

Wanted - Dog Sitter(s) - for Ben



Ben is a 2 year old Kooikerhondje. He has a delightful nature, playful, gentle and loving. He adores children and other dogs and loves to play with them. Although his experience of cats has been limited, he has always been well-behaved.

We are looking for people, or a family, who would be willing to look after Ben from time to time. This will include occasional weekdays, overnight or weekend stays and for one three week period a little later this year.

If you or your children like dogs but do not want the responsibility of owning one fulltime, perhaps this is an alternative. Payments to be agreed.

Please contact Geraldine or John West on 388732

Apologies for this month's Journal being a few days late, due to circumstances beyond the Editor's control.

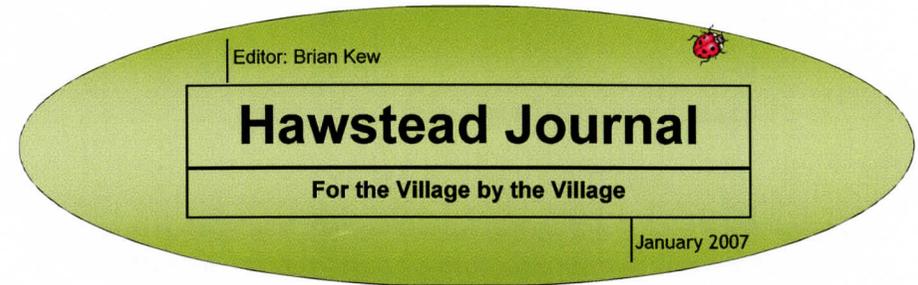
Many thanks to Geraldine West for sponsoring the November issue of the Journal and to Jan and Malcolm for their help in compiling this edition.

Any contributions for the Journal would be very welcome by no later than Thursday 1st February, please

The next Editor of the Journal will be Katie Fairbairn. Tel: 386627

STOP PRESS
Village Rumour
the pub is to **ReOPEN**
in **MARCH!!**

Quiz Answer: **Wigan 0 Chelsea 0**



Parish Council

Malcolm Cornwell, Katie Fairbairn, Phil Shaw, Roz Alexander, James Carr, Dave Dawson and myself; your Parish Council, would like to wish all the villagers **A Very Happy New Year**

This may be the last time some of the above Councillors are in the position to do this as the local elections are due in May of this year. It is already known that two or three councillors are considering standing down, which provides an ideal opportunity for some new faces, with fresh ideas. It would be useful if there was a genuine election by having more candidates than seats. This would obviously give voters the opportunity to replace the councillor/s deemed not to have pulled their weight, although I can say without doubt that no such person actually exists on our council. They are all hard working, fair, demonstrative and always put the village first.

If anyone would like to know anything at all about the Parish Council with a view to standing for election, then please ask any councillor, they will be only too pleased to help with any information

The last meeting of our four year term is in March. How about coming along to see what happens and then consider standing. For the last few years, we have been meeting at various venues but mainly in the church vestry.

The new Parish Council will have the luxury of meeting in our new village hall which will be built this year.

Brian Kew (Chairman)

HAWSTEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANOTHER YEAR GONE BY !

We hope that this year will be the year of the hall, it is looking very hopeful and to thank everyone for their amazing support throughout the year, where we have had a splendid year in terms of fund raising.

The Christmas lunch was good fun and many thanks to all the cooks and waitresses. Our musical entertainment which was supplied by Norman Gibbs of Woodlands went down a treat. Can we book you for next year Norman on the green?

We shall be meeting soon to discuss this years fete. It may be decided to have a fete planning group just to help to share the load and if you would be interested, please keep a look out for meeting times in news letters.

Bingo at Spinney Cottage at 7.30pm

January - Thursday 11th & 25th and February - Thursday 1st & 15th

Sonja Monk 386876

sonjamonk@tiscali.co.uk

Changes to the local roads

The one way traffic restrictions which have been put into place in opposite directions at Hardwick Lane and Gypsy Lane, are at the present *Experimental*.

These changes came about, as the local residents wanted to reduce the volume of traffic using this as a route between Horringer and the Hospital.

The Traffic order legalising this came into operation on 27th November 2006 and as it was installed on an experimental basis, anyone who has objections to these changes have six months with which to register them.

If insufficient objections are made within that time, the order will become permanent as from 27th November 2007.

Winning the Ashes

The alarm clock is ringing, I know as I turn sleepily it is 6.45 am on a Saturday morning and I must be down on the sport's oval within the hour. No time to waste as six year old, Erin needs to climb into her T-ball gear, breakfast and pack her bag with sun hat, water bottle and glove. She is diminutive, the smallest size in breeches, shirt, complete with team and sponsor's name are at least two sizes too big. Her base ball cap pulled seriously down hides most of her face.

The oval is perhaps twice or three times the size of Hawstead Green and as we arrive it is crowded with groups of small children in brightly coloured sports gear gathering around their team managers and coaches while other parents are busy erecting sun screens, setting up the pitch or giving last minute coaching. T-ball is a cross between rounders and base ball and gains its name from the stand that holds the ball ready for the little batsman to hit.

Teams are called together by the coaches, given their positions and after a huddle the game begins in earnest. The Dads, in team shirts labelled coach or manager, seem enormous against their children but patiently umpire or move the T-stand out of harms way. While on the sidelines Mums and grand parents cheer on every effort and shout conflicting advice! Half time and the orange segments are produced and minor scrapes or bumps are comforted away. At least two or three of the children in Erin's team have grasped the strategy necessary to win and the match is theirs. At full time the coaches call their teams together and the ritual high fives takes place. Winning isn't essential but it is much better than losing!

The teams sponsor, a cookie manufacturer, rewards the team and its supporters and the coach reminds everyone that the next practice session is on Thursday evening. Its just past nine o'clock and we return home for the rest of the day. The Oval meanwhile is undergoing a transformation as the cricket teams take over consolidating their hand eye co-ordination to bowl and bat through the heat of the day. Many will make it to league cricket, some to the State team and the best may well help to keep the Ashes where, it is said, they belong, here in Oz!

PS Heaven offend that I should be thought jingoistic, but I found it very moving at the final Primary School assembly for the year when all the children were asked to stand in silence as the Australian flag was hoisted to the top of the flagpole and then to sing Australia Fair (the National Anthem).

Joan Cook. Perth, Western Australia

Village Hall Update

First of all, the Community Council and all the members of the Village hall project group would like to thank you for your support during 2006. A great deal has been achieved over the last year. This has included the final choice of building design, the obtaining of planning permission for that design and the raising of approximately £100,000 towards the project and the current state of the fund is as follows:

Community Council funds on deposit:	£ 85,600
St Edmundsbury BC grant:	25,000
Suffolk CC Locality grant	2,000
Suffolk CC Rural Services grant	10,000
Charles Hayward Foundation grant	10,000
Suffolk CC Regeneration grant	10,000
Suffolk Environmental Trust grant	20,000
Hawstead Parish Council grant	1,000
TOTAL	£163,600

The current budget for the hall is £252,000, so we are still £88,400 short.

As many of you will recall, the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich promised a grant towards the project of up to £75,000 once Cullum House had been sold.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) along with the Rector, Martin Thrower, is handling the negotiations for this grant. We understand that the Diocese still wishes to make a grant to the Hawstead Community, but that the PCC has to submit a formal proposal requesting the grant. This will be discussed at the Diocesan Board of Finance meeting in February and we hope to know the outcome by the end of that month.

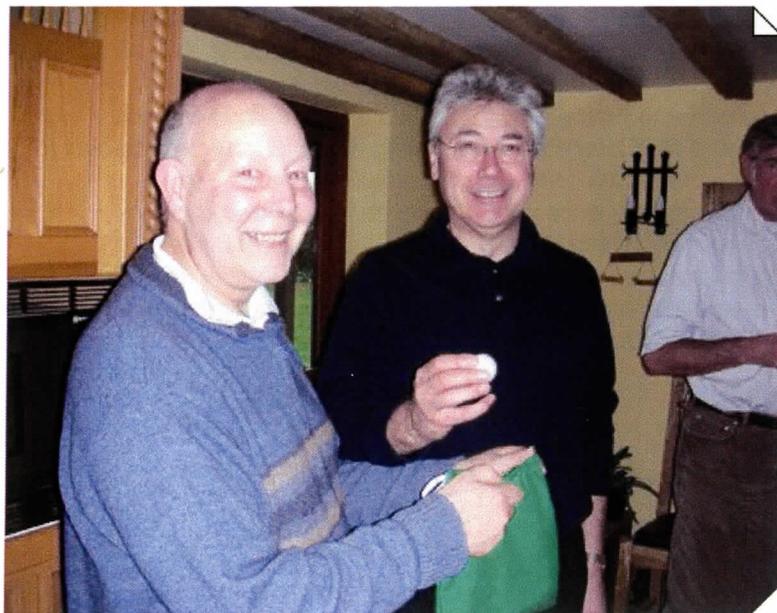
If the answer is positive we should be in a position to place the order with English Heritage Buildings so that they can proceed with the build.

We will keep you advised of the situation and hope that the Diocese does not delay too long in making their grant available.

Again, thanks for your support in 2006 and let's all hope that we can celebrate the end of 2007 with a party in the new hall.

Hawstead Community Council

Seen on the
Village Green



Village Hall
DRAW
Is this your
lucky number ?

**All Saints Church – Hawstead.
SERVICES**

JANUARY

Sunday 14th 8.30am Said Eucharist (BCP)

Sunday 28th 11am Parish Eucharist

FEBRUARY

Sunday 11th 8.30am Said Eucharist (BCP)

Wednesday 21st 7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday 25th 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 5pm

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

Quiz

Question: What sport was I was watching when this came up on the screen? wigo – oche
(Answer: Page 12)

The Pubs of the British Isles

"When you have lost your inns, drown your empty selves, for you will have lost the last of England."
Courtesy of Hilaire Belloc

Hawstead Rag Rug Group

Some of you may have seen Val Speight demonstrating rag rugging at the Hawstead Festival this Summer. I am hoping to start an informal Rag Rugging group in Hawstead, probably meeting once a month.

We are starting off with a meeting on Friday, 9 February at 2 pm.

Just turn up and see what you could do. I'll provide hooks and hessian and rags for you to start on.

Until we get our village hall, the meetings will be at Flatts Farm off Bells Lane. If you are interested give me a ring.

Ruth Mackay 388085

Where Have We Been?

A regular feature by the Editor

We have been to Sudbury.
Sudbury, I can hear you gasp, what's at Sudbury?

Well, it's a fairly attractive little town, has peaceful walks along the river bank, a market, together with plenty of pubs and eating places.

Just a few minutes walk from the town centre almost opposite Gainsborough House is a delightful little cafe situated in Bradbury Courtyard, called The Bridge Project Courtyard Cafe. The cafe is part of a local initiative which provides vocational training, education and employment opportunities for adults who face multiple disadvantages.

It is part art gallery, part pottery also encompassing a kitchen preparation area. All food is prepared daily on site by students together with a chef who is also hands on and at the same time supervises the students. The atmosphere is friendly and inviting and the food is top notch at rock bottom prices, which incidentally includes as much coffee as you can decently consume.

We had lunch recently, which consisted of couscous, Suffolk ham together with a large chunk of home made granary bread and lettuce nests which contained a wonderful variety of salad vegetables, plus sliced hardboiled eggs (vegetarian option) walnuts, small pieces of brie and cheddar, olives (green and black), raisins and sultanas, topped off with sprouting beans and a delicious olive oil dressing drizzled over both nests. (Dr Gillian McKeith would have been most impressed!)

To finish off, even though we were very full, we had patisserie quality mince tart, a large wedge, which looked so tempting and the taste certainly lived up to its appearance. All the food is exceptionally delicious as we have been on many occasions and would heartily recommend this little cafe for the food and atmosphere.

Highly recommended.

Jan and Brian Kew
(I wonder where Katie has been?)

The unseasonable warmth continued throughout **OCTOBER**. Greater heat has been recorded in October but few have presented such mildness and fairness of weather. The mean temperature 13.8°C (56.9°F) made it the second mildest October on record and the Rainfall, 47.4 mm was 80% of normal.

The first ten days of **NOVEMBER** brought cooler, dry weather and the first air frost of the season on 4th November. At higher locations no frost was recorded during the month. It was replaced by dull, dank, grey skies which lasted until the 27th when Atlantic weather fronts introduced milder, wetter and stormier conditions which persisted through to the New Year.

The accompanying temperature and rainfall bar graphs give an overall picture of 2006 with a comparison to the mean figures of (1960-1999).

Looking at the rainfall bar graph it reveals that ten months of the year had rainfall close to or below the mean average (January, June and July especially dry). With 42% of this year's rain falling in May and September, the mean of this year's rain falling in May and September, the mean average rainfall figure was exceeded by more than 50 mm.

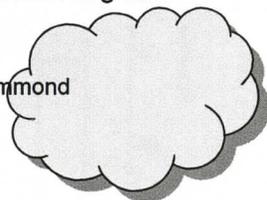
Looking at the temperature graph; the average temperature for 2006 exceeded the previous record years of 1989 and 1990.

It was the warmest year over much of Europe.

Looking at the line for 2006 average temperatures, one is struck by the similarity to a monsoonal type of climate; that is a more extreme pattern than the "normal" equable pattern for this high latitude, seaboard location

This year concurs with the predicted pattern for the effect of global warming in Britain.

Glyn Hammond



Singing, Serving and Waiting for the Hawstead Xmas meal at Lawshall village hall





HAWSTEAD Weather Report

It is a full six months since the last weather report, a period in which there have been several dramatic record - breaking occasions. First, a brief summary of the months, beginning with July.

JULY proved an extraordinary month.

A European anticyclone dominated the period resulting in a prolonged heat wave particularly, during the second half of the month, when daytime maxima reached or exceeded 30°C (86°F) on ten occasions. The average daily maximum was 28.8°C (83.8°F) a figure 6.6°C (12°F) above normal.

The month, displaced July 1983 by a margin of 1.1°C (2°F) making it the hottest month recorded at this station.

Rainfall was well below normal; a mere 10 mm making it the driest July on record.

In complete contrast **AUGUST**, was cloud bound and extraordinarily wet due to a succession of low pressure systems. There was close on three times the mean average rainfall - a total of 142 mm, a record for August. The 12th /13th and 23rd / 24th were particularly wet and cool.

There were just two days with hot sunshine on the 5th and 6th.

Daily maxima temperatures, averaged 20.8°C (69.4°F), several degrees below normal. However, overall, the average temperature for the month was close to the long-term mean.

The **SUMMER** (June through August) was overall a warm season with average daily maxima arm season with average daily maxima close to 24°C (75°F) making it the fourth warmest Summer since 1960.

SEPTEMBER is in indubitably a cooler month than August with a mean temperature more than 2°C (4°F) lower than August. Remarkably, and for the first time in these records, September 2006 was warmer than August with an average temperature of 17.7°C (63.8°F) a figure 3.4°C (6°F) above the mean and incidentally some 1°C(2°F) above the July mean figure. The previous September to approach such warmth was in 1949. Total rainfall for the month was close to normal.

