

***CAN YOU tell us  
a local tale  
to amuse others in  
our village?***

*We are looking especially for those things that happened  
yesteryears in the 40s and 50s.*

No names, rank or pack drill, just something that perhaps you  
remember and muse at, whilst you are drinking  
that lovely cup of tea.

Just ring      Geraldine on 388732  
or  
                 Malcolm on 388142

Editor: Geraldine Unfold

## Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village

Parish Council

January 2005

The next Meeting of the Council will be at 7.30pm, Thursday, 20th January. We shall be breaking fresh ground by accepting a kind invitation from the Whepstead Community Association to hold it in their Hall. As usual, the Meeting will be open to any member of the parish interested and we would be pleased to see you there and hear your comments on this change of venue.

Katie Fairburn and other members of the Parish Council send you their best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

An early piece of good news is that the Secretary of State for the Dept of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has given consent to the Hawstead Community Council's scheme for the erection of a new Village Hall to replace the one which suffered damage beyond repair in October 2002. This permission was required under the Law of Property Act, 1952 because the site of the new building, like that of its predecessor, is on Parish Green.

This is the time when all local authorities, from county councils down to parish councils are working out their estimates for the financial year 2005-6, a job made more difficult for us this year because of changes the St Edmundsbury Borough Council has made in the formula for calculating the grants it makes towards the cost of parish council services. The indications are that these are likely to be less in total than in past years.

Looking further ahead is the termination in December 2006 of the Countryside Stewardship Agreement with DEFRA which has been bringing in £824 a year in grant towards the cost of maintaining Hawstead Green and protecting its large stock of unusual and rare wild plants. It is understood that DEFRA are considering whether the agreement should be extended in modified form, which is worrying as Government Departments often use the word "modified" as a euphemism for *Reduced*.

Robin Whitfield

## **All Saints Church – Hawstead. SERVICES**

### **JANUARY**

<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	8.30 am	Said Eucharist
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	11am	Parish Eucharist
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm	Evening Worship for Candlemas – with music from Taize & Iona

### **FEBRUARY**

<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	8.30am	Said Eucharist
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	11am	Parish Eucharist

### **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 Dusk**

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

## **Philip Metcalfe's Almshouses, Hawstead**

Notice is given that a vacancy exists for an alms person of this charity, at the above.

People with limited financial means and who are preferably members of the Church of England ( men who are not less than 60 years of age and women who are not less than 50 years of age ) are eligible for appointment.

Applications for appointment to be made in writing as soon as possible to either:

Mr M Cornwell, Chairman of Trustees  
South View, Whepstead Road, Hawstead, Bury St Edmunds,  
Suffolk. IP29 5NS  
( Tel 01284 388142 )

Or

Mr A E Hillman, (Trustee)  
Hill House, The Pound, Hawstead, Bury St Edmunds,  
Suffolk. IP29 5NJ  
( Tel 01284 386527 )

Every applicant would be required to state his or her name, current address, age and occupation and be prepared to provide sufficient testimonials and other evidence of his or her qualification for an appointment.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

Joan Cook      Clerk to the Trustees

**Quote from**  
**Cullum History of Hawstead**

I couldn't find anything specifically about the New Year and celebrations, though I expect there are details of rent and lease payments, etc, buried away. So here is an idea which might come in handy in 2005:

**USEFUL TIP FOR THE  
NEW YEAR ?**

"There is no place properer than this, where I may mention a custom which I have twice seen practised ... within a few years, namely that of drawing a child through a cleft tree. For this purpose, a young ash was each time selected, and split longitudinally about five feet; the fissure was kept wide open by my gardener, while the friend of the child ... passed him thrice through it, always head foremost. As soon as the operation was performed, the wounded tree was bound up with packthread; and as the bark healed, the child was to recover. The first of these young patients was to be cured of the rickets; the second of a rupture. About the former I had no opportunity of making an inquiry but I frequently saw the father of the latter, who assured me, that his child, without any other assistance, gradually mended, and at last grew pretty well."

Apparently this wasn't just a local custom. He cites a Dr Borlase writing about Cornwall: "There is a stone, he says, in the parish of Marden, with a hole in it, fourteen inches in diameter, through which, he was informed by an intelligent neighbouring farmer, many persons had crept for pains in their backs and limbs; and that fanciful parents at certain times of the year, do customarily draw their children through, to cure them of the rickets."

Ever the interested Antiquarian he concludes: "Men of education laugh, and with reason, at such idle practices; but the common people, untutored by philosophy, transmit them for ages from father to son, and shew us how our ancestors thought and acted, thousands of years ago."

**Happy New Year**

Jane Powell

***Your very own Hawstead Village***  
***2004 Weather report***



2004 whizzed by with such speed, I find it difficult to believe that we are already five clear years into the new millennium and beginning the 46th year of weather recording, at this station.



As a matter of interest, John Lacy Scott kept weather records continuously, from 1947 until his death in 1992 both at Bury St Edmunds and Welnetham.

It looks as if weather recording is for life !

**Summary of 2004**

It was a wet year with temperatures above average with total rainfall for the year being 798mm ( 31.4" ), which was 33% above the mean average figure of 600mm ( 24" ).

Furthermore, it was the third wettest year on record, with August being exceptionally wet with 155mm ( 6.1" ) - a record figure. 10th August gave us the wettest 24 hour period since October 1987, with 41.6mm ( 1.6" )

The summer, June through to August, proved the wettest on record. Perhaps surprisingly, no flooding occurred due in part to high evaporation and plant transpiration rates. Plant growth was luxuriant !

With the exception of July, monthly average temperatures were above the mean figure, particularly April, August and September.

These three months, recorded averages more than 1°C ( 2°F ) above the mean.

For the fifth year, August was the warmest month, an "interesting trend".

Overall, the year was the 6th warmest, reaffirming the general trend towards greater warmth.

The extremes of temperature were:

30°C ( 86°F ) on 8th June.

-7°C ( 19.5°F ) on 21st November.

These figures are unremarkable but both occurred notably early in their respective seasons.

One temperature record was made however and that was on 9th August, when the minimum temperature failed to fall below 21.5°C ( 70.5°F )



### How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World by Francis Wheen

Like many of us, I was given a few books for Christmas. This one falls into the stocking filler category because the buyer fell into the trap judging a book by its cover. The blurb on the front and back say “hilarious”, “witty”, and “deliriously funny” and the like and we all know of the author from appearances on radio programmes such as “The News Quiz”. Consequently, when I started reading it, my expectations were for a series of amusing anecdotes and wry comments. This is not what is on offer. Wheen assumes an acquaintance with philosophical strands such as the enlightenment. What is given is an analysis of the author’s left wing perspective on post-modernism, structuralism and deconstructivism. He has many grievances

This book may be clever and caustic, but it is not funny. It is a passionate plea for a re-affirmation of the values of the enlightenment. In the 16 and 1700’s, the British approach of Bacon, Lock and Hume was that knowledge was the product of experience and experiment, and thus subject to amendment. On the continent, Descartes and Spinoza maintained that certainty could be achieved by inferential reasoning from first principles. Incorporating elements of both, the Enlightenment insisted on intellectual autonomy and rejected tradition and authority as the infallible sources of truth. This philosophy demolishes the pretension of religion to superior knowledge and detaches Newton’s God from his physics. Consequently, since the Catholic Church was persecuting Galileo at the time, the Pope wasn’t too pleased about this.

Wheen sees ant-Enlightenment forces all around in the modern age and he attacks people and notions of which he disapproves. Starting with the economics of the Reagan/Thatcher era, he turns on the capitalists, share market manipulators and junk bond merchants such as Ivan Boesky, T Boone Pickens and Sir James Goldsmith. Then he goes for the right-wing think tanks and their ideas that became policy. He ends with a tirade against religious fundamentalism and extremism, putting forward the view that the Muslim’s shariah law (the source of which is not the Koran but the opinions of jurists in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> centuries) generates extreme societies because of its obsession with extreme punishment. He thinks this is why Muslim societies acquire a medieval feel. The author thinks all this started in 1979 with the replacement of the Shah of Iran by the Ayatollah Khomeini and Margaret Thatcher’s triumph over James Callaghan.

If you disregard the misleading blurb, “How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World” is written in an easily readable style and can be read in “chunks”, a chapter at a time. It makes you think about why we are where we are now. You may not agree with his views but by putting them forward you can better understand the east-west and secular-religious debates going on at the moment.

How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World by Francis Wheen, 329pp.  
published by Harper Perennial at £7.99 paperback. Ana Glypta

## Castaway Top Ten

*This months Castaway is Sue Diaper*

- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Let Me Be Your Fantasy          | – Baby Dee                           |
| Boogie Nights                   | – Heatwave                           |
| Love On a MountainTop           | – Dianna Ross                        |
| Love Child                      | – Dianna Ross                        |
| Maggie May                      | – Rod Stewart                        |
| I Just Called to say I Love You | – Stevie Wonder                      |
| I Believe in You                | – Kylie Monogue                      |
| Wind Song                       | – Randy Crawford                     |
| Pump up the Jam                 | – Techno tronic                      |
| I’ll Be Missing You             | – Puff Daddy/Faith Evans             |
| <b>Favorite Song</b>            |                                      |
| Stevie Wonder                   | – I Just to Called to say I Love You |

*Next Month’s Castaway* Sylvia Miller

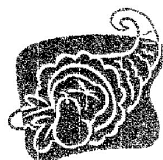
## BUTTERNUT SQUASH BISQUE



This is a fragrant and delicately flavoured soup and which was served at the village Christmas lunch.

To Serve 4

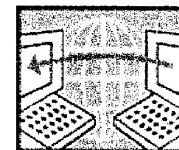
1oz butter or marg  
2 small onions finely chopped  
1lb butternut squash peeled seeded and cubed  
2pints of vegetable stock  
8oz potatoes cubed  
1tsp paprika  
4fl oz single cream (optional)  
Fresh chives to garnish  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper



- 1 Add the onions to the melted fat in a large pan.  
Cook until soft.
- 2 Add the squash, stock, potatoes and paprika.  
Bring to the boil.  
Reduce heat, cover pan and simmer for 35mins or so,  
until the vegetables are soft.
- 3 Process or blend soup until smooth, return to the pan add  
the cream if using.  
Season with salt and pepper.  
Reheat gently.
- 4 Stir in the chopped chives just before serving.  
Garnish each serving with a few whole chives.

## Directory Enquiries on the 'net'

Forget those newfangled, impossible-to-remember phone numbers for Directory Enquiries (if you ever tried them in the first place – which I didn't!); get on to [www.bt.com](http://www.bt.com) and you'll see in the bottom left hand corner – in rather small type – links to Directory Enquiries from either a Business or Personal point of view. It doesn't really matter which you select, as once you've reached the Enquiries page there are 'tabs' for each.



For a Person enquiry you can put in a surname and initial(s) in separate boxes and then either a town (plus street if you want) or the first two initials of the postcode (in our area that would be 'IP' of course.) The surname and town can both be shortened – or actually widened in scope – by using the truncation technique with an asterisk. eg Robert\* will find 'Robert', Roberts', Robertson' – and probably a number of double-barrelled people as well!

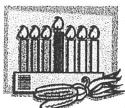
You don't have to fill in all the boxes if you don't have complete details but if you are too vague, you'll probably be asked to be more specific! A surname, initial and the part-postcode will probably be enough and you may have quite a few results to look through. They'll have their full initials and address: when you select one of them as the likely solution, you go to a new page with the full address and phone number. A real bonus is a clickable link to a map on the Multimap.com website which shows exactly where the person lives! Now is that scary or what?

Businesses can be searched for in a similar way – instead of surname and initial, you just type in the name of a company you are looking for – and the truncation feature works here as well. There is also the possibility of looking for phone numbers of particular types of business within a particular area: I guess this is a sort of 'Yellow Pages' although it isn't labelled as such. A search for 'Plumbers' and Bury St\* gave 21 results (names, addresses and phone numbers) in and around Bury St Edmunds.

You don't appear to be able to look up international numbers: an 'international' section gives useful information about calling particular countries – including the ability to listen to the dialling and engaged tones – but for actual directory enquiries you are directed to a BT phone number.

This seems a very useful website. My only gripe is the design, which looks rather poor in quality, with very small writing. It certainly has not been designed with those with visual disability in mind.

## HAWSTEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL



### CHRISTMAS FUN

We did enjoy our mini fayre in the church in early December, it was nice to see people, raise some money, and not be too exhausted by it!! Our Christmas lunch was in Lawshall again, 23 people sat down to lunch. Mr Barwell did us proud with a beautiful turkey joint. Thanks to everyone who came along to be our guests. We are all in agreement that we would like to attract more people to this event maybe drop the over sixty image and just invite any one who would like to come!

Happy New Year everyone, it is a good time to thank you all for the support we get throughout the year with our various activities. Last year was quite a busy year with concerts, open-gardens and the Hawstead International Plant Sale. I wonder what we shall get up to this year? Planning early! We would like to plan well ahead this year and encourage some new helpers, we do need more help. If you would like to be involved in Village activities or just have a good idea please get in touch.

Sonja Monk

### BINGO

Bingo has begun again. It takes place in the games room of The Cottage in the Pound, we are very grateful to Sue and Bill, especially as they join in and make it good fun.

Jan 6th and 20th

Feb 3rd and 17th

March 3rd, 17th and 31st.

Please do get in touch with either Margaret 388467 or myself on 386876

