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“GOOD NEWS” PARISH MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

The committee which administers the magazine is a sub-committee of the Hethersett Parochial Church Council, consisting of members from that council with powers to co-opt other members.

The Committee: Kim Arnall, Mark Alexander, Ros Head and Peter Steward

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Items for publication should be delivered to the Editor by the 12th of each month prior to publication - contact details are on page 23.

Editor:

Peter Steward e-mail: petersteward@sky.com

The Parochial Church Council cannot accept responsibility for the wording of advertisements or the work performed by any advertiser in this magazine.

Finding A New Rector

THE search for a new Rector for Hethersett and the Meltons has taken a major step forward with the publication of a Benefice Profile for prospective candidates as we describe below.

FOLLOWING the departure of the Rev Derek McClean in March, the Benefice has begun the task of finding a new Rector.

The Benefice consists of three parishes - Hethersett, Great Melton and Little Melton, and a committee has been formed, made up of two representatives from each parish.

The Benefice Standing Committee (BSC) distributed a questionnaire and held a discussion day for parishioners to contribute to a profile which tells potential applicants about the Benefice and the parishes. The BSC presented the profile to the three Parochial Church Councils who approved it on 4th September.

The document now goes to the Archdeacon of Norfolk and Bishop of Thetford to undertake the recruitment process. Anyone who would like a copy of the full profile e-mailed to them should contact churchwarden@hethersett-church.online.

In our article on this and the next page we look at some of the major points of the Benefice profile. *The Benefice Standing Committee*

Compassionate and Enthusiastic

THE new Rector should be compassionate, enthusiastic, inspiring, creative, approachable, a leader and be at the heart of the community.

Those were the main points to come out of the questionnaire and discussion day.

“We are looking for someone who can offer collaborative and sensitive leadership. A team builder who rejoices in encouraging, enabling and releasing

the gifts of others and supporting them in their calling.

“We are looking for somebody who can accept, love and value the existing congregations whilst supporting, nurturing and enabling the introduction of new ideas and being a recognised, approachable figurehead,” the document states.

The profile goes on to give details of the Rectory in Hethersett along with

details of the local area and schools and the three churches— St Remigius at Hethersett, All Saints at Little Melton and All Saints and St Mary at Great Melton.

Details are also given of the Benefice team which includes the Rev Christopher Mallett, the Venerable Martin Gray and the Rev Michael Kingston.

The document also highlights some of the “other forms of worship” at the three churches including Messy Church at Little Melton and Hethersett, Toddler Group sessions at Hethersett, Hethersett and District Churches Together and Garden Church.

We thought you might be interested in a few details of these specific activities.

Hethersett Messy Church meets four times a year and currently has between nine and 15 families attending regularly and enjoying crafts, seasonal activities, singing, an informal worship session and a meal. Little Melton Messy Church takes place every school holiday in the church.

Hethersett Toddler Group sessions include play, toys, craft and singing and attracts up to 20 children along with carers. Children starting school are presented with a Lion Story Teller Bible.

Hethersett and District Churches Together arranges joint acts of worship including Remembrance Sunday, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Good Friday Easter Walk of Witness and service, an open air service in the centre of the village, carol singing outside Tesco’s and the Shrove Tuesday pancake evening which is an



Hethersett Toddler Group

introduction to the annual Lent Course. Hethersett and District Churches Together also provided a grant to allow Good News to go full colour this year.

Garden Church is a modern innovation for worship and features a growing network of small organic churches in Norfolk that now includes Great Melton where sessions are usually held in the village cricket pavilion. Meetings include informal worship, along with food and faith.

Hethersett Herald

You can read more about the parish profile in the October edition of Hethersett Herald.

Herald is a monthly electronic magazine for Hethersett which comes out on the last day of each month exclusively online at:

www.hethersettherald.weebly.com

The publication is a mix of news, views, features and information and is free.

Back copies are also available from the website.

News From Hethersett

England to Australia

HETHERSETT stalwart Samantha England (pictured right) has left the village to emigrate to Australia with husband Mike.

Sam and Mike were leading lights in the Hethersett Hearts Community Group which has done so much for the village during and after lockdown and which now runs the Post Office in Hethersett Library.

Sam was also a parish councillor for a number of years and her friend Sarah Lawrence, who is chair of Hethersett Parish Council, paid tribute to the couple who she described as “selfless and inspirational.”

“They are a truly remarkable couple who deserve all the happiness in the world. I wish them all the very best for their exciting new adventure but goodness me, they’re going to be missed,” Sarah said.



HETHERSETT Hall Care Home resident Harold Page received hundreds of cards from well wishers after the home asked people to help make his day special by sending greetings cards. Harold is pictured above with some young visitors from the Friend In Deed organisation.

Tuesday Opening For Post Office

HETHERSETT Post Office in the library is now open on Tuesday, making it a six days a week service.

Such has been the success of the relatively new community venture that opening hours are being extended to include Tuesdays.

The office is open Mondays to Fridays from 9.30 am until 1 pm and from 1.30 until 5.30 pm and on Saturdays from 9.30 am until 2.30 pm.

The post office is closed on Sundays.

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Parish Church Services in October



As we currently have no Rector, service times may vary.

Please check the list below and also further through the magazine for information from the individual churches.

1st October: Trinity 17

Little Melton	10.30 am	Harvest Festival Family Service
Hethersett	11.00 am	Informal Communion
Great Melton	4.00 pm	Garden Church at the Cricket Pavilion

8th October: Trinity 18

Great Melton	10.30 am	Harvest Festival Family Service
Hethersett	11.00 am	Parish Communion

15th October: Trinity 19

Little Melton	9.30 am	Family Communion
Hethersett	11.00 am	Sung Morning Prayer

22nd October: Trinity 20

Great Melton	9.30 am	Family Communion
Hethersett	11.00 am	Family Service

29th October: Bible Sunday

Hethersett	10.00 am	Benefice Communion with the Bishop of Norwich
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Hethersett Wednesday Communion Services will take place at 10:00am on:

4th October 11th October 18th October 25th October

Little Melton Tuesday Morning Prayer at 10.00am on:

10th October 24th October

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Women's Institute with Margot Markham

During the summer we have few formal meetings and many coffee mornings and tea parties. In August, most members piled into my garden for tea. There were even two intrepid men.

The ladies came in their pretty "frocks" and they obviously didn't represent a labour force or more casual help "volunteers" as they are called. There was lots of chatter and laughs. The sun shone and they left before supper time. Perhaps next time they will come with a trowel and their marigolds. It didn't mattera really good time was had by all.

The RiNG (Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group) with Viv Hawes

What a summer.

I know I have found it too hot at times whereas my husband loves it, so 'one size fits all' is never a good thing and the same thing is true of the subject of our August talk. Orthopaedic surgeon Keith Tucker gave us a fascinating insight into how the committee he sits on reviews all the replacement joints used in Britain and parts of Europe.

He explained how, at times in the past, such bad examples had been made that they required removal and revision of the procedure, having caused real harm in some instances. No surgeon wants to see his work undone so Keith and some colleagues set up a review body to set standards for the manufacture of prosthetic joints, everybody giving their time on a voluntary basis. I think we can all rest a little easier knowing our wellbeing is taken so seriously.

Professor Karl Gaffney was due to speak in September about Rheumatology .

The 25th October meeting is one a lot of people are looking forward to as Maria Pennington will be talking about Lalique, an interesting subject as anyone who watches the many antiques shows on television will know.

Our talk on November 22nd will be by an occupational therapist who will no doubt have many tips and advice on looking after ourselves in the best way possible.

If you feel like joining us, we meet at Hethersett Village Hall at 2 pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Entry is £4 and includes tea/coffee and home made cakes etc.

Any extra info. please contact me on 01603811347 or e-mail me on: viv.hawes@talktalk.net



Remembering Steve

FRIENDS and relatives of village stalwart Steve Walker came together on September 10th for the unveiling of a bench to his memory.

Steve died last year but his memory will live on in the wooden bench which is outside the new pavilion on the Memorial Playing Field.

The bench has been purchased following donations. Originally plans were for a plaque to Steve inside the pavilion but it was felt that a bench would be more apt as friend Tim Hudson-Church explained.

"We couldn't let Steve's passing go without providing something to his memory," Tim said.

The bench was supplied by Church Farm in Hethersett who also gave a healthy discount on it as part of their contribution. It was purchased through donations from a number of Steve's friends.

Steve was an integral part of Hethersett life, running numerous youth football teams and being loved by everyone, always ready for a laugh and a chat whether it was on a path in the village, in a café/restaurant or on the side of a football pitch.



In the top photographs, friends of Steve Walker congregate around the new bench to his memory. Below that is the plaque to Steve and below that his immediate family try out the new bench.

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Services for October

Sunday 1st - Harvest Festival

9 am - Rev Steve Cullis—Holy Communion.

10.30 am - Rev Steve Cullis—All Age Worship: Café Style.

Sunday 8th 10.30 am – William Twist.

Sunday 15th 10.30 am - Rev Steve Cullis, Holy Communion.

Sunday 22nd 10.30 am – Morning Service, led by the Singing Fellowship.

Sunday 29th - 10.30 am - Rev Steve Cullis Section Service of Holy Communion.

* * *

The Art and Craft group meets every Wednesday at 10 am. Please contact Tina Greenhalgh for more information on 01603 810364.

Men's Mardle will meet on Wednesday 4th October at 10 am.

Please visit our Facebook Page, Hethersett, Morley and Wymondham Methodist Churches, where you will find service details and also a "Thought For The Week". For further information, please contact Rev. Steve.

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The Methodist Church

Books stall in church

There is a book stall in All Saints Church at Little Melton as the parochial church council explains.

"If you haven't already seen our book and puzzle stall by the font, come and browse. If there's anything that takes your fancy, please help yourself for a suggested donation of £1."

Little Melton Mothers' Union

The weather was fine for our annual coffee morning in September. A big thank you to Rebecca for hosting so generously. From the money raised by the coffee, bring 'n' buy and raffle, Little Melton Mothers' Union has pledged three Christmas gifts again this year to be given to the Angel Tree Project which helps the children of Norfolk prisoners to stay connected with their families.

Our next meeting is in Little Melton Village Hall on Monday 2nd October at 1.30 pm when we will have an update from Jan Sheldon on the work of St Martin's Housing Trust. All are welcome, see you there.

Little Melton Open Village Show

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Little Melton Village Show this year.

We had some excellent entries and it was lovely to see lots of new faces in amongst the show regulars.

We very much hope that you will all join us next year for another one of these fantastic community events. We're looking forward to seeing your veggies, handicrafts and jams in 2024.

Many thanks to all of our wonderful exhibitors and special thanks to our judges, organisers, helpers and sponsors for giving up their time and resources to make the event such a success.

Jo Buxton

For more Little Melton News please turn to page 17



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Groups and Societies

Friends of Hethersett Library

THE friends' group enjoyed a well attended talk by Paddy Anstey on the Mid Norfolk Heritage Railway at the September meeting.

The Friends of Hethersett Library arranges regular presentations in Hethersett Library and raises funds for the library.

Talks and presentations always close with refreshments provided by committee members.

The group's next event will be a quiz in Hethersett Village Hall on Saturday October 28th. Please look out for posters for this event and also details on various Facebook groups.

The Friends conclude their year with a children's Christmas party on Saturday December 2nd at a venue to be announced. We will have more details of this in the November edition of Good News.

Hethersett Gardening Club

AT our latest meeting, Rosemary Ward, spoke of "Alpine Plants" which she calls 'Jewels in the Clouds' – this was actually a talk on mountain plants, growing in the wild and some of which are quite capable of being grown in British gardens. For this talk Rosemary defined "Alpine" as meaning plants from mountainous regions, worldwide.

There were countless photographs of beautiful flowering plants small and large, of which Rosemary spoke impressively without notes and quoting colloquial and scientific names for almost every specimen shown.

Many of these plants bore names which we easily recognised, their flowering shapes familiar, but many of the species variants previously unknown to all, excepting those who are Alpine plant enthusiasts. Your scribe was surprised to know that a type of tulip grew naturally in the Pyrenees, when folklore has them as originating in Turkey.

Those thinking of taking up growing alpine flowers as a hobby now know that gritty poor quality soil, is a pre-requisite. The Hethersett Gardening Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month excepting December, which is usually on the second Wednesday, at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Great Melton Road.

All are very welcome - occasional visitors are charged £2 and refreshments are included.

Leslie Dale

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Groups and Societies

Forget-Me-Not Cafe

Michael Delph, whose mother Ruby was a regular attendee at the café, entertained with stories of his upbringing in Hethersett and interspersed words with songs, accompanying himself on the guitar.

The café meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am and enjoys a mixture of games, talks, presentations and musical events, always with coffee/tea and refreshments. All are welcome. The programme for the rest of 2023 is above.

Oct 3rd	Bingo
Oct 17th	Taverham Choir
Oct 24th	Hethersett Hall
Nov 7th	AGM/Time For A Chat
Nov 21st	Christmas Crafts with Georgette Vale
Nov 28th	Hethersett Hall
Dec 5th	Carols with the Methodist Singers
Dec 19th	Christmas Traditions with Angela Bishop



St Remigius Church Baby and Toddler Group

Our Baby and Toddler Group is held on the first Tuesday of the month 10-00 – 12.00 in St Remigius Church.

A friendly and fun time for everyone with babies and toddlers. We look forward to welcoming you at our next session on TUESDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2023.

**Future Dates:
7th November 2023
5th December 2023**

For more information tel: Pauline 01603 812610

Little Melton News—All Saints Church

Services in October

Sunday 1st – 10.30 am Harvest Festival, Family Service.

Sunday 15th – 9.30 am Family Communion.

Sunday 29th – 10 am United Benefice Service at St Remigius, Hethersett

Please note the changes of service times.

Please see page seven for details of services available in the benefice throughout October.

Morning Prayer in October will be held on Tuesday 10th and Tuesday 24th at 10 am. This is a short, informal service with a reading and prayers. All are welcome.

Harvest Festival Service

This will be held on Sunday, 1st October at the later time of 10.30 am.

We will be supporting St Martin's Housing Trust again this year with donations of food.

These should be store-cupboard items or meals that can be prepared by just adding water eg pot noodles.

We will be decorating the church from 10 am on Saturday, 30th September and if you are available, any help will be much appreciated.

We hope to decorate with fresh produce and flowers from the gardens or hedgerows.

The fresh produce will be donated to the Wymondham Community Outreach Project.

Sponsored Cycle Ride

THE Norfolk Churches Trust sponsored cycle ride took place as planned on Saturday, 9th September. It was probably the hottest day of the year, not ideal for cycling so thank you to those who did start early and ride around the countryside.

As one of the cyclists I can say that the first two hours were very pleasant cycling along the very quiet back roads between churches, but by 11 am it became very hot and by midday it was definitely time to return home.

One good thing was that we could appreciate the coolness inside the churches we visited. For the first time in many years, we were able to provide welcomers throughout the day to riders who visited our church.

A big thank you goes to the riders, welcomers and sponsors who took part for All Saints, Little Melton. See next month's issue for the amount we raised.

Lavinia Ganley

News From Little Melton

Churchyard

OUR next working party will be on **Saturday, 7th October at 10 am.**

All the conservation areas have been cleared so now we need to start the tidying up before winter.

Please come and join us, if only for half an hour. Everyone is welcome.

Messy Church

MESSY Church was on Friday 25th August. The theme was "Who's invited?"

It was based around a reading from Luke which explored how God's Kingdom is one of Inclusion. In our time of reflection, we thought about how it feels to be left out and how we can help to include others in our community.

The weather was kind and we were able to host our worship, activities and picnic outside in the churchyard under the shade of a gazebo.

The next session will be on Saturday 21st October at a new time of 3 pm. Please email Sue at sjrc.sjrc00@gmail.com if you would like to attend.



Prayer Tree

One of the activities at Messy Church was to start a prayer tree. The children gathered leaves from the churchyard, drew round them, cut them out, wrote a prayer on them and attached them to a little tree.

This now stands in the children's corner in the church. Extra leaves were prepared for anyone to add their own prayers and attach them to the tree.

Christmas Is Coming

Although it seems early, we do have to start thinking about Christmas.

The Christmas Fayre will be held on **Saturday, 9th December.** Details have yet to be finalised, but we know Father Christmas has promised to be there. More information next month.

We will have a theme for decorating the church which is yet to be decided and all villagers are invited to take part. There will be full details next month.

HETHERSETT and Tas Valley Cricket Club is supporting a new initiative designed to safeguard the mental health of cricketers.

The club had a presentation on "Opening Up Cricket" at the clubhouse in Flordon. Club chairman Matt Bird said the Hethersett club is determined to learn some of the coping mechanisms for mental health support.

"This is just the start for us and we are committed to supporting the wellbeing of all our members and the cricket community in general," he said.

In our photograph, club members show their support for the initiative.

Meanwhile on the field it's been a hugely successful season for the club with the first team finishing sixth in their first season in the Premier Division of the Norfolk Alliance—the top division of local cricket.

The youth section has also met with numerous successes. You can read much more about the club on its website at: <https://htvalley.play-cricket.com/home>.

The first team are pictured in the photograph at the top of the page before their final league game of the season which saw them beat Cromer by nine wickets and below that the club shows its support for "Opening Up Cricket."

On the right is Ian Bryce in action on his way to 30 not out in the final game.



News From Hethersett

Mikes Garden Of Glorious Colour

HETHERSETT resident Mike Dinnebieer thinks nothing of spending up to 25 hours a week in his garden. For Norfolk native Mike has transformed his garden in Melton Court into a haven for wildlife and a home for many exotic plants.

When Mike and his wife moved into the house four

years ago, the garden was almost a wasteland. Mike brought in a mini digger and set to work on transforming it into a personal space to be proud of. Over the years he has picked up plant knowledge as he goes along and his hobby has become a passion.

Such was the interest during this year's Hethersett Open Gardens event, with so many people wanting to revisit the garden whilst others who couldn't attend wanting to see it for the first time, that Mike opened it again on Sunday August 27th. The response was excellent with the garden full of people during the morning and Mike was delighted to show them round and talk about the different areas that he has set-up.

Mike admits that, leading up to the open gardens event, he spent 25 hours a week in preparation but he has now cut this down to about 15. With a full time job and an eight month old baby, Mike is a seriously busy man but admits that he has loved creating his ideal garden and setting it up from scratch.

Mike is also one of the leading lights in the Facebook page "Hethersett Friendly Gardeners" which currently has over 350 subscribers.



THE super blue moon pictured over Hethersett at the end of August. At first the moon was obscured by clouds but then came out in all its glory



Groups and Societies

Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway with Mel Perkins MBE

HETHERSETT Hawks/Yellow Brick Mortgages had seven riders in the North of England adorned in new-style Yellow Brick Mortgages shirts in the British Individual Championships.

Returning to Norfolk they can feel very proud of their efforts with two medals in their kitbags and some other outstanding performances including four fifth places.

Glyn Morgan looked in good form in the Over-60s at Hull but one mistake meant he had to face a race-off against two Poole riders for second and third place. Drawn on the outside he had to work hard but took full advantage when his opponents slipped to storm home to the silver medal.

The other weekend medal went to Lola Martin who has shown consistent improvement this season and achieved third place in the Under-12 Girls at Sheffield. She then went on to compete as a late entry in the Under-14 Girls and gave one of her best performances to finish fifth.

The three Hawks in the Under-12 Boys were all stepping up from last year's Under-10s so to achieve 5th, 6th and 12th places augurs well for the future. Luca El-Labany was challenging the older riders and deserved his 5th place. Frank Spauls improved in each race and secured 6th place while Austin Brailey had some good moments.

Harley Hamill was the sole representative from Hethersett in the open event and faced two qualifying rounds against the country's top riders at Hull. He was in the thick of the action but points were hard to come by and he scored nine and six on the consecutive days.

Mason Martin was close to lifting the Junior (Under-18) title - he was leading after four races each but got little change from a difficult grid four in his final ride which relegated him to fifth overall. This put him in good stead as the only club representative on the big finals day at Astley and Tyldesley. Again he was well in contention but just outside the main contenders in the Under-16 Final and that is where he finished - another fifth place.

Hawks had 15 riders taking part in round seven of the Norfolk GO-RIDE and Senior Grand Prix series held in Eaton Park in hot conditions. There were wins for Nyla El-Labany, Oscar Copeland, Luca El-Labany and Dave Martin in their respective categories.

News From St Remigius, Hethersett



By John and Ros Head

ON 26th August, blessed with a sunny day, we utilised our garden in Firs Road for a 'coffee and cake' morning to raise funds for St Remigius Church Car Park Lighting Appeal.



It was a wonderful, social occasion and we raised £350 for the project which is presently half way towards the target figure of £15,000 required. Thanks go to all who contributed to the project during and following our event. The completion of the project will see access to the church made safer, especially for the choir and bell ringers who practice in the church during the evening and for those attending services and concerts over the winter months, especially at Christmas.

Any person wishing to contribute towards this appeal, donations can be sent to John Head c/o 42, Firs Road, Hethersett, NR9 3EH. Cheques should be made payable to Hethersett PCC.

Thank you. John and Ros Head (St Remigius Church Treasury Team)

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Village Screen

Hethersett Village Screen's first showing of the Autumn series saw a healthy crowd enjoy "Living" which starred Bill Nighy

Next up in Hethersett Village Hall will be Tom Hanks' feelgood film "A Man Called Otto" on 1st October. "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" will be the feature on 5th November and "The Fabelmans" will follow on 3rd December. All films take place in the village hall at 3 pm on a Sunday afternoon.



Open Library

Extending opening hours at your library

Open Library gives you access to the library when the building is unstaffed, making your library available at times that are more convenient for you.

Library Available*

Monday	8am – 7pm
Tuesday	8am – 7pm
Wednesday	8am – 7pm
Thursday	8am – 7pm
Friday	8am – 7pm
Saturday	8am – 4pm
Sunday	10am – 4pm

Staffed Hours

Monday	1.30pm – 7pm
Tuesday	Unstaffed
Wednesday	11am – 7pm
Thursday	1.30pm – 7pm
Friday	1.30pm – 7pm
Saturday	11am – 4pm
Sunday	Unstaffed

*During times when the library is available but not staffed, you can access the library using our Open Libraries system.

Contact Details for Good News

The deadline for items for Good News is the 12th of each month. Editorial copy should be sent to the editor Peter Steward at: petersteward@sky.com. Telephone number 01603 811052.

Advertising enquiries and copy should be sent to Kim Arnall: Telephone 01953 308309 or email kim.arnall.goodnews@gmail.com. Good News is published monthly and a subscription costs just £4 for the entire year of 12 editions. If you would like to take out a subscription please contact Kim Arnall on the numbers above.

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Post Office Opening Hours

HETHERSETT'S community post office is open at the following times in Hethersett Library

Mondays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Tuesdays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Wednesdays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Thursdays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm.

Fridays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Saturdays: 9.30 am until 2.30 pm

Sundays: Closed

Please note that the office is closed for lunch between 1 pm and 1.30 pm

Hethersett Parish Council

Dates for meetings of Hethersett Parish Council for the remainder of 2023 are: October 16th, November 20th and December 18th.

For other committee dates please refer to the council's website which includes minutes and agendas and plenty of other bits of information about the village.

Aid In Sickness Fund

HAVE you heard about the Hethersett and District Aid In Sickness Fund which was formerly known as the Hethersett Nursing Association?

If you live in Hethersett, Ketteringham or Little Melton and you or someone you know is in need of financial help because of illness or disability you could qualify for a grant. Examples of help available include car adaptations, wheelchair or other mobility items, support during a sudden medical crisis, nebulisers and other equipment or pre-payment of certificates for prescriptions. All applications are treated in strictest confidence.

To apply for a grant contact any of the following: Alex on 07805 242326, Rachel on 01603 812596, Mary on 01603 811330, Barbara on 01603 810502, Christopher on 01603 811010 or Debby on 01603 812221.

News From Great Melton

The services for October are as follows:-

Sunday 1st – 4 pm Garden Church, Great Melton Cricket Pavilion.

Sunday 8th – 10.30 am Harvest Festival Thanksgiving Service We hope that you will be able to join us at this special service. We would be very pleased to receive non perishable food items, toiletries, cleaning products, nappies etc which will be all given to a local foodbank. There is no doubt that everything will be very gratefully received.

Sunday 22nd – 9.30 am All Age Family Communion Service, Great Melton Church.

Sunday 29th October – 10 am United Benefice Communion Service, Hethersett, at which the Bishop of Norwich will be officiating.

Please note the times of these services as they all vary.

Open House and Gardens

On Sunday 3rd September, Eileen Pennington once again opened her magnificent house and gardens to raise funds for charity.

We were blessed with a lovely sunny day and well over 100 people turned up to enjoy the beautiful gardens, a tour of the house as it was in Edwardian days and lovely afternoon teas.

A total of £680 was raised on the gate to be shared between the Anglia Air Ambulance and St Martin's Housing Trust and £450 was raised for the church from teas and cakes.

Thank you to all who helped – there will be a full report in next month's magazine.

If you would like to keep up to date with what is going on at Great Melton Church please follow us on Facebook @greatmeltonchurch or visit our website at the address below.

greatmeltonchurch.co.uk.

Great Melton Parochial Church Council

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News From Great Melton

Steep Rise in Cost Of Grass Cutting

THIS year it has been impossible to keep on top of

By Churchwarden Mary Tuddenham

to cut initially adjacent to the church and once a

grass cutting and strimming in the churchyard and we know many people have been disappointed to see it has become overgrown in places.

We have deliberately left a few areas for "wilding" as in previous seasons but this year it has been more than we hoped for.

We chased and chased for a quote from our usual contractor which we finally received at the end of March and were really shocked to find that the price per cut had more than doubled from last year.

Because of limited reserves with which to subsidise the cost, we had no option but to look at alternative contractors, but we were not left with much time to do so.

We receive an annual grant of £400 from Great Melton Parish Council which has remained unchanged in the past 20 years and used to cover about 70% of the costs of keeping the churchyard – today it covers less than 25%.

We have written on numerous occasions asking them to consider increasing but to no avail. We managed to get a quote from a new contractor which was in line with last year's charge and the plan had been

fortnight to expand the area of cut – however because it has been exceptionally wet this summer we have only been able to maintain a limited area as the grass has grown so quickly.

We feel the only option going forward is to take the maintenance back "in house" to be undertaken with volunteers.

To this end we are looking to get a shed and our own equipment before the start of next season. We will then be appealing to a workforce to meet at the churchyard once a fortnight.

On behalf of the PCC, I apologise to those who have found the state of the churchyard distressing and especially if we have not managed to cut round the graves of your loved ones but trust you will understand the predicament we find ourselves in.

In order to maintain the churchyard in pristine order we would need to receive funds of over £1000 per year unless as suggested we do it ourselves.

Please contact me if you are willing to help with strimming the long grass before winter sets in.

Mary's contact details can be found on page two.



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LITTLE MELTON PAROCHIAL CHARITY

Little Melton Parochial Charity is able to help any Little Melton resident who is in need of financial assistance. All claims are considered and treated with utmost confidentiality. Please apply to the trustees:

Mr T Baker 531086

Mrs J Chamberlain 812031

Mr T Hedges 812778

Mr I Plummer 810668

Mr R Wallsworth 07760 805642

Mr J Leverett 811102

The Charity administers some allotments in Little Melton. If you wish to apply please contact any of the above trustees.

OVER 50 people enjoyed a music and tea afternoon in Hethersett Methodist Church on 15th September. Songs and readings



accompanying instrumentalists on the theme of "Praise for the Harvest" were presented by the church's Singing Fellowship led by Leonie Pritchard.



Prayers and thanks were offered by the Rev. Steve Cullis who has just returned to the church after a three month sabbatical spent touring England's coastal paths and areas of Australia.

Tea was served after the musical entertainment. The next music and tea afternoon will have a Christmas theme and will be held on 8th December.



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Great Melton Parish Council Report by chairman Bruce Fleming

GREAT Melton Parish Council met on Monday 11th September when Anita Rose was welcomed to her first meeting as the new clerk.

Aside from various matters of procedural and regulatory nature relating to the administration of the parish council, councillors received information regarding the 'Mindful Towns and Villages' scheme, supported by South Norfolk and Broadland District Councils, in partnership with Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust Wellbeing Service – an opportunity for members of the community or organisations, such as religious groups, sports and social clubs, to receive free training in mental health and serve as Wellbeing Champions, with the skills to recognise mental health issues and provide low level support or facilitate access to a specialist mental health support worker. Further information is available at:

www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/MindfulTowns

and on the village noticeboard.

A further district council scheme, the 'Pride in Place Community Fund,' was also brought to the council's attention. This provides an opportunity to apply for funding for the improvement or development of community facilities, or for feasibility studies to be undertaken in relation to proposed projects. Grants are available to cover 50% of the total cost of a capital project, up to £25,000. Projects which have secured funding in previous rounds of the scheme include the installation of solar panels at a community pavilion, repair of a community facility roof, the repair and refurbishment of existing allotments and a feasibility study to determine the long-term viability of a multi-sports facility. Round three of the scheme opens for applications in November, with assessment of applications in February 2024. The total funding available for South

The dedicated work of the Great Melton History Group and its collation of the service records of those Great Melton residents who had served in World War One, was acknowledged. Discussion centred on the appropriate repository for such material and other artefacts of historical interest and importance in the life of Great Melton. The chairman will seek guidance from the Norfolk Record Office and liaise with the members of the History Group.

Norfolk across capital, revenue and feasibility streams, is almost £380,000 for 2024-25.

An update on the parish council's efforts to address concerns regarding the speed and discipline of traffic on the roads and lanes of Great Melton, was provided. In particular, actions arising from the meeting in August of the parish council's highways working group with the Norfolk County Council highways engineer for the area, were reviewed. This meeting had been timely, given two serious accidents at the intersection of Burdock Lane with Pockthorpe Road in the preceding fortnight, affording the opportunity for a site inspection of this hazardous junction. The poor road markings at the intersection were highlighted as requiring urgent attention.

The Parish Council lent its full support to South Norfolk Council's proposed Public Spaces Protection Order concerning vehicle-related anti-social behaviour. The Minutes of meetings and related documents are published on the Parish Council website at: <https://greatmeltonpc.wixsite.com/greatmeltonpc>

The next meeting of Great Melton Parish Council will be held on Monday 11th December 2023 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Hall Road, Great Melton.

Good News What's On—October 2023

WE have had a number of requests to re-introduce a What's On section in Good News. So we are pleased to include a list of coming events and dates for Hethersett and the Meltons. If you have a date you would like listed just send details to the editor at petersteward@sky.com. See also individual sections.

Sunday 1st—Hethersett Village Screen presents A Man Called Otto starring Tom Hanks. Hethersett Village Hall 3 pm.

Monday 2nd—Little Melton Mothers' Union, Talk by St Martin's Housing Trust, 1.30 pm.

Tuesday 3rd—Hethersett Forget Me Not Café. Bingo. Hethersett Methodist Church Hall 10 am.

Tuesday 3rd—St Remigius Baby and Toddler Group

Wednesday 4th—Methodist Art and Craft Group in Methodist Church Hall

Wednesday 4th—Methodist Church Coffee Stop, 9 am to midday.

Saturday 7th—Little Melton Churchyard Working Party, 10 am.

Wednesday 11th—Methodist Art and Craft Group in Methodist Church Hall

Wednesday 11th—Methodist Church Coffee Stop, 9 am to midday.

Monday 16th—Hethersett WI. The Yellow Caravan A talk by Juliet Webster.

Monday 16th—Hethersett Parish Council monthly meeting, Hethersett Village Hall 7.30 pm. Preceded by planning committee at 7 pm.

Wednesday 18th—Methodist Church Coffee Stop, 9 am to midday.

Wednesday 18th—Hethersett Gardening Club, Methodist Church Hall, 7.30 pm

Tuesday 17th—Hethersett Forget Me Not Café. Taverham Choir entertains. Hethersett Methodist Church Hall, 10 am.

Wednesday 18th—Methodist Art and Craft Group in Methodist Church Hall

Saturday 21st—Little Melton Messy Church, All Saints Church, 3 pm.

Wednesday 25th—The RiNG (Rheumatism in Norfolk Group) - Maria Pennington talks about Lalique. Hethersett Village Hall, 2 pm.

Wednesday 25th—Methodist Church Coffee Stop, 9 am to midday.

Wednesday 25th—Methodist Art and Craft Group in Methodist Church Hall

Saturday 28th—Friends of Hethersett Library Quiz. Hethersett Village Hall, 7.30 pm.

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