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#### Halsgrove Sales Contacts:

Sue Rhodes-Thompson – DDI 01823 653770 [suet@halsgrove.com](mailto:suet@halsgrove.com)

Roger Start – DDI 01823 653773 [rogers@halsgrove.com](mailto:rogers@halsgrove.com)

Marie Lewis – DDI 01823 653771 [mariel@halsgrove.com](mailto:mariel@halsgrove.com)

Andrew Stirling – Mobile 07971 572468 [andrews@halsgrove.com](mailto:andrews@halsgrove.com)

## NOT A PENNY IN THE POST

A MASTER'S MEMOIRS OF THE EASTON HARRIERS

*J.A. Harvey*

*'Since the publication of *If St Peter Has Hounds* many people have asked me if I would consider writing an account of the Easton Harriers during my time. I gave this considerable thought and came to the conclusion that I could not separate the doings of the Easton from my own life, since the two were inextricably linked for thirty-five odd years.'*

So writes the author in his Introduction to this fascinating book. Sadly he was not to see it quite finished and, following his death, others took on the task of bringing the work to publication.

*Not a Penny in the Post* amounts to an autobiography of a remarkable figure for whom hunting, and hunting people, became a total way of life. From boyhood at his family farm in Tannington, this book follows his life's story through his first Mastership on to his thirty years hunting with the Easton Harriers, with scandals, scrapes and crises of all kind along the way.

As the title suggests, times were not always easy, but those who knew Tony well will recall his extraordinary energy and ability to galvanise others into working with him while enjoying themselves at the same time. Readers will discover the pace of life he set himself and expected others to follow.

#### **John Anthony Harvey 1937–2006**

John 'Tony' Harvey was one of Britain's best known countrymen, a farmer, engineer, raconteur and traditional singer: A Suffolk man who loved horses and hunting, he lived at Tannington, and rode with every mounted pack in Britain during a lifelong love affair with hunting – a feat celebrated in his book *If St Peter Has Hounds*. He also hunted in France, South Africa and Russia.

He was Master of the Easton Harriers Hunt for two periods, 1963–1968 and 1971–1989, and was out following the hunt the day before he died. He was also a member of the Masters of Harriers and Beagles Association, becoming President in 1985–1986.

His untimely death in 2006 was a great loss to many, not least those in the world of carriage driving, hunting and farming. He was a wonderful character and true countryman, with boundless energy.



Halsgrove House, Ryelands Industrial Estate,  
Bagley Road, Wellington, Somerset TA21 9PZ

Tel: 01823 653777 Fax: 01823 216796

[www.halsgrove.com](http://www.halsgrove.com) e-mail: [sales@halsgrove.com](mailto:sales@halsgrove.com)



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Andrew Stirling – Mobile 07971 572468 [andrews@halsgrove.com](mailto:andrews@halsgrove.com)