

The cost of the hall has increased this year. Bookings are up on last year. This summer will be fairly busy. Remember if you need it do book early. In the spring we will be checking over the hall and play area for any work that needs to be done to keep things safe and looking good.

There now a very nice set of folding chairs we can use outside, thanks to the Parish Council. These chairs will replace the old plastic ones we used to keep in the roof space. The chairs will be very useful and easy to transport if they are needed anywhere away from the hall.

For craft get in touch with either Sonja Monk 386876, Ruth Mackay 388085 or Jo Butt 388817.

HAWSTEAD JOURNAL - CONTRIBUTORS WELCOME

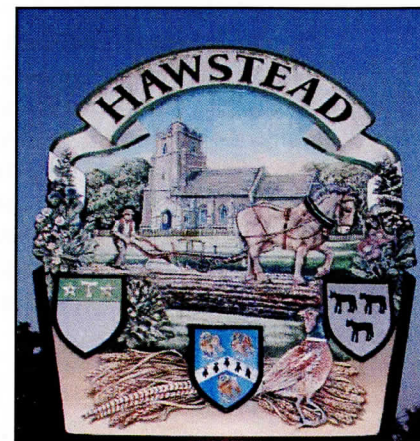
The journal is a fantastic means of keeping villagers in touch with the goings on in our small community. If you would like to get involved with helping produce future editions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Henry Brewis
386004 or henry.brewis@thomson.co.uk

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Community Council	13th Feb (7:30pm)	Parish Council Surgery	25th Feb (10:30 - 12:00)
Charity Concert	11th Mar	Parish Council Meeting	29th Mar
Easter Fayre	9th Apr	Diamond Jubilee	2nd-3rd Jun
Village Fete	5th Aug		

HAWSTEAD JOURNAL



Welcome to the first Hawstead Journal of 2012. I hope everyone's year has got off to a roaring start and we all managed to get through Jan-16 without shedding a tear as it is statistically the saddest day of the year, apparently. That said, 90% of all statistics are made up - just like this one.

My name is Henry Brewis and I am the guest editor for this edition of the journal. I would like to start this edition by extending my thanks to Geraldine West for her massive contribution in maintaining this journal over the years. The village owes you a huge debt of gratitude for your self-less efforts.

With the enactment of the Government's Localism Bill, villages and communities around the country are being encouraged to have more of say in how their community might develop in the future.

A Parish Plan is a document that is put together by the village, ideally with participation from the whole community (usually in the form of a questionnaire) to lay out the issues, needs, concerns and aspirations of the residents. It can provide a valuable tool and reference to influence local policy and where money is spent.

The creation of a Parish Plan is **not** a Parish Council project. It must be set up and co-ordinated by an independent committee from the village.

Getting involved with putting together a Parish Plan for Hawstead would be a really worthwhile way of participating in an important village project, of meeting more people around the village, and creating a

significant document concerning the future of Hawstead.

In the Spring we will be inviting Suffolk ACRE (Action for Communities in Rural England) to host a village meeting to outline what's involved in creating a Parish Plan, and how you can get involved. The meeting will be well publicised nearer the time, but in the meantime, if you would like to know more, or register your interest, I would be very happy to point you in the right direction.

Jayne Robertson
Parish Councillor
jayne@eastward.co.uk



WINTER WEATHER APPROACHES

February is shaping up to be a cold one. Remember to ensure that your oil supplies are topped up and perhaps buy a few extra provisions in case it becomes a little more difficult to get to the shops. If you have an elderly neighbour, why not pop in and see if there is anything they need to help lessen the winter's bite.

The **Jacodu Children's Project** is a project by **Love Light Romania**. Love Light aims to bring relief to and improve the lives of children and young people in need in Romania. The aim of the Jacodu Children's Project is to improve the living conditions of families in the village of Jacodu, by supporting the children to attend school and by setting up livestock, food crop and craft making programmes to ensure the project remains self sustainable.

Love Light Romania became aware of the plight of the children at Jacodu and felt that they could not walk away from this sad situation. The children are being let down by the society they live in, tucked away in the hills on the edge of a village they, like the little community they live in, are forgotten.

The children are hungry and the families cannot afford to feed them even basic food items each day. They do not have soap to keep themselves clean and know that without assistance their situation is not going to change. Up to now they have had little hope. The children are living without decent hygienic conditions, no running water in their homes, not even outside toilets, the roofs on the houses are totally inadequate, mostly made up of pieces of plastic. So when it rains, snows or is cold the inside of the houses become wet and basically un-habitable.

All this in Romania which is a European Union country.

We hope you will be able to come to our concert. All the ticket money and any donations will go straight to the Jacodu Children's Project. For more information see <http://www.lovelightromania.com> and www.jacodu-childrens-project.co.uk

Coffee Morning CONCERT

In aid of Love Light Romania Jacodu Children's Project

by the

PIPER QUARTET

Fran Evershed and Vanessa Burton- Flutes,
Ros Alexander - Cello, Polly Carnegie - Piano

Sunday 11th March

11.30am

Hawstead Village Hall

Tickets £6 adults, £4 children

For tickets and information contact
Fran Evershed on 01284 386501 or
evershed1@tiscali.co.uk



For more information about the
Love Light Romania Jacoda Children's project see:
www.jacodu-childrens-project.co.uk

HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL - WEBSITE UPDATE

Did you know the Parish Council has a new and exciting website?

The website can be found by either searching via Google or by typing the web address www.hawsteadparishcouncil.co.uk directly into your browser e.g. Internet Explorer.

We would like the new website to become the hub for information relating to the Hawstead Parish. Whilst in its infancy, it already contains back issues of the Hawstead Journal, minutes from recent Parish Council meetings, a discussion forum to allow the exchange of views with other parishioners and it will soon have a For Sale section where you might be able to pick up a bargain.



Looking back to Christmas, we had a very enjoyable lunch with 32 guests. Thank you everyone who made this such a really enjoyable occasion. Especially Jo who made the delicious gravy!

We are indebted to Graham and Rebecca from Oak Field for the two Christmas trees. Pat, John, Clive and Steve got together with the tractor and soon had them in place.

A Stitch club This something we would like to have in the village hall. Anything from cake decorating, beading, rug making, floristry, cooking to patchwork etc. We could organise master classes to inspire anyone to try something new or just to re employ an old skill. If you would be interested in this venture to teach or demonstrate a skill let us know. If there is anything thing you would particularly be interested in, like how to made a better scone etc!! This could be enjoyable, and you might be able to pass on a skill to the younger generation.

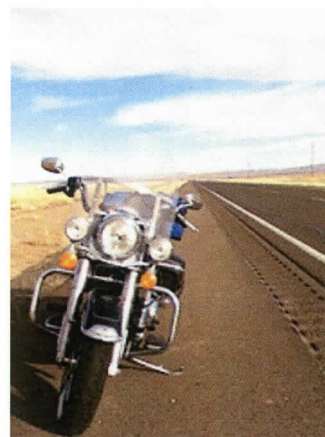
This coming year we are planning to hold an **Easter Fayre on Easter Monday 9th of April**. We invite any one who has any craft work to sell to join us. Do pass on this information to anyone you may know who might be interested. By then you

may have learned a skill in the **Stitch Club!**

Following that there is the **Diamond Jubilee the first weekend of June** it is an opportunity to get together and do something special. We need a group of people to think about this and put forward some ideas. We would like to involve all ages. It might be an idea to have a meeting of interested parties maybe one Sunday afternoon.

If you have an idea or would like to be part of the organisation do get in touch. There are some ideas floating around already. It would be good to get ahead with this so do not delay in coming forward. It will be a beautiful June day and we should have some fun. Can you remember what you were doing on that day 60 years ago? I can, perhaps that could a competition for the June journal!

The village Fete on the 5th of August You will notice the change of date. I have to apologise for this, I mistakenly booked a wedding for the usual weekend in September. As it happens August does suit our produce judge better. Peter Fisk has been judging our produce for close to 35 years. Peter is chairman of Great Barton Village Hall.



USA - COAST TO COAST (OR BUST)!

What better way to escape the cold clutches of a Suffolk winter than to head off on motorbikes, crossing the sunny southern states of America, or at least, that's what Henry and I told Clive!

Our route was to take us on a 3,500 mile road-trip across Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada & California.

Now, as it turned out there were a few small problems with our plan. Firstly Clive didn't have a motorcycle licence and secondly (which we didn't know at the time) parts of our planned route were either suffering gale force winds or covered in a snowy white blanket - neither being optimal conditions for motorbikes.

With the first hurdle overcome through Clive's exemplary performance on his motorcycle test, the boys arrived in Orlando (the very next day).

There was only one obvious choice of steed to ride across the States, a Harley Davidson, so before you could say 'reckless endeavour', we had hired 3 bright shiny 1500cc Harley Davidson Road Kings.

To say the trip was 'fun' would be the greatest understatement since Cpt Oates said "i'm going out, I may be some time". I laughed from the moment we left Hawstead on Jan 14th all the way through to our return on Jan 29th.

To read more about the trip, visit our blog at

<http://rodsterblog.wordpress.com>



CRIME PREVENTION

There have been a number of burglaries in the area over recent weeks with the prime target beings outbuildings and farm machinery. Please remember to be vigilant and where possible ensure all sheds & buildings are kept locked and secure.

HAWSTEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (CONT.D)

They have an car boot sale on the first weekend of September, which means he usually has to dash away from us as soon as possible.

We would like to resurrect the **Christmas Fayre on the 9th of December** with craft, and wreaths for sale etc. A father Christmas will be essential, a person with a white beard will be needed!

HAWSTEAD VILLAGE PANTOMINE

On the 7th & 8th January, the first ever Hawstead panto played out to a packed house in the Village Hall.

£700 was raised for Charity and various village locals posed as Honest Dick, Ugly Sisters - Sharon & Tracy, the Chairman, Clerk, Cinderella, Prince Charming, Buttons, Fairy Godmother, Baron & Baroness Hardup.

Village children played as Sprinkles all ably backed by piano and flute. There was much audience participation. Everything was splendidly directed by Ros Alexander and a good time was had by all.

You can view photos of the panto on www.blurb.com, type Lucy Brewis in the search box. If you would like to order photos, please contact Hayley Brewis on 386 004.

