

A new signpost at the junction of Bury Road and Church Road



After what seemed a long absence and without significant ceremony, (to the best of our knowledge), October saw the replacement of these essential aids to travellers. The pole has been lonely for too long.

THE HAWSTEAD JOURNAL CHRISTMAS EDITION

Why not send us a contribution - something that has caught your interest about life in Hawstead, the countryside, the time of year, a favourite recipe or poem, a for sale or wanted item, a handy hint, a book review, a poem, a letter to the editor, a joke, a quiz, a conundrum - the choice is almost limitless.

Let's make this last journal of 2005 a really bumper edition.

Send or post your contribution to Andy at Meadowview, Lawshall Road, (next door to the pub) or e.mail – andyparrett@rocketmail.com

Editor: Andy Parrett



Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village

October 2005

An October sunset from Hawstead village green



Since the weather this autumn has been unusually warm, we thought we would indulge in a picture!

Cullum House: the Interim Report

It was mentioned in the last HJ that an Interim Report had been completed by the consultant, John Lamb. This has since gained wider circulation, but doubtless many village residents have not yet seen it. This is an attempt at a very short summary.

The report begins by stating that it is not a 'feasibility or viability' report, rather it seeks to clarify the status of Cullum House, its availability for use as a community facility, the concerns of the various interested parties and the options available to enable decisions to be made about Hawstead's future community facilities.

A potted history of the House describes that in 1930 ownership was transferred to the St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Diocese Board of Finance to be held 'in Trust'. Plans were made in the late 1990's, in conjunction with the Charity Commissioners, to sell the property on being vacated, and these plans were not subject to consultation with any of the village councils, Parish, Parochial or Community.

The report refers to these three councils as a 'Community Forum' and says that it is the belief of this Forum, interpreting the 1930 transfer deed, that 'the neighbouring population had certain rights to use the premises [ie Cullum House] as a public building' and that it 'could not be used as a general residence'.

It goes on to remind readers that the use of Cullum House as a community facility is only one possibility - as we all know a great deal of work has already been accomplished towards a new Village Hall. Mr Lamb then appears to be acting as an intermediary between the Forum and the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. Several questions are posed: one concerns the possibility of the Diocese financially supporting a new community hall, and others are specifically about Cullum House.

There then follows a lengthy response from the Diocese which firstly refutes any claim that the village may have over Cullum House. Its future is governed by the 'Scheme' agreed 1997/8 with the Charity Commissioners. Notices about this were posted in local papers and notice boards at the time and no representations were made by interested parties. This Scheme

Manor Cottages Sycamore Stump



The Hawstead Journal of December 2004 included reports from Brian Kew and Stuart Bradnam concerning the demise of the Sycamore tree adjacent to Bury Road. This had succumbed to a *Phytophthora* fungal infection and was subsequently felled in mid October.

An observant local photographer noticed recently that the remaining stump has proved a welcome home to more fungi. Unfortunately the deadline for this edition of the Hawstead Journal meant that insufficient time was available for formal identification. The editor will be pleased to hear from any local fungi experts in order to clarify the identification prior to the publication of the next edition of HJ.

Suffolk Befriending Scheme

We have been contacted by the Project Officer of this organisation. Suffolk Befriending Scheme is a registered Charity that provides trained volunteers as 'special friends' on a one to one basis with adults who have learning difficulties. Sadly, because of their disabilities, these people are often isolated and opportunities for work, learning and leisure activities are severely limited. As a result, so are their chances of meeting people and making friends. Linked friends under the befriending scheme spend time together doing things they both enjoy, even something as simple as having a cup of coffee and a chat.

Suffolk Befriending Scheme is partly funded by Suffolk Social Care Services, but they rely heavily on donations to cover the remainder. As a result, 380 Suffolk people benefited from the scheme.

SBS needs both donations and volunteers. If you would like to contribute in either way, please contact them by phone (01787-371338) or email: info@suffolkbefriendingscheme.org.uk
Their office is at 44, Gainsborough St., Sudbury

Recipe: Avocado-Crab Dip

1 large avocado, mashed
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
2 tablespoons grated lemon
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1 package cream cheese, softened (200g)
125 ml. sour cream
0.5 teaspoon salt
225 g crabmeat, drained and flaked

Last item could be x2 tins John West crabmeat (120g. drained weight) - but all quantities approximate anyway.)

Mix mashed avocado with lemon juice, onion and Worcestershire sauce. Stir in cream cheese, sour cream and salt. Add crabmeat and mix thoroughly. Serve with tortilla chips or carrot sticks.

Couldn't be more simple really, don't you think? And believe me, it's really yummy!

allows for the property to be disposed of 'in such charitable ways as the Trustees see fit'. The Trustees are the Diocesan Board of Finance and their obligation is to make best use of its assets for charitable purposes. Effectively Cullum House must be used to generate cash to be used for Church Aided Schools of the Diocese.

Separately from the Trust, the Diocesan Secretary and Chief Executive offers to support the Community Forum in purchasing Cullum House by a) providing a mortgage, b) providing a grant of up to £75,000 and c) by continuing the short hold tenancy on the house till March 2006. Alternatively, should the village decide to build a new village hall, then a donation of up to £75,000 would be made - 'when the community has secured sufficient other finances to complete the project and Cullum House has been sold.'

ALL SAINTS CHURCH - HAWSTEAD

SERVICES for NOVEMBER

Sunday 13th - Remembrance Sunday

8.30am Said Eucharist

This service includes an Act of Remembrance

Sunday 27th - Advent Sunday

11.00 am Parish Eucharist with baptism

EVENING PRAYER

An opportunity for silent/contemplative prayer, and to pray for the parish and benefice is held every **Wednesday in the church between 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 Church Notice board

Neighbourhood Watch

Distraction Burglaries

There were 15 (fifteen!!!) full or attempted burglaries in the West Suffolk area during a 4 week period in September/October. All were similar. A young, white male knocks on an elderly person's door saying he is from the water board and there is a leak locally. He needs to turn off the water (or one was to read the meter) and while the person is showing him where the stop cock is another two men enter the house and steal money and valuables. Thousands of pounds have been taken.

Be careful when opening the door to strangers - use a security chain - and be doubly aware before you let anyone in. Ask for an ID card. This can be passed through the letter box: you should then check with the organisation they are claiming to be representing. The telephone number should be on the ID card. Also, please warn those in the village who are vulnerable or elderly.

Sheds and Garages

Sheds and garages should be locked and if possible alarmed. With the run-up to Christmas, the bikes, lawnmowers and other equipment stored in them are particularly susceptible to being stolen. Sheds and garages can also provide the burglar with ladders and crowbars which can be used to break into the house.

Our Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Joan Baker, can provide burglar alarms which have been designed for sheds and garages and can even be fixed to individual items like the lawnmower. They are £8 each, including the batteries. If you would like to order one or more of these, please telephone Joan on 386657.

Did you know?

Halifax plc has found that first-time buyers accounted for 16% of rural housing transactions in 2004, down from 27% in 1994. Over the same period the proportion of first-time buyer purchases in urban areas fell from 41% to 35%

HAWSTEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Christmas Events

MINI CHRISTMAS FAYRE

A mini Christmas Fayre will be held in the church
On **Saturday 10th December** from 11 am to 12.30 pm
in conjunction with the PCC.

There will be Christmas wreaths for your front door
available to order.

We would appreciate cakes and any Christmas crafts
you can rustle up

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Christmas Lunch for Hawstead residents will be held in Lawshall
Village Hall on **Thursday 15th December** from 12.30pm.

There is no charge for the lunch although we would welcome
donations from the under 60's.

A traditional English Christmas meal will be served. Please let us
know in advance if you would like a vegetarian meal or have any
special dietary requirements.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to come
along. Contact Sonja on 386876, Sylvia on 388841
or any HCC Committee Member

Remember to let us know if you need transport.

XMAS PANTOMIME

Why not join us in the Big Top (heated!) in Nowton Park on
Friday 30th December to see this year's the Xmas Pantomime
Robinson Crusoe

Tickets from Sylvia Miller 388841

**Free entry for children
students half price, £15 for adults**

CASTAWAY TOP TEN

This month's castaway is Margaret Crockford

Top Ten - Where does one start? So many favourites, mainly from the past. Songs from the family gatherings at grandmother's where everyone was expected to sing, dance or play an instrument. Echoes from that music remain but I don't think that I could give all the titles or even hum them now. So I shall move on to just a few years later.

The Iron Man Medley	Dad Irish step dancing on our parquet flooring
Climax Rag	Chris Barber's jazz band - Memories of Jazz Clubs as a teenager
Petrushka	One of the first ballets that I went to and then I was hooked
West Side Story	One of the most moving of film musicals
Toccata	By Widor. I loved this piece, heard at the late Princess Margaret's wedding
Eleanor Rigby	My favourite from the best pop group ever
Don't go breaking my heart	Elton John - His skill and timing was superb
Sometimes when we touch	Cleo Lane - a fantastic woman singer
Don't know why	Norah Jones - A very good modern popular artist. Very smooth
Clarinet Concerto in A Major— Adagio	Mozart - finest of classical composers?

Many are missing from my list eg Bach, Beethoven, operas, modern jazz groups and that young man that changed our popular music, Elvis Presley. This exercise makes one really question what you have really enjoyed over the years.

Luxury - A giant screen to have pictures of all my family and friends I have known beamed down to me.

Book - A giant atlas - my sense of direction is terrible.

Our Neighbourhood Profile

I came across the website www.upmystreet.com when looking at an estate agent's site recently (no I'm not looking to move) and I was tickled (annoyed?) by how Hawstead and its residents might be viewed from a distance. I refer to the fact that Hawstead falls within type 3 of the 'ACORN' classification scheme along with 2.7% of the UK's total population. 'ACORN' means 'A Classification of Residential Neighbourhoods' and is produced by a marketing firm (of course!): there are a total of 17 distinct groups apparently.

So what is Hawstead like? Well it comprises affluent people who are well educated professionals employed in senior managerial positions, although a significant number work from home. Residents tend to be older, aged 45+, with fewer children and more retired people. Housing is spacious, with four or more bedrooms, mostly detached and at the upper end of the property price ladder. Reflecting the older age profile, more properties are owned outright than being bought on a mortgage.

Car ownership is high, and two or more cars per household is common, with high-value cars being the norm. We are financially astute householders, with high levels of ownership of stocks and shares. We use the Internet to research and purchase financial products, holidays and other things.

Our leisure interests include walking, bird watching, the fine arts, antiques, classical music and the opera. Membership of the National Trust is also popular. Our favoured newspapers tend to be the Telegraph, The Times and Financial Times; and we have a high interest in current affairs.

Now is that a stereotypical description or what !!

Did you know?

According to the Halifax, the average house price in rural areas has risen by 171% over the past ten years (compared to 166% for an urban house), giving an average rural house price of £231,053



The Harvest Festival was held in All Saints Church on Saturday 1st October



This was followed by a Harvest Supper in the barn of Church Farmhouse

