



## The Great Escape

**HETHERSETT and Tas Valley Cricket Club has completed the great escape to prevent relegation from the top tier of local cricket.**

Defeat to Brooke in early August left Valley rock bottom of the Premier Division of the Norfolk Alliance in the club's first season in the top flight.

But a welcome and perhaps slightly unexpected victory at Bradfield in the penultimate match of the league season lifted Valley off the bottom and set-up a relegation showdown in the final match at home to Cromer.

By this time a number of other clubs had been pulled into the relegation dogfight and Valley knew that victory over the Seaside would see them safe and turn what could have been a disappointing season into a successful one, bearing in mind the number of young players that have represented the club this season.

As it turned out Valley had to battle both Cromer and the weather but their best bowling performance of the year combined with an almost faultless batting display saw them home by nine wickets and a few minutes ahead of heavy rain.

The maximum haul of 25 points lifted Hethersett up to sixth place—the highest league finish in the club's history.

There has been plenty of other success for the club this season with a hugely successful women's and youth set-up and you can read about this by turning to page six with a full report of the match against Cromer on page seven of this edition of Hethersett Herald.



Hethersett and Tas Valley's line-up for the final game of the league season which saw them record an impressive nine wicket victory over Cromer to avoid relegation.

Pictured are: Back Row (left to right) - Tom Howard, Jack Gibson, David Mathews, Richard Ellis (club president), Ian Bryce, Johathon Cooper, Damon Cresswell. Front (left to right) - Sam Morton, Crispin Clarke, Ben France, Jed Mockford and Joseph Wilson.

## National Recognition For Hethersett



THERE was another big sporting event in Hethersett as the Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club hosted the second round of the British Youth and Junior League on the Memorial Playing Field.

This national event saw young riders from throughout the country descend on Hethersett and you can read about this and all the other club news by turning to

## New Bus Service For Village

HETHERSETT has a new three times a week bus service to and from the Longwater Retail Park in Costessey.

The number 806 bus will operate every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from September 4th and you can read about this and view journey times by turning to page 4.

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Hethersett Writers' Club member Tony Vale will be producing 50 plays in a marathon effort in Wymondham on

### Hi Everyone

Welcome to the September edition of Hethersett Herald which really heralds the start of Autumn (sadly).

In newspaperland August and January were always traditionally known as quiet months with many groups and organisations not meeting due to holiday periods.

So it has proved in Hethersett and this is reflected in a much smaller Herald than usual which will probably suit many of our readers.

There is a distinctly sporting flavour to this edition which takes me back to my days as a sports editor with what was then Eastern Counties Newspapers and subsequently became Archant and is now Newsquest.

We have plenty of photographs of a very successful season for Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club and there's a report of the day a national cycle speedway competition paid a visit to the Memorial Field. For that event, refreshments were served from the new pavilion—another first in the village.

As we enter the Autumn season, news will once again pick up and we will bring as much of it to you as we can root out.

Incidentally I write a daily blog which covers many different subjects including village life. If you would like to subscribe to this and I hate the word "subscribe" as it suggests a cost involved when the blog is free, just go along to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/486377568989294>

Or just search Peter Steward's Daily Blog. I currently have 662 members and would love to increase this.

In the meantime happy reading.

Peter

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Hethersett Hawks played host to some of the country’s top cycle speedway riders in a round of the national championships. Find out how local riders got on and also read all the other news from Hawks’ World..... Page 16

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Hethersett Herald

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**Hethersett Herald is a non profit publication for the village of Hethersett in South Norfolk and the surrounding areas.**

**We are happy to take contributions either about the village or on other subjects written by residents of Hethersett or nearby villages.**

**Copy should be sent to the editor by the 15th of each month.**

**petersteward@sky.com**



# New Retail Bus Service For Village

HETHERSETT has another new bus service. This latest addition to village facilities will see the number 806 operating between Hethersett and Longwater Retail Park at Costessey on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with one bus making a return journey.

The service starts on 4th September and will be operated by One Bus and funded by Norfolk County Council.

There will be an extensive route through Hethersett taking in New Road, Mill Road, Great Melton Road, Queen's Road, Norwich Road, Churchfields, Baker Drive, Coachmaker Way, Harness Maker Way and Burnthouse Lane.

The retail park has a number of outlets including Sainsburys, The Range, Aldi, Next, Boots, Smyths Toys, M and S Food, Sports Direct, Food Warehouse, Pizza Hut, McDonalds, Costa Coffee and Greggs. The service will give just over one and a half hours before the return journey. Timings are below

Hethersett, Mill road	0934
Hethersett, Churchfields, opposite Lakeland way	0938
Hethersett, Coachmaker way	0941
Longwater retail park, william frost way	0951
Longwater retail park, link road	0952

Longwater retail park, link road	1130
Longwater retail park, william frost way	1131
Hethersett, Coachmaker way	1141
Hethersett, Churchfields, opposite Lakeland way	1144
Hethersett, Mill road	1147

## Road Misery Coming To An End

At long last the roadworks on the A11 are coming to an end and, with it, we hope the misery of having so much traffic funnelling along the B1172.

By the time you read this the road should be open both ways during the day although overnight closures are still planned between 8 pm and 6 am on the dates listed below.

Date of closure	Details of road closures
September 7th to September 11th	Full overnight closure of A11 southbound Thickthorn to Attleborough
September 14th to September 15th	Full overnight closure of A11 southbound Thickthorn to Attleborough
September 1st	Full overnight closure of the A11 northbound Attleborough to Thickthorn
September 4th to September 6th	Full overnight closure of the A11 northbound Attleborough to Thickthorn

# On Sale

FRIENDS OF HETHERSETT V.C PRIMARY SCHOOL



# HETHERSETT GARAGE SALE

WALKERS were out walking, cyclists were out cycling, car drivers were out driving as the Friends of Hethersett Voluntary Controlled Primary School held a garage and car boot sale throughout the village on Sunday 27th August from 9 am until 1 pm.

Pitches selling clothes seemed to be particularly busy with car boot pitches in the school grounds.

Roads taking part included: Queen's Road, Camelia Close, Lynch Green, Central Crescent, New Road, Deacon Drive, Weaver Crescent, Park Drive, Mill Road, Nelson Close, Recreation Road, Westcroft, Baker Drive, Meadow Close, Myrtle Road, Priory Road, Noctule Grove, Bringloe Drive, Ketts Oak, Park Close and Great Melton Road. Our photographs are of a few of the pitches and are courtesy of the Friends of Hethersett Primary School Facebook page and contributed by the owners.



## Young At Heart Worker Needed

Hethersett Youth Centre is looking for what it describes as an "enthusiastic, young at heart" youth worker or someone who has experience working with children to run the Wednesday evening club (school year five upwards).

This is for three hours per week, term time only and is a paid position.

If you would like to discuss further please call Sandra on: 07904 783370

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095545898644>.

There's an interesting story attached to the youth centre's new logo (pictured opposite).

The new logo was inspired by young people who attend the Wednesday club. They put forward ideas as to what they thought it should look like. This was then taken to a graphic designer who put all it together.

Pandas and rainbows were the common theme and you will see that they were combined to produce a highly striking and colourful end product.



# Coping With Mental Health Problems



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**Over the next pages we take a look at what has turned out to be a successful season for Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club.**

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

“Opening Up Cricket” is a new initiative as you can read opposite. After the presentation at the Tas Valley clubhouse in Flordon, club chairman Matt Bird said that the Hethersett club is determined to learn some of the coping mechanisms for mental health support.

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

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

## What Is Opening Up Cricket?

Opening Up Cricket was formed in 2014 in response to the death of Sefton Park Cricket Club wicketkeeper Alex Miller and a will to promote positive mental health in the sport.

Alex took his own life in December 2012 and, in the year that followed, team mates supported the work of the Campaign against Living Miserably (CALM) to pay tribute. This has continued but, as the season following his passing came to a close, there was a thought to do something lasting and further reaching.

As a result, the Opening Up Cricket organisation was created with the aim of speaking to cricketers and clubs about the experience of loss and to help prevent further tragedies.

This year Opening Up Cricket has delivered over 400 sessions across the United Kingdom and Australia.

One of these was recently undertaken at Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club.

# Hethersett Beat Cromer and the Weather

By Peter Steward

HETHERSETT and Tas Valley's whole season hung on the final league game in the Premier Division of the Norfolk Alliance.

Valley knew that a win would ensure Premier Division survival, but they had not only to beat their opponents but also the weather.

They were helped in their endeavours by the most potent bowling performance of the season which saw Cromer humbled to an all out total of just 109 with Crispin Clarke taking 4-35. The total would have been much lower if opener Nathaniel Laws had not hit 55—over half of his side's total.

It was more likely that the threatened rain, which saw the ground at Flordon change from one bathed in sunshine to one threatened by the elements, would hamper their efforts but the short amount of time they took to bowl out the Seaside certainly helped and the batters made short work of reaching their target despite losing opener Joseph Wilson with just seven runs on the board.

Jed Mockford hit an unbeaten 57 and Ian Bryce was not out 30 as the duo put on 103 for the second wicket to guide Hethersett to victory.

Throughout the game, Hethersett played with huge enthusiasm, taking some spectacular catches.

With other results also going their way, Valley were lifted up to sixth place in the division and 34 points clear of the relegation zone. Top six final positions were:

	Played	Points
Ashmanhaugh	18	360
Fakenham	18	341
Downham Stow	18	306
North Runcton	18	302
Bradfield	18	225
<b>Hethersett</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>200</b>



Pictured above is the club's Under-15 team which in the words of club chairman Matt Bird have had an outstanding season.

"We are incredibly proud of our Under-15 group. They've had a cracking season, winning their league, blossoming in in open age cricket and will be a part of the Tas furniture for years to come. Competed really hard, but sadly just missed out in a knockout final at Great Melton.," he said.



**Ian Bryce 30 not out, Jed Mockford 57 not out and Crispin Clarke 4-35 led Hethersett to victory against Cromer**



**By Club Coach Sara Worley**

The club's under-nine softball team took part in the county plate finals today at Horsford. We breezed through the three group matches against Martham, Great Ellingham and Great Melton securing very comfortable wins in each. We met Eaton in the semi final and registered another easy win to progress to the finals where we again faced Great Melton.

Having batted first in all our previous games we fielded first this time. Melton's batsmen looked dangerous however we limited their scoring well with some excellent fielding and crucially took a couple of wickets along the way to give us a head start in the run chase. In reply chasing 45 and with our last pair at the wicket, 25 was still needed. Hugo and Vir played the innings of their lives. Determined to take control and put the game beyond doubt Vir hit two sixes and two fours from the first four balls. The duo never looked in trouble as we cruised to take the trophy.





# Service with a smile at award winning farm shop

Here in South Norfolk, we are lucky enough to be surrounded by farms that grow and rear produce, much of which you can buy from your local farm shop.



There are some amazing farm shops in our district that produce and sell fresh, high-quality produce, from delicious cheeses to free range eggs and locally reared meat. But they can also go above and beyond, offering a friendly personal service, which keeps customers coming back.

Church Farm Shop in Hethersett won our 2023 South Norfolk Retailer of the Year Award, as voted for by our residents.

Jake Willgress, who runs the shop with his mum Linda, said: "We were blown away by the fantastic feedback we received about our excellent customer service, it was brilliant to read all the comments and

to know just how much we are valued in the community."

Jake and his family have been running Church Farm Shop since 2008.

He said: "All our produce is fresh and delicious and sourced as close to the shop as possible and we try and support as many other local businesses as we can.

"Our shelves are stocked with fresh fruit and veg, tasty home-made bakes, local ice cream, pizza, fish and so much more! If you haven't been to see us yet, come and give us a try!"

Cabinet Member, Cllr Lisa Neal, said: "We have some excellent Farm Shops in South Norfolk that are all worth exploring. When you buy from a farm shop, you're not just getting delicious, quality products straight from the farm

to your fork, but you're also supporting our local farmers and businesses, which puts money back into the community and creates jobs for local people. It's an easy way to cut down food miles too."

As well as Church Farm Shop in Hethersett, keep an eye out for Paddock Farm Shop in Mulbarton, Old Hall Farm just off the Norwich Road in Woodton, Cavick House Farm just outside Wymondham, Goodies in Pulham Market, Aldis & Sons in Framingham Earl, Green Pastures Plant Centre and Farm Shop in Bergh Apton and Yare Valley Farm Shop in Surlingham.



Follow @lovelocalspendlocal on Instagram to discover fantastic local food and products as well meeting some of the great people behind the businesses.



# Return of Hethersett Village Screen

HETHERSETT Village Screen is set to return at the beginning of September and dates for the showing of films in Hethersett Village Hall have been set as far ahead as 2025.

The Autumn series starts with an acclaimed performance from Bill Nighy in “Living.” It’s the story of a terminally ill man living life to the full in his final days.

On 1st October, Tom Hanks stars in the feelgood film “A Man Called Otto”. Otto turns from grumpy old man into a local hero.

Other films in the Autumn Season will be “The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry” on 5th November and The Fabelmans on 3rd December.

All films take place in the village hall at 3 pm on a Sunday afternoon and tickets are £5. The main film is usually preceded by short films, often with a local angle/connection. The dates are subject to alteration. Other dates looking ahead are as follows.

2024– 7th January, 4th February, 3rd March, 7th April, 12th May, 8th September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December.

2025—5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April, 11th May.

You can see a poster for the events in our What’s On section.



## Parish Churchyard Tidy Up

Can you spare an hour? Could you help maintain the grounds of the oldest building in Hethersett for all the village to enjoy?

That’s the request from Hethersett Parish Church. Organisers say:

“Please come along on Saturday 16th September from 9.30 am to 12 noon to help clear away weeds, brambles and bushes that have taken root in the churchyard. You don’t have to stay all morning, even if you can only manage half an hour it will make all the difference. If you have them, please bring along, gloves, secateurs, pruning tools, kneeler etc.

“There will be jobs for all ages and abilities. Refreshments will be available for a mid-morning break.”

For more information contact Alex Woodall on 07525 246589.

# Tony's Marathon Effort

PROLIFIC Norfolk playwright, Wymondham stalwart and member of Hethersett Writers' Group, Tony Vale (pictured opposite), will be presenting no fewer than 50 plays in a marathon session in North Wymondham Community Centre in Lime Tree Avenue, Wymondham on Saturday 9th September.

The marathon effort will take place between 9 am and 5.20 pm and admission and refreshments are free although donations will be welcome. Tony will be performing, with a little assistance from friends, 50 plays in 500 minutes.

The trustees of North Wymondham Community Centre have also teamed up with local artist Adrian Kidd to create the character Karl the Kilowatt Hour (pictured at the bottom of the page) as a means of raising awareness of the need to raise funds to meet the hall's increased energy costs.

One of Tony's plays is entitled "Karl's Finest Hour" and it will have its world premier at the sponsored eight hour plus reading.

Tony's plays will range from the short light-hearted to the more poignant and serious and feature a whole cast of characters.

Tony is still looking for businesses to sponsor the event and he can be contacted on [tony@valemil.uk](mailto:tony@valemil.uk).

Sponsors already signed up include: Jim Burt (Plasterer), Rosedale Funeral Home, Dell Care, Maze Moves, the Farm Cafe at Centre Paws and Wymondham Garden Centre.

If you would like to support NWCC at any other time, go to <https://www.gofundme.com/north-wymondham-community-centre-electricity-bill>



Sponsored Play Reading

# 50 Plays

(by Tony Vale)

# in 500 Minutes

Saturday 9 September 2023

9.00am – 5.20pm

North Wymondham Community Centre  
Lime Tree Avenue, Wymondham, NR18 0HH

Drop in at any time.  
Free Refreshments (donations welcome)

In aid of Hall funds.  
Registered Charity No 266932  
Supported by Four by Four

# Mike's Garden of Dreams



HETHERSETT resident Mike Dinnebieer thinks nothing of spending up to 25 hours in his garden.

For Norfolk native Mike has transformed his garden in Melton Court into a haven for wildlife and a home for many exotic plants.

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

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

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



setting it up from scratch.

Mike is also one of the leading lights in the Facebook page "Hethersett Friendly Gardeners" which currently has over 350 subscribers. We popped along to Mike's garden to take some photos which we hope you enjoy. There are more on the next page.



**Mike Dinnebier in his wonderful garden in Melton Court which he opened to the public for Open Gardens Sunday and then again on the last Sunday of August.**



NORFOLK Churches Trust's annual sponsored bike ride and walk will be taking place on Saturday 9th September with Little Melton, Great Melton and Hethersett Churches all open.

Local people will also be taking part in the ride which will see people cycling, walking and even driving between churches. Money raised will be divided equally between the Norfolk Churches Trust and local churches.

### Attraction of Wasps

A pest control company had to be called in when a wasps nest was reported in the village.

It was later established that what was reported as a wasps nest situated in the alleyway (on the corner by the lamp post and rubbish bin), opposite the Methodist Church on Great Melton Road, leading to Central Crescent, was in fact a tree with pollen/fruit which was attracting wasps and bees.



GIN cocktails, pizza and desserts will be on sale as Home Farm Gin in Ketteringham Lane, Hethersett throws its doors open to the public on September 2nd from 2 pm until 8 pm. There will also be live music.

Food will be provided by the Barford-based Simple Slice Pizza Company and exclusive desserts will be on sale from Hestia Patisserie

# Parish Miscellany

Bits and pieces from Hethersett that you may have missed.

THERE'S a local theme to a new series of notebooks now available from Hethersett Community Post Office in Hethersett Library.

The notebooks feature a short history of our parish church on the front cover and have been produced by local artist John Watson who we have featured in Hethersett Herald in the past.

According to post office volunteer Don Williamson, the notebooks are ideal for "shopping lists or the first draft of that novel you never started."

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Hethersett Athletic Under-15s football team (School Year 10 from September) is recruiting new players for the coming season and has started training on the Memorial Field on Thursdays from 7 until 8 pm.

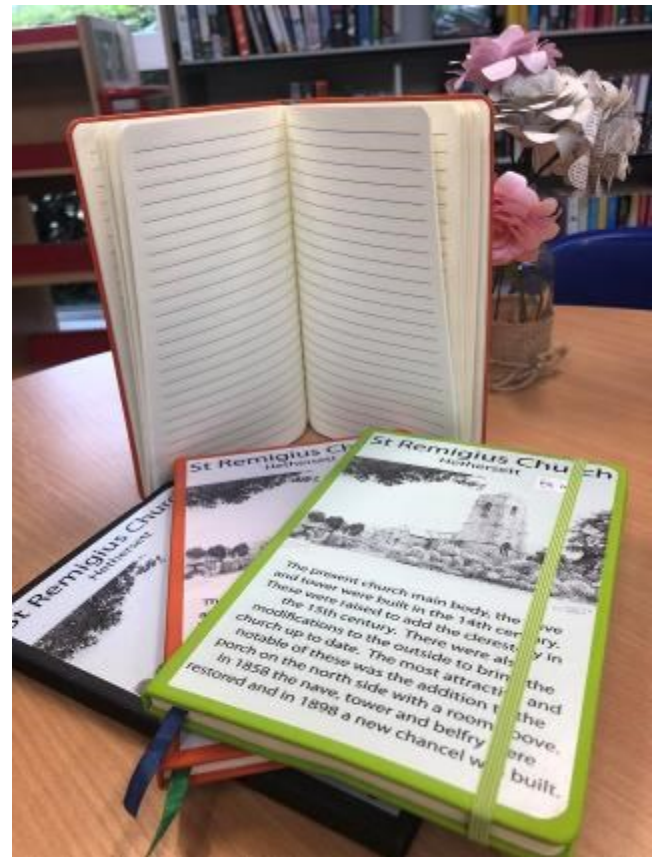
If you would like to join the team (if you are under 15 of course) just turn up for a training session or contact Mike Kenny at [kennios@live.com](mailto:kennios@live.com) for more details.

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THE City of Norwich Brass Band are pictured playing an open air concert in Eaton Park in August.

The band holds its rehearsals in Hethersett Village Hall on a weekly basis.

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# National Event On Memorial Field

HETHERSETT Hawks/Yellow Brick Mortgages played host to riders from throughout the country for the second round of the British Youth and Junior League and the Little League for Under-8s and Under-10s.

A total of 72 riders took part and the best home performances came from brother and sister Luca and Nyla El-Labany with Nyla finishing third in the Under-8s and Luca fourth in the Under-12s. Other notable Hethersett performances came from Austin Brailey - his best match to date - and ever-improving first-year rider Thomas Barnard. Jax Lockhart also made his competitive debut.

Hethersett results -

U8s - Nyla El-Labany 3rd, Isaac Emms 9th, Henry Everson 11th, Jax Lockhart 12th, Josh Morris 13th.

U10s - Oscar Copeland 5th, Thomas Barnard 6th, Arlo Davies 12th, Alfie Gunn 15th, Dakota Ridge 16th.

U12s - Luca El-Labany 4th, Austin Brailey 8th, Frank Spauls 9th, Lola Martin 12th, Jamal Musa 16th, George Morris 18th.

U16s - Mason Martin 6th.

Girls - Aiesha Musa 5th, Amelia Dodson 6th.

The next round is at Leicester on August 12th.

The following day Hawks travelled to Kesgrave for three league matches. Events started with the youth team facing the youngest Kesgrave team - the Pumas and, after a close match, the young Hawks won by one point. Kesgrave were six points up after two heats and still held a five-point advantage until teamwork from Oscar Copeland and Frank Spauls secured a 7-3 win in heat 11. In the penultimate heat, Lola Martin steered Austin Brailey home for another 7-3 win to take the lead and Martin was out again in the final heat to secure the second place and overall victory. Amelia Dodson excelled with three good wins.

Kesgrave Pumas Under-16s 79, Hethersett Under-16s 80. Hethersett scorers—Amelia Dodson 17, Lola Martin 16+2, Frank Spauls 15+1, Austin Brailey 12+2, Hugo Kamp 9+2, Arlo Davies 6, Oscar Copeland 5+2.

Next on track was the Division Two match and all seven youth team riders had to play some part with only four older riders being available, including trainee coach Nick Davies making his team debut. High-flying Kesgrave were always in command although Dave Martin scored



one heat win and there was a surprise one later for Oscar Copeland after hard work for no reward by Mason Martin.

Kesgrave B 100, Hethersett 60. Hethersett scorers—Mason Martin 12, Lola Martin 10, Paul Delaiche 9, Dave Martin 8, Oscar Copeland 7, Nick Davies 6, Austin





Brailey 5, Frank Spauls 1, Arlo Davies 1, Amelia Dodson 1.

By this time the youth riders were getting tired and lining up against runaway League leaders the Panthers they knew they had a hard time ahead. They battled to the end and when Frank Spauls and Arlo Davies got a 5-5 in heat six a whitewash was avoided. Even substitute Mason Martin could not break the stranglehold in his two rides.

Kesgrave Panthers Under-16s 110, Hethersett Under-16s 50. Hethersett scorers—Frank Spauls 12, Lola Martin 9, Austin Brailey 8, Amelia Dodson 7, Arlo Davies 4+1, Mason Martin 4, Oscar Copeland 3, Hugo Kemp 3.

The photographs from the national day are courtesy of Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club.





HETHERSETT Hawks/Yellow Brick Mortgages entertained Great Blakenham in the South East Division Two and Youth Division and put new life into their campaign with a double victory. The Division Two match had a mix of very experienced riders and young prospects and proved to be very competitive, so much so that top referee Terry Ashford was very busy dealing with several restarts.

Mason Martin atoned for an early exclusion which had given Blakenham the advantage by winning twice in a four-heat winning sequence for the Hawks leading up to interval, the Hawks leading at the break by 10 points. A steady team talk saw the Hawks maintain that advantage to the end. Star turn was Jamie Neill who, in his comeback season, is hitting peak form with three heat wins.

Hethersett 84, Great Blakenham B 74. Hethersett scorers—Jamie Neill 19+1, Dave Martin 14+1, Harley Hamill 14+1, Paul Delaiche 13+3, Mason Martin 12+1, Lola Martin 7, Aiesha Musa 4+1, Oscar Copeland 1.

Great Blakenham were a rider short in the youth team so were always up against it despite ten race wins by their leading two. For the Hawks it was good to see they are getting to grips with team riding which helped to enhance the development of improving Jamal Musa, Hugo Kemp and Austin Brailey. Highlight was the brother and sister Musa duo inflicting a 7-3 win over unbeaten Quinn Walker-Fuller.

Hethersett Under-16s 85 Great Blakenham Under-16s 70. Hethersett scorers—Lola Martin 18+1, Aiesha Musa 15+3, Jamal Musa 14+2, Austin Brailey 14+1, Hugo Kemp 13+3, Oscar Copeland 11+4.

Glyn Morgan endured heavy rain in Wales as he continued his quest in the Eurovets Series at Newport. Like true veterans they all carried on regardless and Glyn finished second in the Over-60s "A" Final and second in the Over-50s "B" Final.

Hawks owe a big thank you to the eight riders and two drivers who made the long journey on a hot Sunday to Hellingly in Sussex to ensure two fixtures were honoured - it looked earlier in the week that it would not be possible with so many riders away on holiday or having other commitments.

In the end, six youth riders were able to fulfil their fixture, five of them having already raced in the Division Two fixture. All riders rode well and the scores did not do justice to the effort put in.

In the Division Two match the Hawks relied heavily on their three more experienced riders - Paul Delaiche, Jamie Neill and George Larter-Dixon. They won nine of the 16 heats between them but Hellingly had the strength in depth.

Hellingly 86, Hethersett 73. Hethersett Scorers—Paul Delaiche 19, Jamie Neill 19, George Larter-Dixon 18, Hugo Kemp 6, Lola Martin 6, Amelia Dodson 5.

George Larter-Dixon again starred in the Youth League match, winning three races and shepherding Amelia Dodson to two 7-3 heat wins. Lola Martin and Luca El-Labany did some good teamwork too.

Hellingly Under-16s 88, Hethersett Under-16s 71. Hethersett scorers—George Larter-Dixon 17+2, Amelia Dodson 13+1, Lola Martin 13+1, Luca El-Labany 13+1, Hugo Kemp 10, Nyla El-Labany 5.

## A Break From Routine and A Big Top



IT'S summer! And a bit of a break from everything is just what we all need. A break from school runs, clubs, meetings. I've even had some annual leave to be able to take a break from work. During this time, we've been able to take some time out to see friends and family and visit places we're usually too busy to go.

The last two weeks of the summer term flew by, one of the highlights was Circus Ferrel visiting Woodside Primary School with their travelling circus. Circus Ferrel visits schools to teach children circus skills, then they hold shows on the premises to pay for the workshops held with the children. The children all had a blast learning how to use a diablo and juggle silk cloths with the experts. It was a lovely treat for the children after a long year!

The show was going to have five performances over four days, however over the weekend there was a weather warning in place for high winds, so the run had to be cut short. We were very fortunate to have booked tickets for one of the earlier performances, the last due to the high winds.

Despite arriving at the show in torrential rain, we had a great time. The circus was small, with only four performers, but the performance was full of laughs and we gasped at some of the tricks. The children were even invited into the ring several times to perform some of the tricks they'd practised at school. It's not often the circus comes to your doorstep!

The most poignant moment of the last part of the school year was the Year 6 Leavers Performance at Woodside. Scheduled for a day I was working, I had to nip out of work to go to it. We went to the second of the two



performances, one was in the afternoon, one was in the evening. The leavers had put together this show on their own, with only slight assistance from the teachers. It was an incredible show, with lots of emotional moments.

## Sarah's World with Sarah Lawrence

Most emotional of all was their performance of the song, Roar. The lyrics are all about personal empowerment and overcoming obstacles, and with them all singing it so beautifully, it made me sob. That coupled with the photo montage they had made, I was an emotional wreck. My big girl was leaving primary school!

After the Leaver's Performance and an even more emotional pick-up on the last day of term, I did feel a lot better about Amelia starting fresh at Hethersett Academy, and I'm pretty sure she did too. It was almost like we'd gone through all of the necessary stages of grief upon closing the primary school chapter, and we were ready for the next. Cue shopping for her new uniform over the first few weeks of the summer holidays and I think we're almost ready for her to start her next journey into the world of high school.

This month we have waved bon voyage to our amazing and inspirational friend, Samantha England and her husband Mike, who are emigrating to Australia. I've written before about how much I look up to Sam, and the difference she has made to Hethersett and beyond, especially since the pandemic. Sam and Mike head up the Hethersett Hearts Community Group, which, along with an army of volunteers, help the elderly, refugees and anyone experiencing difficulties. Hethersett Hearts also organised the takeover and now running of the Post Office, ensuring that the valuable service in the village was retained.

True to how selfless Sam and Mike are, they threw a leaving party which they shared with Hethersett Hearts too. We had a really nice time mingling with some of the HH volunteers, some of the residents of Woodcote, and the refugees that the team of volunteers support. Sam and Mike had arranged for all sorts of games to be out, like inflatable bubble suits and a large Connect 4 game, so the girls were pleased too! Sam and Mike still hope to keep up with volunteer responsibilities from overseas, using Zoom to their advantage to attend meetings and research grants, etc. in their spare time. They are a truly remarkable couple who deserve all the happiness in the world! I wish them all the very best for their exciting new adventure, but goodness me, they're going to be missed.

Lastly, I'd like to reflect on our day at Norwich Pride, held on 29th July. As you should know by now if you read my columns each issue, Pride is a very important subject to me. I have friends and family who are part of the LGBTQ+ community and I consider myself to be a firm ally of the community. I want my girls to grow up in a world where they know that they can love who they want to love, and be their true, authentic self without fear of judgement. This is why we celebrate Pride.

Norwich Pride was a fantastic day. We were honoured to have been asked to march with Tesco in the parade this year, which was a first for us! We loved every minute,



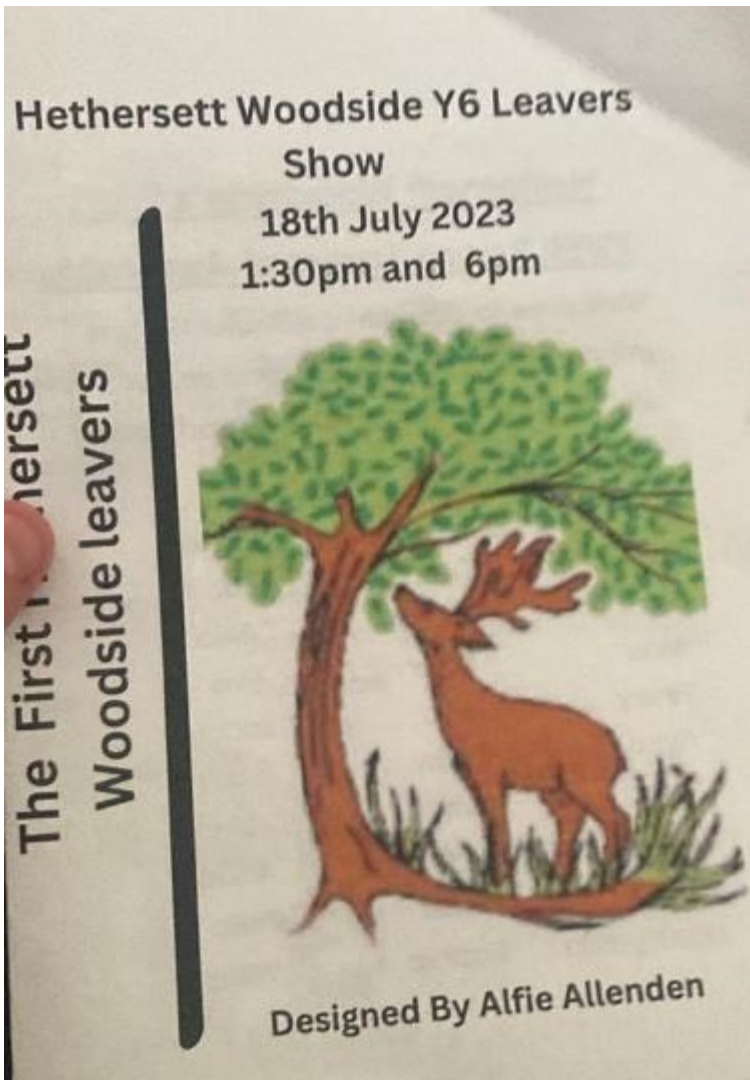
waving our flags and revelling in the joy and celebration of the day. After the parade, we watched drag acts, visited the makers market, and watched dancers perform. I am so glad I booked the day off to spend such an important day with my children. If you've never been, I would certainly recommend it!

**See over the page for a gallery of photographs of Sarah's month.**



# Sarah's World with Sarah Lawrence





# News From The Parish Council

Below are details of the current 12 parish councillors. There are still two vacancies.

Position	Name	Address	Telephone
Chairman	Sarah Lawrence	c/o Parish Council Office	Via the clerk
Vice-Chair	Bridget Williamson	8 Churchfields	810259
Councillors	Paul Everett	7 Haconsfield	07871 700228
	Heath Dakin	c/o Parish Council Office	Via the clerk
	Leslie Dale	46 New Road	810952
	Salena Dawson	c/o Parish Council Office	Via the clerk
	Anne Edwards	6 Queen's Road	812309
	Kelsea Law	c/o Parish Council Office	Via the clerk
	Jonathan Loom	6 Miller Close	07799608978
	Eileen Mulvaney	C/o Parish Council Office	811997
	Habib Ur Rehman	14 Miller Close	07899 719173
	Jennifer Walpole	16 Cann's Lane	811932

## Meeting Dates

Full council meeting dates for the remainder of 2023 are: September 18th, October 16th, November 20th and December 18th. There was no meeting in August.

The council meets monthly usually on the third Monday of each month.

Council meetings begin at 7.30 pm. For other committee dates refer to the council's website which can be accessed at:

<https://hethersett-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

The website includes agendas, minutes and supporting documentation for items to be discussed at meetings.

Committee and full council meetings are open to the public. Residents are given the opportunity to make comments at the beginning and towards the end of each full council meeting.

# News From The Parish Council

## How To Contact The Parish Council

The parish clerk can be contacted by telephone on 07902 322729 or via email at [hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk).

The council has a website at

[www.hethersett-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk](http://www.hethersett-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk)

and also a Facebook page. A full list of councillors appears elsewhere in this edition of Hethersett Herald along with contact details.



**HETHERSETT Parish Council has underlined that the car park in the centre of the village and just off Great Melton Close is for short term parking only and not for vehicles to be left for the entire day. A new sign limiting parking time to 30 minutes is expected to be erected shortly.**



## The Moths of Hetherset

KEEN wildlife photographer Matthew Casey posted a number of photographs of moths on social media that he had come across in the village. We are grateful to Matthew for giving us permission to publish them here.



Moths featured here are: Scallop Shell (top left), Small Emerald (top centre), Red Underwing (top right), Mother Shipton (bottom left) and Peach Blossom (bottom right).

## England to Australia

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

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

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

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

You can read Sarah’s full comments in her monthly column on page 17.



# HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT

## Hethersett & District Aid In Sickness Fund?

(Formerly known as the Hethersett Nursing Association)



### DO YOU LIVE IN

Hethersett  
Ketteringham or Little Melton?

### ARE YOU

or is someone you know, in need of financial help  
because of illness or disability?



#### Examples of help available

Grants are available towards:

- Car adaptations.
- Wheelchair or other mobility items.
- Support during a sudden medical crisis.
- Nebulisers and other equipment.
- Pre-payment certificates for prescriptions.

For further information or to apply for a grant please telephone one of the trustees listed below. If you have a need for something which is not mentioned above please apply and we will try to help.



Alex	07805 242326
Rachel	01603 812596
Mary	01603 811330
Barbara	01603 810502
Christopher	01603 811010
Debby	01603 812221

All applications are treated in the strictest confidence.

Registered Charity Number 211284

# News From Hethersett Hall

## A Day At The Zoo

RESIDENTS from Hethersett Hall Care Home in Hethersett were filled with joy during their visit to Banham Zoo.

Residents were able to see animals from all round the world in person and had a chance to enjoy lots of animals including the flamingos and giraffes up close.

Residents were able to spend the day at the zoo and enjoyed a packed lunch and snacks provided by the home's hospitality team and singing songs on the way home on the home's minibus.

Elena General Manager of Hethersett Hall said: "Our residents have really enjoyed their day out at the zoo. Trips out in the home's mini bus are a regular event for the residents and we always ask for ideas on where they would best like to go.

"The day was a lot of fun, residents were able to pet certain animals which was quite therapeutic and we had great weather for the outing."



## Art Classes

Here at Hethersett Hall we hold weekly art classes for residents and are always in awe of the talent. Just some of our artists are pictured opposite.



## Survey Time Again

We are excited to announce that we are launching our customer satisfaction survey 'Tell Barchester' for the third year on Tuesday 5th September.



Survey goes live  
5th September 2023!

The survey consists of a few simple questions and gives our residents and their loved ones the opportunity to give us feedback on a wide variety of topics. Hearing resident and relative feedback gives us the chance to celebrate the fantastic care provided and make improvements where needed.

# News From Hethersett Hall

## Summer Sun

By Caroline Beale

Staff, residents, relatives and the local community came together at Hethersett Hall to enjoy a Summer Fete that was held in the home's grounds on Saturday 29th July.

Hethersett Hall hosted a variety of activities throughout the day, including a barbecue, tombola stall, live entertainment, games, and a performance by The Perfect Performers School of Dance, not forgetting the classic cars too which were enjoyed by everyone who came to the event.

Staff at Hethersett Hall made everyone feel welcome and were delighted to see different generations having fun together. Visitors enjoyed plenty of refreshments, such as cold beers and burgers, prepared by the catering team, who were hard at work making sure that a great time was had by all – it really was a team effort.

Resident, David, said, "I thoroughly enjoyed it. I was surrounded by lots of great people, and the refreshments kept flowing. The weather held out until we finished. Staff did a great job, not just on the day, but organising the event and getting everyone together."

Elena Sandu General Manager at the home, said: "Staff at Hethersett Hall are dedicated to making sure that the home is a hub of the local community and this event, along with all their hard work, has definitely paid off. It was a resounding success!"



# News From Hethersett Hall



## Trip to Riverside

We went to Morrisons in Norwich with the residents' and their shopping lists. Then the residents got a little hungry, so off we went for a bite of lunch by the river before going home.

We managed to get hold of some lioness banners, so we decorated a little bit for the weekend to cheer on the team. (Editors note: This is a reference to England Women's Football World Cup appearance where sadly they lost 1-0 to Spain in the final).

Our montage of photographs and all the information in this section of Hethersett Herald was provided by Hethersett Hall Care Home.



## New Role For Caroline

HETHERSETT Hall has a new activities co-ordinator but someone who won't be new to residents.

Caroline Evans (pictured opposite) has been working in care at the home for the past seven years.

She now takes over the activities lead role.

# John Head's Photographic Diary

Regular columnist John Head continues his photographic diary of Hethersett with a series of photographs he has entitled The 12 Hethersett Apostles on a cold August evening. Photographs taken round the fields of the village.

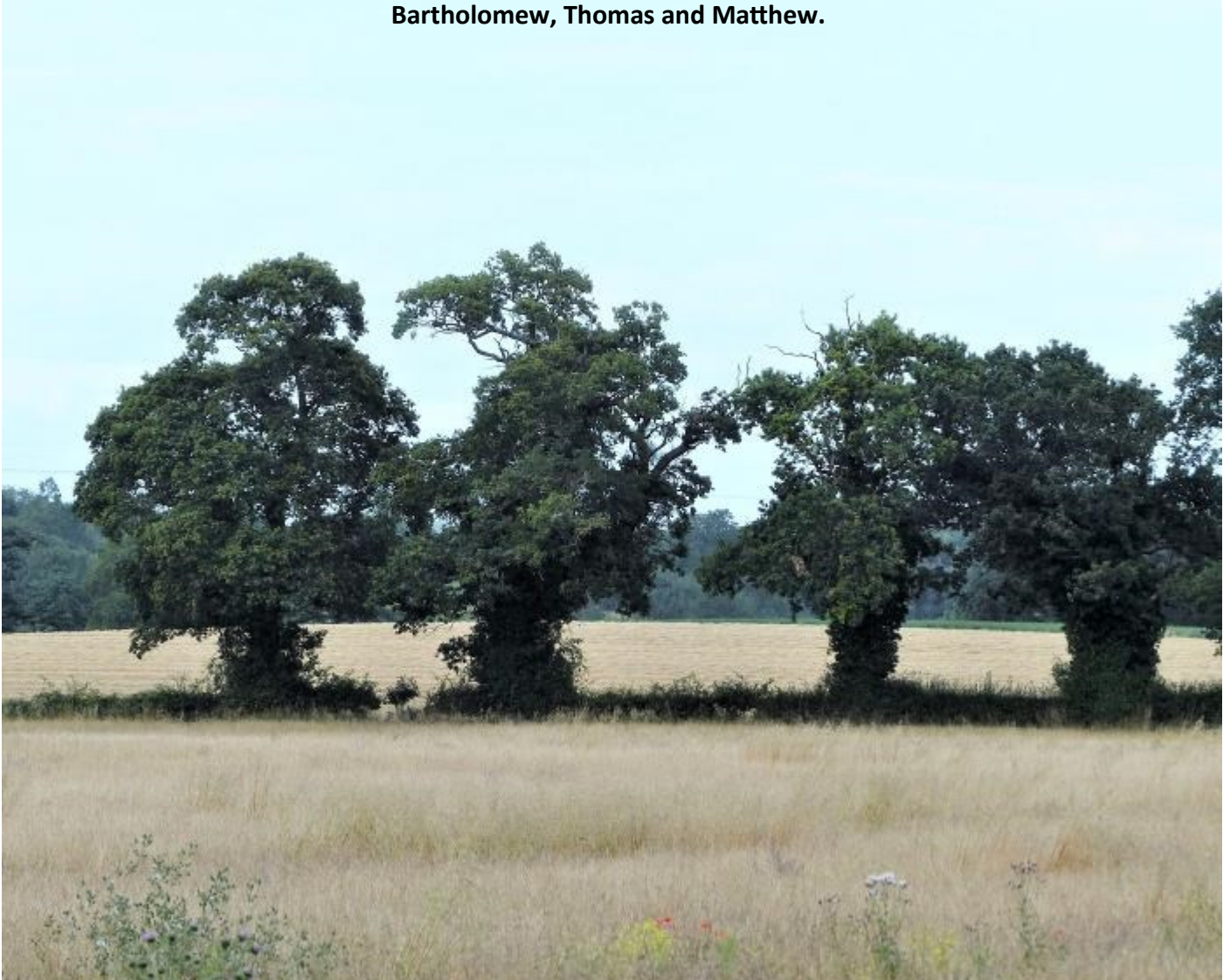


The 12 Apostles of Hethersett seen from a distance

# John Head's Photographic Diary



**Above we have Simon (Peter), Andrew, James (son of Zebedee) and John and below there are Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew.**



# John Head's Photographic Diary



**James (son of Alphaeus),  
Thaddaeus, Simon (the Zealot) and  
Judas Iscariot and below them we  
have poppies in front of the  
Apostles.**

**All photographs  
courtesy of  
John Head**



# Our Village 2023

HETHERSETT is still some way off from having a new rector, but work is going on behind the scenes to produce a parish profile to attract quality applicants.

As part of that process I recently wandered round the village to take photographs of various areas and buildings and over the next couple of editions of Hethersett Herald will share a few of these with you—Peter Steward.



Photographs taken around the village sign just off the B1172 featuring the sign itself and the parish pump. The sign features an oak tree, a red deer and St Remigius Church which is just across the road.

To our knowledge there has never been a deer park in Hethersett and the Oak tree is in recognition of the many Oaks in the area and there is not necessarily any connection with Kett's Oak which is half a mile away.

St Remigius is pictured on the bottom photograph with a shot taken from across the B1172 which helped to frame the church with greenery.

St Remigius primarily dates back to the 14th century although there was a church going back centuries before this date.



Two more churches—the modern looking Methodist Church in Great Melton Road and the Baptist Church just around the corner in Henstead Road



On the left is the former Parish Church Hall in Henstead Road which is now a mosque and on the right Hethersett Queen's Head which dates back to the 17th Century.



Hethersett Library which has just celebrated its golden anniversary and next to that is the new Memorial Field pavilion which brings village building slap bang up to date and which was opened this year.

# Featured Building of the Month



HETHERSETT Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School has gone through a number of name changes over the years including Hethersett National School, Hethersett Middle School and Hethersett Junior School.

Formal paid for and non-compulsory education began in the village in 1817. The first school building went up in the year that Venezuela became an independent country and James Munroe was inaugurated as the fifth president of the United States of America, the year that novelist Jane Austin died and John Constable painted Flatford Mill and the year in which there were riots in Derbyshire by workers over low pay and Waterloo Bridge was opened in London.

The first National School building in Hethersett was situated just across from the present Primary School in Queen's Road. The original building was demolished in 1980 and today the site is a private bungalow, but in the front garden is a commemorative plaque.

In 1860 the Rector of Hethersett, the Rev. William Collett, applied to the National Society for aid towards erecting a new mixed school measuring 53ft by 18ft to accommodate 120 children, with a teacher's house attached. The site, valued at £92. 10s was taken from glebe land and the cost of the new schoolroom and proposed teacher's house amounted to £751 15s 6d. A government grant of £280 4s was received and £44 11s 6d was raised locally. Other substantial grants included £30 from the National Society.

The new school was completed in 1861 and the original building was retained as an infants department.

For more details about education in Hethersett go to: <https://hethersettherald.weebly.com/education.html>.



## **Hetherset Community Post Office**

**Monday: 9:30 am - 5:30pm**

**Tuesday: Closed**

**Wednesday: 9:30 am - 5:30pm**

**Thursday: 9:30 am - 5:30pm**

**Friday: 9:30 am - 5:30pm**

**Saturday: 9:30am - 2:30pm**

**Sunday: Closed**

### **Hetherset Social Club Opening Hours**

THE latest list of opening hours for Hetherset Social Club are as follows:

Monday—Closed

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—7-11 pm

Friday—5-11.30 pm

Saturday—midday until midnight

Sunday midday to 8 pm.

# Join The Email Group

We currently use Social Media to inform residents when a new edition of Hethersett Herald is published.

We also post copies of new editions, along with an archive of editions from the past seven and a half years, on the website [www.hetherssettherald.weebly.com](http://www.hetherssettherald.weebly.com).

If you would like to be alerted via e-mail of the publication of a new edition please send an e-mail requesting this service to the editor—[petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com). We will now be sending the Herald as an attachment to those who have registered their e-mail address with us.

Your e-mail address will not be disclosed to any third parties and will be used exclusively for notification of new publications.

The October 2023 edition of Hethersett Herald will be online at the end of September, bringing you news and views from the village.

News, features and photographs should be with the editor by September 15th at the latest.

We are happy to consider items for publication either on Hethersett or written by Hethersett residents on other subjects and they can be sent to

[petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com)

## We Are On Facebook

Hethersett Herald is on Facebook. You can follow us at

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

Please share details of the Herald so we can increase our readership.

## Council/Government Contact Numbers

Below are the contact details for people you may want to get in touch with on village matters:

### **Member of Parliament**

Our MP is Richard Bacon who can be contacted through the following:

Email - [Richard@richardbacon.org.uk](mailto:Richard@richardbacon.org.uk).

Address: Grasmere, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 4LE.

Telephone: 01379 642097

Web site: [www.richardbacon.org.uk](http://www.richardbacon.org.uk)

Facebook - Bacon4SouthNorfolk

Twitter - @Bacon4SNorfolk

### **Norfolk County Council**

Our Norfolk County Council representative is David Bills who can be contacted on 01603 813041.

### **South Norfolk Council**

Our South Norfolk Council representatives are John Morland, Kathryn Cross and David Bills. David Bills can be contacted on 01603 813041 or at [dbills@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:dbills@s-norfolk.gov.uk), Kathryn Cross can be contacted on 0722 019116 and John Morland can be contacted on 01603 813247.

### **Hethersett Parish Council**

Clerk to the council Annette Palmer can be contacted on 01603 810915. Parish council chairman Sarah Lawrence can be contacted via the clerk.

The Parish Council usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the Village Hall. The planning committee meets on the first and third Monday (depending on planning applications).

Agendas of meetings are displayed on village noticeboards at Churchfields, Hethersett Library, Hethersett Post Office, the Memorial Playing Field, and Hethersett Village Hall.

Copies of minutes are held at the library or are available from the clerk. The parish council office is currently closed but will eventually be open in the Back Room at the Village Hall (upstairs) on Monday and Thursday mornings between 10 am and 12 noon.

Email: [hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk)

# 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.hetherssettherald.weebly.co](http://www.hetherssettherald.weebly.co)



# HOW TO CONTACT US

HETHERSETT & MULBARTON Safer Neighbourhood Team



**Insp Louise BISHOP**  
Local Policing Commander

The Local Policing Commander is responsible for a group of Safer Neighbourhoods teams. The Inspector also works with our partners and communities to reduce crime in your neighbourhood and focus efforts on the priorities that matter to you.



101 Ext: 5635



[Louise.Bishop@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:Louise.Bishop@norfolk.police.uk)



**PC Vicky BAILEY**  
Engagement Officer

Your Engagement Officer is here to provide communications and updates regarding your neighbourhood as well as co-ordinate volunteers, specials, community speedwatch and / or cadets.

Contact them for local enquiries that affect your neighbourhood.



101 Ext: 1113



[Victoria.Bailey@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:Victoria.Bailey@norfolk.police.uk)



**PC Stu BARNARD**  
Beat Manager

Your Beat Manager PC is here to engage with the local communities and work to solve local issues and priorities within your neighbourhood.

The Beat Manager's aim is to keep your neighbourhood as a safe place to live, work and visit.



101 Ext: 2386



[SNTHethersettandMulbarton@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:SNTHethersettandMulbarton@norfolk.police.uk)



[SNTHethersettandMulbarton@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:SNTHethersettandMulbarton@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)



[/SouthNorfolkPolice](https://www.facebook.com/SouthNorfolkPolice)



[@SouthNorfPolice](https://twitter.com/SouthNorfPolice)





# Where To Eat In Hethersett

## **Janey's Village Café -**

32A Mill Road. Telephone 01603 811234. e-mail - janeyd11@yahoo.co.uk. Janey's is open from 9 am Wednesdays to Sundays inclusive.

## **Hethersett Queen's Head -**

12 Norwich Road. Telephone 01603 810226.

Food served Monday to Thursday 11.45 am to 2 pm (lunch) and 6-8.30 pm (evening meal). Friday and Saturday 11.45 am to 2.15 pm and 5.30 to 9.30 pm. Sunday carvery sittings at midday and 2 pm. Evening meals 5 to 8.30 pm.

## **Park Farm Hotel**

On the B1172 at Hethersett. NR9 3DL. Telephone 01603 810264. e-mail enq@parkfarm-hotel.co.uk.

Park Farm is a luxury country hotel with spa and fitness facilities and a number of places to eat throughout the day. For more information visit their website at <https://www.parkfarm-hotel.co.uk>.

## **Café Kin**

Rowan House, Queen's Road, Hethersett.

Café Kin is part of the Rowan House Vets on Queen's Road. Food and coffee from Monday to Friday inclusive.

You will also find a variety of eating outlets close to the Thickthorn Services area off the B1172. These are technically in Hethersett, although they are two miles from the village centre. Outlets include Burger King, Subway and McDonalds and there is also a petrol station and Travelodge.

**Hethersett King's Head has re-opened and is serving food seven days a week from midday to 3 pm and 6 until 9 pm.**

# Comparing Petrol Prices

	Unleaded	Change	Diesel	Change
Asda, Hall Road, Norwich	149.9	+8p	152.9	+8p
Tesco Express, Hall Road, Norwich	149.9	+8p	152.9	+8p
Sainsbury's, Queen's Road, Norwich	148.9	+7p	152.9	+8p
Tesco, Harford Bridges, Norwich	149.9	+8p	152.9	+8p
Sainsbury's Longwater, Norwich	150.9	+8p	153.9	+8p
Abbeygate, Wymondham	159.9	+10p	163.9	+10p
Waitrose, Wymondham	157.9	+8p	161.9	+9p
Thickthorn Services, Hethersett	156.9	+5p	161.9	+7p

EACH month we check prices at eight petrol stations in easy reach of Hethersett and see how much prices have risen or fallen.

Unfortunately the three stations closest to Hethersett—Abbeygate at Wymondham, Waitrose at Wymondham and Thickthorn Services, continue to be the most expensive fuel around.

This month has also seen price rises across the board.

## Please Send Us Your Reports

WE are looking to improve and expand our groups and societies section. If you would like your organisation to be featured in Hethersett Herald please contact the editor via e-mail at [petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com)

Reports of events and meetings can also be sent to the above e-mail address.

The deadline for copy and information is the 15th of each month. Hethersett Herald is published on or around the first day of each month via the website

[www.hethersettherald.weebly.com](http://www.hethersettherald.weebly.com)

Announcement of publication is also made on social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Next Door. You can also be notified by e-mail by sending a request to the editor at:

[petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com).

If you enjoy reading Hethersett Herald please pass details on.

# Groups and Societies

## **First Steps Stay & Play Playgroup**

Hethersett Village Hall

9:30 – 10:45 every Tuesday during term time



£2 per child (£1 each for additional children within your family group)

Babies under 6 months are free!

**Email: [firststepshethersett@outlook.com](mailto:firststepshethersett@outlook.com)**

Booking essential – booking window opens the Wednesday before the next session.

To book, please email the address above. You will receive a confirmation reply if space allows. Spaces are limited!

**Find us on Facebook – First Steps Hethersett Stay & Play Playgroup**

# Groups and Societies

## Cringleford and Hethersett Flower Club

In May....We decided with the emphasis on sustainability, we would have a hands-on learning workshop. Carol Richmond led the evening. Various containers were brought by everyone and we tried arranging without floral foam.

We used the traditional pin holders, chicken wire, pebbles and soft decorative wire that could be bent and used for support. Also just using the foliage to create a firm structure to be self-supporting. We all learnt a lot and from each other's attempts.

In early June....Thirteen of us visited English Peonies near North Walsham. It was amazing to see a field of rows of Peonies nearly ready for dispatch to supply events and weddings.

Sarah Hammond, the owner, also took us into her amazing cutting garden and we finished the visit in her purpose-built workshop, which was every flower arranger's dream, for tea and cake.

At the end of June...Madeline Bradley demonstrated, 'Splendour of the Season' with beautiful flowers, taking advantage of an abundance of summer flowers and foliage - another enjoyable evening.

July's demonstrator was Jacquie Aldous. Although officially retired from the circuit she was happy to return to local clubs and she told us her story of collecting autographs from shows and sports events depicted in lovely colourful arrangements.

We will be visiting Natural Surroundings Nursery and Wildflower Centre at Bayfield Park in August.

Forthcoming events

After our summer break, on Monday 25th September we will be welcoming back Elizabeth Robertson to do a workshop on 'Early Autumn Flowers'.

Crystal Dyball will be demonstrating 'Junk and Jumble' on Monday October 27th

Our Open Meeting will be held on Monday 27th November and we have the fantastic national demonstrator Jonathan Mosley. His title is 'Festive Floral Fabulousness'. This will be a ticketed event with mulled wine and mince pies to get us in the seasonal spirit.

For further details contact Chair Lynn Rawlings on 07307886902 or 01603 457888.

Follow us on our Facebook page Cringleford and Hethersett Flower Club.



# Groups and Societies

## Forget Me Not Café

HETHERSETT Forget me Not Cafe is run under the auspices of Hethersett Dementia Support Group and meets in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am on the first and third Tuesdays of each month with a mix of games, chat and talks/presentations. If you require any information please contact Anne Steward on 01603 811052. Everyone is welcome.

Visitors to the café in August were offered information and advice from the Alzheimer's Society. At the second meeting of the month, Angela Bishop, sponsored by the John Hurt Trust at Cinema City, gave an illustrated talk on cinema in the 1950s, showing props and costumes.

A third café of the month was held at Hethersett Hall where residents and members of the Forget-Me-Not Group got together. In September we will be holding a games morning on the 5th followed by a morning with Michael Delph on the 19th, including his memories of growing up in Hethersett. He will also include songs and accompany himself on the guitar.

Sept 5th	Time For A Chat and Games
Sept 19th	Hethersett with Mike Delph
Sept 26th	Hethersett Hall
Oct 3rd	Bingo
Oct 17th	Taverham Choir
Oct 24th	Hethersett Hall
Nov 7th	AGM/Time For A Chat
Nov 21st	Christmas Crafts with Georgette Vale
Nov 28th	Hethersett Hall
Dec 5th	Carols with the Methodist Singers
Dec 19th	Christmas Traditions with Angela Bishop

## Friends of Hethersett Library

The Friends of Hethersett Library's next presentation will be an illustrated talk on the Mid-Norfolk Railway by Paddy Anstey on September 21st. The group will be organising a quiz in Hethersett Village Hall in October and a children's party at a venue to be announced in December. We will have more details of these events in the October edition of Hethersett Herald.

Paddy Anstey's talk/presentation will begin at 7 pm and will be followed by light refreshments provided by the Friends' Group. Tickets at £5 will be available at the door.

The event will raise funds for the work of the Friends' Group and also the Mid-Norfolk Railway which is an historic line that currently runs between Wymondham and Dereham.

## Hethersett Gardening Club

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

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

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

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

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

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 20th September when Sam Garland, Head Gardener at the Bishop's Garden, Norwich Cathedral, will describe how environmental gardening at the Bishop's House is undertaken.

And on Wednesday 18th October when Graham Watts of Dale Farm Nursery, Dereham, will update us on "Developments at the Farm and Tales of the Unexpected."

Leslie Dale, Committee Secretary: [lsldale@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lsldale@yahoo.co.uk)

# Groups and Societies

## The RiNG (Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group) with Viv Hawes

What a summer we are having, too hot then too wet, but this is Britain so what else can we expect.

Our speaker in July, Alistair Bielby from Footsure in Wymondham, gave us the most absorbing information about foot problems and their care. There were a few 'ugh' moments from the audience but it was fascinating to know what can go wrong, and generally our own fault, but most issues can be treated if not cured.

The August meeting is with Keith Tucker, an orthopaedic surgeon many people in Norfolk know well, and members are in for an interesting change in topic from him.

Our meeting on September 27th is a welcome return for Professor Karl Gaffney who will be giving an update on matters rheumatological and October 25th has Maria Pennington talking about Rene Lalique and the crystal decorative wares that have been produced by him and his company.

If any of this sounds appealing to you, we meet at Hethersett Village Hall on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 2 pm and we would love to see you. For more info contact me on [viv.hawes@talktalk.net](mailto:viv.hawes@talktalk.net) or ring 01603 811347.

## Hethersett Woman's Institute with Margot Markham

Recycling is almost a modern term. People hang onto things because they could become useful and they are now more careful and aware that bits and bobs they have decided they no longer want could be just what someone else is looking for.

The Charity Shop in Hethersett has provided us all with a suitable venue. The charity which benefits is PACT. Jackie, one of their employees, came to talk to us about the good the charity achieves. PACT means People for Animal Care Trust. The charity was established in 1995 and provides a sanctuary for the care and treatment of any rescued animals from hedgehogs to horses. Resident vets are able to offer medical attention but for many animals they are given total care until they can perhaps be rehomed or released back into their natural environment. If this is not possible, they are given a good life. It was reassuring to hear the charity achieves so much.

Our meeting in June was slightly different from our usual ones. We celebrated our 105th birthday complete with a cake. In 1918, philanthropic ladies in Hethersett encouraged women whose husbands had gone to war. They learnt to knit, to cook, to grow food and to become friends.

The WI movement had been formed earlier in Canada and then it started in Britain. It is still going and in fact "new" Institutes are being formed. This month, 105 years on, we didn't have a speaker as we normally do. We were joined by friends from neighbouring Institutes and we played games and had to think. There was lots of fun and squawking. The WI is changing since it was formed. It has stood the test of time and let's hope the camaraderie continues. There's no reason why it shouldn't.

## HETHERSETT MOTHERS UNION

Thank you to all supporters of our afternoon tea in July. It was a lovely afternoon enjoyed by all.

We moved forward into our summer break during August with no meeting. Our next meeting will take place on Monday September 25th and will take the form of an activities afternoon.

Hope you are having a lovely summer. We meet on the last Monday of the month in St Remigius Church at 1.30 pm.

Kate Reynolds

# Hethersett Herald What's On

## Upcoming Events at Hethersett Social Club



### SEPTEMBER 2023

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>**      **Live Music with Nigel King & Marty**

From 8pm in the Lounge

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>**      **Quiz Night**

Registration from 7:30pm - £10.00 per team (Max 6)

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>**      **Live Music with Micky Jay King**

From 8pm in the Hall

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>**      **Bingo Night**

Registration from 7:30pm – Eyes Down from 8pm

### OCTOBER 2023

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup>**      **Bullseye Themed Night**

Darts and Quiz for teams of 2 – From 8pm in the Hall

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>**      **Quiz Night**

Registration from 7:30pm - £10.00 per team (Max 6)

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>**      **Halloween Party**

From 7pm

# At your Library

## in Hethersett



**Knit, Stitch and Natter** - Mondays, 2 - 4 pm

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme** - Mondays, 2 - 2:30 pm

**Stay, Chat and Play** - Mondays, 2:30 - 3:00 pm

**Colour Me Calm** - Wednesdays, 11 am - 12 pm

**Just a Cuppa** - Wednesdays, 11 am - 12 pm

**Board Games for Families** - Thursdays, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

**Board Games for Adults** - Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

**Autism Café** - 1st Friday of the month, 5 - 6 pm, drop in event so no need to book

**LEGO Club** - Saturdays, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

**Community Puzzle** - Every day, come and help us complete the jigsaw!

**Tricky Period** - Free sanitary products in grab and go bags, available to anyone in need

See staff for more details, visit  
[www.library.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.library.norfolk.gov.uk), or call 0344 800 8020

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Norfolk County Council



# Hethersett Herald What's On

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

*You can also visit Hethersett Parish Council's community directory on its website.*

**Hethersett Croquet Club** meets on the Memorial Playing Field from 2.30 pm on Wednesday and Saturdays during the summer. During the winter the group play indoor games in Hethersett Queen's Head.

**Hethersett Methodist Church Art and Craft Group** meets in the Methodist Church Hall from 10 am on Wednesdays. Further details available from Tina Greenhalgh on 01603 810364.

**Hethersett Methodist Church** now offers Wednesday morning coffee from 10 am.

**First Steps pre-school Group** meets in Hethersett Village Hall. See poster in this edition.

**Hethersett Forget Me Not Group's (formerly Hethersett Dementia Support Group)** monthly cafés take place in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am every first and third Tuesday. There is a social morning meeting on the first Tuesday of each month from 10 until 11.30 am. A more structured meeting then takes place on the third Tuesday from 10 am until midday.

**Hethersett Short Mat Bowls Club** plays each week in Hethersett Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons. The club opens at 2.15 pm for a 2.30 pm start and finish around 4.30 pm with a tea and biscuit break also included.

**Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Bowls Club** meets on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2 pm from April.

If you would like your event featured in Hethersett Herald just send an e-mail to the editor with details.

YOU can read more about Hethersett along with Little and Great Melton in our sister publication Good News which can be delivered to your door at the end of each month.

The magazine has been in existence for over 150 years and includes news and coming services for the three Church of England churches in the Benifice—St Remigius at Hethersett, All Saints at Little Melton and All Saints at Great Melton. There is also news from Hethersett Methodist Church.



Good News also includes adverts for local businesses and trades people. Each edition costs just 50p and an annual subscription is just £4 for 12 issues. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please contact Kim Arnall on 01953 308309.



## St Remigius Church Baby and Toddler Group

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

A friendly and fun time for everyone with babies and toddlers. We look forward to welcoming you at our next session on **TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

Future Dates:  
3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2023

For more information tel: Pauline 01603 812610

# GREAT MELTON OLD RECTORY OPEN HOUSE AND GARDEN

Sunday 3rd September 2023 11am - 4pm  
Burdock Lane, Great Melton, NR9 3BN



Experience life in the 1900s in this unaltered house.

Explore the large gardens and the woodland glade where weddings are celebrated.



Immerse yourself in the atmosphere with the help of Edwardian music, cooking smells from the kitchen and characters from the past.

Talk to the head gardener in the potting shed - plants for sale!



Teas and homemade cakes in the marquee on the lawn.

For further information call 01603 810274  
or email [eileen@periodweddings.plus.com](mailto:eileen@periodweddings.plus.com)

Admission £5 ; School age children - free

# Hethersett Herald What's On

## Open Library

### Extending opening hours at your library

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

#### Library Available\*

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

#### Staffed Hours

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

\*During times when the library is available but not staffed, you can access the library using our Open Libraries system. Please visit [www.library.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.library.norfolk.gov.uk) or call 01603 774777 for more information

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 **Norfolk** County Council



### Methodist Church dates for your diary include the following.

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

The **Wednesday Coffee Stop** is open every Wednesday from 9 am until noon. Fresh coffee will be served. Please come and enjoy with a group of friends.

**Men's Mardle meets** on the first Wednesday of each month at 10 am.



## **Living (12)**

**Sunday 3rd September, 3pm**

Bill Nighy stars as the staid local government official who receives news which compels him to rethink his life...



## **A Man Called Otto (15)**

**Sunday 1st October, 3pm**

Based on the international bestseller, Tom Hanks stars as grieving widower Otto who discovers that maybe there are still things worth living for.



## **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry (12A)**

**Sunday 5th November, 3pm**

Jim Broadbent stars as a retiree who impulsively decides to walk across the country to visit his terminally ill friend.



## **The Fabelmans (12)**

**Sunday 3rd December, 3pm**

Acclaimed director Steven Spielberg dramatises his own childhood in this beautifully realised paean to his youth.

# Wymondham Helicopter Group presents the following Charity Shows in Aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance Charity at Wymondham Central Hall



**Wymondham Helicopter Group**  
presents  
**Charity Show**

**HEY BEATLES**

The Wymondham Central Hall  
Sunday 14th May 2023  
Doors 7pm Show 7:30pm - Tickets £18  
Norman & Helen - 01953 600563  
George Reeve Book Shop Market Street Wymondham  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group)

**Dates for  
your Diary:**

**Hey Beatles  
14th May**

**Freddie &  
Queen  
8th July**



**THE FREDDIE & QUEEN  
EXPERIENCE**

FEATURING  
60 SONGS  
40 FREDDIE MESSAGES

UK'S PREMIER TRIBUTE

The Wymondham Central Hall - Saturday 8th July 2023  
Doors 7pm Show 7:30pm - Tickets £18  
Norman & Helen - 01953 600563  
George Reeve Book Shop Market Street Wymondham  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group)



**Wymondham Helicopter Group**  
presents  
**'An Evening of The Four Seasons'**  
A Tribute to The Four Seasons

The Wymondham Central Hall  
Saturday 16th Sept 2023  
Doors 7pm Show 7:30pm - Tickets £18  
Norman & Helen - 01953 600563  
George Reeve Book Shop Market Street Wymondham  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group)

**Evening of  
Four  
Seasons  
16th Sept**

**ABBA - Kiss  
the Teacher  
11th Nov**



**Wymondham Helicopter Group**  
presents

**Kiss the Teacher**

FOUR GREAT ABBA TRIBUTE SHOWS

The Wymondham Central Hall  
Saturday 11th Nov 2023  
Doors 7pm Show 7:30pm  
Tickets £18  
Norman & Helen - 01953 600563  
George Reeve Book Shop Market Street Wymondham  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group)

**Tickets: Norman & Helen - 01953 600563  
George Reeve Book Shop Market Street  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group)**

Tickets for the above concerts are also available from Hetherestt Butchers.

# Wymondham Helicopter Group

presents

## 'An Evening of The Four Seasons' A Tribute to The Four Seasons



**In Aid of**  
East Anglian  
Air Ambulance  
Charity (1083876)



plus support  
from  
The Vibettes  
Female duo

**The Wymondham  
Central Hall**  
**Saturday 16th Sept 2023**  
**Doors 7pm Show**  
**7:30pm - Tickets £18**  
**Norman & Helen -**  
**01953 600563**  
**George Reeve Book Shop**  
**Market Street Wymondham**  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
wymondham-helicopter-group](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-helicopter-group)





# SUMMER FAYRE

Re-schedule to Saturday September 23rd. Original date cancelled due to bad weather

**11AM - 3PM**

**HETHERSETT ACADEMY**



**LOTS OF EXCITING THINGS INCLUDING:**

**CAR BOOT, STALLS, INFLATABLES, GAMES, FOOD, BAR,  
PERFORMANCES FROM CURRENT ACADEMY DRAMA AND MUSIC  
STUDENTS**

**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**



## More Dates For Your Diary

Please send any coming dates to the editor at [petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com)

**Sunday 3rd**—Hethersett Village Screen, Hethersett Village Hall, 3 pm. “Living” starring Bill Nighy.

**Sunday 3rd**—Open house and gardens at The Old Rectory, Great Melton, 11 am to 4 pm.

**Tuesday 5th**—Hethersett Forget Me Not Club, Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am. Chat and coffee.

**Tuesday 5th**—St Remigius Church Baby and Toddler group 10 am to midday. See page 48 for more details.

**Saturday 9th**—Little Melton Village Show. Open for viewing in Little Melton Village Hall from 2 pm. Admission to view 50p. The event will be followed by an evening celebration from 7 pm until 10 pm. Bring your own food and drink and games.

**Saturday 9th**—Norfolk Churches Trust annual sponsored bike ride. Great Melton and Little Melton Churches will be open for this event.

**Saturday 9th**—St Remigius Messy Church.

**Sunday 10th**—Great Melton Church Songs of Praise Service, 6 pm.

**Friday 15th**—Hethersett Methodist Church Singing Fellowship Harvest Music and Tea Afternoon. 2.30 pm. See below for more details.

**Saturday 16th**—Clean up of Hethersett Churchyard—9.30 am until midday.

**Monday 18th**—Hethersett Parish Council meeting. Hethersett Village Hall 7.30 pm.

**Tuesday 19th**—Hethersett Forget Me Not Club. Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am. A morning with Mike Delph talking about his life in Hethersett..

**Thursday 21st**—Friends of Hethersett Library present an illustrated talk by Paddy Anstey from the Mid-Norfolk Railway. Hethersett Library 7 pm. Tickets are £5 which includes post talk refreshments.

**Saturday 23rd**—Hethersett Academy Summer Fayre (re-scheduled from July). 11 am to 3 pm. See above for details.

**Monday 25th**—Hethersett Mothers’ Union activities afternoon. St Remigius Church.

**Monday 25th**—Cringleford and Hethersett Flower Club. Workshop by Elizabeth Robertson on ‘Early Autumn Flowers’,

**Saturday 30th**—MacMillan Coffee Morning in Hethersett Methodist Church, 9.30 am until noon.

## Academy Fair Falls Foul of Bad Weather

THERE was no fun in the sun for Hethersett Academy with the Friends Group postponing the scheduled summer fair date in July due to the weather forecast of heavy rain and winds.

The event has been re-scheduled for Saturday September 23rd.

### Singing Fellowship Invitation:

Hethersett Methodist Church’s Singing Fellowship invites everyone to join them in a harvest music and tea afternoon in the Methodist Church on **Friday 14th September** at 2.30 pm.

There will be singing, readings and tea/coffee and cake. Please do join us for this celebratory time of fellowship.

On **Saturday 30th September**, the church will be holding a MacMillan Coffee Morning from 9.30 am until midday. The church will be open for coffee/tea and cake and there will also be fun activities for all ages. This event will raise funds to help people living with cancer.

# The Two Helmets

Historian and Herald columnist John Head is also a member of the Le Paradis Commemoration Group. The group was set up to honour the memory of 97 men who died in a massacre in Northern France in 1940. Two soldiers survived the massacre. Here John tells just part of the story of the Massacre at Le Paradis and explains how an important find has led to the repatriation of a priceless artifact from that fateful day over 83 years ago.

LATE in the afternoon of 27th May, 1940, 99 soldiers from the 2nd Battalion Royal Norfolk Regiment, the 1st Battalion Royal Scots Regiment and other units of the BEF (British Expeditionary Force) surrendered to the enemy in the French hamlet of Le Paradis.

They were marched across a field where they were divested of parts of their uniforms and, in many cases, their dog-tags (identification tags). They finally crossed a road and by the wall of a barn owned by Louis Creton they were massacred. This atrocity was carried out by the 3rd Company 1st Battalion 2nd SS Totenkopf Rifle Regiment under the orders of SS-Hauptsturmführer Fritz Knoechlein on the day of his 29th birthday. Only two soldiers survived, Privates. Bill O'Callaghan and Bert Pooley.

The ending of the Second World War saw many pilgrimages to Le Paradis, initially led by the Dunkirk Veterans Association, to commemorate those who paid the ultimate sacrifice on that fateful day.

Together with the residents of Le Paradis and the town of Lestrem, poignant annual services of remembrance are held at 'Louis Creton's Barn' and at the Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery to the rear of the church at Le Paradis where, following exhumation at the barn in May 1942, 'our boys' were finally laid to rest.

Sadly only 49 soldiers of the 97 scythed down were identified, 44 being from the Royal Norfolk Regiment. The rest are buried in 'unknown' graves in the cemetery at Le Paradis with their names being included on the Dunkirk Memorial to the Missing.

On 26th February, 2023, I received a message from Jean-Charles Dufour, the owner of 'Louis Creton's Barn', stating that he had discovered two 'English' helmets whilst clearing the barn pending sale. These were kindly offered to me as a gift. Jean-Charles also attached a photograph of the helmets which you can view on the next page.



**The top picture shows the round-up of the Royal Norfolks after the surrender and below that is the aftermath of the massacre.**

I notified the other members of our Le Paradis Commemoration Group comprising of Dennis O'Callaghan (son of Bill O'Callaghan one of the two survivors of the massacre), Nick Smith (historian and photographer) and Peter Steward (the editor of this e-magazine and owner/web-site architect of Hell in Paradise which can be viewed at [www.leparadismassacre.com](http://www.leparadismassacre.com)).

A photograph of the helmets was immediately forwarded to Neil R Storey, renowned local historian and author, for formal identification as these could have been helmets from the First World War as the same ground was fought over in the two wars.

Neil quickly came back with the answer as follows thanks to his vigilant eyes;

*"I am delighted to be able to confirm the helmets will certainly be those of British soldiers present at Le Paradis in 1940. The British Army had stocks of WW1 period 'Brodie' helmets that they refitted with new liners in 1938/39. It would be easy to say these are WW1 helmets because in effect they are BUT they are refitted AND if you look where I have ringed in red you will see the fittings that held the chin straps have 1938/1939 dates."*

However, it still needed to be established whether these helmets belonged to the Royal Norfolk Regiment especially two of those 99 soldiers who entered the 'killing field' at Le Paradis.

Meanwhile our group decided that in order to further the bond between us and Le Paradis, one helmet would be donated to the small museum in Le Paradis (pictured at the bottom of this page) where it has now been agreed to be housed in a glass display case. The other helmet to be displayed in an appropriate place in Norfolk which is still under discussion.

With the barn 'up for sale' there was now concern how we could retrieve our selected helmet at the earliest as our next pilgrimage to Le Paradis is not due until May 2024.

By a remarkable piece of luck Peter Steward had been informed by one of his 'bloggettes,' Bidy Fisher, that she would be visiting France, together with her family, in June 2023 to pay their respects at a family grave located at Beaumont Hamel. Bidy kindly agreed to make a detour to visit Jean-Charles to obtain the helmet on our behalf.

Behind the scenes our group worked to co-ordinate the success of the meet up between Bidy and Jean-Charles. Stéphane Gomane, the Deputy Mayor of Lestrem and the annual Le Paradis Commemoration Co-ordinator, ensured Bidy had access to the small museum in Le Paradis and Jean-Charles agreed to open his field for Bidy and her family to pay their respects at the barn where the massacre occurred.

On 20th June, I was visiting Harewood House in the heart of Yorkshire when I received a phone call from Bidy stating she had safely received the helmet and also confirming that she had undergone a very emotional experience with her family whilst at Le Paradis. Bidy



**The tending of temporary graves in front of Louis Creton's Barn**



sent through photos of the helmet where it was noticed there was a small yellow oblong on the side of it. Again, this was forwarded to Neil Storey for his comments.

After a short while Neil responded as follows;

*"I suspect the yellow oblong once had a black up the centre of it before the years took their toll. I have a 1940 helmet in my collection with the same decal. It is an allusion to the old puggaree flash the Officers and men of the Norfolk Regiment wore on their pith helmets - yellow for the yellow facings of the regiment, the black line as ever in mourning for Sir John Moore, who the drummers of the 9th Foot buried at Corunna".*

The 9th Foot evolved into the Royal Norfolk Regiment and you can read about the burial of Sir John Moore in the poem 'The Burial of Sir John Moore After Corunna (1817)' by Charles Wolfe.

Thanks to Neil we had now established the helmets belonged to soldiers of the Royal Norfolk Regiment. We finally needed to establish whether these helmets were on (or close to) the wooden crosses on the temporary graves in front of the barn prior to exhumation.

I again referred to Jean-Charles for more historic research through previous owners of the barn and on 17th July I received the message that our group was hoping for;

*Dear John,*

*These helmets have found their place, and so much the better!*

*Yes, they were certainly among the wooden crosses on the temporary graves.*

*The farm and the barn have been sold.*

*The new owners are young people in their thirties and they are aware of what happened and have agreed to welcome you to the next commemoration.*

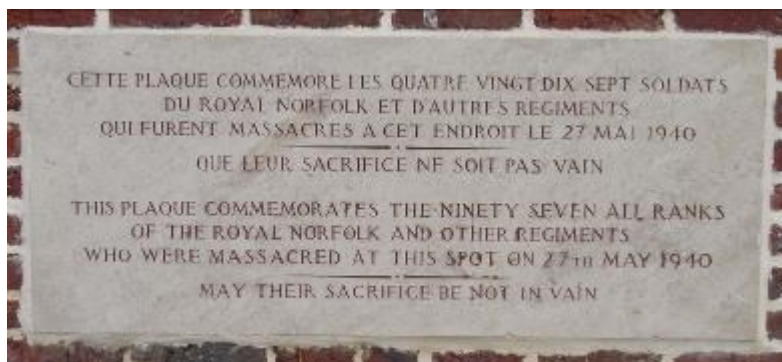
*I wish you all the best*

*With kindest regards*

*Jean-Charles*

It was a very bittersweet moment for us all.

#### A Final Thought



**Top picture—The Barn Wall and below that is the Memorial Plaque**

The helmet is probably one of the few artefacts, if any, that has returned home from those who never returned from the atrocity that occurred at Le Paradis.

#### Photographs

Royal Norfolks being 'rounded up' (photographer Herbert Brunnegger). The massacre aftermath, The tending of the original graves; from the Dennis O'Callaghan Collection.

The initial photograph of the helmets being displayed upside down – Jean-Charles Dufour.

The photographs of Bidy Fisher and Jean-Charles Dufour together with the helmet displaying the yellow oblong and the chin strap modification; – from the Bidy Fisher collection.

The photograph displaying the helmet with the black strip running through the yellow oblong; – from the Neil Storey Collection.

All other photographs; from the John Head/Le Paradis Commemoration Group Collection.

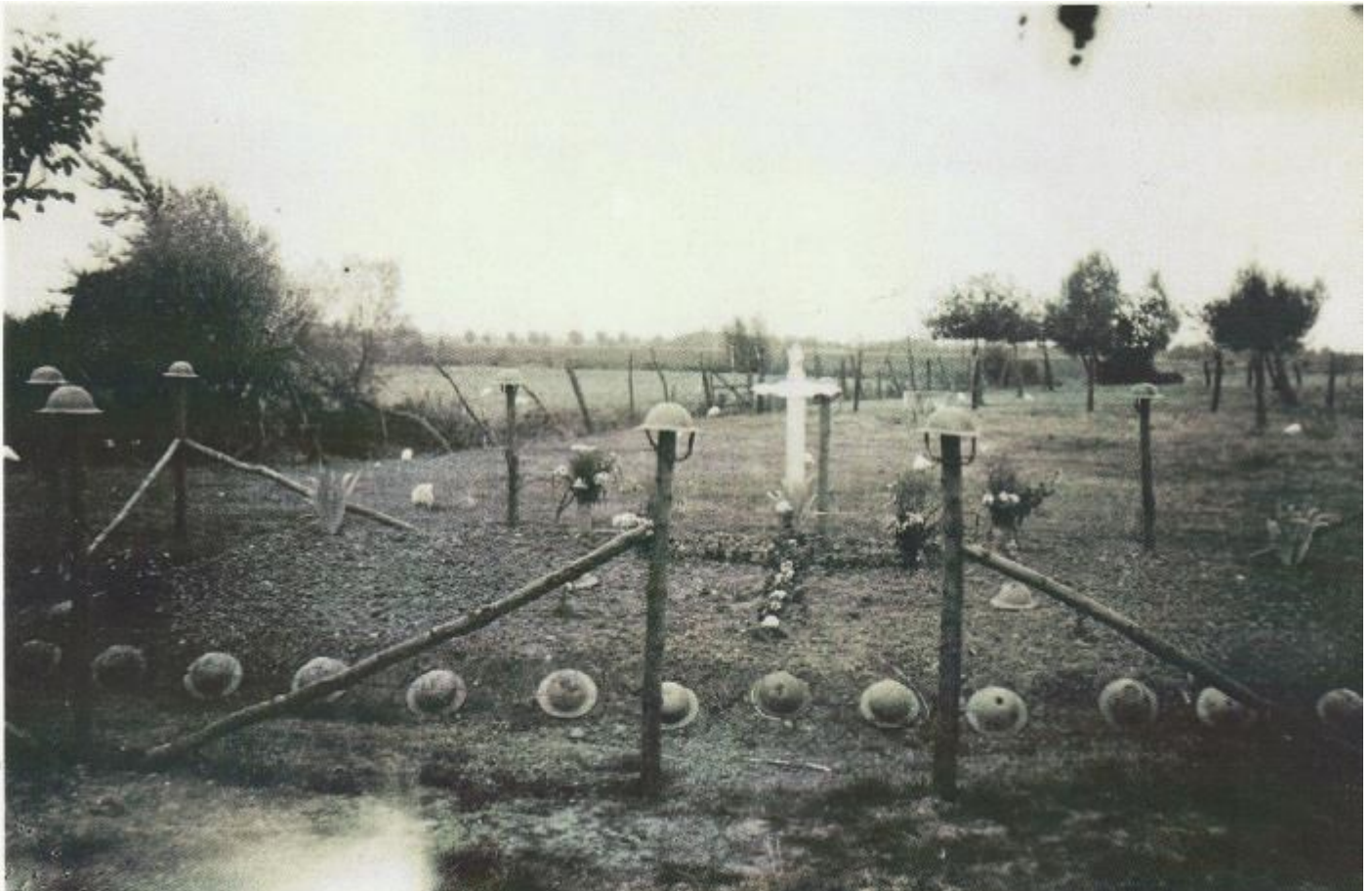


**Biddy Fisher receiving the helmet from Jean-Charles Dufour in front of the Cross of Sacrifice in Le Paradis Churchyard .**

**The helmet showing the yellow oblong and below that is the chin strap modification clearly showing the date 1938.**

**A photo of a similar helmet sent by Neil Storey displaying the black strip referred by Neil in his response to John Head.**





The top photo shows the temporary graves displaying the helmets in front of Louis Creton's barn before exhumation and reinterment into the now Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at the rear of the church in Le Paradis.

On the right is Dennis O'Callaghan, son of Bill O'Callaghan, one of the two survivors of the Le Paradis Massacre, with the helmet

Above is one of the pilgrimages to the massacre barn. You will note there are approximately 30 pilgrims standing in front of the barn. If you multiply that by three you will be able to imagine the scale of this atrocity.



# Business Opening Hours

This is a free service for businesses in Hethersett. If you would like your opening hours posted here please e-mail details to [petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com)

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**Kin Café** at Rowan House in Queen's Road is open on Monday to Friday from 8 am until 4 pm, You can find the café as part of the Rowan House complex in Queen's Road.

**Hethersett Butchers** in Great Melton Road is open from 7.30 am until 5 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 7.30 am until 1 pm on Wednesday and from 7.30 am until 12.30 pm on Saturday.

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## Group Meeting Dates

**Paint With Us Art Group**—The Paint With Us Art Group meets in Hethersett Village Hall on Thursdays from 1.30 pm until 4 pm.



Come and Join Us  
at the

### **Coffee Stop**

9am to 12pm  
Every Wednesday

### Hethersett Methodist Church

*Gt Melton Road, NR9 3AB*

is offering

### **a Gathering Space**

*A space for all, as well as an opportunity for Ukrainians settling in the area, to meet each other.*

### **a Coffee**

*(Tea and Squash is also available!)*

### **a Warm Welcome**

# Hethersett Herald

HETHERSETT Herald is published electronically towards the end of each month via the Hethersett Village web site at

[www.hethersettherald.weebly.com](http://www.hethersettherald.weebly.com)

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. Views expressed in Hethersett Herald are those of individual authors and not necessarily the views of the volunteers or the editor.

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

## **Herald Team**

Editor - Peter Steward—[petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com) (please note change in e-mail address)

Associate Editors - Roger Morgan, Sarah Lawrence.

Regular Columnists - Sarah Lawrence and John Head.

Proof Editor - Gary Wyatt.

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To contact us e-mail [petersteward@sky.com](mailto:petersteward@sky.com).