

THE HAWSTEAD JOURNAL

The Hawstead Journal is back after a period of uncertainty.

Our thanks must go to Brian Kew for his determination and persistence in keeping it alive, to Geraldine Upfold for desk-top publishing the contents, to Malcolm Cornwall for printing this edition of the Journal free of charge, to the team of computer helpers, collators and distributors and lastly to the Parish Council for its support.

HCC

HELP NEEDED

If you would like to support the Journal, you can do so by -

- ◆ **Editing** the Journal from time to time
- ◆ **Contributing** to the Journal's content
- ◆ **Desk-top publishing** the Journal from time to time
- ◆ **Collating/distributing** the Journal

DATES

The Journal will be delivered to homes in the Village on or around the **15th of each month**.

Contributions for the next month's Journal must be with Brian Kew **before the end of the month**.

Letter

Dear Sir

I was very sad to hear of the death of Larry LaPrise, the composer of "the hokey cokey" and the inherent problems with his left leg.

Surely, the problem could have been resolved if it had been shaken all about prior to confinement.

Yours

Editor :Brian Kew



Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village

AUGUST 2004

Parish Council

On 28 July the Parish Council carried out a survey of all the village roads with Guy Smith from the Highways Department.

Compared with other villages, the roads of Hawstead are in a reasonable condition. Nevertheless, some remedial maintenance was urgently requested for several areas of the village.

Now that the Wkepstead Road problem has been resolved, the main area of concern is the seepage onto the road from springs outside Cooks Cottage. During the Winter the frozen water on the road is a serious hazard. Guy has suggested that a couple of new gullies be installed and the existing gully is made operational. At present it is uphill from the water flow and is US.

Reflective posts have been promised for the difficult bend at the top of Oak Hill nearby to Hawstead Lodge. Several vehicles have been in the ditch in the last couple of years, including the bin lorry.

Kerbing has also been promised for the junction of Bull Lane at Pinford End, where the road is collapsing into the ditch.

Guy is responsible for 160 parishes stretching from Woolpit to Newmarket and says his budget only stretches so far. Therefore, any works that take place in Hawstead have to justify the costs.

The major problem of road degrade is heavy transport damaging the edge of the roads and pushing the surface into the verges.

If possible, budget allowing, a lot of the problems will be remedied early next year.

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Parish Council - contd.

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Although outside the parish it was stressed to Guy Smith the road surface outside Horsecroft Game Farm is extremely dangerous, especially for cyclists. We do not know Guy's decision on this problem.

The Parish Council took the opportunity to stress the need for road calming on the Lawshall to Bury Road. A request was made for a white paling fence at the village signs requesting a 30 mph limit. Guy said he would do what he could but 159 other parishes are requesting the same facilities. Back to budgets. **Brian Kew Hawstead Parish Council**

Hawstead Community Council Village Hall Project

A year ago we asked you to tell us what activities you would support in the new hall. Your response was wide and varied and from the information you gave us the timetable on the opposite page has been devised and used in the applications that are being made to large funding organisations.

You will see old favourites such as the Bingo and Carpet Bowls sessions, the Produce Show and Fete and several different education classes. You will also see some new ventures providing care and social opportunities for the old and young in our community.

At the moment if you are a parent with young school age children and would like to return to work there is no local, safe and stimulating after school provision. With the new village hall your children could be dropped off at the door of the hall from the school bus while you complete your day's work without anxiety. They could then be picked up on your way home *and* with a bit of luck their homework will be completed too!

Or if you are an older person there will be the opportunity to spend time with friends over a good lunch and talk about earlier times or plan future outings.

You will see also that a club for gardeners is pencilled in and the possibility of a Christmas pantomime. Last Saturday, about 6 o'clock, I drove past the recently and beautifully restored Institute at Hartest just as birthday party was spilling out onto the Green. 'Mmm', I thought with a rosy glow. 'When our lovely new hall is completed Hawstead people will have the same opportunity to entertain their friends and relatives on special occasions too'.

Contd....

Guests start to arrive and miraculously the sky relents of its ill humour and the sun bursts forth warmly. Elsa has arrived with Jane! The thin tyres of her wheel chair sink deep into the gravel of the sloping driftway. There was nothing for it but to descend the slope backwards toward the garage. Elsa took no offence, indeed she began to hum contentedly.

The mood was now upbeat; Lorraine Sonia and Joan together with a succession of volunteers cheerfully met the demand for teas; the sound of sweet madrigals airs and traditional songs wafted through the garden by way of the intricate paths down to the hidden water garden. There was an air of companionable friendship throughout the garden as the sun continued to shine warmly. Bees murmured contentedly amidst the lavender, even a few butterflies, long absent during the cold weather took to the wing. The afternoon was going pretty well in defiance of the forecaster's dire predictions. Later I learnt that not ten miles distant the afternoon had been a washout. We had indeed bathed in good fortune that afternoon. Some eighty people attended including thirty three from Hawstead.

£360.00 was raised for the Village Hall Fund. A special thank you to everyone for making the afternoon such an enjoyable success.

It was meant to happen! The thunder clouds rolled back and the sun shone, making a beautiful garden come alive and then made magical by the sweet singing of old English airs.

Thank you sincerely Glyn for all the ground work that went into making such a lovely event possible and raising a goodly sum for the village hall.

Hawstead Community Council

Music in an English Country Garden

The forecast of thundery outbreaks during the afternoon for Saturday July 17th was not at all promising. Whatever the weather this was the day the Amici Chamber Choir would sing in the garden behind the Green Cottage. With the added excitement of homemade scones jam cakes cream and liquid refreshments we hoped to raise a substantial sum towards the Village Hall Fund.

The garden, market path field, Smokey Hole Wood and the water garden had absorbed many hours of labour under less than ideal circumstances (except for the flourishing growth of weeds). At least the sheep looked in great condition, newly shorn and content on the lush grass.

The morning was dry, grey but more or less tepid as helpers arrived, James with a trailer load of chairs and tables, Sonia with the hot water urn and a basket load of goodies worthy of Rupert Bear's mother and other people bearing scones and cakes.

Sylvia and Simon returned with a small gazebo for shelter, just in case. The completion of this erection was a signal to the heavens above. It was as if a plug had been pulled in the blackened sky, releasing a downpour of torrential rain. Voices were drowned by the rumbles of thunder. An oil lamp and candles were lit to relieve the gloom within the garage. Nonchalantly we continued preparations avoiding the mention of thoughts of 'washout' 'disaster'.

The choir arrived in dribs and drabs as the rain eased from a still and murky sky. Two gazebos were erected affront the arc of laurel hedge a site that would project the voices of sixteen singers to advantage.

Suddenly it was two o'clock - opening time - and a scurry of last minute preparations and questions.

Have you a tuning fork?

I need the loo, now!

There's no tea pot.

What's the name of that plant?

I'd like a cutting of...

Weekly programme for Hawstead Village Hall

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9.00-12.00	Needlework class	Needlework class	Art class	Day Centre for Elderly and their carers	Seminars, Conferences & Training sessions	Village produce stall	Produce show and fete
12.00-2.00		Mobile library		Day Centre cont. Mobile Post office		Wedding receptions	Christening parties
2.00-4.00	Upholstery class	Yoga class	Drop in centre	Day centre cont.	Christmas Lunch	Jumble Sales/Bazaar	Easter Egg Hunt
4.00-6.00	Out of School Club		Out of School club		Out of School club	Children's Christmas Party	Harvest Supper
7.00-10.00	Neighbour-hood watch meetings Community Council meetings	Carpet Bowls Bingo Gardeners' club	Youth Club History class Badminton	IT Training/ Club Parish Council meetings Table tennis	Pantomime + Drama rehearsals Film evenings	Family Parties Dances	Concerts

Progress on the New Village Hall

The hall must pay for its running costs and maintenance thus some activities and events and training sessions will bring in money while others will be subsidised by outside funders such as Suffolk County Council or other grant making bodies.

There is still room for more ideas and it should be remembered that this is a draft and that all parts of the programme can be moved around to suit the needs of the users.

The future is full of possibilities so if your particular interest is not mentioned tell me about it! **Joan Cook**

PS the large hall will be big enough to seat 100 people and to play badmintonbut not at the same time!!

You are invited to the Swaffam Ecotech Centre

We cannot stem global warming by ourselves but we can ensure that our new hall embodies technology that uses renewable sources of energy.

With this in mind members of the Community Council are planning to visit the Ecotech Centre, Swaffam on **Tuesday 24th August at 10.15 am.**

The programme will include a tour of the centre, a film, a trip to the top of the wind turbine and a look at a photovoltaic method of generating electricity. The length of the visit is an hour and a half and there will be a charge of £3.75 to climb the turbine tower (this is optional, of course).

It takes just over an hour to reach Swaffam from Hawstead and cars will be leaving the village at 9.00am.

If you are keen to preserve the planet and would like to join the trip please contact **Sonja Monk Tel. 386876** or **Joan Cook Tel. 386711**

Young people, with the permission of their parents, would be especially welcome.

From this prodigious number of hands, the whole business must have been soon finished. [There were probably two principle days; for two large parties were hired, every year, for one day each. And these days were perhaps at some distance from each other, as all the different sorts of corn were scarcely ripe at the same time...]

“These ancient harvest days must have exhibited one of the most cheerful spectacles in the world. One can hardly imagine a more animated scene than that of between two and three hundred harvest people all busily employed at once, and enlivened with the expectation of a festivity, which perhaps they experienced but this one season in the year. All the inhabitants of the village, both sexes, and of all ages, that could work, must have assembled on the occasion; a muster, that in the present state of things would be impossible.”

(“These throngs of harvest people were superintended by a person who was called the head-reaper, who was annually elected and presented to the lord by the inhabitants; and it would seem that in this village at least, he was always one of the customary tenants”)

Jane Powell

IT'S TIME TO MEASURE THE SUNFLOWERS

To all of you who bought a sunflower seedling at the plant sale it is time to have the mature plants measured so that the tallest and finest can be awarded prizes at the produce show and fete! Remember there are three classes one for people aged 8 years or under one for those aged 9-15 and one for those over 15/adult

As we have your names and Telephone nos. we will be contacting you on or around the weekend of 21st August to arrange a convenient time for a judge to call. If you are on holiday let us know and another time can be arranged.

If you have not yet entered the competition but have grown a simple stunning sunflower and would like to join in the fun you can do so by paying the entry fee of £1.00

For late entries or queries please telephone 01284 386711

Sir John Cullum and the History of Hawstead

Sir John was rector in the village for 23 years from 1762, aged 29, to his death in 1785 when he was only 53. He published his History and Antiquities of Hawstead and Hardwick in 1784.

The History is about 300 pages. These are chapters on Natural History, the Church, Lords of the Manor and other proprietors of land, and the Cultivation of the land, with a short Appendix on Hardwick, where he grew up and later lived as lord of the manor himself.

The Lords of the Manor chapter is full of Latin inscriptions and deeds, family trees and extracts from wills and lawsuits - he was an Antiquarian and man of his times. But the book is shot through with his interest in the life and history of the people of the village. He expresses frustration at not being able to glean more of their real life from the documents he examines, and pores over texts comparing changes over the centuries.

The printer of the second edition, published in 1813, speaks of his amiable friendships and placidity of manner and I can believe it. He has a nice quite humour and irony, a pride in his century and a love and respect for the people of Hawstead. It's rather pleasing to think of him clopping round the village for so many years noting things down, measuring effigies and tombstones, studying the soil, listing plants.

Tantalisingly, we don't get a detailed picture of individual lives and house by house descriptions (except for the grand ones!) but we get a lot more than most villages have.

We thought it might be interesting to put a regular quote in the magazine. Here's a first one that's topical and seasonal:

Harvest, 1380's

Here Sir John looks at descriptions of two harvests 400 years before his time, taken from bailiff's accounts from the 1380s, and writes with some enthusiasm and perhaps a touch of wistfulness:

"What a scene of bustling industry was this! For, exclusive of the baker, cook and brewer... here were 553 persons employed in the first year; in the second 520... yet the annual number of acres, of all sorts of corn, did not exceed 200.

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All Saints Church - Hawstead.

AUGUST SERVICES

Sunday 8 th	8.30am	Said Eucharist
Sunday 22 nd	11am	Parish Eucharist

SEPTEMBER SERVICES

Sunday 12 th	8.30am	Said Eucharist
Sunday 26 th	11am	Parish Eucharist

The HARVEST FESTIVAL will be held on Saturday 9th October at 6pm followed by a Harvest Supper in Church Farm House Barn at 7pm. Further details in the next issue.

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

Make your views known

The telephone box on the village green and the telephone box in Bull Lane are both about to be de-commissioned by British Telecom.

Considering the problems we have in the village with mobile phone reception, it is imperative that these facilities are kept for emergency purposes. They are also part of the village history and landscape.

Please make your views known to the Parish Council, BT or the Local Authority without delay.

Hawstead Community Council Members

Sonja Monk, Margaret Crockford, Joan Cook, Andy Parrett, Sylvia Miller, Nicki Brown, Lorraine Stokes, Jane Powell, John West.

ROLL UP, ROLL UP

for the

**Village Fete, Flower and Produce Show
on the Village Green**

On Sunday 5th September from 2 o'clock

Prizes will be awarded

by Miss Elsa Kilpatrick for the best produce
at 2.15pm

The Produce will be Auctioned

at 4.30pm

Try your luck in the **Prize Draw** and the **Tombolas**
(for children and adults). Pick up some bargains on the

Bric a Brac and White Elephant Stalls.

Brighten up your garden with plants from the
Plant Stall.

Treat the children with toys from the
Toy Stall.

Treat yourself with a good book or two
from the **Book Stall.**

Play some **games**, win some **prizes.**

Enjoy live music from the **Jazz Band** and
homemade cakes, tea, coffee and soft drinks

Meet up and catch up with
friends and neighbours – both old and new and

MUCH, MUCH MORE

Come along and enjoy a great afternoon

I thought I'd done well having completed the journey at an average 12.9mph especially as there had been a couple of mishaps! One of these concerned the new 'go faster' shoe/pedal unit: I hadn't really practiced at all, and to extricate shoe from pedal one twists the foot outwards. I hadn't got the hang of doing this - getting the shoe to clip on in the first place was difficult enough and I hadn't thought through the process of stopping. So of course I fell off, shoe and foot still firmly clipped into the pedal, and got a bloody and fairly painful knee.

The other point concerned the route. Now there were good signs all the way round (and there were marshals with encouragement and bottled water to give out) so it was generally well organised. Unfortunately, however, we were only given a map a few minutes before the start, so there was no time to get familiar with the actual route. It's not that I got lost as such, but I eventually found out (by asking a marshal) that I had strayed onto the 25 mile route! This was not good news and entailed a bit of backtracking and going across country to pick up the 50 mile route. The worst of it was that as a result I actually did 54 miles instead of 50!

Andy Parrett

Free to a good Home!

I bought two Black Inkjet Cartridges suitable for an EPSON Stylus Colour 400/440/460/500/600/640/660/670 etc. only to find that lack of ink was not the problem but the printer itself. Of course the new printer requires cartridges of a different size so if you have a printer that uses the above you are welcome to them. Please contact me **Joan Cook, 386711**

Nature Notes

Hummingbird hawk moth feeding on sweet peas.

What to do if you feel a midlife crisis coming on

On days when the weather suits and I'm working in town I like to cycle to and fro via Pinford End. It's a pleasant ride, usually devoid of traffic until the rat-run from the Haverhill road, and I feel good as I'm getting some good honest exercise.

Early on this year I was talking about my cycling activities with some friends and before I knew it we were planning a cycling holiday together! This has now happened, and during the first week of July the four of us went by bike from St David's Head in South Wales to Lowestoft, a distance of 417 miles. This is not quite 'the furthest point west to the furthest point east'; Lowestoft is the most easterly point, but there are others in Scotland, plus Lands End which are more westerly. But it's as near to that status as we were bothered about!

Now a twenty minute journey into town and back isn't much of a preparation for what turned out to be four full and two half days' continual cycling! So when I saw mention of the annual 'St Edmunds Wheel' sponsored bike ride to be held at the beginning of June, I saw it as a training opportunity and I duly sent in my entry form. You can do 15, 25, 50 or 75 miles so pretty well anyone who has a cycle can have a go; and thus, early on a sunny Sunday morning several hundred of us set off from the Abbey Gardens and I had decided that 50 miles would be quite enough for this training effort.

By this time I had a new (ie 'go-faster') cycle and 'the gear' - stylish helmet, lycra shorts, and special shoes with little metal grips on the bottom to clip onto the special pedals (ie to go faster!). I had said I'd be wearing a bright red shirt but my fans watching out in Pinford End didn't see me as we were each given a black and yellow tee shirt at the beginning so I thought I'd better wear that.

The ride turned out to be enjoyable, if tiring, and I think it was important both as a training exercise and as a means of raising money for the BFP/WSH Special Care Baby Unit Scanner Appeal. The weather was fine: not too hot and not too much wind. The route planners had managed to give us a journey with very few hills (up); possibly the worst was the gentle slope out of Pinford End towards Whepstead (whence the route went in a circular (clockwise) direction via Risby, Gt Livermere, Stanton and Walsham Le Willows, returning to Bury through Pakenham.)

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And stay for the Hawstead Village Barbeque

Following the Fete at 5pm
Burgers, Bangers and Baps—50p a pop!

WANTED

Volunteers

to help with all sorts of things, so if you would like to get involved, just a little bit or quite a lot, please contact

Sonja on 01284 386876

Contributions

The Fete provides us with an excellent excuse to hunt out our unwanted things and recycle them into new homes where others can enjoy them.

Please send —

Draw prizes to Phyllis Petitt at Mill Post Farm

Bric a Brac and white elephant to Nancy Dawson, Pinford end
Tombola (for children & adults) to James Carr, Cullum Cottage

Produce, Jam etc Rosemary Carr, Beech Cottage

Cakes and biscuits to serve with tea can be brought on the day

Plants to Jo Butt 5 The Pound or bring on the day

Toys, books etc to Spinney Cottage.

OUR THANKS

The Fete will be under canvas again thanks again to **Royal Air Force Honnington** who have again generously loaned us some tents.

The HCC has also purchased a large gazebo.

NOTES FOR EXHIBITORS

All exhibits to be staged between 8 am and 10 am on Show day.

Late entries by 9 am. If you do not want your exhibits to be auctioned, please remove them before 4pm.

SMALLHOLDER'S NOTES

Monday 9.45pm, I've just come in from the sheep field, having spent a couple of hours cutting patches of thistles and nettles in an attempt to improve the grass and stop the soft fruit getting covered in thistle down. The house smells of vinegar because Frances is experimenting with a recipe for peach chutney. I've poured a glass of homebrew and settle down to write this journal.

The peach chutney experiment is the result of a somewhat surprising crop in the polytunnel. We had a few peaches the year before last, but last year late frosts killed all the flowers so there were no fruit. This year the flowers were beautiful and very numerous and we were determined to have peaches. We carefully wrapped the tree in horticultural fleece for a month in early spring and even used a gas heater on the coldest nights, determined not to get beaten by the cold. The flowers were hand-pollinated with a child's paintbrush and a bit of help from the children as we 'played at being bumblebees'.

The peach chutney is the latest in a long line of experiments culinary, horticultural and in animal husbandry, which started when we moved here 7 years ago. It was the availability of a house with a couple of acres of land in a very attractive setting which brought us to Hawstead.

We were interested in trying to grow a proportion of our own food - nothing so ambitious as complete self-sufficiency, just fruit and vegetables for part of the year. We started a vegetable plot, planted some fruit trees and decided almost immediately that we needed a couple of sheep as 'lawn mowers'. This led to our first trial at meat production. Next we inherited some chickens when their owner became too unwell to look after them, this led to producing our own eggs. Once we had a few hens it was only a small step on to get some more and then raise chicks for meat followed by ducks and currently geese and membership of the famous Hawstead Pig Group. Frances keeps mentioning turkeys but it won't be for this Christmas!

While the animal flocks increase we seem to have expanded our fruit and vegetable production as well. It just sort of happened, you see. We see something in a seed catalogue, decide to 'give it a try' and before you know it we have taken cuttings or collected seed as well as having huge bucketfuls of some obscure fruit or vegetable which we then have to turn into a culinary delight to please the family!

Contd....

We now have strawberries, gooseberries, blackcurrants, blackberries, rhubarb, plums, apples, pears, and a whole range of vegetables each year, as well as a polytunnel to extend the season, which brings us back to the peaches. By the way, we also had a reasonably good crop of apricots and the nectarines aren't doing too badly! Some crops do well in some years, others do well in other years, and if you aim to have enough in the years when there is not a large crop, you will inevitably end up with a surplus in those years when things are going well.

This is where the **PLANT AND PRODUCE** sales come in.

With some encouragement from Brian Kew we decided that it would be a good idea to sell our 'spare' fruit, vegetables and plants on Saturday mornings at the village hall car park on the green. The Parish Council have kindly agreed to 'let' a space for a stall, and we will be there between 11am and 1pm on the first and third Saturday of each month. This is not just for us, other gardeners living in the Parish with too many plants or surplus of some fruit or vegetable would be welcome to come and join us. Jo Butt has been keen to join in, selling plants, herbs and vegetables, and it would be nice to see a few others coming along.

The only restriction is that sellers must be Hawstead residents and only homegrown produce can be sold.

**The next PLANT AND PRODUCE sales
will be on the Village Green on
Saturday August 21st
then September 4th and 18th
between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm**

any one wanting more information can contact us

Frances and Andy on 386501.

Oh, and by the way, there is nothing more satisfying than a meal on the plate with **EVERYTHING HOMEGROWN!!**