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Did **you** know that you are able to *renew* your car tax at the **Whelnetham village Post Office ?**

NO!, then don't worry because you and a lot of others are of the same impression, that it was one of those facilities that had been withdrawn, under the many changes brought to bear at our local PO.

Are you an open fire or stove user of kindling and logs ?
Looking for a replacement supply for this coming winter ?
Would like to purchase and source **Locally ?**

If your answers are Yes !

Then you are invited to view the quantity of various felled trees within the wooded area along the road side edge of Bells Lane (adjacent to where the telephone box used to be), and after, contact Brian Kew (Chairman) 386248 and tell him what price you would like to offer.

Highest Offer secures.

**Gypsy Lane and Hardwick Lane
traffic experiment rejected by St Edmundsbury Council.**

Comment from the Ward councillor Lynsey Alexander "The closing of the two-way traffic has not been the council's finest hour".
The two-way traffic will be reinstated and the council will make a bid to the Suffolk County Council for funding for traffic calming in Hardwick Lane. However, the public will now be consulted over the traffic calming and the council will look at on-street parking and the possibility of 20mph speed limit. It will all be reviewed in six month's time.

As the coming months gradually turn into Summer and you happen to see a **hornet** (something you advised not to touch) which is approximately 1" long, reddish brown body and single yellow strip down its back, then you will have seen a new species of hornet to the UK - from Asia in fact ! They are currently in SW France, having arrived in a consignment of Bonsai pots and spreading North.

Next month's Editor is Joan Cook 386711

If you are a reader of our Journal, then please contribute an article for others to enjoy ? and contact the next Editor before the 25th April.

If you wish to be an **editor for a month**
contact Brian Kew 386248

Our thanks to Malcolm for compiling this edition.

Editor: Malcolm Cornwell



Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village

April 2007

Parish Council

Your Councillors

Brian Kew (Chairman)
Roz Alexander, James Carr, Malcolm Cornwell,
Dave Dawson, Katie Fairbairn and Phil Shaw

Parish Elections

There are going to be changes on the Parish Council this year as several existing councillors are resigning. We hope that there will be enough candidates for an election as that is always the best way to ensure that the people of the village have their views expressed. The last time there was an election all candidates submitted a short statement about themselves and their reasons for standing which was circulated to all households. There have been several new families in the village since then and the present council think a similar circular this year may help new candidates, and councillors seeking re-election, to introduce themselves to everyone. Such a document allows all candidates the same publicity and may reduce paper usage as there should only be one sheet of paper promoting all candidates (unless there is an enormous influx of candidates!). I am willing to co-ordinate the circular (as a non-standing councillor) and ask that anyone who wishes to be involved should contact me with a short statement of less than 100 words about themselves and their ideas. We will organise the delivery of this to everyone in plenty of time to help Hawsteadians make their decisions. I will need to complete this by 24th April so if you are interested please let me have your copy by then. This could be emailed to fairkathleen@hotmail.com or be delivered to Pear Tree House, Pinford End.

PS. Hawsteadians??? Hawsteaders??? Hawsteadish???
Collective noun required for inhabitants of Hawstead!

HAWSTEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS



We are delighted to be able to confirm a grant for £100,000 towards the cost of our proposed building. This is the result of a proposal submitted by the PCC to the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF). The grant is payable to the PCC who have unanimously agreed to forward the full amount to the HCC. Once

all aspects have been settled and the lease of the land has been signed between the Parish Council and trustees of the Community Council, the building can be underway very quickly. When things are about to happen we will make a very **BIG** Announcement - **LOOK FOR IT !!!!!**

A strange thing on the hall site? Our treasurer Mr. John West, has been steadily adding blood to this thermometer for some time, it now overflows. We plan at some time to take a picture of it surrounded by the village children so they can look back and say they were there at the start of it. To find out more come to the CC AGM in the church on 31st May at 7.00pm

NOTICE IS GIVEN OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM

This will take place on the 31st of May 7pm in Hawstead church. By the end of May there will be a date for the start of the building of the hall and a full report on the project. A condition arising from our grant from the DBF is that we should have a member of the Hawstead PCC elected to the CC. This will mean an amendment to our constitution. If you feel you would like to be elected to the Community Council and wish any further information do not hesitate to ring Sonja Monk 386876 or Sylvia Miller 388841. The agenda is posted on village notice boards.

HAWSTEAD 2007 ANNUAL PLANT SALE Sat 26th May from 11am-pm

Work is underway to grow plants for the sale, but it is not too late to get involved. Do you have space in your greenhouse or cold frame for a few plants, any spare time to help with the sowing and pricking out, any plants you no longer want or need dividing up? **Contact Jo Butt 88817**

We are hoping this year that our range of plants for sale will be bigger and better than previous years. As well as a good selection of summer bedding plants we will have a number of annuals and perennials. As always we haven't forgotten the veggie garden, I'm really excited about the varieties we have chosen this year and have a selection that can be grown in containers or hanging baskets so there is no excuse not to grow veggies this summer. Looking forward to seeing you all at the sale in the MILLENEUM FIELD, where our competition this year will be to grow very special sunflowers, more about that in next months Journal.

Clive Robinson and Hawstead.



So why did I buy Cullum House? You may well ask !!!

Summer 2006, I sold my 1980's house in Cockfield and was looking for a property that had three- four bedrooms, needed a little up-dating but nothing too much, a manageable garden, a dining room, central heating and most importantly - views, so I purchased Cullum house.

A one-bedroom property, large garden, freezing cold, in need of lots of repair and up dating with limited views and no dining room. 'But why'? I don't hear you ask.

As I drove around the bend from Bury, passing the interesting Almshouses and approached Cullum House, it was love at first sight. I had known Hawstead for some years and knew what a wonderful village it was, set amidst undulating countryside and being conveniently close to Bury with a wealth of architecturally rich properties.

Imagine my rounding the bend and there she was, myself and one of my best friends where we spent no more than ten minutes viewing the property and my heart and head were in absolute agreement. Was it the Tudor-style chimneystack rising from the complex three gabled wings clad in fish-scale slate, or was it the lightly treed grounds with colourful borders, or the flint and brick quoin elevations? Who knows? What I do know, is that I felt compelled to buy the property and wanted to live there, it felt as if it was I that had been chosen by the property, as it exuded such a warm and inviting atmosphere one of peace, warmth (it was summer) and happiness.

I have started with the installation of central heating and parts of decorating but unfortunately it's all taking a bit longer because just before I moved in I slipped a disc, which has slowed things just a bit. I am planning to keep a log of historical events and happenings as I come across them; Jimmy Lebbon has been a great help in reciting some of the history and lifestyle as a school boy, for which I am grateful.

Thanks to all those who have shown an interest and for the friendship extended by my fellow villagers.

Clive

Something different for the younger Hawstead generation to enjoy

The Boys Brigade

Meetings are held at Garland Street Church Hall as follows:

For boys between 8 and 11 years

Wednesdays from 7.00pm until 8.00pm, where their programme comprises of games, craftwork and working towards badges.

For younger boys between 5 and 8 years

Fridays from 6.00pm until 7.00pm, for an hour of fun, crafts and games

For Older boys between 12 and 18 years

Fridays, meeting at 7.30pm, where they will follow various courses leading to badges and following the Duke of Edinburgh's Scheme.

The Girls Brigade

Meetings are held at Garland Street Church Hall on Tuesday evenings as follows:

The Explorer Section for 5 to 8 years from 6.00pm until 7.00pm,

The Junior Section 8 and 11 years and the

Senior and Brigade Section age 11+ all meet from 6.00pm to 7.00pm

All sections work for badges and enjoy craft activities, cooking games, bible stories and singing.

The Seniors and Brigaders, also enjoy social evenings where they can chat together over a pizza or watch a DVD.

and Now for Something different for the Hawstead over 55's to enjoy !

Rushbrooke Arms, Sicklesmere

If you are a Hawstead resident and looking for a reduction in a meal price, the Rushbrooke Arms so I have been informed, are offering up to 25% off your total bill from Monday to Friday throughout the day. There are terms and conditions which apply, one of which is the food must account for at least 50% of the total bill, with a maximum of 4 people per discount. Refer to Tracy Platt - General Manger

Village Hall Draw Winners

April	1st	088	Mr Mrs Hillman	£18.27
	2nd	037	M Crockford	4.87
	3rd	043	N Gibbs	1.22

Draw made on 31/3/07 witnessed by Richard Steed

It could have been you ! !

new village residents, you may not know last year we started a Village Draw, to raise money for our NEW HALL

each month, **we have** 116 pound tickets in the draw, **20%** of which goes in prizes and is raising **over £1000** per year towards our Hall

We need more people to join in the fun and then we can raise the prizes plus the funds for the Hall

(If you do not wish to have your name published, then please kindly let me know)

Promoter: Sylvia Miller 388841

**Every little REALLY does help,
so please join in**

The Philip Metcalfe Almshouses Trust - Hawstead

A vacancy will shortly occur at the above, for a suitable single person or married couple to become a resident of the Almshouses.

For further detailed information, please contact:

Mrs Joan Cook, Clerk to the Trustees 01284 386711

A kindly reminder to all Mobile phone car users

As from the 27th February 2007 if caught using a hand held telephone whilst driving, the penalty will now be **£60**, plus **3 penalty points** on your licence. (*Ouch, Oa!*)

In addition, it may also affect your insurance with higher premiums.

You can also be prosecuted for using a hands free phone if you are not in proper control of your vehicle where the penalty would be the same as for using a hand-held phone (*perhaps someone from the Traffic Police would care to explain this, in more simplistic terms*).

Similarly, you are not permitted to use a hand-held phone when stationary at traffic lights or in a traffic queue.

Penalties for careless or dangerous driving whilst using a mobile phone can include disqualification, large fine and up to 2 years imprisonment.

All Saints Church – Hawstead.

SERVICES

APRIL

Maundy Thursday 5th	7pm	Agape Service
Easter Day 8th	8.30am	Said Eucharist followed by coffee/tea and croissant.
Sunday 22nd	11am	Parish Eucharist

MAY

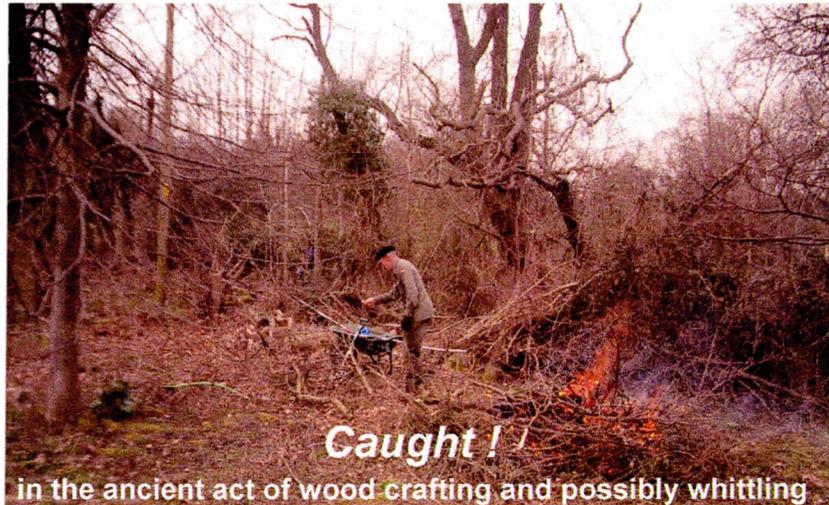
Sunday 13th	8.30am	Said Eucharist (BCP)
Sunday 27th	11am	Parish Eucharist

Evening Prayer.

An opportunity for silent/ contemplative prayer and to pray for the parish and benefice is held every **Wednesday** in the church **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



Caught !

in the ancient act of wood crafting and possibly whittling

At first passing glance, it seemed as if Hawstead had fostered its very own handymen, but on having a second look, you might have been forgiven for thinking that they were making a camp in the woods, But no, it was Glynn Hammond assisted by Daniel (hidden somewhere amongst the foliage) clearing the area of unwanted lopping and topplings from within the wooded area along the road side edge of Bells Lane, adjacent to where the telephone box used to be.

Locate where Daniel is hidden and let Brian Kew know for a surprise prize.

Traditional May Day Celebrations

Or What are you doing at 4.30am on May 1st?

In 2006 GREEN DRAGON MORRIS celebrated May Day by “*dancing in the dawn*” by the village green at the end of Bells Lane, it was damp and cold and rather unpleasant, but we plan to do the same again this year. *We are forever hopeful !*

May Day marks the end of spring, the start of summer and the beginning of warmer weather. It is a time of looking forward and a time of hope. Traditionally, people celebrate May Day in a variety of ways, for instance,

- Flowers are gathered before sunrise to decorate houses and villages in the belief that this will bring good fortune.
- Girls wash their faces in the morning dew to enhance their beauty for the following year.
- Young girls make garlands by covering hoops with leaves and flowers as a celebration in honour of the goddess of spring.
- The Green Man symbolises fertility, hope and growth of crops. He is awoken at dawn on May Day by the music and dancing of celebrating people.
- In some places Maypole dancing is used to celebrate the arrival of summer and the start of fine weather, which allows planting to begin.
- In Hawstead, Green Dragon will be “*dancing in the dawn*” Morris Style. Do come and join us, where this early morning celebration will be followed by breakfast at our house for anyone who can get up early enough!

So in the words of Herrick, a 17th Century English poet:

*There's not a budding boy, or girl, this day,
But is got up, and gone to bring in May.*

We will be continuing our May Day celebrations at Rochester Sweeps festival the following weekend. This Festival started as a traditional holiday, which Chimney Sweeps enjoyed on May 1st and is now a week long celebration of music, dancing and entertainment, dominated by Border Style Morris Dancing.

But on May Day itself – Tuesday 1st May

4.30 am “*dancing in the dawn*” on the corner of the Village Green at the top of Bell's Lane
(Our dancing style is quite noisy and raucous. We hope not to wake any late sleepers!)

5.15am Breakfast at 1,Fyletts Manor Cottages, Hawstead.
(Later, some of us have to go to school/work just like normal people!)

Please come and join us in our celebrations.

For more information contact Fran or Andy Evershed on 386501

The University of the Third Age known as U3A came into being in France and started in England in 1982.

The **idea was to offer** all those who were retired some sort of interest outside the workplace, sharing leisure and learning activities.

The U3A started in Haverhill in 1994, where a committee was elected and its members were then invited to express their various interests. Its membership is now 180+.

So it became an organisation whereby the main body meets once a month and usually invites a speaker. Those interested in various group activities meet generally once a week or fortnight, usually in the leaders home, to enjoy exchanging views on their skill or hobby.

At present there are 24 groups, and where one group consists of Drama, Bridge, Art, Booklovers, rafts, Gardening, Jazz, Music appreciation and many more.

Outings are organised to many places of interest and often to the theatre.

The UA3 is open to anyone retired or over 50, not working.

The membership fee is annual and meetings are held the last Tuesday of any month at the Haverhill Arts Centre.

Anyone interested, are invited to go along as a visitor first of all or join as a member.

Further information from:
Mrs Aldine Horrigan, Chairwoman.
01440 702497

April Fools Energy saving tips !!

- 1 The next time you receive a nicely wrapped gift, retain the paper and reuse it for somebody that you are not overly fond of.
- 2 Fed up with having to walk into town to get the soles of your shoes repaired ?
Then don't despair you can **now** get that little *EXTRA* mileage out of them.
How ! Simply insert 3 or 4 layers of breakfast cereal cardboard inside BUT, after, be careful to avoid all those puddles and wet surfaces when out in the rain.
- 3 To reduce the weight of all those 1p and 2p coins in your pockets, change them for 5p pieces.

Keep IN TOUCH !! and FANCY a BIT of Bartering !

There is a growing trend in Bury St Edmunds, where ordinary people are doing ordinary things but are being rewarded with something rather extraordinary!

It's a close-knit community, with the added bonus of new friendships. Favours are rewarded with points, called Abbots, which acts as a local currency. After earning their Abbots, members are free to spend them on goods and services offered by another member.

These ordinary people have one thing in common. They have all joined a thriving bartering group called Bury LETS (the local exchange trading system for Bury St Edmunds and the surrounding villages).

Members offer all sorts of things, from returning library books, collecting shopping, weeding, right through to advice on a variety of topics, including help with forms, advice on nutrition etc. All members' transactions are tracked through a central accounting system, similar to a bank account.

So if you would like to get involved with something rather extraordinary, contact Karen Cannard on **01284 723475** or email: burylets@hotmail.com

Need urgent medical care or advice?

Phone your local surgery
Day or night, that number is right

- From 1st October Suffolk West Primary Care Trust will take over responsibility for your GP Out of Hours Service.
- There will be no GP surgeries on Saturday mornings from 1st October. So telephone your local surgery to contact the "on call" service.
- You can continue to expect the same high service that is provided for you at present.
- Outside normal working hours when you ring your local surgery you will be transferred or directed to the "on call" service, the **SAME** as you are now.
- You will be able to speak to a GP or nurse and may be asked to attend your local base for treatment, the **SAME** as you are now.
- If clinically necessary you will receive a home visit, the **SAME** as you do now.

You can obtain advice from
NHSDirect 0800 45 46 47

For further information contact
PALS 0800 389 6819 9am - 4.30pm



Mobile Library and Community Service

Last year we asked for your views on Suffolk's proposed new mobile library and community service.

Thank you for your comments which we took into account when we reviewed the routes.

We are proposing that the mobile libraries will have about 700 stops of which 75 will be long community stops.

We would now like your opinion of our suggestions. To find out about the changes, please ask at your nearest library for a leaflet or visit www.suffolklibraries.gov.uk/mobilelibraries. Please respond by 31 March 2007.

This service is free to all



suffolk libraries
...make it part of **your** routine
www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

NEW Library Times and Locations (route 10) from JULY onwards

Stop	LOCATION	TIMES
G	Pinford End, Bull Lane	12.45 - 13.00
H	Hawstead, Whepstead Road- lay by	13.10 - 13.30
I	Nowton Village Hall	14.40 - 14.55

Your very own Hawstead weather report

January



The first three weeks were dominated by a rapid series of Atlantic weather systems which brought frequent rainfall, blustery winds and very mild temperatures.

No air frosts occurred between 24th December - 23rd January.

Temperatures were some 4.5°C (8.5°F) above normal. Colder weather arrived on January 22nd with a north westerly airstream. Snow showers gave a light dusting of snow for several mornings. The last week of the month was dry and fairly mild. It was the mildest January on record with an average temperature of 6.0°C (44.4°F) Rainfall was above average.

February

The long range forecasters had predicted a cold February. They were proved wrong. The first days of the month were mild. On the first there was brilliant sunshine and an early afternoon maximum of 13°C (56°F). Alto cumulus clouds later in the day heralded a change of weather.

High pressure to the west fed in cold air between 3rd and 10th.

Night frosts were hard; the thermometer falling to -8.9°C (16°F) on 7th, the coldest night for five years. The following day was raw and cold with 2cm of snow lying. Snow and sleet continued all day with the thermometer hovering around 1°C (34°F). This was the coldest spell of the winter. Thereafter, mild conditions prevailed once more - frost free nights and a daily maximum close to 10°C (50°F) permitting an early advance of the signs of Spring. Overall the February average was 1.6°C (2.9°F) above normal. 64mm of rainfall was some 60% above normal.

The winter of 2006/7, that is December through to February, was one of the mildest on record. Rainfall was above average and winds were never from an easterly quarter.

March

The first eighteen days continued mild with low pressure bringing plenty of rainfall during the first week. However, conditions were clear for the lunar eclipse on 3rd. Thereafter, high pressure with south- west to westerly winds brought a week of sunny, dry weather with a daily maximum close to 15°C (59°F) and a peak of 19°C (66°F) on the 12th. [10°C (50°F) is a normal daytime temperature for mid March]. With the approach of the equinox, winds shifted abruptly into the north west with blustery winds and frequent snow showers. The weather quietened on the 22nd as pressure rose, but under leaden skies it was raw and cold. Skies cleared on 25th and day temperatures rose in the sunshine to a maximum of 17.8°C (64°F) on the 27th. Abrupt changes from raw, cold to warm sun are normal for March. The month was 1.5°C (2.5°F) above normal with rainfall close to the normal.

The trend towards significantly milder Marches noted in the decade of the 90's has continued through to a lesser degree.