

# Harby Journal

November 2025



## **HARBY** **COMMUNITY** **CHRISTMAS** **MARKET**

**SATURDAY**

**29th NOVEMBER**

**10.00am-1.00pm**

**AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

**LOCAL MAKERS**

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**[events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk)**

# HARBY GARAGE AND SHOP

41 Nether Street, Harby, LE14 4BW

## SHOP OPENING TIMES

Mon - Fri 6.45 am - 6 pm  
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Tue 9 am - 5.30 pm  
Wed 9 am - 4.30 pm  
Thu 9 am - 5.30 pm  
Fri 9 am - 5.30 pm  
Sat 9 am - 1 pm  
Sun Closed

## Harby Art Group

Every Wednesday  
2.00pm - 4.00pm  
Harby Village Hall

You will be welcomed by a  
friendly sociable group.  
You don't have to be good,  
just enjoy!

For further information contact  
Jenny 01949 860166

The Harby Journal provides local news,  
information and advertising.

Contact the editor: Ella Metcalfe  
**harbyjournal@mail.com**  
**07813341480**

Copy deadline: The **12<sup>th</sup>** of each month for the  
following month's edition.

Digital issues of the Harby Journal are  
found on the Harby Village website:  
[www.harbyvillageleics.com/harby-journal](http://www.harbyvillageleics.com/harby-journal)

## Useful contacts

<b>EMERGENCY</b> Police, Ambulance, Fire	<b>999</b>
Police non-emergency	101
Hard of hearing - police textphone service	07624 818 901
Power cut reporting	105
Medical non-emergency	111
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Long Clawson surgery	01664 822214
Childline	116 111
Samaritans	116 123
Harby website:	<a href="http://www.harbyvillageleics.com/">www.harbyvillageleics.com/</a>
Parish council:	<a href="http://www.clawsonhoseharby-pc.gov.uk/">www.clawsonhoseharby-pc.gov.uk/</a>



## Poem of the Month - "Letter in November" - Sylvia Plath, 1963

Love, the world  
Suddenly turns, turns color. The streetlight  
Splits through the rat's tail  
Pods of the laburnum at nine in the morning.  
It is the Arctic,

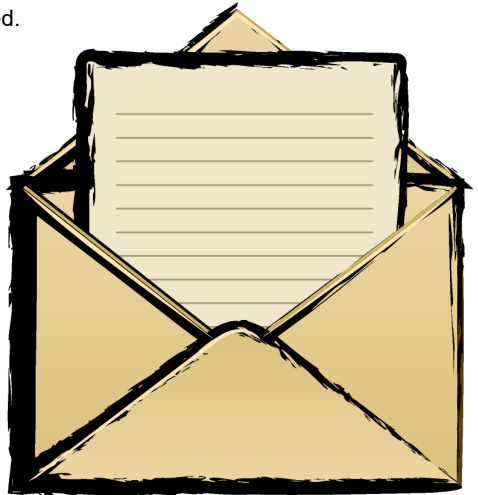
This little black  
Circle, with its tawn silk grasses - babies hair.  
There is a green in the air,  
Soft, delectable.  
It cushions me lovingly.

I am flushed and warm.  
I think I may be enormous,  
I am so stupidly happy,  
My Wellingtons  
Squelching and squelching through the beautiful red.

This is my property  
Two times a day  
I pace it, sniffing  
The barbarous holly with its viridian  
Scallops, pure iron,

And the wall of the odd corpses.  
I love them.  
I love them like history.  
The apples are golden,  
Imagine it . . .

My seventy trees  
Holding their gold-ruddy balls  
In a thick gray death-soup,  
Their million  
Gold leaves metal and breathless.  
  
O love, O celibate.  
Nobody but me  
Walks the waist high wet.  
The irreplaceable  
Golds bleed and deepen, the mouths of Thermopylae.



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## What's on in Harby

### November

- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> – Village Lunch
- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> – Traitors Night
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> – Litter Pick
- ❖ 15<sup>th</sup> – Barber Shop Evening
- ❖ 20<sup>th</sup> – Ladies Evening
- ❖ 29<sup>th</sup> – Community Market

### December

- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> – Village Lunch
- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> – British Legion Christmas Dinner
- ❖ 21<sup>st</sup> – Have A Harby Christmas

If you have a one-off event coming up in the following months and would like this adding to the calendar, please contact:  
[events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk)

Steve introduced himself as the speaker for the evening and Jo as backup for any ‘tricky’ questions, both of whom came from the Leicester Samaritan’s branch, which opened in 1964. Steve described how initially he was vetted and underwent a rigorous training regime of 4 to 5 months before he qualified as a fully-fledged volunteer for the Samaritans. During part of the training that he undertook, Steve was taught how to show empathy, be patient, never be judgemental and most importantly, learn to listen.

The hours that Steve volunteers are worked as shifts because the organisation operates 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. The calls received cover a broad spectrum of people, including children, with some callers beyond the UK. The Samaritans are widely known as the ‘suicide charity’, but they do cover all forms of emotional support.

Confidentiality is a crucial part of their work, except if the caller wishes to contact another organisation that might help further with their problem. After their shift, the volunteers have a team debriefing to iron out any problems and offer help to any volunteer who has had concerns over a call, such as a suicide line, whereby the caller is dying as they talk to the volunteer, but hopefully, they take comfort in the fact that someone is with them to the end. Steve then showed us a short video made by a grateful caller – with her permission – because the Samaritans had totally changed her life.

Today there are 200 branches, with 23,000 volunteers and the Samaritans have now expanded their training to include suitable people to carry out similar duties as the Samaritans in prisons, schools, universities and the NHS.

The foundation of this organisation was the result of the Reverend Edward Chad Varah, an Anglican priest from Lincolnshire who vowed to help people in crisis after he had attended the funeral of a fourteen-year-old girl who

died by suicide because she incorrectly self-diagnosed her menstrual cycle as a sexually transmitted disease. Subsequently, as rector of St Stephen's in London, Reverend Chad Varah founded the Samaritans, receiving his first call in 1953. His aim was to provide emotional support to anyone experiencing a crisis whilst keeping the organisation non-religious and non-political.

It was very brave of the committee to have booked this subject, which turned out to be engrossing and extremely informative. The room was hushed during the talk by an excellent speaker but erupted at question time when all queries were answered admirably by Jo and Steve.

Next meeting and last of the year Thursday 27th November. Annual general meeting & supper. Harby Village Hall 7.30pm.

Pauline Jayes

Samaritans wants to encourage people to listen to the really important things their friends, family and colleagues need to tell them, and to devote some time and attention to being better listeners.



### Show you care

Focus on the other person, make eye contact, put away your phone.



### Have patience

It may take time and several attempts before a person is ready to open up.



### Use open questions

That need more than a yes/no answer, and follow up eg 'Tell me more'.



### Say it back

To check you've understood, but don't interrupt or offer a solution.



### Have courage

Don't be put off by a negative response and, most importantly, don't feel you have to fill a silence.

 [samaritans.org/shush](https://www.samaritans.org/shush)



# THE TRAITORS



## TRAITORS EVENING

*Based on the TV show!*

**SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER**  
**7:00 PM (DOORS OPEN 6.45PM)**  
**HARBY VILLAGE HALL**

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF SUSPICION,  
DECEPTION AND DRAMATIC FINGER POINTING!

ARE YOU A FAITHFUL... OR A FILTHY TRAITOR?  
PARANOIA, LAUGHTER AND BETRAYAL INCLUDED. FOOD,  
FUN, AND FALSE ACCUSATIONS AWAIT!

**TRUST NO ONE**  
(NOT EVEN LOUISA FROM ZUMBA –  
ESPECIALLY LOUISA...)

**TICKETS ON SALE 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
– HOPE NO ONE *BANISHES* YOU FROM THE GUEST LIST!

**TICKETS £12 TO INCLUDE FOOD**  
(Please advise dietary requirements)  
AVAILABLE FROM **YVONNE 0781 6600424**  
**YVONNE.GAY1@BTINTERNET.COM**

## CLOSE HARMONY A'CAPPELLA

### *Baby Grand Central Chorus*

Enjoy an evening of songs from the shows and classics in the Barbershop style with a small chorus and several quartets

**Saturday 15 November 7:30pm at Harby Village Hall**

Doors open at 7 pm - Licensed Bar

Tickets £7.50



available online

[harbyvillagehall.co.uk/events](http://harbyvillagehall.co.uk/events)

by email

[events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk)

or from Chris

07795 141956



## **Harby Village Hall Centenary Ball**

The village hall was beautifully decorated to celebrate its 100th anniversary on October 11th. Thanks to everyone who helped to organise the event, and thanks to everyone who came to celebrate with us.

Harby Village Hall Events Team

## **Hose Church Cream Tea held on Sunday 28th September**

Huge thanks to everyone who supported this event though turning up, donating or helping in any way. It was a great success and we raised over £500 towards Hose Church running costs. There were 209 sweets in the box and the winner was Paul Towns with the nearest guess of 204





**Valley Christian Centre, Main Street, LE14 4BN**

**Welcome to the VCF Notices for November**

‘God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change. The courage to change the things I can. And the wisdom to know the difference.’ Reinhold Niebuhr

This month, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day we will pause to honour those who gave their lives serving our country. We will share this moment united with nations across the world that have been affected by the devastation of the two World Wars, and also more recent conflicts. War is always a tragedy. It brings great suffering and sorrow and often leaves scars that are not easily healed; losing loved ones, homes, or land is never easy to accept. While we cannot change the past, we are entrusted with the responsibility to shape the future. But it takes deep courage and wisdom to move forward: courage to let go of personal pain in pursuit of peace, and wisdom to discern how to act and how to accept. Achieving this isn't something we can do on our own—we need God's guidance and help. You may recognise this prayer that has helped men and women all around the world, possibly because the answer to it lies in the prayer itself. ‘God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change. The courage to change the things I can. And the wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time. Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace. Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it. Trusting that You will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will, so that I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.’ This powerful little prayer offers us some comfort and direction in these moments of reflection. It encourages us to embrace serenity in the face of what cannot be altered, and to trust in God’s greater plan. Life, even during times of peace, is strewn with knock backs and difficulties. It can often feel like climbing a mountain. But at the end of the day, it is not what we climb but how we climb, and whom we put our trust in on the way, that makes the difference to how we emerge. Reinhold Niebuhr understood this when he penned his ‘Serenity Prayer’, offering a source of hope and resilience as we journey on in God’s plan and purpose for our lives.

**SUNDAY SERVICES in November at 10.30am**

2nd Morning Service with Holy Communion.

9th Remembrance Sunday Family Service

16th Morning Service and Junior Church

23rd Morning Service and Junior Church

We are a part of the 'Ground Level Network' of churches with a mixture of old and contemporary style of worship. Whatever age, whether you're exploring faith and who Jesus is, new to the village and surrounding area, or are looking for a church where you can get involved and help serve the community, you would be very welcome.

### **What about the children?**

Where mentioned, our Junior Church sessions run alongside the adult services and provide a safe and secure environment for your child learning about God in a fun and engaging way.

### **Light and Bright Evening**

An alternative to Halloween. Friday 31st October 5.30 – 7.30 pm.

This is a popular family friendly evening of fun for all ages and people who live alone. Crafts, games, conversation and laughter all happening around a hot supper. The event is free and if you would like to come along please book your place by 29th October to help us cater for everyone. Text or Tel: 07977448754 Or Email: [stevenwright63@aol.com](mailto:stevenwright63@aol.com) or [helenawright81@aol.com](mailto:helenawright81@aol.com)

**Jubilee Club** (60+ friendship group) every Thursday (during term time) 2-4pm. Join us for an afternoon of friendship and fun. We offer an inviting atmosphere where you can relax and enjoy several activities designed to bring people together.

#### *What's On Offer?*

Games to get everyone involved and entertained

Crafts to spark creativity and encourage teamwork

Engaging conversation with friendly faces

Cake and refreshments served in the middle of the afternoon

If you feel you would benefit from some company during the week, come along and give us a try. You'll be warmly welcomed and sure to enjoy a pleasant afternoon amongst friends. Only £2.00 a session.

### **Hall Hire**

Are you looking for a small function room, or somewhere to host a meeting or a children's party? We have a fully equipped kitchen to complement our small hall that is available to hire. To make an enquiry or booking contact Ruth De Silva (01949 861461) and leave a message or text 07870 699268. Please note that there is a no smoking and no alcohol policy on the premises for party events.

We are on Facebook under Valley Christian Fellowship, Harby.

For any prayer or ministry needs please contact Pastor Steven Wright (861835) or email [stevenwright63@aol.com](mailto:stevenwright63@aol.com)

## Update from the Parish Council Meeting – 13th October 2025

### Allotments

Long Clawson: An email was sent to the adjacent developer regarding the clearance of two plots. As no response has been received, these plots will remain decommissioned.

Hose: The Parish Council continues to dispute the refund from Waterplus. £216.16 in credits for Used and Surface Water Charges remain outstanding, along with the removal of inappropriate late payment charges. A detailed reconciliation and corrected refund have been requested. The Council has also challenged the rateable value charges and requested a water meter installation for more accurate billing.

### Speed Monitoring (MVAS)

Members reviewed data from the MVAS unit on Harby Lane, Hose. The full dataset will be shared with the police, the Community Speed Watch team, and our volunteers. It will also support upcoming grant applications. Total vehicle movements (2 months): 64,832, Average speeding vehicle speed: 39.5 MPH, Highest recorded speed: 70 MPH at 18:20 on 4th September 2025.

### Boundary Resolution

The boundary issue between Harby allotments and Harefield Close has been resolved. Land Registry confirmed the area is developer-retained, making the hedge a shared responsibility.

### Village Greens

All registered village greens in the parish are under review. These must remain open to the public. It is a criminal offence to Damage a green, Place animals or materials on it, Obstruct its recreational use. Under Section 29 of the Commons Act 1876, any encroachment or structure is considered a public nuisance unless it enhances the green's enjoyment. Prosecutions may be brought under Section 12 of the Inclosure Act by the parish or landowner, or under Section 29 by any parish inhabitant.

### Cemetery Waste Collection

Bin emptying at Long Clawson Cemetery stopped without notice, causing a backlog. A new waste contractor has now been appointed, and normal service is expected to resume shortly.

### Culvert Cleansing

The final stage of culvert cleansing in Long Clawson took place during the week commencing 13th October. It is hoped this will resolve local flooding issues.

### Next Meeting

Monday 10th November 2025 @ 7.00 p.m. @ Long Clawson Village Hall. All are welcome.

# ST. MARY'S CHURCH



*Friday 31st October 2025 - 9am School Assembly in Church*

*Sunday 2nd November 2025 - 8.30am Holy Communion*

...and 6.30pm All Souls Service - We remember all those who have died in the recent past. A quiet reflective service. Please bring along a photo in a frame of your loved one you wish to remember.

*Sunday 9th November 2025 - 10.30am* meet at the Cross. Harby Remembers a Civic Service of Remembrance in partnership with Hose and Harby Royal British Legion in the presence of the Deputy Lord Lieutenant

*Tuesday 11th November 2025 - 11am* Short Village remembrance service at the cross led by Harby School

*Wednesday 12th November 2025 7.30pm* A service of Holy Communion - Preacher Bishop Bethuel of Kiteto - Kiteto is part of the Masai Mara region of Tanzania. The Diocese of Leicester is twinned with the Diocese of Kiteto and Bishop Bethuel is coming to stay in Harby

*Sunday 16th November 2025 - 10.30am* Holy Communion

*Sunday 23rd November 2025 - 3pm* Choral Evensong with the Neville Consort

*Friday 28th November 2025 - 1.45pm* Harby School Christingle Service

*Sunday 30th November 2025 - Christingle Service - with Baptism*

...and 6.30 pm Advent Carol Service with the Vale Choir in LONG CLAWSON Church

The Church is open daily during the hours of daylight for private prayer and contemplation

Morning Prayer is said every weekday morning at 8am online. It lasts for about 25 minutes and we pray for all those in Harby and the surrounding area who are sick or in need. Anyone is welcome to join these prayer sessions by following this Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/91335895129?pwd=bm9DYnZlRmUzTm1ZN1FqajRKT1FpUT09>

If you have a loved one in need, for example with cancer or is dying etc please email the Parish Priest [prtowns@outlook.com](mailto:prtowns@outlook.com) 07855 839629 and their name will be added to the list and a home visit can be arranged.



<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysHarby/>

<https://www.instagram.com/stmarysharby/>

## Harby Bell Restoration Project

Thank you to everyone that supported the Bells Dedication Service at the beginning of September. It was great to see so many people come together to celebrate the return of the bells.

By now you will have heard that we are back in action, and ringing has resumed on Thursday evenings. The clock has also been reconnected, and is now chiming the hours.

We are holding an open morning on Saturday 29th November from 9:30 for a couple of hours and invite anyone up to see the work that has gone on in the tower, and for those interested in learning to ring, and have a go on one of our new dumb bells.

No booking necessary, but for further information please email [harbybells@gmail.com](mailto:harbybells@gmail.com) or contact Jonathan on 07792172452. Another one will be held in the Spring, and we are also in the process of booking a date for a talk by a historian.



# HARBY VILLAGE 2026 CALENDAR

## Harby Village Calendars for 2026

Calendars can be purchased at Harby Garage  
or from Jonathan – contact 07792172452

£10 each, or 2 for £15 – calendar envelopes also available at £1 each

.....time to clean up



# HARBY LITTER PICK 2025

**Sat 15th November 9.45 for 10am – 12noon**

Meet in the Village Hall at 9.45am for breakfast  
bacon/halloumi cobs

Please let Jocelyn know if you can help 07939 996876.

# HARBY VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

## OCTOBER WINNERS

1st:	No. 60	Jenny Hincks	£120
2nd:	No. 80	Dave Judge	£80
3rd:	No. 56	Susan Clegg	£40

## CONGRATULATIONS !!

To join the 100 Club, go to [harbyvillagehall.co.uk/100club/](http://harbyvillagehall.co.uk/100club/)  
or email [events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:events@harbyvillagehall.co.uk), or call Sarah K on 861040  
Entry is £5 a month

### **Mobile Library Service. Mobile A Route 6**

The mobile library parks in Walnut Paddock, Harby from 13.45 to 14.30

It now visits on Tuesdays at three week intervals

Next visits: 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2<sup>nd</sup> December (no service on 23<sup>rd</sup> December)

[www.leicestershire.gov.uk/mobilelibrary](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/mobilelibrary)      0116 305 3646

## **HARBY COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING**

**Friday mornings 10.30am - 12 noon**

**Valley Christian Centre hall.**

A weekly drop in for **ALL** ages.

A cuppa, a chat, a laugh, books to borrow, read,  
return or pass on.

A long stay or flying visit-  
you are most welcome.



Donations towards costs are appreciated.

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