



# Anti-Social Behaviour Hits Play Area

A SPATE of anti-social behaviour has hit a play area on Steeple Tower. Rubbish, dog excrement and even drugs have blighted the area on Admirals Way which has been a cause for concern for a number of months.



A local resident contacted Hethersett Parish Council and another took to social media to point out the problems. One message on the Next Door Hethersett Social Media site (formerly Streetlife) said :

“Whilst walking my dog I noticed a lot of rubbish around the bluetooth speaker/bench on Admirals Way Park. Whilst the amount of rubbish is terrible the real problem is one of dog waste. It seems whoever was leaving this litter was also emptying the dog waste bins and throwing the poo bags and waste onto the young children's play equipment.

“Honestly this is terrible. Only a few weeks ago I informed the parish council of illegal drugs being taken at the park as drug wrappers were found and identified. Please if you know who is responsible or can help identify the people who would do something like spread dog waste over young children's play equipment report them to South Norfolk Council.”

Another comment said: “This is awful. Something needs to be sorted out because a few idiots are intent on destroying our lovely village.” **(Continued on Page 3)**

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## Concern Over Dog Mess on Play Area (continued from front page)

Another resident left a message on the parish council's Facebook page complaining about the amount of rubbish in the area:

"Someone has emptied a dog waste bin on Admirals Park all over the children's play equipment and it is simply disgusting! Yet again there is more rubbish around the Bluetooth speaker seat! Ever since that was installed there have been problems with rubbish strewn across the park."



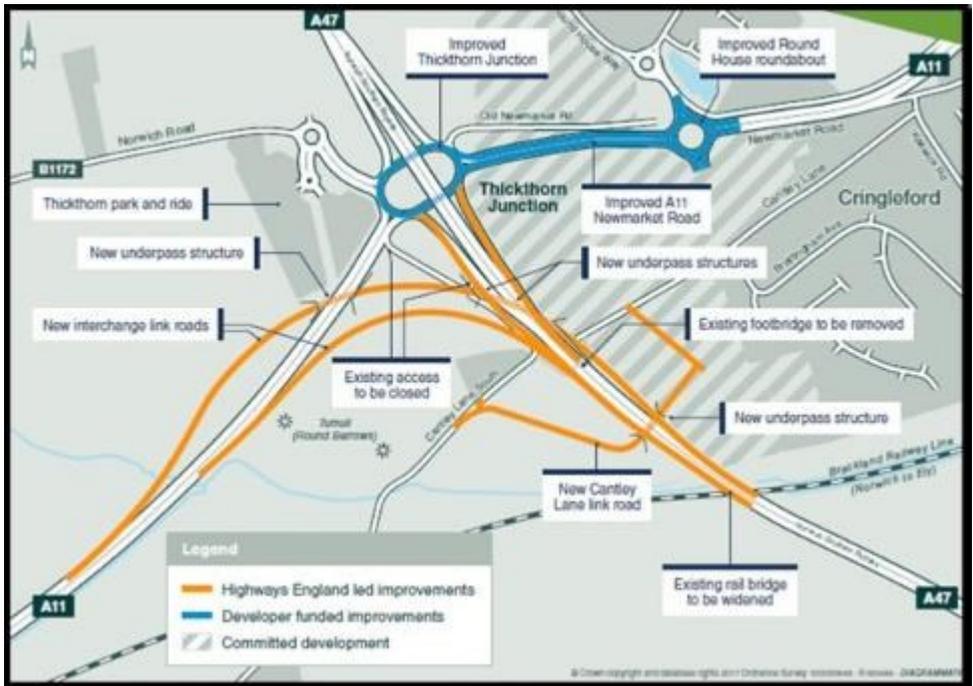
Hethersett Parish Council has reported the problems to South Norfolk Council which is responsible for the play area and when we visited the area towards the end of March it looked to be in good shape with a general tidy up having taken place. This was later confirmed by South Norfolk Council.

If you see vandalism or mess on the area please report it to South Norfolk Council on Freephone 0808 168 2000.

Do you know of a problem area in the village? If so please let us have details and we will report it to the relevant authorities.

You will find our contact details elsewhere in this edition of the Hethersett Herald.

# The One Option



WHEN a spokesman for Highways England attended a recent meeting of Hethersett Parish Council to talk about possible improvements to the Thickthorn junction, he led councillors to believe that a number of options would be on the table for a series of public consultation events.

But in reality only one option was on display at the Hethersett consultation event in the Jubilee Youth Club on March 27th. Members of the public were asked along to express their opinion on the proposed improvements to the A47/A11 junction. The £300 million scheme would mean that motorists heading towards Great Yarmouth from the A11 northbound would be able to avoid using Thickthorn. In addition a new slip road could also take drivers joining the A11 southbound from the Great Yarmouth direction away from the major bottleneck.

Work is expected to start on any improvements in 2020 and the public has a number of ways of making their views known on the proposal. This can be done

via the web site at [www.highways.gov.uk/a47Improvement](http://www.highways.gov.uk/a47Improvement) or e-mail comments to [A47A11ThickthornJunctionRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A47A11ThickthornJunctionRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk). Comments can also be sent to Freepost A47 Thickthorn junction. The consultation period runs until Friday, 21st April.

In total six schemes are scheduled along the A 47. Others apart from Thickthorn are:

- Wansford to Sutton dualling.
- Guyhirn junction improvement.
- NorthTuddenham to Easton dualling
- Blofield to North Burlingham dualling.
- Great Yarmouth junction improvements.

The decision to produce only one option was taken after a number of other proposed schemes were considered unsuitable.

“A number of potential alternative options were considered as part of the scheme development process during 2016. These options did not perform well against the objectives and were not progressed any further,” said Highways England.

Highways England has stated the need for improvements: “Studies have identified the unsuitability of the current junction layout to accommodate the dominant movements through the junction on the A11 southbound carriageways during peak hours. This is predicted to worsen in future years due to growth in long distance traffic and growth from the large local residential developments in Hethersett and Cringleford.

“In developing this scheme we aim to address these issues by upgrading the existing junction to a high quality interchange. The improvements will support economic growth by making journeys safer and more reliable.”

The agency states the objectives of the proposed changes are to:

- Support economic growth
- Provide a safe and serviceable network
- Provide a more free flowing network
- Provide an improved environment
- Provide an accessible and integrated network
- Provide value for money.
- 

We will have more on the proposed aims of the scheme in the next edition of Hethersett Herald.

# The Rising Price of Mobile Phone Abuse

Herald Comment

OVER the past few months we have highlighted problems caused by motorists in the village, ranging from speeding and poor parking to the destruction of grass verges.

The last of these problems was highlighted in an article in the local Press and has resulted in the parish council writing to Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner Lorne Green to ask for his help in minimising the impact on the environment caused by motorists.

Hethersett Herald was set-up to celebrate all that is good about our village, but we will never shy away from commenting on the more ugly side of things such as fly tipping and dog mess - two permanent problems. An illustration of this is our front page story for this edition.

Shortly after penning a piece on anti-social behaviour for the March edition of Herald came news that the penalty for driving whilst using a mobile phone has been, quite rightly, drastically increased. It beggars belief that people think they can drive whilst either speaking into a mobile or even worse whilst texting. This is not only gross stupidity of the worst kind but highly dangerous both to themselves and other road users.

Hopefully this form of anti-social behaviour will now stop as those caught face a £200 fine and six points on their licence - with no option to attend an education course. I know from talking to Norfolk Police that people are still being caught. Hopefully this will soon become as anti-social in the public's eye as drink driving.

In the past I have witnessed a number of motorists driving through our village whilst on their mobiles. Obviously they think that the slower they drive the safer they are, but this is just a nonsense. Thankfully during March I didn't see a single car or van user in the village using their mobile whilst driving. Let's hope things continue to improve. Most new cars have a Bluetooth facility to pair with without having to touch the phone. Special Bluetooth earpieces are also a very inexpensive way of solving the problem. A quick scan of Amazon shows that these devices cost under £10. As one advert currently on television states "You Do The Maths - spend £10 on an easy to use and relatively safe earpiece or risk a £200

fine, have six points on your licence and endanger the life of others. Seems like a no brainer to me.

## **NEVER JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER**

Never judge a book by its cover and never judge a person by their appearance are two of the sayings that we seem to learn more about the older we get.

Amongst the comments made about the March edition of Hethersett Herald was a notice left on Facebook which I would like to reproduce part of here:

“I loved reading about Richard Headicar. What an amazing life so far! I've noticed lately that age seems to have the curious effect of making people ‘invisible’ and it's good to be reminded that every older person will have a story to tell - we just have to bother to ask.”

Those were lovely sentiments and it reminded me of a tribute we have in this edition of Herald. I only knew Chris Skinner as a passing acquaintance through the Methodist Church and the annual village Christmas Fair. He always seemed a very pleasant and friendly chap. It wasn't until I read the tribute which is reproduced on pages nine to 11 that I understood what a rich and important life Chris had led. Like with so many other people, I wish I had talked to him about it when he was still with us. I suspect the sunny picture I took of Chris last December (above) probably sums up his character better than thousands of words could.



## **BROADENING OUR HORIZONS**

We are slightly broadening our horizons with this and future editions of Hethersett Herald to include what I hope you will feel are interesting articles from further afield, but written by Hethersett residents. Associate Editor Roger Morgan brings us the story of the WaterFly and Norfolk Broads and I have taken a look at two very contrasting Norfolk people. I hope you enjoy the stories.

***Peter Steward***

# Judith Steps Down - David Nominated

## Norfolk County Council May Elections

JUDITH Virgo (pictured opposite) will be stepping down as Hethersett's representative on Norfolk County Council at the coming elections on May 4th.

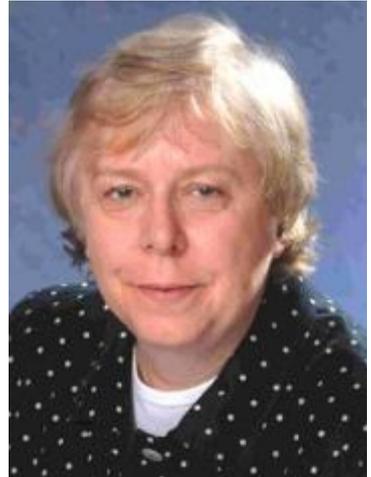
Judith has been a county councillor for Humbleyard Division, which includes Hethersett, from 2006 to 2009 and from 2011 to the present.

Judith has lived and worked in Norfolk for 34 years but is originally from Kent. Now retired, she was a senior lecturer in hotel management at Norwich City College before working for Social Services at Norfolk County Council. She has an M.Phil and an honorary BA degree from the University of Surrey.

She is a member of Cringleford Women's Institute, a member of So-roptimist International of Norwich and is a volunteer for Norwich Friends of East Anglia's Children's Hospices.

Her other memberships include Norwich Society, Yare Valley Society, Costume and Textile Society, Norwich Decorative and Fine Arts Society, Friends of the Norwich Museums and Friends of Norwich Cathedral.

Judith's successor as Conservative candidate for the elections will be David Bills (pictured opposite) who lives in Hethersett and is one of the village's two current rep-



representatives on South Norfolk Council.

David has lived in Hethersett for nine years after many years working in New Zealand. His business life specialised in troubleshooting IT projects which were in difficulties. David is vice-chairman of Hethersett Athletic Football Club and a member of Hethersett and Meltons' Sports Association.

He is secretary of the local Woodhall Place Residents' Association and Chairman of the Queen's Head Golf Society He is also a founder member of the Hethersett Dementia Support Group which has set up a dementia café in Hethersett.

At the time of going to press we had no details of other candidates for the Humbleyard constituency but will bring news of these in the May edition of Herald.

## Change of Date For Fete

THE date of Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club's annual fun dog show and fete has been changed.

Originally scheduled for June 24th, the event will now take place one week earlier on June 17th from 12 to 3.30 pm.

There will be children's fancy dress as well as the tried and trusted dog show and a variety of stalls and refreshments and there will be a doggy welcome with last year's top dog opening the event. Proceeds from the event will go to youth club funds.

The event is the club's main fundraiser of the year and the organisers are collecting books, tombola prizes, items for the white elephant stall and any other items which can be dropped off at the youth club hall on a Wednesday evening. Items can be collected by contacting Gillian Saunders on 01953 607566.

Stalls and pitches are also available on the day - either inside or outside -at a cost of £5.

The club's annual general meeting will be held at 7 pm on April 27th in the hall.

# Tribute to Chris Skinner

*By Jane Linley*

CHIS Skinner, who died on 14th February on his 59th birthday in the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, was an active member of Hethersett Methodist Church

Chris had been suffering from Guillain Barré syndrome and his sudden death was as a result of complications.

Chris moved to Norwich as a child with his parents, brother and sister and thereafter made Norfolk his home. He went to school in Norwich where he studied mathematics, physics and chemistry A levels before attending Nottingham University to read law.

Following professional examinations, Chris became a trainee solicitor at Norwich City Council.

Chris had already taken up his great loves of swimming, cycling and running and his training contract was extended because of his insistence in running again too soon after suffering a broken ankle, not once but twice.

After qualification as a solicitor, Chris went to live with his beloved Aunt Joan and worked for Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. Nine months later he was back, as Assistant Solicitor at Waveney District Council in North Suffolk. It was here that he made his first compulsory purchase order in relation to an historic net drying store, one of the last remains of the Lowestoft fishing village that had suffered so badly during the 1939 -1945 war and in the 1953 floods. It was here too that Chris started developing his fantastic ability to combine his expertise in planning, property and litigation and to use the law in innovative and unconventional ways to solve practical problems.

Chris moved to Great Yarmouth Borough Council in 1986 and remained there until joining NPLAW in 2010. Chris undertook a variety of jobs whilst at Great Yarmouth, but the unifying theme of them was that he carried out case work in



order to make a difference to the lives of people who lived in the borough. In the 1990s there was a lack of housing for many of the worst off in our society. Chris recognised that, at the same time, there were also many houses in Great Yarmouth that were empty.

Thus started a real campaign to get these houses occupied by people who needed homes and this led to an almost unique, at the time, approach to using compulsory purchase powers to solve relatively small, local but enduring problems.

This led, over the years, to working on compulsory purchase for large regeneration projects and other schemes that would make life better for others. Chris also worked really hard to reach out to other local authorities and he, with a very small team of other lawyers, began to undertake work for authorities around the country.

On the creation, much encouraged by Chris, who had envisaged such a service since the 1980s, of a shared legal service between local authorities in Norfolk, he moved to NPLAW as the Head of Planning, Environment and Regeneration. He became Deputy Practice Director in 2015 and was appointed Practice Director on 1st January this year. He continued to work for the residents in Norfolk. By bringing in work and income from other parts of the public sector he could support other critical work being carried out by Norfolk local authorities.

For 11 years, Chris created and ran a company which provided legal training to the public sector. The company was very successful at providing training targeted at the public sector and had a great reputation across a wide range of subjects. Chris always arranged bi-annual get-togethers which invariably included a bouncy castle for use by the staff's children and by Chris.

He was a very practical lawyer, no job was too lowly for him and equally no one was too junior or inexperienced to carry out high level work with his support. Chris wasn't just practical, he had a clear, steely mind when thinking about legal issues and was the writer of many articles on his specialist subjects. Whilst in hospital, Chris had four articles published and in the week of his death he was on the front page of the Empty Homes Network. Chris also lectured extensively on the subject of compulsory purchase and NPLAW now has, probably, the largest compulsory purchase practice in England.

Chris was a committed Christian and his family was hugely important to him. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and two children, Tom, also a solicitor, and Jess, a teacher. He was never happier than when spending time with them.

Chris was an active member of Hethersett Methodist Church, supporting social and fund-raising efforts and taking part in drama presentations. His other loves included cooking and cycling.

A report on a celebration service for Chris' life held at Wroxham Road Methodist Church appears on the next page.

# A CELEBRATION OF CHRIS' LIFE

A celebration service for the life of Christopher Frank Skinner took place at Wroxham Road Methodist Church on Thursday, 2nd March. It was attended by colleagues, representatives of the councils he had worked for, representatives of the Methodist Church, friends and relatives.



Chris and his second wife Sue married in Wroxham Road Methodist Church 10 years ago. The service was conducted by the church's minister, the Rev Nigel Fox, who led the thanksgiving and paid tribute with a series of personal remembrances in which he talked about Chris' career and his achievements as a solicitor.

The poem "He is Gone" was read by Michael Green with whom Chris and Sue worked closely with in the FROGS youth group at Hethersett. A reading was also given by former Hethersett Methodist Minister, the Rev Derek Grimshaw.

Chris' son and daughter, Tom and Jess, gave personal memories of their father, including his love of cooking and cycling. Offerings in Chris' memory were taken for the British Heart Foundation and the Salvation Army

\* \* \*

Tributes have also been paid to Chris in the Media:

In a joint tribute, Graham Plant, Kay Grey, Trevor Wainwright and Adrian Myers, group leaders at Great Yarmouth Borough Council, said: "Chris was well known and hugely respected by scores of colleagues and councillors for his calm, professional advice.

"In addition to fulfilling the role of Great Yarmouth's Monitoring Officer, Chris also held a national reputation as a leading expert on regeneration work, particularly compulsory purchase. Chris had many friends and colleagues in Great Yarmouth and Norfolk and we were all shocked and upset by his sudden death."

# Politically Aware Students Win Awards



FOUR students from Hethersett Academy have won awards for their political awareness and public speaking at Norwich's first ever Model United Nations Conference.

The conference took place at the University of East Anglia at the beginning of March and was attended by students from schools across Norfolk and Suffolk. Hethersett Academy was represented by nine students from Year 10 (pictured above), who have been studying critical thinking as part of the school's enrichment programme.

During the conference, students were split into committees to debate issues related to global politics and development, and were challenged to come up with resolutions to the issues debated.

Toma Mudure and Tom Burchell were jointly awarded a certificate for drawing up the best resolution of the conference, on the threat and impact of cyber warfare in the 21st century.

Nathan Howell was awarded an honourable mention for his outstanding contribution work on the topic of austerity and the responsibilities of the welfare state.

Hethersett Academy vice principal Mike Masters said: “Our students gained huge amounts of confidence during the conference and gave some brilliant contributions to their discussions.

“They really enjoyed working alongside the staff and student ambassadors from the UEA.

“They came away with an increased understanding of international relations, and of course some fantastic awards. Well done to all involved.”

Toby Smith won the best delegate award for his contribution to the debate on the development of renewable energy resources in emerging markets.

# Approval for Play Equipment



**Thanks to the Parents’ Association at Hethersett Old Hall School, new play equipment been introduced to the early years’ area for children of nursery and reception age. Our photograph above shows the children trying out the equipment for the first time – and clearly approving! Picture courtesy of Hethersett Old Hall School.**

# Not Bad For a Skinny Runt From Norfolk

**IN the second of our series, Peter Steward meets Norfolk Olympian and Active Norfolk employee Paul Evans who has done so much to promote health and fitness in Hethersett**

## Face to Face

WHEN it comes to writing about Paul Evans, bare facts tell only a small part of the story.

But let's start with those bare facts:

Paul is the fifth fastest British marathon runner of all time despite the fact that he hasn't run a competitive marathon in over 10 years.

He represented Great Britain in the 10,000 metres at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics where he qualified for the final after coming third in his heat in a time of 28 min 15.70 seconds. He came 11<sup>th</sup> in the final in a slower time of 28 min 29.83 sec.

In the 1996 Atlanta games, he again qualified for the final but wasn't able to finish the race.

Just three months after Atlanta, Paul achieved his finest victory, winning the Chicago Marathon in a time of 2 hr 8 min 52 sec. The official history of the Chicago marathon has this to say:

**October 20, 1996:** *Paul Evans, 2:08:52*

Almost 11,000 runners enjoyed ideal weather conditions for the 19th running of the Chicago Marathon. With a 4:54 minute per mile pace, Englishman Paul



Evans won the men's competition in 2:08:52, the eighth fastest time in the world for 1996.

That same year Paul came third in the London Marathon. Going back in time he won the Reading half marathon in 1993 and the Lisbon Half Marathon in 1991. He still holds the course record for a Swedish 30 km cross country race and the course record for the annual Norwich 10 km road race

The list of the top five marathon times by a British Man makes interesting reading. When Paul set the mark in 1996, it was the third fastest of all time by a British athlete. It has only been beaten twice in the past 20 years – once in 1997 and once in 2014 by Sir Mo Farah. To put Paul’s run into context, Farah, who is a household name after his Olympic exploits over the past eight years, only improved on Paul’s time by 31 seconds. A full list of the top five is published on page 17.

So those are the facts. What I wanted to know was what makes a top athlete tick, what are the mental and physical processes and what made Norfolk’s Paul Evans a champion? Hopefully the following feature which is split into two parts will provide some of the answers.

When you meet Paul Evans he comes over as one of those friendly easy going guys that you just love to be around. But underneath the friendly façade is a deep will to win which he admits he has always had: “I hate losing and always have done and still do,” he says.

Paul’s enthusiasm is infectious and he spends much of his time not coaching elite athletes but coaching and helping young and old alike to improve their fitness. He is a dream to interview, readily recalling the characters and events that he feels turned him into an international athlete.

I was vaguely aware of Paul’s

achievements long before I met him, but, like so many others, was never really aware that we had an Olympian and champion marathon runner in our midst.

Such is Paul’s modesty over his achievements that over the years I have had to tell people about his pedigree.

Our paths first crossed when Hethersett set out on its own Olympic journey back in 2010 in support of the coming London 2012 Olympic Games. Parish Councillor Shane Hull had the idea of supporting the games by organising a number of health orientated

**“Paul’s time in winning the Chicago Marathon has only been beaten twice by a British Athlete in the last 20 years - and one of those was Sir Mo Farah.”**

events for the village. This included resurrecting an old Hethersett favourite – the two mile run the square funrun.

The first funrun took place in 2010 and proved a massive success with

over 250 local people taking part. This year will see the eighth running of the event and Paul Evans has been involved from the beginning, acting as a consultant and warming up runners before the event.

In early 2011 we founded the Hethersett and the Meltons’ Sports Association with the aim of supporting existing sports/fitness clubs and groups, starting new ones and generally trying to improve the health and fitness of local people. At the time we also had an Olympic Committee which subsequently became an Olympic Legacy

# The Fastest Ever British Men's Marathon Times

ATHLETE	TIME	PLACE	DATE
1 Steve Jones	2 hr 07 min 13 sec	Chicago	20 <sup>th</sup> October 1985
2 Mo Farah	2 hr 08 min 21 sec	London	13 <sup>th</sup> April 2014
3 Charlie Spedding	2 hr 08 min 33 sec	London	21 <sup>st</sup> April 1985
4 Richard Nerurkar	2 hr 08 min 36 sec	London	13 <sup>th</sup> April 1997
<b>5 Paul Evans</b>	<b>2 hr 08 min 52 sec</b>	<b>Chicago</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> October 1996</b>



Committee after the 2012 games and then merged with the sports association.

One of the new groups set-up under the auspices of the sports association was a social running club to be led by Paul in his role as an athletics' development officer with Active Norfolk.

The group has been running (literally) for six years and regularly attracts over 50 people of all ages and abilities under Paul's expert guidance. And that for me sums up Paul's character.

There is no boastfulness about what he has done or achieved. Paul soon becomes a friend to all those taking part – encouraging, cajoling and simply getting the best out of people.

Over the years we have had people who have never run before and state quite blandly "I cannot run." Paul has

them running within a few minutes and loving every minute of it. The idea behind the course is to train people to move from an armchair to a two mile funrun within a few weeks, but to do it at their own pace.

On a personal level, I began running again after a break of many years. Two miles may not sound very much but on my first effort I had to stop and walk at least four times. Now, thanks to some gym work and Paul's guidance, two miles has become something of a "walk in the park."

But enough about that. I wanted to find out what makes Paul tick and soon realised that I had so much material that I just had to split the interview into two parts - before and after his Olympics.

Paul was born in Glasgow (a fact that very few people know) on 13th April, 1961 which makes him 56 this year. He moved with his parents to Wymondham as a toddler and now looks upon himself as a "Norfolk Boy" despite now living just over the Suffolk border in Worlingham near Beccles.

Whilst living in Wymondham, Paul attended Browick Road Infants' School, Robert Kett Middle School and Wymondham High School. It was in Lowestoft, however, that he found work in the shoe trade and started his athletics' career as he explained:

"I played football very badly, playing for Kirkley on Saturday and a Lake Lothing pub team on a Sunday. It soon became obvious that I couldn't play football very well but I was good at running around. The coach told me to mark specific players knowing that I would be fitter than them. The problem came when somebody gave me the ball. It didn't happen all that often but when it did I was told to pass it immediately."

So Paul didn't really take up athletics until the age of 25 - very late in life by today's standards.

"I used to go out running every evening on a two mile loop and used to time myself. I enjoyed it and soon realised that my times were coming down. I realised I was never going to improve as a footballer but I was certainly improving as an athlete."

So Paul decided to enter the Lowestoft Carnival 10k race - more to raise money for Lowestoft Hospital than anything else.

"It was quite a high profile race and there were some very good athletes in the field. I was running in my football shirt and shorts and was quite surprised to finish in seventh place in a time of 33 minutes and 33 seconds. Next week the local newspaper carried an article stating that the first local man home was Paul Evans.

"My football coach saw the result and said that he felt I was a better runner

## Running Course On Its Way

**PAUL Evans will once again be leading a six week social running course leading up to the village funrun. This will be suitable for all ages and abilities from raw beginners to advanced runners.**

**The group will meet on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field on six Thursday evenings leading up to this year's two mile family funrun which is scheduled for July 16th.**

**The group will meet from 7 until 8 pm on June 8th, June 15th, June 22nd, June 29th, July 6th and July 13th. It will be organised jointly by Active Norfolk and Hethersett and the Meltons' Sports Association.**

**No need to book, just turn up on any of the evenings.**

than footballer and I began to realise he was right. At this point Ted Minott who was coach of Lowestoft Runners invited me along to a training session. I soon realised that I couldn't continue with both football and athletics and so gave up the former. Part of my decision came from the fact that football is a team sport and I felt some of the players were rather lazy. Athletics on the other hand was something I could do on my own."

So Paul started taking running seriously and two months later ran in a 10k event in Great Yarmouth and recorded a time of 32 minutes and 33 seconds.

"In just two months I had improved my time by a full minute. So I started training two nights a week and racing at weekends in events in Norfolk and Suffolk. I was trying different distances - anything from five miles to a half marathon and I seemed to be improving all the time. One of the problems was a lack of structured training and I realised that to continue to improve I would need a good coach. To their credit the Lowestoft club realised I needed to join a higher profile club as I was starting to win local races regularly."

That higher profile club came in the shape of London based Belgrave Harriers:

"Joining them was one of the best things I did. They really supported me and paid my expenses to race in different parts of the country. I was married with two young children and a mortgage and money was tight. Their support helped me to compete in na-

tional league matches against guys who were better than me. Once again I got to a certain level but then needed international level races if I was to continue improving."

That saw Paul running in Europe and training with Kenyan athletes: "These guys did serious training and it not only helped me to improve but also gave me added confidence."

Suddenly Paul was facing the prospect of running in trials for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. But getting there was certainly much harder than just running round a track:

"I wen to the 10,000 metre trials which were held in Sheffield in May. It was raining and blowing a gale. I needed fast conditions and good weather as I needed to run the qualifying time."

At that point there were only three places for British athletes on the 10,000 metre team and three had already run the qualifying time. Without that Paul couldn't be considered for the team:

"I knew that the three who had run the qualifying time would want to slow the race up as they wouldn't want anyone else making the qualifying time. I knew I would have to run the race from the front and take everything the weather could throw at me. My coach told me to get to halfway and see how I felt. I managed to finish third behind two of the runners who already had the qualifying time. Unfortunately I hadn't run the qualifying time.

"My coach John Bicourt then asked the selectors for some extra time in order to give me the opportunity to run

the qualifying time and they gave me two weeks. John did an incredible job in getting a 10,000 metre race included in a Ross Hyman League meeting in London. So there I was at Tooting Bec, lining up and trying to make the Olympic qualifying time. I really felt the pressure.

“Being a bit of a big mouth I had been telling all my mates that I was going to London to try to get the qualifying time and the next thing I knew was Anglia Television got to hear about it and sent a camera crew down the meeting, bringing extra pressure on.

“Once again it was windy, but miraculously during the race the conditions improved. There were only five runners in the race and one of them agreed to act as pacemaker for the first 5000 metres and try to get me there in 14 minutes. We got to the mid-way point dead on 14 minutes which left me just over 12 laps. I kept an eye on the clock and managed to record a time of 27 min 58 sec. My coach was straight on the phone to UK Athletics

to tell them I had made the qualifying time.

“I count myself lucky that I was on the plane to Barcelona. I had the right coach at the right time in the right place. It was always going to be difficult making the necessary time as with 10,000 metres you can only run three or four races in a year as the recovery time is lengthy.

“Once there my aim was to be the top British runner in the 10,000 metres. I really felt the pressure was off me. I was just a skinny runt from Norfolk with a Norfolk accent who qualified by my boot straps. I wasn’t expected to achieve anything and most people probably thought that I was there to make the numbers up.”

**In the next edition of the Hethersett Herald we continue our look at Paul’s career - his unexpected success at Barcelona, his triumph in the Chicago Marathon and his life since retiring from full time athletics.**

## Try Your Hand at Croquet

**IF you have ever fancied having a go at croquet, the local village club will welcome you with open arms.**

**“We are a thriving, friendly club which meets twice weekly from the beginning of April until the weather breaks. There are two pitches on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field and we meet on Wednesdays from 3 pm and Saturdays from 2.30 pm. Do come along and have a go as equipment is provide,” said one of the organisers Pat Pierce.**



these have never given us any trouble) to another new gate, emerging onto Station Lane.

4. Turn R and walk up the hill. Just before the houses, turn R into the green track (Suckling Lane) and follow until you approach woodland on the R side; here, pass through the old iron gate into the footpath known as Kissing Alley.
5. Follow this down into the dip (may be muddy here) by the lake of Hethersett Old Hall and up the other side, reaching the B1172 again at the point where Kissing Alley was severed by the first village by-pass (then the A11) in the 1970s.
6. Cross into the continuation of the path, emerging onto Old Norwich Road, conveniently almost equidistant between the two pubs (King's Head and Queen's Head) if you are thirsty!
7. Otherwise, cross into Cann's Lane and follow this round to Queen's Road, where turn L back to the starting point.

## Care Home Given High Ratings

HETHERSETT Hall Care Home just off the B1172 has been rated "good" following a major inspection from the health and social care watchdog.



The home received praise from the Care Quality Commission which rated it as good in the categories of safe, effective, caring and responsive and outstanding in the category of "well led."

Gerard Dooley, the homes general manager, said he was thrilled with the ratings which followed a January inspection.

He added that everyone connected with the home was delighted to be rated good in four key areas and outstanding in one. The home is part of the Barchester Group which runs over 200 homes across the country.

# Hethersett Pictorial

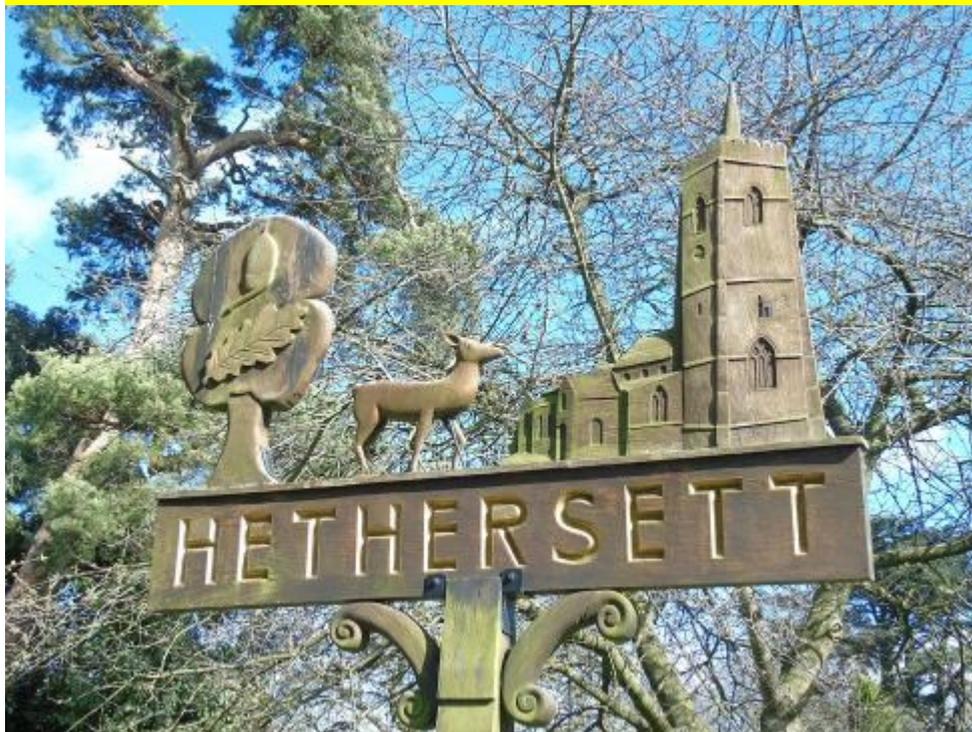


**Whitegates, the former Norfolk Fire Headquarters, and a general photograph of the Old Norwich Road. Over the page are photos taken around the village sign.**

**Spring flowers captured in the field opposite Hethersett King's Head on a warm and sunny day**



# Hethersett Pictorial



# HETHERSETT HERALD

Your Monthly E-Magazine

News, views, comment, information and photographs keeping you up to date with what is happening in our village. Hethersett Herald is published on the first day of each month exclusively at:

[www.hethersett.org.uk](http://www.hethersett.org.uk)

**HETHERSETT HERALD**  
February 2017  
Number 98



### On The Shortlist

2017 will be a year of promise for the village. In the past few weeks we have seen a number of talented people who are committed and dedicated to the village and its future. The annual election will be held on the 1st of May and we will be looking for a number of people to stand for election to the village council.



**More Accolades for Hethersett Academy**

Hethersett Academy has been awarded the title of 'Outstanding' for the second year in a row. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the staff and pupils.

1 - Hethersett

**HETHERSETT HERALD**  
December 2016  
Number 95



**Reverend Special - Pages 36-38**

### Major Honour for Mike



Major Mike has been awarded the title of 'Major Honour' for his services to the village and the community.

### More Development?

There has been a lot of discussion about the future of the village and whether there should be more development.

2 - Hethersett

Supported by

The co-operative  
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# News From The Village

## RECORD ATTENDANCE FOR PANTOMIME

THIS year's Hethersett Pantomime Group's presentation of *Sleeping Beauty* broke box office records with all nine performances sold out for the first time ever.

Neville Greenhalgh, chairman of the Pantomime Group, took to the pages of Hethersett Good News magazine to thank all those involved:



"I would like to thank everyone involved over the months leading up to the panto and during panto week for their hard work and commitment. The actors and band rightly get the applause on the night, but so many other people contribute to putting on a show and it would take too long to list them all.

"This year set a new record, in that we sold out for each performance before the start of the run, thanks particularly to the hard work of our box office lady Jenny Hoults, our excellent web site run by Holly Stibbon and our coverage on social media."

As reported in our special article in January's Herald, this year's show was dedicated to the memory of three Hethersett pantomime stalwarts - Tony Press, Marie Stevenson and Peter Salter.

"Tony Press had been the pantomime's Musical Director and a dedicated member of the group for 20

## Costume Co-ordinator Needed

Hethersett Pantomime Group is looking for a costume co-ordinator for next year's performance which will be the 49th village pantomime in an unbroken run stretching back to 1970.

Anyone who is interested or wants to find out what the role entails should e-mail Sarah Wright on [lou-ison3@yahoo.com](mailto:lou-ison3@yahoo.com) or telephone Neville Greenhalgh on 01603 810364.

The group also has a Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=hethersett%20pantomime%20group>

# News From The Village

years and this left a massive gap to fill. However, we feel that Tony would have been delighted with our young replacement Josh Lee who ably took over the baton and fitted in so well with the group,” Mr Greenhalgh added.

Last year the pantomime group passed the £100,000 mark in its donations to charities and good causes and this will be added to when the accounts are updated for the 2017 shows.

---

## WORLD BOOK DAY

PUPILS from Hethersett Old Hall School (photographed below) dressed up to become their favourite book characters to help celebrate World Book Day. Picture courtesy of Hethersett Old Hall School and reproduced with their permission.



# News From The Village

## YOUNGSTERS CAPTURE MEMORIES

YOUNG pupils from Hethersett Academy have been attending the monthly café organised by Hethersett Dementia Support Group. The pupils have been chatting with café members and recording their memories on paper as part of a social community project. Four of the youngsters are photographed opposite at the March café which took place in the Methodist Church Hall on the 21st. The April café will be on April 18th. The café meets from 10 am to midday on the third Tuesday of the month.



## FACILITIES FOR HIRE

FACILITIES at Hethersett Academy are now open to the public on evenings and weekends. As reported in last month's Herald, the facilities were made available to the community and local residents from March 14th.

A new entrance gives community users access to both the main and a secondary gymnasium. So far bookings have been steady, but there are still slots available.

The facilities have already been used for badminton, cricket, volleyball, table tennis and various fitness classes. Facilities can also accommodate a range of other sports including basketball, netball, trampolining and football. In the summer the outdoor tennis courts will also be available for hire. The booking of the facilities is being overseen by South Norfolk Council and Hethersett representative David Bills said:

"It is great to see facilities being used by local people. After many years of trying we have succeeded with the support of the Academy of providing a range of

activities for the community outside of school hours. We are hoping in the future to have a close liaison with Wymondham Leisure Centre and this will boost the numbers even more.”

South Norfolk councillor Clayton Hudson, cabinet member for stronger communities and leisure, said: “By teaming up with Hethersett Academy, local people can now enjoy sporting facilities on their doorstep.



“This is part of our drive to give people of all ages and abilities greater opportunities to participate in sport and get active.”

Principal Gareth Stevens said: “This is an exciting opportunity for Hethersett Academy to work more closely with our local community. This new venture further underpins our commitment to the area we serve. With the use of our gym, sports hall and outside facilities, the wider Hethersett community are guaranteed a superb facility where they can enjoy netball, badminton, cricket, tennis and many more sports, whatever level they’re playing at.”

Our photograph shows David Bills with Greg Rowland from South Norfolk Council in the main gym.

The facilities can be booked by telephoning 01953 607171 or by visiting the South Norfolk Council website.

## CHURCH SURVEY

HETHERSETT Parish Church is planning to survey the churchyard with a view to creating a record of as many people buried there as possible. It is likely that, when the record is as complete as possible, it will be made available to the public. We will have more on this in future editions of the Herald.



## STEERING GROUP

A NEW pavilion for Hethersett Memorial Playing Field will be brought a step closer shortly with the setting-up of a steering group.

# News From The Village

Planning permission has already been granted to renovate and improve the existing pavilion. The first task of the new group will be to obtain the support of various community groups and organisations ahead of applying for grants.

---

## Hedgehogs Spring Into Life

*Connie Tindale updates us on the progress of her Hethersett Hedgehogs*

We are now officially into Spring but, because of the warm weather, our hedgehogs welcomed it a few weeks ago. There are still some very cold nights and dry days for them to contend with though, and this is where you can help. The hedgehogs are thin, tired and very thirsty. If you can, please put out a dish of water and perhaps a small dish of meat-based dog or cat food for them. If you see one out in daylight then it is in trouble. Please pick it up, keep it warm and take it to a rescue centre.

### **General hedgehog care**

- Never give them milk – even though they love it, it upsets their stomachs.
- Give them only meat-based cat or dog food as fish based products also upset their stomachs.
- Dried mealworms are an excellent food but it is 75% protein with no calcium so long term it needs supplementing with cat or dog food.
- Give them a dish of water to fend off dehydration in dry spells.
- Leave a few leaves in your flower beds for them to collect as bedding.
- Be very careful prodding your compost heap in case there is a hedgehog in residence there.
- If you can, provide a hedgehog house for them to live in. These can easily

be made out of old logs.

- Feeding stations which will protect their food from marauding cats can easily be made out of old plastic crates at very low cost. I will give instructions next month.

Hedgehogs are completely nocturnal so if you see one in daylight, it is in trouble. Please help it.

New houses on what was agricultural land are popping up around Hethersett at an increasing rate and new residents have already moved into some of them. There is already a look of an established estate in some areas and families there will be very safe and happy in their new homes.

At the same time, the hedgehogs that lived there are also looking for new homes in which they can bring up their families. Please can you make sure that these little creatures are welcome. You might just have a simple patch of grass but there will be worms on it and the hedgehogs can visit up to ten different gardens in one night to gather food.

To do this they need to be able to move from one garden to another. Many garden fences totally enclose gardens to keep out intruders but all that a hedgehog needs to gain access is a small CD-case sized gap at the bottom of one of the fence panels. If all gardens have these then the hedgehogs have a highway.

Hedgehogs have already started mating and my cameras have recorded ferocious fights between males battling for supremacy as they collect a harem of fertile females.

There are also females already rushing across the garden with their mouths full of impossibly large loads of leaves and dry grass to line their nests. It will be some time before we see the little hoglets out and about but in the meantime we need to protect our little friends as best we can.

There is a Hedgehog Awareness Day on the 22nd April at Bergh-Apton Village Hall starting at 1 pm which many might find interesting. Apart from information there will be hedgehog food and sundries available alongside fund raising for Greensted Hedgehog Rescue Centre which does an excellent job in caring for sick and injured hedgehogs.

***Connie Tindale***

# HERALD HEALTH

*In conjunction with Rowan House Health and Wellbeing Centre*

**Marie Paulinus runs Qigong classes at Rowan House on Tuesday afternoons. For more information or to book please contact Marie directly on 01603 810950 or 07484 667375**



## **Qigong – Exercise for Health**

Currently, there is much in the news and media about the medical crisis facing the NHS and an ageing population in poor health with a high proportion of preventable illnesses that need high cost care and support. How can we enjoy our old age in good health without NHS bankruptcy?

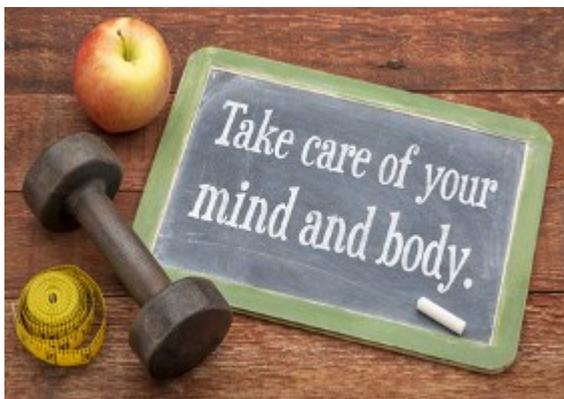
There are several facets to consider, self-care, lifestyle, diet, nutrition, exercise and activity if we are to improve and maintain our own health and wellness. But just, for the moment, let's focus on exercise and movement. What might be the features of an activity which could help to improve health and well being?

- Such an activity would conveniently fit in with your routine and commitments, be low cost with the minimum need of facilities, equipment and preparation.
- One that everyone, whatever gender, age and health, could do to some degree to suit their individual needs and circumstances.
- One where the only equipment needed is comfortable clothes that are easy to move in and soft flat soled shoes.
- One that can be done indoors or outside depending on the season and weather, in a group or on your own, varying from a few simple routines that only take a few minutes to longer routines taking 30 minutes or more.
- One where, as the skill and the understanding of the individual increases, the need for a coach or instructor reduces.
- One that allows the individual to focus the activity on the health aspect that is most beneficial to them - strength, stamina, suppleness, balance, breathing and even stress relief.
- One where the movements help to develop relaxation, awareness, creativity and imagination.

# HERALD HEALTH

So what could fit all these criteria? The answer is Qigong (pronounced Chee Kung) which not surprisingly is Chinese.

Qigong has a long history of being specifically used for health purposes. It is the therapeutic exercise part of TCM (Traditional Chinese Medicine) which also includes acupuncture, Chinese herbal remedies, massage and Tai Chi.



So what type of exercise is Qigong?

The word Qigong translates into 'energy skill'. So the purpose is to help you care for, develop and enhance your own innate energy and health.

In the west, the Oriental concept of enhancing energy and wellness through exercise is not well understood as many western exercises and sports can drain you of energy. Sports persons usually retire in middle age while Qigong practitioners can continue to be active throughout the whole of their lives, generally enjoying good health, well-being and longevity.

The Oriental concept of being holistically actively involved in your own health is very different to our western health care system where illnesses are somehow seen as being separate from us with our role as patients being primarily passive in a health care system that relies heavily on the use of drugs and operations.

Qigong exercises cover a wide range of whole body postures, balances, stretching, twisting and turning movements to stimulate your body.

Over the years, many Qigong routines and exercises have been developed so there is plenty of choice. Some copy the movements of animals such as monkeys, tigers and birds, while other routines have wonderful names such as the 8 Pieces of Brocade, the 18 Qigong Jewels or Lifting the Sky. They encourage the use of creativity and imagination and so help stimulate pleasant mental activity.

As well as the exercise activity form of Qigong, there is also medical or health Qigong where the trained therapist uses specific techniques, together with knowledge of the body's energy fields, to cleanse, tone and balance energy to help improve wellbeing.

For more information on Qigong contact Rowan House on 01603 813999.

# Hethersett Herald

HETHERSETT Herald is published electronically in the first week of each month via the Hethersett Village web site at

**[www.hethersett.org.uk](http://www.hethersett.org.uk)**

Hethersett Herald is a non profit making and independent publication providing news, views and information about Hethersett. It has no affiliation to any specific group, organisation or political party.

Information, reports and photographs are always welcome. These can be e-mailed to [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net).

Everyone who works or contributes to Hethersett Herald does so on a voluntary and unpaid basis. We are happy to hear from anyone who would like to help us increase and improve our coverage of village life. Views expressed are those of the individual authors.

## **Herald Team**

Editor - Peter Steward

Associate Editors - Roger Morgan and Gary Wyatt.

Proof Reader - Patricia Mills

Thank you to everyone that has contributed to this edition of Hethersett Herald. If you have enjoyed reading this e-magazine please pass on details so that we can increase our readership.

# Development Watch



# Daisy Pulled It Off *by Liz French*



Our Senior Production of the enduringly popular *Daisy Pulled It Off* at the Puppet Theatre was hugely entertaining, with excellent performances from the cast, some of whom had stepped in at the very last moment. The play is an affectionate, tongue-in-cheek pastiche of the jolly hockey-sticks stories so popular in the more innocent days of the 1920s and 30s. It was cleverly staged by Director of Drama

Jenny Richards using vintage suitcases and empty picture frames for a range of quick change set requirements- from classrooms and panelled hallways to imposing school exterior, portrait gallery and even the school train! Caitlin (Year 9) was outstanding as the eponymous new 'scholarship' girl who has to overcome the snobbery, jealousy and dastardly machinations of beastly Sybil and her chum Monica (both played to comic perfection by Sarah and Ashlyn). Both Cait and Rosamaria, as Daisy's loyal, lispng chum Trixie, had a daunting number of lines to learn and delivered convincing, secure and well-timed performances- but the whole cast, and the backstage crew, are to be warmly congratulat-



HETHERSETT Old Hall School held a variety of events to raise money on Red Nose Day.

Parents supported the day by sponsoring a non uniform day and there were numerous other events and also the sale of red noses - over 200 were sold at the school during break times in the run up to the day.

There was also a red nose themed assembly which reminded everyone of the charitable reasons behind the fun. The prep department enjoyed a treasure hunt in the school grounds and older pupils enjoyed a dance off debate.

At the time of going to press the school was still adding up the final total raised.

## Enthusiastic Players Needed

HETHERSETT Methodist Table Tennis Club is looking for enthusiastic players of all ages and abilities to join its regular Friday evening sessions

The club meets in the Methodist Church Hall from 7 until 9 pm as one of the organisers David Wallace explained:

“It is great fun and really good for me, at 69 years old, to help me stay fit. There are some pretty handy players in the club but we do not play in leagues and we do not take ourselves too seriously. If you fancy joining us just turn up. We'll let you have the first night free and charge you £3 (£2 if you are under 16) thereafter. “



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# Of Historic Importance

HETHERSETT War Memorial in the grounds of St Remigius Parish Church has been designated a Grade Two listed building by Historic England.

The structure has been accepted as a monument of significant historic importance. It includes the names of those from the village who died in the two world wars.

The list of Grade Two buildings/structures in the village makes interesting reading and includes Cedar Grange, various milestones, the Smithy in Norwich Road, the King's Head, Thickthorn Hall, Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett Old Hall, Whitegates, St Remigius Church itself and Hethersett's Water Pump. A full list of Hethersett buildings is available on the Historic England web site at <https://historicengland.org.uk>.

Our picture shows the war memorial and St Remigius Church taken in 2014 after the refurbishment of the memorial. Both structures are now recorded as Grade Two listed buildings. Our smaller photograph shows Hethersett pump pictured this month.



# Seven Page What's On Section

The following are just some of the events taking place in Hethersett in April. If you have any events you would like to see featured in Hethersett Herald, please send details of the event, its date, time and venue to the following email address: [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net).

**April 1st** - Messy Church at Hethersett Parish Church, 4-6 pm

**April 2nd** - Hethersett Village Screen presents A United Kingdom.

**April 4th** - Heart of Hethersett Bereavement Group meets at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex, 5.30 pm.

**April 5th** - Probus Club, 10.30 am in Jubilee Youth Club.

**April 5th** - The Rheumatism in Norfolk Group (The RiNG) celebrates its ninth birthday with tea and a speaker in Hethersett Village Hall from 2 pm.

**April 7th** - Hethersett Methodist Church Singing Fellowship afternoon of readings, poetry and Easter music, Hethersett Methodist Church, 2.30 pm

**April 12th** - Probus Club Social Evening in Hethersett Village Hall.

**April 16th** - Children's Party in Hethersett Social Club 3- 5 p.m followed at 8.30 pm by karaoke with Phil Male

**April 18th** - Hethersett Dementia Group café at Hethersett Methodist Church Hall , 10.30 to midday.

**April 18th** - Heart of Hethersett Bereavement Group meets at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex, 5.30 pm. Guest speaker Rachel Marrs from Dying Matters.

**April 19th** - Meeting of Friends of Hethersett Library Group, Hethersett Library midday.

**April 24th** - Hethersett and the Meltons' Sports Association meeting, Park Farm Hotel, 7.30 pm

**April 24th** - Cringleford and Hethersett Flower Club - The Joys of Spring with Barbara Collins. Hethersett Village Hall, 7.30 pm

**April 27th** - Hethersett Library film on agriculture from the East Anglian Film archives. Free show at 2.15 pm.

**April 29th** - Joshua v Klitschko boxing live on screen at Hethersett Social Club

**April 30th** - Hethersett Social Club karaoke evening in the lounge.

# **CRINGLEFORD and HETHERSETT FLOWER CLUB**

**Affiliated to the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS)**

Would you like to know more about arranging flowers in traditional and modern ways?

We have monthly meetings where visitors are warmly invited to watch a demonstration by a qualified NAFAS Flower Arranger for only £5.

There is an opportunity to win one of their flower arrangements as these are raffled off at the end of the evening

We usually meet at Hethersett Village Hall, Back Lane, Hethersett at 7.30 pm (unless otherwise stated)

## **Our Programme for 2017/18:**

Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> April "The Joys of Spring" – Barbara Collins

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May Members Evening – "All Wrapped Up" - Carole Richmond

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June "Shades of Summer" – Christine Hewson

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July "I've Got a Little List" – Adele Kent

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> September "Here and There" – Kathleen Doggett

Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October "Autumn Glory" – Vicki Hease

Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November Open Meeting "Christmas" – David Thomson

\*Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018 "Another Fine Mess" – Brenda Tubb

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018 "Finding Inspiration" – Susan Horne

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 AGM \*

\*Ticketed events to include supper

For further information please contact Chairman, Lynn Rawlings on 01603 457888.

## Events Later in the Year

**May 7th** - Hethersett Village Screen presents the BFG.

**May 25th** - Hethersett Library film on wartime and post war Norwich from the East Anglian Film archives. Free show at 2.15 pm.

**June 10th** - Messy Church, St Remigius, 4-6 pm

**June 17th** - Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club dog show and fete. Midday to 3.30 pm

**June 29th** - Hethersett Library film on the seaside from the East Anglian Film archives. Free show at 2.15 pm.

**July 16th** - Hethersett Village Fun-run, starts from Hethersett Junior School at 11 am. More details in future editions of the Herald.

**July 26th** - Hethersett Probus Club visit to Dad's Army Museum

**September 23rd** - Messy Church, St Remigius, 4-6 pm

## Regular Monday Events

**Coffee stop** at Hethersett Methodist Church from 10 am

**Hethersett Pensioners' Association** for those aged over 55 and the retired. Meets in the Methodist Church Hall every second Monday of the month starting at 2 pm.

**Book Group** meets at Hethersett Library from 2 to 3 pm on the first Monday of each month to share thoughts on latest books, magazines or any thing else to do with the literary world.

**Hethersett Parish Councillors** are available at a Parish Pop In on the second Monday of each month from 2 to 4 pm in Hethersett Library. Residents can discuss matters of concern.

**Hethersett WI** meets on the third Monday in the Methodist Church Hall at 7.30 pm

**Hethersett Mothers' Union** meets in the Church Hall in Henstead Road at 7.30 pm on the fourth Monday of each month.

**Cringleford and Hethersett Flower Club** meets in Hethersett Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the fourth Monday.

**Hethersett Parish Council** meets monthly on Mondays on various dates.

**A craft group** meets in Hethersett Library from 2 pm on the second Monday.

**Knit and Natter group** meets every Monday from 2 to 4 pm in Hethersett Library

## Regular Tuesday Events

**Cringleford Bridge Club** plays duplicate Bridge for three hours from 6.45 pm in Cringleford Pavilion in Oakfield Road and is happy to have members from Hethersett.

**Hethersett Dementia Support Group** holds a cafe in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall on the third Tuesday from 10 am until noon.

**Hethersett Short Mat Bowls Club** meets weekly in the Village Hall from 2.30 until 4.30 pm

**Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club** holds club nights from the beginning of April through to October from 6.30 pm

**Slimming World** meets at Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 7.30 pm

## Regular Wednesday Events

**Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club** for youngsters. From 5.45 to 7.30 pm for School Years 5 and 6 and from 7.30 to 9.15 pm for Years 7 to 9. For more information contact Gillian Saunders on 01953 607566.

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time** in Hethersett Library on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

**The RiNG** meets on first Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall 2-4 pm.

**Hethersett Art and Craft Group** meets in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am until noon. More information from Tina Greenhalgh on 01603 810364.

**Painting for Pleasure Art Group** meets in Hethersett Village Hall from 10 am until midday.

**Colour Me Calm** group meets every Wednesday from 10.30 to 11.30 am in Hethersett Library. This is a colouring group for adults.

## Regular Thursday Events

**Hethersett Bridge Club** meets in Hethersett Social Club from 7 pm.

**Hethersett Badminton Club** plays at Hethersett Academy on a weekly basis

## Regular Friday Events

**Hethersett Short Mat Bowls Club** meets in Hethersett Village Hall from 7.30 to 9.30 pm

**Hethersett Table Tennis Club** meets in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 7 until 9 pm

**Hethersett Youth Café** for those aged 14 and over in Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club, 7.30 to 9.30 pm. Includes dj workshops, arts and crafts.

## Regular Saturday Events

<p><b>Hethersett Athletic Football Club</b> runs two adult Saturday teams. Fixtures run from September to April</p> <p><b>Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club</b> runs four Saturday adult league teams from May to August.</p> <p><b>Shoppers' Coffee</b> at Hethersett Methodist Church, 10.30 am until noon.</p> <p><b>Slimming World</b> - Jubilee Youth Club in Back Lane - 8.30 am.</p>	<p><b>Soccatots</b> pre-school activities for youngsters aged from six months to five years. Hethersett Junior School. Five sessions for various age groups.</p> <p><b>Hethersett Croquet Club</b> plays at Hethersett Memorial Field from 2.30 until 5.30 in summer months from April.</p>
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## Regular Sunday Events

<p><b>Hethersett Athletic Football Club</b> runs a full youth set-up catering for all ages from six to 19. Most of the youth teams play on Sundays and fixtures can be viewed at <a href="http://www.hethersettathletic.co.uk">www.hethersettathletic.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club</b> has fixtures on Sundays from April until September. The club plays at Flordon.</p>	<p>Coming events are regularly updated on our village web site at</p> <p><a href="http://www.hethersett.org.uk">www.hethersett.org.uk</a></p>
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## Coffee Drop In

A coffee drop in event for parents and toddlers takes place in St Remigius Church on the first Tuesday of every month from 10 am.

## HEAT Collections

The next dates for litter picks organised by the Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) will be Saturday, 8th April, Saturday, 20th May and Saturday, 1st July. All picks start at 10 am from Hethersett Methodist Church car park. Tools are provided and everyone is welcome.

# April in Hethersett Library

*with Rebecca Warner*

## What's On:

- Monday 3rd 1030 – Just a Cuppa coffee morning.  
1400 – Library book group.
- Wednesday 5th 1030 – Colour Yourself Calm.
- Thursday 6th 1400 – Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind.
- Friday 7th 1000 – Crack into Coding - for children in school years 4-7 –  
booking essential – craft table for younger siblings.
- Monday 10th 1030 – Easter craft activity – no need to book.  
1030 – Just a Cuppa coffee morning.  
1400 – Parish Pop In.  
1400 – Craft group.
- Wednesday 12th 1030 – Colour Yourself Calm.
- Monday 17th 1030 – Just a Cuppa coffee morning.
- Wednesday 19th 1030 – Colour Yourself Calm.
- Friday 21st 1400 – Beginners Tablet Course (see details below).
- Monday 24th 1030 – Just a Cuppa coffee morning.  
1400 – Craft group meets in the library.
- Wednesday 26th 1030 – Colour Yourself Calm.
- Thursday 27th 1415 – Film archive featuring agriculture and farming with  
refreshments provided by the Library Friends Group –  
Book with the library.
- Friday 28th 1030 – Bounce and rhyme time for babies 0-18 months.  
1115 – Bounce and rhyme for children 18 months -5 years.  
1400 – Beginners' Tablet Course (see details below)  
1530 – 'Crafter School' craft group - £1 per child/50p siblings.

Full details of all our events are on our Facebook page - [www.facebook.com/HethersettLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/HethersettLibrary)

Tablet course for beginners – Two sessions on Fridays-- 21st and 28th April from 2-5 p.m. – course costs £10. Booking essential – please contact the library. We will be running a Next Steps tablet course on 12th and 19th May – please contact us if you are interested.

Future archive film shows – Thursday 25th May – 'Wartime and post-war Norwich' and Thursday 29th June – 'Beside the Seaside' – both at 2.15 p.m. with refreshments provided by the Library Friends' Group.

Our new weekly 'Just a Cuppa' coffee morning is part of Norfolk County Council's 'in good company initiative' tackling loneliness in Norfolk. Come along on

Monday mornings 1030 – 1145 and enjoy a hot drink and biscuit, for a small donation, and a chat! #NoLonelyDay

Extended opening hours coming soon to Hethersett Library. Keep your eyes peeled for more information!

Hethersett Library Friends' Group is up and running and looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in finding out more please call the library on 01603 810188.

Our 2 for 1 DVD offer is available on Thursdays 4-7 pm. Don't forget that DVDs/ Blu-Rays/Box Sets/Music CDs are all free to reserve. Have a browse on our online sound and vision catalogue at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries).

Check out our Information Hub – leaflets and information on 'what's on', health, education and a whole lot more.

Are you involved in a local club, society or group? Call into the library and book your free monthly slot on our "Village Story" noticeboard to promote awareness, recruit new members or advertise a specific event.

Do you need general computer support? Ask in the library to book an appointment with Bob our computer buddy who is available on Mondays from 10 am. to 12 noon.

Free Wifi available in the library - just log in with your library membership.

Hethersett Library

Queen's Road, Hethersett

[www.library.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.library.norfolk.gov.uk)

Email: [libraries@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@norfolk.gov.uk)

Tel: 01603 810188

## The Things They Say

Driving to Cringleford I was appalled at the amount of rubbish alongside the A11, especially close to Thickthorn roundabout. It is disgusting. Is it the responsibility of the highways department?

### Socialist Party

Richard Headicar, who was featured in the March edition of Hethersett Herald, has asked us to point out that he is a member of the Socialist Party of Great Britain which advocates the use of the ballot box for revolutionary purposes.

# CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT

10AM-12NOON



**FREE  
EVENTS**

**SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

## EASTER CRAFT EVENT

10AM-2PM

Events include Tombola, Face  
Painting, Knitted Crafts and  
Cards, Jewellery, Gifts,  
Embroidery, Candles and  
much more.

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Watton Road, Colney  
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[www.facebook.com/greenacrescolney](https://www.facebook.com/greenacrescolney)

Advance booking required. Please call **01603 811556**  
or email **info.colney@greenacrescelebrate.co.uk**

**Booking for Easter Egg Hunt Only**

# Affecting Our Village

**Looking at information and job opportunities that could be of interest to our readers.**

## **Norfolk Police Recruiting**

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are taking a fresh approach to police officer recruitment as lines have been opened with a new campaign which will focus on the reality of being in the police service in today's society.

There will be opportunities to hear directly from those already serving with the Force through a series of short videos. Viewers will also be able to ask officers and staff directly any burning questions they may have around being a police officer via Facebook Live.

Chief Constable Simon Bailey welcomed the renewed focus, saying: "I am delighted that the Force is in a position to recruit new police officers this year. I can personally vouch for how rewarding and varied the role of a police officer is and if I had the opportunity I would start my career all over again.

"The role can be both physically and mentally demanding but as our recruitment posters show it also gives people the opportunity to make an important difference to their local community and help the county feel safer."

Lorne Green, Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk, added: "There are few more rewarding careers than policing. The greatest reward of all comes from the satisfaction of helping others and making a difference in the community.

"Combine this with the rewards that come from being part of a close knit team and, with every day different - believe me, it's brilliant. Are you up for it? We want you on the team."

Videos of officers already in the role talking about why they work for the police will be released throughout the recruitment window while new recruits can be followed on @NPoliceStudents and @SPoliceStudents as they work their way through the bespoke training.

Those interested in applying are asked to visit the Constabulary website at <http://www.norfolk.police.uk/join-us> for further information on how to apply and to request an application pack.

# News From The Parish Council

## **Volunteer Request**

YOUR village needs you - that was the message from the March parish council meeting. Council chairman Jacky Sutton once again underlined the need for volunteers to come forward to fill vacancies on a number of village groups including the Memorial Playing Field and Village Hall Trustees.

There was good news with regards to the vacancy on Hethersett Parish Council, however, with three people expressing an interest in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Jim Bartram.

Anyone interested in volunteering or helping out in the village can contact parish clerk Ian Weetman on 01603 810915.

## **Crime Acknowledgement**

The parish council has received an acknowledgement that its letter to Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner Lorne Green about the destruction of verges and parking and traffic problems in the village has been received and a reply is expected in the near future. The council is asking for police support for preventing anti social parking and other traffic-related problems in the village.

## **Speedwatch a Go Go**

It is hoped that Hethersett has enough volunteers to re-start a speedwatch scheme in the village. A first appeal brought forward four volunteers and a fifth has responded to an appeal in the council's latest newsletter. It is hoped that five volunteers will be enough to launch a new initiative with volunteers being fully trained by Norfolk Constabulary.

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

Discussion is continuing on the make-up of the coming annual parish meeting on May 3rd. As reported in the previous Herald, councillors are discussing changing the format in an attempt to attract more residents to the meeting which receives reports from a number of village groups including schools, Hethersett Environmental Action Team, the Memorial Playing Field Trustees, Hethersett Village Hall Trustees and Hethersett and the Meltons' Sports Association..



## Focus on Hethersett Social Club

HETHERSETT Social Club in Queen's Road opens six days a week (see times on the next page) and on Easter Sunday will be holding a children's party with an Easter egg treasure hunt from 3 to 5 pm. Tickets are priced at £3 and are available from the club. This will be followed in the evening at 8.30 pm with karaoke in the lounge with Phil Male.

The club has plenty of attractions including a snooker room, pool, darts, a bowling green, petanque area pool and a children's play area.

Coming events include the Anthony Joshua v Vladimir Klitschko fight on screen in the hall on April 29th, karaoke in the lounge on April 30th and May 28th, Scotland v England at 5 pm on June 10th, Revival Duo in the lounge on June 17th and karaoke in the lounge again on August 27th. Hethersett Herald will keep you up to date with what is happening at the club.

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

Adults 18-59 -£10

Adults 60 years plus - £7.50

Junior membership (16-17) - £7.50

Parent(s) must be full members of club

Family membership - £15

Members may bring in up to two guests at one time. The guests must be signed in at the door. Each guest will have to pay a £1 entrance fee and guests may only be signed in twice in a month. All guests must be over 18.

A £3 guest entrance fee applies on Saturday nights with entertainment and for football screenings.



## The Early Days

WHAT is now Hethersett Social Club started life as the Old School and in 1920 was set up as a village and tennis club for 100 members who met for drinks and games of tennis, bagatelle or draughts. The entrance fee was 2s 6d with a weekly subscription of 3d.

In 1933, it was threatened with closure after a deficit of £220 was discovered and rumours that a private company owned by shareholders had a large holding in the hall. Apparently the hall was vested as property in three trustees - His Honour Judge Herbert-Smith, Mr H. W. Back and Dr Deacon.

In 1938 the building was registered as the Hethersett Village Hall Social Club with a newly elected committee and rules. In 1939 the first AGM took place. Membership was 200, a licence was obtained and a steward - Jock Patterson - was appointed.

### OPENING HOURS

Monday Closed

Tuesday To Thursday 7-11 pm

Friday 5-11.30 pm

Saturday Midday to Midnight

Sunday Midday - 6 pm  
(not including Bank Holidays)

# Groups and Societies

## **PROBUS CLUB**

JOHN Nortcliff chaired the meeting and welcomed Denis Argyle as a guest. Terry Stidston asked for speakers from the membership for 2018, while Alan Saunders reminded everyone about the trip to the Dad's Army Museum on 26th July.

After refreshments, the chairman welcomed club member Roy Howland who gave a talk on 19th Century education. Included were references to the Education Act of 1870, the work of Lord Shaftesbury and Joseph Lancaster, the National School Boards and teachers' salaries. Ron Butcher thanked Roy for his well researched presentation.

## **HETHERSETT WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

MEMBERS of Hethersett WI enjoyed a talk about Easton coaches which included the history of the company and the use of 1950s vintage coaches for special events. The company has been awarded a gold award for "The Best Coach Travel Programme in the UK."

## **HETHERSETT MOTHERS' UNION**

HETHERSETT Mothers' Union held its annual meeting which was followed by lunch. An interesting variety of speakers in 2016 included a local magistrate, a representative of the Norwich Food Bank and a talk from the Norfolk Accident Rescue Service. The committee has planned an exciting year ahead which will include a visit to a magistrates' court, a talk on modern relationships and the history of tea and coffee. Meetings take place in Hethersett Church Hall in Henstead Road from 1.30 pm on the fourth Monday of each month.

## **HEART of HETHERSETT BEREAVEMENT GROUP**

THE group, which has been in existence since last September, continues to meet every other Tuesday at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex in Firs Road. April meetings will be on April 4th and 18th from 5.30 pm in the lounge. On April 18th, Rachel Marrs from the charity Dying Matters will be the guest speaker. Everyone is welcome and more information is available from founder Sandi Grey on 01603 812016 or email at [hethersett@co-operative.coop](mailto:hethersett@co-operative.coop)

# Groups and Societies

## **HETHERSETT METHODIST CHURCH**

HETHERSETT Methodist Church Singing Fellowship will be presenting an afternoon of readings, poetry and Easter music followed by tea and home made cakes on Friday, 7th April, at 2.30 pm. Everyone is welcome. The church is open for shoppers' coffee every Saturday morning from 10.30 until 12 noon.

## **MESSY CHURCH**

COMING dates for Messy Church sessions in Hethersett Parish Church are April 1st, June 10th, September 23rd and November 25th. All sessions take place on a Saturday between 4 and 6 pm and each will have a theme linked to the season with craft activities, a worship session and a meal. The theme in April will be Lent and Easter.

Messy Church is a free event that welcomes all ages. More information is available from Sue Anderson on 01953 607719.

## **HETHERSETT DEMENTIA GROUP**

THE next Hethersett Dementia Group café will take place on Tuesday April 18th from 10 am to midday in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall. Everyone is welcome and there is a warm welcome to all those living with dementia, memory loss or loneliness and their carers.

## **HETHERSETT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

AT Hethersett Horticultural Society's March meeting, following on from the AGM, we enjoyed the garden photographs of club member John Freeman and an illustrated talk by our treasurer Ted Hallett.

Ted described the gardening careers of his father and grandfather and their journeys around England to a variety of homes and gardens of landed gentry. These included a convalescent home and Marcham Park now known as the WI's Denman College.

We meet monthly on a Wednesday at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Great Melton Road, Hethersett. All are welcome - occasional visitors are

# Groups and Societies

charged £1.50; refreshments are included.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 17th May when Professor Tom Williamson will outline the "History of Norfolk Gardens" and on Wednesday 21st June, Christopher Harper will talk about Fuschias. Other dates for 2017 are 19th July - Richard Hobbs on Winter Gardens; 16th August - Ken Abel on Pelargoniums; 20th September - Kaime Blake on Round the World in 80 Plants; 18th October - Lindsay McLean on plants with Autumn and Winter interest; 15th November - Charlotte Philcox on Enclosing Eden and 13th December - members' evening.

2018 dates are: 17th January - Kathy Gray on Flora of Morocco; 21st February - Lesley Cunneen on Norwich Parks; 21st March - AGM and John Freeman's slide presentation; 18th April - Pauline Harper on growing vegetables in small spaces and containers.

**Leslie Dale, Committee Secretary**

## Civic Service in Hethersett

SOUTH Norfolk Council held a civic service in Hethersett Parish Church.

The Chairman's Service was attended by district members and council officers together with members of Hethersett Parish Council and the general public.



After the service, refreshments were served. Our photograph shows council chairman Garry Wheatley who is flanked by Hethersett District Councillors Leslie Dale and David Bills.

# Hethersett's United Kingdom

HETHERSETT Village Screen's film for April will be *A United Kingdom* - a story about love and apartheid. It will be shown in Hethersett Village Hall on April 2nd at 3 pm and will be followed on May 7th, by Roald Dahl's "The BFG."

This will be followed by a summer break with films starting again in September. The main features are usually preceded by short films of local interest from the East Anglian Film Archive.

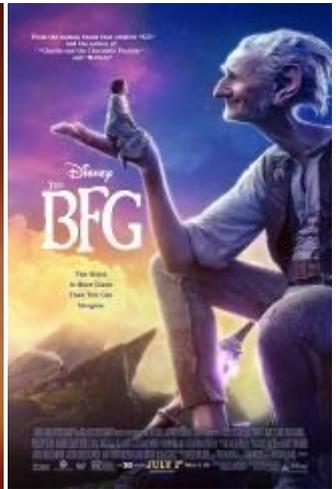
Hethersett Village Screen is a non profit organisation bringing films to the community, with monthly screenings in Hethersett Village Hall. It is held in association with Creative Arts East, South Norfolk Council and Norfolk County Council. More information is available at [facebook.com/hethersettvs](https://facebook.com/hethersettvs) or [twitter.com/hethersettvs](https://twitter.com/hethersettvs).

The March film took place on Sunday 5th and saw Tom Hanks star in *Hologram for a King* which attracted another healthy gathering to Hethersett Village Hall. The main attraction was preceded by archive film on farming from the 1930s to 1950s from the East Anglian Film Archives.

April 2nd



May 7th



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## Small Ads

Repairs and Alterations for clothing and home textiles. Hethersett-based with 30 years of experience in the industry. Collection and Delivery service available. Telephone 01603 814171.

# Media Watch (continued)

## Hethersett sports new opportunities

We have teamed up with Hethersett Academy to open their sports facilities to the local community after school and at the weekends.

Local people will soon be able to use the four court sports hall, gymnasium and tennis courts, which they will be able to book through our website.

Hethersett resident Carly Simmons said: "It's fantastic that people in the village will be able to use these facilities that are right on the doorstep."

We have teamed up with Sport England to part-fund this project, which is helping us to keep our residents fit and active across the district.

Further information can be found on our website at [www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/leisure)

SOUTH NORFOLK LINK SPRING 2017 | 9

## Plans for cycle path amended after feedback

**Controversial plans for a cycle path linking Wymondham to Hethersett have been amended after feedback from the public.**

But some still fear the 1.1-mile stretch would be dangerous and cyclists would shun it in favour of cycling on the road.

The path, part of Norfolk County Council's Transport for Norwich programme, would run along the north side of the B1172, partly next to the carriageway and partly through nearby fields, behind Kett's Oak, and create a continuous cycle link between Norwich and Wymondham.

But after criticism of the proposal, the plans now include no raised tables at junctions, relaxed narrowing of junctions to improve access for buses and lorries, additional drainage and repositioning of the path so the impact on trees and hedges will be reduced.

The path would be 3m wide and designed for pedestrians as well as cyclists.

But David James Cars owner David Bain said he was sceptical the path would be used, calling the plan

**STUART ANDERSON**  
stuart.anderson@archant.co.uk

"absolutely nuts". He said cyclists would be at risk from vehicles backing out of driveways.

He said: "If they use it, they will have to go past about 20 houses with driveways and hedges, with cars turning out. Why would they use it when they can cycle freely down the road?"

Mr Bain said a cycle path on the other side of the road would work much better.

But Hethersett Parish Council chairman Jackie Sutton said the new path would improve safety along the road and encourage more people to get on their bikes.

She said: "It's a very dangerous stretch of road so anything that we can do to improve accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians should be welcomed."

**More details can be found online at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/wymondhambhethersett](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/wymondhambhethersett) and feedback can be given by emailing [norwich.transport@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:norwich.transport@norfolk.gov.uk) by February 25.**

# Media Watch

THE Eastern Daily Press carried a feature on the Hethersett Tea Plantation in Sri Lanka which we have featured in the past. Reporter Emma Knights' travelogue had the following to say:

"Among the Britons to travel here in the 19th century was one William Flowerdew, who hailed from Hethersett and took his home village's name halfway round the world.

Sri Lanka then was known as Ceylon and Mr Flowerdew was one of the early plantation pioneers on the island's famous tea industry.

His Hethersett in Sri Lanka reaches for the sky at about 6,900 ft, about 5,400 miles from its Norfolk namesake.

The Hethersett Tea Factory is now the luxury Heritance Tea Factory Hotel.

Mr Flowerdew ran the factory from 1879 to 1881 but it continued until 1973, producing tea commercially for almost a century.

Inside, the past is brought to life with photos and memorabilia. Norfolk's own Hethersett also takes centre stage with

a parish map in the hotel's Hethersett Bar, and the Hethersett name is also stamped on tea crates.

In its heyday the factory enjoyed much success. In 1891, Hethersett tea fetched more than 30 times the average price and from the 1930s it produced half a million kilograms annually for nearly 50 years."

## A PIECE OF HOME IN SRI LANKA

From stunning landscapes to ancient wonders to the world-famous Ceylon Tea, the beautiful island of Sri Lanka has it all. And, as Emma Knights and Oliver Proctor discovered, there is even a little bit of East Angles nestled high up in the hills.

**A**s we glided the hazy backdrop of the Lanka hills country, we were fascinated in a world so far away from home yet, familiar, almost home.

For every sea mile of this wonderful island in the Indian Ocean, we discovered a little bit of East Angles waiting to be found.

Among the Britons to travel here in the 19th century was one William Flowerdew, who hailed from Hethersett and took his home village's name halfway round the world. In Lanka, there was known as Ceylon, and Mr Flowerdew was one of the early plantation pioneers who started the island's famous tea industry.

As we sailed out, Mr Flowerdew in Sri Lanka reached for the sky at about 6,900 ft, close to the town of Hethersett, in Norfolk, and took his home village's name halfway round the world.

His Hethersett in Sri Lanka reaches for the sky at about 6,900 ft, about 5,400 miles from its Norfolk namesake.

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Emma Knights picking tea leaves on the Hethersett Tea Factory's organic mist tea factory.

memorabilia, and the spirit of the island's tea industry.

Mr Flowerdew's name is also stamped on tea crates.

In its heyday the factory enjoyed much success. In 1891, Hethersett tea fetched more than 30 times the average price and from the 1930s it produced half a million kilograms annually for nearly 50 years.

Now a hotel, it still has a main factory where guests can take a tour and see the tea plants being grown in a field.

The factory is now a hotel and a tea plantation. It is a beautiful sight, and the tea plants are being grown in a field.

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A view of the tea plantation in Sri Lanka.

Emma Knights picking tea leaves on the Hethersett Tea Factory's organic mist tea factory.

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Emma Knights picking tea leaves on the Hethersett Tea Factory's organic mist tea factory.

"The Hethersett tea fetched more than 30 times the average price"

# Media Watch (continued)

**Eastern Counties**

**Swaffham** 6  
**Crusaders** 11

**Crusaders kept the pressure on neighbours Wymondham in Eastern Counties One by winning at lowly Swaffham.**

They moved to within a point of their second-placed rivals as they touched down four times against a side who had proved a tough nut to crack at Tuttle's Lane the previous week.

Henry Joy led the way for Crusaders with two tries while Alex Widdrington and Greg Thurston also went over.

Leaders Theiford bounced back from their surprise defeat at Woodbridge in emphatic style when they hammered Bury St Edmunds III 81-19.

North Walsham Raiders beat visitors Norwich Union 27-24 in Two North. They took the lead from the final play when young replacement Michael Mulhall crossed under the bar and Elliott Hunt

**newsbites**

**Donation secures future of fun run**

**Each year it helps bring the Hethersett community together in the name of fitness and friendly competition.**

And now the future of the village's Run the Square fun run has been secured thanks to a £1,000 donation as part of a Persimmon Community Champions Scheme.

Shane Hull, organiser and parish councillor, said he was delighted with the donation, which would help pay for the insurance and other costs for this year's event on July 16.

Mr Hull said: "It's a volunteer-run event that encourages health and fitness in the community and everyone can get involved.

"This very kind donation means that we can keep the entry fee unchanged this year."

Shane Hull accepts a cheque from Lucy Woodhall, from Persimmon Homes. Picture: VIA SHANE HULL

Hethersett Run the Square was launched eight years ago in the build up to the London Olympics in 2012, and it continues as a 'legacy' event of the games.

Mr Hull said 200 to 300 people took part in the run each year.

**METHEMSETT**

Probus Club President Ben Richardson gave a talk on the life and times of Henry Ford. Born in 1863, on a farm, Ford showed no interest in his parents' business, he received little education and was always reluctant to write or dictate letters. But he did develop an early interest in steam engines which carried into the manufacture of cars and the company he founded was the first to manufacture the automobile that many middle class Americans could afford. He built a railway and a steel works to help with the distribution of his cars. As the owner of the Ford Motor Company he became one of the richest and most famous people in the world and died in 1947.

At 83 John Northcliff chaired a subsequent meeting when Alan Saunders reminded everyone about the social evening on April 13 when the Strand Players will be providing entertainment. Chris Morris was the latest edition of the Probus magazine. A story was told by Beverly Baker. After refreshments, the chairman introduced the speaker, Mick Fleming, a solicitor from Bosters who has offices all over East Anglia. He spoke about wills, power of attorney, inheritance tax, executors and trustees, ex-habitation and

**Anguish as 'outstanding' playgroup faces risk of closure in 50th year**

It is an anniversary year which should be marked with celebrations and congratulations.

But instead, the Hethersett Childminders Pre-school Playgroup is facing the devastating prospect of closure - exactly 50 years after it was founded.

The group is based at Hethersett Roadside Infant and Nursery School and caters for 30 to 40 children aged 2 to 5 years olds. But it will be unable to continue unless a new chairman and treasurer are found for its committee.

Verity McCreath, the group's secretary said it would be tragic if Hethersett had to close.

Mrs McCreath said "The changes in personnel, administration, our chair and treasurer cause real difficulties."

"We are a charity playgroup and as such we have to have a committee, so without people to

**WILLIAM BRIDGEMAN**  
Hethersett Childminders Pre-school

Chairman, we won't be able to continue.

"I would be most grateful if we had to close in our 50th year."

Mrs McCreath said all any new committee would have had was a couple of letters a week "In the playgroup, we could usually share ideas. Each year special events planned."

She said "The club is due have to raise collective savings and make decisions with regards to the playgroup, and the treasurer would be able to make decisions with regards to the longevity of the group."

There could also be a lack of funds to complete a DDB check and then be replaced with "DDB".

Mrs McCreath said she would encourage anyone interested to consider taking up one of the roles.

"She said "It's a very rewarding thing to do."

"It's well worth the hours that you put in, to know that there are children in the village who are benefiting. We are looking to give the opportunity to have the club alive."

As well as running a morning playgroup each week, Mrs McCreath has her own evening playgroup activity sessions for children, aged from 21 months to two-and-a-half years.

The playgroup was given a national rating by Ofsted after its latest inspection in December 2015.

**Anyone interested in filling one of the vacant roles at the playgroup should visit Mrs McCreath at the following address:**  
secretary@hethersett.org.uk



The winners of the South North Community Awards 2015. Picture: BRUCE BLANCHET

**Just rewards for the unsung heroes who go the extra mile**

Unsung heroes who voluntarily give their time, enthusiasm and skills to enrich their communities are set to be rewarded for their efforts at a state-of-the-art ceremony.

Local Councillor Ceryn Hadden, cabinet member for strategic concerns, will present at South North Council, said: "All our volunteers give up their time each week to help make the district a better place to live and work."

"Their kindness and willingness to get others before themselves is truly inspirational and I hope many will continue to celebrate the fantastic work they do."

The winners of each category will receive grants of £250 to help towards a charitable expenditure of their choice.

This year's categories include 'Volunteer of the Year', 'Community Group of the Year', 'Community Fundraiser', 'Business Community Champion', 'Community Volunteering Champion', 'Environmental Champion', 'Young Volunteer of the Year' and a lifetime achievement award for voluntary work of the Year.

At 10am, the night will open, the award interval will demonstrate which sector has performed best in 2015 and winners.

Local 14,000, a car concert for South North Council will be held.

"Last year I am not happy to be the other side of the other side of the other side, kindness, kindness and community spirit shows for people living within our district - and this year is no exception."

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"Last year I am not happy to be the other side of the other side of the other side, kindness, kindness and community spirit shows for people living within our district - and this year is no exception."

**Articles on Hethersett appear regularly in the Eastern Daily Press, Norwich Evening News and Wymondham Mercury newspapers.**

# Media Watch (continued)



OUR story about Hethersett Parish Council writing to Police and Crime Commissioner Lorne Green with regards to traffic problems and the destruction of grass verges due to haphazard parking, which appeared in the March edition,

was featured in the Eastern Daily Press web site under the heading

Bad parkers' around Hethersett prompt plea to police and crime commissioner Lorne Green.

It drew the following comments from one reader:

"It is an issue that is common throughout the county and is costing an awful lot to put right. The worst offenders are white van man, especially contractors working for the council. It seems they have to park right outside the house they are working at and are incapable of walking from one side of the road to the other.

If my memory serves me right, I think John Prescott brought in some legislation about this that enabled local councils to make an order banning parking on verges. Great Yarmouth Borough Council spent a bit of money putting in wooden bollards to stop vehicles being parked on grassed areas. The scheme has worked extremely well

The newspaper also held a poll of readers asking if parking on verges was a problem that needed to be stopped. At the time of writing 174 people had replied with an overwhelming 78% answering yes and only 22% stating that they didn't feel it to be a problem."

## Cycle Path Plans Amended

The Wymondham Mercury reported on the continuing saga of what has become a controversial cycle path that will eventually link Hethersett to Wymondham.

Plans have been amended following complaints from the public. There is still a feeling that some cyclists would consider the 1.1 mile track as being too dangerous and would stay on the B1172.

The path, part of Norfolk County Council's Transport for Norwich programme, would run along the north side of the B1172, partly next to the carriageway and partly through nearby fields, behind Kett's Oak, and create a continuous cycle link between Norwich and Wymondham.

But after criticism of the proposal, the plans now include: no raised tables at junctions; relaxed narrowing of junctions to improve access for buses and lorries; additional drainage and repositioning of the path so the impact on trees and hedges will be reduced.

But David James Cars owner David Bain said he was sceptical the path would be used, calling the plan "absolutely nuts". He said cyclists would be at risk from vehicles backing out of driveways.

He said: "If they use it, they will have to go past about 20 houses with driveways and hedges, with cars turning out. Why would they use it when they can cycle freely down the road?"

But Hethersett Parish Council chairman Jackie Sutton said the new path would improve safety along the road and encourage more people to get on their bikes.

She said: "It's a very dangerous stretch of road so anything that we can do to improve accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians should be welcomed."

Work on the first phase of construction is due to start in late spring.

A cutting on this from the Wymondham newspaper is available on page 56.

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 **Norfolk** County Council

# Troops To Be Commemorated

**NEWS** that roads on new developments in the village are likely to be named after soldiers who lost their lives in the First World War has been welcomed. The names are already commemorated on the village war memorial in the grounds of St Remigius Church.

**Over the next few months we will be featuring details of just some of the men to be commemorated.**

## **Robert BARTRAM**

Private Robert John Bartram of the 11th Battalion Essex Regiment died on 21st April, 1917, aged 35 and is buried in Wimereux Communal Cemetery. Robert was the son of Mr and Mrs James Bartram of Hethersett.

He was born in Ketteringham in 1884 and was previously in the Norfolk Regiment. It is likely that he served in the Norfolk Regiment before joining the Essex Regiment. In keeping with many other soldiers, home county did not always mean home regiment and often individuals were transferred between regiments to, amongst other things, make up the numbers.

There is no record of Robert dying from wounds or being killed in battle, so it is highly likely that he was taken ill and hospitalised. From 1914 Wimereux was an important hospital centre and until June 1918 used the communal cemetery for burials. Once again this suggests Robert died in hospital.



## **Horace BEAUMONT -**

Stoker Horace Beaumont of the Royal Naval Reserve was lost at sea on 12th December, 1918, aged 37. He is remembered on the Chatham Naval War Memorial. The 1901 census shows that Horace was born in Mulbarton but was living with his uncle and aunt in East Carleton. His mother Ellen had died and he and his father, Robert, were sharing his uncle's home. At the time of death his next of kin was his sister May Smitherman who was living in Deal Kent.

Horace died when his ship was torpedoed by a German U Boat. Horace was part of the crew of Merchant Fleet Auxiliary Vessel Eleanor which was engaged in taking a consignment of mines, depth charges and other munitions from Immingham on Humberside via Falmouth to Malta. When passing to the south of the Isle of Wight it was struck by a torpedo without any warning. The vessel sank within two minutes. All but one crew member was killed. The wreck of the boat is now a recognised grave site.

## **Frederick BENNETT -**

Private Frederick Bennett of the 71st Company Machine Gun Corps (previously the Suffolk Regiment) was killed in action on 1st May 1917 and is remembered on the Loos Memorial in France.

Frederick was born in Hethersett on 19th February, 1896, and baptised in St Remigius on 2nd April of that year. He was the son of Frederick and Elizabeth Bennett (nee Nobbs). His father died in September, 1899, at the age of 30 and his mother re-married to William Denmark in September 1901. Frederick enlisted at Cambridge, which would suggest that he had already left Hethersett.

He was moved from the Suffolk regiment to the Machine Gun Corps and most likely served as part of a machine gun team. Often the machine gun team had to stay put during an attack in order to lay down supporting fire. This made them extremely vulnerable. The Machine Gun Corps soon attracted the nickname of the Suicide Squad due to their poor life expectancy. Captured machine gunners of both sides often had to endure harsh treatment by enraged enemy troops who had seen their friends decimated by this devastating weapon.

The heavier machine guns of both sides could comfortably find their targets at 800 yards and had a maximum range of approximately 4,000 yards. Even a mile or more from the lines, a soldier was still far from being safe. The artillery could fire at targets three to five miles distant and the larger calibre guns had an extreme range of 25 miles.

Frederick was only 21 when he was killed. Although he is remembered on the Loos Memorial, he was not killed in the 1915 battle of the same name. It is more likely that he took part in the later Battle of Arras which was a major offensive planned to push the Germans back and break through the formidable Hindenburg Line. After initial Allied success, including the famous action at Vimy Ridge, the offensive became bogged down and the final objective achieved despite 15,000 Allied losses against a possible 100,000 suffered by the enemy.

**The following details have been taken from the web site “Hethersett A Village at War” which covers the period between 1910 and 1950 in Hethersett and takes in both world wars. The site can be viewed at**

**[www.hethersettatwar.weebly.com](http://www.hethersettatwar.weebly.com)**

## **We Are On Facebook**

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<https://www.facebook.com/Hethersett-Herald-196216690775010/>

# Electric Eden and a Prime Minister

**By Peter Steward**

YOU could call me something of a voracious reader - devouring magazine articles, books and virtually anything else that will help enhance my knowledge. And that's particularly the case with anything to do with history.

I recently read two books (both side by side as it happens) that seemed to have very little in common and in fact to be poles apart. The first was entitled "Why Spencer Perceval Had To Die - The Assassination of a British Prime Minister" by Andro Linklater and the second was "Electric Eden: Unearthing Britain's Visionary Music" by Rob Young. Both had interesting connections with Norfolk.

Both mention Norfolk characters early on and that sent me scurrying to find out more about them, with some interesting results. As Prime Minister, Spencer Perceval was against the slave trade and was a contemporary of William Wilberforce. A man of impeccable character, Perceval had nevertheless antagonised many people by imposing a blockade against Napoleon and the French which was having an adverse affect on trading. Liverpool was particularly badly hit because of its association with the slave trade.

Liverpool trader John Bellingham, who also had a number of alleged personal grievances against the Government, decided to take action and shot Perceval at point blank range in the lobby of the House of Commons. It has never

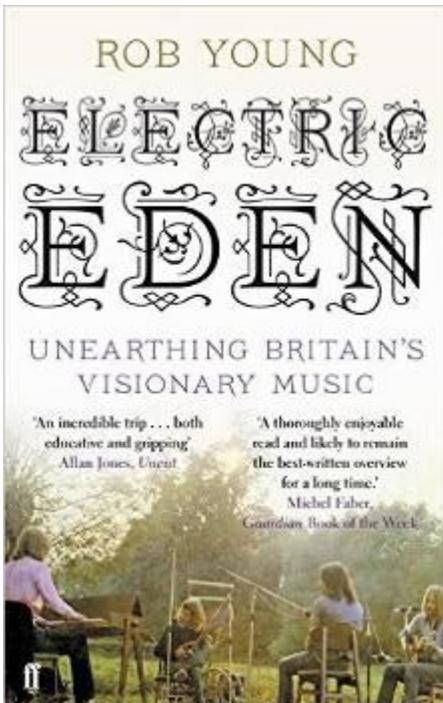


been established whether Bellingham was acting alone or had support from others in what is the only assassination of a British Prime Minister. That is one of the questions discussed in the book

One of the key witnesses at Bellingham's trial and also the inquest into Perceval's death was William Smith, a fellow abolitionist who was also Member of Parliament for Norwich at the time. Smith gave evidence at the inquest which was held at the Rose and Crown Tavern in Downing Street. He heard the pistol shot that killed Perceval and was quickly on the scene as Perceval staggered forward: "He took two or three steps towards me, as he approached he rather reeled by me,

and almost instantly fell upon the floor, with his face downward. When he first fell I thought he Spencer Perceval might be slightly wounded, and expected to see him make an effort to rise, but gazing at him for a few moments, I observed that he did not stir at all. I therefore immediately stooped down to raise him from the ground, requesting the assistance of a gentleman who stood close by me for that purpose. As soon as we had turned his face towards us, I perceived it was Mr Perceval.”

So who was William Smith? Smith was born in Clapham, London, in 1756 and was the maternal grandfather of Florence Nightingale. He married Frances Coape in 1781 and three years later was elected MP for Sudbury and subsequently Camelford and then Sudbury



again. He eventually became an outspoken and radical MP for Norwich at a time when the city was known as a place for dissenters and radicals.

And so to the second, and completely unconnected book, “Electric Eden” which looks at the development over the centuries of folk music in Britain. The early chapters refer to a British pastoral composer by the name of Ernest J (Jack) Moeran.

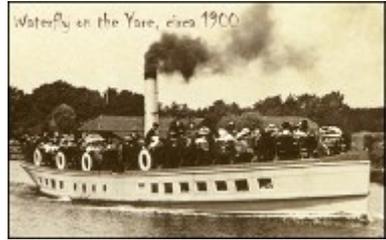
The son of an Irish father and East Anglian mother, Moeran was brought up in Bacton on the Norfolk coast. It was in the local pubs that Moeran discovered the songs of the local fishermen. He collected over 150 from the area and also discovered one of the most prolific sources of folk tunes in the shape of Harry Cox of Great Yarmouth.

Moeran went on to feature Norfolk folk songs in a number of his works. He suffered from depression and black moods, probably caused by a shrapnel wound in the head sustained during the First World War. In 1938, he moved to Ireland but not before he had composed “Lonely Waters” in 1920 which is based around a song from the Norfolk Broads.

The above article originally appeared in the Norfolk Ancestor - the official journal of the Norfolk Family History Society. Membership of the society is just £10 a year for UK residents and for that you get access to thousands of records on the society's web site and four copies of the magazine delivered to your door. For more information on the society visit their official web site at: <http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk/>

# Story of the Waterfly

Associate Editor Roger Morgan relates the story of the **Waterfly**, a passenger steamship working on the Norfolk Broads between 1894 and 1914.



Waterfly's owner was John Long, farmer and founder of Long's Dairies, who supplied milk

to the Great Yarmouth area throughout the 20th Century.



## A Difficult Start

John Frederick Long was born in a small house in Row 17, in Great Yarmouth on 21st May, 1846. His father James died of cholera when John was only three years old and his mother Mary Ann was left to raise five children (Harriet, James, John, Ellen and Phoebe) on the small amount provided by parish relief, supplemented by her wage as a charwoman and the money brought in by

her oldest son James, who was working as an errand boy by the age of 14. His sisters Ellen and Phoebe later emigrated to America, which is another story.

## Building a Business

By January 1872, John, now 26 years old, a large strong man as he was remembered, is described as a cab proprietor when he took out a mortgage of £40 on a piece of freehold land in Cobholm, Great Yarmouth. Further mortgages followed quickly in March and June 1872 and by 1879 his success had enabled him to borrow £500 to buy more land.

Those were the first steps to a lifetime's work that saw John and his wife Rosetta first build a farm, then, with their children and grandchildren, the most successful dairy and milk delivery business in the area. But that again is another story.

As an aside, it was John's young children who taught him to write, as they went to school following the 1870 Education Act and he was able to sign his name on the 1879 mortgage, which he could not do in 1872. The farm he started in 1872, the same year that his sisters Ellen and Phoebe went to America, became

known as Humberstone Farm. Situated on marshland by the edge of the estuary of Breydon Water, it was natural that boats and water played a part in his life, as it did with most Yarmouth people.

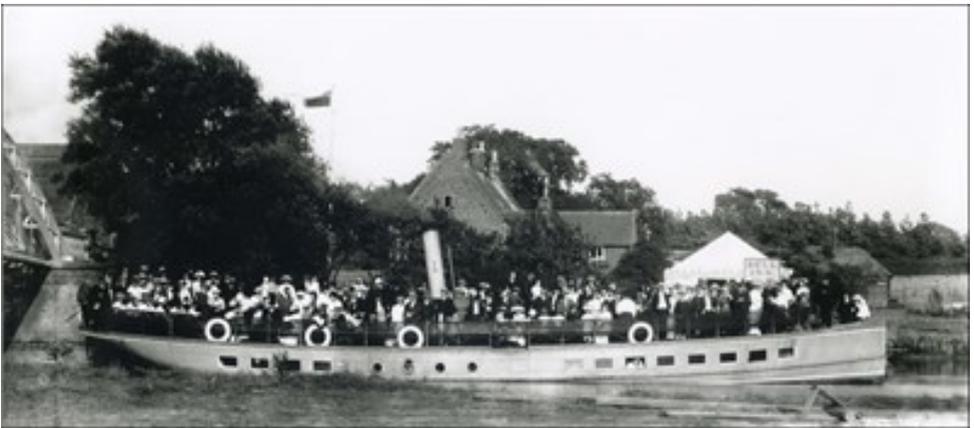
Originally the farm had no road to it and John's wife Rosetta would row a small boat across Breydon to deliver the milk to the town. Later John built a road, which is still in use today.

### **Farm and Railway**

When the Midland and Great Northern Railway needed to build a swing bridge over Breydon during the 1890s to bring their railway into Yarmouth, it was some of John's land they needed for the approach to the bridge on the south side of Breydon. It was the money from this sale that paid for the Waterfly. The bridge was opened in 1901.

### **The Waterfly**

John Long's Waterfly was both a pleasure and a business. She was one of a small number of passenger steamers that carried holiday makers and locals on pleasure cruises on the inland waterways of the Norfolk Broads in the golden



years before the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. Built in Yarmouth by Fellows Shipyard, she was launched with a bottle of milk broken across her bows and registered in Great Yarmouth as YH7 on 23rd May, 1894, with a Board of Trade number 104064. She was built of "120lb" steel, with a 25nhp steam engine from Crabtree of Yarmouth and a boiler from Farrar of Newark. The engine had two vertical cylinders of eight inch diameter, with a stroke of nine and 14 inches. Her gross weight was 48.79 tons, net 23 tons. Her overall length was 72

feet 5 inches, with a 14 feet 6 inches beam and 6 feet 3 inches of hold depth. The engine room was 18 feet long. (Details from the Yarmouth Port & Haven Commissioners' registry records held at the Norfolk Archive Centre).

### Summer Excursions

During the summer months, *Waterfly* would be moored on the North Quay in the centre of Yarmouth, alongside the three boats, *Queen of the Broads*, *Pride of the Yare* and *Yarmouth Belle*, owned by the Yarmouth and Gorleston Steamboat Company. In an agreement dated 5th June, 1897, John Long and the steamboat company agreed to share ticket bookings and other operating costs for that summer season, with *Waterfly* covering the Yarmouth to Norwich trips, which became a popular weekend excursion. *Waterfly*'s Sunday afternoon return trips to the riverside village of St Olaves for only 6d (2½p) became a speciality. The Yare River Commissioners charged tolls on passenger numbers carried at 1d (one old penny) per passenger and returns for the summer season of 1897 show 576 passengers carried in June, 1,843 in July, 3,935 in August and 1,406 in September.



### Popular Outings

*Waterfly*'s popularity can be seen by the large number of passengers shown in photographs taken on those excursions. The Board of Trade Passenger Certificate dated 25th November, 1909, licensed *Waterfly* to carry 274 passengers and five crew, though she was only required to carry 15 lifebuoys. This was before the sinking of the *Titanic*, after which passenger number and lifesaving equipment rules were improved.



### Breydon Moorings

In 1900, plans were made to moor *Waterfly* in a wet dock on the edge of Breydon when not in use and an agreement was drawn up with the Midland and Great Northern Railway to rent a new dock from them. But it was only used once as it

silted up as soon as it was dredged out, causing difficulties getting Waterfly out of the dock.

### **Waterfly in Colour**

The Broads' steamers were generally painted a cream or yellow colour and all but one of the photographs of the Waterfly in the family archives give that impression. Photographs of Waterfly are black and white or sepia toned, as practical colour photography was rare at the time, but we can guess that at one time Waterfly's hull was painted red.



There is one photograph showing the hull a dark colour, compared to the rest of her and there is a coloured drawing of Waterfly made by one of John's young daughters, probably Nora, that is coloured red.

The rest of the drawing is quite accurate, apart from the number of portholes, and we can assume Nora portrayed it in the correct colour. The drawing on the previous page shows Waterfly on Breydon with Humberstone Farm in the background.

### **The End of the Story**

With the outbreak of the First World War during the summer season of 1914, the holiday trade abruptly ended. Millions of young men went to the battlefields of Europe and Waterfly's passenger carrying days were over.

She was eventually stripped of her fittings and used as a barge to tow boxes between Yarmouth and Lowestoft by Messrs Wenn, Yarmouth boxmakers. Her original port registration was cancelled on 29th April, 1919, when she was converted to a "Lighter". Waterfly ended her days in the mud on Breydon where her remains lie today.

More on the Waterfly with additional pictures can be found on Waterfly's Website

<http://waterfly.greatyarmouthphotographic.co.uk/index.htm>

### **Roger Morgan**

# Have You Missed an Edition?



YOU can catch up on previous editions of the Hethersett Herald by going to <http://hethersett.org.uk/emags.htm> and following the links. Hethersett Herald is an independent publication for news, views and features about Hethersett. It is currently only available online.

## News and Features Needed

We are always happy to receive articles and news for publication.

With limited resources, it isn't possible for us to cover everything that is going on in our village. We hope that the Herald reflects just some of the things that are taking place in Hethersett, but, with your help, we can expand our service.

We are looking for news and reports on any aspect of village life. Also news of coming events that you would like publicised.

We are also happy to carry features on topics not strictly related to the village providing they are written by a resident of either Hethersett, Great Melton or Little Melton.

Reports, news, features and photographs can be sent by e-mail to [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net) or dropped off at 12, Karen Close, Hethersett

# Sports Coverage Starts Here

## Cycle Speedway Award

*By Mel Perkins*

HETHERSETT Hawks/Myhill Decorators Cycle Speedway Club has been awarded £1,000 from the Aviva Community Fund. The money will be used to buy small bikes and suitable protective clothing for the club's youngest recruits.

Special fitness sessions with a coach have been taking place on Tuesday evenings and they will continue on Thursdays with club nights having started again on Tuesdays. The sessions run from 6.30 until 7.30 under floodlights near the track and are open to non members at a cost of £4 per session.

The club will be staging the East Anglian Championships in May. The regular league season starts on April 2nd with an away match against Norwich at Eaton Park. The club has a new website at [www.hethersetthawks.co.uk](http://www.hethersetthawks.co.uk).

The club opened its season with an entertaining inter-regional challenge against Horspath from Oxford. The visitors called up their former Elite League member Lewis Osborne, now with Gt.Blakenham, to make up their side and the former British No.2 was unbeaten. Also in the side was 2015 British Champion Zac Payne so a good test for the Hawks, whose pre-season training had been limited by the weather.

The Hawks held a brief lead after heat 2 when Olly Buxton and Harley Hamill scored a 7-3 but some costly mistakes when in good positions meant they never really got back on terms. Dan Chambers dropped his only point to Osbrne and all the side had their moments, including a win for Owen Wells in the final heat.

**Hethersett 77 Horspath 83, Hethersett scorers -D.Chambers 17, O.Buxton 14, O.Wells 11, H.Hamill 11, D.Butler 10, L.Cossey 10, G.Morgan 4)**

# James Joins the 400 Club

**JAMES Rice (pictured right) has become only the second player in the history of Hethersett Athletic Football Club to complete 400 league and cup appearances.**

“Ricey” reached the landmark in the men’s Saturday side’s 4-3 defeat at home to Billingford in the Ben Smith Memorial Cup on February 11th.

Ricey came up through the club’s youth system and is currently captain of the Men’s Saturday team which is currently enjoying its most successful season in the Barnes Print South and Central Norfolk League Division One, lying in third place.

James played his first game for the club as a raw youngster and has been a constant presence and a hugely motivating force ever since, turning his hand over the years to coaching many of the younger players.



## Over 300 Games

The following nine players have made over 300 appearances for the club up to and including March 3rd, 2017.

- 1 Matt Steward 414
- 2 James Rice 401
- 3 Danny Holman 385
- 4 Rich Manington 369
- 5 Paul Martin 362
- 6 Nick Benfield 326
- 7 Matt Molloy 317
- 8 Steven Beck 309
- 9 Mike Pugh 301



He is an honorary life member and in 2011 was awarded the club's top honour, the Lee Thompson Memorial Trophy for an outstanding contribution to the club. His nomination for that award in many ways sums up his character:

**“James is a selfless, bubbly character who can be the life and soul of the party. James is Hethersett through and through and, as well as playing for the club, has also found time to ensure that the younger players at the club have the experience of his coaching. Following a hectic Saturday morning session with the youngsters, James then turns out for the adult men’s Saturday side whenever his studies allow him. James was also a key organiser in the nationally recognised Olympic weekend in the Park event last year and will be again this. He has grown with us, and we as a club have grown by having such dedicated young men coming through our ranks and taking their place in village life. “**

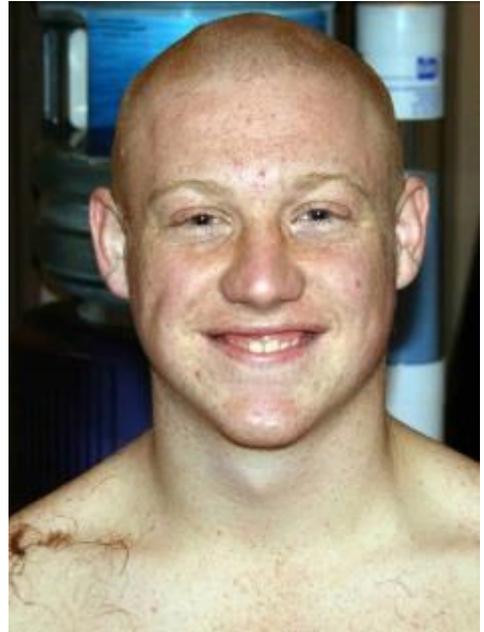
At the time the above was written James was studying to be a teacher, a career that he is now following. His wife Carla recently gave birth to their first child - a boy. One of the outstanding aspects of James' character has been his sense of humour - particularly over the fact that he has a large shock of red hair which has been the brunt of many jokes from colleagues, team-mates and even league officials and referees - all of which James has always taken in good humour referring to himself as “the greatest ginger player ever to play for Hethersett Athletic.”

## Sports Reports Needed

We are happy to carry reports/results from sports clubs from Hethersett or with connections to the village. If you would like your club featured just send the details to [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net). Photographs are particularly appreciated.

Your help will allow us to continue to expand the coverage of sport/leisure and fitness in our award winning village

# Ricey's Wax and Wane for Charity



A NUMBER of years ago James had his head shaved and his body waxed to raise money for the East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) charity.

The "Wax Ricey" campaign raised hundreds of pounds for the hospice. After his ordeal James said:

"I always say that there's no gain without pain. It wasn't as bad as I expected and I'm hoping that my few hours feeling uncomfortable will help the children in some small way."

Hethersett (Playing Field) Bowls Club opens its 2017 season on Saturday, 29th April and is welcoming old and new members to its green on the Memorial Playing Field. The club opens at 2 pm:

"Experience or not is immaterial as long as you enjoy the healthy outdoor game. Come along and try your hand on the day - bowls are available if needed and all you need to bring are flat-heeled shoes and a determination to enjoy good sport and company," said Ron Butcher from the club.

# Hethersett Athletic March Results

U-8	Brandon	H	Trophy	9-3	Rollison, Basham 5, Rouillard, Glover, Warren
Sat OB	Norman	A	Cup	4-3	Peacher, Smith 3
Men's Sat	Mulbarton A	H	League	3-0	Gray 2, Folkard
Sun 1st	Binham	A	League	1-3	Benfield
Sun Res	Harleston U-21s	H	League	3-6	
U-19s	Reepham	A	League	5-2	J. Denny 2, Hudson-Church, Curran, H. Denny
U-15s	Mattishall	A	League	4-5	Banks, Thorpe, Woodcock, Kirby
U-12s	Taverham	A	League	2-2	Scott, Abu-Elmagd
U-11s	Newton Flotman	H	League	13-0	Warren 2, Nair 2, Swift, Ashby, B. Harvey 3, Cox 4
U-10	Diss Tigers	A	League	0-8	
U-9 Tiger	Mulbarton Eagles	A	League	3-3	Pinnock, Tompkins, Thompson
U-12	Thorpe	A	League	1-3	Desira
Sun 1st	Phoenix	A	League	0-2	
U-9 Tiger	Mulbarton	H	Plate	5-2	Pinnock, Thompson 2, Warren 2
Sat OB	Dussindale	H	League	2-2	Peacher, Thurston
Men's Sat	Marham	A	League	2-7	Gray, Lance
U-8 Flame	Brandon Yellow	H	League	0-11	
U-8 Spark	Wymondham Falc	H	League	3-4	Brown, Collins, Burberry
U-14	Harling	H	League	2-1	Watts, own goal
U-10	Thetford Bulldogs	H	League	4-3	Wright 3, Henri
Men Sat	Sporle	A	League	6-1	Folkard 2, Firman, Gray, Watkins, Davis
U-8 Flame	Mulbarton Pumas	H	League	3-3	Collins 2, Clack
U-8 Spark	Attleborough	H	League	8-6	Basham 4, Petherick 2, Johnson, Kiddell
Sun Res	Sprowston Ath	H	League	3-1	Bradfield, Gregory, Grimes
U-15	Poringland	A	League	3-1	Jones, Banks, Woodcock
U-14	Toftwood	A	League	4-2	Delf 2, Dean, Attfield
U-12	Mattishall	H	Cup	3-1	Scott 2, Grice
U-11	Brandon	H	League	1-2	Nair
U-9 Tiger	Watton	H	Plate	5-2	Warren, Brown 2, Mercer, Pinnock
Sat OB	Norman Wand	H	Cup	1-3	Elliott
U-8 Flame	Thetford Town	H	League	13-5	Rollison 6, Long 4, Johnson 2, og
U-8 Spark	Brandon Blues	H	League	0-20	
Sun 1st	Trimingham	H	League	0-3	
Sun Res	North Walsham	A	League	4-18	
U-15	Surlingham	A	League	2-0	Jones 2
U-14	Morley	H	League	4-1	Attfield, Fieldhouse, Harvey, Bradford
U-12	Morley Stallions	H	Cup	2-2	B. Smith, Desira
U-11	Wymondham Flc	H	League	0-5	
U-9 Tiger	Wymondham	A	Plate	2-1	Pinnock, L. Brown

**A full list of results for the season, along with coming fixtures and other information is available on the club's official website at [www.hethersettathletic.co.uk](http://www.hethersettathletic.co.uk).**

# CRUSADERS RUGBY

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**OPEN TRAINING SESSION FOR GIRLS IN YEARS 6 - 10**  
**WEDS 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 6.30 – 8pm @ Crusaders Rugby**  
**Little Melton Rd, Hethersett, Norwich. NR9 3NP**

CRUSADERS Rugby Club which plays on the border of Hethersett and Little Melton is looking for new players - both male and female. New and experienced players are being invited along to training sessions on Tuesday and Thursday (see page 69).

In addition open training sessions for girls have been started (see poster above). Crusaders have one of the biggest girls' rugby set-ups in East Anglia. With the success of the national team it is anticipated that more and more girls will be taking up the sport. More information on girls' rugby is available from Martin Allcock on 07952524154

Meanwhile Crusaders' chances of winning the East Anglian League one title have taken a dip. Five victories in a row put them in a strong position, but a narrow 31-25 defeat at Thetford looks like scuppering their plans. Crusaders needed a win to have a realistic chance of taking the title. The defeat saw them drop to third place in what has turned out to be a very close season. Crusaders are now one point behind second placed Wymondham but 11 behind leaders Thetford. Crusaders' three remaining fixtures are Ipswich at home (played on March 25th), Woodbridge away on April 1st and Bury St Edmunds home on April 8th.

# Valley Runners-Up

## Youthful Team Lose in Final

**HETHERSETT and Tas Valley Cricket Club were beaten by Brooke in the final of the Wymondham Indoor League by 18 runs.**

**A very young team, which included Hethersett's player of the year Ian Bryce, was outbowled and outfielded by an experienced Brooke side**

**Afterwards a club spokesman said the young Hethersett team (photographed) were a credit to the club.**



Youngsters looking for something to do during the Easter holidays are being invited along to a Startrack Festival being organised by Active Norfolk.

The fun coaching sessions will take place on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th April at the UEA Sportspark.

Startrack Athletics is based on running, jumping and throwing in a friendly environment and is open to girls and boys of all abilities aged between eight and 15. All equipment is provided and places can be booked on 01603 732333 or on the internet at [www.activenorfolk.org/startrack](http://www.activenorfolk.org/startrack).