
HAWSTEAD JOURNAL

Editors: Judy & Dave Carter

BRINGING BARN OWLS BACK TO HAWSTEAD



No doubt many of you will have watched with interest the stunningly beautiful Barn Owl that hunts above our Village Green at dawn and dusk. It is a mesmerising sight that makes you stop and stare in wonder.

Unfortunately due to the changing nature of our countryside the natural habitat for the Barn Owl has greatly diminished, and numbers of Barn Owls in Britain have dropped by 70% since the 1930's.

Hawstead Village Green provides an excellent habitat for Barn Owls to hunt, as they particularly like open grassland where they can catch small mammals hidden in deep vegetation (they hunt from the air, and hear their prey on the ground!)

Hawstead Parish Council is very keen to support and protect our Barn Owl population, and encourage them to make their home here. We have been fortunate to become part of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) Barn Owl Box scheme. SWT are giving Hawstead PC three Barn Owl Boxes, and will arrange for them to be installed at suitable sites. Two of these boxes will be around the Village Green and one on the Millenium Field next to the churchyard.

These boxes will give the Barn Owl a perfect home to roost and nest undisturbed. The boxes will be installed over the next few weeks prior to the breeding season in the Spring.

SWT will also monitor our Barn Owl boxes twice a year, and will report back to Hawstead PC on the occupants – we will of course use the Journal to keep everyone in the village informed.

Thanks to the Suffolk Wildlife Trust Scheme, 2012 showed the highest number of Barn Owls recorded in Suffolk for generations, and we are delighted to be involved in helping these beautiful birds to secure a safe and suitable home in our village.

If you would like more information about the Suffolk Wildlife Trust Barn Owl Box scheme please contact www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org, or *Christabel Carr* – Hawstead Parish Council.

CHURCH SERVICES

MARCH

Sunday 10th
10.30 Joint Mothering Sunday Family Service with Nowton at Hawstead Church

Sunday 24th
10.30 Palm Sunday Benefice Service at Lawshall Church
Starting with Procession with donkey leaving Lawshall Village Hall at 10am
arriving at Lawshall Church for Service

Sunday 31st
10.30 Joint Family Eucharist and Easter Egg Hunt with Nowton at Hawstead Church

APRIL

Sunday 14th
08.30 Said Eucharist in Hawstead Church

Sunday 28th
11.00 Parish Eucharist in Hawstead Church

ON THE ROADS

Suffolk County Council carried out much needed repair works on Bull Hill during the third week of February. This involved digging out ditches, clearing drains and laying some new drainage in order to prevent the drain-off water from the fields running across the road, causing a build up of ice in freezing conditions. The state of this section of road has gradually deteriorated over the last couple of years and the works completed appear to have greatly assisted the situation.

Some of the chevron signage recently installed at Larkfield Corner will shortly be re-positioned by SCC who have acknowledged that it hasn't all been placed in the best position.

Following concerns by villagers, SCC have inspected the condition of the bridge at Pinford End and found it to be safe. They did, however, arrange for the bridge to be re-surfaced and this was carried out recently.

On February 28th the double yellow lines which have caused so much concern along Nowton Road by the Park were removed. However, this does not mean that you can now lawfully park along this stretch of road. As I understand it, SCC are making this section of road a Clearway which means that stopping is prohibited throughout that stretch. This will be indicated only by a "Clearway" sign at the start of the restriction and an "End of Clearway" sign at the end. I also understand that a new speed limit of 40 m.p.h. instead of 60 m.p.h. is to be introduced along that section of road.

Michael Harrison
(Hawstead Parish Council)

MARCH

March was the first month in the Roman calendar and was named after *Mars* the God of war. It was not until the Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752 that January became the first month of the year.

The spring equinox, when the sun shines directly on the equator and the length of day and night is almost equal, falls in March – this year on March 20th. This traditionally marks the start of spring. Night and day are in perfect balance, with the powers of light in the ascendancy. In mythology, it is the time when the god of light wins a victory over his twin, the god of darkness. It is the time for 'spring cleaning' a time to sow seeds, to plan new projects and to take action.

It is celebrated in many cultures as a time of rebirth. Traditionally, its colours are yellow and purple and, as at Easter in this country still, eggs representing new beginnings and rabbits representing fertility were used as part of festivities.

March - Anon

The March wind roars
Like a lion in the sky,
And makes us shiver
As he passes by.
When winds are soft,
And the days are warm and clear,
Just like a gentle lamb,
Then spring is here.

From **A Shropshire Lad** by *A.E. Houseman*

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now
Is hung with bloom along the bough.

And from *Charles Dickens*

All Nature seems at work. Slugs leave their lair,
The bees are stirring, birds are on the wing,
And Winter slumbering in the open air,
Wears on his smiling face a dream of spring.

Rosie Greengrass

THE BRAIN OF HAWSTEAD

1) *What is it?*

The inventor doesn't need it
The buyer doesn't use it
The user doesn't know it

2) We have been communicating with another planet on which there is intelligent life. Our scientists wanted to see how bright they were. They asked the question, how much is 7 plus 6? They replied 14. What did we learn about their bodies?

3) There are only 10 types of people in the world, those who understand binary and those who don't. Explain!

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH

Doc Lacey

CHRISTMAS TREE REMOVAL



Yes it must be Spring! The Christmas tree removing ceremony. Protagonists eating a hearty cooked breakfast, supplied by Geraldine, are John, Bruce, Pat and Dave.

HAWSTEAD IN WINTER



MICHAEL THOMAS BULMER

My next-door neighbour and friend for over 20 years passed away early on Sunday 10th February at Pinford End Nursing Home.



New Year's Eve Dec 1999 in the Metcalfe Arms. Mike is on the left

Mike Bulmer was the younger of two sons of a GP in the Wirral, Lancashire (though his paternal grandfather was a Yorkshireman). After a boarding-school education (Wrekin College, Shropshire) he spent his early adult life in Canada, both working and studying and reaching as far as Vancouver in his travels. He returned to England, however, and through a series of events of which I am unaware, came to Suffolk and worked for many years as assistant to Greg Way, owner of R.E & G.B. Way, Antiquarian Booksellers of Burrough Green near Newmarket.

In (we think) 1991 Mike moved to Hawstead and continued to travel to Burrough Green daily until he retired. He then got the travel bug again and went on many trips abroad, furthering an interest in ancient history. The tours he went on were mostly organised ones with a leader - usually a university lecturer with specialist knowledge of the area concerned and its artifacts. Mike was particularly interested in Italy, where he went many times, introducing us to Montepulciano wine en route! He also went to less frequented places such as Albania, Syria, Eastern Turkey and in 2005, Libya. I know about the Libya trip because I managed to persuade him to write about part of his visit - concerning the ruined city of Lepcis Magna - for the Hawstead Journal!

Only a couple of years ago Mike was due to travel to the little-visited part of India beyond Kashmir called Ladakh: unfortunately the trip was cancelled due to insufficient interest. But he had other irons in the fire: on one of his other holidays he had met up with a couple of retired Australian teachers: they suggested meeting in Hong Kong for Christmas/New Year - and so they did! It must have whetted his appetite for the Far East as he went out for three or four more winter tours, and these included quite extensive visits to parts of mainland China.

Mike's last foreign venture was in fact his China trip of 2011/12. During 2012 it gradually became clear that he was not well, and after a stay of several weeks in West Suffolk Hospital in the autumn, he moved into Pinford End Nursing Home where he was very well cared for until his recent death.

Another significant interest of Mike's was gardening. In his gardening notebook, 1992 he noted that "on 31st January, Rolfe's delivered 5cu. yds. well-rotted cattle manure. Andy Parrett and I shared the load which amounted to about 30 barrow-loads each, costing us each £17.50."

It's about time I put down some more...

Andy Parrett

HAWSTEAD TO THE HIMALAYAS



Henry and Hayley with Ang and our first view of Everest

After meeting our wonderful Sherpa guides and yak drivers and being served lunch and the first of very many lemon teas, the trek began. That first afternoon was a gentle walk to a lodge in Phakding, where we were introduced to our enemy – the cold. That night, as with all to follow, we ate a supper of rice, vegetables and a variant of pasta. The food is not something we will miss! After supper we retired to our unheated rooms with bare mattresses and ice on the inside of the windows. We slept in three or four layers of clothes, sleeping bag liners and four season sleeping bags - trekking in Nepal is not for the faint hearted!

When a Nepalese colleague, Ang Sherpa, suggested we join him on a trip to the Himalayas, it did not take many seconds to make up our minds. Nepal had been on our wish list for a long time, and the opportunity to go there, guided by Ang, one of the first graduates of the school in Khumjung founded by Sir Edmund Hilary for Sherpa children, was not one to be passed over.

We left the UK on the 1st November and spent two days in Kathmandu, gently acclimatising (Kathmandu is 4600 feet above sea level) and sightseeing before the real adventure began.

On the morning of the 4th November our party flew to Lukla airport in two Twin Otter aircraft. Those of you who watch such programmes as 'The Ten Most Dangerous Airports in the World' will know that Lukla rates highly on this score – number one, in fact! The runway is at 9,380ft above sea level, short, steep, begins on the edge of a cliff and ends in a stone wall cut into the side of the mountain!



Henry and Hayley at Lukla

HAWSTEAD TO THE HIMALAYAS - CONTINUED



On day two of the trek we walked to the Sherpa capital, Namche Bazaar. No vehicles reach Namche – indeed the closest road is several days walk below Lukla! This really is isolated country. Every single item, whether it be for construction or consumption, has to be carried on the back of a man or a yak. The yak trains provide quite a hazard. A shout of ‘yaks’ meant a frantic scramble to cling precariously to the side of the mountain to allow the yaks to pass.

We reached our destination after seven days. At 4am we donned our head torches and set off for our final destination. Two and a half hours later, after a climb of 2000ft, we were there. Gokyo Ri is a ‘small’ peak of just 19,000ft, roughly the same height as Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa. It is, however, dwarfed by the view of four of the six highest mountains in the world, including the greatest of them all, Mount Everest itself. It is difficult to think of a better place to watch the sun come up.

We could continue for hours – the altitude sickness, the evacuation by helicopter of one of our party, the humbling generosity of spirit of the Sherpa people, the three hour walk to school for many children, the sheer beauty of the mountains – but space does not permit. We ran out of superlatives on day one.

Can’t wait to return...

Hayley and Henry Brewis



Hayley on the summit of Gokyo Ri with Everest behind

FOR THEATRE GO'ERS

Most of you have probably been to our own wonderful Theatre Royal in Bury and hopefully also to the marvellous Apex but how many of you have ever ventured further afield to the New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich?

This is a great theatre, built in the late 1970s and seats about 350 people. All the seating is banked thus wherever you sit affords a great view of the stage. The programme at the NWT is generally of a less highbrow nature than the Theatre Royal and consists of touring productions and their own professional productions interspersed with occasional concerts and special shows for children.

The current programme, which runs until May has featured their own presentation of a brand-new thriller "And then the dark". Other highlights this season include "Bird Song" – an epic tale of love and war set both before and during the Great War, a touring production of "Yes Prime Minister" direct from the West End, "Miss Nightingale" – a burlesque musical and "Some like it hotter" – a fantasy comedy based on the classic comedy film "Some like it hot".

Seat prices are very reasonable and we usually try to go to matinees when all seats are £10.00, and thus take advantage of the Ipswich Park and Ride Bus Service into town. There is, however, car parking available adjacent to the theatre in the spiral car park and if going of an evening it is only £2.00 entry after 6.00 p.m.

Full information is available on line at www.wolseytheatre.co.uk where a useful self-print ticket facility is available.

Michael and Rosemary Harrison

POSTCARD FROM UTILA - HONDURAS!!

Hi Everyone in Hawstead,

Thinking of you all in freezing England, it's really very hot here!!!!

Having a wonderful time diving, snorkeling, sunbathing and drinking Rum!!!

Wish you were here (Just not all at once!!!!)

See you soon

Love

Jo, Steve, Nik, Lucy and Yvonne xxxxxx



The Hawstead Journal was kindly sponsored this month by
Simon Miller of 'Hillside'.

If you would like to sponsor the Journal for one month, please contact Judy, details below.

Thank you for your contributions this month. Our next Journal will be April 2013. Please forward anything you have by 1st April 2013.

Judy Carter - Oakhill House, Pinford End, judy@mmgd.co.uk



Saint Edmunds Archers

Founded 2007

www.stedmundsarchers.org.uk

Affiliated to G.N.A.S. No. 1848/1909

Community Amateur Sports Club Ref. No. 06242

New Range Project Summary

Saint Edmunds Archers is a registered Community Amateur Sports Club Ref: 06242, based near Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk. The club was set up in 2007 when our founding member, who has mobility issues, had to travel to Norfolk for tuition and was then unable to find a club in Suffolk to practice at. We have worked hard to develop our coaching staff and regularly run beginners courses on a scale unique to our club. This gives our club a wide footprint throughout the community and indicates a demonstrable interest from the public. Membership retention and recruitment however suffers from a lack of warm, waterproof practice facilities.

Our aim is to make the sport of archery available to all in the community including other organisations, such as Scouts, Guides, Army, RAF, Sea Cadets, and local disability groups, open to all ages and abilities including full accessibility for the disabled, providing a dry, sheltered, safe and warm facility.

Our objective is to provide a Centre of Excellence archery facility consisting of an ecologically sound indoor range with club room and 100yd outdoor range for the use of all archers and potential archers in the community; and the improvement of elite archers. This will include all those with any disability who wish to participate to the highest level they are capable of achieving. In addition we intend to run coaching courses so that junior members can achieve officially recognised coaching qualifications to benefit them in their future interests. We are currently looking into the possibility of running short courses for children from disadvantaged areas.

Saint Edmunds Archers covers a large area of rural Suffolk as other local clubs do not provide coaching for beginners or don't have disabled access, due to this a number of our members are registered disabled, have health issues, mobility issues, or learning difficulties, we also cater for all ages, our youngest member is 8yrs our oldest is in his 70s. The club offers coaching for those training for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. A number of our members are ex service men, and we are very close to a bus stop on a main bus route, ideally situated for those without their own transport.

The project is estimated to cost £210,000.

Through our own fundraising by attending Fetes for "Have a Go" sessions, Birthday parties, corporate days, beginners courses and scrap metal collecting, also donations from local businesses we have raised approx £10,000.

cont...

SAINT EDMUNDS ARCHERS

The local Parish Council at Wkepstead have given us their full support and promised funds, and we have secured a £10,000 grant from The Havebury Housing Partnership and a further £10,000 from The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation. Our local Councillor has given us £2,000 from his Localities Budget and we have just been granted £8,000 by St Edmundsbury Borough Council, and we currently have an application for funding lodged with Suffolk County Council. We expect to hear the results in the near future.

We are actively fund raising at present and have had meetings with Sport England and Suffolk Sport who have been very positive regarding the project, with a view to applications being submitted when we have match funding. Currently we are submitting a number of grants to ASDA, Co-op, Biffa, and The Suffolk Foundation.

Suffolk ACRE and The Havebury Housing Partnership have provided us with Grantfinder Reports which are proving invaluable.

The club has obtained planning permission for change of use on the site and planning permission for a range building, paid for from club funds. We have a Heads of Terms agreement on a 25yr lease drawn up and ready to sign. Also from club funds an entrance has been completed and a driveway is under construction.

The club would like to invite members of the local community to consider becoming involved in our project in any way they feel able.

Should you require any more information please contact *Sarah Lawson*.
Fund Raising Committee.
Lawson170@btinternet.com



HAWSTEAD WINE CLUB

HATS - Thursday 31st January 2013

We decided to concentrate on just two wines, Rioja and Pinot Grigio. Our scoring showed that these nine wines boasted possibly the highest scores of any we have previously tasted. That's what makes it such a good evening – never knowing what's round the corner! We also proved that Waitrose wine selection isn't necessarily the most expensive (especially if the wines chosen are on offer!). The general consensus was this was another thoroughly good evening.

Judy Carter

HATS - Thursday 28th February

Another good attendance where the theme of the tasting was "Is It Worth It?"

We tasted 4 white wines and 4 red wines - one was a budget wine, one was expensive. Could we tell the difference? Well as it turned out not very often! We finished with a Tesco own label dark rum compared to a 7-year Havana rum twice the price and we all preferred the cheap rum! The tastings were accompanied by nibbles and copious cheese and biscuits and a good time was had by all.

Norman Gibbs

If you would like further details of Hawstead Appreciation and Tasting Society please contact Judy Carter on 01284 386512 or e-mail: judy@mmgd.co.uk.

HAWSTEAD CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Just an update on our activities. On Monday 18th February we played an away game against Lawshall Bowls Club. This is the first time we have played against them and we had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. They made us very welcome and gave us some lovely cake and coffee! Unfortunately we didn't manage to win but we had a great evening.

We continue to meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 in the Village Hall and would be very pleased to welcome any new members. You don't have to be able to play – just come along and enjoy yourselves. It's only £2 per evening and that includes tea and biscuits and your first visit is free!!!

Rosemary Harrison

HAWSTEAD READING GROUP

Our February meeting was held at Judy Carter's where we were again in front of a log fire accompanied by Maizie the dog who I don't think had read the book but never mind! We were envious of two members Jo and Nikki currently enjoying the hot weather in Honduras poor things!

The book for discussion was "The Kashmir Shawl" by Rosie Thomas which we all thoroughly enjoyed. It is an epic tale of doomed love and family secrets set against the stunning backdrop of 1940's Kashmir.

We also enjoyed a glass of wine and nibbles and Suzie's Thai fish cakes followed by coffee and Judy's delicious cupcakes!

Our next meeting is at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 6th March at Jo Butt's to discuss "The Soldiers Wife" by Joanna Trollope.

For more information contact *Ann Gibbs* on 01284 765332.

REGULAR EVENTS

Breathe Easy	Weekly on Tuesdays 9.15 - 10.15 am
Carpet Bowls	Weekly on Tuesdays 7.30 pm
Reading Group	1st Wednesday of the month 7.30 pm held in members' homes
HATS (Wine Club)	Last Thursday of the month 8.00 pm
Hawstead Oil Buying Group	Orders placed end of each month (contact <i>Jacquie Milns</i> (388813 email: sales@rjmcars.co.uk))

HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

*Meetings held at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated
Everyone is very welcome to come along.*

Meetings held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.
Dates arranged are:

21st March

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

In the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

Community Council Meeting	18th March 7.30pm
Parish Council Meeting	21st March (meeting room) 7.30pm
Singles Lunch	9th April
Piper Quartet (fund raising for Hospice - details next month)	19th May
Village Fête	1st September



Snowdrops in Spring