

Husthwaite Newsletter

December 2009 Issue 44

Christmas at the Hall



Husthwaite Village Hall Sat. 12th December

6.30-7.00 Santa's Grotto only £2.50

7.00 Seasonal Supper, Music and Fun

**Tickets £6 from the village shop or Richard Wood (868247)
or Vikki Nixon (868740) by Wednesday 9th December**

Husthwaite Newsletter is jointly funded by the Parish Council, the Village Hall and local sponsors

EDITOR: Jan Coulthard

Please send contributions for the December 1st edition by January 20th 2010 to me via email:

(jancoulthard@hotmail.co.uk) or by post to Aletheia House, High Street, Husthwaite YO61 4PX or tel. 01347 868130.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Local businesses can advertise in this Newsletter. Please contact the Editor for information.



To all our readers at home and abroad, I wish you a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Jan Coulthard (Editor)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY *(in Village Hall unless stated otherwise)*

Weekly: Yoga Tues. 9.15am

Youth Club. Wed. 7.00pm

Thurs. 3 Dec 7.30 Home on the Range £8

Fri. 4 Dec 1.30 School Christmas Fair

Mon. 7 Dec Sale of raffle tickets around village by VH committee

Sat. 12 Dec. 6.30 Father Christmas in his Grotto £2.50

“ “ “ 7.00 Christmas at the Hall £6 (see cover)

Tues. 5 Jan Last date for Poetry Comp. Entries

Sat. 16 Jan. 7.30 Burns Supper £10 + buffet contribution

The Village Hall: Ideas for 2010

What would you like to see happening at the village hall next year? We're in the middle of putting together the programme and it would be really useful to have your ideas.

First, the return of events that have gone well. At the moment, it seems likely that we shall have “**Elphin Drift**”, the live music evenings; hopefully four sessions, beginning February 20th. There will be a **Ceilidh**, an evening of folk music and dancing and, in summer, the **Treasure Hunt**. We want to present another “**Made in Husthwaite**” and to increase the number of exhibitors. It would be in June and perhaps ought to cover two days over a weekend.

Some of the new ideas, in no particular order, include a new **Husthwaite Fun Run**, a **Garage Sale** for village hall funds, an excellent evening we have seen done elsewhere called “**Call My Bluff Wine Tasting**” on March 20th, and a **Quiz Night** with teams from various parts of the village pitted against each other.

With climate warming such an important issue, we would like to help people who want to reduce their energy bills. So we propose a free **Energy-Saving Saturday** in spring, with an exhibition, demonstrations and talks by experts about some of the practical ways of saving like insulation, renewable energy sources and information about grants. We would particularly like to find people to talk to us about low-cost solutions. There will be a programme of talks too. We are aiming for six talks with varied subjects like “**Getting Started in Beekeeping**” (now that we are returning to an orchard village), a talk and readings about the Yorkshire author **JB Priestley**, the story of the **Kilburn White Horse**, a **talk by the son of JL Carr**, the Thirsk-born author who wrote “**Month in the Country**” which became a film with Colin Firth, and a talk on North Yorkshire’s **Second World War air-fields** and the story of the people based there.

Finally, we would really like to find a way of doing **something during the day-time**, mainly for people in the village who are usually at home. Anything is possible, from simply having a coffee and buns session once a week, with a chance to sit down and chat, through domino drives and tea dances to short talks and demonstrations. What would make you feel like coming to the village hall, maybe in the early afternoon, to meet people, have a chat and find something interesting? **Would it be something that you would like to organise?**

Please let us have your reactions to any of the proposals and your ideas about what to put on at the hall. It's your hall and it should be doing what you want it to. Please give me a ring on 868130, or speak to any of the village hall committee members or email me on aletheia@hotmail.co.uk

NEWS FROM HUSTHWAITE SCHOOL

The children have just participated in the first whole school activity day for this year. As part of our initiative for increasing global awareness throughout school, we held activities that centred on 'fair trade'. Various events were organised by the staff, including cooking, poster making, advertising Fair Trade products and role play performances.

Children role playing the story of little red hen and thinking about sharing fairly



Community Governor

We currently have a vacancy for a community governor. If you would like to become involved in the life of the school or would like to know more information about the role of a community governor, please contact the school for details.

Children In Need

Children had a wonderful time being allowed to school wearing a 'silly' hat in aid of Children in Need. There were some fabulous designs being worn in various shapes, sizes and in a rainbow of colours.

Christmas Fair

The School's annual Christmas Fair will be held on Friday 4 December. This event is one of the school's main fund raising activities of the year. As ever there will be various gift and craft stalls,

cake stall and tombola as well as refreshments on offer and of course not forgetting Santa's Grotto. This is a great social event for members of the community to come along and support the school and its pupils. Everyone is welcome and the Fair starts at 1.30 pm.

Christmas Events

Children in the foundation stage and KS1 classes will be performing 'Christmas with Aliens'. Members of the community are invited to watch the children perform during their dress rehearsal on Wednesday 9th December at 1.30pm. Everyone is also invited to join the school for their Carols by Candlelight Service at St Nicholas' Church, Husthwaite on Thursday 17th December at 9.30 am.

Bags 2 School

Another fundraising initiative which the school holds twice a year is Bags2School. Unwanted clothes, bedding, curtains, soft toys, shoes, belts and handbags are collected from school and in return we receive payment based on the weight of items collected. If anyone has any unwanted items that they would like to contribute towards this fundraising event the next collection will take place on Wednesday 2nd December at 12.30pm. Bags are available from the school office or alternatively items can be placed in black bin bags.

Diary Dates

2 December Bags2School collection 12.30 pm

4 December Christmas Fair 1.30-3.00 pm

8 December Toddler Day

17 December Carols by Candlelight St Nicholas Church 9.30 am

18 December School closes 2.45 pm

4 January Staff Training Day

5 January School opens 8.50 am

Village Kids Mix with Top Musicians at Elphin Drift

Elphin Drift has taken on a force of its own. When we started we didn't really know which way it would go, and we were keen to have our own village performers in reserve in case others did not step up. It has worked out the other way round. The reputation of Elphin Drift has spread.

At November's evening I asked Andrew Huggan what inspired him come all the way by train from Clackmannanshire in Scotland. 'Look at this place,' he said, 'the amazing hall and the friendly people all getting involved. It's a special atmosphere. This is the only place I would dare try out the latest song I have written.'

Husthwaite's own Alun Nixon gave the evening a rousing start with the Saw Doctors number, '*I useta lover.*' Alun was on his best behaviour because his guitar teacher, Les Boughton, was one of the guests.

'I was surprised coming here,' Les said, 'to find I could plug my guitar straight into a professionally rigged sound system.' He was referring, of course, to the work of Mike Wells, who once again gave his services to a village hall evening. Les Boughton turned out to be a superb guitarist.

Making her second Elphin Drift visit from her home in Cumbria, Jessie Binns sang beautifully and gave her own special rendering of the old favourite, '*The Lion and Albert*'.

'What I love about Elphin Drift,' Jessie said, 'is the way it gives opportunities for the village kids to do their bit on the same stage as high class performers.'

Thomas Nixon sang a duet with his father, Raili played a violin solo and there were contributions from Lucy Collins and Kerry Barker. Local lad Callum Watt might not any longer be one of the 'village kids' but he found it worth his while to forego an evening's busking on the streets of Preston, where he is at university, to come home for Elphin Drift. Callum is honing his skills as a songwriter, and he gave his customary rendering of '*Hallelujah*'.

Joe Solo made his first Elphin Drift appearance . The young ones had seen him before at the Galtres festival and they crowded onto the front row as he began his act. Joe is a one-man band, simultaneously playing guitar, mouth organ, castanets and drums. It was fascinating to watch him, as well as to listen. He began with a hilarious description of his journey from his home in Scarborough through the hills to arrive in ... well, he didn't exactly know where he was, but it felt like a lovely place approached via a wonderful floodlit abbey.

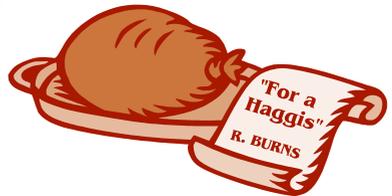
If by any chance you missed this latest Elphin Drift, no doubt you heard the final numbers when all the performers got up on stage for an all-out blast of '*I useta lover*'. And so the evening ended with everyone looking forward to February and the first of four Elphin Drifts in 2010. If you haven't been yet, do yourself a favour.

Richard Wood

Husthwaite Burns Supper 2010

Saturday 16th January

Husthwaite Village Hall



The Scottish Country Dancing Burns Supper will be on the 16th of January 2010. This will be the 5th one held in the village hall. It's a really fun night with food, drink, dancing and some short but amusing speeches and song. This year the speeches will be given by Cameron Smith and Liz Crawshaw with the dancing patiently called by Brian Watt.

Tickets (£10 plus a contribution to the buffet) are available from **Will Mowatt** (01347 868196 or e-mail w_mowatt@yahoo.co.uk). If you want to get into the swing of things beforehand there is a practice evening on Friday the 18th of December.

Village Hall News

October's Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Trustees unanimously re-elected the serving members. At the following committee meeting Richard Wood was elected chairman, Stephen Barker vice chairman, Andrew Coulthard secretary and Vikki Nixon treasurer. Steve Cariss and Lawrie Hill were co-opted as committee members.

It became clear over recent months that the current hiring rates for the village hall were out of date. With assistance from Paul Escreet, the committee conducted a detailed comparison with prices charged at other local halls. It was interesting to discover that we are not the only village struggling with the same difficulties, mainly caused by significant rises in fuel prices.

As from October's AGM, therefore, the village hall is available for hire at £10 an hour. Hirers will be asked to say whether they need setting-up and taking-down time for their events. The first hour of such time will be free. Thereafter, the cost will be £3 an hour.

The Village Hall Committee plans another lively year of social activities and we encourage you not only to support these occasions but also to bring forward your own ideas for activities based in our hall.

Next up is the visit on 3rd December of North Country Theatre from Richmond with their play 'Home on the Range'. Several Husthwaite people have seen this production and they say it is an occasion not to be missed. Based on the diaries of women who walked and carried their children along the 2000 mile trail into the wild west, this play tells the tale of a Wensleydale family. With live music and dance, the story moves from laughter to tears and back again. And the question we can't wait to see answered: how will they get a covered wagon into Husthwaite hall? There's only one way to find out - book your ticket in advance, price £8, from the village shop or from 868130.

Hardly a week later, on **Saturday 12th December it's Christmas at the Hall.** Bring the children at 6.30pm to meet Father Christmas in his grotto. From 7.00pm it's food and fun for all the family.

Tickets are £6 and you get yours from the village shop or from Richard Wood (Falcon Cottage 868247) or Vikki Nixon (Sleepy Willows 868740). You will appreciate that big work is happening on the catering front and we'll be glad if you let us know **in advance , by Dec.9th**, that you are coming.

This year we're doing a **Christmas Draw** again. Tickets are available from Stephen Barker (868259). We will be touring the village to sell tickets on the evenings of December 7th. First Prize is £150, plus many other prizes.

Thanks for your support in 2009 and seasonal greetings to you all from the Village Hall Committee.

Richard Wood

Harvest Hoe-Down

A lively and talented crowd of dancers responded well to Gavin Watt's patient and expert calling of country dancing on 10th October in the Village Hall, showing no sign of the recently demolished tasty meal. The event was organised by the PCC of St Nicholas' Church in aid of Village Hall funds- but, as usual , all village groups willingly joined in to make this another successful collaboration of village life!

Jill Galloway

Photo: Sue Leverton



ONWARDS & UPWARDS

Since the new Games Area (MUGA) was officially opened in July, this new amenity has been enjoyed by many in the village, as well as some visitors. Now that dark nights have arrived, there is, understandably, less activity. However, it is pleasing to report that two groups - Ladies' Tennis (Tuesday afternoons) and Netball (Sundays) are both developing well. Would any other groups wishing to make a regular booking, please let me know.

With regard to the Netball, a need was identified for 2 sets of team bibs in order to identify each team's players more clearly. Following a successful grant application to Easingwold District Lions Club, £120 has been allocated for these items. We are extremely grateful for this support in helping to move forward. No excuses now for passing to the wrong person!

The total cost of the MUGA has amounted to just over £61,000.00 (plus reclaimable VAT). This has now been paid in full, thanks to further grants of £5,000 from Hambleton District Council. With the remainder coming from the Recreation Area account. Following submission of a detailed end of project report and a monitoring visit from an officer from the Big Lottery Fund, conditions attached to the £50,000 People's Millions grant have now been met.

It is pleasing to report that the Recreation Area Committee has recently been enhanced by the addition of Catherine Skinner, Liz Walton and Jason Whorton. The Parish Council is appreciative of this additional help and expertise as we move into the next stages of developing the Recreation Area. Priorities to be tackled centre around two ventures:

* A Young Children's Play Area (ages 3-8)

It is very encouraging to report that a grant of £5,000 has recently been awarded towards this project by the Hambleton Area Committee of North Yorkshire County Council.

* A Fitness Trail, together with provision for adventurous play.

The broad timetable for these initiatives is as follows:

- * Detailed planning (by end of November)
- * Competitive estimates (by mid-December)
- * Further applications for grants (by mid-December)
- * Project start (March/April)
- * Completion (May/ June 2010)

Finally, in addition to these 'big features' of the Recreation Area, there is a need to provide such items as seats, picnic benches, litter bins and a notice board. If anyone in the community would like to make a contribution towards any of these through funds raised in a sponsored event or to mark a memorial or special anniversary, please get in touch on 868449.

Peter Davison

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Andean Arrivals"

Husthwaite's newest resident, Jacki Barlow, is now installed in her new house on the outskirts of the village on especially prepared secure grazing land together with her growing family of Apacas. Beacon Alpacas' first batch of seven comprised 5 females (all pregnant) and two males with a further contingent due to arrive imminently , with a planned total herd of forty.



This shows Jacki with the first of her flock.

Jacki was born on a farm at Morley near Leeds and together with her sister Liz developed a love of Alpacas. It has taken some 20yrs to achieve her ambition of being a commercial owner. Both are members of the British Alpaca Society with Liz, a recognised Alpaca Show judge, an enthusiastic supporter of Jacki's venture.

Alpaca fleeces are softer than those of llamas and are in great demand after shearing which takes place in May each year.

Jacki has developed a realistic operating plan which includes husbandry days, educational visits, and trekking as well as the sale of fleeces and alpaca related products.

She hopes that alpacas will soon be an accepted part of the Hushwaite farming landscape. Her early days, apart from looking after her new flock, will include the planting of new hedging and settling into her new home.

Visitors are welcome at weekends by prior appointment by emailing barlow051@yahoo.co.uk or telephoning 077 1691 7315.

Roy Leverton

Jane Austen talk by Brian Wilks

In Late October, Brian Wilks, an expert and author of many books on the Brontes and Jane Austen, came from Gloucestershire once more to give his own inimitable take on literature, and its historical context, in an illustrated talk at the village hall. This time Jane Austen was the topic, a popular subject for TV and film adaptations, few of which give the true story. Brian spoke of Jane's family, which included an admiral, a press gang organiser and a slave owner, so life then was not all genteel frocks, dancing and flirtations. He pointed out the constant fear of a French invasion, the worry of an English revolution to copy the recent French one, and the dangers of life like travel, bad weather and illness (often fatal especially to the young). Marriage into money, for women, saved them from a life of penury as inheritance was mainly down the male line. But there was fun to be had, from music, dancing, visiting friends, correspondence by letters and from reading, not least the witty and closely observed books Jane herself wrote, which open a window on her world. I think many of us who listened to the talk will reread the books with a new appreciation of her talent.

Jan Coulthard

ANNUAL HUSTHWAITE POETRY COMPETITION 2010

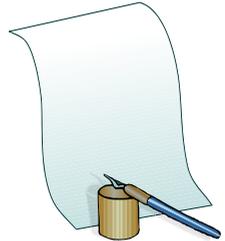
There is still time to send in your entries for our poetry competition.

So far, the adult section has mainly attracted poems from **OUTSIDE** of Husthwaite! Are we to be beaten by outsiders?

There are 2 sections: Under 16 years old

Adult: 16 years and over

Please state which category you are in. If under 16 **please give your age** as that will be taken into consideration in the judging.



RULES:

The subject of the poem should be on any aspect of **“THE TREE”**

*The poem should be **NO LONGER** than 20 lines and your own original work

*You can enter more than one poem

*Your winning entry will be published in this Newsletter

*Email or post your entry to the Newsletter editor

*Entries to be in by **January 5th 2010**

***Please put your name, address and phone no.** on entries, even those by email.

PRIZES:

Under 16s: £30 book Token

Adult: Carved Squirrelman Trophy retained for one year and position of 2010 Husthwaite Poet Laureate.

For the sake of fairness, the judges will not see the names on your poems. **Mums and dads - please encourage your youngsters to have a go, or pen something yourself!**

Jan Coulthard (Editor)

Husthwaite Local History Society

"Tales of Husthwaite Old School" as described in previous Newsletters is now on sale at the shop or may be ordered from Angela Ovenston (868347) and costs £5.50. It is of general historical interest to the village and particular interest to those who attended the old school. Get your copies now to avoid disappointment!

Around the same period of 1893 when strongly worded letters were to -ing and fro-ing about the running of the old school, the following items also appeared in the Easingwold Advertiser:

13 May 1893 HUSTHWAITE

Carriage accident - what might have resulted in a serious accident occurred on Wednesday afternoon when Mr Arnison of the Manor House, accompanied by his man, was driving down a hill known as the Newkiln Bank. It seems part of the harness gave way and the horse bolted along with the carriage with the occupants for a considerable distance, when it was stopped. Fortunately no one was injured. The horse sustained injury to its legs.

[At that time the lower end of The Nookin was known as Pilgrim Street, maybe Newkiln indicates a kiln in use in the area and the name later became corrupted to Nookin. Any ideas welcomed]

8 July 1893 HUSTHWAITE

The Royal Wedding Day (Duke of York, eldest surviving son of the Prince of Wales, married Princess Mary of Teck) was celebrated by giving public teas and sports. One tea was provided by the Church people and another by the Wesleyans of the village. The latter paraded in the village, headed by the Husthwaite Brass Band.[!!]

If you have some time to spend, are interested in finding out more about village history or have any particular projects in mind please contact **Annie Richardson (868005) or Angela Ovenston (868347)** - new members are always welcome.

School Governor Needed

As you will read elsewhere in this Newsletter, the school needs a new “Community Governor”. You do not need experience in education to apply, and the time commitment is not great but the role is an essential part of a well run school. I am a Community Governor and if you wish to discuss the role before committing yourself please get in touch.

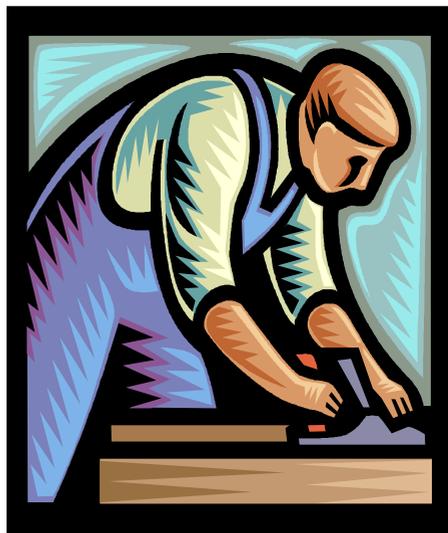
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GLUE AND GLITTER

We all had a great time at the Glue and Glitter on the 27th November 2009. We made 27 excellent Christmas cards for our families and friends and this was a very good start to our Christmas preparations.

We managed not to bring too much glitter back on our clothes. The chocolate cake was delicious and cups of tea were a great after all our hard work. Many thanks to the organizers and helpers.

Dominic Jay ,Sophie and Lindsay Walker

Photo by Andy Colbourn



News from Neighbourhood Watch

If you want to renew Smartwater-or use it for the first time- to mark your property, you can buy it from Harrogate NWA at half the retail price. Go to www.nwatchharrogate.org.uk and click on Smartwater at the bottom left of the homepage. You can print off an order form to send with your cheque.

Remember to secure sheds and garages and check them regularly these dark nights especially.

STOP PRESS.

Bargain prices at Easingwold Council Offices, Police Station, Church Hill:

24hour time switches for lights and radios -£3 or £5 for 2.

Shed alarms--£7

Personal attack alarms(wristwatch with easy press button)--£3

Tell your co-ordinator of any of your concerns-- or phone 0845 60 60 24 7 for non-emergency messages to the police. Please let me have your email if you wish to be included in the fast messaging system, or give it to your co-ordinator. Best wishes for a safe Christmas .

Jill Galloway

jillgalloway@btinternet.com

LOVE IN A BOX

This is how someone described the Christmas Shoe-boxes received by deprived children in Romania and other parts of Eastern Europe. On November 3rd, a happy band of volunteers met to pack this year's boxes. Despite the recession, generosity was very much in evidence in the number of gifts which poured in. As a result, 136 boxes were filled and delivered to the drop-off point, ready for transport. Money needed for this transport also poured in - from box-fillers, from villagers unable to get out to shop, from one little girl who had saved her own money, from anonymous donors who dropped envelopes through the door.

What a happy time we all had, accompanied by comments like - 'Oh look at this lovely teddy' and 'Won't a little boy be thrilled with this?' We know from speaking to volunteers who have travelled out with the convoys how the children react on receiving what may be the only gift they are ever given.

Many thanks to all who helped in any way. It's not too early to begin collecting for next year!

Bunny Wentworth and Linda Davison



Bunny Wentworth and Betty Dowson help with the shoe boxes

Helping you make more of your finances



Will Mowatt, your local financial adviser

Based in the Easingwold area (I live with my family in Husthwaite), I am an expert in all aspects of financial planning.

I offer both financial advice and financial planning services to individual clients and small business owners.

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- It's your choice whether you accept my recommendations - you're under no obligation.

So why not give me a call or e-mail me today?

01347 868196 (office)

07777 663766 (mobile)

E-mail:

will@mowattfp.co.uk

Website: www.mowattfp.co.uk

Will Mowatt is an independent financial adviser working for Mowatt Financial Planning Ltd.

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Cleaning & re-sanding: Brush all the dirt away from your paving/patio and then clean it using high pressure rotary cleaning machine. Brush in new fine kiln dried sand between all the driveway blocks giving the area a brand new look - **£2 per mtr.** **Cleaning, re-sanding and sealing:** Brush all the dirt away from your paving/patio and then clean it using high pressure rotary cleaning machine. Brush in new fine kiln dried sand between all the driveway blocks. Seal the driveway with a copolymer paving sealant - **£3.50 per sq mtr.**

Would you like to have your conservatory looking as clean and bright as it used to from only £60?

Provision and use of the defibrillator

As you no doubt read in the last Newsletter, the village has been given an automatic defibrillator for emergency use. This machine has the potential to save lives in an emergency especially as outside emergency response may take some time to reach us.

However, this machine is useless without operators. My previous plea for volunteers has produced some response but more are needed to ensure that the onus does not fall to a very few people. If you volunteer you will be fully trained and insured. We all hope the machine never comes out of its box but you never know. It might be you or one of your family who could be saved by its use. Please contact me (868146) or Carol Fenwick (868479) and join the team of life savers.

Barrie Ward

Orchards of Husthwaite

Amazingly, over 500 fruit trees have been planted in the village this autumn by the Orchard Project. Some to restore old orchards, others to start new ones, and the rest in villagers' gardens, at the pub, and in the school grounds. A wide variety of trees have been planted: the main group are apples, including old local varieties, then pears, plums, damsons, greengages, quince trees, medlars and peaches. The next stage is a plan to graft rare and ancient varieties onto strong root stock from February. Also a tree management and pruning talk is planned, to help people keep their trees in good order.

Orchards of Husthwaite are aiming to make several products from local fruit, for sale in the village and the surrounding area. It is planned that fresh apple juice, cider, cider vinegar and chutneys will be available, starting with next year's crop next September.

This year, Cameron Smith and Lawrie Hill have been running a pilot project, juicing 600 litres of apples and some pears, of which most has gone into cider making, and the rest into fruit juice. (See photo on back cover!) The fruit juice is pasteurised, and bottled in green glass with a classic label designed by Lawrie. The tastings have been by volunteers this year. My family have had the chance to try a bottle of the apple juice, and my 4 year old grand-daughter declared it to be **the best juice she had ever had**. Everyone else who tasted it said the same, it is so delicious, so I think when it does go on sale next year, there will be plenty of orders. Cameron puts the excellent flavour down to the proportion of sweet and cooking apples in the recipe. The cider will not be ready for volunteer tasting until Easter at the earliest, so enthusiasts will have to be patient!

Already some villagers with good crops of apples have had their fruit juiced this year, and this will continue for anyone next year, on 3 juicing days in September and October 2010. In future, production will be based at Manor House, in a specially designed building in the fold yard. There will be rooms for juicing and storage.

This year has not been a great cropping year for some apple trees in the village, and it is hoped that next year there may be more fruit available. Certainly if it is, many people may have an excess of fruit which they could have juiced, and could keep for up to 18 months.

This project has been hard work, both on the planting and juicing sides, and thanks go to Cameron and Lawrie, and Philip Hewitson, for their tremendous efforts in securing grants, planning the tree buying, planting the trees, ordering equipment, planning the production and a successful pilot juicing programme.

Jan Coulthard

The bottle
label designed
by
Lawrie Hill





Cameron Smith and Lawrie Hill pressing the local apples as part of the Orchards of Husthwaite pilot project, autumn 2009

Photo by Richard Wood