

## Letter from the editor

Harrah, hurrah, summer is here and its our third Hawstead newsletter, jam-packed with lots of goodies, well done to everybody who has made an effort to contribute and as you can see we now have a name! Keep up the good work your Hawstead Journal needs you.

I was delighted to hear that the 'Bungee jumping on the pound' created so much controversy and my wholehearted apologies to Brian Kew who took most of the flack. However may I just make a little point, in the world of journalism 'one should never let truth get in the way of a good story', or 'believe half of what you hear and less of what you see'. The first Monday in April is 'April fools'

## Exercise for a healthy back

To maintain a healthy back everyone should be doing twenty minutes exercise three times a week at the minimum.

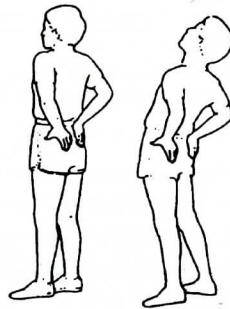
Cycling, walking, swimming, golf, dancing, running (if you must)

This keeps you in good cardiovascular shape, preventing heart problems. Also this exercise will strengthen your back keeping your spine and neck in better shape.

During your working day a lot of time is spent in the forward bent position. Try to change position regularly during the day. Backward bending to reverse this position is the best thing you can do for your back.

Also tone up those tummy muscles and pelvic floors, if your abdominal muscles are strong the muscles will provide more support to the spine.

So I hope to see all you Hawstead folk out there exercising this summer!!



**For Sale:** over one hundred books, all well known authors inc Josephine Cox, Audrey Howard, Harry Bowling & Catherine Cookson. Tel: 386412  
Hardbacks £1                      Paperbacks 50p

*The editor for the next issue will be Gary Stokes  
Tel: 01284 386325. Many thanks to all the contributors.*

Supported by Cecil & Larter Ltd  
Horringer  
Bury St Edmunds Suffolk  
01284 735856

Printed by CandLe Marketing, Tel 01284 735177

Editor Nikki Browne



# Hawstead Journal

For the Village by the Village

Volume 1, June 2002

The votes have now been counted for a title for the magazine. The clear winner by a ratio of 2 to 1 was to call it "The Hawstead Journal". Thank you to all those who voted

## Parish Council

The council's annual meeting was held in the village hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May, when John Holdway and Katie Fairbairn were chosen as chairman and vice chairman for a further year until the next Parish Council elections in May 2003.

The Audit Commission has decided to appoint a firm of London accountants, Lubbock Fine, to audit the Council's accounts this year.

Although the St Edmundsbury Borough Council are meticulous in asking for the Parish Council's views on planning applications affecting Hawstead they have made it clear that the final decision is theirs and in a number of recent cases that decision has been the opposite of the Parish Council's recommendation. However, they have recently reinstated the right of the parish councils to speak about applications at meetings of their Development Control Committee and we intend to take full advantage of this privilege in future.

Discussion has taken place on the introduction of a Management Plan for the parish's extensive greens and open spaces. The Parish Council intends to circulate a leaflet about all of them with details of any special plants and animals to watch out for, professional advice will be sought from Suffolk Wildlife. So far as the Millennium Field is concerned, it is proposed that half should be mown regularly as a picnic area and children's play area and the remainder managed as a meadow.

All council meetings are open to the public. The next one will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2002.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, we had the Annual Parish Assembly when the chairman and the Honorary Parish Officers reported on their activities during the past year as did P.C. Egan, our Community Beat Officer, the Borough Councillor and Mrs E Milburn, the County Councillor. Greg Egan, who is presently responsible for 19 parishes, told us that by July a new officer, Sarah King, will be arriving to look after Hawstead and 8 other villages.

*(Continued on page 2)*



*(Continued from page 1)*

Another bit of interesting news was that the Education Authority is considering the possible introduction of a six-term school year, with a five week summer break starting in July and finishing by the end of August.

## Hawstead Parish Council - Chairman's Annual Report

16<sup>th</sup> May 2002

This year has been busy for your Parish Council resulting in seven meetings taking place against the six meetings normally held.

The extra meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April was to discuss and adopt the Parish Council's Model Code of Conduct 2001 which came into force on 5<sup>th</sup> May, whereby Parish Councils came under the same rules as District and County Councils with regards to declaring Personal interests and entertainment expenses.

The Parish Council duly adopted the Model Code of Conduct and all the Councillors duly signed the declaration forms. These forms are held by St Edmundsbury Borough Council and will be monitored by their Standards Committee. A copy of the declaration together with any business interests will be held by the Parish Clerk.

During this year the Millennium Book was published and every household received a free copy thanks to a grant from the National Lottery Fund. The Parish Council was pleased to be associated with this project and made a grant of £300 towards the cost to the Community Council.

Mrs Joan Cook, our local historian, took on the mammoth task as Editor and chief co-ordinator to produce this wonderful book on the history of the Village. All the participants and others who helped in this project are to be congratulated.

We have now completed four years of our ten-year agreement with the Countryside Stewardship Scheme for Hawstead Village Green and we have received a grant of £600 towards the maintenance of the Green.

The financial situation of your Parish Council continues to remain in a sound condition. The Parish Precept has been increased this year from £22.96 to £24.99 for the forthcoming year. The band D for Hawstead is £986.91 against £873.10 for 2001/2002.

The Village Hall car park has been resurfaced and drainage work carried out together with road kerbing and a tarmac splay. The Parish Council received a grant of £1650 from Suffolk County Council towards the cost, our thanks go to Mrs Betty Milburn, our County Councillor, who arranged the allocation of funds for this project.

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Your Council was successful over the removal of Brook Green encroachment but we were involved in the cost of legal fees.

The repairs required to the bus shelter roof etc is the next project to be carried out this year.

A grant of £600 was given to the Community Council towards the £1200 cost of re-decorating the Village Hall.

There were six planning applications for minor alterations and extensions, which were supported by the council.

The Parish Council wish to thank Mr R Duchesne and Mr B Colson for cutting the village greens.

We have not been successful in letting the football pitch during the last season and we intend to advertise the availability of the pitch for this forthcoming year.

Highways through the Village continue to be a problem with regards to potholes and drainage. The flooding in Whepstead Road has been resolved by the installation of kerbing and two gulleys fitted together with the dredging of the ditch. Surface work is being carried out on Horsecroft Road and patching and other work is being done on Church Road.

I have duly resigned as SALC Vice Chairman of the St Edmundsbury District and the Executive Committee.

Our Tree Warden with village volunteers has carried out further planting and maintenance of Brook Green in conjunction with our 10-year plan with the Forestry Commission.

Mrs J Baker, as Chief Co-ordinator of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, together with PC G Egan our Community Beat Officer have duly kept the Parish Council informed of any police activities in relation to crime in our Village which I am pleased to inform you has been only of a minor nature.

I should like to thank the Vice-Chairman and Councillors together with the Parish Clerk for their support throughout the year.

Finally, I wish to thank the Community Council, the Church and the Landlords of the Metcalfe Arms for the forthcoming events taking place in the Village to celebrate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Year. I hope you will all enjoy and take part as a member of the Community of Hawstead.

### Thought of the month

**Be kind to your children, they are the ones who choose your nursing home!**

## Hawstead Community Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the Annual General Meeting of Hawstead Community Council to be held on Thursday 20 June at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

We are desperately seeking new members on to the Committee to fill gaps left by Committee members who are not seeking re-election. If you feel you have anything at all to contribute to the Community Council, or if you would like to discuss its activities, please telephone me on 386764.

Christine Gossett

### Hawstead Church Services

June	
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 a.m. Special Jubilee Festival Thanksgiving Service
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion & Hymns
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 a.m. Holy Communion & Hymns. This is a Benefice service when we will also be joined by the parishes of Lawshall and Great Whelnetham.
July	
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 a.m. Matins

## Poem

Here I am –  
Agenda in my hand deliberately in order  
My family to sustain –  
Bread, potatoes, porridge,  
All essential to our needs,  
There's nothing more exotic than a pound  
of cheddar cheese.

But for many a decade  
The markets' unseen eyes  
Have opened all the doors for us  
We don't even need to try  
To catch a glimpse of paradise  
Beneath their plastic skies.

There are melons from Israel,  
Grapefruits from sunny Spain,

by Margaret Crockford

Huge Chinese pumpkins and seeds from  
the U.S.A.  
There's Guatemalan sesame  
Asparagus from Peru  
Arched on shelves like rainbows  
Enticing me and you.

Which producers gave us this beguiling  
show?  
Who cajoled the gardeners  
To lay their trees down low?  
Did we start this game of chess  
Leave them without a move?  
And could we stop the pendulum stand  
time upon its head -  
By giving clothes to Oxfam or sponsoring  
a dam?

## Hawstead Village Green Wildflower Walk

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2002 at 3 pm at the Village Hall (followed by teas)

Come and join a guided walk led by Dorothy Casey of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Suffolk has lost 96% of its wildflower meadows since 1939. Our Village Green is a remarkable survivor. Come and see what makes it so special. All ages are very welcome for what should be an interesting and fun exploration into the wild-life on our doorstep.

There is no charge for the walk but in recognition of the help that has been given to the Parish by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust over many years we are offering teas afterwards in exchange for a donation to the work of the Trust across the county. All are very welcome but if you can let us know you are coming it would be helpful so that we don't run out of tea and yummy cakes! If you would like to offer help with the teas or provide a cake or refreshments please phone James or Christabel Carr on 386245. We would also be interested if anyone has old photographs or pictures of the Green or surrounding houses etc for a display in the hall on the afternoon.

James Carr

(N.B. if the hay gets cut first the walk will not take place).

## Name This Plant

This photo was taken in Betty Huck's garden, at the top of Whepstead Road. Are the flowers really red cowslips and if so, will they re-seed as such. Betty would like to know?



## Overheard in the village:-

President Bush visited an old peoples home. He shook hands with an aged man saying "do you know who I am?" The old man replied "if you want to know that you'll have to ask at reception!"



## The Weather Report

April's dry weather broke on the 26<sup>th</sup>: 20mm of rain fell during the last few days. The average temperature was 1° c (2° F) above the mean.

The first fortnight of May was changeable and overcast. It was moist (35mm of rain) and rather cool, especially by day. Night temperatures, however, have been rather mild: a couple of ground frosts occurred early in the month but no air frosts have been recorded since April 17<sup>th</sup>.

This Spring has given us one of the earliest growing seasons in 40 years. In a wave of unprecedented optimism I planted out tender summer plants on May 15/16. I wager that there'll be no air frosts this month. (June frosts are not unknown – 1962, 1989, 1991 and 1996!) The third week of May has brought mild breezes from a southerly quarter with increased amounts of sunshine. 24° c (75° F) was recorded May 16<sup>th</sup> (warmest day since last August 25<sup>th</sup>)

G.D.H.

## Letter of complaint

Re Bungee jumping at the Pound

I would like to complain. At your recent event, I had to queue for nearly 2 hours without either ice-cream or burger. When my time finally came the chap with his arm in a sling, tightly attached the bungee to my right ankle. At the time, I thought this was the norm, being a rural event. I am only a grade II jumper and have not got my certificate yet.

As I was launched from the platform, I caught my free leg in the handle of a toolbox full of spanners. This created an imbalance and caused me to oscillate. I would like to thank the person who returned my top plate dentures, which ejected into the neighbouring spinney when the toolbox and spanners hit the concrete ring on my way down. Although I have used them for the past 5 days, I do not think they belong to me as mine have 2 araldite repairs. Would it be possible to put an advert in your Swaps section, as I would like to exchange this top set for one that will fit (if mine cannot be found)?

I am looking forward to your next event as, I am told by the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, that my fractured leg will be out of plaster by then

Yours

Morris

*PS This was the most difficult jump since I completed in fog at the Tyne and Weir festival*

There have been sightings of other wildlife since the publication of the Hawstead book including seven curlew flying near the church last September and a red deer stag passing through near Melpost in Autumn. A herd of about twenty fallow deer have been seen intermittently feeding on fields around the village.

## Castaway Top Ten

Louise Johnson of Bull Lane

**Bucks Fizz - Making your mind up.** At 7yrs old I thought this was the best song ever.

**Abba - Super Trouper.** My first introduction to Abba.

**Tight Fit - The lion sleeps tonight.** Loved it back in the eighties, I listened to the record until it died an overplayed death.

**Billy Ocean - When the going gets tough (the tough get going).** Reminds me of my school holidays in Germany

**Madonna - Pappa don't preach.** Brought for me by my best friend in Germany when I left to come back to the U.K.

**Abba - Dancing queen.** Who can listen and not sing (or dance) along?

**Garth Brooks - Aint goin down till the sun comes up.** The beginning of my 'country' period.

**Destiny's Child - Independent woman.** One for the girls.

**Garth Brooks - Shameless.** Sappy stuff.

**Destiny's Child - Survivor.** If I'm going to be stranded on the village green, is there a more apt tune!

**My fave: Bucks Fizz - Making your mind up - happy childhood memories!!**

**Next month: Top ten choices of Bruce Monk**

## Black stork arrives in Hawstead

It is pretty rare that a stork arrives behind your house and perches on a tree in full view of the window but this is what happened on 1st May at Cullum Cottage. The adult black stork landed on a scots pine and spent a while preening. I wonder, is it an omen? Certainly after preening and tidying himself up the stork promptly left at 8.30pm in the direction of West Suffolk Hospital - (one assumes the Maternity Unit). We shall have to wait to see if a baby boom follows in Hawstead! Whilst many migrants probably pass through unnoticed this glossy black and white bird with its 2 metre wing span and bright red bill and legs was spectacular. Any sighting of a stork is unusual in Britain, the most regular are white from the continent but this was the rarer black stork, the majority of which breed in eastern Europe with some as far west as Spain. It was also spotted elsewhere near Bury and two days later one was seen in West Sussex. This could have been the same bird as once they ascend to a good height they can soar for a long distance fairly quickly.



## Not Naked Notley

Food is something I feel entirely Passionate about – better than sex!

I get immense pleasure from indulging in different flavours and techniques to strive to create something different for my friends.

The background to this started whilst I was at school. The food of course was appalling, so I started to cook in my study. Soon it was standing room only whilst I tried to feed numerous guests coming through my door.

Moving swiftly on to save boredom setting in.....

In 1977 I converted an electrical shop into a wine bar / restaurant in St Ives Cambs. The benefit was twofold, to attempt to sell my wares to unsuspecting innocent passers by, and to have a room big enough to entertain 20 friends for dinner in one go: Great fun!

Whilst I cooked at the wine bar for five years and always for pleasure, one thing I have not done is write recipes for other people to follow, so here's one to try! If it goes horribly wrong you have my permission to come and beat me up!

### Summer Supper Party

8 people

#### Wines

Sauvignon Blanc

Crozes Hermitage

Tokaji

#### Menu

Pan fried squid with mint and coriander sauce

New season rack of lamb with  
Tomato fondue and asparagus

Caramelised exotic fruit with tokaji glaze

*This months recipe the starter:*

#### **Pan fried squid**

1 bag herb salad

1 large bunch coriander – sprigs

1 small bunch mint – leaves only

Anything else you fancy from your herb garden – a bunch of sorrel is good!

groundnut oil

400g squid

16 scallops

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*(Continued from page 8)*

### **Dressing**

2 red chilli, de-seeded and finely chopped.

juice of 2 limes with zest

1 teaspoon of sugar

2 lemon grass stalks finely chopped

50ml white wine vinegar

nut oil

### **Method**

Put the lime juice, wine vinegar, chilli, sugar and lemon grass in a bowl. Whisk with a balloon whisk and add the nut oil, about same volume I guess. Taste and add more sugar if it is too hot for you.

Put out 8 plates, arrange the herb salad in the centre of the plate, coat with the dressing and turn with a fork until all the salad is covered.

In a hot frying pan add butter (unsalted) and extra virgin oil 50/50.

Chop the squid and fry in small quantities for milliseconds. Put in a bowl free of liqueur and keep warm, continue until all the squid is cooked.

Place the scallops in a hot pan with butter, season with black pepper and some lime juice. Pan fry for 30 secs each side.

Arrange two scallops on top of the salad together with the squid scattered generally. Drizzle a bit of juice from the pan on top. Grind some black pepper. There you go Eat!

Keep this in a safe place!

Main course in next months issue.

## Metcalfe Arms

### Boules Piste – (petanque pitch)

Now up and running, bring your own boules or borrow a set from behind the bar.

Great fun for all ages.

### For Sale

**Horse Manure** - wonderful for your garden. Lots for free! Tel: 386245

**Plastic Plant pots** - for all your needs, all shapes sizes and quantities Free Tel: 386245

**Large Cylinder Lawn Mower** - good cond. good quality cut Tel: 386245

**Unusual Tree** - White Mulberry (Morus alba), 6ft high in pot £10 Tel: 386245

**Metal Dragmat for lawn** - Clears worm casts and levels etc for a perfect lawn. offers Tel: 386245

**China Display Cabinet** - Free standing with glass sliding doors and two glass shelves. £35 Tel: 386248



## Road Safety, Hawstead



Speeding vehicles and near misses with vehicles exceeding the speed limit are becoming a way of life for the residents of Hawstead and the problem is getting worse. There has been more than ten accidents in the village over the past two years some serious and some merely vehicle retrieval from a front garden but all with the same cause, driving too fast for the Village roads and losing control of the vehicle. The few serious accidents involving injury are reported to the police but others involving single vehicle crashes where the owner removed their vehicles are not; so statistics do not show the real scale of the problem.

The problem has been addressed with the Highway Department by myself and a few of my neighbours requesting some form of traffic calming to enforce the 30 MPH limit before we have a fatality, results to date are:

A letter from the assistant Area traffic manager acknowledging the problem and stating that a Traffic Technician will visit Hawstead in July 2002 to assess the problem.

Quote from the Assistant Area Highway Manager “ you need a road accident death before you can get any priority” I did tell him we were actively looking for a volunteer!

The Police while sympathetic to our cause say they have no statistics to substantiate our claims, however, they know about the speeding traffic problem but do not have the equipment or resources to mount a sustained 'speed trap' to catch speeding motorists: This is not a long term solution to our problem.

Well it is obviously **OUR** problem and the authorities have more pressing problems to attend to – **SO WHAT ARE WE TO DO:**

**DO NOTHING** – hope your family or pet are not road accident casualties?

**DO SOMETHING** – **NOW** to **TRY** and make our village roads a safer place for all?



## Hawstead 2001

What the critics' are saying

**Joan Cook - History Recorder**

Launching the book in the village hall last November, Dr David Dymond, who had read the final draft, was kind enough to say that he felt the scope and quality of our village record was such that it would set a new national standard. Launching a book is rather like launching a ship, for you never know quite where next the book will turn up. Dr Evelyn Lord, course Director in English Local History, Cambridge wrote to me in January she 'particularly liked the way all age groups have been involved in its production and its coverage of so many aspects of village life...in a clear accessible style. It provides a model for other village historians to copy..it is a worthy gift for posterity and you all should be proud of it.' She also promised to review it in The Local History Newsletter, a journal distributed throughout the country.

A copy found its way to John Sutherland and he wrote a humorous but provocative piece in his Guardian column. But amongst his remarks he said of Hawstead 2001 ' it is handsome, literate, charming and informative.' High praise indeed from a professor of English literature!

Then in the second week in April a message was left on my answering machine saying the caller had read the review of Hawstead 2001 in the Times Literary Supplement and would like to discuss the article. It was too late in the afternoon to dash into Bury to buy a copy of the paper and having little idea that a review in no less than the TLS was to be published I rang Bury Library for confirmation. The awe in the librarian's voice as she said its half a page told its own story.

Entitled ' A draught from the village well' Randolph Stowe carefully and positively comments on the themes running through the book. On country life he says 'In spite of a generally optimistic tone, there is much in the book which hints at sadness' and gives 'the vandalization of the hedgerows, Dutch elm disease and the immigrant mite, Varroa threatening local bees', as examples, but he ends on a note of extraordinary praise. 'The book has been beautifully produced by Cambridge University Press and I think will be found absorbing by many more people than Joan Cook and her collaborators expected..... and may well attract a similar readership to that which made Akenfield an unprecedented success'. Perhaps it was the pint that Roy pulled for him sometime in the Metcalfe Arms for the review is heady stuff.

Who knows where next our village book will attract attention but as a small community we have achieved a record of our times that will endure when the froth of celebrations have long blown on the wind.

**Copies @ £20 each of Hawstead 2001 available from Sonja  
Monk Tel 01284 386876 or The Metcalfe Arms Tel 01284 386321**