

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(in the hall unless otherwise stated)

Burn's Night Supper - Saturday 23rd January

Please ensure you have purchased your tickets by 8th January

**Rural Neighbourhood Police Team open meeting - Wednesday 6th January
2.30 pm Wepstead Village Hall**

REGULAR EVENTS

Breath Easy - Weekly on Tuesdays 9.30 - 10.30am

Craft Group - Last Wednesday of the month 10 am - 1 pm

Computer Classes - Sunday January 3rd Contact Rod on 388605

Do come along and brush up your IT skills.

HAWSTEAD CARPET BOWLS CLUB

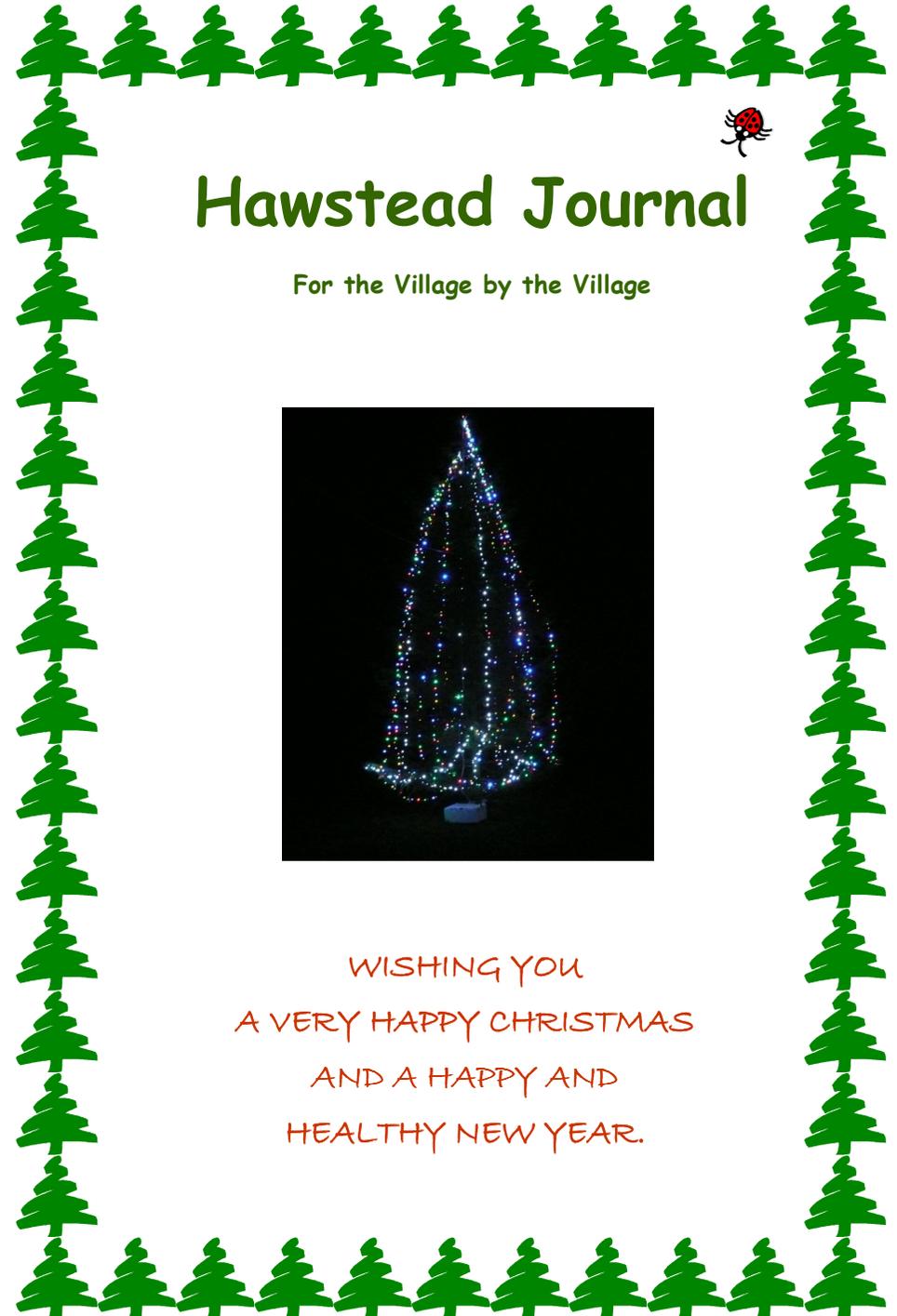
We have had a very enjoyable year at the Carpet Bowls Club. We meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. and play 7 ends. We then enjoy a friendly coffee/tea and biscuit (or 2) and play 7 more ends. It is great fun. We are of mixed abilities but luck comes into it quite a bit (at least it does with me!!).

What we need are new members - why not come and join us? You would be very welcome and I just know you would enjoy it.

We have decided to break now until Tuesday February 2nd when we will be having our Annual General Meeting at 7.00 p.m. and then our usual bowls evening commencing at 7.30 p.m. If you would like to know anything further about us, please give me a ring - 01284 386157.

On behalf of us all at the Carpet Bowls Club may I wish everyone a very happy and healthy 2010.

Rosemary Harrison



Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village



WISHING YOU
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND
HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

Hawstead Community Council

Is hard to believe that ten years have gone by since we celebrated the Millennium.

Ten years ago we had one grandchild now we have five and one to come in the spring. If I had known what fun they are I would have had them first!!

We will have had our second Christmas lunch in the hall. The hall will need some touching up here and there in the spring to keep it in good order. The Community Council are very grateful for the help we get with projects to improve the building.

We are especially pleased with the newly formed computer club. If you are involved with this you will know just how knowledgeable Rod Jackson is in this field. I have heard it said that he designed Microsoft! How lucky we are.

There is a possibility of an art class in the New Year. If you would be interested in this let us know.

Ruth Mackay hosts a craft morning on the last Wednesday morning of the month. If you are a person who likes making things or would like to learn a new skill this could interest you.

The tartan will be coming out again for Burns night in January. Let's hope it does not need ironing! There will be some brushing up of the dancing in early January, see the web for details after Christmas.

The Christmas tree put by the hall organised by Malcolm is quite the loveliest tree. People are changing their route home just to look at it!

Sonja Monk



Katie at her last session of 'Synergy' with flowers presented by the HCC for her outstanding work over the past 18 months.

We wish her 'all the best' and hope that she will return to keep us in shape in 2010.

Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebrations



Pat and Joan Baker celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary with family and friends.



The Aquarius Singers' Carol Concert in the Church



QUIZ NIGHT



Dear Quiz Night Attendees

May I start by thanking those of you that attended and supported the evening, making it a 'sell out' event.

Being the Quiz Master is huge fun, I enjoy seeing the expressions on the faces of folk racking their brains, determined to get the answer right. From my standpoint, it is enjoyable to see so many people come together with a common goal, each table working as a team, with everyone offering their experience and the excitement building as the evening progresses. The teams collectively create a wonderful atmosphere within the Village Hall.

At this time of year we can all be reflective. When I reflect, I think of what a wonderful village life we all have and the camaraderie that goes with it, from the village pub, produce stands, the wide variety of events held at the Village Hall and on the Village Green and services at the church - to name but a few.

May I thank all those who not only help organise the Quiz Night but also the numerous other events and those who add to the wonderful spirit of the Village.

Merry Christmas

Clive Robinson

Body Synergy



I started the class on Thursday evenings in June 2008 in order to become a part of the community and to make use of our stunning village hall. The class has attracted members from the village itself, Lawshall, Stanningfield, and Bury and I have really enjoyed teaching everyone - even when it's been a busy week at work, I have left the class at 8pm on a Thursday feeling energised and uplifted!

We've seen numbers range from just 2 people to 16 but with a regular crew of about 7-8 who have really committed themselves. The improvements in flexibility they have gained are very obvious to me (& hopefully to themselves!) with some people not being able to bend over and touch past their knees at the start to now fingertips on the floor. Other benefits have also been noticed such as less need for physio, better overall well-being, and general improvements in health. This has given me great satisfaction to know that people do benefit from what we do each week.

Two sessions really stand out in my mind over the last 18 months - the first was on a very wintry snowy evening in February when 6 people still turned out to do the class (told you they were committed) showing just what a village community class should be about. The second was a sultry summers evening this year when we took the class outside under the blue sky and rustling trees on the green, navigating our downward dogs and moving chairs around the mole hills!



It's been a lovely experience meeting my Body Synergists and it has made me feel a real part of the village, I hope they have enjoyed the class as much as I have done so teaching it. I hope to return at some point but I will have to see how I cope with the demands of a new baby first!!

Wishing Hawstead residents a very happy Christmas and all the best for 2010,

Katie Pruden

Hawstead Parish Council meeting

19th November 2009

Chairman's Notes

Halifax Building Society - Account has now been closed with all monies deposited with Barclays Bank.

Hawstead Journal - Sponsorship for a number of editions has now been received at £25 per edition.

Whepstead Road / Bull Lane - Parking problems. Meeting with C Cllr Clements to be arranged.

Notice Board - To be purchased and located at Pinford End.

Bottle bank - Recycling company to replace the existing bottle bank with a suitable dark one when available.

Footpaths - One path was reported to be partially obstructed by a leaning fence.

Police - No reported crimes in the village from 7th October to 6th November. A few people were uncertain as to which Officer covered which of the 32 villages, where each Officer had individual responsibilities for certain villages. Further details can be found on website www.onesuffolk.co.uk/safersuffolk/stedmundsburyruralsouth under 'Meet the team'. (PC Ruth Horton has responsibility for Hawstead - Ed.)

Speeding continued to be one of the month's priorities with checks at different locations throughout the villages. Approximately 100 drivers had been sent letters of caution.

Community Council - Request to extend the area of paving at the rear of the village hall. Parking will continue to be monitored.

Maintenance of Public Spaces -

- i. Millennium Field - The bad state was due to the appointed contractor failing to undertake the agreed work. Next year, an alternative contractor will be selected based on a priority list which is to be drawn up for the work to be done.
- ii. Village Green - Both mole and rabbit control will be continued again this winter period.
- iii. Footpath and play area grass cutting will be sent out for tender.
- iv. Churchyard maintenance - Parish Council to investigate the maintenance required.
- v. Phase 2 of the tree cutting programme will start this winter around the village green.
- vi. Potholes in Bells Lane have been reported to Core Services.

Agenda items for the next meeting will include -

- Horse riding on village green causing footpath to be damaged.
- Trees to be planted to replace those removed to make room for the bottle bank.

Continued on page 9

Hawstead Parish Council Meeting Continued

Councillor Reports

B.Cllr Nigel Aitkens and C.Cllr Terry Clements both gave brief up-dates.

Parish Council Chairman's report - Trees at junctions of Whepstead Road/Bury Road and Bells Lane/Bury Road required drastic cutting back to improve illumination from the 2 street lights.

Planning applications - Two applications had been made and were approved.

Village green registration - Councillors discussed registering further village green land.

Emergency Planning - A progress report was given by Cllr West who advised that the questionnaire response had been very good.

Finance -

- **2010-11 Precept** - Budget papers discussed and submitted to St Edmundsbury for approval.
- **Salary** - Salary increase for the clerk had been received and accepted.

Play spaces for teenagers - A request for a suitable play space for teenagers to ride their bikes had been received and agreed in principle.

Public telephone - Notification had been received as to whether the council wished to adopt the public phone at Pinford End.

Potholes in and around the village - Problems with sugar beet lorries damaging the road surfaces, creating potholes and areas running with water and damaging culverts was discussed.

Wind turbine - Council responded positively to a letter received from the Philip Metcalfe Almshouse Trust, for a wind turbine to be installed within their boundary at Pound Green.

A.O.B - Chairman's suggestion to have a Christmas Tree with lights to be erected outside the village hall and for a further one inside, for the Christmas and New Year period was accepted.

Date of next meeting - 21st January 2010

Malcolm Cornwell

Chair Hawstead Parish Council

Councillors - Cristobel Carr, Karen Caldwell, Andy Evershed, Sarah Lawson, Ros King and John West

Parish Clerk - Marilyn Bottomley

The end of the year in a Hawstead Garden

This year has seen an exceptionally long season in the polytunnel, and although the cucumbers did not do well and were dug out quite early we still in mid December are picking peppers, chillies, and even a few tomatoes. No doubt the frosts predicted for this week will put an end to these last crops. This autumn has been unusually mild with only three frosts so far (up to 13 December).

In the garden the over wintering onions which were sown from seed in August are looking good and should provide an early crop in June. It's said that to get show winning big onions from seed, they should be sown on Christmas day so that's what we will be doing after breakfast on the 25th December, we'll see if the theory works at the show in September!

The last of the summer's squashes and potatoes are in storage. Leeks, chard and spinach and a few sprouts are still being picked from the garden. Many of the beds are now having compost added and being covered for winter. Fruit bushes are being pruned and new ones planted.

On the wildlife front, Fran has seen a peculiar invertebrate, which we think is a New Zealand flatworm, disappearing down a hole in the garden. This is bad news if we have identified it accurately, as these prey on earthworms!

Next week will see the shortest day and from then on, as the days start to lengthen, we can start to look forward to another season of planting, growing and harvesting, to feed the family for another year.

Andy and Fran

This month's Hawstead Journal has been generously sponsored by Andy and Fran Evershed

We have a village shop!

The Grocer's Van will visit Hawstead. It will stop in the layby in Whepstead Road for twenty minutes on Wednesday afternoons. If you would like it to stop nearer to you, call Liz on 01284 22222 or email liz@thegrocersvan.co.uk. It carries a wide range of good including of course staples like bread, eggs, milk.



The Village Christmas Lunch



FROM THE ARCHIVE

Christmas is here again and as part of the festivities this year, the Browns are kindly putting on a Nativity Play in the barn at Hawstead Place. There has been a gap of several years since December 1988 when Mr and Mrs Alexander of Piper's Hall, according to the Parish magazine, "have bravely volunteered to present a Nativity Play to be performed by the Sunday School during the Hawstead Carol Service on 20th December. It is an all singing, all dancing nativity play in medieval style. This will give a new look to our carol service." I can't find a comment on the performance. If anybody has a memory of the event to add to the record, I would be pleased to hear about it.

The weather so far has been mild and wet, but in recent years, Hawstead has had snow in December, as shown in the photographs. Generally, the New Year brings the worst of the weather.



Hawstead Church, December 2005



Church Road, Pinford End,
December 2000

Mr. R. Blackwell has written to tell me that last month's article on the tribute to Raymond Mason was researched and written solely by him and was devised especially for the 1995 Remembrance lunch in the village. He also adds that in the obituary to Margaret Andrews, published in the July, 2009 edition of the Journal, it is wrongly stated that his house was the former home of the Andrews family. He writes that the Andrews family have never lived in his premises.

Anna Glypta

CHURCH SERVICES

All Saints Church

2nd Sunday in the month -

8.30 am Said Eucharist

4th Sunday in the month -

11am Parish Eucharist

Kids' Korner

Rory and Conor wish all the young people in Hawstead a very merry Christmas and a happy New year.

Ferguson Trophy Presentation



Pat Baker and his grandson Matthew were presented with trophies at a Fergusson Rally in November by Duncan Russell the Ferguson Club Chairman.

CHRISTMAS AT THE METCALFE

Christmas Eve - We will be offering canapes & mulled wine from 8pm free of charge as a thank you to everyone.

Christmas Day - opening from 12 noon until 2.30 pm for drinks

New Years Eve - We opted for a quieter Christmas Eve but a loud and joyful New Years eve... Live Music, buffet and a glass of bubbly at midnight! Starting at 8pm. We ask for a small per head ticket price of £5.00

We look forward to seeing you all over the festive period.

Very best regards
Richard