



## Village Car Parking Problem

HETHERSETT Parish Council will be mounting a campaign in the New Year against inconsiderate parking in the village. The December meeting of the council heard about problems caused by motorists parking on and destroying grass verges and also making life difficult for residents with buggies and users of mobility scooters.

At a previous meeting one councillor referred to the village as “a car park.” There is particular concern for parts of Great Melton Road. The council has been in

### Road Closure

**PART of Great Melton Road, Hethersett, will be closed from January 4th to 10th for work on the sewers. The stretch from Glengarry Close to the New Road junction will only be accessible for residents during this time.**

**Vehicles going from the village to Great Melton will need to go down Mill Road, turn right into New Road and re-join Great Melton Road at its junction with New Road.**

contact with Norfolk Police and will be looking at ways to improve the situation in the New Year.

“Car parking is becoming a huge problem with verges destroyed and grass churned up. We also have parking on pavements and studded areas. We will be contacting South Norfolk Council to see what can be done for what has become a constantly vexing problem,” said chairman of Hethersett Parish Council Jackie Sutton. \* \* \*

Hethersett continues to be a safe place to live with only four crimes recorded by the police between 16th November and 20th December, the parish council heard. This included one motorist being stopped on the B1172 for drugs offences. Other offences included criminal damage of a window at the Queen’s Head, one theft of alcohol from a shop and an arson.

# Cheque For Dementia Group



A CHEQUE for £150 has been presented to the Hethersett Dementia Support Group from proceeds from the Painting for Pleasure Art Exhibition held in Hethersett Village Hall in November.

The cheque was presented at the final Hethersett Hub Cafe to be held in Hethersett Hall before it moves in the New Year to Hethersett Methodist Church. The cafe meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m until midday and is for people with dementia and their families and carers. The next cafe event will be on January 19th. More information is available on 01603 810786 and transport can be arranged by phoning 01603 814343. The Hethersett

Painting For Pleasure Art Group meets on Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m until midday in Hethersett Village Hall. It was launched in 2006 by local artist Linda Goldspink with the aim of encouraging the enjoyment of art and painting for pleasure. Over the years it has also raised money for a variety of charities including the Norfolk Accident Rescue Service.

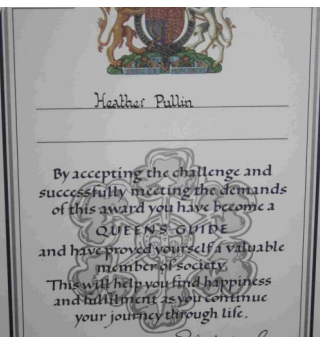
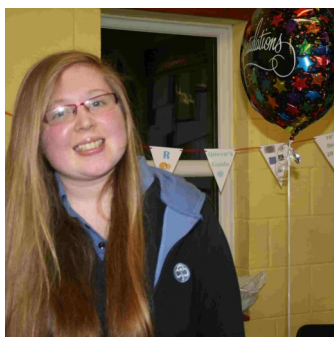
Our photograph shows chair of the Hethersett Dementia Support Group David Bills accepting the cheque with group members looking on. The money was raised from refreshments, a tombola and a percentage from the sale of paintings.

# Message From the Queen For Heather



THERE was a surprise for leading Hethersett Girl Guide Heather Pullin when she turned up at the village Scout and Guide Headquarters in December. For friends, family, fellow Guides, Rang-

ers and leaders had organised a special party in recognition of Heather's hard work over the past three years. Heather, 19, of Richardson Crescent has been working towards her Queen's Guide Award and centrepiece at the special evening was her signed certificate from the Queen.



The Queen's Guide Award is the highest achievement within Girl Guiding UK and is completed over a two or three year period. During the evening Heather was also presented with badges marking her outstand-

ing achievement. As part of her challenge, Heather has fully supported the Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal which puts together boxes of toys and other goods for under-privileged children in Kosovo. Heather is the granddaughter of John and Shirley Adams who collected for the cause for many years in Hethersett.

The shoebox appeal formed just part of Heather's path towards the Queen's Guide Award. Other activities included serving refreshments at charity events, cooking a meal for 30 people at camp, organising trips, learning to drive and taking part in various other fundraising events.

# Hethersett Images



THROUGHOUT the year. Hethersett produces hundreds of images. On this page are just two we came across in December.

It is over two decades since Hethersett couple Tony and Margaret Dunton hit upon the idea of lighting up their home in Firs Road to bring Christmas joy and also raise money for charity. Last year marked the 21st anniversary of the great Christmas switch on and over that time they have raised thousands of pounds for local good causes.

Money collected this time will be divided between the East Anglian Air Ambulance, the Hethersett Doctors' Surgery and John Groom Court home for disabled adults in Norwich. Over the years, the light display has proved particularly popular with school children. The 2015 display is pictured above.

Meanwhile youngsters attending Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club have been busy at work decorating a special graffiti wall at their headquarters in Back Lane. They have been working with a graffiti artist to produce a colourful addition to the interior around the words "Hethersett Youth." Part of the graffiti wall is pictured opposite. More images of Hethersett in the February edition of this e-magazine.



# News From The Village

## **PARISH COUNCIL DATES**

DATES have been announced for Hethersett Parish Council meetings throughout 2016. The full council will meet in Hethersett Village Hall at 7.30 p.m on the following dates - January 27th, February 15th, March 21st, April 18th, May 16th, June 13th, July 18th, September 19th, October 17th, November 21st and December 19th. The annual parish meeting will take place on May 4th. Planning Committee meetings will be held at 7 p.m on all full council nights and also on the following dates - January 4th, February 1st, March 7th, April 4th, May 3rd, June 6th, July 4th, August 1st, September 5th, October 3rd, November 7th and December 5th.

## **CANCER CHARITY CHEQUE PRESENTATION**

MORE than £600 has been presented to a Wymondham based cancer charity from a gym and swim challenge at Park Farm Fitness Express, Hethersett. Les King, patron of the Star Throwers Charity, was the first to finish the challenge and was there to see Frankie Rayner, assistant manager at the fitness centre, present the cheque to Jill Chapman from Star Throwers.

## **HISTORIC TRIP FOR STUDENTS**

STUDENTS from Hethersett Academy have been busy studying the First World War and recently paid a visit to some of the most important sites. In particular they visited the Canadian Memorial at Vimy Ridge.

## **FESTIVE SERVICE**

YOUNGSTERS from Hethersett packed into St Remigius Church for a festive Christingle service. Pupils in nursery year to year six at Hethersett Old Hall School attended the service which was led by the Rev Derek McClean. The service included readings and performances from the children. Sean Peace, head of the preparatory department said: "The Christingle Service is a great favourite with our families. The candlelit circling of the church with our individually made Christingles creates a magical atmosphere for us to reflect on the theme of giving." The youngsters collected almost £400 in loose change to fill Christingle candle tubes for The Children's Society.

**For up to date news from the village visit [www.hethersett.org.uk](http://www.hethersett.org.uk).**

# What's On in January

**BELOW are just some of the many events taking place in Hethersett in January. For regular updates and more information go to [www.hethersett.org.uk/what.htm](http://www.hethersett.org.uk/what.htm)**

Monday 4th-Parish Council Planning Committee, Hethersett Village Hall, 7pm

Monday 4th-Hethersett Library Book Group, 2 pm.

Tuesday 5th-Music Therapy Group for people with dementia, Methodist Church, 10-am

Wednesday 6th-Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group (The RiNG). Rod Spokes on the history of Norwich, Hethersett Village Hall.

Wednesday 6th-Colour Yourself Calm adult colouring in session at Hethersett Library, 10.30 am.

Thursday 7th-Hethersett Library board games afternoon from 2 pm.

Thursday 7th-Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind in Hethersett Library 2 pm.

Friday 8th-Bounce and rhyme time for babies and toddlers Hethersett Library 11.15 am.

Monday 11th -Hethersett and the Meltons' Sports Association meeting, Park Farm Hotel, 7.30 pm.

Monday 11th-Parish Pop In, Hethersett Library, 2-4 pm.

Monday 11th-Hethersett Library food swap pick-up day

Monday 11th Craft Group meets in Hethersett Library, 2 pm.

Tuesday 12th-Music Therapy Group for people with dementia, Hethersett Methodist Church, 10-10:45am.

Wednesday 13th-Colour Yourself Calm adult colouring in session at Hethersett Library, 10.30 am.

Thursday 14th-WEA Hethersett 10 week course on "Philanthropy and Community - Children in Care Before World War One" with Rosemary Steer. Hethersett Academy, 7.30 pm. Continues for 10 weeks with a break over half-term.



Thursday 14th-Board game afternoon in Hethersett Library from 2 pm.

Saturday 16th-Hethersett Pantomime Group presents Jack and the Beanstalk in Hethersett Village Hall at 2 pm and 7.30 pm. Tickets can be booked on 01603 811337. Performances continue at 7.30 pm on Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd. Performances at 2 pm and 7.30 pm on Saturday 23rd.

Monday 18th-Craft group meets in Hethersett Library from 2 pm.

Tuesday 19th-Hethersett Hub Cafe for people with dementia, their families, friends and carers, Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am to noon.

Wednesday 20th-Family History Course at Hethersett Library, 10 am. £5 per person. Spaces limited. Booking essential.

Wednesday 20th-Colour Yourself Calm adult colouring in session at Hethersett Library, 10.30 am.

Thursday 21st-Board games afternoon in Hethersett Library from 2 pm.

Friday 22nd -Bounce and rhyme time for babies and toddlers, Hethersett Library 11.15 am.

Saturday 23rd-Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) litter pick. Meet in Methodist Church car park at 10 am.

Monday 25th-Craft Group meets at Hethersett Library, 2 pm.

Tuesday 26th-Online basics course at Hethersett Library 10 am.

Tuesday 26th-Music Therapy Group for people with dementia, Hethersett Methodist Church, 10-10:45 am.

Wednesday 27th-Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) meeting. Hethersett Social Club, 8 pm.

Wednesday 27th-Colour Yourself Calm adult colouring in session at Hethersett Library, 10.30 am.

Wednesday 27th-Hethersett Parish Council Planning Committee in Hethersett Village Hall at 7 pm, followed by full council meeting at 7.30 pm.

Thursday 28th-Online basics course 10 am at Hethersett Library

Thursday 28th-Board games afternoon at Hethersett Library from 2 p.m.

# Focus On Hethersett Writers' Group

HETHERSETT Writers' Group meets monthly and has been in existence for three years. The friendly group consists of people who just love to write and enjoy discussing and improving their work.

The group was started by keen novelist and short story writer Pat Lightfoot and anyone who would like to join the group or have more information can contact her via e-mails at [lightfootpatricia@gmail.com](mailto:lightfootpatricia@gmail.com). The group also has a web site at <http://hethersettwritersgroup.weebly.com>

Pat has given us permission to print the Christmas story she wrote towards the end of 2015.

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I am very confused about Christmas. You see I have changed my direction three times at least. So for me, Christmas is many open books and one that can be never opened. I have sacrificed Christmas for my own freedom.

Let me tell you about it. I was born to a rich middle class family in 1896. My father was in banking and of course my dear mother did not need to work. We had a piano in the house that I apparently began to start playing when I was two. My brother who was seven years older than me, was taught by a governess, who could play. We had a piano in the nursery and it was one of her duties to teach Ghet how to play. Well I muscled in on the act and was soon playing better than him. The piano has defined my life. I was performing at the Conservatory by the time I was ten years old. At the first concert that we went to when I was twelve, I decided I would be a conductor. Looking back at who I am, this was the one person that I truly am. There were many others, of course.

When I was twenty, only twenty, I was the assistant conductor to Mahler. When Mahler died I lost part of myself and that was my first change. We had been playing in Geneva, with the Vienna Philharmonic and I was standing on the side of the lake one very cold morning. The mist was blowing round the frozen edges of the lake and stealth ice was conquering the outer circle. My eyes were taken to the middle point of one of many small ponds of ice. Out of it rose a spangled star. It was twilight and no one was around me. It was the star of David. Rising out of the water like many many candles glowing in the darkness. My Jewish



faith had been confirmed by a vision. Hannukah – all Gods blessings given to us. I must go back to Munich and celebrate with my family.

I was a Jew for another five years. When I was home I lived a Jewish life. When I was away, with my orchestra I was Walter, the conductor. Yes I lived in Munich but by 1928 I was travelling all over Europe and Russia. It was in Munich that I met Eugenio, who was something high up in the papal ecclesiastical world, but to me he was a friend. He came to my concerts regularly and we would often go out for supper afterwards. He was a critic of the rise to national socialism because of his humane Christian roots and wanted to protect the church from the evils of Hitler. Hitler had invited me to write a Nazi anthem and it was on Eugenio's advice that I rejected the offer. One night I went back with him to his rooms in the Carmelite Monastery and he prayed for me. One hand on my head and the other open to God. The one that was open began to bleed from a tiny puncture in his palm. As the blood pumped out I fell to my knees and went into a faint on the floor. When I came to, I felt cleansed and washed inside and out. From that day, inside I became a Catholic. Of course I never went openly to Church, nor did I tell my parents, but Eugenio administered communion to me every week and said that he held my soul in his hands.

Unfortunately my life in Munich ended in 1933 and on the eve of conducting Mahler's last symphony, Hitler found out that I was Jewish and replaced me as conductor of my beloved Vienna Philharmonic. It was Eugenio who got me out on a papal ticket. I became a Carmelite monk and was to go and live in the monastery in Rome. I am a Jewish Catholic so adding contemplation, service and community to my beliefs was easy. I packed nothing, wore a brown habit on top of my cold weather clothes and took a train south knowing that I would never return to the homeland again.

Of course my transformation to a monk did not last long. Until the end of the war I stayed with the brown men, enjoying the life in Rome and teaching young boys piano.

In 1945 I returned to public life with my Italian wife and two boys. I began to conduct again and even compose my own music. The infant cries had stirred some inner, long forgotten notes that had to be scribed. Lali, my dear wife also wanted to leave - the memories of war and occupation had left her emotionally scarred. So when I was offered a professorship in music at Chicago University

we had no hesitations to leave Italy. I am standing in front of a steamy mirror, on Christmas morning. The white Munich lilies are blooming outside in the garden. I can see them from the bathroom window. They were the flowers that we would have on our table at Hanukah. My shaving pot was the communion bowl that Eugenia had given me the blood of Christ. Tears began to form in my eyes. How can a God let six million Jews die in concentration camps, how can the Jewish nation steal Palestine from its people and how can a God let a quarter of a million innocent people be scorched to death. There is no heaven. Religion has forced people into a living hell. This morning in my safe warm carpeted flat overlooking my lake, I will remind my children and my grandchildren that God has done much more damage than Santa Claus ever did. Please believe in him.

#### **HETHERSETT FUNDRAISERS**

HETHERSETT Methodist Church singers raised £90 for the National Children's Home from carol singing outside Tesco's in Great Melton Road.

Woodside School raised £147 from a Christmas Jumper Day at the school.

A stall at Hethersett's annual Christmas Market in the Methodist Church raised £164 for the Hope and Homes for Children charity

#### **SAVING THE TOADS**

THE 2016 toad spring migration will begin in a few months time and once again people from Hethersett and the Meltons will be helping toads to cross busy roads and not get squashed by vehicles. A meeting is being held at Little Melton Village Inn at 8 pm on Monday, 18th January. All are welcome.

## **Online Magazine**

HETHERSETT online magazine is published monthly with news and views from the village. If you have anything you would like included please send it by e-mail to [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net). More village news is available on our web site at [www.hethersett.org.uk](http://www.hethersett.org.uk).

The next edition of Hethersett Online magazine will be published the first week in February. .

## Media Watch

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Green light

A group of five children are smiling and posing for a photo. They are holding up a book titled 'The Green Light'. The children are dressed in casual clothing, and the background shows a classroom setting with a bookshelf and a window.

The finer details of a phase of a 1,196 home development in Hethersteth have been agreed.

Outline planning permission for the development of the north of the village was approved by South Norfolk Council in 2013.

Yesterday at the council's planning committee, councillors green-lighted a reserved matters application, covering details including access and landscaping - for 95 homes on the site.

Of the 95 homes, which will be a mix of one to five bedrooms, 19 will be affordable.

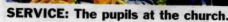
Few listeners of objection were recorded, the majority centring on strained services such as roads.

Meanwhile, at the meeting, plans for 27 homes on land north of Gibbs Farm, Melton, were deferred.

Councillors decided to delay making a decision until they had more information on the viability of the scheme, including information on why only four of the homes would be affordable.

The council has received 10 letters of objection to the scheme, relating to over-development, loss of privacy, road issue and impact on the doctors surgery.

Like Melton Parish Council has also objected.



Children from Hethersteth packed into the local church for a festive Christmas service.

Pupils in nursery year to year six at Hethersteth Old Hall School visited St Remigius church for the event last week.

Led by Rev Derek McLean, the service included readings and performances from the children.

Sean Peace, head of the preparatory department, said: "The Christingle Service is a great favourite with our families.

"The candlelit circling of the church with our individually-made Christingles creates a magical atmosphere for us to reflect on the birth of our giving."

The children collected almost £400 in loose change to fill Christingle candle tubes for The Children's Society.

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school in Hethersett was transformed into a winter wonderland at its annual Christmas sale.

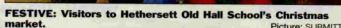
Reindeers, Father Christmas, 60 stalls and seasonal treats were on the line-up at Hethersett Old Hall. School's festive event held last year.

Visitors helped raise more than 3,300, cash which will go back into the school.

Christmas shoppers perused stalls selling jewellery, artisan food and crafts, while hot crêpes and homemade cakes were on the menu.

Chairman of the school's Parents Association, who organised the event, said: "We were delighted by the turnout, the car park was overflowing and there were fantastic, friendly crowds here all day."

"We have made an amazing sum of £340 for our school fund - and early next year we will be looking to already asked to school for next year."

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# Hawks' Golden Jubilee

HETHERSETT Hawks Cycle Speedway Club will be celebrating its golden Jubilee in 2016.

It was 50 years ago this May that current club secretary Mel Perkins MBE hit upon the idea of starting a club on the Memorial Field



Hawks staged its annual presentation evening at Hethersett Social Club and 30 members and families heard about a reasonably successful season with the first team challenging for the South-East title right to the last match and the "B" team having a much more competitive season.

Quite a few new recruits have been attracted, mainly from the Attleborough area, and the club staged four national and regional events at its track in 2015. Four Norfolk champions were celebrated as well as winners of the club's eight championships. Leigh Cossey was awarded the prestigious honour of Sportsperson of the Year voted for by those present on the night. He also received the secretary's award for Club Member of the Year for his captaining of the first team and his support and encouragement to younger members at club nights.

Other awards went to Lee Grange (top scorer), Adam Reeve (best newcomer), Leo Mallett (most improved junior), Dan Chambers (1st team rider of the year) and Owen Wells (B team rider of the year).

Hethersett Hawks is also looking for new sponsors after its long time relationship with Swinton Insurance came to an end last year.

## Important Meeting of Sports Association

Everyone interested in sport, health and well being is invited to attend an important meeting of Hethersett and the Meltons' Sports Association at Park Farm Hotel at 7 pm on January 11th. The meeting will hear about major sporting plans for the village.