and Christine Saunders.

Thanks to all teams who entered and made an enjoyable evening.

The next meeting of the Feast Committee will be on Wednesday 25th January at 8pm in the Royal British Legion. Anyone wishing to join the committee as we start planning for Harwell Feast 2006 is most welcome to come along.

Janice Markey- 832802

<p><i>Eyes down . . .</i></p> <p>. . . but keep them up to look out for details of the Family Bingo Evening At Harwell School in the New Year!</p> <p><i>(or call Liz Beith on 832249)</i></p>
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Flu Jabs

Don't forget your flu jab if you are in one of the "at risk" categories: 65 or over, suffer from a respiratory disease, diabetes, serious heart condition, chest, kidney or liver conditions. Primary carers of elderly persons or disabled persons may also have a free flu jab at their GP's discretion. Contact your Health Centre for an appointment.

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library will be outside the Harwell Village Hall between 2.45 – 3.20 on alternative Wednesdays 14th December and 4th and 18th January 2006.

HARWELL NEWS - DELIVERIES

The Parish Council need a small number of volunteers to deliver copies of The Harwell News within the Village. The role is not demanding – just 6 times a year.

Please contact the Parish Clerk on 01235 820006

South and Vale Carers Centre

The Carers Centre is just going into its thirteen year of supporting unpaid family and friend Carers in your area. We have consistently received support from your local Parish/Town Council which enables us to continue to identify Carers and help them with benefit forms, getting suitable services, general advice on any problems they are facing, or just with a cup of tea and someone to talk to who understands what it is like to be a family carer. In addition to this support contact with the Carers Centre will allow you to access the following free and confidential services.

Time for Carers Service which has small amounts of financial support to purchase services or items to support your caring role including a small amount of help to look after the person you support while you have a break.

An advocacy worker who will take up difficult or confused cases and pursue them through to conclusion with the various agencies.

Carer Training to help with your caring role, moving and handling, stress management etc.

The help of Young Carers workers to support children and young people who help to look after a parent or sibling. We take them on outings and let them have fun.

Although being a Carer is very rewarding it can also be a very demanding, difficult and frustrating role, as well. So for those times we are here for you, so call us 01235 510212 and we will visit you at home.

BBC Radio Oxford Carol Service

Date: 15th December – 7.30 – 8.30pm

**Venue: The Amphitheatre in the
Orchard Centre
(just outside Sainsbury's) Didcot)**

Do tell your friends about it

AND

Bring very warm clothes and a loud voice

More details and order of service available on www.bbc.co.uk/oxford/content/articles/2005/10/04/big_christmas_carol.shtml

Young Soccer Star

We have a budding young star in the village – 13-year-old Adam Taylor is a leading striker for Coventry City Football Club's under 14 squad. Last season he was their leading scorer, with 14 league goals. He represented the Club in an international tournament in Portugal. Coventry won the competition, beating Bayern Munich and Sporting Lisbon on the way, Adam scored 9 goals in that competition.

Adam is currently under observation by England Scouts – Watch this space!

Harwell News would like to hear about any other budding young stars in the Village.

Local Artist Exhibition

**Saturday 17th December 11am – 4pm
Harwell Village Hall**

Looking for something new to hang in that empty space on the wall? Come to an exhibition of artwork by local artists on Saturday 17th December, 11am – 4pm, Harwell Village Hall, High Street, Harwell. Exhibitors include Adrian Smart, Wildlife Artist; Marian Whiting, Landscape Artist; Sally Poyton, Children's Artist; Wendy Botto, Landscape and Wildlife Artist. Also exhibiting is Kacy Berry, Silversmith and Jewellery Designer (though not for your walls!). Good fun day out for the family as many works to suit children of all ages.

W.I. NEWS

Being a member of the W.I. is a great way of getting together with fellow villagers and enjoying interesting talks together but it doesn't just stop there.

All members are also affiliated to the Oxfordshire Federation of W.I.s which means that a whole massive range of opportunities and trips is opened up. Here are a few examples of what has recently been on offer:

A trip to Tate Britain, the Masters Tennis, Guys and Dolls, British Legion Poppy factory, Oxfordshire Heritage Lectures, Talk about the EU, Polly Vacher 'Pole to Pole', Halloween Showcase – a whole world opens up.

One of our members who was always very involved in County affairs sadly died in August. Joyce Millward was a much loved member of Harwell W.I. and we were greatly honoured to have had such a committed and caring person with us. She will be remembered by many, for many things as her contribution was so great but we will especially miss her wisdom, humour and courage.

We end 2005 with a Christmas Celebration accompanied by the Baggs Tree Buskers and a special Christmas Dinner at the Home Farm Trust.

HARWELL W.I. WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Little Pippins Pre-school

We welcome Scott Barter, Oliver Beith, Lucie-Mae Daly, David Southey and Sophie Waterfield to our group this term, we hope they enjoy their time with us.

We all enjoyed the home made soup and roll, a cup of tea or coffee at the end of term 1, with mums, dads and grand parents coming along.

We started off term 2 with a bang with Bonfire Night! There's lots happening this term as we count down to Christmas.

On Friday the 11th November we joined the Royal British Legion at the War Memorial for the two minutes silence, I'm pleased to say our little ones did us proud again!

On Saturday 26th November Pippins are having a cake stall outside Bob the Butchers so don't miss out, get down early!!! 8am - 11am

We are in full flow practicing our Christmas play, which is on **Friday 9th December** in the village hall at 1.45.

On **Friday 16th December** the children are holding their party also in the village hall, I wonder whether we will get a visit from the man in red!! We'll have to wait and see.

Term 2 ends on **Friday 16th December**, and we are back in the new year for the start of Term 3 on **Wednesday 4th January 2006**.

Jackie, Sally and myself would like to thank the committee for their continuing support and hard work, especially at this busy time of year.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Nicky Mercer
Pre-school Supervisor

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.

If you would like to know more about Little Pippins Pre-school or are interested in supporting the pre-school please call **01235 821741**. Alternatively contact **Lorraine Moore on 832713** e-mail littlepippins2004@yahoo.com or visit our website <http://home.btconnect.com/harwell>

HARWELL BRITISH LEGION

Westfields, Harwell.
01235 221126

New members are always welcome.
You don't have to be ex-service to join.

STAR ATTRACTIONS FOR DECEMBER!

3rd - Disco Time
10th - Barry Ash (Top Class Singer)

THURSDAY 15TH - SUNDAY 18TH BEER TASTING WEEKEND WITH GREAT PRIZES ON FRIDAY 16TH

17th - Bob Knapes Music Party and Xmas Draw
24th - Christmas Eve Party Night With Carol Saunders.
26th - Dance to Just John.
31st - New Year's Eve With Graham Morris

Tickets Available Now!

FUNCTION ROOMS FOR HIRE
Contact the club at opening times.

My Dog Honey,

Honey was chosen to play the part of Sandy in Annie at the Corn Exchange Newbury on 5th-8th October, she is an Agility dog and has never performed before. She took her role with gusto loved all the children in the cast especially Annie (Georgina). They became good friends the moment each other met. Honey had to go on the stage towards Annie on her own, she did not hesitate in doing so. Honey received eight congratulations cards and two toys. I am so proud of her to have achieved such heights. I enjoyed every bit of the show so did Honey. The cast was brilliant. I have never met such nice people. What a show to remember.

Jose Rostagni, Belga, Church Lane



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 **Nearly New Sale** on Saturday 12 November raised about £300 – thanks to all those who supported us. Our 2006 sale dates are 13 May and 4 November. All the tables for the May 2006 sale have already been reserved (plus a waiting list) and there are just 2 tables left for the November 2006 sale. So please contact Jane Woolley Tel 22 10 30 straightaway if you would like to reserve a table for next November. We can still sell a small number of items for you on commission, so contact Jane nearer the time if you would like this.

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).

Plea for temporary refreshments volunteer – Is there anyone in Harwell who could spare an hour or so on a Tuesday morning (eg 9.45-10.45/11am) to help prepare and serve refreshments at Fun Club? One of our stalwart volunteers is unwell and is unavailable for a few months. We have another volunteer, but need at least one other person to share the load with her eg do one week in two or in three. It's not that we're too lazy to make our own drinks! It's the safety issue; if you're in the kitchen for any length of time, inevitably your toddler wants to be in there too. Then they trip you up when you're carrying a kettle full of boiling water, and you can imagine the rest.....So if there is anyone who could help us out temporarily, please do get in touch asap.

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

Contact: Jane Woolley Tel 22 10 30 or Sally Poyton Tel 831 456.

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 28th January 2006**. Items received after this date may not appear in the February issue. Articles to 12A Kings Lane, ☎221073 or e-mail d.levy@ntlworld.com
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**Refuse, Green Box and Brown Bin
Collection Dates
CHRISTMAS 2005 & NEW YEAR 2006**

Normal Collection Day	Will be collected on
Mon 26 Dec	Wed 28 Dec
Tues 27 Dec	Thur 29 Dec
Wed 28 Dec	Fri 30 Dec
Thur 29 Dec	Sat 31 Dec
Fri 30 Dec	Tue 3 Jan
Mon 2 Jan	Wed 4 Jan
Tue 3 Jan	Thur 5 Jan
Wed 4 Jan	Fri 6 Jan
Thur 5 Jan	Sat 7 Jan
Fri 6 Jan	Mon 9 Jan
Mon 9 Jan	Tue 10 Jan
Tues 10 Jan	Wed 11 Jan
Wed 11 Jan	Thur 12 Jan
Fri 13 Jan	Sat 14 Jan

Christmas Tree Recycling

If you already have one of the Vale's New Brown Bins for garden Waste and cardboard, you can leave your Christmas Tree with your bin for collection after Christmas. If you can cut the tree and fit it in the bin that's fine, but if it is too big please leave by the side of your bin, if possible cut into manageable lengths.

Or you can take your trees to Wyevale Garden Centre (off A34 at Chilton). The garden centre will accept trees between December 31st and January 9th. The following Waste Recycling Centres operated by Oxfordshire County Council are also able to receive trees: Redbridge Recycling Centre (off Abingdon Road, Oxford) and Stanford in the Vale Recycling Centre (A417 STIV)

Please note that the waste Recycling Centre at Drayton near Abingdon is closed until March 2006.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS CHRISTMAS
Top Tips for a greener Christmas**

- * Recycle your Xmas cards at WHSmith and Tesco
- * Use last years Xmas cards to make labels for your Xmas presents
- * Use a reusable shopping bag instead of plastic bags (for your free bag call 08450 50 45 50, or look out for bags for life in super markets)
- * Compost the left overs and food waste in your compost bin (call 08450 50 45 50 for info on how to get a bin)
- * Buy recycled wrapping paper and then recycle it again once you've unwrapped your presents!
- * Or save the best bits of wrapping paper to use again for birthdays in 2006, or next Xmas!
- * Any unwanted gifts can be donated to the charity shops or see www.cag-oxfordshire.org.uk to find out about swap shops in your community
- * Recycle in your doorstep box (to get a recycling box or find out what you can recycle, call 08450 50 45 50)
- * Recycle batteries, paint, light bulbs, cardboard, glass, plastic, garden tools, paper, computers, TVs, oil and garden waste at your local recycling centre (call 08450 50 45 50 to find out where your nearest recycling centre is)
- * Buy recycled presents from www.recyclenow.com or even better give an experience gift such as <http://www.oxfamunwrapped.com>
- * Recycle your mobile phone at Tesco, Co-op or Oxfam shops across the County
- * Gardeners can get free second hand garden tools at Oxfordshire's recycling centres, and can recycle unwanted garden tools there too!
- * Make a New Year Resolution to keep up all your good work on reducing, reusing and recycling your rubbish from now on!

Recycling Centre opening times over Christmas / New Year:

23/12/05 08:00 - 17:00

24/12/05 08:00 - 15:00

25/12/05 Closed

26/12/05 Closed

27/12/05 - 30/12/05 08:00 - 17:00

31/12/05 08:00 - 15:00

01/01/06 Closed

02/01/06 08:00 - 17:00

After this sites are open everyday 08:00 - 17:00

How can I find out more?

For a free waste reduction pack, including information on composting, junk mail and a reusable bag, call 08450 50 45 50.

For more information, see www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste and

www.recyclenow.com

For any other queries, please email us on waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk