

ISSUE

03

17 April
2020

The Village Voice



Photo courtesy of Judy Carter

Welcome to our village newsletter

Thank you to everyone who sent in photos of the flyby over the Easter weekend. The image above highlights the uninterrupted blue skies we enjoyed and was taken by Judy Carter.

We have another packed issue, with a second great crossword to keep you busy and a fantastic 'guess where' game that will test your observation skills. We've introduced a pets corner, so please step up and send some photos of your furry, scaly or feathered friends. Plus, if you're a fan of rhubarb or puddings in general, there's a delicious recipe for rhubarb and cinnamon flan courtesy of Andy Parrett.

If you did have a go at last issue's crossword and quiz, you can find the answers towards the back of this edition.

Please keep your contributions coming. It's been brilliant so far, so let's keep it going. We have no set deadlines or content requests, so if you fancy sharing some good news (which would be most welcome), upcoming birthdays, short stories or film reviews, please do send them to me at: anneng100@googlemail.com

Good Friday flyby

The C3 Church in Cambridge organised a flyby across Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds on Good Friday. For anyone who didn't catch the image in the sky, take a look at these fantastic photos taken by villagers lucky enough to catch the flyby in action.



Photo courtesy of Sandy Dawson



Photo courtesy of Sheilagh & Roger



Photo courtesy of Susanne White



Photo courtesy of Toby East

How does your garden grow?

If you think your lawn is just a flat bit of grass, think again! Here, Andy Evershed shows us the secret ecosystem nestling within, and how we can enjoy the micro meadows right on our doorsteps.

Most of us have a lawn in our garden. It serves a whole host of purposes over time... al fresco dining room, kids' play area, grown-ups' play area, foreground for estate agent pictures, sunbathing space, somewhere for the dog to dig a big hole, we even had sheep on ours for a few days once.

It's usual in Britain to regard the lawn as a flat piece of ground covered by grass. Hundreds of millions of person hours are spent each year mowing, raking, levelling, feeding, weeding, edging, seeding, and so on. The result of all this labour is a beautiful piece of turf, made up purely of flat green hardwearing grass – or is it? Look closely, it's probably not quite what you think. Most likely there will be at least six different species of grass in your lawn, and some of the 'grass' might actually be not grass at all! There are a couple of small sedge and rush species that can survive in lawns, several types of other flowering plants have leaves that look a lot like grass, and there are also a couple of 'turf weeds' that happily grow below the level of the mower blades and appear like tiny grass blades, for example Pearlwort and Ladies Bedstraw. Add to these



interlopers the other 'weeds' that appear – daisy, dandelion, etc. – and before you know it the lawn is actually quite a complex assemblage of plants.

So, a few years ago we tried an experiment. Our lawn at the front of the house had growing in it a few cowslips and some rosette-type weeds of unknown species... unknown because we had always mown the flowers off! We decided to let the plants grow. We mowed a strip of a couple of mower widths around the edge and a diagonal path across the middle for access and left the rest.

We did not cut the grass until about the end of September. Not only did we find out that the 'weeds' that had survived below the mower blades were a surprisingly wide selection of wildflowers, but also that the grasses themselves, once they grow to flowering stage, are very attractive.

How does your garden grow? *cont...*



In a few spots the grass was very lush and started to fall over and swamp the other plants. So, the next year we introduced some Yellow Rattle seed to the most vigorous areas. Rattle is an annual plant that is partially parasitic, drawing some of its nutrition from the roots of grass, so where it grows the grass is less vigorous. We also introduced a couple of other wildflower species, and added more cowslips from around the garden.

By the end of the second summer, it was noticeable that a thriving population of grasshoppers and Small Copper and Large Skipper butterflies had moved in. Common Blue, Meadow Brown and other butterflies were visiting too. Several species of butterfly have caterpillars that feed on grasses, and the adults of course feed on the nectar of the wildflowers. Goldfinches were also feeding on the dandelion seeds, and other birds were poking about looking for insects. Voles also visited in the summer when the grass was at its

highest. Instead of mowing the grass, we found we were spending a lot of time just watching what was happening!

At a guess, there are now more than 20 species of wildflower growing among the half dozen or so grasses in our lawn.

I suspect that it wouldn't be tidy enough for an estate agent's photograph, but it's certainly a lot more interesting!

Contributor: Andy Evershed

Classic sport online

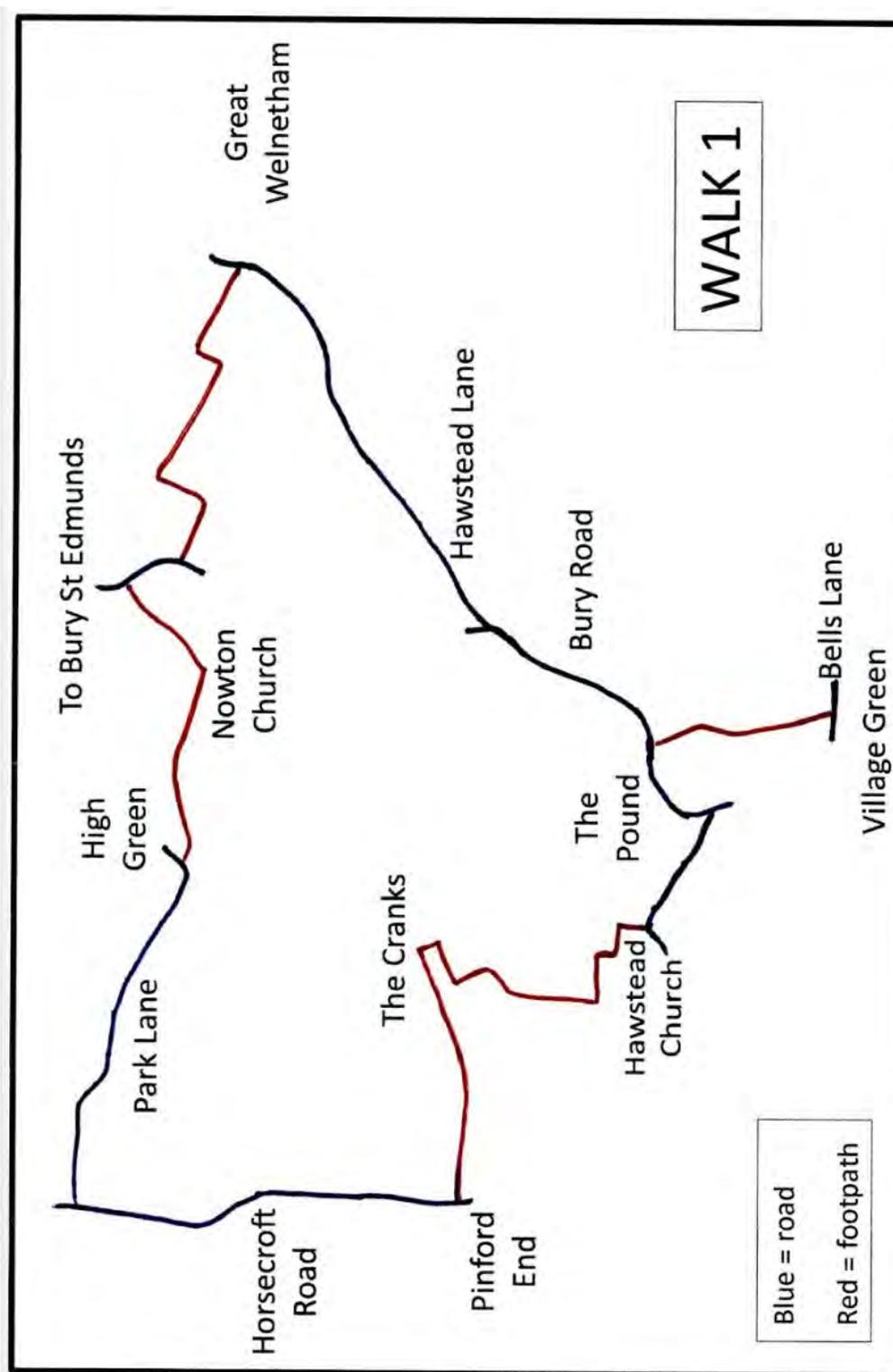
And what better way to enjoy the wildlife in your micro meadow than by listening to some classic sport at the same time. If you're missing your regular fixtures, the BBC has a selection of past 'live' commentaries for you to enjoy.

Visit: www.bbc.co.uk/sport/live-guide

The BBC Sport logo is displayed on a yellow background. It consists of the letters 'BBC' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with each letter enclosed in a black square. Below this, the word 'SPORT' is written in a larger, bold, black, sans-serif font.

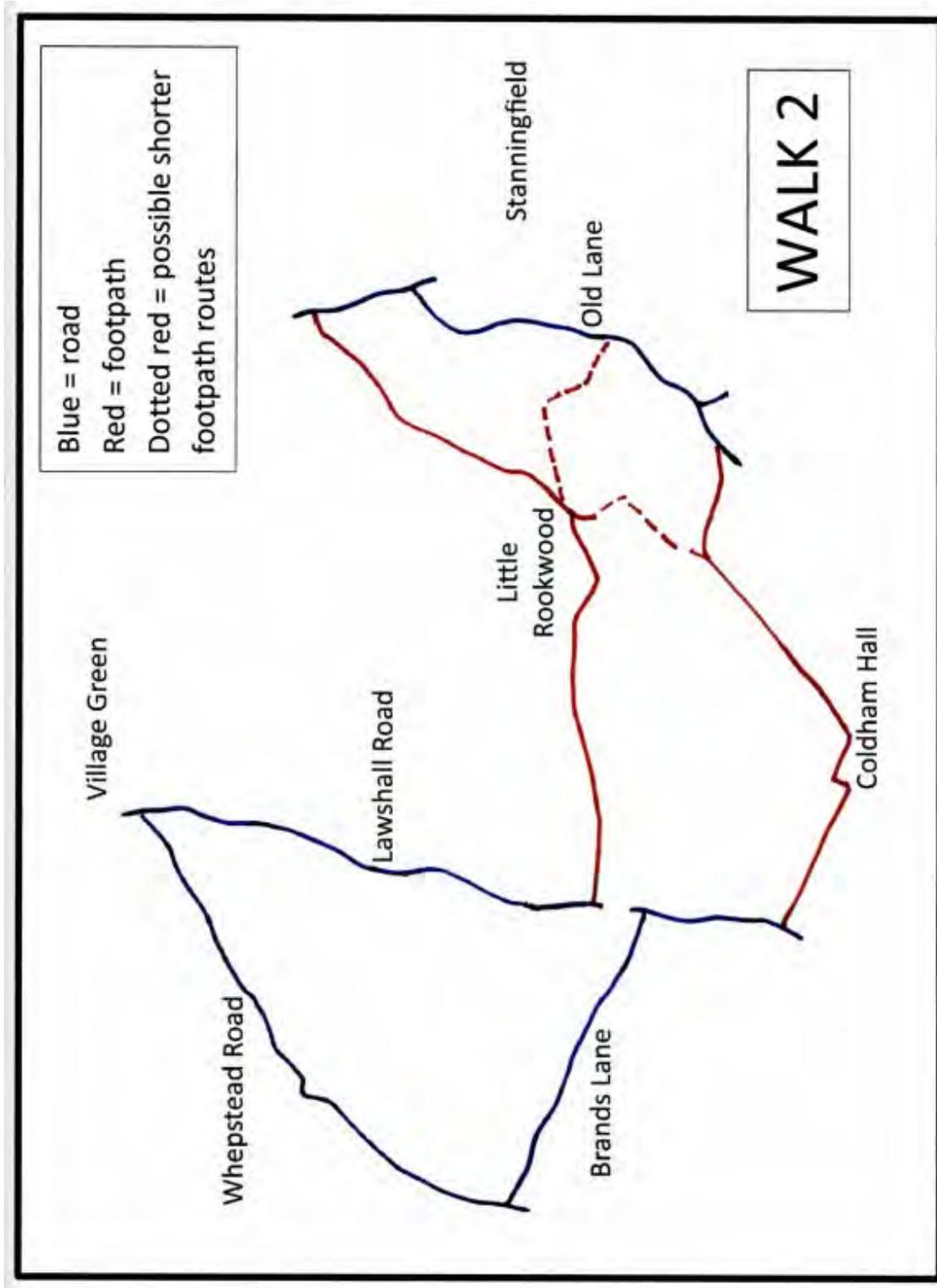
Walks around Hawstead

Huge thanks goes to Andy Parrett for painstakingly finding and drawing out some walks around Hawstead. Here we feature two local routes which are a combination of roads and footpaths. Two more will follow in the next issue.



Courtesy of Andy Parrett

Walks around Hawstead *cont...*



Courtesy of Andy Parrett

Just for kids

More brilliant ideas from Rosie Donald to keep the kids entertained (which thankfully is a lot easier with the fine weather).

Vegetable rocks

Take a look at these fantastic rocks, neatly labelled for Rosie's veggie patch (thanks for the great idea Rosie, we've done some rock painting too!).

Stick dinosaurs

Get creative and collect twigs to make a roarsome dinosaur.



Outdoor fun

For anyone with extra energy to burn, how about having a go at some of these activities?

Design and make an obstacle course at home or in the garden.



Make up a dance routine to a favourite song.

Start a nature diary. Look out of the window and draw, note down what you see. Birds, flowers, changes in weather... what else?

Create a marble run using some household objects. How can you make it go faster? Slower?

Contributor: Rosie Donald

Pets corner

If you've got pets, they're probably wondering why on Earth you're always at home (and secretly delighted about it). We have a black Labrador who you may see running alongside me now and again. He's very friendly and passive and a constant reminder that the best things are often the simplest – a nice walk and a good snooze.

So I thought it'd be a good idea to share the likes, dislikes and unique behaviour of our pets, so please email me details about yours, along with any photos you'd like to share – especially if your pet is not your standard, furry four-legged friend.

To kick things off, here's Otis, who's nine years old and doing pretty well for himself, even if he has gone very grey. Otis loves food (as you can imagine, he's a Labrador after all) and has a particular fondness for apples, carrots and baked beans (just don't sit too close to him afterwards!). In his quest for delicious titbits, he once found a gap in the fence between our garden and Pinford End Nursing Home and swiftly found the table of bread left for the birds. I don't think he's ever quite forgiven us for patching it up... he still sniffs around rather mournfully at the now well-boarded up fence!



Nothing as tiring as lounging in the sun – Otis catching some rays over the Easter weekend.



One of the joys of working from home is having colleagues that you enjoy spending time with.

Pets and Covid-19

There has been some discussion in the news about pets and Covid-19. For anyone who is concerned, please put your mind at rest. Advice from the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA; a charity in the UK) and the British Veterinary Association (BVA) has reiterated that **pet owners should not be concerned about infection from pets**. Although there have been cases of animals carrying the virus, there is **no evidence to suggest pets can transmit Covid-19 to humans**. However, Covid-19 can be carried on animal fur if touched by someone infected (just as it can on any other surface). Therefore, **the advice is for all pet owners to maintain 'good hygiene practices'** whilst caring for pets. The BVA has also advised that it is sensible (not essential) that cats be kept indoors if possible.

The chicken(s) and the egg(s)

In the first issue of The Village Voice, Fran and Andy Evershed mentioned that their chickens were unaffected by human woes and continued to lay some very nice eggs... and here they are!

As you can see, our chickens are a mixed bunch, and they lay eggs of various colours which can look very attractive nestled in their little grey egg box.

If any Hawsteaders would like some eggs, we and the hens can usually supply at £1.10 per half dozen.

We are socially isolating a couple of boxes outside our door in a big metal pan for people to help themselves. Alternatively, if you ring us, we can make sure they are available or deliver on our daily exercise walk. We are on the corner of the village green opposite the end of Bells Lane (1 Fyletts Manor Cottages), the house with the crissy crossy fence!

Fran and Andy Evershed 01284 386501



*Contributed by and photos courtesy of:
Fran and Andy Evershed*

Keeping Hawstead tidy



Andy and Frances Evershed have acted on the request to litter pick whilst out and about. Their recent haul from Bells Lane shows just how much litter there really is! Huge thanks to both Andy and Fran for more than doing their bit to keep the village spic and span.

Book recommendations

Scapegallows by Carol Birch – based on a true story of a Suffolk woman transported to Australia with other convicts. A slow starter but worth reading, especially if you're interested in regional history.

Half of a Yellow Sun by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – following the lives of individuals caught up in the Biafran War (which was along what is now the east of Nigeria). This is a fantastic book, beautifully and sensitively written.

Tombland by CJ Sansom – the latest in the Shardlake series and not for the faint hearted as it's massive. Good for Shardlake fans but not as slick as previous books, so anyone looking for a casual read may be put off. As usual, set against the backdrop of historical political intrigue but also with a focus on the Norfolk rebellions in the 1500s.

Daughters of the Dragon by William Andrews – historical fiction based on the stories of the Korean comfort women during the second world war. Harrowing but an important part of history that isn't often talked about.

Huge thank you from Richard and Penny Barham

As you may have heard, we unfortunately had a roof fire at Hawstead Hall on the morning of April 9th. We would like to thank our fabulous village community and our brilliant community council for all the kinds thoughts and offers of help we received despite these difficult times. Using all the social distancing measures that we could, we have had help in many ways, and THANK YOU to all those involved. We are now safely relocated to Church Farm.

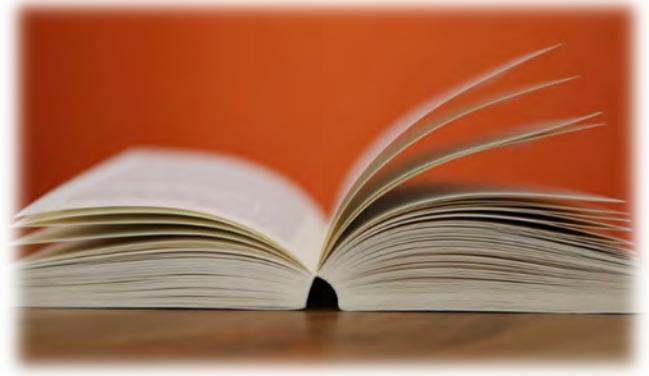
At times like this, we know how lucky we are to live in Hawstead and to be a part of this wonderful village.

Many, many thanks and please stay safe.

Richard & Penny Barham

Poetry exchange

I received an email a couple of weeks ago asking to copy a poem or part of a poem that was memorable or that carried some significant meaning personally. Honestly, I was never a huge fan of poetry, especially when forced to read it at school. I was even less impressed when I discovered the *Norton Anthology* was on my university reading list containing over 1800 pages of poems!



Nevertheless, the poetry exchange has given me food for thought, and I've come to review my original views (sort of). Anyway, here is the last stanza in a poem that has stuck in my mind since coming across it during A-Levels (a very long time ago). It's taken from **W.H. Auden's September 1, 1939**. While we aren't facing military invasion, to me, the words still hold meaning. More than 80 years on, it takes on a new aspect as we navigate our way through the murky waters of fake news and one-sided narratives.

It would be great if anyone else has any poem(s) they'd like to share that has particular meaning for them – email me at: anneng100@googlemail.com.

The rest of this poem can be found at: <https://poets.org/poem/september-1-1939>



*Defenceless under the night
Our world in stupor lies;
Yet, dotted everywhere,
Ironic points of light
Flash out wherever the Just
Exchange their messages:
May I, composed like them
Of Eros and of dust,
Beleaguered by the same
Negation and despair,
Show an affirming flame.*

Recipe: Rhubarb and cinnamon flan

Thank you to Andy Parrett for sharing this recipe as rhubarb is starting to come through and is best eaten young!

Ingredients

23cm flan dish, lined with short crust pastry

10-12oz (300-350g) rhubarb, washed and trimmed

1-2oz (25-55g) caster sugar

1oz (25g) plain flour

1/2 tsp cinnamon

125ml carton of double cream

Method

Chop the rhubarb and place in the pastry flan case. Mix together the sugar, flour, cinnamon and cream. Spoon this mixture over the rhubarb.



2, 3 and 4 Oven Aga

Place the flan tin on the floor of the Roasting Oven and cook for 20-25 minutes, until golden and cooked. Serve warm with a good vanilla ice cream or clotted cream.

Conventional cooking:

Cook the pastry case blind for 10-15 minutes at 200°C (400°F), fan oven 180°C, Gas Mark 6, then add the filling to the flan and lower the oven heat to 180°C (350°F), fan oven 160°C, Gas Mark 4 and cook for a further 20 minutes or until golden and cooked.

Contributor: Andy Parrett

How well do you know Hawstead?

If you think you've got a good visual memory, why not put it to the test with this fiendishly *trickier-than-it-looks* picture game by Orson Carte. Here are 10 pictures – all taken around Hawstead. Do you know where they are?

Needless to say, there's no need to don your Columbo macs and dig out the magnifying glass. But if you're out for daily exercise, keep your eyes peeled!

Contributor: John West



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H



I



J

Answers in the next issue.

Crossword corner

Well done to anyone who had a go at the crossword in the previous issue – the answers are on the next page. In the meantime, why not try your hand at crossword number two set by Adrian Keane. If you have any feedback, please let me know and I can ensure it's passed on.

As with Crossword No 1, my aim has been to devise a puzzle with wide appeal. Some of the clues, as before, have answers that relate to Hawstead. These are flagged up.

To continue to encourage those of you new to cryptic clues, here are some more tips.

1. Crossword compilers sometimes indicate that you can discover the answer by removing the first (or middle or last) letter of a word in the clue.

Example

- Clue: Headless President for backside (4)
- Answer: Rump (Trump if you remove his head, i.e. T)

2. Compilers frequently use words or phrases with known abbreviations, e.g. Church of England (CE), page or piano, which musically means softly or quietly (P), Royal Engineers (RE), etc., the abbreviations forming part of the answer.

Example

- Quiet organ of hearing? Type of fruit (4)
- Answer: Pear (p, i.e. quiet, added to ear)

3. Abbreviations can also lead to the answer by being removed.

Example

- Soldiers taken from their sleep assume a certain bodily attitude (4)
- Answer: Pose (re, i.e. Royal Engineers, removed from repose)

Look out for these devices, together with anagrams and internal anagrams, in this second puzzle.

Solution in the next edition.

Contributor: Adrian Keane



THANKS TO 'THE COMPILER'

Thank you Adrian... we LOVE cryptic crosswords and this adds something special to our week. Lots more please 😊

Chris and Susanne



Crossword no.2 by Adrian Keane

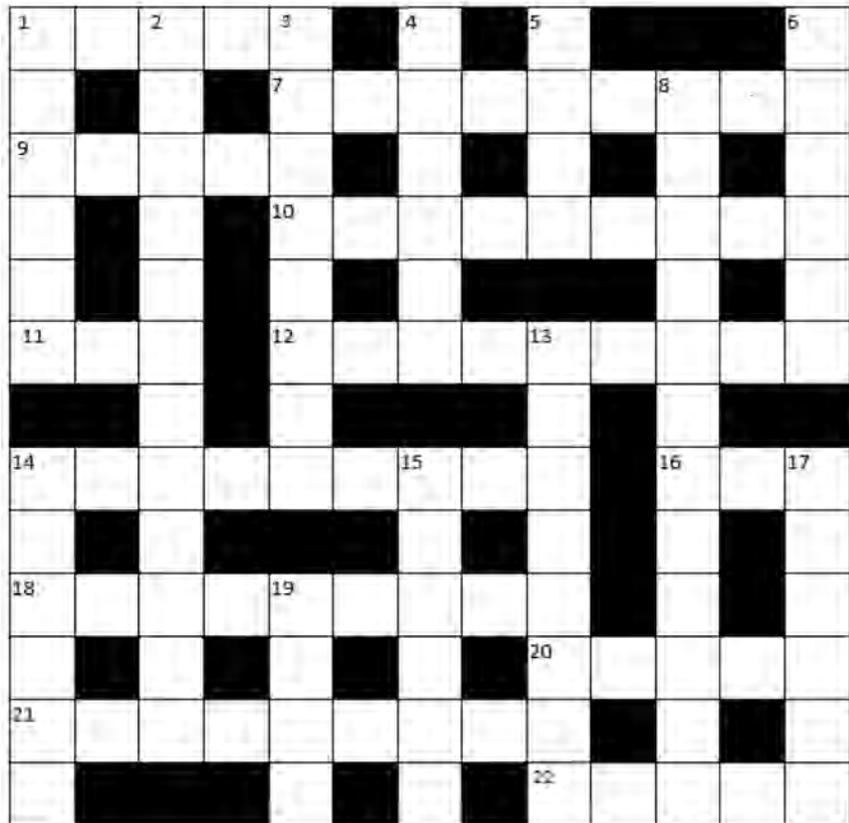
Across

- 1 The Green where the Hawstead Post Office once stood (5)
 7 Statement of self-identification by one who posed for a scandalous photo with Lennon (2,4,3)
 9 Above the Hawstead tomb of the great-great-great granddaughter of 6 Down is a Latin elegy by this very famous poet (5)
 10 See me fret, confused – the cry of the innocent prisoner (3,2,4)
 11 Remove the front of this shop selling meat, cheeses etc for the teacher of the prophet Samuel (3)

- 12 Ali racist? Altered, but the same! (9)
 14 Panic lever establishes who is the smartest (9)
 16 Consume (3)
 18 Writing a defamatory statement (9)
 20 Occupied (2,3)
 21 To strim or to pilot a helicopter is to do this (3,1,5)
 22 Drop the top from secret to get the opposite – it's not hidden (5)

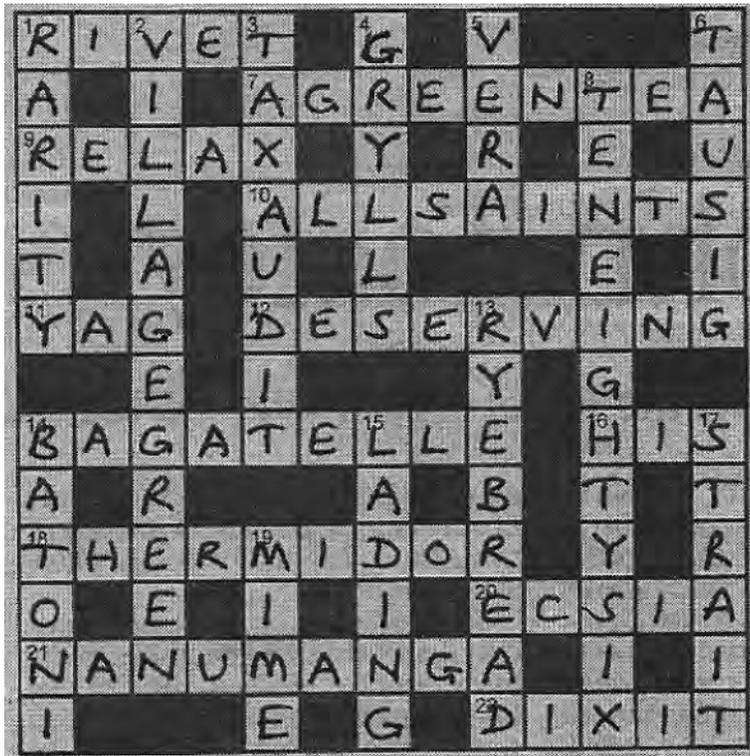
Down

- 1 Small pool or type of duck (6)
 2 Not easily seen (12)
 3 Latin 'day of wrath' as used in the Requiem Mass (4,4)
 4 _____ fibrosis (6)
 5 What supports video calls, without a penny, is this Hebridean isle (4)
 6 First name of the Hawstead knight and speaker of the House of Commons who attended at the Field of the Cloth of Gold (6)
 8 Shortened version of how Crosby, Stills & Nash described their residence (3,4,5)
 13 Abbreviated automobile with a means of payment - something that first flew in 1923, created by Juan de la Cierva (8)
 14 The name of the baronet, born in Hawstead, who was a scholar, antiquary and student of natural science (6)
 15 Expels from a property (6)
 17 Special aptitude or old unit of currency (6)
 19 Small bird, joke, and Hawstead flower (4)



Answers from last week...

Crossword no. 1 answers



Answers to Mike Sibley's quiz

- 1) Ernest Hemmingway
- 2) None
- 3) Neil Armstrong
- 4) Officially 67 million
- 5) 1760 yards
- 6) Topsoil
- 7) Six. Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, and Catherine Parr
- 8) A bistro
- 9) Ottawa (Canada) and Canberra (Australia)
- 10) New Amsterdam
- 11) South Africa. Other finalist was England.
- 12) Saturn, Mars, Jupiter, Venus, Pluto, Uranus, Neptune, Mercury, Earth

Musical Theatre Online

The 2012 production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's **Jesus Christ Superstar** was available for free viewing through YouTube last weekend... and what a treat it was. The production was a modern take on the traditional musical, and we immediately thought 'Oh no!'... but Tim Minchin and Ben Forster were just out of this world.

Next up, **The Phantom of the Opera** available for **24 HOURS ONLY** from 7pm Friday 17 April. If you are a musical theatre fan, don't miss it!

<https://www.andrewlloydwebber.com/the-shows-must-go-on/>



National Theatre At Home

Last week National Theatre Live presented the comedy **One Man, Two Guvnors** starring James Corden. It took a while to get going, but was fantastic once James Corden appeared. This week until Thursday is **Jane Eyre**, followed by **Treasure Island** starting on Thursday 16 April. Productions are free to view for a limited period. Go to <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/nt-at-home> for more information.

FREE Audio Books from BBC Sounds

BBC Sounds is a fantastic online resource containing Podcasts, music mixes and audio books. Currently available are **The Mill on the Floss** (George Eliot), **The Mirror and the Light** (Hilary Mantel), **American Dirt** (Jeanine Cummins), **Life on Earth** (David Attenborough), **The Thirty-Nine Steps** (John Buchan) and many more.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds>



Church Services

All face-to-face services have now been suspended, but you can still take part in virtual services. To find out more, go to the **St Edmund Way** Facebook page which can be found at: www.facebook.com/stedmundway If you would like to speak with Rev Jeremy Parsons, you can contact him at: Tel: 01284 846166 Email: rector@stedmundway.uk

St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Live streaming daily. Go to stedscathedral.org/worship for direct links.

St Edmunds Catholic Church

Watch Mass online at www.stedmundkm.org.uk/events/live-streaming-

The Friendly Loaf

Our **Hawstead delivery service** is a **PRIORITY** for the **Friendly Loaf**. BUT you **MUST STATE CLEARLY THAT YOUR ORDER IS FOR THE HAWSTEAD VILLAGE HALL DELIVERY** otherwise your phone order will be refused.

Any automatic messages saying they are taking no further orders do not apply to the Hawstead delivery. Please phone through your order as normal, and keep phoning back if necessary to make a payment. Rest assured you are a priority for the Friendly Loaf. That said, you do need to pay before your order is delivered. If you have any issue after repeatedly trying, email Susanne at bookings@hawsteadvillagehall.co.uk

Hawstead Village Hall

Please note that the **VILLAGE HALL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED, except for our twice weekly food deliveries.**

Please contact bookings@hawsteadvillagehall.co.uk if you have any enquiries or requests. Please **DO NOT USE THE VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK AS OVERFLOW PERSONAL PARKING AT ANY TIME... it will be being resurfaced in the next week or so and therefore must be clear.**

Hawstead play area is **CLOSED** until further notice.

Please ensure all village children understand the reasons and play elsewhere.

We will be **varnishing the outside window frames** at the hall over the next few weeks. If you are available to help, please contact susanne@pamplin.me.uk. All that is required is a steady hand!

Green waste collection

West Suffolk Council has now suspended garden waste collections (brown bin) in order to maintain other essential services. The subscription year will be extended to compensate for this. If you need any further information, visit: www.westsuffolk.gov.uk

PS Don't forget to wash your hands after moving your bins.

Mowing thank you

Our thanks to Chris and Benjamin Pamplin for mowing the grass outside the hall and mowing the path around the village green while the local authority is busy.

Community Services

Medication

- **Angel Hill Surgery** – A villager is happy to bring your medication to the village hall or your local Hawstead community volunteer. If you'd like this service, please contact Susanne White:
susanne@pamplin.me.uk
- **Victoria Surgery** – If you're elderly or self-isolating and need your medication delivered, please contact the surgery's dispensary team between 2pm and 6pm on 01284 725550.
- **Village volunteers can also collect your medication from any surgery in Bury St Edmunds.** Please contact them direct.

Gardening

- **WOOLPIT NURSERIES** – CURRENTLY CLOSED – SELF ISOLATING 😞
- **CHEDBURGH PLANT CENTRE**
Free delivery on orders over £30 within a 20-mile radius. Areas covered Monday – Bury St Edmunds and surrounding villages. See Facebook for product price list and information on placing an order. Payment by BACS or cash on delivery (cash must be in an envelope and no change is given).
- **ROUGHAM HALL NURSERIES** – www.rhn.me.uk
Collection only – order ahead and collect in a time slot. Plant sales and compost sales areas closed for browsing. Order and request a collection slot by email at rhnsales@outlook.com.

Post Office and newspapers

Sicklesmere Stores is currently open daily 9am– 12pm. Newspapers delivered daily (at 5.15am weekdays and Saturday, a bit later on Sundays!). **01284 386303**



Emergency local trades

- Justin Mayes – plumber (emergencies only), tel: 07825 325584.
- The Clean Plumber – plumber (emergencies only), tel: 07284 765453 www.thecleanplumber.co.uk
- Kevin Seggie – electrician (emergencies only) tel: 01284 830786, 07768 108157.

