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FOR SALE
Silver plated
LeBlanc Vito flute
with case. Excellent
condition,
barely played.

Offers please to
Karen 01284 388267

Winners of the November Village Draw

1st	143	T Rushen
2nd	65	B Monk
3rd	32	Bill Crockford

Join the Draw, win prizes and contribute to the Village Hall Fund

Contact Sylvia Miller 388841

MOBILE LIBRARY

for Tuesday 4th and 18th December

Whepstead Road lay-by 1.00pm – 1.20pm

Bull Lane 1.25pm – 1.40pm

If you have comments about the service please contact Elisabeth Harrison, Service Development Librarian. Tel. 01473 265086 or e-mail Harrison@libher.suffolkcc.gov.uk

The St Edmundsbury Borough Council have announced that they no longer provide a pest control service to deal with vermin and insect problems, including wasps and bees.

Apart from national companies like Rentokill, there are many other businesses offering such pest control services and advice.

When doing so, please ensure the company is accredited by a professional body, such as the British Pest Control Association or the National Pest Technicians Association.

Next month's *Editor* is Malcolm Cornwell

Articles for inclusion to the Editor please - BEFORE 24th of December
Tel. 01284 388142 or e-mail cornwellheatltd@btopenworld.com

Editor: Malcolm Cornwell

Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village

December 2007

Parish Council

Councillors

Ros Alexander, Christabel Carr, Karen Caudwell, Malcolm Cornwell (Chairman)
Andy Evershed (Vice Chairman) and Sarah Lawson

Parish Council gives Village Hall building fund £1,000

Meeting in the Church Vestry the Councillors considered the vacancy that has arisen following the retirement of Richard Milns. It was agreed to advertise the vacancy throughout the village. People interested in becoming involved in the administration and development of the village and would like to join the Council should contact the Chairman, Malcolm Cornwell 388142 before the next Council meeting on the 17th January 08. The work required by Natural England (formerly DEFRA) to maintain Hawstead Green was discussed and it was agreed that villagers would be invited to join working parties which Mrs Christabel Carr would set up in the New Year and to which PC would contribute £25 towards the necessary refreshments. It was noted that several trees had died or needed attention, Andy Evershed as Tree Warden will seek quotations for the work to be carried out professionally.

As a result of a meeting of the Finance Committee at the beginning of the month the Clerk was able to submit the budget for the financial year starting on 1st April 08. There will no increase in the precept for the next financial year providing the grant from St Edmundsbury Borough Council remains unchanged. Budget provision has been made for a further grant to the Community Council to help defray start up costs: additionally a small sum of money has been earmarked to help towards the development of proper car parking facilities in Whepstead Road. After discussing the proposed budget the Council unanimously agreed to adopt it and it is to be sent to St Edmundsbury Borough Council for consideration.

Joan Cook

Clerk to the Council

Merry Christmas
to all
HJ readers

HAWSTEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Members of the committee enjoyed showing people around the new hall (which included many who were just driving by), especially as it was the last opportunity for as many as possible to see the inside, before most of the frames are covered up.

After which, the builders are to commence all the internal work, such as the insulation, plastering, floor screeding and plumbing etc and will be busy now for a month or so before that work is completed.

I am also delighted to tell you, that we now have our total kitchen funding pledged from Haverbury Partnership.

So in conclusion, all is going well, with the contractors all doing a very fine job and when all is completed, it will be a truly beautiful building.

In response to our village hall funding letter, many new people have now joined in the draw, which is magnificent.

8th - 15th We shall have Christmas wreaths for sale in the church from 11am in the morning until 1pm.

There will also be some village produce for sale.

19th You are invited to our triple twenties for **Lunch in the Metcalfe Arms** 12.30pm for 1pm.

Please book early for this with Sonja Monk 386876.

22nd We shall have some table decorations for sale in the church from 11am to 1pm.

30th Cinderella Pantomime at the Theatre Royal.
(Sorry, all tickets have been sold.)

We are happy to take orders for wreaths and deliver them to you and the cost this year will be £8 and £15 and Table decorations will be £6.
ring Sylvia 388841 or Sonja 386876.

The Christmas raffle will be drawn at the lunch, where this year we have a Waitrose Hamper, Champagne from the Metcalfe, and other Christmas goodies.

We wish you all a Peaceful Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and would also like to thank you all very much for your support throughout the year.

Reminder of Events for December at the Metcalfe Arms

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1st | Live music with Alex Body. |
| 4th - 20th | Christmas party nights . |
| 7th | Christmas Quiz night. |
| 21st | Christmas carols (Mulled wine & Mince pies) |
| 25th & 26th | Lunch time drinks & nibbles 12 - 2pm |

NOTICE FROM Suffolk County Council

Bird flu in Suffolk: actions to take

If you are a poultry keeper in Suffolk, you must house your poultry.

If you are directed by a veterinary inspector on welfare or other grounds to isolate your birds instead of housing them, you must make sure that you:

- ensure there is no contact with poultry or captive birds on other premises
- cover all food and water so there is no access for wild birds
- minimise contact with wild birds and use wild bird deterrents
- have stringent biosecurity controls in place
- check the welfare of your birds daily for signs of disease, and
- report any signs of disease to your vet immediately or to Animal Health at Bury St Edmunds on 01284 778150.

For information about the control zones and the latest news, please check the DEFRA website at www.defra.gov.uk or the Suffolk County Council website at www.suffolk.gov.uk.

How can you help?

To report dead wildfowl or other birds, call the DEFRA helpline on 08459 33 55 77.

If you see birds being moved, particularly at night, please take down the registration of the vehicle, details of their route and report it to the number below.

08456 032 814



Green Squirrel Project Registration

This form registers the interest of a community/charitable group to work with the Green Squirrel Project to engage households in their community to live more sustainably.

The group must be a recognised body such as a parish council, credit union or charity and/or have a written constitution. It also needs to have access to an appropriate bank account, as payment will not be made to individuals. (For example a village group could arrange for cheques to be made out to their Parish Council)

Name of Organisation.....

Address
.....
.....

Name of Contact person
.....

Their address (if different from above)...
.....
.....

Contact e-mail
Contact phone numbers (give several if applicable).....
.....
.....

Name and address of organisation to which cheques should be made out (if different from above)

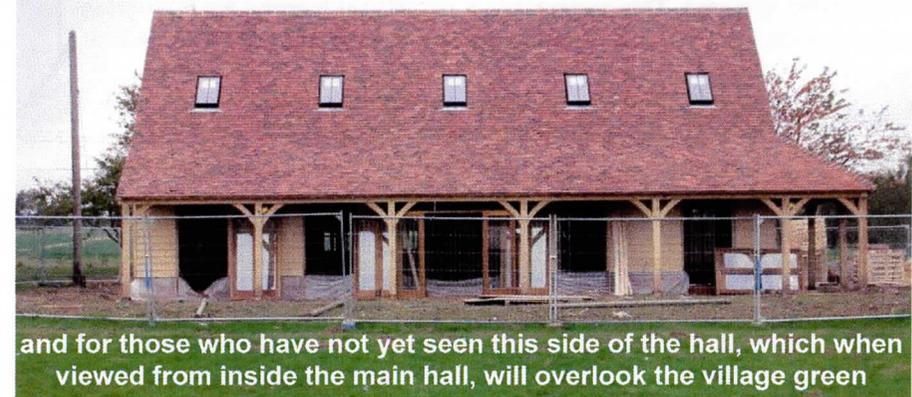
Name.....
Address.....

These details will be kept in confidence by the Green Squirrel Project and not passed on to any other party.

Please complete the form and return it to:
Green Squirrel Project
Highbank, The Street, Grundisburgh, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 6TD
Tels: 01473 735251 and 028 9023 2632
www.greensquirrel.net registration@greensquirrel.net



A magnificent view of the main hall roofing



and for those who have not yet seen this side of the hall, which when viewed from inside the main hall, will overlook the village green



Now Tony Hillman has been at home for a few weeks quietly resting and recuperating after his serious operation, we would all like to wish both him and Gillian the very best for next year and a Happy Christmas.

Frequently asked questions about the village green - Parish Council replies

Instead of pulling the ragwort each year why doesn't someone weed kill it instead?

We're finding that pulling the ragwort every three years seems to keep it more or less under control. It's quite good exercise and we got a nice community buzz going on that rag-pulling evening in July, with lots of children around! Using herbicides, by contrast, is smelly and dangerous, we would have had to keep the children away, there's always a danger of killing something unintended, and we would no longer be able to claim that the hay was organic.

Why don't we keep all the grass cut short?

The village green constitutes one of the largest remaining areas of unimproved and 'herb rich' grassland in Suffolk. Apart from a short period during World War II when it was cultivated for food, it has always been grazing land and supports a very diverse range of plants and therefore insects, including butterflies, and therefore animals and birds in the food chain. There are still a few houses in the village whose owners have grazing rights as 'commoners'.

Such is its importance for bio-diversity that the green has qualified for the highest level of support from the government under the new Stewardship scheme. This represents a significant income for the parish council, which is spent to benefit the village. Under this scheme, we are required to have the grass cut for hay, and one year in four, we have to leave the cutting until late in July. Since the hay is organic, full of beneficial herbs (and clear of ragwort), we are fortunate in still being able to find a farmer willing to cut, turn and bale it, taking it in payment for his labour - and taking the risk in the weather, which could so easily spoil.

Who is our current Greens Warden?

Andy Evershed.

Good old fashioned grumpers wanted

Do you feel that you really want to have a jolly good grump, then now is your chance ?

To respond with a grump of your own, the next editor will be delighted to hear from you. Of course, any correspondence has to be put through the Editors letter box in a plain envelope and carefully handled as not to leave any finger prints, just in case, or alternatively disguise your Em address. You can even use a pen-name - just like 'Rosie'.

If you have the passion of playing village cricket, then contact Vic King who now wishes to form the Hawstead cricket team after the PC have given consent to use the village green - subject to certain criteria.

To register, contact him at 1 Metcalfe Alms House or 388177

Fresh or Frozen Hawstead Chickens

We have chickens available between now and Christmas. They are 'half free range' as bird flu restrictions mean that they have spent a couple of weeks in the poly tunnel.

Weights between 3.5 and 5.5 pounds.

Price £2 per pound.

Call Fran or Andy on 386501.

Home insulation for the private household

Did you know that the new standards for home roof insulation is now 12 inches - 300mm?

If like me, you've only got 4 or 6 inches in your loft (which were the previously recommended standards), or if your house has cavity walls that could be filled with insulation, you might be interested in a scheme run by an organisation called Green Squirrel.

Green Squirrel is a credit union based in Ipswich and their scheme was presented at a conference for Parish Councillors organised by St Edmundsbury last month.

It puts people in touch with insulation contractors, and offers 100% grants to cover the cost of installation to anyone who is in receipt of benefits. It will also give up to 50% grants plus interest free loans to *everyone* else - no means testing.

Green Squirrel will also pay £10 to Hawstead Parish Council for everyone who applies using the form included in this month's issue of Hawstead Journal.

The contract, however, is between the individual and the contractor and all legal liabilities are covered in that way as normal and where contractors are approved by EDF Energy.

They all carry insurance against damage caused in the installation of the insulation and contractors who install cavity wall insulation will be certified by the Cavity Insulation Guarantee Agency.

As such, the customer has a 25 year guarantee for the insulation installed.

The only drawback is applications need to be received by 31st December for this round of funding.

Send them direct to Green Squirrel (NOT to the parish council), but please make sure the name Hawstead / Hawstead code number XXXXX appears in the top right hand corner of the form#

Please refer to page 10 for the application form

Ros Alexander

Cherry Streusel

Preparation: 10 mins Cooking: 45 mins Serves: 6-8

Juicy *black cherries* nestling between layers of meltingly short crumble. For the full treatment try it newly cooled with a spoon of clotted cream. And if you're going on a picnic you can transport the cake in its tin.

200g self-raising flour
110g ground almonds
110g caster sugar
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
225g unsalted butter, chilled and diced
400g pitted cherries
Icing sugar for dusting

Method

- 1 Heat the oven to 190c (170c fan oven) gas mark 5
- 2 Place the flour, ground almonds, caster sugar and cinnamon in the bowl of a food processor. Add the butter and reduce the mixture to crumbs (it's very important that the butter is cold otherwise it will cream into a dough), stopping the motor as they start to cling together like a crumble.
You can also prepare the mixture by hand.
- 3 Press half the mixture into the base of a 20cm cake tin 9cm deep with a removable base. Scatter the cherries over the shortbread base, then scatter the crumble mixture over the top of the fruit and bake for 45 minutes until the top is golden and crisp. Remove and allow the cake to cool, then run a knife around the collar to remove it, dust with icing sugar and serve.

Tip ...line the base of the cake tin with greaseproof paper!

Q. What do you do with all the sloes when you strain off your sloe gin?

A. Re-use them in a bottle of sherry!
No need to add sugar etc., just leave them for 3 months before straining off the sherry.
Great if you like sherry but not if you don't!!

My recipe above which is nice for winter time, is a bit like a "Crumble cake" but different. You can put cherries (as the recipe) or I've tried mincemeat and apricots soaked in brandy for Christmas time.

another MOAN people who do not slow down for wildlife on the lanes.
Casualties this month: Pheasants 2 People 0

Christmas ! have a good one and a happy New Year too
Regards Rosie



A lyrical moan from old what's is name

Now, when did you last see a post box where you had to stoop down to post a letter whilst standing in a busy A road - especially after having to buy the stamp in the first place ? What's more, what about the postman himself - oh alright then, the postlady as well (just to be politically correct) - ugh ! Of course, if you wish to experience that feeling, as well as having to straighten up your back after, then please do so. All you have to do is to put some low cost petrol plus the high cost tax to go with it, into your car or moped, if such things are still about and follow the signs to Morston, North Norfolk (A149). After which, you could then relax in the front garden of the Anchor Inn opposite and watch others trying to do the same - sending a postcard home to the kids saying "I'm bored". All this, whilst you are drinking a nice refreshing pint, which is dearer per gallon than petrol.
Cheers, mines a pint of the weeks special brew next time we meet at the Metcalfe Arms

All Saints Church, Hawstead for December

Wednesdays 5-5.30pm Benefice Prayers(excluding Boxing Day)
Sunday 9th 8.30am Said Eucharist
Sunday 16th 6.30pm Carols & Readings,
(followed by mince pies and mulled wine)
Sunday 24th 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist



What to moan about this month

Mud, mud not so glorious mud!

Anyone who has driven out of Pinford End on the Horsecroft Road in November will know what I am talking about.

What a complete and utter mess the road has been from round about the bridge up to and past Hardwick House. Our cars looked as though we had been driving off road and I am sure that other people's cars were the same. In one week we collected two buckets of mud which had fallen off our cars onto our driveway. Surely the road should have been cleaned while the carting was going on?

My understanding is that it is an offence to leave mud on the road and that it is the farmer's responsibility to clean the road. There were no visible signs of this having been carried out. Do you think the local farmer will hand out tokens for the car wash? Mm! now there's a thought.

a friendly challenge from the Editor: Perhaps the unnamed possible offending friendly farmer, would like to respond !

Sorry to harp back to the speed of traffic again but with the mud on the road driving was more hazardous (like driving on ice) and yet, in my opinion, cars were still driving far too fast for the conditions. In fact, during this period I personally had two near misses on the road with people skidding towards me at a fast rate of knots! On one of the occasions I had stopped as I saw a car coming round the corner. The lady coming around the bend was going so fast, she couldn't control her car and hit my wing mirror. Thank goodness that was all - Oh, and still she did not stop!! Why is it that it seems as though no-one ever expects to see traffic coming in the other direction and that they own the road? Had she have been driving defensively then she may not have skidded and not hit my car.

The other thing for me to moan about is the grass verges - again!

With all the carting the verges along this stretch of road they are now worse than ever. Are we fighting a losing battle. What do you think?

Regards

Rosie Greengrass

Dear Editor

I took the opportunity to sit in a corner of my attic a few weeks ago to look for something that I knew was there but could not find. However, I came across copies of the journal since its inception - strange how things have gradually changed. The new hall for instance, change of pub ownership another and a new owner of Cullum House, Clive Robinson. I read his article with interest and wondered how he was getting on, especially after slipping a disc having only just moved in?.

Somewhere to go and walk that Xmas feeling off

Our nature reserves are places to connect with nature, to spend time with your family and to lose track of time. With over 5,600 acres of land managed for wildlife and open for people to enjoy, our nature reserves are tranquil havens where you can enjoy Suffolk's natural treasures.



Captain's Wood 🚫

OS LANDRANGER 156 TM 417531
Captain's Wood is a most extraordinary wood quite different to any other wood owned by SWT. It has an open airy feel with space between the trees where fallow deer roam through one of the greatest expanses of bluebells in the county. In autumn see the spectacle of the fallow deer rut and great diversity of fungi. Barn owl will often be seen hunting in the woodpasture which is naturally maintained by deer and hare grazing.

Martin's Meadows 🚫

OS LANDRANGER 156 TM 228572
These three small ancient meadows, enclosed by ancient coppiced hedgerows, are brimming with wildflowers including orchids, cowslips and snake's head fritillary. Look out for the autumn blooming rare meadow saffron also known as the autumn crocus.

Newbourne Springs 🚫

OS LANDRANGER 169 TM 273435
A pleasure to visit at anytime of the year and a designated SSSI because of the variety of habitats and wildlife. This small wooded valley with a spring-fed stream is good for flowering plants and a variety of birds including nuthatch, treecreeper, goldcrest and all three species of woodpecker.

Spouse's Vale 🚫

OS LANDRANGER 155 TL 936363
One of the few places in Suffolk where the rare dormouse resides. Spouse's Vale is a fascinating mosaic of ancient woodland and fen meadow. Roe deer and fox are often seen. Look out for winter flocks of siskin.

Wortham Ling 🚫

OS LANDRANGER 144 TM 088797
Visit this great expanse of heathland in September to see the last of the heather in bloom. Woodland, scrub, short acid grassland, heathland, ponds and chalky areas combine to provide a delightful selection of wildlife. It is abundant with a variety of interesting plants, fungi, mosses and lichen.

🚫 Dogs on leads 🚫 Sorry no dogs