
HAWSTEAD JOURNAL

Editors: Judy & Dave Carter

GREEN DRAGON MORRIS



MAY DAY MORNING

An invitation to early risers

Green Dragon Morris will be 'dancing up the dawn' at 5am on Wednesday 1st May in Hawstead at the end of Bells Lane. As usual the dancing will be followed by a scrumptious breakfast at Andy and Fran Evershed's (1, Fyletts Manor Cottages). Please join us, you will be most welcome!

Mayday is a very special day for us. It marks the beginning of summer and hopefully the warmer weather and has been celebrated in a variety of ways, probably since people first began to dance!

We are usually quite noisy with our bells, sticks, shouting and music. We do not intend to wake any late sleepers but we would much rather you came and joined us! And, yes, we also have to go to work/school later on that day!

*The fair maid who, the first of May
Goes to the fields at break of day
And washes in dew from the hawthorn tree
Will ever after handsome be.*

For more information please contact *Andy* or *Fran* on 01284 386501

CHURCH SERVICES

APRIL

Sunday 14th
08.30 Said Eucharist in Hawstead Church

Sunday 28th
11.00 Parish Eucharist with Baptism in Hawstead Church

MAY

Sunday 12th
08.30 Said Eucharist in Hawstead Church

BARN OWLS - A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Following the article last month on the front of the Journal this item has been received by one of our residents.

We all look forward to more Barn Owls in the village; they look a majestic sight when we glimpse them in the headlights of our cars at night. But one word of warning as plans to build nesting boxes goes ahead: These owls can be fearsome predators, and are perfectly capable of snatching your pet kitten or small rabbit as they fly overhead in twilight. I have actually foiled an owl just about to snatch a young kitten in my garden. If the owl had done so without me spotting the danger that kitten would have disappeared without trace leaving me mystified as to where it had gone.

Mr. R. Blackwell

HOT NEWS!!

Green Cottage Garden, The Green, Hawstead is open on Sunday June 16th between 2 – 6pm. We are raising funds for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Tea with homemade cakes will be available.

All are welcome,

Glyn Hammond

THE BRAIN OF HAWSTEAD - THE ANSWERS!!

The answers to the questions on Page 3 of last month's Journal are:

1. A coffin
2. They probably have nine fingers since the answer of 14 is the sum of 7 and 6 to the base 9.
3. 10 in binary is 2.

If anyone seeks further clarification they may email me at docnana@aol.com.

QUESTIONS:

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!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 23rd at 7.30 pm



We are now into the fifth year of our not so new hall. The play area has been in operation for nearly fifteen years.

The Council is responsible for the running of the hall and the play area. We are responsible for health safety, security, hospitality and everything else in between. In a modern building it is not an onerous task. Hawstead village hall is a lovely venue much cared for and enjoyed by all who have booked it, we are lucky to have such a facility on our door step. We get many letters of thanks praising our hall and the way we run it. To keep it that way we need to replace, or add to our committee members each year.

We are now actively seeking new members to join our committee. Our present treasurer has been in post for three years which you would agree is quite a generous stint. I too have been there for sometime, although I will help on occasions as needed I too will be standing down.

The booking system and website are now in the very efficient hands of Emma Hatton. The summer bookings are filling up nicely. We only take two outside bookings per month. This leaves space for other things within the village or for a local charity.

We support local charities at a concessionary rate or at our discretion for a cleaning fee. This year we have enjoyed several charity functions including St Nicholas, Macmillan Care, NSPCC, when we have assisted with music and food. We cannot do this without help from you, so a special thank you to everyone from musicians to cooks and general helpers. It is fun to get involved.

We do need an executive committee. As per our constitution we can have up to nine members, who meet monthly in the hall on a Monday. At present we have seven members.

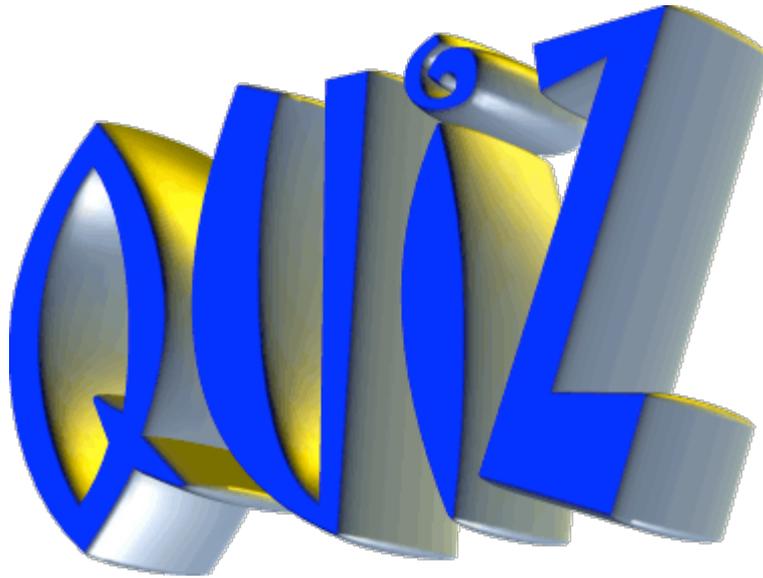
James Bulbrook, Sonja Monk, Rosemary Harrison, Pat Baker, Dave Dawson, Emma Hatton, Jo Butt. We also employ a cleaner and a caretaker.

Our next meeting before the AGM is on April the 15th at 7.30 pm if you are interested in finding out more we would be delighted to see you.

To contact James regarding the post of treasurer you can e-mail him on jbulbrook@aol.com.

For general information you can contact me at sonjamonk@btinternet.com.

Sonja Monk - Community Council Chair



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

MARK'S QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 27TH APRIL 2013

FROM 7.30PM

IN HAWSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

£15 PER TEAM
6 to 8 people per team

TO RESERVE YOUR TEAM PLEASE CONTACT ME AT
joandstevebutt@yahoo.co.uk
THERE IS LIMITED SPACE SO THIS WILL BE DONE ON A FIRST COME FIRST
SERVED BASIS.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND SNACKS AS THESE WILL NOT BE
AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THE NIGHT

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE

Jo Butt

HAWSTEAD VISITS UTILA

Some of you may know a small contingent from the village made a trip to the tiny island of Utila in Honduras earlier this year. Steve and I have been visiting this little piece of paradise for the past fourteen years having discovered it while backpacking around South and Central America.

Utila is the smallest of the Bay Islands nestling in the Caribbean Sea approximately 29km from Honduran mainland; just 11km long and 4km wide it is surrounded by vast coral reefs with prolific undersea life.

Situated at the bottom of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef (the 2nd largest barrier reef in the world after the Australian Great Barrier Reef) with over 60 different dive sites to choose from including caves and numerous wrecks, diving here is always interesting and never crowded.

Utila is also famous for divers encountering the Whale Sharks migrating through the Utilian waters. These slow moving Whale Sharks are harmless plankton eating fish which grow up to 12-18m in length.

Utila is not a place with large resorts and miles of sandy beaches. People come here to dive, snorkel and soak up the atmosphere. We first came to Utila to learn how to scuba dive, as it is one of the cheapest places in the world to get certified and to dive. Since our certification we have logged over 150 dives each around the island. The diving here is amazing; the reef is full of hard and soft corals with plenty of sea life on and around it.

Some of the highlights on this visit include snorkelling with a pod of over 200 spinner dolphins, having a turtle check out our group one by one (the closest I've ever been to a turtle) and watching a 2m long green moray eel use our friend Marlo as a swim through!!!!

Although a fantastic place, it is not the easiest place to get to. The journey involves two different planes; a 4hr taxi/bus ride and an hour on a ferry, which is not for the faint-hearted!!!! But once there you soon forget the aggravation. It has a unique and wonderful culture as the result of the blending of many different influences including Caymanian, British, Spanish, Honduran and Garifuna.

With a population of around 2,500 living mainly in the east-end of the island the main modes of transport are golf carts and scooters. When we first visited this island there was only one way to get about, apart from on foot and this was by pushbike!



A typical sunset from the dive shop

Utila seems virtually unchanged in the last 14 years, for which I am extremely glad.

This trip included Niki, Lucy and my mum Yvonne. My mum and Niki have been with us before, but this was Lucy's first trip to Utila!!! I hope it lived up to all her expectations!!!

Out of all the places we have visited this is the one we migrate back to. Let's hope it's not too long before we return!

Jo and Steve Butt

BRASS MEMORIALS, ALL SAINTS CHURCH HAWSTEAD

Brass Memorials, All Saints Church Hawstead and Brass Rubbing



A recent, and very belated reading of John Appleby's delightful book "A Suffolk Summer" recently re-kindled an old interest of mine in church monumental brasses which had lain fallow for many a year. John was an American airman based in Suffolk at the end of WW2: his duties were, shall we say, light, and he had a lot of time to explore the locality by bike. He took up the hobby of brass-rubbing after having seen it being done in a church he was visiting: and he took it up with a vengeance.

In the book John mentions visiting All Saints, Hawstead. It reminded me that we do indeed have several brasses in the church, so I thought I ought to acquaint myself with them.

When you go into the church (open most days courtesy of Lesley Carey, churchwarden) at the far right end of the Nave (ie south-east corner) there is a raised 'box' tomb belonging to Sir William Drury. Fixed to the top surface you'll find a brass memorial to him, with his wives, one on either side. There's also a separate brass depicting 13 children, another with text; and two heraldic items (there should be three, but one is missing, possibly re-positioned on the front edge of the tomb).



The county catalogue in Rev. Macklin's book "Monumental Brasses" lists these as dating from 1557: in our own millennium book of the village Clive Paine is more specific: Sir William died in 1558; his first wife Joan St Maur, died in 1517 and his second wife Elizabeth Sotehill survived him and died in 1575. However, to quote Clive, the brasses "were made at the time of Sir William's death [and] show both wives dressed alike even though they died nearly sixty years apart. Elizabeth has her eyes open to show she survived her husband."

The use of engraved brass plates as memorials to the dead appears to have been introduced into England from the Low Countries during the late thirteenth century as an improvement on the incised slabs of stone used previously. They remained popular over several centuries and show in considerable detail the changing appearance and dress of a wide variety of (mostly) well-to-do people: knights, landed gentry and their ladies, bishops, priests; sometimes also middle-class merchants and scholars. There are some 4000 individual brasses in English churches and whilst all counties are represented, they are most numerous in Kent, Norfolk, Essex and (yes!) Suffolk. There were many, many more, but the Reformation, metal thieves, neglect and vandalism have all taken their toll.

BRASS MEMORIALS, ALL SAINTS CHURCH HAWSTEAD - CONTINUED



The oldest English brass is in Surrey, in the church of Stoke d'Abernon and commemorates Sir John d'Abernoun (1277). Our Hawstead brasses are therefore much newer – but if you're looking for really old examples you don't need to go far as the brass of Sir Robert de Bures, early 14th century, is just a stone's throw away southwards in the village of Acton.

Some brasses are life-sized – or even larger, and may have decorative work in addition to the depiction of a person – which incidentally is unlikely to have been even intended to look like the person, him-or her-self. They are more likely to be designed according to an individual engraver's skills or preferences. Our Hawstead brasses are fairly plain – and small. I haven't measured them, but I don't think any of them can be more than 2 feet tall. They MAY have been made in Bury St Edmunds as in one of the books I have examined I came across the statement that in the 16th Century there was a small brass workshop in the town (one of only about 6 outside London).

So what's this 'brass rubbing' by which John Appleby was smitten? Well, if you stretch a sheet of white paper over a brass and then go over the area of the brass with a (usually) black waxy substance called heelball (or cobbler's wax) you can capture a copy of the underlying image with the incised parts remaining white against the black colouring of your work. When I

was knee-high to a grasshopper, I would go cycling with my mother to local village churches in Kent balancing a long roll of paper across the handlebars, ready to do business. We would have asked permission first and ensured that the church would be open: but I do recall that, having gone to the largest collection of all, in the church at Cobham, north Kent, we spent an afternoon rubbing, went home and then recommended the visit to family friends. After they had been we were told that they hadn't been able to do any rubbing because of a notice – which we had totally failed to see – forbidding the activity of brass rubbing: so I think that on that occasion we must have just 'chanced our arms' !

I don't know how popular brass rubbing is today (if at all). At some time in the past, copies of the Hawstead brasses were made and placed on a table for the purpose of taking rubbings and so as to not disturb the originals. They are there still, next to the organ. And by the way, I neglected to say that there are more than those of Sir William and his wives. Mounted on the wall are two very small brasses which are listed by Macklin as "Boy, c. 1500" and "Girl c. 1530". There's also a lady, elsewhere identified as Ursula Allingham, 1522 – here with this article is a rubbing of it (not my own, I confess!). I couldn't find the original, but Simon Miller suggested to me that it's probably under the carpet in the Chancel.

Of course there's a website for monumental brass enthusiasts! www.mbs-brasses.co.uk

Andy Parrett

ANOTHER OF OUR AMAZING RESIDENTS

On the 25th May I'm running 100km in the London to Brighton Challenge. Leaving Richmond in London at around 5.30am and hoping – legs permitting - to be in Brighton just before closing time!

I would love to raise £500 for a very worthwhile cause – **Macmillian Cancer Support**.

<http://www.justgiving.com/Graham-Leslie1>

Any and all donations are very welcome and will help people with cancer throughout the UK.

Many thanks,
Graham Leslie (Oaklands Lodge)

DESERT ISLAND DISCS

A new idea for the Journal

Perhaps this would jerk some happy memories. Would you like to contribute to Hawstead's own Desert Island Discs? Each month a villager could choose his or her favourites. Any takers?

Please let me know if you would like to make suggestions for this or any other ideas.

Judy Carter judy@mmgd.co.uk



The Hawstead Journal was kindly sponsored this month by
John & Geraldine West of 'Kellycroft'.

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 May 2013. Please forward anything you have by 1st May 2013.

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

Free from three

Short stay car parks in Bury St Edmunds will be “free from 3” on Tuesdays (start date will be announced after Easter) and all car parks in Haverhill will be “free from 3” on Fridays (starting 26 April). This follows a request from town centre businesses for support outside their peak times. And from 10 April visitors will also be able to park for free in Lower Baxter Street in Bury St Edmunds from 8am to 10am on Wednesday market days.

Cllr John Griffiths, Leader of St Edmundsbury Borough Council said, "During the wide- ranging review of our car parks, town centre businesses said that it would be very helpful to offer a free parking period during the week to encourage more people into town at less busy times. We listened to the reasoned request from businesses and I am delighted to say that we will be going ahead with the scheme for a one year trial."

For more information visit: www.stedmundsbury.gov.uk/carparks

Book your place on our Suffolk tours

The Bury St Edmunds Tourist Information Centre has organised two tours that highlight the beautiful West Suffolk countryside. Tours cost £22 per person or £20.50 if two or more tours are booked at the same time.



Lovejoy Country - Saturday 13 April. Depart from Bury St Edmunds at 9:45am.

Some of Suffolk's most picturesque scenery is to be found in the area where most of the famous TV series was filmed. We also include a visit to Rede Hall Farm where Nigel Oakley breeds the famous Suffolk Punch horses. If available, we also visit the grounds of Boxted Hall, with Cavendish, Long Melford and Lavenham also included. Our original tour is not to be missed. Booking essential.

Elveden Explorer - Thursday 25 April. Depart from Bury St Edmunds at 9:45am.

We spend the day at Lord Iveagh's 22,500 acre Estate, which includes a two hour guided coach tour featuring the many aspects of England's largest lowland farm. The Courtyard Restaurant provides our refreshments. We also visit Elveden Church, where you can find out more about the Estate's former owner, the Maharajah Duleep Sing and the famous Koh -I-Noor diamond. Booking essential (and early booking advised).

For more information and to book contact the TIC on: 01284 764667 or at: tic@stedsbc.gov.uk

CRIME PREVENTION NEWS

Taken from the St. Edmundsbury Rural North Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter



CRIME PREVENTION NEWS

It has been evident that over the winter months and darker evenings there has been an increase in burglaries. Burglars look for quick win opportunities, so often very simple measures can deter them from trying to enter a home. Simply leaving a light on will give the impression someone is at home. Timer switches can also be fitted to operate radios and lights if you're not back from work until after dark or if you're away for a few days.

A high proportion of all break-ins are as a result of properties being left insecure so checking all windows and doors are locked before leaving the house is crucial. Remember, 'close it, lock it, and check it.' Install a burglar alarm and make sure you never leave a spare key under the doormat or a flowerpot. Burglars will always look there first.

Keeping an eye on neighbours' properties is very important and if you see anything suspicious, whether you feel it is important or not, needs to be reported to the Police as soon as possible.

Anyone wishing to find out more about crime prevention advice and home security should contact their local Crime Prevention Officer at Suffolk Police on 101.

From the thefts you can see that there is a pattern emerging with bird scarers, if there is anyone suspicious around please report them to 101. If possible try to camouflage the equipment, and try to cover them up with nets is possible.

MAKING CONTACT WITH YOUR LOCAL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

You can contact your SNT by:

PHONE on 101

EMAIL Email: Stedsruralnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

HAWSTEAD WINE CLUB

Our meeting this month involved a small but select group! Due to the ghastly weather many of our members had succumbed to illness and others were lucky enough to be on holiday!

Our theme was "favourite wines". We each brought a bottle and discussed (if we could remember) how we were introduced to it. Some interesting stories emerged and some extremely good wines came to light.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 25th April and will be hosted by David and Maggie Fletcher.

Judy Carter

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

HAWSTEAD READING GROUP

We met at Jo Butt's on Wed 6th March to discuss *The Soldier's Wife* by Joanna Trollope. We sat in her lovely new kitchen/diner accompanied this time by Jo's dog Ruby who would probably have eaten the book rather than read it!

The Soldier's Wife explores the relationships within families when their loved ones return after six months in Afghanistan. It should be heaven after the hell they have been through but making the transition to normal life again is not as easy as it sounds. We all quite enjoyed it as it was an easy read but perhaps not entirely realistic!

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wed 3rd April at Nancy Dawson's to discuss "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett.

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



Sheep at Pinford End

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 Jacquie Milns 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:

16th May

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

In the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

Singles Lunch	9th April
Community Council Meeting	15th April 7.30pm
Quiz Night	27th April
Polling Day	2nd May
Parish Council Meeting	16th May (meeting room) 7.30pm
Men's Breakfast	18th May
Community Council AGM	23rd May 7.30pm
Green Cottage Garden Open Day	16th June
Summer BBQ	22nd June
Village Fête	1st September
Fizz on Friday	6th September