

## DIARY DATES

- May 11<sup>th</sup> HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL AGM 7.30pm in the church  
 May 15<sup>th</sup> CRICKET MEETING at the Metcalfe Arms at 7.30 pm  
 May 20<sup>th</sup> PLANT SALE on the millennium field 11am - 1pm  
 May 25<sup>th</sup> HAWSTEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL A.G.M. 7.30pm in the church  
 May 27<sup>th</sup> LOCAL PRODUCE FOR SALE on the green 11am - 1pm  
 May 29<sup>th</sup> CHILDREN'S ART WORKSHOP, Friends' Meeting House 1.30pm  
 June 3<sup>rd</sup> LOCAL PRODUCE FOR SALE on the green 11am - 1pm  
 June 10<sup>th</sup> VILLAGE PICNIC plus a walk on the wild side on the village green

## Metcalfe Arms Events



- 2nd June .. .. . Greek evening  
 14th July (8pm) .. .. . Morris Dancers  
 6th August (Afternoon) .. .. . BBQ with Music!

## THE HAWSTEAD JOURNAL

If you have not contributed to the Hawstead Journal before,  
 or if you are a regular contributor, then why not send something in for  
 the June issue - anything that you think would be of interest. Send your contri-  
 butions to Andy at andyparrett@rocketmail.com or phone 386531

Closing date for the June issue is 7th June

Editor: Andy Parrett



# Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village

April/May 2006

## Village Hall Project Team

By Popular Approval the replacement  
 Village Hall for Hawstead will be in this style:



OK, it's not hot news, but just for the record and in case you've been abroad for  
 the last month or so, following a ballot of the Hawstead population, overwhelming  
 support was given for an oak-framed building in similar style to the structure shown  
 in the above photograph. This will be supplied by the company 'English Heritage  
 Buildings' and is currently estimated to cost £238,000.

## Voting was as follows:

- Votes cast: 190 (73% of those eligible)  
 YES to new village hall .. .. . 161  
 NO to new village hall .. .. . 29  
**Of those answering 'Yes' to a new village hall:**  
 Large hall as originally planned .. .. . 3  
 Cullum House.. .. . 7  
 New timber-framed building .. .. . 151

## Hawstead Parish Council

At its meeting in the Parish Church on 4<sup>th</sup> May, the Parish Council elected Brian Kew to be their Chairman in succession to Katie Fairbairn, who had expressed a wish to stand down after nearly three years in that office. She will, however, remain a Councillor until the next election. Philip Shaw, our youngest Councillor, was re-elected Vice Chairman. During the discussion which followed, there was unanimous agreement to a policy rule that in future the chairmanship should change annually.

The Council also decided that Mrs Joan Cook be offered the appointment of Clerk, when Robin Whitfield, who took over in May, 1997, retires at the end of August.

We are to get the Suffolk Wildlife Trust's help in applying for a grant available for Hawstead Green under DEFRA's new Environmental Scheme (to be at the higher level in view of its special status as a County Wildlife site).

The St Edmundsbury Borough Council's election staff are very well aware of the inadequacy of the caravan they have to use as Hawstead's Polling Station while there is no Village Hall, and are looking for someone who could offer a suitable building or room which could be rented for this purpose when there is a contested parliamentary, county, borough or parish election. If anyone could do this, would they please contact the Parish Clerk, or the Elections Section in the Chief Executive's Department at the Borough Offices on Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds (tel. 01284 763233)

**The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday 11th May in the Church at 7.30pm. Please come along and see local politics in action!**

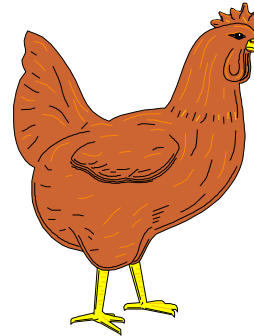
RW

## Hawstead Community Council ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the  
Community Council will take place in All Saints Church  
at  
7.30pm on Thursday 25th May  
Refreshments will be served

Anyone wishing to serve on the Committee  
should contact the Secretary,  
Sylvia Miller as soon as possible  
Hillside, Wepstead Road, Tel. 388841

## Bird Flu: Advice for Poultry Keepers in Suffolk



Suffolk County Council has produced a 'Fact Sheet' about Bird Flu and this is a summary. If you have poultry and you suspect this disease you should contact the State Veterinary Service on Bury 778150.

Avian Influenza is a highly contagious viral disease affecting the respiratory, digestive and/or nervous system of many species of birds. The early signs include: watery swelling of the head, blueing of the combs and wattles, dullness, loss of appetite, diarrhoea and a drop in egg production.

The following guidance regarding poultry management comes from Defra:

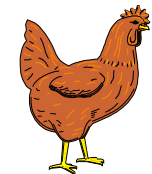
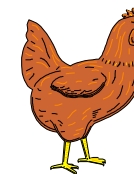
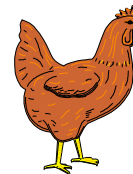
- Supply clean, fresh drinking water to your birds; feed and water them under cover to avoid contamination by wild birds
- Keep your birds separate from wild birds, waterfowl, pets and other animals. Control vermin.
- Keep visitors and their vehicles away from your birds as much as possible.
- Make sure your clothes, footwear and hands are clean before and after contact with birds.
- Dispose of damaged eggs and dead birds promptly and properly.
- Buy feed from a mill or supplier that operates in accordance with Defra and Agricultural Industries Confederation Codes of Practice.
- Be vigilant when purchasing new stock and use reputable sources.
- Make sure your premises are clean and tidy. Spilled feed, litter and standing water attract wild birds and vermin.

If you suspect disease, act quickly and contact your vet

Bird flu Helpline: 08456032814

[www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

[www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)



## Internet Tip

[www.uswitch.com](http://www.uswitch.com)

In the good old days of state utility monopolies we got our (mostly) quarterly bills, paid up and (possibly) complained to family and friends about how expensive it all was.

No longer, of course, and as you are no doubt aware, there's all kinds of companies out there vying for our business. Competition is great because it generally drives prices down, but do we want to be bothered with the hassle of researching which 'package' is the best for us?

Here's a website which can help speed up the process: and as you can see from the illustration below, there's quite a range of services which they can help with.

I had a go with an obvious one: home phone. You have to answer lots of questions about your current usage of the phone so they can match this against the range of suppliers and their different plans, but it didn't take very long. nb. it helps to have some old bills handy in order to answer some very specific questions regarding usage.

### Start switching



**Gas & electricity**  
» [Save up to £170 a year](#)



**Broadband**  
» [Find your best value broadband service](#)



**Home phone**  
» [Who's giving the best satisfaction?](#)



**Credit cards**  
» [Find the best APR, cashback and 0% offers](#)



**Current accounts** new  
» [Find the current account which suits you](#)



**Loans**  
» [Find the best loan for you](#)



**Heating cover**  
» [Find the best heating cover policy for you.](#)



**Water**  
» [Find out how you can be more water efficient](#)



**Directory**  
» [Comprehensive details of all products and suppliers](#)



**Digital TV**  
» [Find your best value TV package](#)

AJP

## THE ANNUAL HAWSTEAD PLANT SALE

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> of May**

**On the**

**The Millenium Field**

**(Next to the church car park)**

**from**

**11 till 1**

With spring here at last the planting and growing is already underway for this year's plant sale. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year of this event which has raised over £3000 for the new village hall fund.

We will have a large selection of bedding and vegetable plants and a new line in colour-themed hanging baskets and pots. If anyone would like to pre-order baskets or pots in a particular colour then contact me Jo Butt on 388817.

Do you have a green-house or cold-frame in your garden with space for a few trays of plants? Would you like to help with the growing then give me a call. Any available garden space would be much appreciated.

**Regards Jo Butt**



## Hawstead Community Council

### Easter Egg Hunt

The rain just managed to stay away for the egg hunt. It was lovely to have so many people turn up. We managed to consume £60's worth of tea and cake for the village hall fund and retrieve four dozen eggs. The ladies of the Community Council produced some wonderful goodies.

The children also enjoyed the quiz and decorating hard boiled eggs.

Many thanks to everybody.

Sonja



### SUMMER PICNIC ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

Tired of the cold, grey weather?

Get out your diary and ink in

Saturday June 10, 11am - 2pm

Come and discover Hawstead's own nature reserve

Hunt down the mini-beasts and identify the wild flowers

Suffolk Wildlife Trust will provide the expertise

Hawstead Community Council will provide the fun and drinks

Bring your own picnic

All ages welcome

## Weather Report

### Winter 2005 - 6

The prediction for a long cold winter was not realised. The average temperature for the three months - 38.8°F (3.8°C) was only a little below the 40 year mean figure. It was considerably less cold than the last truly cold winter of 1995-96: average temperature 35.8°F (2°C).

Two notable features of the winter were the absence of mild weather and the low rainfall. This was due to the dominance of High Pressure over northern Europe blocking Atlantic weather systems which usually bring us ample winter rain. Europe experienced hard winter conditions for several weeks but the truly cold continental air mass failed to reach these shores except for the briefest of occasions (late December and early February).

There were no mild spells of any duration; the thermometer rose to or exceeded 50°F (10°C) on only 6 occasions, a figure second to that of the record of a mere four "mild days" during the winter of 1962-63.

Average winter rainfall is about 150mm. 80mm fell this winter making it the second driest winter after 1972-73.

### Spring 2006

Apart from a brief mild wet spell (March 8/9<sup>th</sup>), the first three weeks of March were cold with an average temperature close to 37°F (2.8°C). The thermometer fell to 18°F (-7.8°C) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and maxima stubbornly remained below 46°F (8°C). The first daffodil did not open in the garden until March 21<sup>st</sup>. Last year on this date most daffodils were in bloom.

Spring weather finally arrived on March 24<sup>th</sup> during the afternoon. There followed ten perfect spring days with daily maxima in the range of 56° - 61°F (13°-16°C). Between April 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> the weather turned colder with frequent night frosts.

Commonly there is a spell of cold weather in mid April which accompanies the flowering of the Blackthorn. This year did not follow the pattern. The Blackthorn bloomed, and very splendidly too, after the cold spell. (I predict an excellent year for making sloe gin.) The mild weather for the remainder of April allowed nature to catch up. At the beginning of the month growth was 2 weeks behind last year. Now (May 7<sup>th</sup>) it is less than a week behind.

The first week of May has provided some interesting contrasts. A taste of summer heat: 70°F (26°C) on the 4<sup>th</sup> and one of the wettest days on record: 44mm (1.7") on the 7<sup>th</sup>. This could well be the pattern for the summer.

Glyn Hammond



## Wishing on a Stone A children's Art Workshop and Competition

This unique workshop run by the Bury based Children's Art Company will take place on Monday May 29 in the Friends' Meeting House, St John's St between 1.30 and 4.30pm. Children of all ages are invited to come along and decorate as many stones as they wish with their own symbol of peace at £1.50 per stone. There will be a competition for the best stone and the winner will be invited to an art party run by the Children's Art Company.

It is hoped that the finished stones will ultimately be incorporated into the Meeting House garden to stand as a permanent children's symbol of peace.

The workshop is part of the Heart Land Project which is raising money for the Friends' Meeting House Development Fund and for an organisation working for peace between Israel and Palestine. The Heart Land Project will culminate in a concert in the Cathedral in May 2008.



For more information contact Helen on 01284 735298 [www.heart-land.org.uk](http://www.heart-land.org.uk)

### Some Grammar Tips for Contributors to the Hawstead Journal

- Verbs has to agree with their subject
- Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
- And don't start a sentence with a conjunction
- It is wrong to ever split an infinitive
- Avoid clichés like the plague
- Also, always avoid annoying alliteration
- Don't use no double negatives
- Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary
- Contractions aren't necessary and shouldn't be used
- Avoid ampersands & abbreviations etc.
- Eliminate commas, that are, not necessary
- Never use a big word when a diminutive one would suffice
- Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them
- Puns are for children, not groan readers
- Use the apostrophe in it's proper place and omit it when its not needed

**Watch out or the panda lady will catch you!!**

## Hawstead Community Council is 35 years old!

Sonja Monk was looking through the Community Council records and thought we might find the notes of what I guess could be called the inaugural meeting interesting. I'm sure you'll agree, especially regarding the cost of a 'Community Centre'!

"The first meeting of the steering committee of the proposed Hawstead Community Council was held on the 28th January 1971 in Park House, the home of Miss Woodman Smith. Those present were: Miss Woodman Smith, Miss Kilpatrick, Mrs Ellis, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Gould, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Pettit, Mr. Henderson, ( Suffolk Rural Community Council), Mr. Smith, Mr. Lebbon and Mr. Tildsley.

On Mr. Henderson's advice nominations were put forward for Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary of the steering Committee. Miss Kilpatrick became the chairperson, Mrs. Gould, the treasurer and Mr. Tindsley the secretary. Mr. Henderson further advised that the steering committee would function more easily if it were divided into three sub committees:

- a) to draft an introductory letter to all residents of Hawstead
- b) to decide on the constitution of the proposed Community Council
- c) to call on all residents of Hawstead with a view to enrolling members

It was agreed that these sub committees would report their findings at the next full committee meeting on the 4th of February.

Miss Kilpatrick as chairman asked for suggestions as to what was most needed in the village. Mr. Smith suggested that sporting activities might be arranged between the children of Hawstead and other villages. Mr. Lebbon remarked that the sum of £78 had been raised by the cricket club for the purchase of cricket equipment and Miss Woodman Smith subsequently reported that the Parish Council had bought some play ground equipment which the committee agreed should be erected. It was generally remarked that there would therefore be a need for a sports pavilion on the green. Mrs. Ellis said that we should set our sights high and work towards having a Community Centre in the village. Miss Woodman Smith pointed out that this would cost approx. £3,000 at least.

There was a discussion on the various ways of raising money. The following suggestions were made: the collection of newspapers and magazines, green shield stamps, knitting circles, coffee mornings. It was also that suggested some events could take place in private homes to bring people together.

Miss Woodman Smith was thanked for her kind hospitality and the meeting closed at 9.20pm."

## Neighbourhood Watch

There has been a recent increase in distraction burglaries across the county. Never let any stranger into your home that you have not identified as genuine. **If in doubt, keep them out.**

Lock your vehicle every time you leave it, even outside your home or in your driveway and remove any valuable items, especially tools from work vans unless you have effective alarms.

If you are going away make your home look as if you are there. Cancel deliveries of newspapers and milk and arrange for someone to clear your letter box. If possible get a trusted neighbour to come in to close the curtains in the evening and open them in the morning and perhaps mow the lawn for you. Get some time switches to turn lights and a radio or two on and hide your valuables.

Our Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator is Joan Baker 386657  
Crime Prevention Officer PC Sarah King 01284 774100

## Spring at last arrives in Hawstead



## Annual Fete and Flower Show

This event takes place each year at the beginning of September - so you should be planning for it now!



These two photos were taken at last year's event and show some of the produce on display.

You can enter as many items as you like within four different categories:

A) Vegetables: marrow, cucumber, tomato, onion, potato, carrot, beans, beet-root, pepper, herbs

B) Fruit: apples, plums, bowl of fruit

C) Flowers: dahlias, roses, chrysanthemums and various arrangements

D) Homemade Produce: bread, scones, cake, jam/jelly/marmalade, honey, chutney, eggs, wine

There's also the opportunity to be creative with a family entry as well as categories for children of different ages. There's a needlework section too.

This isn't a complete list; rather it's a reminder, so get those seeds in and tend to the fruit bushes (etc.) !

## A New Book

David Tolhurst has recently co-written and published a book about his great grandfather. The book which is called 'Alfred Tolhurst, The Life and Times of a Victorian Entrepreneur' revolves round his great grandfather's two law firms, his property businesses, chalk quarry, and cement works in and around Northfleet and Gravesend in Kent and in Southend.

The book, price £15.00, or a précis of the book can be obtained from David on 01284 735 646

## All Saints Church

### Hawstead

#### SERVICES

##### MAY

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Said Eucharist
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Parish Eucharist

##### JUNE

Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Said Eucharist
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	First Eucharist of Revd Rob James (Curate)

#### Evening Prayer

An opportunity for silent/ contemplative prayer, and to pray for the parish and benefice is held every **Wednesday in the church at 5 - 5.30pm**. All are welcome.

**The church is open every day**

**from 9am to 5pm**

For all other Services in the Benefice please see the Church Notice board

*Cricket anecdotes from Wisden Cricketers' Almanac,*

*Chronicle of 1996*

*Rob Owens hit a six at Chandlers' Ford, Hampshire and smashed the rear window of his own car.*

*Purdey, a golden retriever was made vice president of Hutton Cranswick Cricket Club in Yorkshire after finding 50 lost balls.*

*8 male streakers stopped play in a Pembrokeshire league match. They were believed to be guests at a nearby stag party.*

## Plants and Produce



On the Saturday following the Hawstead Plant Sale we will be back on the Village Green car park offering LOCAL PRODUCE for sale. The greenhouse and polytunnel are currently in full production, housing a variety of seedlings and young plants waiting to be transplanted outside as soon as the danger of frost has passed. We will be trying some new types this year and if all goes to plan, should have bigger crops of salads, fruit and vegetables which have proved popular in the past.



LOCAL PRODUCE sales will be on Saturday 27 May and on the first and third Saturdays of the month from June onwards, between 11am and 1pm. For further details contact Frances or Andy on 386501.



## Cricket on the Green again?



Are you a closet cricketer? Would you like to have the chance of shouting 'Howzatt?' for real on Hawstead Village Green? Or just enjoy the sound of leather on willow on a summer's afternoon?

If so, Vic King would like to hear from you: some support has already been expressed, but more players are needed! There will be a meeting in the Metcalfe Arms at 7.30pm on 15th May. Please come along and help inaugurate the great cricket revival!





You may have noticed that the play area was gradually being taken over by the green. It may seem only a small space but it does need regular maintenance.

## THE PLAY AREA

Terry Rushen gave us some good advice for dealing with the mare's tail which is again invading the green. We may not win with this however, as it will need regular treating.



It will be easier when we can keep a mower on the premises. Since we don't have premises on the green at the moment, we are indebted to its near neighbour John West and his ride-on mower!



As well as John, Dave Dawson, Bruce Monk and Simon and Sylvia Miller have also been working hard to spray the fence and generally tidy up the area.



Together we have managed to make a big difference. After some new bark is laid we should have the play area looking as good as new.



It is wonderful that there are people who will come and help to do these things. It should be easier when we have a hall again. In the meantime if you would like to offer help in anyway way let us know. Most areas of the village have a community council member.

Sonja Monk