Husthwaite Newsletter

Send us your favourite Husthwaite photograph.

EASINGWOLD TAXIS
*Shopping Trips
*Nights Out
*Courier Service
*Contract Work

Deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 25th July.
Phone Louie

Chair of the VH Committee, Angela Whenman, gives an update on
the long-awaited renovations

Village Hall gets Its Face-Lift

June 2004

A lot of progress has been made in upgrading the Village Hall. Februarys
pantomime, as well as being an artistic success and a lot of fun for the
community, proved a handsome fund-raiser. The money has been put
back into the Hall.

An inspection by Tony Fox showed that the blocking of gutters and air vents
along the east wall had caused big problems with damp. Tony’s building firm,
assisted by volunteer workers, particularly John Lawrance and Charlie
Whenman, took up floor boards down that side of the Hall and confirmed that
there were numerous rotted joists. These were stripped out and replaced by
new timber protected by an inserted membrane. The south end of the Hall
was discovered to need similar treatment. Charlie extended this work to the
wall next to the stage, too, as well as to the stage ramp, which he has re-built.

Meanwhile, another team of weekend and evening volunteers, too many for
me to name in person but they have all been thanked, had moved in to sugar
soap the Hall from top to bottom, end to end. Then they painted it.

It’s More Than a Lick of Paint for
the Village Hall

(continued from page 1)

Angela Whenman

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this should have been done before the painting, but in work of this kind the

Charlie Whenman at work on the
stage
Husthwaite Newsletter

Advertising rates for the next issue: 1 adults, 50p kids
Businesses: please phone.

Editor: Richard Wood
Falcon Cottage, The Nookin
01347 868247
tykescript@lineone.net
www.husthaitevillage.co.uk
Next Edition: late July
Deadline for your writing: Sunday 25th July
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The next job was to bring in an industrial sander. Alright, alright, we know this should have been done before the painting, but in work of this kind the next job is always the one for which you have the volunteers. The soapers and painters moved out and got on with their lives, and now we needed to prepare for the sanding. Some sad person calculated that there are 7,000 nails on the Hall and stage floor; every one of them had to have its head hammered down, because a modern sander takes a good 16th off the surface. Then the sander moved in, driven by John Lawrance. First its cam belt snapped; it was a Sunday afternoon; on the Monday morning there was not a replacement anywhere in Yorkshire. A replacement machine took over .... and broke down. John eventually finished the job with a new model. At the time of writing, we are waiting for the dust to settle before the floor gets its brand new surface.

The floor was the main job, but on your next visit to the Village Hall you’ll see other nice touches. We have new curtains, made up for us by Jill Pike. The crumbling plaster in the Maurice Hutchinson Room and on the toilets corridor wall has all been very skilfully replaced by ? and that area is ready for repainting. The toilets, too: they have been cleaned out and painted. The Ladies and the Disabled were quite easy; none of our volunteers wished to enter the Men’s, and when we did pluck up courage we proved to be right; they were vile!

There is, of course, still a lot of work to do to complete the transformation of the Village Hall but I hope you will agree a wonderful start has been made.
Treasure Hunt Offers Another Chance to Re-Live Your Youth

Stephen Barker

Summer days are with us again and it is time to make sure you have booked the Village Treasure Hunt into your diary. The date is Sunday 27th June, the time 2.00pm. We’d like you to check in at the Village Hall this time, as for last year’s enjoyable occasion. We will finish with a bar-b-cue on the East View Green.

Many people were delighted with last year’s course. You may remember that it took us through Garbutts Ghyll and home along the top of Beacon Banks. Village old-timers were dewy-eyed with memories of their youthful days, some admitting that they hadn’t been round there for many a long year.

Well, we have planned another Husthwaite beauty trip and have no hesitation in recommending that you take part. Please wear clothing and footwear appropriate for our local countryside and for the prevailing weather conditions when the time comes. You’ll need a pen or a pencil, too.

There will be a refreshments stall on the route. Tickets are available from the Village Shop (adults £6, young people £4, below school age free) and the ticket price includes your bar-b-cue, though we would ask you to bring along at least a small amount of money for the purchase of drinks at the finish.

The Village Hall Committee challenges you to get your walking shoes again later in the year. We’re going to have a Sponsored Walk on 5th September, starting at your choice of time between 1.00 and 3.00pm. Fancy Dress is optional and encouraged, and there will be a prize for the best-dressed. Details from Ursula Duncan 868304.

The VH billiard table has a new surface and is being used by the young people at their weekly gathering on Wednesday evenings. Enquiries about using the table or volunteering your services at the Young Peoples evenings: Angela on 868373.

A date change: the proposed Husthwaite Exhibition will take place in the spring of 2005. Details in a later Newsletter.

Village Hall Bookings

If you plan to use the VH, do not assume it is available. Please be certain to make a booking from the Bookings Secretary, Lynn Collins 868655. The rate is £6/hour.
Deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 25th July.
Your Parish Council

As we approach this autumn’s national referendum on local government, Ursula Duncan provides some background information on the workings of this level of our local democracy. Ursula is Editor of The Link and a co-opted member of Husthwaite Parish Council

A Parish Council is a democratically elected first tier of local government. It can play a vital role in the community it serves, improving quality of life and the local environment. It can influence other decision makers to deliver services to meet local needs. The Government is currently encouraging Parish and Town councils to deliver more services and play greater roles in their local communities. It is providing finance and schemes to bring this about. A Parish Council is consulted by the local authority on all planning matters.

A Parish Council can raise funds by requiring the District Council to collect money on its behalf through the Council Tax. This is called the Precept and is the principal source of income for parish councils.

Husthwaite Parish Council
There are 7 councillors, who meet six times a year. Each councillor takes special areas of responsibility:

Carol Fenwick - Chair, Lighting, YLCA, Risk Assessment
Robin Houlston - Police Liaison Committee and Highways
Ruth Woodhead - Beckwith Trust and Surgery Fund
Elaine Smith - Village Hall Committee representative
Michael Graham - Planning, Public Transport, Footpaths/Rights of Way
Colin Burn - school representative
Ursula Duncan - co-opted member

The Clerk to the Parish Council is Sarah Harper.
The Parish Council meetings are open to the public. You are welcome to come and listen. Public participation is also encouraged, and members of the public can express their views or ask questions by arrangement with the Chair before the meeting begins.

You can find out what Husthwaite Parish Council is doing by looking at the Minutes and Annual Report which are available on the village noticeboard and on the website: www.husthwaitevillage.co.uk

Parish Council Duties and Powers
Duties are actions the Parish Council must carry out by law. Powers are discretionary activities a Parish Council is legally entitled to if it considers them in the best interest of the community it serves. Parish councils have few duties and many discretionary powers:

- community safety and crime prevention, cemeteries, playing fields, community centres or village halls, war memorials, seats and shelters, rights of way, street lighting, allotments, litter, youth projects, parking, traffic calming, tourism, public walks and open spaces

These are just a sample of the activities to which a Parish Council can contribute or offer financial support if it considers it would be in the community’s interest.

Do you have any questions, concerns, suggestions about this local community and its environment?
You can:
- contact one of the Parish Councillors
- come to a meeting and put your views

The next meeting of Husthwaite Parish Council is at 7.30pm on 20th July in the Village Hall.

REMEMBER
Your views are important to your Parish Council.
We look forward to hearing from you.