

Number
THIRTY-FIVE

10,000 copies issued

Summer 1998

The Harborne Society NEWS

A MEANDER ROUND OLD HARBORNE

Ann Yorke

Harborne was a hamlet centered around St Peter's Church and it is from here, like the spokes of a wheel, that we shall take different walks to see what our village was like about 150 years ago. Modern road names are in brackets.

Harborne was connected by a footpath (Church Walk), Lodge Road (Vivian Road) and Heath Road (High Street), to the even smaller hamlet of Harborne Heath centered around the Green Man PH. To complete the circle, Harborne Town was then connected back to the hamlet by the Wedding Fields (Albert Walk and Albert Road).

Harborne's first post office started in 1844 at 8, Old Church Road it has moved up and down the High Street three times since then finally coming to rest in its present slot in "The Parade" in 1965.

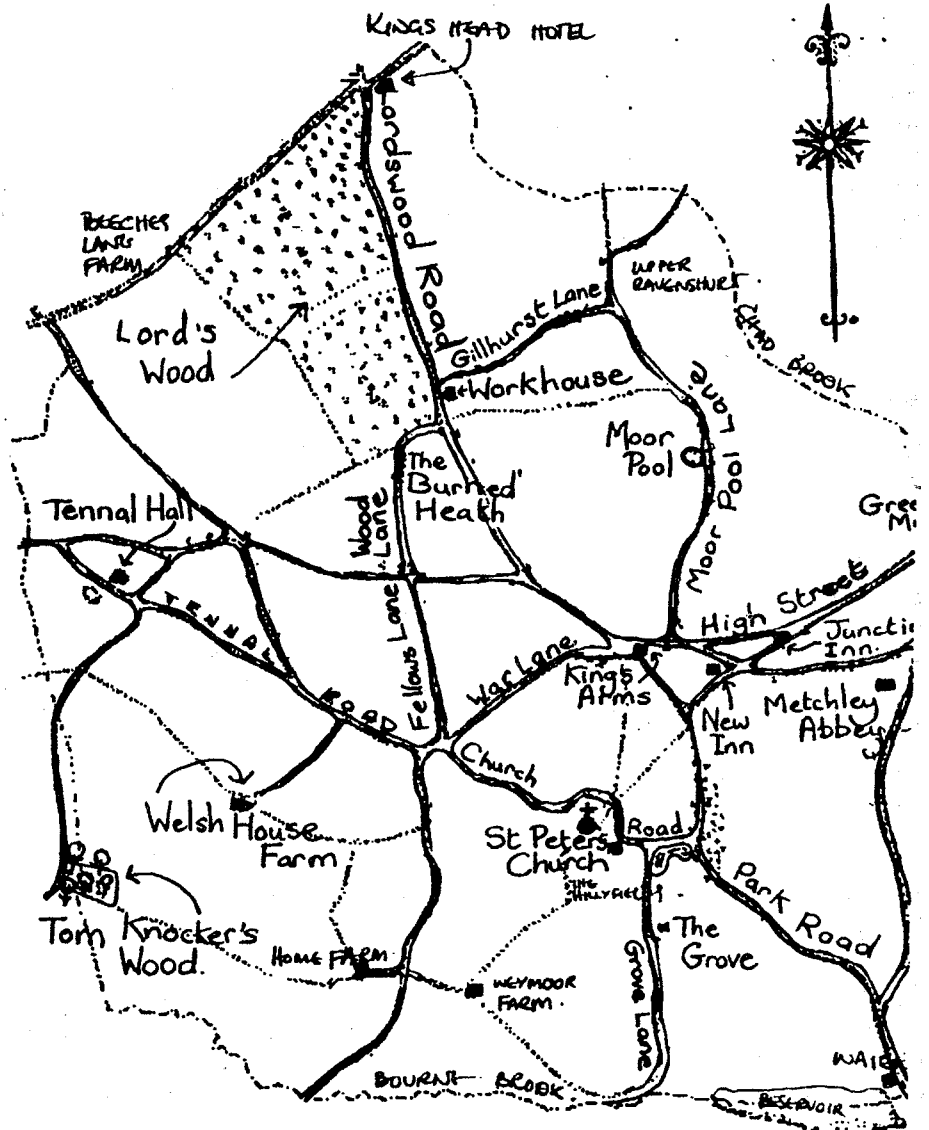
The Bell PH had been in existence for many years, although in 1897 it was under threat of closure by St Peters who were the ground landlords. The vicarage was where the original St Peter's school was started and run by the curate's wife, one of the lych gates was erected and dedicated to her memory by her ex-pupils. The National School, as it was known, was erected in 1834 and due to the insistence of the vicar, Rev. C. Law, the pupils of the Free School, in the Old Police Station, were transferred here in 1836. The next rector, Rev J.T. Law, was very high church and eventually converted to Catholicism in 1851. He would not accept two boys at the school because their parents did not attend the church. This led to the founding of a day school for Nonconformists in 1850 on the corner of York Street. In 1881 it was demolished and the present Clock Tower, the first Board School, was built in its place.

Also in the hamlet were Stapylton House and nearby the Grove, where Thomas Attwood lived - both demolished in the 1960's. You will have noticed by now that the Town Planning Department did more damage in the 1960's in Harborne than Hitler during the war!

From the church down Church Road (Vicarage Road) you came to Harts Green where it is said the last nightingale was heard in Harborne in 1872. This area contained Harts Green Farm, demolished in 1934, and a row of cottages, under the thatch of which were hoarded the "mouldy guineas" used by a miser by the name of George Downing to purchase the Old House at Home in 1875.

Up Tennial Road on the left was Camomile Green with a row

HARBORNE VILLAGE 1834



of nailmakers' cottages, then further up on the right, was the Elizabethan Tennial Hall which was the home of Harborne's largest man, Job Freeth, a farmer who weighed 40 stone.

Returning to St Peter's Church, going south through the graveyard and the Hillyfields was a fenced footpath which lead through Home Farm to Tom Knockers Wood and then onwards to Northfield five miles away. It is from Tom Knockers Wood that the boundaries of the original and present parishes differ. The old boundary continued round the area of the Martineau Centre and up Harborne Lane (Balden Road), east along the Halesowen Road (Hagley Road), past Beech Lanes Farm then past the Kings Head Hotel. The present boundary cuts back down Court Oak Road and then turns north to the Kings Head PH up Lordswood Road.

The Kings Head Hotel junction was where the toll gate and cattle pound stood. There was also a clock which is now opposite Marks and Spencer in the City Centre (Please can we have it back! ed.). South to Harborne would have lead past Lords Wood and the Burned Heath, this is now the Q.A.C. campus but was originally used for fetes and games.

Just past the junction of Lordswood and Gillhurst Roads was the workhouse which was later converted to a washing powder factory. Did this give rise partly to the old saying, "Hungry Harborne, proud but poor, a washerwoman at every door"? Certainly Harborne once had the well known Mirror Laundry, later the premises of the Chad Valley Toy Company, surprisingly still standing in Park Hill Road.

Taking a walk down the High Street from Albert Road one would reach the Kings Arms (the Fallow and Firkin). This was where all the big local gatherings were held and the Female Friendly Society was founded in 1827. The green in front of the Duke of York was used for bear baiting and it is said that one bear became so irate it tossed a dog up through the bedroom window of an adjacent cottage.

Continuing along the High Street, on the left is the Library, opened in 1892. This was originally the Masonic Hall for Tudor Lodge built in 1870. Prior to that time it was a row of cottages called Matchcraft and it was here that many of the occupiers trained their fighting cocks and dogs for "sports" on the village green.

Further down the High Street on the opposite side are three roads which it is claimed were the start of the decline of Harborne from a rural to an urban village. This came about when the land was purchased in the 1850's by Josiah Bull York, a builder from Coleshill, hence the present names. South Street was originally known as Josiah Street but it was generally felt that Josiah was too sacred a name for a mere street!

Some of you may have wondered why the High Street narrows just opposite the Clock Tower. This was because that end of Harborne was the residential part of the village and if you stand outside Clinton's card shop you will see that the back of the foot path lines up with the garden wall of Cartwright and Lewis beyond St Johns Road. All of the houses in between were demolished in 1965 and the Parade constructed.

Finally we come to the Green Man at the end of Harborne High Street. This was where the Harborne Gooseberry Growers Society was started in 1815 and where the first Wesleyan Methodist preacher, a Mr Peakes, came from Birmingham to preach the gospel and was pelted with mud until a kindly cottager in Grays Road opened his door to him.

There is more, much more, which has had to be omitted from lack of space. Another time perhaps. We live in a fascinating village and The Harborne Society will continue to do its very best to ensure that "Our Village" remains a pleasant place in which to live.

Chairman's Letter

How many of you have not heard of The Harborne Society? How many of you do not know what we aim to do?

The Society was formed in 1960 with the aims of encouraging the spirit of community, to promote interest in the character and history of Harborne and to represent the interests of Harborne by encouraging suitable conservation, opposing unsuitable developments and putting forward proposals for the future of our village to the Local Authority.

Over the years we have built up a good working relationship with the Local Authority, particularly with the Planners and the Engineers. Our membership has grown to around 700 but when you consider how many people live in Harborne you will realise that we could be much more representative if more of you joined. Membership does not mean that

you have to do a lot of work for us, unless of course you want to, but it does give you a chance to get in touch with us when you have a problem or when you would like to support a project.

At our monthly meetings the officers of the Society report on what has been happening in Harborne and what response the Society would like to make. This gives members a chance to air their own views. An Easter Newsletter is sent to all members, but the most important one, which is delivered to 10,000 homes through the efforts of a large group of our members, is meant to give all the people in Harborne an interesting read and to update you on what we have been doing.

Monthly meetings are usually well attended and our programme of speakers (see page 12) is always interesting. Why not come along? In October of this year

we shall be having our biennial Art & Craft Exhibition. Anyone can submit entries, the standard and quality seems to rise every time. An entry form is included on page 6.

On the technical side we have had one of our greatest successes this year in helping to stop a thirteenth pub between the Duke of York and the Green Man. You can read more about this in the Technical Officer's report on page 7. This proves that we are an influence in the community.

I have not room to mention all the things the Society does but please do join us. I am sure you will find something to interest you and, I hope, something to enjoy.

**Yours sincerely,
Mary Abbott
Chairman**

The Green Heart of Harborne?

Mary Worrall

One of the most pleasant parts of "Old Harborne", I am sure most people would agree, is the area around St Peter's Church and The Bell Public House. Sadly the Churchyard is not the tranquil, well ordered haven which it has the potential to be. We are often asked by members of the Society why this is so - in fact the committee has spent a fair amount of time discussing the topic. With this in mind, we asked the Vicar of St Peter's Church if he could contribute an article about the graveyard, to tell our readers something of its history and explain a little about the upkeep of the site.

Revd. Evans mentions in his introduction that the land around St Peter's Church is a

"Churchyard and not a Cemetery" this means that the site is under the joint control and responsibility of the Church and the Local Authority. Cemeteries are entirely the responsibility of the Local Authority.

Like any big city Birmingham suffers from an enormous litter problem, but if we all took responsibility for disposing of our rubbish correctly, not only Harborne, but the whole city would benefit. I would like to take the opportunity, as editor, to encourage all of you to read this article and as you do so, consider what you personally can do to improve the environment as we head towards the close of the century.

St Peter's Churchyard

Revd. C. J. Evans.

Vicar of St Peter's Harborne.

The Churchyard at St Peter's - and it is a Churchyard not a Cemetery, covers an area of 7½ acres. It makes up a part of a great swath of green which starts by the Hillyfields on the south west corner of the municipal golf course, and moves north east to include the Glebe Field, the Cricket Club and the park in Harborne Park Road.

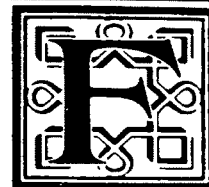
Burials have taken place from St Peter's Church since medieval days; however, the earliest identifiable memorial is a fragment near the south west corner of the Church dated 1621. The oldest person buried is a lady of 105 whose grave is near Old Church Avenue. Bordering Old Church Road are three lych gates (from the Saxon word for corpse). Two have recently been restored and the third is in the pipeline. One is in memory of Mrs Roberts who was a local school mistress and the vicar's wife. This was erected and dedicated by 180 of her former pupils to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887. The lych gate nearest to Harborne Hall is the gift of Charles Hart and dated 1868. Nearby, is the grave of one William Shakespeare, probably no relation to the poet! Near the Robert's lych gate, opposite St Peter's Road, is a prominent marble wheel in memory of a victim of a road accident. Close to the east window of the Church is the grave of David Cox (1783 - 1858) an important English watercolour artist who lived, for some time, in Greenfield Road. The widow of Neville Chamberlain, the Prime Minister, is buried beneath a simple tombstone close to the War Memorial. Nearby is the grave of Sir Charles Rafter

KBE, who was Chief Constable of Birmingham (1899 - 1935) and lived in Elmley Lodge, which was his official residence. Also commemorated on the same memorial are his two sons, Charles and Pearce, both killed in action within two months of each other in 1940.

During this century the Churchyard was enlarged to include the area known as "The Hillyfields". An area called "The Ride", off the path leading to the Hart lych gate, has been identified specifically for the interment of ashes and is in regular use.

By an order which had to go through The House of Lords, the churchyard was officially "Closed" in 1973. Once this happens, no new graves can be dug. However, provided families involved have the appropriate documentation, existing graves for more than one can be opened for burial. Ashes can also be interred in existing graves.

It has to be said that the overall state of the Churchyard does cause some concern. Once a Churchyard is closed, its upkeep and maintenance become the joint responsibility of the Local Authority and the Parochial Church Council. The Authority ensures that the grass is cut regularly in the summer and that pathways and boundaries are maintained. (Editor's note - The Church applies to have the Churchyard "Closed" and the local authority is only obliged to maintain it to the condition it is in upon closure.)



FISHERS
SURVEYORS
& PROPERTY
MANAGERS

20-22-24 HIGH STREET, HARBORNE
TEL: 0121-428 1000

LOCKS SAFES

ALARMS KEYS

That book you want
RING 427-9343
and we should have it for
you in TWO DAYS!
HOOPER'S
97A HIGH STREET
Your Harborne Bookshop
.... and by the way
our GREETING CARDS
are beautiful. Come and See!



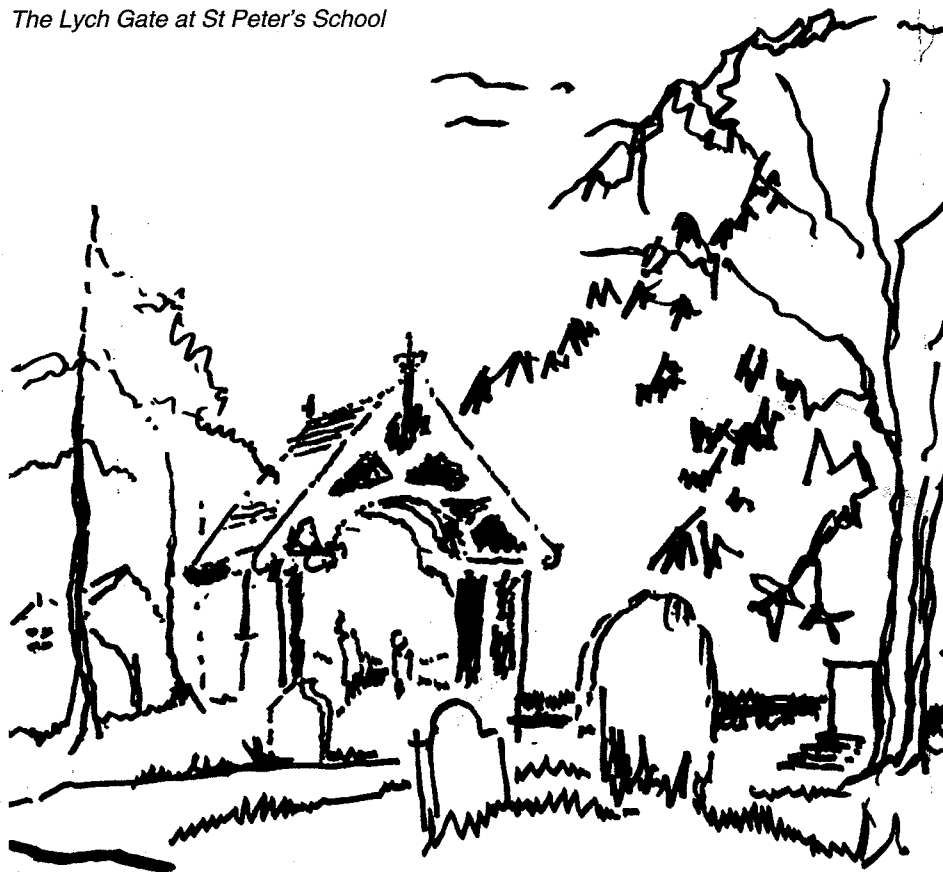
FLEURS

120 Station Road, Harborne,
Birmingham B17 9LS
Telephone: 0121 427 4072

For all your Floral Work:

WEDDINGS,
FUNERALS, ETC.

Telephone Orders Welcome
VISA/ACCESS
Cards accepted



Perhaps because there are rights of way through the Churchyard, there are, from time to time, outbreaks of vandalism. This situation, along with the natural growth of

foliage, gives the Churchyard something of an unkempt look. Various rules and regulations, some of them somewhat obscure, make Churchyard maintenance a hazardous occupation! For example - if a headstone falls down or is toppled and is then put up again, the PCC can be sued if it later falls and injures someone! This is why all "unsafe" headstones are laid flat or left fallen.

Despite complications, there is a need to try to keep the Churchyard reasonably tidy - no easy task, given that "fly tipping" and vandalism are a constant problem, especially near the Hillyfields end. The maintenance of individual graves is the responsibility of the families concerned - this in itself of course presents problems. (Editor's note - many graves in the Churchyard date to the last century and there are no family descendants left in Harborne to care for them.) Any offers of help with general tidying up are always welcome.

I leave you with a thought. The Churchyard, at first sight, seems to symbolise death, but any botanist or entomologist will point out that Churchyards, in their natural state, are in fact teeming with life.

Leverton & Halls Quality Grocers

14 Lonsdale Road, Harborne, Birmingham

Tel: 0121 428 2699

Leverton & Halls sell an extensive range of Organic vegetables and fruit, Fish & seafood, Environmentally friendly washing powders & Soaps, Balti Dishes & Woks, Herbs & Spices

Telephone orders welcome. Come and See
Delivery Service available

Renaissance Holistic Therapy Centre

Aromatherapy, Reflexology, Spiritual & Reiki Healing,
Hypnotherapy, Process Acupressure,
Emotional Therapy, Shiatsu

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE

160 Gordon Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 9EY. Tel: 0121 428 1449

£5 Discount off your first treatment when presenting this advertisement

Do you want to feel
**REJUVENATED, INSPIRED
UPLIFTED and RELAXED?**

Planet can help
with...

- essential oils
 - candles - aromatherapy, scented, pillar, designer
 - books - mind, body, spirit, alternative health
 - new world music
 - candle holders/wall sconces
 - windchimes
 - crystals and stones
- plus many original items from South America, Morocco, India and leading local designers

Let Planet make a difference for the Better!

Planet

Mind - Body - Soul

49 High Street,
Harborne
0121-428 4184

Madeline Aston Memorial

Mary Worrall

Madeline Aston was one of the founder members of the Harborne Society and to commemorate the contribution she made, both to the Society and community, we have in previous years held a competition for local schoolchildren. The winner of the competition received a prize, as did the school they attended - runners up were presented with certificates. Having considered the way forward with the Memorial fund, the Society has now decided to establish a reference collection of books for use by schools. The books, which will be known as the Madeline Aston Local History Collection, will be housed in the Junior Library at Harborne Library. We hope to build up a useful resource for local children, which will support the National Curriculum and at the same time foster interest in Harborne's fascinating history!

The first box of books has arrived at the Library and will hopefully be on the shelves soon. The Madeline Aston Collection will be kept with the local history reference books and homework collection. Each book will eventually have a name-plate showing that it was presented by The Harborne Society.

The Library will also highlight the collection at Class Visits from local schools when children come to learn about library resources. I feel sure that this initiative will prove to very well used in the future - Harborne Library was delighted by the Society's offer of books. One of the ongoing schemes within libraries at present is the establishment of Homework Clubs and Homework Collections - in fact the Society's donation could scarcely have been better timed!

JORDAN TURNER SOLICITORS

P. C. JORDAN LL.B M. MILO TURNER LL.B

Place your Legal affairs in safe hands. We provide a friendly, businesslike service.

Conveyancing work and the preparation of Wills, upon a competitive basis. We will be pleased to provide you with a quotation.

Should you need us please contact:
Mrs Susan J. Baker LL.B
Conveyancing: Wills : Probate.

414 Bearwood Road, Smethwick, West Midlands B66 4EU
Tel: 0121 429 6417 Fax: 0121 420 2290

Macphersons APPLIANCES DIRECT

Suppliers to Commerce & Industry
46 Clarence Road, Harborne,
Birmingham, B17 9LG

Tel: 0121 427 4633
Fax: 0121 428 2117

HARBORNE BUILDING SUPPLIES

PLANED & SAWN TIMBER, SKIRTING MOULDINGS
GLASS, HARDWARE, COPPER TUBE, CYLINDERS, TANKS
BOILERS, HEATING GOODS, GAS FITTINGS, SLABS
SAND, CEMENT, PLASTER, BRICKS & FENCING

ROOFING

Prompt Delivery Service, Established Site over 50 years
OPEN 6 days a Week, including Bank Holiday
For Expert Help and Advice, Tel: 427 2520 or 428 1118
36A NORTHFIELD ROAD HARBORNE

**10%
DISCOUNT
ON ALL
STOCK
ITEMS
WITH THIS
ADVERTISEMENT**

Gwinnett & Burkill Ltd

191 HIGH STREET
Next door to SAFEWAY

WE REPAIR AND GUARANTEE

- All watches of quality
- Barometers
- All Clocks including Antiques and Anniversary types
- Grandfather clocks including a collection and delivery service
- All rings made and repaired
- Every kind of jewellery repair undertaken
- Pearls rethreaded and stones supplied and fitted etc.
- We stock and fit every known battery for watches, clocks & calculators
- A professional insurance valuation service available at all times
- We buy your old gold, silver and unwanted jewellery, best prices paid



Your Harborne Jewellers

191 High Street,
Harborne B17 9PP
Tel: 0121 426 6446



CONTOURS



Corset, Corsetry,
Knitted Underwear/Pure Wool, Wool and
Nylon, Interlock, Cotton, Thermal,
Hosiery.
Nightwear -
Wincyette, Brushed Nylon, Cotton
- Night Dresses/ Pyjamas/Housecoats.
Dresses, Skirts, Knitwear, (including large fitting)



*TWILFIT
*COURT ROYAL
*EXCELSIOR CORSETS
*FAUN ROLL-ONS
*BRETTELES
*30-60 STOCKING/TIGHTS

*WHITE SWAN
*BERLEI
*EXQUISITE FORM
*PLAYTEX
*BALLET
*VEDONIS

354 HIGH STREET, HARBORNE
TEL: 428 2707

21 OAK TREE LANE, SELLY OAK.
TEL: 472 1761

THE HARBORNE SOCIETY ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION

It does not seem very long since our last exhibition in 1996, but it is indeed two years and once more we are offering the opportunity to exhibit in the Clock Tower to all interested local artists and craftpersons. The exhibition will be in October during half-term, if you wish to submit work or demonstrate a skill or craft please fill in the form on this page and return it to - Mary Worrall, Exhibition Co-ordinator, 91 Wood Lane, Harborne, B17 9AY.

We are hoping for the usual excellent response! You do not have to live in Harborne to get your work shown in the exhibition or be of a particular age! This really is a "Peoples' Show" we do not operate a selection procedure or charge to submit. Sometimes the response has meant that we are unable to hang every piece of work through lack of wall space, but we do try. I would like to thank both the Clock Tower and members of the Society, who steward the exhibition for us, in advance. This is the second Art and Craft Exhibition I have co-ordinated and I am looking forward to yet another sparkling show. After this it will be our "Year 2000" Exhibition, so let us know if you have any ideas you would like to see in this very special event. We must plan in advance and any suggestions will be welcomed.

Please fill in your entry form clearly, as it is needed to compile the catalogue, more forms will be available from Harborne Library or by contacting me and enclosing an SAE.

HARBORNE SOCIETY ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION

NAME (Please give full name and preferred title e.g. Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss)

ADDRESS

NUMBER AND TITLES OF WORK (please include medium if you wish this included in catalogue and price if for sale)

I WILL/WILL NOT BE DEMONSTRATING DURING THE EXHIBITION.

SIGNED

PLEASE INCLUDE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE SO WE CAN INFORM YOU OF SUBMISSION DATES ETC.

Return to **M. Worrall, 91 Wood Lane, Harborne, B'ham B17 9AY. 427 7289.**

Technical Officers Report

Ann Yorke



Mary Abbott, Ann Yorke and Nigel Griffiths celebrate with orange juice
Photo courtesy Birmingham Post and Mail

It has been a very wearing and stressful time since 12 March 1996. This is when we were first informed that J.D. Wetherspoon had put in an application for a public house at 57-59 High Street. To our disgust they got Planning Approval last May 1997 and we have fought on until last Friday 7 May 1998 when they withdrew their application for a license.

We have had to keep our wits about us and our ears open since last October to even keep up with the devious behaviour of J.D. Wetherspoon. Remember that this is the same brewery who put up two identical applications for the same site on the same date in order to always have one to fall back on for an appeal to the DOE if it was not dealt with within the statutory period of two months - and who, of the general public, was going to write two identical letters opposing two identical applications when they thought that there was simply a mistake in the application number? Twin tracking, as it is known, has since been virtually banned.

The licensing application was withdrawn on two occasions and the letters of objection had to be rewritten as "the same objections may not apply to the fresh application", information which I received from the Clerk to the Justices last November. The date for the hearing was revised, several times, and in the end we had to concentrate on what we felt was our last ditch stand at the Magistrates Courts due on 21 May

1998. We have stood in the freezing wind and rain and collected 450 objectors names on a survey. We have written, cajoled and talked to people until the very words "Thirteenth Pub" are engraved forever on our hearts. And we have been infuriated to find the police now object strongly to an application on which, last May, they made no adverse comments, indeed no comments of any kind. The Planners of course still have no adverse comments to make, what are they there for if it is not to make some attempt to control development? What a waste of time and money to have let matters get this far before calling a halt.

But now we must look to the future. We need a nursery school in Harborne and where could be a better building and garden than 57-59 High Street? Please make enquiries and let us know if you even hear a whisper of interest from any of the established nurseries who may wish to expand into this area. It would be well used, conveniently sited and spacious.

Then there is the problem of the chewing gum - yes, those fast increasing blobs of grey white substance to be found on the pavements and roads everywhere. I understand that Wrigleys are carrying out a campaign next Autumn in Harborne, but our suggestion is GUMBINS to be fixed to every lamp post along the High Street, or even some form of self control and awareness by the chewers of today - no let's be reasonable, GUMBINS are the answer. This suggestion has now been passed to the Environmental Department.

We do not seem to have had much other excitement, even the Old House at Home application went out like a damp squib. The survey which we did of the High Street shops has proved useful both to the Planning Department and the Library and given The Harborne Society much to think about with regard to the future of retail outlets.

There is not space for more as the J.D. Wetherspoon application was of such complexity that I felt that you should know more about the case, especially those of you who were good enough to write letters.

**Q Fitness
A Centre
C**
**Wood Lane, Harborne
Birmingham. B17 9TG
Tel. 0121 428 5010**

**Full range of CV
& resistance
equipment.
Free car parking
OPEN
7am-9pm Mon-Fi
10am-4pm Sat & Sun**

BOURNE CARPETS & CURTAINS

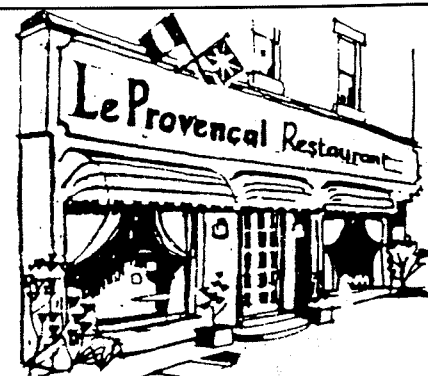
556 Bearwood Road, Bearwood, Smethwick
Tel: 0121 434 3300

Our family run business still offers the same high standard of service with an emphasis on the quality of the fitting service. After all - the most important day in the life of a carpet is the day it's fitted!

Did you know we:

- Sell all qualities of carpets from leading manufacturers, for those who are budget conscious through to luxury wool Axminster.
- Specialise in the sale and installation of wood floors e.g. Junkers, Tarket and Bruce.
- We have a large selection of cushion vinyl & Kamdean PVC floors.
- Our custom made and ready to hang curtain gallery is extensive and we also sell roller, venetian and vertical blinds.
- Crucial Trading have appointed us main agents for their coir, seagrass and sisal natural floor coverings.
- We offer a specialist cleaning service of carpets and three piece suites - carpets are dry in minutes not days!
- All carpets and curtains sold by us can be treated with a "stain protector" on the day of installation.

**THE RED CARPET
TREATMENT**



Le Provençal Restaurant
1 Albany Road, Harborne,
Birmingham B17 9JX
Tel: 0121-426 2444

HARBORNE CYCLE SURGERY



FOR ALL YOUR CYCLING REQUIREMENTS

A WIDE RANGE OF NEW AND USED CYCLES

SPARES, REPAIRS, ACCESSORIES AND SERVICING

Ring 0121-428 5040

60 WOOD LANE (OFF COURT OAK ROAD)
HARBORNE, BIRMINGHAM B17 9AY

Housing for the Elderly in Harborne

Phil Stokes



The Old Harborne Workhouse

For exciting and unusual giftware & home accessories look no further than

Spindlerwood Studio

for glassware, pottery, candles & holders, artificial flowers, home fragrance, hand-painted furniture cards and much, much more

Princes Corner, Harborne Park Road,
Harborne, Birmingham.
(0121) 427 6949

Park around the corner in Albert Road

Ever thought of going to live in a residential home for the elderly or in sheltered housing? Rather like making your Will it is something that most people prefer to put to the back of their minds but, for many reasons, a change in housing need is an issue which will face an increasing number of older people as we enter the new millennium. More than 16% of the country's population is over pensionable age and in Harborne this figure exceeds 23%.

Housing provision for older people has undergone a major change over recent years with growth of a private sector care industry to supplement that provided by local authorities, voluntary organisations and housing associations. So just what housing accommodation specifically for older people is there in the Harborne area?

1. Residential Homes for the Elderly

All residential homes are registered and inspected by the City Council to ensure that they meet strict standards of both care and facilities. Where homes are willing to enter into contracts with the Social Services Department, the City Council has introduced a star rating system to highlight homes that offer higher levels of service and quality, when linked to the prices charged, over and above the standard registration, inspection and contract requirements. Up to 3 stars may be given, each one indicating an additional quality standard i.e. a higher staffing ratio (care and domestic); a higher ratio of N.V.Q. trained staff; and a quality assurance system to ensure policies and standards are in place (and have been assessed) to meet all the standards of the contract and registration requirements. The star rating

system is also applied, of course, to the City Council's own homes.

The Field House, 110 Harborne Park Road (Private)

St. Joseph's Home, Queen's Park Road (Voluntary)

Oaklands, 31 Weather Oaks, off Lordswood Road (City Council)

The Grove, Mill Farm Road, off Grove Lane (Note: This home is currently under review by the City Council with the possibility of conversion to provide 32 Extra Care Sheltered Housing self-contained flats with on-site care services.)

Details of the above homes and their star rating, where applicable, are available from the Social Services Area Office, Attwood House, 72 High Street, Harborne as are lists of all registered homes (including nursing homes).

2. Warden Service/Sheltered Housing Schemes

Harborne House, Tibbets Lane - 32 rented flats.

Dore House, Lordswood Road - 6 rented flats.

Both properties provided by the Harborne Parish Lands Charity.

Eligible applicants must live in the Ancient Parish of Harborne and fall below maximum capital/savings limits.

Lench's Trust, Ridgacre Road - 47 rented flats.

Applicants must fall below maximum capital/savings limits. The Trust provides sheltered housing at 4 other sites across the city.

Make an impact in elegant knitwear from

Barbara Faulkner

Truly exclusive designs
Tailor-made coats, suits and dresses for everyday wear and special occasions

Ring 429 6251 to make an appointment - I guarantee you'll be pleased

Pinner Court, Ravenhurst Road/High Street.

Bovis Retirement Homes' development of 48 leasehold apartments.

Lingfield Court, 40 High Street - 32 flats.

Guardian Mews, Waterward Close, off Vivian Road - 26 flats.

Peter Bennett Close, 140 Court Oak Road - 15 flats.

3. City Council Housing Department Warden Service/Sheltered Housing Schemes

Weather Oaks, off Lordswood Road - 27 maisonettes.

Old Token Gate, North Road - 22 maisonettes.

Metchley House, Metchley Lane - Whole of multi-storey block.

Toronto Gardens, Court Oak Road - 31 bungalows.

Local News

Mary Abbott

Princes Corner

With the opening of two new shops in Lonsdale Road there is every opportunity for this area to become a small but useful shopping centre, especially for the many elderly people who live nearby. Mr Kapnisis has moved his tailor's shop to Lonsdale Road on one side of Browns, the butcher, and Leverton and Halls have opened a grocer's shop on the other side selling, among other things, organic fruit and vegetables. Together with the remaining shops in this road and those round Princes Corner it is possible to do much of one's shopping here. When Pinner Court's three shops are let the area should be of even more importance.

Metchley Abbey



Guardian Housing Association/Anchor Trust retirement flats on a shared ownership basis except Lingfield Court which is owner-occupied. The Association has a large number of schemes across the city, including rented accommodation.

Vivian Close (26 flats) and Heathcote House (39 flats), Vivian Road.

Servite Houses Housing Association rented flats. The Association has a large number of similar schemes across the city.

Metchley Abbey, Metchley Lane.

Bromford Carinthia Housing Association - 28 rented flats. The Association has a number of similar schemes across the city.

Timber Mill Court, Serpentine Road/Lonsdale Road.

Touchstone Housing Association - 56 retirement flats on a shared ownership basis.

4. Other Housing Schemes

Wiggin Cottage Homes, Margaret Road. 6 Almshouses managed by the Birmingham Council for Old People. No warden but with emergency call system. The B.C.O.P. provides/manages other residential developments for the elderly across the city, including sheltered housing.

Malins Court, Malins Road. Harden Housing Association - 42 rented flats. No warden but with emergency alarm system. The Association has a number of similar schemes across the city.

I am sure that the homes and properties referred to do not represent a complete listing and some will have been missed which, perhaps, shows a need for much greater publicity to be given to the existence of these differing forms of residential development for older people. Inclusion of a home/property in this article does not imply any recommendation by the Society.

Cards for any Occasion

I expect that many of you have already seen the four lovely coloured cards of Old Harborne produced by Mr Alan Preece. Together with these there are many more available of different parts of Old Birmingham. They make very interesting cards in which you can write your own message. Cards can be obtained from Maddison Avenue on the High Street, the Post Office at the Circle on the Moorpool Estate and at the Post Office on the Court Oak Road almost opposite Queen's Park. When you come to read next year's programme you will see that Alan Preece is our speaker for April 1999. It should be a good evening.

Rotary

What do you know about the world-wide, national and local charitable activities of Rotary? If you think you would like to know more about Rotary then call Dr. Davies on 414 4521.

Heritage Open Day *Leslie Blennerhassett*

The Harborne Society will be celebrating National Heritage Open Day with a guided tour of Harborne Hall on Sunday, 13th September. A tour of the Hall and its grounds will be led by Les Blennerhassett. Les assisted with the construction of a permanent exhibition of the early history of the Hall. This will be on view. The tour will start at 2pm and if you wish to take part please contact Mary Abbott on 427 1378, as numbers are limited. This should be a very interesting afternoon which offers an opportunity to both see inside a building not generally open to the public, and also find out something of its fascinating and varied past. Make a note of it in your diaries!



Harborne Portraits Number 2

I am sure that many of you will instantly recognise our second personality from his photograph, but for those of you with no connections with Harborne Junior School may I introduce Tony Kenny, Headteacher. I went to interview "Mr Kenny" one Tuesday morning in May, with my list of questions prepared, and these are some of the things he told me.

I was born in Khartoum, which is in Africa, to British parents and spent the first ten years of my life there. I have one brother, who lives in Australia. When I came to this country I went first to a prep school in Kent and then public school in Canterbury. I have always loved sport, especially rugby, and it was one of my games masters at school who suggested to me that I should consider teaching. This seemed an appealing idea and so I trained to teach P.E. taking up a post in Birmingham in 1963 at Bournville Grammar Technical School - teaching P.E. and Science. Though I am married to a teacher there is no-one else in my family who has ever taught, and so far none of our children seem inclined to follow their parents in this direction.

After some years at Bournville I started to apply for jobs as an Advisory Teacher but felt I lacked experience of work in Primary Schools and this was preventing me gaining a post. In order to widen my experience I took a job teaching in a Primary School in Weoley Castle in the late 1960's.

Rather to my surprise I loved Primary teaching and have stayed in it ever since!

When I came to Harborne Junior School as Headteacher in 1975, I must admit, I never thought I would still be here 23 years later. I believe I announced at my first staff meeting that I intended to stay five years and then move on. As things

turned out, I am now the second longest serving Headteacher of any Birmingham School.

Back in the 1970's when I first came to Harborne my main ambition was to fill the school, and make sure it stayed full, by making it a place people wanted their children to go to. We had no training courses for "management posts" then, I was just the most senior amongst a lot of



Mr A. Kenny
Headmaster Harborne Junior School

other teachers - now I feel that Headteachers have become deskbound by administration and finances, it is very easy to loose touch with what goes on in the classroom.

I have been very happy in Harborne Juniors, even though I have chosen not to live in Harborne (We live in Northfield). I am fond of Harborne - there are some great families here - but I don't think I would have any privacy at all if I did live here.

Thinking about change during my time in Harborne, I would probably say that people have changed most. Families move in and out of the area more, often due to job promotions. Many more families have both parents at work and we see far more nannies and childminders than when I first came here. Children too have changed, but I think this is true of children everywhere, not just in Harborne - they seem less "innocent" than years ago, especially the older juniors. It seems to me they are expected to grow up very quickly and the fact that most of them have a TV set in their bedroom definitely has some effect on this!

Obviously the changes in educational administration have shaped the physical state of our school buildings. Managing our own budget has allowed us gradually to improve the interior of the school. The exterior of the buildings is still the responsibility of the Local Authority. The school is now also used more by the community after school hours, for parties, classes and meetings. I feel this opening up of the building for multiple uses is an excellent development.

If I could change anything in Harborne I would like to see more scope for young teenagers. There is not enough for them to do, very few sporting facilities and too few open spaces to pursue energetic activities safely.

After my long and happy stay in Harborne I feel I am now ready for a change. I think the school is ready for a new head and my intention is to retire from the Junior School in 2000. When I leave Harborne I look forward to having more time to spend with my sporting interests, I am President of Moseley Rugby Club. I will only come back to see the school if I am invited, though I am sure that it will continue to be immensely successful for a very long time to come.

Tony Kenny was talking to Mary Worrall.

FRAME TEC

Expert Picture Framing

Oils, Watercolours, Prints, Photographs, Silks,
Certificates, Tapestries, Embroideries, Coins Etc.
Unusual Items

Broad Range Of High Quality Materials Art Gallery For Regional Artists

Advice On All Aspects Of Your Selection

0121 428 1038

8 Greenfield Road, Harborne B17 0EE

SLIMMING WORLD

Class Held
Mondays at 6.30pm
GROVE TENANTS' HALL
Grove Lane
Harborne
Phone JACKIE
TEL: 604 9480

Report of the A.G.M. held on 20th May 1998

Jenny Buchan Hon. Secretary

The 38th Annual General Meeting of the Harborne Society took place on Wednesday 20th May 1998 at 7.30 pm. in the Conference Room at Harborne Junior School.

The meeting was chaired by the Chairman, Mrs. Mary Abbott, and reports were given by her and also by Mrs. Ann Yorke, Technical Committee Chairman and William Curr, Treasurer. All the reports gave a clear indication of the hard work done by the Society's officers and committees and it was sad that so few members were present to hear them and

show their appreciation. This was in contrast to the increased numbers attending monthly meetings. Further to a brief discussion it was decided that the committee should look to changing the format of the A.G.M. and following it with a speaker.

Delight was expressed by many at the failure of Wetherspoons to turn the Cartwright and Lewis building into yet another public house. The old fire station is presently being converted into residential units while there could be an ongoing issue about the number and use

of supposed retail units next to the Varsity public house.

Financially the Society is in a healthy state.

As no committee members had resigned and no nominations had been received the committee for 1998-99 will be identical to that for 1997-98. The full list is on the back page of the Newsletter.

The evening finished with coffee, informal discussions and a chance to look at the MASA "Public Art" display boards.

DEE MUIR INTERIORS

Distinctive Soft Furnishings

Bed Linen • Curtains • Wide range of Wall Coverings

364 - 366 High Street, Harborne

Tel: 0121 428 1589

ann levitt

chartered architect

Dipl CPM Dip Arch (Birm) RIBA

98 Greenfield Road,
Harborne,
BIRMINGHAM
B17 0EF



0121 604 7364

**FREE INITIAL
CONSULTATIONS**

**REALISTIC FEES
THEREAFTER**

*For fresh ideas for your extension
or new home design contact your
local architect*

P. KAPNISIS

TAILOR & MENSWEAR OUTFITTER

FORMERLY OF
HIGH STREET, HARBORNE

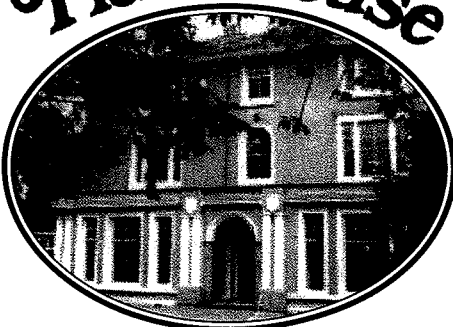
HAS MOVED TO

**18 LONSDALE ROAD
HARBORNE**

(OFF LORDSWOOD ROAD,
OPPOSITE HARBORNE SWIMMING
POOL & FITNESS CENTRE)

TEL: 0121-427 5266

The
Field House



Luxury Residential Care For Elderly Persons

- Single/Double bedrooms
- En-suite bathrooms
- Lift to all bedrooms
- 24-hour qualified care
- Long/Short term
- TV/Telephone/
Call points in all bedrooms
- Hairdressing salon
- Spacious garden/Patio/
Swimming pool
- Close to all amenities

Harborne Park Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 0BS

For further information please contact Margaret Beck on (0121) 426 3157/1315

R. E. WALKER

M.R.Pharm.S

Dispensing Chemist

Prince's Corner, 368 High Street
Harborne

OPEN 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**TOILETRIES - BABY NEEDS
PERFUMES - COSMETICS**

*Chanel - Estée Lauder - Dior - Vichy
Rochas - Anais Anais - Worth - Rimmel*

*AND - We can transfer your
photos/slides/cinefilm to VIDEO! Ask us!*

0121 427 8565

Patron, Officers and Committee 1998-99

Patron

The Right Reverend
The Lord Bishop of Birmingham

Chairman

Mrs Mary Abbott, 'Victoria Lodge',
1 Victoria Road, B17 0AG
427 1378

Vice-Chairman

Mr Roger Miles,
21 Oaklands Avenue, B17 9TU.
426 2577

Hon. Secretary

Mrs Jenny Buchan,
50 Margaret Grove, B17 9JL.
426 4854

Hon. Treasurer

Mr William Curr,
23 Vicarage Road, B17 0SN.
427 4084

Technical Officer

Mrs Ann Yorke,
98 Greenfield Road, B17 0EF.
604 7364

Chairman Social Committee

Mrs Jean Curr,
23 Vicarage Road, B17 0SN.
427 4084

Committee Members

Mr Eric Abbott
Mr Leslie Blennerhasset
Mr Michael Darby
Mr Graham Parker
Mrs Beryl Romano
Mr Phil Stokes
Mrs Mary Worrall

CREDITS

Editor: Mary Worrall, 91 Wood Lane,
Harborne B17 9AY

Advertisements: William Curr

Graphics: Eric Abbott

Typesetting and Printing by:

Westpoint Printing Co. Ltd
113 Fazeley Street, Digbeth,
Birmingham, B5 5RX
Tel: 0121 685 1100 Fax: 0121 685 1110

PROGRAMME 1998-99

Jean Curr, Chairman Social Committee

1998

- Wednesday, 9th September:** Street Furniture and Other Things.
Mr. J Gale
- Tuesday, 6th October:** The West Midlands Police Air Operations
Unit. *Sgt. Knowles*
- Wednesday, 4th November:** Life on the Canals *Mrs. B Morris*
- Tuesday, 1st December:** A Study of Michelangelo and his Carving
Techniques. *Mr. M Painter*

1998

- Tuesday, 2nd February:** Legal Experiences. *Judge Elizabeth Fisher*
- Wednesday, 3rd March:** Zoo Tails. *Mr. O Graham-Jones*
- Tuesday, 20 April:** Reflections. *Mr. A Preece* - Artist/publisher
talks about his work.
- Wednesday, 19 May:** A.G.M.

All meetings begin at 7.30. pm. Tuesday meetings are held at Onneley House, Court Oak Road; Wednesday meetings are held at Harborne Junior School, Station Road.

September sees the start of our monthly meetings, and we hope you will find the programme interesting and stimulating. We are delighted that one of our members has agreed to talk about her "Legal Experiences" and we hope that the Police Helicopter talk will really take off this time! Michael Painter led the team of master woodcarvers in the restoration work at Windsor Castle after the fire - you might like to ask him about this.

We look forward to seeing you. Non-members are welcome at an entry fee of 50p.

JOIN THE HARBORNE SOCIETY

Subscription Rates:- (1st April 1997 - 31st March 1998)

ADULT £5 per year

FAMILY £7

CONCESSION £3 (*Student, Unwaged, Senior Citizen*)

Write your NAME, TITLE (Mr, Dr, Mrs etc), ADDRESS and TELEPHONE No. on a piece of paper, and send it with a cheque for the appropriate amount (payable to THE HARBORNE SOCIETY) to:

W. Curr, 23 Vicarage Road, Harborne, B17 0SN

ARE YOU ALREADY A MEMBER?

Have you paid your subscription for the current year?

(If you have a pink card, you are paying by Banker's Order. Send no cheques, but tell your bank if it is not paying the correct amount, as above. If you have a blue card, note the date on it, write a cheque made payable to THE HARBORNE SOCIETY, for the appropriate amount to bring you up to the 31st March, 1999, and send it to W. Curr at the above address. THANK YOU!)