

HETHERSETT HERALD

April 2020

Number 54



Praise for Hethersett Youngsters



THE Principal of Hethersett Academy has told parents that it has been a pleasure and real privilege to work with their children as he announced that he is stepping down from the role in September following promotion within the Inspiration Trust team. You can read what Gareth Stevens (pictured opposite) had to say about Academy youngsters and find out who his successor will be by turning to page 35.

Emergency Response

IT'S official—Old Hall School has been bought by Norfolk Constabulary which has vowed to turn the former seat of education into “a first class police training facility.”

Announcing the news on Norfolk Constabulary's official website, Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner Lorne Green and Chief Constable Simon Bailey said the new centre would: “Help meet the force's growing demand and more complex crime profiles.”

The announcement has also met with the approval of both Hethersett Parish Council and Hethersett's district and county council representative David Bills.

For the full story turn to page 26.

Virtual Lockdown

HETHERSETT is in virtual lockdown as the Coronavirus continues to completely disrupt life.

Unprecedented steps have been taken throughout March with meetings, organisations and groups all cancelling and schools shutting down from March 20th.

Already events scheduled for May and even further ahead, including the proposed VE Day celebrations, have either been postponed or cancelled altogether.

We have been keeping a daily diary of how the Coronavirus has affected Hethersett. Our coverage begins on page five.

Sign Up For Fun Run—Details on page 38.

Important Notice Regarding Virus

Hethersett Herald will continue to be published throughout the current Coronavirus pandemic. Our aim will be to keep residents informed on the latest news with regards to the virus.

We will also keep everyone informed of village developments through our Facebook page. You can also find out what is happening through the “All Things Hethersett” Facebook page which we highly recommend.

Please note that we have suspended much of our what’s on section. Where we have advertised an event please contact the group or organisers to ascertain whether it is going ahead or not. The same applies to our section listing places to eat.

Let’s hope that the village can return to “normal” as soon as possible and once again we can reflect on what is happening in our village.

How To Stay Informed

The Editor has started a regular blog to keep everyone informed of developments with regard to the virus. This will be updated daily during the crisis with details of events called off and what is still functioning in the village. You can view this at: peterowensteward.weebly.com/blog

Also the All Things Hethersett Facebook page is keeping residents up to date with all the latest developments on a daily basis. This group has over 2,400 members and is available at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/205408596849720/>

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A Message From The Editor



RANDOM acts of kindness—surely that is what the world needs now at a very difficult time.

This month we have experienced something unprecedented and something that has taken on a surreal feel. The coronavirus will go down in the history of the village and will be talked about for years to come. It will provide one of those “do you remember when we all had to stay indoors because of that pandemic? Now what year was that” kind of reminiscences.

Things unfolded slowly as the first news of the pandemic spread with just a handful of events being called off. Then things escalated in something of a grand manner and towards the end of the month village life was changed with a virtual shutdown.

I hope you feel that we have been able to cover the affect the virus has had on the village in an intelligent manner. It has been difficult keeping up with everything happening and a rapidly changing scenario which has necessitated numerous re-writes. I also hope you enjoy reading about some of the non-virus related things that have been going on as we strive to bring you our regular coverage of events and news. There has been plenty of non virus things happening.

So that brings me to the acts of kindness that you will find dotted throughout this edition—some connected with the virus and some not. They all have one thing in common—they illustrate how much the majority of people really do care about their neighbours.

Individuals and businesses have banded together to make this crisis a little less insufferable. There is no doubt in my mind that caring people vastly outnumber the “me, me, me” brigade.

This attitude of kindness is the polar opposite of all the idiots who have been stockpiling goods and emptying supermarkets of handwash and toilet rolls etc. Behave normally and there is more than enough for everyone without invoking the mass hysteria that we seem to have experienced in certain areas.

As already mentioned it has been a hugely newsy month for Hethersett despite the virus. News that Old Hall School has found a new owner (see our front page) will be welcomed but we still have the conundrum of when work to refurbish and re-open the King’s Head will take place.

One of the most difficult tasks for myself as editor is not generating news but deciding the order that stories should go in with the front part of the publication being home to the most important and those that will affect the village the most. This has particularly been the case this time around with the police buy out, news of a new principal at Hethersett Academy, new council tax rates and important news about the July funrun (Coronavirus allowing) all jostling for primary space. I don’t think I can ever remember such a newsy time and this month we hope to help residents by including a rundown of where to get the best value petrol within a five mile radius of the village. I hope you enjoy this edition.

Peter

The Virus Effect

HETHERSETT, like virtually every village, town and city in the UK, was left in virtual isolation as the Coronavirus began to take its toll.

As the virus escalated so did the number of groups and organisations cancelling events. And, as the virus is tipped to continue for sometime, it looks unlikely that any meetings, social events etc will be taking place in the immediate future. You will be able to read a special blog/diary on the crisis elsewhere in this edition and this shows how quickly things escalated as the Government began to take more and more control of the situation.

But there was immediate heartening evidence of the caring side of village life as people banded together to look after the elderly and other vulnerable residents.

With the situation escalating on an almost daily basis, many residents suffering from coughs and colds self isolated themselves for up to two weeks.

The affect that the virus has on the village will be felt for many months with proposed VE day celebrations over a weekend in May being cancelled. These included a 1940s style camp, a village picnic/street party and a tea dance in the village hall.

One of the first places to act was Hethersett Hall Care Home which cancelled its scheduled inaugural meeting of a new dementia support café. The Hall also banned all outside visits by residents and postponed a talk by Hethersett-based Dawson's Law on Power of Attorney which was scheduled for March 25th. The home also asked relatives and friends to restrict their visits.

A statement from the owners Barchester Health care said:

"Barchester are committed to ensuring that we keep all our residents, patients and staff as safe as possible and as a preventative measure we are asking visitors, including family members and friends, to minimise visits to our care homes and hospitals until further notice. We are asking you to restrict your visits to a minimum in order to keep your loved ones, and all our other residents, as safe as possible. In addition, we are limiting visits overall, and visits from the local community and external entertainment are cancelled for the foreseeable future.

Hethersett Surgery was also quick to act restricting routine appointments to a telephone call.

"In line with Government advice as a precautionary measure in view of the Corona (Covid-19) all routine appointments with a doctor will be conducted by telephone. Following this if the doctor needs to see the patient, arrangements will be made accordingly. This may involve travelling to another site. These measures are to ensure public and staff safety. " the surgery said adding that all doctors

appointments already booked were cancelled. In addition only urgent nurse appointments took place.

Hethersett Academy called off a proposed Easter skiing trip early in the month and before the Government banned school trips abroad. Thirty eight students were due to travel to the Pass de Tonale ski resort on April 1st but the trip had to be cancelled as Italy shut its borders.

Then came the news that all schools would be closing from March 20th apart from children of designated key workers and those thought to be vulnerable. Virtually every group and social event was cancelled including the musical Hair-spray at Hethersett Academy. It is hoped to re-schedule this later in the year. Many events and meetings will not be re-scheduled, however and will now fail to take place.

There was good news on the education front, however. Woodside School reported that plans to move into their new purpose-built school in September are still on track.

As soon as the virus began to make inroads into village life, local resident Andre Smith launched a delivery service to help the elderly and vulnerable.

Hethersett Community Store was set-up as a non-profit scheme to help those in the community who either cannot or must not visit shops due to the spread of Coronavirus. This was later shut down as South Norfolk got their support teams into place.

A number of local businesses were signed up to the idea and shops such as Church Farm began regular deliveries. Sadly cafes and pubs throughout the village were forced to shut down.

Many people could be seen walking or cycling around the village—something allowed under the stringent Government rules.

On Thursday, March 26th people could be heard clapping throughout the village to show their support for frontline NHS members and other essential workers who have provided tremendous support and services during a crisis the like of which nobody in Hethersett will have experienced before. We will have the latest updates on the pandemic in the next edition of Hethersett Herald.

As from 10pm tonight we will be closed until further notice.

We would like to thank all our loyal customers for their support during this extremely difficult time. We look forward to seeing you all in the near future. STAY WELL!

The message above was posted on Social Media on Friday March 20th and was typical of notices going up in the village.

On this page we feature just a couple of the forms that appeared on the internet as people supported each other during the crisis.

HELLO! If you are self-isolating, I can help.

My name is

.....

I live locally at

.....

My phone number is

.....

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 I can help with:

Picking up shopping

Posting mail

A friendly phone call

Urgent supplies

Just call or text me and I'll do my best to help you (for free!)

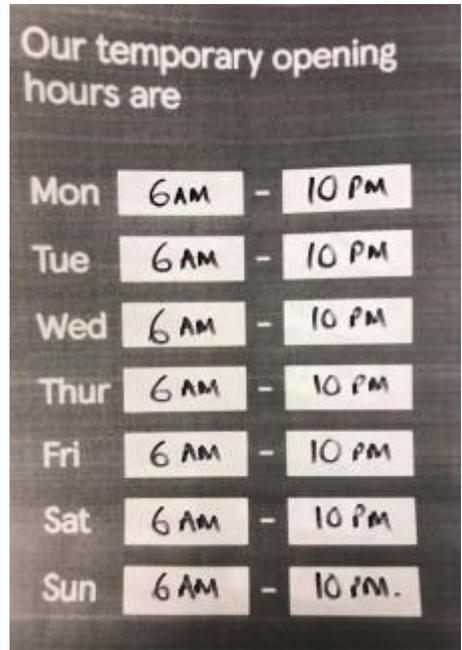
Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.

#ViralKindness



ALL Hethersett schools were closed apart for children of key workers. Above is a very quiet Hethersett Primary School in Queen's Road.

There were changes in hours for two of the village's major shops. On the left is a notice from Boots Chemist and on the right Tesco Express.



Notices of closures spread throughout the village as the month progressed.

“These are very strange times that we are living through,” was typical of the comments heard throughout the village. Essential businesses dealing with food supplies along with Hethersett Post Office managed to stay open as a lifeline for so many people. One of the frightening aspects were the words “until further notice” suggesting that the virus could be around for some time.

Cometh The Hour.. Cometh The Man

Emergencies such as the Coronavirus can bring forward village heroes as we have found out this month.

As soon as the extent of the virus was established, local resident Andre Smith (pictured opposite) and wife Jade launched the Hethersett Community Store on Facebook.

The non-profit scheme was designed to help those in the community who either could not or should not visit shops during the length of the virus.

Andre quickly signed up Hethersett Butchers and Park Drive Stores and other businesses quickly joined the team offering to deliver goods for just a £1 delivery fee to cover costs. All items ordered were charged at standard shop prices and payments were made by card at the time of order. Deliveries were then made to doorsteps without the need for any contact between people.

The store was open for business from March 15th and closed on March 26th once South Norfolk Council had its support mechanism in place.

“When I first set up this group it was for the sole purpose of providing something to those vulnerable, elderly and sick in the village in the absence of something more formal and organised. Over the 17 days we delivered £2,500 of produce throughout the village to people who are elderly, self isolating or unable to get out for whatever reason,” Andre said.

He started deliveries at 7 am and continued at times into the early evening, pick-



ing up from Tesco Express up to seven times a day. Andre praised the response he met with: "Everyone remained positive, polite and up beat," he said.

Andre urged anyone requiring help in the future to contact the Early Help Team at South Norfolk Council by telephoning 01508 533933 between 8.15 am and 5 pm or 0800 389 6109 out of hours.

"I would like to thank everyone for their kind words, support and offers of help," he said.

Residents were quick to praise Andre and Jade's work on social media. Comments included the following:

"Thank you for everything both of you! You've done such a fab job and have really helped people survive."

"Thank you both for everything. You're an amazing couple and we all appreciate your kindness."

"You have done a fantastic job in such difficult times, thank you for looking after those that were in great need of the service you provided ."

Parish Council Leaflets On Their Way

A special leaflet from Hethersett Parish Council is being distributed throughout the village within the next few days.

Residents will receive a sheet through their door giving details of the Early Help Team run by South Norfolk Council.

"The Parish Council are here to support the community but rather than adding confusion by providing yet another telephone number, the Parish Council is endorsing the support network introduced by South Norfolk Council.

"The Parish Council will continue to work closely with our colleagues at South Norfolk Council to provide any assistance that is required over the coming weeks," the leaflet states.

The Early Help team can be contacted on 01508 533933 between 8.15 am and 5 pm or 0800 389 6109 out of hours.

Diary of An Epidemic

As soon as the virus began to bite, Hethersett Herald Editor Peter Steward began a daily blog to try and co-ordinate what was happening in the village. He will continue with this for the duration of the epidemic. Below we reproduce the entries from 15th March to 20th March which covers the period when most organisations and events were shutting down. Subsequent blog entries can be viewed at www.peterowensteward.weebly.com/blog.

Sunday March 15th

It's been quite a day in Hethersett, without anything really happening. Here at Hethersett Herald Central we have been trying to find out what groups and events are being cancelled and there is a feeling that we are only experiencing the tip of what could be a very large iceberg. I anticipate over the next few days and weeks that the news will be about what's not happening rather than what is.

Over the past few days there have been horrendous stories of supermarket shelves being emptied by people stockpiling goods for the long haul that the coronavirus could become. This is definitely a society negative.

I prefer to concentrate on the positives rather than negatives and these are beginning to come through. To me stock pilers are beyond contempt, people who consider nobody other than themselves. Hopefully they are in a minority and that seems to be the case as Hethersett proves what a caring place it is. Just this afternoon I was looking through Facebook and came across one of the best examples of good neighbourliness possible. Hethersett Community Store has been set-up to help the vulnerable.

The service is only designed for those in genuine need and is being led by Andre Smith who will be making deliveries with his family.

Shortly after this I came across a post from Church Farm shop offering a similar service.

I firmly believe that as the situation deteriorates further, as it almost certainly will, there will be yet more examples of good neighbour initiatives in Hethersett. In my own road one of our wonderful neighbours is collecting everyone's contact numbers and offering support for anyone who needs it.

Each day we wake at the moment is likely to bring new problems but there is no doubt in my mind that Hethersett will rise to the challenge. I can't remember anything vaguely like this happening before. It's all a massive learning curve for us all and no time to practice anything with the village likely to go into some form of lockdown in the very near future.

Monday March 16th

The current Coronavirus crisis is absolutely unprecedented in most people's lifetime. I certainly cannot remember a time when our lives have been so controlled by one particular aspect of life.

The situation seems to be changing almost by the hour. Even the most basic movements could soon become difficult. I think the only thing certain is that things will get worse before they get better.

The country seems to be split into two types of people with regard to the virus:

1/ Those with a total disregard for others who think only of themselves and stock pile food etc and generally act in an irresponsible manner and

2/ Those caring people who set out to help and look after everyone.

Let's hope that number 2 bashes number 1 into submission and prove that we have genuinely caring communities - and I firmly believe this is the case.

Hethersett has already shown itself to be a caring village with plenty of people pledging to help the most vulnerable in our society. Yesterday I spoke of local businesses and a scheme to deliver goods to the most needy. Over the past few years of putting Hethersett Herald together I have come across numerous random acts of kindness. The current situation brings out the best in many people and let's hope that continues long after the virus has been kicked into touch.

I have already heard about a number of Hethersett groups and meetings being cancelled but many are still going ahead. I fear that within a couple of weeks Hethersett, along with virtually every other village, town and city in the country, will be in lockdown.



Sign placed on the internet to inform people that Ketteringham Tip has closed.

Tuesday March 17th

Good Communication is vital in these difficult times. That's why, hopefully, this blog along with my various Facebook pages on Hethersett and Hethersett Herald and also the All Things Hethersett page will keep you up to speed on what is happening (or should that be not happening) in our village.

Hopefully in Hethersett we can communicate well. So here goes. Tonight's Heart of Hethersett Bereavement Support Group at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex has been cancelled, Hethersett Methodist Church has cancelled its music and tea afternoon and Lent groups, First Step Playgroup, which meets on Tuesdays, has closed its doors until further notice, Hethersett Academy has cancelled a school trip to Italy and its production of Hairspray scheduled for March 26th and 27th has been called off and it is hoped to re-schedule later in the year.

Hethersett Hall Care Home has stopped all visits out of the home for residents and cancelled a talk by Dawson's Law on Power of Attorney scheduled for March 25th. Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club has cancelled all activities until further notice.

Jubilee Youth Club's Wednesday sessions are continuing for the present as schools haven't been closed and the threat from the virus seems to be much lower for children. Parents and carers are being asked to pick up their youngsters from the foyer, however.

Hethersett Brownies, Beavers and Cubs have called off all meetings until further notice and we are expecting a statement from Hethersett Primary School in the near future. As I write this I have just heard that the village's VE Day celebrations have been cancelled. These were due to run over the weekend of May 8th to 10th and included a 1940s youth camp, a family street party and an afternoon tea. I will have more on this later.

Obviously the situation is changing all the time and we will try to keep you abreast of any further cancellations with blogs throughout the days and more than the one each day when necessary.

One thing that did go ahead as scheduled was the first visit to the village of a new fish and chip van. Paul Hill and Simon Place (yes that really is his name) will be on the village hall car park every Monday from 4.30 pm until 8 pm.

The latest callings off also include Hethersett Dementia Support Group cancelled until further notice and Painting for Pleasure Art Group cancelled until further notice. In addition Hethersett Methodist Church has cancelled all groups/meetings in its hall and will make a decision later as to whether to go ahead with church services.

Finally Hethersett Village Screen has cancelled its April show on the 19th and its May screening on 10th. Organisers say they hope to be back with a full programme of films in the Autumn.

Wednesday March 18th

Below is the latest guidance from Rowan House which, as you can see, is trying to keep open. Café Kin also stays open. I will update with more details during the day as they come in.

"Today the centre will start to look and feel very different as we try our hardest to stay open without compromising the health and wellbeing of our staff, practitioners and customers. For some people access to health and wellbeing services is a vital part of their lives, with some visitors having regular weekly therapy on which they rely for their physical and emotional health. Therefore unless we are told otherwise Rowan House will endeavour to remain open but with further restrictions and control measures in place.

"Our cafe will also remain open but we will be shifting our attention to items that can be served as takeaway such as nutritious soups, fresh salads and sandwiches. We now have an outdoor area for individuals to wait for orders (which can even be ordered and paid for through our window) and as of tomorrow we will be taking orders for takeaways and joining the Hethersett Community Store delivery scheme. Once the details have been confirmed we will share more details. Please stay tuned and let us know what we can do for you over the coming days."

We are now hearing about cancellations almost by the hour. Latest news is that all church services in the parish church and Methodist Church have been cancelled until further notice. All groups that meet in Hethersett Library have been cancelled and the youth club has changed its mind about holding its Wednesday session which has now been called off.

Jan Halford from the parish church is putting together a WhatsApp prayer group as she explained on Facebook: "Since we are unable to meet physically as church at the moment I am setting up a Hethersett community WhatsApp prayer group. The plan is to have prayer times when as many people as possible can join in by going online at the same time and post prayers for all to see as well as posting prayers at any other time. In this way we will encourage one another and build each other up in our faith. If prayers are posted for people outside the group they should be anonymised or be with their permission," Jan said.

More in the never ending story of what's happening (or rather not happening) in Hethersett: All organised cricket has been cancelled which means the new Hethersett and Tas Valley season will not start in April as scheduled. Dawson's Law solicitors are still open and can arrange telephone contact if necessary. Funerals are continuing although anyone suffering from virus symptoms shouldn't attend. The Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group (The RiNG) has cancelled all meetings until further notice. All regular worship at St Remigius has been cancelled but the church will remain open.

JUST IN: ALL SCHOOLS TO CLOSE AFTER FRIDAY.

Thursday March 19th

There's nothing happening but everything is.

That may sound like something of a contradiction but it does sum up the current situation in Hethersett.

I spent quite a bit of time this morning re-writing large sections of Hethersett Herald to reflect the current situation in our village. It's now more of a case of what is open and functioning rather than what is shut. I couldn't help but muse on the fact that news is likely to be in short supply over the next few months. The cancellation of VE Day celebrations is particularly sad as this would have brought the village together and would have been a piece of village history. But then I realised that what we are living through at the moment is exactly that - a piece of village history.

I can imagine a conversation between two elderly people in 60 years' time:

"What do you remember about growing up in the village?" asks one.

"Well I remember when we had that there virus thing, when everyone had to stay indoors. That was a rummin'," replies the other.

The Coronavirus will obviously take its place in Hethersett folklore - but not for some while of course. Today we have to live through it and stay safe.

Today has brought news that the parish council office in the village hall will be closed to the public until further notice. Schools of course will shut as from tomorrow although they will stay open for children of key workers and children at risk. We are still waiting to hear exactly what that means.

Popped into Hethersett Library which is still open and also read many Facebook messages expressing thanks for how the majority of people are behaving and supporting each other during the crisis. And there is some good news. Popped into Church Farm shop to find the place thriving and a hive of activity. It seems a long time ago that we spoke to Jake Willgress about how takings had slumped because of the road works and traffic lights. Now we are seeing the other side of the story. The shop is providing a valuable local service. I just hope that when things calm down and we return to normal that people will continue to shop at local outlets which are serving them so well during the crisis.

Jake told me that he had sold a week's worth of bread in a morning. He and his staff are working hard to keep things going and also undertaking deliveries. Emergencies can bring the best out of people and let's hold onto that thought as we go forward.

Managed to have a walk round the village today - keeping my distance of course. Spoke to a few people across the width of a road. I wonder if anyone in the village has been confirmed as having the virus. I certainly haven't heard of any to date.

So here are a few more things to bring to your attention. Hethersett Post Office is still open, as is the library. Tesco Express has slightly changed its opening hours and now will be open from 6 am until 10 pm seven days a week.

Kett's Kabin charity shop in Queen's Road is aiming to put a smile on people's faces with an outdoor display of goods at pocket money prices from 10p to £1.

The scheduled village litter pick on 11th April has been cancelled. and hairdresser Ros Bunn has reluctantly decided to close her salon until further notice.

I have been told that Boots Chemist is closing at 4 pm each day and also shutting between 1 and 2 pm. Meanwhile the Queen's Head has introduced a take-away menu where food can be ordered, paid for via the telephone and then picked up. The venue is also still open for food and drink.

Hethersett Dental Surgery is open as usual

Friday March 20th

It's hard to think about what will happen when the virus eventually goes away.

At the moment we can do little more than self isolate and hope that the number of people contracting the virus is contained sooner rather than later.

Today on Facebook, people were asking about the possibility of setting up a foodbank in Hethersett for the needy and that's something that needs serious consideration.

Others are talking about a major village party/celebration once the virus has gone. This seems like an excellent idea that will obviously grow legs over the next few weeks. A picnic on a public area would bring the village together. The main problem is we are a long way off being able to talk about dates. We could be looking at September or October before it's safe for mass gatherings to take place. By then the weather will be cooling off.

There seems to be enough people with a will to make this happen, however, and it's certainly something to look forward to as most of us will be stir crazy by then.

As we now know matters continued to escalate with people being asked to stay at home and Police being given additional powers to disperse gatherings of more than two people. The only places in Hethersett to remain open were those providing essential services such as selling food, distributing medicine and the post office. An up to date list of places still open at the time of going to publication are on the next page. We will report more on the virus in the May edition of Hethersett Herald.

The Latest Position

The situation with regards to the Coronavirus has been changing virtually daily throughout the month. Below is the latest position regarding Hethersett businesses etc as of Wednesday March 25th. Please check with individual businesses to see if they are open.

- Tesco Express - Open 6 am-10 pm daily seven days a week. Restrictions on the number of customers in the shop at any one time.
- Boots pharmacy - Open Monday to Saturday 8:30 am - 1 pm and 2 pm - 4 pm (only four people allowed at a time)
- Church Farm shop and tearoom - Open Monday - Saturday (only four people allowed at a time). Tea room is closed.
- Park Drive Stores - Open as usual 7 am-11 pm
- Hot Pepper creative hair - CLOSED
- Queen's Head Pub and Restaurant - CLOSED
- Cafe Kin - CLOSED
- Janey's Café - CLOSED
- Hodge Podge - CLOSED
- The Beauty Shed - CLOSED
- McDonald's Thickthorn CLOSED
- Tots Town - CLOSED
- Emily Draper Carrot and Biscuit Pet Services CLOSED
- Ekes Farm - Still open
- Tasty Bites - CLOSED



- Sunrise Chinese - Open but numbers strictly limited.
- The Hethersett Butchers - Open but there is a one in one out policy where people are asked to wait until called in.
- Farmer Barnes Butchery - Open Wednesday to Saturday from 8 am.
- St Remigius Church - All services cancelled and church is locked.
- Hethersett Library—CLOSED.
- Hehersett Methodist Church—CLOSED, all groups cancelled.
- Merrylegs Dog Grooming, Back Lane—CLOSED.
- Kett's Kabin Charity Shop—CLOSED.
- PACT Charity shop—CLOSED.
- Fitness Express gym and swimming pool at Park Farm Hotel—CLOSED.
- Hethersett Memorial Playing Field—Field is open but the children's playground is shut until further notice.



Good News Delivery Suspended

Home delivery of the April edition of the village Good News Magazine is being suspended in compliance with government advice.

Deliveries will re-commence as soon as the advice is that it is safe to do so

A massive thank you from Hethersett Herald for all those heroes and heroines from the village who have been supporting the elderly and vulnerable in any way doing these unprecedented times.

You really are the Heart of Hethersett

Hand Sanitisers Should Be In Every Shop

Hethersett resident calls for supermarkets to provide hand sanitising stations during the coronavirus pandemic.

HETHERSETT resident and artist Jo Cole is campaigning to have hand sanitisers or washing facilities placed at the entrance to all shops and businesses.

Jo says she has been astonished during the current coronavirus outbreak that hand sanitisers haven't automatically been introduced.

Jo has contacted the Media for support in her campaign and said:

"We are all going to supermarkets to buy food. Last week I was in a supermarket and so were hundreds of other people. All in queues and in close proximity to each other. The supermarket did not know how many of them may be carrying the coronavirus or if everyone had washed their hands properly before going through their doors.

"I cannot understand why the Government hasn't insisted on hand washing stations at the entrances of all places still allowed to be open to the public

"Supermarkets should have been the first to take care of this. They are very wealthy institutions and have as much social responsibility as the individual. Maybe this needs to be pointed out to them," Jo said adding that the lack of hand sanitisation made her angry.

Do you agree with Jo's sentiments and think that hand sanitising stations should be available in all shops. Do let us know how you feel on this or any other topic related to the coronavirus pandemic.

Our Tesco Express is currently restricting the numbers going into the shop at any one time to seven. There are also restrictions on numbers entering the chemists and the Chinese takeaway which remains open.

In line with a national directive Hethersett Dental Surgery has now shut its doors and will re-open again once it is safe to do so.



Virus Springtime in Hethersett

THE stringent Government directives severely curtailed movement, but did allow for everyone to take one form of exercise per day. It gave us a chance to get out into the countryside around Hethersett and the following photographs were taken by the editor on a three mile walk along Ketteringham Lane, across the fields, along Station Lane, through the churchyard and back along the B1172. Bright blue skies and a feel of Spring in the air added to the enjoyment of something we all take too much for granted. Sadly a few days later temperatures were due to plummet.







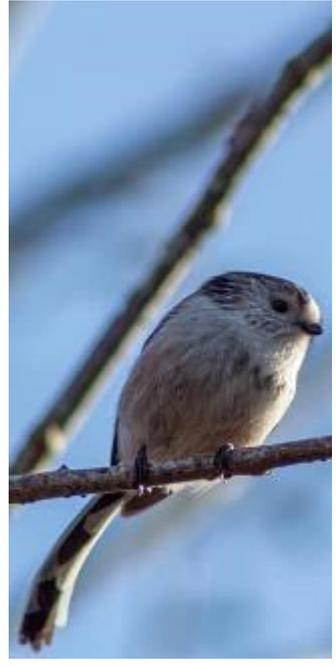
Making The Most Of Being Quarantined

Being quarantined also has its bonuses as Associate Editor Hannah Harrison proved by taking these stunning wildlife pictures from her own back garden.



Above are two Jackdaws that Hannah has named Jack and Jill. On the next page is Woody the Pigeon and Hannah's caption for the lower photograph on the next page is "Jack couldn't believe that Sandra was sunbathing topless in her garden AGAIN."





Top left—A corvid dive bombing a buzzard - although the photo suggests otherwise! Next to that is a Long Tailed Tit and then two instantly recognised garden visitors.

Police To Open New Training Facility

(Continued from front page)

IT has officially been announced that Hethersett Old Hall School has been sold to Norfolk Constabulary for use as a new training facility.

The announcement came on March 13th on Norfolk Constabulary's official website although most people in the village seemed to know the identity of the buyers long before it was made official.



It is expected that 600 more police officers will join Norfolk Constabulary over the next three years and the new facility will help the police meet its recruitment targets while remaining at the centre of its local community.

There is also the possibility for further partnership work with Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service.

The site was bought for £3.35 million at the end of February and is expected to open in August following development and refurbishment. The project has been funded through the renegotiation of PFI contracts around the police headquarters at Wymondham and there will be no additional cost to taxpayers.

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The new facility will provide 5,579 square metres of accommodation and include 29 classrooms, offices for police trainers as well as a gym. The site already has an existing nursery and it is aimed to keep this in use to support staff and the local community.

The website states that existing facilities for training recruits at Wymondham are inadequate to deal with the expected influx of new recruits:

“The investment comes as the Force works to meet growing recruitment challenges; the turnover of officers together with the introduction of the Police Education Qualification Framework (PEQF) and the Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA) alongside a commitment by central government to increase police officer numbers across the country by 20,000.

“Training for police officer recruits is currently delivered across the Wymond-

ham headquarters site, however existing facilities do not have the capacity to deal with the number of new recruits expected over the next three years.”

Norfolk’s Police and Crime Commissioner Lorne Green, said: “I am pleased that this exciting opportunity has been made possible due to the estates review I commissioned which identified sufficient efficiency savings to make the purchase achievable.

“Taken together with efficiency savings through a more effective training facility, combined with some realistic revenue raising possibilities, I am happy to say the acquisition of this site will be of no incremental cost to taxpayers.

“The need for a greater police resource has been building over the past number of years. I have managed to significantly increase officer numbers over the four years of my tenure. The fact is we have more men and women at Norfolk Constabulary today keeping us safe than we had when I first started.

“But that increase will only continue to grow given the undertaking by Central Government and with additional numbers comes additional training requirements.

“The Chief Constable has advised me we simply do not have the capacity to cope with this growing number of new recruits and as a result the current provision at police headquarters is inadequate.

“This new centre of excellence is close to the current police headquarters, in the heart of Norfolk and will help to continue to deliver a modern and innovative service for the county.

“These plans will not only preserve the heritage of this beautiful Norfolk building but also help boost the local economy. I also welcome the potential for further cross-force collaboration.

“I am pleased by the positive feedback we have had from the local community and our partners. This is an opportunity to bring back to life a unique and historic building where future generations of our policing family will be educated where those have gone before.”

Mr Bailey welcomed the news saying: “Our ambition is to create a centre of excellence for learning; one which can attract and retain the very best candi-



Councillor David Bills welcomed the news:

“I am very pleased that this lovely old building is being put to such good use and will have a productive future. “

dates as we move into a new era of police recruitment.

“Over the past decade we’ve sought to make this organisation as efficient as possible in the face of austerity while meeting the challenge of changing crime profiles and increased demand.

“This has included changes and reductions in our estates which inevitably has put more pressure on our headquarters in Wymondham.

“Our existing training facilities will simply be unable to deliver the best training for the 600 plus new recruits forecast to join the constabulary over the next three years.

“As always, our aim is to achieve value for money while creating a first-class training facility that meets our needs in providing an equally first-class service to the public of Norfolk.”

Mr Bailey added: “This new facility gives the right impression of what Norfolk is about; when recruiting officers, we want to set them up for the best success that we can. Training in such an iconic building with a focused learning environment will allow us to do just that.”

News of the purchase received the backing of Hethersett Parish Council. Chairman Adrienne Quinlan said:

“It’s good to hear that the future of this iconic site has been secured and we hope that the Constabulary’s presence will further strengthen their relationship with the local community.”

Hethersett’s district and county councillor David Bills echoed those words:

“This is really good news for Hethersett and I am very pleased that this lovely old building is being put to such good use and will have a productive future. It is also very good news for local businesses who I am sure will see an increase in customers.”

Margaret Dewsbury, Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships at Norfolk County Council, said: “It’s great to hear that this site will have a new lease of life. Our Fire and Rescue Service is looking forward to discussing options to be part of the future plans for the site with Norfolk Constabulary, as we explore the potential for more opportunities for joint working across our emergency services’ teams.”



Chairman of Hethersett Parish Council Adrienne Quinlan believes that the purchase will further strengthen the police’s links with the local community.

Remembering Hethersett Heather

IT was with great sadness that we learned of the death of former Hethersett Parish Councillor and leading champion of the environment and the elderly Heather Williamson. Here we remember the debt that our village owes her.



On the left Heather as a young nurse and on the right with her South Norfolk award for outstanding contribution to Hethersett.

HETHERSETT has lost one of its greatest champions with the death at the age of 91 of Heather Williamson.

Described in the local media as Heather of Hethersett, Scottish born Heather adopted her new home in Norfolk with an energy, enthusiasm and passion that few can match.

It was her work in the environmental field that Heather will be particularly remembered for. She was a founder member of Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) and an organiser of the bi-annual open gardens scheme which has seen many residents open their gardens to the public whilst raising money



for good causes.

All photographs courtesy of Heather's son Donald

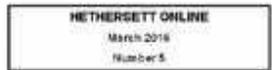
Heather was presented with a South Norfolk Lifetime Community Hero award at a special evening at the John Innes Institute in February 2016 for her “unstinting work in the village with particular emphasis on supporting the elderly and the environment.”

Heather, who at the time was a sprightly 88, was recognised as co-founder of HEAT, a parish councillor and for her close involvement with the Open Gardens scheme and monthly litter picks—both of which have continued to this day.

Heather was also a keen member of Hethersett Friendly Club and Hethersett Society.

Many will also remember Heather for her lovely Scottish accent and pride in coming from North of the Border. Heather was born in Scotland but also lived in India where her father was a tea planter.

She was married to Bill Williamson and they had three children—Sheila Rockeach who lives in California, Gra-



Hat Trick Heroes



The front cover of the March 2016 edition of Hethersett Herald (then just called Hethersett Online) featuring Heather's South Norfolk award.



Heather receives her outstanding contribution award from South Norfolk Council in 2016. With her are BBC television personality Louise Priest and Martin Wilby from South Norfolk Council.

ham Williamson who lives in the Midlands and Don who himself is a pillar of the Hethersett community, being involved in a number of village groups. Heather's daughter in law Bridget is a current Hethersett Parish Councillor and herself a keen environmentalist and a leading light in the village campaign to stop dog mess.

Heather moved to Hethersett in 1999 at the age of 70 and soon became active in village life. She trained as a nurse at the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh. The whole family moved to Canterbury in Kent from Glasgow due to a job move by Bill in 1966.

Bill and Heather then moved back to Scotland from Broadstairs in Kent when Bill retired from his work with Pfizer. Within a year Bill was taken ill and son Donald helped them to move to Hethersett to be close to other relatives.

Heather was mayor of Broadstairs in 1985 and you can see a photograph of this on the next page. Don Williamson paid tribute to his mother in the Eastern Daily Press newspaper, telling them: "To me it was a privilege having such an active community-based mother. She immersed herself in the community very well and was well loved by a lot of people. She was an amazing lady who had such a caring nature."
(Continued on page 33)



Two more photographs of Heather courtesy of her son Don. On the far left Heather with her official regalia from her time as mayor of Broadstairs in Kent and on the right Heather pictured during her nursing days

Parish Council Pays Tribute to Heather

HETHERSETT Parish Council paid tribute to Heather at its March meeting with the following words.

Heather was a founder member of the Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) and was instrumental in brightening up the streets of Hethersett with floral beds, tubs, hanging baskets and even some upcycled decorative wheelbarrows. For several years Heather, together with her trusty dog Bowser, became a familiar sight as she watered these cheery village arrays. She also galvanised gardeners into action for Open Gardens and produced some spectacular portfolios for our "In Bloom" entries. HEAT meetings were sometimes held in Heather's Rowan Garden house over a pot of fortifying tea, and, as a nod to her proud Scottish roots, a large plate of Highland shortbread. She was a very friendly, kind and generous lady. An enthusiastic environmentalist, she helped with tree and bulb planting and promoted HEAT at every opportunity. She enjoyed painting too. "Wild About Hethersett", our local nature observations, published in 2011, is full of her delightful sketches from around the village.

Heather was a leading light amongst Hethersett pensioners, encouraging our local seniors to get out and about and enjoy themselves with afternoon tea, talks, outings and coach holidays. Heather embraced life and encouraged others to do so also.

A dedicated parish councillor for 12 years, Heather was never afraid to speak up for the causes in which she believed. We were so fortunate to have known her. She will be much missed.

Councillors also observed a minute's silence.

(Continued from page 31)

Due to restrictions on funerals because of the Coronavirus a graveside funeral for family members will take place at St Remigius Church on April 3rd. A service of celebration for Heather's life will take place at a later date.

The family are asking for donations in memory of Heather for Hethersett Friendly Club and the Norfolk Association for the Disabled to be sent to Ivan Fisher Funeral Home in Park Drive, Hethersett.

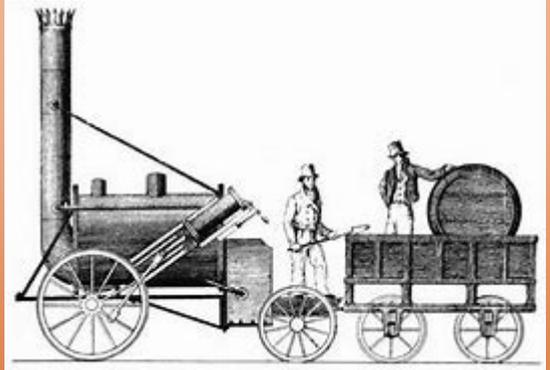
Going Underground

NEWS that a new high speed underground rail system linking London with Norwich and stopping at Hethersett will be welcomed by local residents.

The new line to be named "The Norfolk Underground Flyer" will start in the centre of London and take approximately one hour and five minutes to reach Norwich with stops in Newmarket, Thetford, Attleborough, Wymondham and Hethersett before finishing at a new purpose built station in the centre of Norwich.

The new Hethersett Station will be under the existing B1172. The work is due to commence once the current cycle track is completed and is likely to take five to seven years to complete. The work could necessitate regular bore holes being driven into the B1172 which is likely to be shut for a period of at least 18 months between the start and finish date, the latter of which is likely to be 2025. At other times traffic lights will be used whilst surveys take place. These could take up to five or six months at a time.

Specially commissioned retro trains (like those photographed above) will speed along the track at up to 100 mph - an artist's impression is included above.



More Outstanding Results for Hethersett Academy

NOW for some good news. Hethersett Academy has once again produced one of the top sets of GCSE results in the county with 82% of pupils achieving grade 9-4 passes in English and Maths in 2019.

This was even a rise on the high score of 79% achieved in 2018.

The only schools in Norfolk to outperform Hethersett Academy were Norwich School (100%), Norwich High School for Girls (98%), Thetford Grammar (93%), Greshams (93%), Hethersett Old Hall School (93%) and Wymondham College (84%). It is ironic that high-achieving Hethersett Old Hall School closed its doors shortly after the tests were taken.

Hethersett Academy also did remarkably well in the Progress 8 Scores with a rating of +0.47 which gave them third place overall in the county behind Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston (0.78) and Notre Dame School in Norwich (0.5).

Progress 8 shows the progress students have made between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 with a minus score illustrating pupils underperforming. The scores range from -1 to +1.

Hethersett Academy Principal Gareth Stevens told the Eastern Daily Press newspaper that the school's success is down to hard work and a full education:

"I'm often asked how our school manages to rival independent schools - and the answer is hard work, a rich curriculum and support.

"We also have three extended school days per week where our students can explore music, art and sports.

"It's important that our students have the fullest education possible, including, where we can, the enrichment opportunities offered to children at independent schools."

Shortly after the results were published it was announced that Gareth Stevens would be taking on a new role with Inspiration Trust and that current Vice-Principal Jane Diver will be taking over as Principal from September. You can read more about this on the next two pages.

New Principal for Hethersett Academy

HETHERSETT Academy will have a new principal from September.

But the new head will be no stranger to the school as she is currently vice-principal.

Jane Diver will take over from Gareth Stevens at the start of the new school year. Mr Stevens has been promoted to Secondary Director for Inspiration Trust where he will be working with all the trust's secondary schools to offer advice, guidance and support. Mr Stevens will continue to be based at Hethersett Academy.

He has been principal at Hethersett for seven years during which time the school has received outstanding ratings from Ofsted and greatly enhanced its standing both within the county and nationally.

"I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved at Hethersett Academy and look forward to building on this with the Inspiration Trust's other schools. I'm thankful for the dedication of our team who ensure young people reach their potential—and of course our hardworking students and supportive families. The community really is fantastic," Mr Stevens told the school's official website.

"I'm pleased to say I will still be a familiar face. My new role will be based at Hethersett Academy—the school is very close to my heart after all," he added.

Mr Stevens also paid tribute to the part Ms Diver has played in the school's development: "Ms Diver has played an integral part in the school's improvements and I'm looking forward to seeing it go from strength to strength under her leadership. I'm sure our families will join me in congratulating her on this well-deserved promotion," he said.



Principal Gareth Stevens celebrates an outstanding Ofsted rating in 2016 with pupils. Photograph courtesy of Inspiration Trust

Ms Diver (pictured opposite) said she was delighted by the appointment:

“I’m looking forward to taking over from Mr Stevens to lead our talented teaching team. I’m excited to continue working with families and students to achieve impressive results and deliver a high quality education for everyone that enters our classrooms,” she said.

You can see a copy of the full letter from the Principal below.



Letter from the Principal Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to advise you that, after seven years at Hethersett Academy, I shall be moving role in the summer period to take up a position as Secondary Director within the Inspiration Trust. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved at Hethersett Academy, and look forward to building on this with the Inspiration Trust's other schools as well as ensuring Hethersett Academy continues to be the number one school in East Anglia. I am thankful for the dedication of our team who ensure young people reach their potential, and of course our hardworking students and supportive families. The community really is fantastic, which is why I am pleased to say, I will still be a familiar face. I will continue to have an office at Hethersett and will be visiting frequently; the school is very close to my heart after all.

I will be handing over the leadership of the school to Jane Diver, who will be promoted to Principal commencing on the 1st of September. Ms Diver has played an integral part in the school's improvements and I am looking forward to seeing it go from strength to strength under her leadership. I am sure our families will join me in congratulating Ms Diver on this well deserved promotion.

Ms Diver said: “I am looking forward to taking over to lead our talented teaching team. I am excited to continue working with families and students to achieve impressive results and deliver a high quality education for everyone that enters our classrooms.”

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the staff, students and parents at Hethersett Academy and together, we have seen some tremendous things happening at the Academy. What is most important is that we have seen our young people thrive and succeed and the individual stories of so very many young people, some of whom have overcome great adversity to succeed, are what keep the staff body here passionate about what they do on a daily basis.

It is a genuine pleasure and real privilege to work with your children; I cannot think of a better community of students and staff with whom to work. We know that success is not all about exam results (although achieving record results year on year for the past 6 years is tremendous and one I am very proud of), our website gives you a feel for the many additional things the Academy offers to give students a full and rich curriculum experience, along with the pastoral support which is so beneficial to so many.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the staff and students whom I have the genuine pleasure to work with at Hethersett Academy. Staff at Hethersett Academy are highly professional, committed and dedicated to what they do; they work incredibly hard and absolutely never give up on any student; until the day a young person leaves, they never ever stop believing in them. The relationships formed between students and staff are exceptional and are what makes this Academy so very successful. Students here are vibrant, lively and bubbly; they are passionate and aspirational and they trust their teachers to help them to do the best they can.

We have a great deal to do over the next two terms to ensure that our current group of students achieve as well as so many that have gone before. As well as overseeing the completion of our £9 million expansion programme, I can assure you that we are all completely focused on making this happen and, whilst a change of Principal can be unsettling, I am sure you will agree, Ms Diver is an inspirational Vice Principal and will be an even better Principal. Under Ms Diver's leadership, Hethersett Academy is in very safe hands.

Kind regards

Mr G Stevens

New Council Rates Announced

South Norfolk Council has announced the new council tax rates for the year beginning April 1st.

New rates which were set at a South Norfolk Council meeting on 17th February are as follows:

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Annual	£1,266.82	£1,477.96	£1,689.09	£1,900.23	£2,322.50	£2,744.78	£3,167.05	£3,800.46
Monthly	£105.57	£123.16	£140.76	£158.35	£193.54	£228.73	£263.92	£316.71

The rate includes a precept levied by Hethersett Parish Council and this was set at the January meeting when members agreed to a 34% increase in order to raise an additional £41,000 to help support village infrastructure.

This represents an increase of just under £1.40p per month for a Band D property which will be paying £65.65p a year or £5.47 a month.

The new rate will bring in £157,954 to the village giving the council an additional £40,400 to spend on local services.

“If we want proper infrastructure in the village there is no other way than increasing the precept,” said parish council chairman Adrienne Quinlan in January.

Some of the additional funding could be used to fund a part-time village handyman/administrator post.

Entries Open For July Funrun

ENTRIES are now open for the 10th two mile village funrun in July.

It is expected that this year's Run The Square event on Sunday 12th July could attract a record of over 300 runners/walkers over the two mile course. Entries before the day will this year be exclusively taken via a new web site at

<https://runthesquare.org.uk/>

The event will start and finish outside Rowan House in Queen's Road—a slight change to the usual start due to building work taking place at Hethersett Primary School. The event can cater for up to 500 runners/walkers and entry fees can be paid on the secure website up to midnight on Friday 10th July. After that places can be booked on the day from 9 am until 10.30 am for a £1 per person supplement.

The funrun will take place over closed roads and will go along Queen's Road and part of Great Melton Road before turning left and running the length of Mill Road and then left again into New Road. It will then go along Old Norwich Road past the King's and Queen's Head Public Houses and back to Rowan House. All entrants will be issued with wristbands which can be exchanged at the finish for a special 10th running commemorative medal.

Children under the age of eight must be accompanied by an adult. Fancy dress is encouraged and there will be a prize for the best costume. As usual a digital clock and start/finish gantry will be in place and there will be car parking available at Hethersett Academy. There will be free water bottles for all runners and St John Ambulance will be in attendance. The course will be supervised by Norfolk Police approved marshals and volunteers.

The web site has a clock counting down the days, hours, minutes and seconds to the running.

Organiser Shane Hull explained the rationale and eco benefits of going digital for entries:

“This makes entries secure. All entrants will receive an email receipt and will be handed a wrist band at registration on the day. All finishers wearing a wrist band will receive a special medal at the finish.

“Entrants applying for their place via the website save money and time on the day and guarantee their place for the event which will probably attract record numbers,” he said.

The event is being sponsored by Rowan House Health and Welfare Centre and is supported by both South Norfolk Council and Norfolk County Council. Entry to the event is £4 for adults and £2 for Under-16s.

Run The Square began in 2010 as part of the village pre London 2012 Olympic

Games celebrations. It has run every year since apart from 2019 when it had to be postponed due to a number of factors.

Any queries on the event or anyone who would like to volunteer to help on the day can be addressed directly to Shane Hull via e-mail at

angle_fox@yahoo.co.uk

Please Note that the running of the event is subject to restrictions put in place by the coronavirus being relaxed.



A Charitable Gift

By Connie Tindale

Little Stars is a very small charity that has been based in Hethersett for the past 13 years.

Last year it was fortunate to receive a Legacy which enabled it to extend the assistance it is able to give. While the legacy was intended (but not restricted) to work with children in Egypt it freed up another source of income which could be used for children in the UK.

This has made it possible for us to assist Hethersett Youth Club in buying much needed extra storage space, some badge and card making equipment and new football nets. We hope also to be able to assist in the purchase of further sports equipment in the future.

As chairman of Little Stars I had arranged to meet the youth club's trustees to ascertain what the club's needs were but this had to be cancelled due to Corvid-19 virus isolation rules. It will be rearranged when the emergency is over. Little Stars is also able to make small grants of up to £250 to disabled children for equipment that could enhance their lives.

For more information visit info@littlestars-luxor.org and admin@littlestars-luxor.org

On The Verge of Colour



THE Spring often brings out the best of colours and this delightful display was spotted by our eagle-eyed photographer during a wander round the village.

The verge has been planted with daffodils by local resident Kathee Waterhouse and it certainly improves areas of grass that all too often are left unkempt. When we posted this on Facebook it brought a lot of admiring comments.

So we thought “wouldn’t it be a good idea to encourage more people to use the verges outside their homes for floral displays.”

Do let us know of any other verges in the village that have been improved in a similar fashion and we will take a photograph of them.

Old Hall Celebrates

RESIDENTS living in Hethersett Hall Care Home certainly haven't lost their joie de vivre during the current crisis despite being isolated.

Reports and photographs courtesy of Activities Co-Ordinator Charlotte Govier

Slainté!

On St Patrick's Day the staff and residents of Hethersett Hall enjoyed a delicious Irish menu created by our Head Chef Camelia including turnip soup and traditional Irish stew.

We also decorated the dining room to make the day even more special.

We also marked National Hydration week by making green smoothies to promote the importance of staying hydrated. Our residents were treated to some delicious cakes and cheese scones too.



A special Afternoon Tea

On Mother's Day the residents of Hethersett Hall were treated to a very special afternoon tea, not only to celebrate Mother's Day but also to keep everyone smiling and of course they enjoyed some delicious cakes. Activities staff decorated the library with colourful decorations and laid the tables with fine china sets. We had such a wonderful afternoon and residents complimented our Chef on her great efforts to make a scrumptious selection of scones and sweet treats. We tried our very best to ensure all our residents spoke to their loved ones either over the telephone or a Skype call – which we are doing every week. Our lovely lady residents were presented with some flowers, chocolates and staff shared how truly special our residents are.



Boules Fun!

OUR residents here at Hethersett Hall love to play French Boules!

It's a great chance for everyone to get together to socialise whilst enjoying light exercise and a friendly game. We sometimes

play in teams to enhance friendships and interactions as well as one-to-one games to add light-hearted competition.





A good old sing song

The residents and staff of Hethersett Hall were in good spirits as we joined together to enjoy a sing-a-long.

We waved handkerchiefs and sang our hearts out to a wartime medley with songs such as “It’s a long way to Tipperary”, “You are My Sunshine” and many other well-known classics!

Our residents enjoyed the singing session so much they have requested to have one every week – let’s keep singing and smiling as we do .

The Next edition of Hethersett Herald will be published exclusively on line towards the end of April.

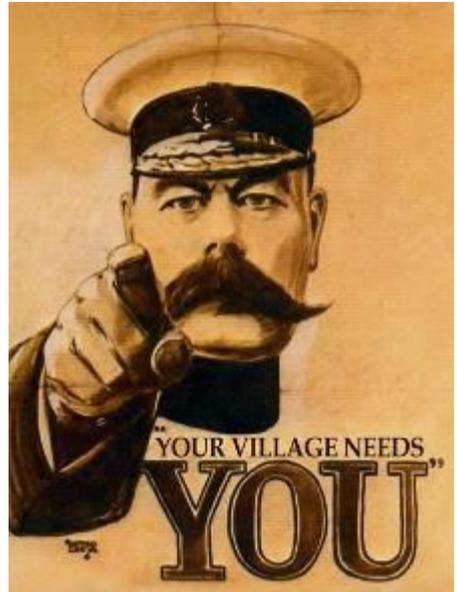
With the coronavirus seriously restricting activity in the village we would be delighted to receive features from residents.

Come and Join Our Club Plea

Young cyclists targeted by top Hethersett Sports Club.

RESIDENTS of Hethersett have been concerned over the past few months about youngsters riding cycles in a dangerous manner along the village roads. There have been a number of instances over the past month of ignorant youngsters doing “wheelies” in the middle of the road in front of cars, apparently oblivious to the dangers both to themselves and motorists.

Now one of the village’s top sports clubs has put out an open invitations to the youngsters “come and join us.”



Secretary of Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club Jenny Melvin took to Facebook to send out the following message.

“It really is the kids we see around the village doing wheelies etc. that we need at our club! There is actually nowhere in Hethersett for our kids to ride their bikes safely. Obviously we don’t want them biking around in the dark with no lights and causing a hazard – or riding down Great Melton Road with no hands, but where can they go?

“I’m sure we’d see a lot more of them around if we didn’t have the gravel pits, and hooray for cycle paths so they can get safely to the skate parks at Wymondham and Eaton Park! But none of those options are good when it gets dark early. It’s not because they want to be dangerous, they just want to get out of the house and do something.

“And what about the kids you don’t see, that are indoors playing on computer games? They all need somewhere to channel that energy and passion and cycle speedway is the place for that. Being involved in a sport that engrosses them, gives them a thrill, uses their energy, builds their fitness, confidence and self-esteem. Mixing with people from different ages and backgrounds, adults and youngsters – they all learn from each other. It’s not like school.

“Even the term ‘club’ probably puts some kids off trying it. By the way it’s not just boys, we need more girls too! We’ve got a growing number of female riders and Hethersett Hawks has the only female cycle speedway referee. Parents see the fun their child is having and join in too.

“Mel Perkins who was awarded an MBE for services to cycle speedway and sport started the club in 1966 and it’s unlike any other sport or club, you need to see it to believe it. And £1 every Tuesday doesn’t break the bank. We want to be on the British Champions board again and we need those kids that are good on their bikes,” Jenny said.

If you are interested in joining Hethersett Hawks—and they take youngsters from the age of five or even less if they are proficient on a bike— just turn up for one of their Tuesday Club Nights which run throughout the spring and summer from 6.30 pm. Newcomers are particularly welcome.

In the light of the current situation Club nights have been temporarily suspended so please check before going via the club’s website at:

www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk.

Residents Asked To Be Vigilant

HETHERSETT Memorial Playing Field Trustees are concerned at a renewed spate of vandalism on the playing field.

The latest round of vandalism has seen damage to one of the football pitches as stated in the March edition of Hethersett Herald. There has also been damage to a waste bin near the cycle speedway track and smashed table tennis bats just two days after the equipment was put out for the new season.

“The trustees have had to deal with an increased spate of vandalism at the field and would ask residents to be vigilant and report any incidents.

“Repairs and preventative measures have been taken and we are aware that the summer sports clubs—bowls, croquet and cycle speedway— will be in full swing from April,” said trustee Mel Perkins.

Editor’s Note: Once again activities at the bowls, croquet and cycle speedway clubs may be affected by the Coronavirus. Please check with the individual clubs about the latest position.

Walnut Tree Is Regenerated



THE massive Walnut tree ripped out of the ground by the January storms has been cut right down and replanted in the same position. It is hoped that the tree will regenerate. The photo opposite was taken during the destructive storms and below is a picture of the regenerated tree.



Alternative Discussions

REPRESENTATIVES from the Little Melton Bus Campaign Group have had a meeting with Hethersett Academy Principal Gareth Stevens to discuss alternative ways of getting youngsters from Little Melton to the school once regular transport stops in September.

Jessica Cole, who is leading the campaign, said:

“We had a meeting with Mr Stevens when a number of items were discussed. Mr Stevens checked if a non employee could drive the school bus. Unfortunately the insurance only covers school employees.



“He did speak to Dolphin Coaches for us who have come back with a quote of £50 a day. This equates to £9,300 for a calendar year which would be split between 28 students. This works out at about £332 each a year or about £2.30 per child per day,” Jessica said adding that the group would have to find out how many people would be willing to use such a service to judge whether it would be a viable option.

The Principal was also asked about opening for extended hours to help Little Melton children:

“We were told it wouldn’t be possible to open the school any earlier than 8 am but the children could use the school library until 4.30 pm but this wouldn’t be officially supervised,” Jessica said.

The group will also be looking at the possibility of more cycle proficiency training: “It would be great to be able to give our children more skills and confidence to cycle,” Jessica added.

The group decided at a previous public meeting to make a final appeal against the Norfolk County Council decision and to this end members are undertaking further car and vehicle counts of the stretch of road between Little Melton and Hethersett Academy which has been deemed “safe” for children to walk/cycle along.

Soaper Heroes

YOUNGSTERS from Hethersett Woodside School have been leading the fight to keep the Coronavirus away from Hethersett.

An article in the Eastern Daily Press newspaper explained how Hethersett youngsters are supporting a Norfolk County Council initiative aimed at getting early years and primary school pupils to wash their hands thoroughly, especially at meal times.

“Soaper Heroes was launched by Norfolk County Council at Woodside Primary and Nursery School before being rolled out to pre-schools, nurseries, childminders and schools across the county.

Angela Jermy, headteacher of Hethersett Woodside Primary and Nursery, told the Eastern Daily Press newspaper: “We all want our children to stay safe from Coronavirus and teaching them how they can protect themselves and others is vital.

“The fact that these easy measures can be so effective means there's no excuse for even our youngest pupils not to be following the advice and helping stop the spread the disease, so we're making sure they're doing their part; now it's down to the rest of us to follow their example.”

Diane Steiner, deputy director of Public Health at Norfolk County Council, said: “While there's a lot of hard work going on to be ready for the coronavirus, for most people the easy steps are still the best.

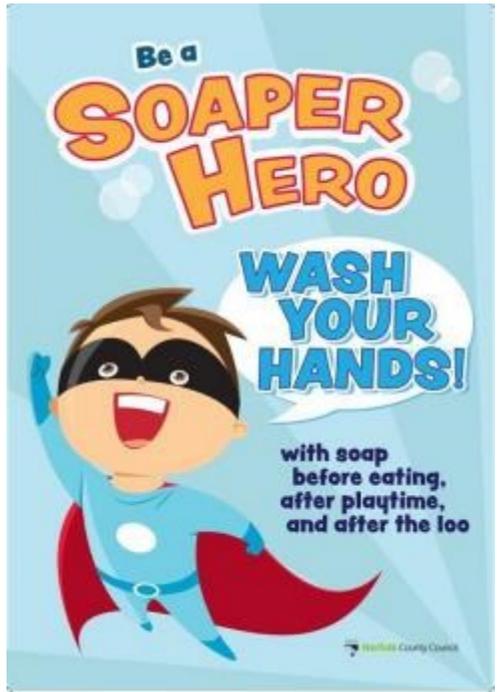


Pupils at Hetheringset Woodside School along with Deputy Director of Public Health for Norfolk County Council Diane Steiner (back left) and Assistant Headteacher at the school Nicola Ingham help launch the campaign from Norfolk County Council. Picture: Norfolk County Council.

Washing your hands and avoiding touching your face may sound basic, but they can have a huge impact on slowing the spread of the virus, limiting the number of cases and keeping cases at manageable levels. If you want to prepare for Coronavirus, start with soap and water.

“We want to make sure that schools and communities in Norfolk have easy access to the latest advice and that it is presented in a way that they will find both engaging and accessible.”

EDITOR’S NOTE: The above story was written before the Coronavirus began to bite and before the news that all schools would be closing from March 20th. We felt it important to carry this story as a shining example of how youngsters were leading the fight against the virus.



A Fowl Escapologist

Associate Editor Hannah Harrison reports on a strange escape artist who has brought a smile to many faces during these tough times.

IT'S not all doom and gloom. A very special lady has been wandering around Hethersett cheering people up with her escaping skills.

Houdini Hen has been found patrolling Deacon Drive, Hughes Court and Baker Drive to name just a few.

Shannon Aldred posted on the Facebook group All Things Hethersett, to say that the hen had literally walked into her house on Deacon Drive





like she owned the place! They spent a bit of time together then HH moved on.

She's also been found a couple of times at Graeme Taylor's house in Deacon Drive, under close observation by his two dogs.

Lauren Bonner found HH on Deacon Drive a week or so ago and took her home for a play-date with her daughter Flo whilst waiting for her owner, Sarah, to collect her.

As much as we want HH to stay safe and away from cars, and as much as her owners don't actually want her to keep escaping, I'll miss seeing her adventures around the village if her Houdini skills are ever challenged. At what is an awful time for many, her presence is very much needed in cheering us all up!

Thanks for the giggles, Houdini Hen. You are Hethersett famous now!



Where Are The Best Deals?

THERE are few things more annoying than paying over the odds for petrol. So as part of a new consumer service at Hethersett Herald we will be looking at petrol prices for a number of filling stations within a five mile radius of Hethersett.

Petrol Watch

Each month we will be surveying petrol prices on the 26th of each month. There could of course be fluctuations on the costs after this date but it will act as an indicator as to where you will find the cheapest (and most expensive) fuel.

This month we checked prices on Thursday March 26th. The best value for a litre of unleaded was at Asda on Hall Road in Norwich where the price was 114.7p. The most expensive was Thickthorn Services at £127.9.

The cheapest for diesel was again Asda on Hall Road at 116.7. Thickthorn was again the most expensive at 131.9., although it was the same price at Abbeygate and Waitrose in Wymondham.

Our table below shows prices at eight garages within easy travelling distances of Hethersett. These are the garages we will be regularly checking on.

	Unleaded	Diesel
Asda Hall Road, Norwich	114.7	116.7
Tesco Express, Earlham Road, Norwich	114.9	118.9
Sainsbury's Queen's Road Norwich	117.9	119.9
Tesco Harford Bridges, Norwich	116.9	118.9
Sainsbury's Longwater, Norwich	115.9	118.9
Abbeygate Wymondham	126.9	131.9
Waitrose Wymondham	126.9	131.9
Thickthorn Services, Hethersett	127.9	131.9

LATE NEWS:

Just before going to publication we heard that work on the Hethersett cycleway on the B1172 has stopped. The site will be made safe with the temporary traffic lights removed along with barriers and cones in order to re-open the road to two way traffic. The site will be regularly checked to ensure it is safe.

Social Media Watch

Supporting Families Online

A NEW Facebook page has been set-up aimed at helping families to cope.

Hethersett Parents Community Group has been set-up by Sarah Lawrence who is regularly featured for her work throughout the village. Sarah is also one of the administrators of the All Things Hethersett Facebook page.

“Whether you are awake through the night with a new born, climbing the walls with a toddler, tearing your hair out with a teenager or anything in between, if you are a parent or carer in Hethersett this group is for you. We aim to promote and discuss local events and activities for children and young people, discuss youth community matters, facilitate the organisation and promotion of ‘meet ups’, reunite lost toys and clothing etc with their owners and anything else relevant that crops up,” Sarah said.

Hethersett Parents Community Group is an independent site, but supportive of the various organisations and institutions for children and young people in the village and everyone is welcome to join. You can find it at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/234891887683354/>

Letter to The Editor

If you would like to make any comments on articles written in Hethersett Herald, please contact the editor Peter Steward at petersteward@lineone.net

Dear Editor

Although I am not a Hethersett Resident I read your magnificent Newspaper.

Just as a comment - although the Ketteringham tip is so convenient, if it moves to Harford the reduction of traffic through Ketteringham will be of considerable benefit to the village.

There has been a noticeable increase following all the new building in Wymondham and Hethersett.

Robert George

Finding Out About Crimes in Hethersett

You can find out about crimes in Hethersett by going to the Norfolk Constabulary web site or by typing in <https://www.police.uk/norfolk/D13/crime>.

This URL will show a map of the Hethersett and Mulbarton area which can then be extended to show Hethersett and the crimes in specific locations.

At the present time crimes recorded up to January of this year are featured. These include five cases of anti-social behaviour, six cases of violence or sexual offences, three cases of criminal damage or arson and one case of shoplifting.

Over the page you can find out how to contact the Hethersett and Mulbarton Safer Neighbourhood Team. Please note the proposed police surgery scheduled for March 28th in Hethersett Library has been cancelled.

Random Act Of Kindness



WHEN South Norfolk Police returned to their vehicle on March 11th they found an unexpected gift and note informing them they had been hit by a “random act of kindness.”

“We want to say a big thank you to Stacey, Summer and Ollie, who left a note and two packets of sweets on one of our vehicles in Norwich. This random act of kindness is greatly appreciated,” said PC Andrew Hudson of South Norfolk Police.

HOW TO CONTACT US

HETHERSETT & MULBARTON Safer Neighbourhood Team



A/Insp. Dave BURKE
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: 4151



David.Burke@norfolk.pnn.police.uk



PC Andy HUDSON
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: 2377



Andrew.Hudson@norfolk.police.uk



PC Chris BODEN
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: 2955



Christopher.Boden@norfolk.pnn.police.uk



SNTHethersett@norfolk.pnn.police.uk



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



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



Jo's Special Hug



TALENTED Hethersett artist Jocelyn Jacobson is going international with her latest work which is pictured above. The painting has been selected for the 40th Anniversary of Independence Exhibition that was due to take place in April at the National Gallery in Jo's native Zimbabwe. This date has now been put back due to the coronavirus pandemic but it is hoped it will take place later in the year. The painting is entitled "The Hug" - a title that seems particularly apt in these testing times—and Jo admitted that she was "very excited" at the thought of having her work exhibited in such a prestigious venue.

Ginger Johnson—Striker Extraordinaire



THE above photograph is thought to be of a Hethersett football team probably around the late 1930s. It comes from the excellent Norfolk in Old Photographs and Postcards Facebook site and was posted by Jason Utting and is reproduced with his permission.

In the back row (second from the right) is his Great Uncle Ralph “Ginger” Johnson who we have featured on a number of occasions in Hethersett Herald. Ralph, who died when he was in his 90s, still holds the record for the fastest goal ever scored at Carrow Road—10 seconds.

Jason believes that the man standing next to Ralph in the coat is Dick Burgess. Jason remembers him running a farm shop in Hethersett in the 1970s. Jason also posted on social media that his mother, who was Ralph’s niece, was at the game along with Ralph’s mother. They missed the goal as they were just taking their seats.

Ralph was born in Hethersett on 15th April, 1922. His appearances for Norwich were severely cut by the intervention of the Second World War. He was 17 at the outbreak of war. Many fans of the day believed that he was so good that he would have rampaged through defences in peace time football. As it was he scored 123 goals in 107 matches during the war. This included five hat-tricks, two four goal hauls and two five goal hauls as well as two double hat-tricks which were scored against the R.A.F and R.E.M.E. He once scored in 19 successive Norwich City games and in 24 out of 25 games. He made his full Nor-

wich City debut at Portman Road against Ipswich Town in September 1946. It was 19th October, 1946, that Ralph scored his lightning goal against Orient. Ironically Ralph went on to have a brief spell with Orient after leaving Norwich.

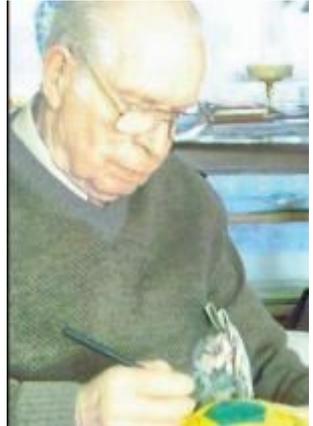
Back in 2007 he had this to say about his goal:

“I tapped the ball to Noel Kinsey and he played it back to me and I hit it from close to the halfway line. It could have gone into the river or the stands, but on this occasion it did a Beckham and sailed into the net. My mother was there and thought it had been a false start when Orient kicked off.”

Norwich went on to win that game 5-0.

His official stats do not do justice to his ability as a goalscorer as they show that he played 23 times for the Canaries and scored 10 goals. Ralph passed away on 23rd April, 2013.

If anyone can give a more precise date to the photo or identify more of the players we would love to hear from them.



Ralph Johnson photographed at his Hethersett home in a picture taken by the editor.

Virus Humour

DESPITE desperate times, there was still plenty of humour around on Social Media. Three of our favourites posted by Hethersett residents on Social Media were these:

“I’ve just told the Missus to throw a dart at a world map and whenever the Covid-19 virus is over we can go on a two week holiday, looks like we’re spending two weeks behind the fridge.”

“The clocks go forward this weekend—About four months should do it.”

And finally we hear that John Travolta was rushed to hospital with suspected coronavirus. Thankfully it only turned out to be Saturday Night Fever and a bulletin from the hospital said the he is “Stayin’ Alive.”

The Strange Lack of Bustle

The announcement during the month that Norfolk Constabulary has bought the former Old Hall School on the B1172 brings to an end an era. Recently the contents of the school were auctioned off. Hethersett Parish Councillor Stephen Slack went along and sent us this report of a rather eerie event.

WANDERING around an empty school, with no sight or sound of the familiar hustle and bustle of staff or children is a strange, almost eerie, experience and that odd feeling was never more apparent than during a visit to Hethersett Old Hall School at the recent auction of its contents.

It reminded me of the Marie Celeste, the American brigantine discovered adrift and deserted in the Atlantic Ocean in 1872, seaworthy and amply provisioned, but with no sign of its lifeboat and crew. The school looked as though it had simply been abandoned on the last day of term with everything left where it had last been used. It was a rather sad atmosphere.

The Eastern Daily Press carried an article about what was described as the silent auction of the contents and I can't have been the only one puzzled by that description.

Some people may have seen the auction as a last chance for a nostalgic visit to the school and others might even have considered bidding for some of the items.





But if they were they would have been disappointed because the auction had actually finished the day before the local paper published the report.

The auction was described as “silent” because there was no auctioneer encouraging bidders, no banging gavel or cry of “sold”. Instead each of the 160 lots were made up of the itemised contents of separate rooms.

Potential buyers went around the site to examine the contents of each room before recording a minimum and maximum bid for any lots that interested them. If, for example, somebody fancied making a bid for a grand piano, they would have headed for the Production Area in the Barn to view Lot 58.

In addition to the C. Bechstein Piano, a successful bid for that Lot would have also paid for 53 other items, ranging from an impressive variety of sound equipment, a



church lectern, a guitar, assorted bits of furniture, (including three school desks, a bookcase, assorted chairs and cabinets) and one plastic bin and a first aid kit.

Not surprisingly, the principal interest in the lots came from other schools, who were the main people to have been invited to the auction. I went looking for bargains on behalf of one of several whose representatives were picking through all the paraphernalia that had helped the Old Hall schoolteachers teach and the children learn.

Judging from the names on the sides of a succession of school minibuses arriving in the car park, several buyers were drawn from other local fee-paying schools and there were browsers that seemed to be dealers looking to profit from the pickings. Each visitor was clutching a copy of the 80 page booklet describing the 160 lots.

Rooms varied in both size and content, ranging from the largest and fullest to the smallest with just a few contents. People browsed around the Sports Hall, main school hall, workshops, art rooms, music rooms, subject specific classrooms, the library, games stores, staff room and sixth form common room, the boarder accommodation and administration areas.

Some small rooms were grouped together in lots, described by the various names that had been used by the school. My curiosity was aroused by lot 98, which listed the contents of a room and WC used by a named member of staff, a personal touch that was a sad reminder that the demise of the school had impacted upon the lives of real people.

In many rooms there were contents that seemed out of their natural place in the school and perhaps showed how hurried and unplanned the final closure was, with items like a table tennis bat in the library and a box of assorted Wellington boots in a Music Room.

Those that wanted to leave a list of bids, sealed their offer in an envelope and left it at the reception desk. When the auction was over, the envelopes were opened and the highest bidders notified of their successes. I wonder who got the grand piano.

Presumably, with purchased lots collected and unwanted items cleared away, the building now stands as an empty shell, waiting for the next chapter in its story to begin.

EDITOR'S NOTE—As we now know that next chapter belongs with Norfolk Constabulary who have purchased the site as a training facility. The full story of that purchase is featured elsewhere in this edition of Hethersett Herald.

Another Act of Kindness

WE just love highlighting acts of kindness and you will find examples of these dotted throughout this edition of Hethersett Herald. When it comes to acts of random kindness they don't come much better than our report below.

WHEN Victoria Redington retired from the post of Head of Hethersett Old Hall School she thought she had seen the last of a rather nice “pie crust table” which sat outside her study for years.

She always admired its shape and design and had thought about buying it at the silent auction but, as we have seen in Stephen Slack's report on the previous pages, lots were grouped together by rooms.

That's where two former pupils—Sarah Atkins and Sarah Hardesty Austin—stepped in through the pages of Facebook. They set off on a “special mission” designed to re-unite Mrs Redington and the table (pictured opposite).

Through the magic of the Hethersett Old Hall Former Pupils and Staff Facebook group, the two Sarahs contacted the new owners Ann and Christopher

Joice who had bought the table as part of a larger lot and they agreed not only to sell it but also to deliver it to Mrs Redington at her new home in Southwold. The Joice's daughters had been at Old Hall School whilst Mrs Redington was Head.

A knock on the door and Mrs Redington opened it to find her wonderful surprise which is now taking pride of place in her home.

Mrs Redington admitted that the kindness had left her “reeling.”

“I am still slightly reeling at this so lovely, generous and kind gift. Sarah Atkins and Sarah Hardesty you are both very special,” she said on the Facebook page.

Have you enjoyed a random act of kindness. If so we would love to hear from you.



Frying Tonight In Hethersett



FRYING tonight—well on Mondays anyway.

Paul Hill and Simon Place (how appropriate is that name) will be in the car park of Hethersett Village Hall on Mondays from 4.30 pm until 8 pm with their fish and chip van. Their first visit on March 16th saw a steady stream of people enjoy the new service and a number of complimentary comments were left on village Facebook pages.



Paul and Simon produce a full menu which includes fish, scampi, chips, mushy peas and much more. The duo are now working six days a week around the South Norfolk area and are based at Hingham. Our photograph above shows Simon (left) and Paul (right) hard at work at Hethersett Village Hall.

NEWS UPDATE—Paul and Simon are looking at the possibility of also being in Hethersett on Fridays once the current virus crisis is over.

...And Still We Wait

THERE is a touch of impatience in the village air as we wait renovations to and the re-opening of Hethersett King's Head.

As our photograph illustrates, nothing has been done at the pub despite promises that it would re-open either in February or "early in the New Year."

A considerable amount of work both inside and outside still needs to be done and there has been no sight of work beginning.

We contacted owners Ei Publican Partnerships to ask the basic question: "When will work start to renovate and re-open Hethersett King's Head?" Ei have leased the building to the relatively new company Norfolk Table Ltd.

At the time of going to publication we had received an acknowledgement of our request but no answers although the Coronavirus has probably intervened and will set the opening date back considerably. The photographs here were taken at the beginning of March.



Classics of Back Lane

The sixth in a series featuring a literary gem found in the Back Lane Book Swap. Books found during a wander along the lane. If course by the time you read this the featured book may have gone.

With Penelope Brown

No. 6 – The Hundred Year Old Man who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared by Jonas Jonasson

Allan Karlsson is about to celebrate his 100th birthday, and his retirement home is planning to throw a party. Allan is not interested. Instead, he climbs out of the window and disappears. He walks to the bus station, intending to travel as far as his available cash will allow. There he meets a young man with a suitcase too large to take into the toilet with him. The man goes in, rudely demanding that Allan look after the case. But Allan's bus arrives, and he decides to board taking the case with him. It turns out to be full of illegal drugs money, and Allan is chased by the drug gang as well as by the police who are treating him

as a missing person. He gets caught up in various criminal activities, eventually escaping when the man from the bus station is accidentally trapped in a freezer, his body ending up in a container destined for Ethiopia. An elephant crushes another member of the gang, his remains being inadvertently sent to Latvia in the boot of a Ford Mustang.

In parallel with Allan's adventures as a centenarian, the novel includes flashbacks to increasingly fantastic episodes from his younger days. As a young man Allan had worked in a dynamite factory, helped make an atom bomb, became friends with American presidents, Russian tyrants and Chinese leaders, and was a participant behind the scenes in many key events of the twentieth century. This is a fun and feel good book for readers of all ages.

The Back Lane Book Swap is an ideal place to find your next read. Books are left, taken or swapped constantly so if you haven't visited yet please do, or visit the Facebook page on Back Lane Book Swap – Hethersett.



Children's books move particularly quickly so donations of reads for little ones are always most welcome.

Also found in The Book Swap this month:

Crocodile Tears – Anthony Horowitz, The Undomestic Goddess – Sophie Kinsella, Warriors of the Storm – Bernard Cornwell.

The Escape – David Baldacci, The Broker – John Grisham, Even Money – Dick Francis and Felix Francis.

A Vintage Wedding – Katie Fforde, No Further Questions – Gillian McAllister, Mythos – Stephen Fry.

Screen Closes Down

THE decision has been taken to cancel the two remaining showings scheduled by the Hethersett Village Screen group in the light of the Coronavirus epidemic.

The group has decided to call off screenings of "Official Secrets" on 19th April and "A Royal Night Out" on 10th May due to safety precautions. Those were the last two scheduled films for the current season. The group say that they will be back with a new programme in the Autumn and we will have details of this as soon as they are available.

Over 40 people attended what, unknowingly, turned out to be the last film of the 2019/2020 season-The Good Liar on 8th March. The film featured outstanding performances from Dame Helen Mirren and Sir Ian McKellen with plenty of twists to keep the audience involved. The main film was preceded by archive footage of a train journey from London to Edinburgh in the 1950s and an animated short.

The cancelled May film "A Royal Day Out" was scheduled to be part of the village's VE celebrations which have also been cancelled.



An Interesting Find



HETHERSETT Herald reader and well known local personality Peter Hoult recently came across works by Russell Reeve in a Suffolk gallery and was intrigued to find that the artist was born in Hethersett.

This was certainly the case. Reeve was born in our village in 1895 and attended the Norwich School of Art in 1908, later training to become an architect in the Norwich City Engineers' Department from 1908-1914.

During the First World War, he was a lieutenant with the Royal Engineers in France. He then attended the Slade School of Art from 1919 to 1922 and became an authority in figure drawing.

He made his home in London but regularly drew the animals, landscapes and people of Suffolk where much of his family lived. Later the Mediterranean became one of his biggest influences. Today his works have been acquired by many top museums and galleries including the Royal Academy, the Tate Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Imperial War Museum. The reproduction above depicts the Felixstowe to Ipswich Coach and is courtesy of the Colchester and Ipswich Museums Service: Ipswich Borough Council Collection.

There is No Planet B

Taking Small Steps to Save the Planet

With the imminent arrival of spring, the warmer weather will be encouraging us all out into the garden. In the second of a series of articles, Penelope Brown looks at changes we can make outside and ways that we can create more environmentally friendly gardens.

Plant to make a wildlife friendly garden.

With the decline of the population of bees and other pollinating insects it is more important for us to try to make our gardens insect friendly. Pack as many flowers as possible into your garden, from flowering bulbs to late flowering perennials. It is important to choose flowers that insects can make use of, the big showy heads of many newer varieties make it impossible for insects to get to the nectar - petals grow at the expense of nectar and pollen. Cornflowers, asters, calendulas, marigolds and nasturtiums are all a great start.

Give space to the weeds.

Weeds are some of the best plants for pollinating insects. Buttercups, daisies, dandelions and foxgloves flower for a long time, produce a lot of nectar and survive in poor growing conditions. Don't be too tidy around the garden, spiders and earwigs live under dead plants and they in turn keep the aphids in check.

Leave an area of lawn unmown and make use of grass clippings.

Pristine green, short lawns are not at all insect friendly. If possible, don't mow an area of lawn for most of the summer. Long grass is important for butterflies to lay eggs in. Use the lawn clippings of areas that you have cut as mulch on flower beds, this helps to condition the soil and encourage earthworms and conserves moisture. Do not apply more than two inches of clippings at a time. Another great use of grass clippings is to make a fantastic organic liquid feed for your plants. To make this liquid fertiliser fill two thirds of a bucket with the clippings, fill the bucket with water and cover. Let it steep for three days or more (depending on what you can stomach – it will stink!), giving it a stir from time to time. Drain off the liquid and use the solids as mulch or compost them. Use the liquid as a feed, either into the soil, or sprayed as a foliage spray on to the leaves.

Grow climbers.

Ivy is a very useful plant for wildlife. Both the flowers and seeds are good sources of food and pollen. Plus, it provides year round cover for the birds and

insects. Clematis and roses are also excellent climbers for wildlife and provide safe havens for many species – remember to choose varieties that have flowers that the insects can get into. Clematis varieties such as ‘Early Sensation’ and ‘Edouard Desfosse’ are examples which insects can utilise. Single headed roses are equally useful.

Make an insect hotel.

Safe hideaways can be hard for wildlife to find in some gardens and what better use for all your garden waste and odds and ends? Build a basic structure out of old pallets or offcuts of wood and fill the caps with any of the following:

- Straw
- Moss
- Dry leaves
- Woodchips
- Old terracotta pots
- Old roofing tiles
- Bricks with holes through them
- Old logs
- Bark
- Pinecones
- Sand
- Soil
- Hollow bamboo canes
- Stems from shrubs



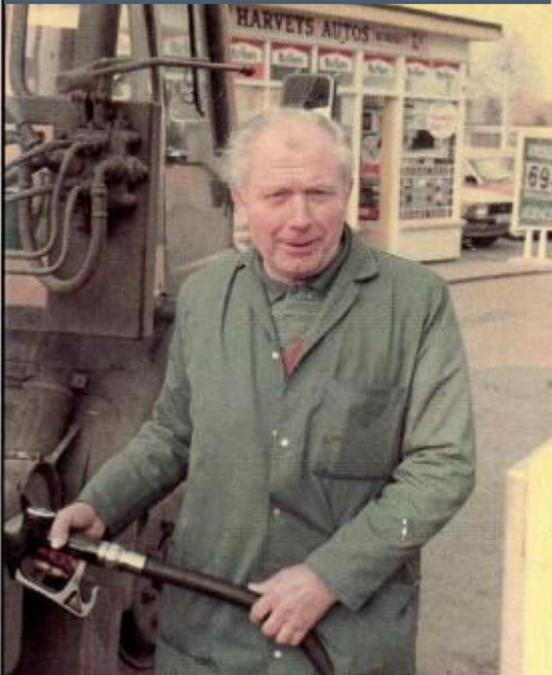
Provide water for wildlife.

By providing water in our gardens we not only provide vital drinking water but also shelter and breeding grounds for amphibians like newts, frogs and toads. Butterflies get valuable minerals and salts from slightly muddy water, and birds use water to bathe and remove parasites.

Water can be provided in any container, but it is important to ensure there is a way for animals to get out especially if you have sunk the container at ground level. Providing steps using stones or bricks is ideal.

We also have a new regular gardening slot written by Associate Editor Roger Morgan which you can find on page 98

Gentleman Brian Remembered



Brian Denmark pictured with granddaughter Emma. Writing on Facebook, Emma referred to Brian as: "The kindest most caring grandad. We will cherish all the lovely memories you have made RIP Grandad you made us all proud in everything that you did and we are going to miss you so much." Many people will remember Brian from his time manning the pumps at Harvey's Garage.

HETHERSETT said goodbye to a very special man on Friday, 13th March.

The funeral service for Brian Denmark was held at St Remigius Church.

Brian's life surrounded friendship and love, said Rev Derek McClean in talking about his warmth of personality and his caring attitude.

Rev Christopher Mallett read out tributes written by Brian's sons - Chris and Michael - and grandchildren, summing up his love of life and the love he gave out as a husband, brother, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

Brian was born in Hethersett on 6th July, 1930, and lived for much of his life in Grove Road. He was married to Ruth for 63 years and played a big part in



village life, being a member of Hethersett Society, Hethersett Friendly Club where he used to drive people to and Hethersett Horticultural Society where he was renowned for his prize-winning onions. Last year Brian won first prize for the largest marrow at the annual show. Brian was also a keen bowls and snooker player, often organising bowls tournaments in his back garden.

His grandchildren particularly remembered him for his enthusiasm for gardening and involving them. Many others will remember having their car filled up at Harvey's Garage on Old Norwich Road by Brian in the days before automated pumps took over.

Brian also did national service in Korea in the late 1940s.

Donations at the funeral service in memory of Brian will be sent to the Alzheimer's Society.

The family photograph above featured in the order of service booklet for the funeral and on the previous page Brian is pictured filling up a car at Harvey's garage on the Old Norwich Road. The garage was knocked down many years ago and replaced with blocks of flats.

Remembering Albert Ringer

Hethersett Herald Associate Editor Hannah Harrison remembers a “special man” who lit up the village.



I'M sure that I don't need to tell you all who Albert Ringer was. If you didn't know him by name then you would know him as the gentleman in a long beige coat, flat cap and a bag for life who would walk to Tesco Express four times a day.

Hethersett hasn't been and will never be the same without Albert. Since he passed away from cancer on the 11th March 2019, he has left a hole in the village that cannot be filled. I'm not the only one who has said exactly this. People will miss his booming voice shouting across the road “HELLO! ARE YA ALROIGHT?” in his thick Norfolk accent.

Albert lived in Hethersett for all of his 74 years, in the same house at 2, Norwich Road. He lived for many years with his parents, Eddie and Nora. He continued living in the same house alone from 1999 when his mother passed away.

Albert went to Hethersett Junior School, then Costessey High. Once he'd left

school, Albert worked at Mobbs Miller factory in Norwich for 14 years where he made wooden lasts for shoes. He then worked at the Briton Brush Factory until 1985 when he started just down the road as a cleaner at Hethersett High School. He continued working at the school part time, cleaning and emptying the bins until he finally retired at 70 years old.

Albert told me of his work history almost every time I saw him! I attempted to tell him a few times that he'd already told me but then I learned to just let him tell me again. Oh how I wish he were around now, telling me about his work history, again!

He spoke to everyone he saw, he didn't discriminate.

Albert loved jigsaw puzzles and once hauled me into his house from the street just to show me his progress on a puzzle, he was so pleased with himself. I

had every intention of buying him a jigsaw puzzle and helping him with it whilst we sat with a cup of tea, particularly when Tesco shut for a month and he was no doubt lonely. But, as with most things I plan to do, I never got the time to follow through with it before he passed, something that I have since deeply regretted.

I didn't really know much about Albert until after he passed. I just spoke to him most days about nothing in particular. He was such an important part of my day as I'm sure many of you will agree. Regardless of what happens to his cottage, (which is actually owned by the Back family, Albert and his family rented it the whole time!) I will always walk past and expect to see him frantically waving at the kitchen window. I recently met up with Ray and Rosemary, two of Albert's cousins whom he spoke of fondly, to chat about Albert before I wrote this memorial piece. I said to them that whilst I don't believe in ghosts, if anyone were to ever come back as a ghost it would be Albert, walking to and from Tesco! And what a welcome ghost that would be.

Rosemary sent me some photos of Albert after our meeting for me to include in this article. It's lovely to see Albert as a child and a young man. So many of us



only know him as the previously mentioned gentleman in a long coat and flat cap!

Ray and Rosemary speak of Albert as fondly as he did of them. They regularly visited him and/or took him back to theirs. Ray speaks about Albert's tea drinking habits which really made me laugh. He said that Albert would fill his tea cup to the brim every single time, then would stir it like a mad man before noisily slurping at the tea until it was more manageable, Ray would give anything to have Albert back, slurping away, even though he found it so annoying!

As I've mentioned, whenever I saw Albert he would usually say the same thing. I'd get his work history but not before hearing him shout my name from wherever he was, I'd ask him how he was "Ow I'm alright, 'cept for my flamin' ankle!" then he'd moan that the doctors are useless and just palm you off with tablets. One thing he never spoke about was the cancer. I didn't know about it until he looked really poorly one day, Rosemary was with him and told me what was happening. He still insisted that it was his ankle causing him trouble. I guess that was his way of dealing with it.

On the year anniversary of his death, Reverend Derek McClean kindly said I could set myself up at St Remigius to host a small session of remembrance for Albert with tea, cakes and Mini Cheddars (of course!). Unfortunately, only two people showed up, but it was a weekday so I think that most people who wanted to attend would have been at work. Nonetheless it was a lovely few hours remembering him. The two people who attended were Fred and Margaret Morrad who lived opposite Albert. They were dear friends of his and speak of him so warmly, they miss him very much and are saddened to see work being done to the cottage where Albert lived for so long. We spent an hour reminiscing about Albert and talking about Hethersett over the years. We had a few cakes and cheddars, then Fred and Margaret left to carry on with their day. I stayed a moment or two longer to tidy up and to visit his grave, I tidied that up a bit too and laid some flowers for him, I also left him a cake and some Mini Cheddars.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Ray and Rosemary, for speaking to me about Albert for so long, for allowing me to write this memorial piece and for treating me like a dear friend since I met them at Albert's funeral just over a year ago. I am in regular contact with Rosemary who is a wonderful lady, so very kind. They've both given me such an insight into Albert's life that I wouldn't have known about otherwise. I can make a promise to them that Albert will never be forgotten by the people of Hethersett, he is part of its history.

One thing I've been thinking recently is that Albert would have hated this coronavirus lockdown, only being allowed out once a day for exercise and only essential trips to the shop. He really wouldn't have coped especially not being able to see his beloved friends. So, I am glad that he hasn't had to live through this, especially as he would have been very high risk.

Many people on the Facebook group All Things Hethersett have said lovely things about Mr Ringer;



Sam Jo Larwood Woodcock said: “Albert was my neighbour and he always made me laugh and always jumped out of his door to have a chat, normally about the weather and the same things everyday but I loved him for it! He always got my bin in and out for me and always came for a chat in the garden in the summer when I sat out there. He would soon have something to say if he didn't agree with something that was happening around him and always went to the shop about three times a day. Really lovely man! He had always lived in that house with his mother, it's all he knew, miss him loads!”

Lisa Ward said: “Albert was a happy soul, he always said hello in passing. A smiley face around the village who is missed dearly”

Sarah Lawrence, who works at Hethersett Tesco, said: “I miss how you could hear him before you'd see him, “HELLO HOW'S YOU?” from a distance. And his love of Birds Eye chicken and veg pies (he was appalled when Tesco stopped doing them) and Mini Cheddars. Can't look at those two items without thinking about him!”

June Key said: “Albert was a character of our village and always had time to stop for a chat, and one in a million, would always make you smile, sadly missed”

Lilia Mercer said: “He used to stand outside Hethersett Junior School and would say to my mum he wished he could ride a bike like she could, such a lovely man”

Work Starts To Make Hethersett Bloom

Hethersett in Bloom was officially launched at a meeting in Hethersett Library on 10th March. Here Jill Williams reports on that meeting.

WORK has started on the Hethersett in Bloom project. Following a positive meeting held at Hethersett Library on 12th March, we have started to work on the first part of our Hethersett in Bloom activity. We have chosen to begin on the shady planting at the Woodcote sheltered housing complex.

This is 14 square metres in size, giving us scope to display our design and horticultural skills. First we will be removing some weeds and some unwanted small shrubs. Then, by the end of March, we will be planting the area with snowdrops, ferns, geraniums, heuchera, ajuga, and various grasses which flourish in shade. There are two birches in place, so our woodland edge planting should look natural and fit in well. To make it more naturalistic in appearance we will use an intermingled approach, rather than planting in blocks and drifts as we will do in the sunny areas.

In April we will move onto planting up the sunny areas. Here the preparation work will be skimming off some existing lawn. On the larger area (18 square metres) we will be planting sedums, purple loosestrife, salvias, echinacea and nepeta, (between them producing purple, blue, pink and white flowers) along with a selection of wafty grasses. There is a triangular area, half the size, separate but connected to this main section. Here we will be planting achillea, crocosmia, red hot pokers, rudbeckia and geums, all in fiery yellows, oranges and reds. As these plantings face south, we expect them to really shine in the sun and lift the spirits.

In May we will be planting up the raised beds outside the Methodist Church. We are in the process of negotiating our third area of planting. We will report more on that next time.

We have a small working party, friendly and approachable. Now the weather is warming up it's getting really pleasant to be out of doors and creating something that wasn't there before.

Why not come and join us? We welcome all ages, from anywhere in Hethersett. You don't need experience in gardening. You might just want to try it out for the first time. Contact us by emailing hethersettinbloom@gmail.com or by ringing Sue on 07957 234387.

The above article was written before the coronavirus restrictions came into force. We will update you on the progress of the project in coming editions of Hethersett Herald.

Writing Competition Standard High

As reported in the March edition of Hethersett Herald, there was a wonderful response to the young people's writing competition with over 150 entries from Hethersett Academy. Pupils were given carte blanche to cover whatever subject they wanted with the only proviso that their entries should start with the words "If Only."

Last month we featured the winning entry from Agnes Riley. This month we have one of the two joint second prizewinners. This is "In Control" by Jonah Lewis. Entries were judged by Connie Tindale and members of Hethersett Writers' Group.

In Control by Jonah Lewis

IF only Archie could stay in his soft bed but he knows that if he does not get up his parents will have been alerted by In-Control Technologies and they will shout at him, telling him that he is not in-control. Archie opens his eyes to look at his watch; it reads 6.59 am. Archie counts down the seconds till he has to get up for school. As Archie looks at the ceiling, a sound like a screeching chalk board alerts him that it is time to get up. He hates this sound, but the In-Control Technologies super computer has calculated that this is the best noise to get Archie out of bed.

As Archie walks to the kitchen, his watch pings a cheerful sound. Archie looks at his watch to see the familiar message 'good morning Archie you have got up at the correct time ... you are in control.'

As Archie stands in front of the fridge, an In-Control Technologies screen on its door instructs him what to prepare for breakfast. An artificial intelligence system has been reading Archie's energy levels, his vitamin levels, fluid levels, heart rate and blood pressure continuously through the night to calculate exactly what food he needs to eat to see him safely through the morning ahead. The fridge door instructs Archie to have a bowl of porridge made with 215 grams of oats and 400ml of water, banana (200 grams), Forest fruit yoghurt (125 grams), 250 ml of pure orange juice, a glass of water (330 ml) and a category 5b vitamin tablet.

When Archie finishes his breakfast he is alerted to another message from his watch 'Well done Archie, you have had another healthy breakfast, therefore you are in control'. This morning is no different from any other morning in Archie's house. His parents are getting ready for work while his sister is preparing for her

day at university. Everyone is so focused on following their In-Control instructions that there is no requirement to have a conversation. Archie meets his friend Bill on the corner of Smith Street. Bill and Archie have been buddies ever since In-Control Technologies suggested that they should become friends two years ago. The algorithm calculated that because Bill and Archie have similar interests in games, humour, TV programmes, the same intelligence, live nearby and that their parents shop at the same supermarkets, they should become friends. Archie and Bill walk to school along the In-Control approved route.

Once at school they prepare for their first lesson, swimming. Because swimming is considered too dangerous by society, Archie and his class mates go swimming in a risk free environment. Archie reaches under his desk and pulls out his virtual reality headset. Sitting at their desks, the whole class swims 200 metres front crawl, 100 metres backstroke, and then attempts to do a surface dive for the first time. The rest of the swimming lesson is spent improving their technique; each child received instructions that had been individually calculated by In-Control Technologies.

After swimming, Archie and his class have virtual reality lessons on improving communications and how to regulate thoughts. At 12 pm Archie's watch alerts him to another message 'Archie, this morning you have been 97% in control'. Archie then recalls that he had a sweet on the way to school and recognises where he went wrong. Archie's teacher is alerted to the 97% score and gives him a disapproving glance. At lunch time Archie sits with Bill. Together they eat their meal that has been individually created using In-Control Technologies to measure the exact number of calories, fats, sugars, minerals and vitamins that each student requires. Archie is served Tofu with Tomato, Avocado and Lettuce on a bed of vitamin enriched Couscous (267 grams).

In the last lesson of the day (How to cope with change) Archie is watching a scenario of a young person having to cope with the collapse of their business venture. Five minutes into the lesson disaster happens, the virtual reality headset Archie is using stops working. Using his emergency skills of coping with change, Archie keeps calm and thinks rationally. He decides to tell his teacher what has happened and that he needs a new virtual reality headset. Archie is told to collect one from the computer supplies cupboard along the corridor.

While looking for a VR headset, Archie comes across an object that he had once learned about in history; Archie says quietly to himself 'I watched something about these on VR in class. I think it is a Dictionary, something that people used to use to look up words'. Opening the book Archie notices that it was printed in 2019, exactly 50 years ago. Thumbing through the pages Archie sees many familiar words, however, he comes across one word that is strange and new: Autonomy n, pl. The freedom to determine one's own actions and behaviour'. Archie's watch then sounds an irritating noise alerting him to a new message. 'Archie you are not in your classroom, if you do not return in five minutes your teacher and parents will be alerted ... it seems you are not in-control'. Archie picks up a new VR headset and returns to class.

On his way home, walking along the In-Control approved route, Archie's mind wandered to the dictionary that he discovered earlier that afternoon; Autonomy; The freedom to determine one's own actions and behaviour. Thinking about these words Archie felt a sense of anger and frustration, he felt cheated somehow, but could not work out why. At these unfamiliar feelings something different overcame him.

Archie did something that he had never done before; he stepped away from the approved route and walked towards the beach. His watch sounded the same irritating noise it had done earlier in the day, looking at the watch it read 'Archie you are walking the wrong way home, if you do not return to the approved route your parents will be alerted ... You seem out of control'. Archie decided his own action and continued to the beach.

As Archie stepped onto the beach his watch alerted him again; this time with an angrier sound, 'Archie you are 253 metres away from your approved route, you are not in control and your parents have been alerted.' Archie started to undress. It was a warm day and feeling confident in his virtual swimming skills he entered the water and swam across the shore. Enjoying the splashing waves and sense of being free, Archie could not hear the flashes and alarms from his In-Control Technology Watch which had now alerted the police, sea rescue and ambulance as it measured his location, heart rate, temperature and blood pressure.

In the water Archie felt confident, safe and every bit in control, but he knew that he was following his own desires and wishes something that is prohibited in society. Four minutes later Archie could see some emergency vehicles and a crowd of people looking at him. Archie gave a friendly wave while his watch was trying to alert him that help had arrived and that he was 52.4 metres at sea. On land the crowd of people could see Archie waving for help. The emergency services, using the In-Control Artificial Intelligence System calculated the best method and route to rescue Archie safely.

In the sea, Archie was enjoying his swim and newly discovered feeling of autonomy. As he looked to the beach he registered that a small boat with flashing blue lights and three large figures was heading his way. Very quickly the boat arrived at Archie's side and the three men pulled him aboard. There was a big cheer from the beach and lots of mobile phones pointing in his direction. It was beginning to dawn on Archie that he had made a big mistake. When Archie arrived at the beach, wet, refreshed and feeling a little awkward he was immediately questioned by his parents, police and rescue service to explain what he had just done.

Archie was told that he had put his and other people's life in danger by swimming in the sea. His parents were very angry and launched into a rage about how he had brought shame on his family and had reduced the reputation of his school. With all these people filming him and uploading their footage to social media, Archie's parents said that they could never leave the house again.

Travelling back home while sitting in the back of his parent's car Archie's watch

chimes a cheerful sound. He looks at his watch to read his latest alert 'Archie you have been successfully rescued with the help of It-Control Technologies. We have digitally analysed your data and an automatic referral has been generated to get you back in-control. You will shortly be contacted by a psychologist, social worker and psychiatrist; they will be instructed on how to best help you.' Archie exhales a deep breath; he is not looking forward to the weeks ahead, but silently he is pleased that for one short moment in his life, he had a true sense of what autonomy and being in-control really felt like.

Money Available For Community Projects

MORE money will become available for community projects from the start of the new financial year.

District Councillor Phil Hardy told Hethersett Parish Council that each of the three district councillors have £1,000 to give to community projects from April 6th.

A sum has already been put aside to help with the organisation of the 10th village run the square funrun in July, but other funds will also be available.

To apply for funding community groups or projects should contact district councillors whose details can be found elsewhere in this edition of Hethersett Herald.

Have You Missed Out ?

YOU can catch up on previous editions of the Hethersett Herald by going to

www.hethersettherald.weebly.com

and following the links. Hethersett Herald is an independent publication

for news, views and features about Hethersett and general articles written by residents.

It is currently available only online. If you have news or would like to be featured in Hethersett Herald contact editor Peter Steward on

petersteward@lineone.net





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and young people and expect all its staff and volunteers to share this commitment.*

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 four years, on the website 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@lineone.net.

We will then draw up a group for circulation. Your e-mail address will not be disclosed to any third parties and will be used exclusively for notification of new publications.

The May edition of Hethersett Herald will be online at the end of April.

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

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

petersteward@lineone.net

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Herald Health With Rowan House

Kindness is the glue that holds society together. It is the essence of beauty. It brings smiles to faces, lightens our burdens, creates friendships, transforms people and situations. The above words were written by Dr David Hamilton author of “The Five Side Effects of Kindness.” Here Rachel Pailes looks further into the positive effects that kindness can have.



IT'S official... The world is a better place when we all reach out to help each other. You see when we do someone a good turn, we produce serotonin (one of our body's happy chemicals) which is why we feel good. The more acts of kindness we can offer in a day, without expectation of return, the happier we feel and the lower our stress levels are.

And the best part? There's no such thing as a small act of kindness – in fact even the smallest gesture can have a powerful ripple effect. Being kind helps others AND helps ourselves, it's a win win situation!

So what could you do to boost someone's happy chemicals? Here's a few ideas...

Pay someone a compliment

Ever noticed how awesome you feel after someone pays you a compliment? You hold your head a little higher and have an extra little bounce in your step. Why not make someone's day and dish out a compliment or two? You might...

- Tell your partner how gorgeous they look today
- Tell your children that they tell the best, most funny jokes ever!
- Tell your boss that he/she inspires you
- Tell your children's teacher how much you and your children appreciate them
- Tell your mum she looks beautiful today

Do something for nothing

Donating your money to good causes is all well and good (and much appreciated!) but often what people need is your time and skills. Lending a hand in this

Herald Health With Rowan House

way often fills a practical need and leaves you with that wonderful feel-good buzz. Why not...

- Offer to get your neighbour's shopping.
- Offer to pick up a friend's children from school.
- Give away an hour of your working time – if you're a therapist you might offer a free treatment or if you're a consultant a free hour of your time to someone in need.
- Offer to help out at your children's next school event.

Let someone know you are thinking of them

In a world where everyone seems to be connected to everyone else, it can be surprisingly easy to feel alone. Make a mental note to check in with someone special today. You could...

- Give your parents a call to say hello.
- Drop your sister or brother an email to let them know you're thinking of them.
- Ping your friend with a WhatsApp just to let them know how awesome they are.

Donate everything!

Almost everything you consider throwing away could probably be donated to help a good cause or someone in need. So before you chuck it, think about how you could donate it instead. Perhaps you could...

- Give old uniforms and shoes to your local school.
- Donate books and toys to your local nursery or pre-school.
- Bag up clothes and shoes and pop them in a clothing bank (you can usually find them in the car park of your local supermarket).
- Donate your old phone or tablet to a charity.

You might also consider joining the NHS Organ Donation Register, now that's a big way to change lives!

Herald Health With Rowan House

Be nice (to everyone)

Ok, admittedly it's tough to be nice to all people all the time, especially if you're having a difficult day yourself, if someone has been unkind or rude to you, or if it's deemed socially acceptable to be mean to a certain type of people (step forward parking attendants!) but do try. Consider

- Telling the barista that they make the most amazing mocca, chocca latte in the known world!
- Saying 'thank you, have a nice day!' to the person on the supermarket tills.
- Being polite and patient to the receptionist (even if they can't get you an appointment for that day).
- Telling the restaurant waitress that your food was delicious!
- Holding the door open for the person behind you.

We hope we've given you a few ideas about how to spread a little kindness today.

Hethersett Herald

Getting to the Heart of Our Community

And

Positively Free From Fake News (apart from this month)

And Out Every Month

News From The Parish Council

VE Day Celebrations Off

THE parish council has reluctantly decided to cancel its three days of celebration designed to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) Day.

Events were due to kick off on Friday 8th May with a family street party/picnic in the park event in the grounds of the village hall with the following day seeing local Guides taking part in a 1940s style camp. Other events included an afternoon tea and tea dance and a VE themed quiz.

The decision to cancel the festivities was taken at the parish council meeting on 16th March.

“It has unfortunately been decided to cancel the programme of events arranged to commemorate VE Day 75 in view of the ongoing uncertainty. It’s such a shame as it looked as though it would have been a great weekend with plenty going on – but the public’s safety is paramount,” said parish clerk Annette Palmer.

Distinctly Weird

IN a slight departure from our usual coverage of the parish council, Associate Editor Gary Wyatt attended the March meeting and sent us this report of proceedings. Future meetings of the parish council are likely to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus.

We will let you know when normal service is resumed.

THE regular monthly meeting of the council was a distinctly weird affair, coming as it did at the start of a week in which the whole of UK society as we know it appeared to collapse.

Even in normal times these meetings are normally poorly attended by the public,

News From The Parish Council

often with only one or two residents present, plus our district and local councillors. On this occasion, however, your correspondent was the sole person sitting facing the council and it felt rather like attending an interview panel.

The chairs of both the councillors and the (only) resident had been carefully placed two metres apart to conform with the 'social distancing' requirements that had been recently announced.

Anyway, to business. The meeting opened with a statement from the chairman Adrienne Quinlan, who spoke of the extraordinary times we find ourselves in. She mentioned that the fast-developing Covid-19 virus situation would likely override any decision the council made that evening but that they would go ahead anyway.

She also said that this was likely to be the last face-to-face meeting for some time and that from this point on, communications between the councillors would be electronic only.

The planned village celebrations to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day have been cancelled.

There was also a tribute to former councillor Heather Williamson who died recently. Heather was a long-serving councillor and also one of the founder members of HEAT, the Hethersett Environmental Action Team, and Anne Edwards from the council, a very active participant in HEAT herself, had written a lovely tribute to Heather which was read out by the chair. A one minute silence followed. (You can read our tribute to Heather elsewhere in this edition).

The council business which followed was more or less along the usual lines.

It was reported that the walnut tree in Great Melton Close which was partially felled by the February storms had been given remedial work by a tree surgeon and should survive.

Work on the final section of the cycleway alongside the B1172 is underway, but a tree had been removed in error by the contractors.

The parish council had raised concerns with Norfolk County Council Highways about the redesigned New Road junction with the B1172 as part of this work but the response was that the recorded rate of 'incidents at the junction since the work compared favourably with the previous history, and so no action needed to be taken. However, as a frequent cyclist, your correspondent still has great concerns about visibility down New Road for cyclists when crossing the junction from the Wymondham direction.

The council's finance committee which historically has not been open to the pub-

News From The Parish Council

lic for technical reasons will now be held publicly after a change in the committee status. Of course, like all other meetings, this won't happen until the present crisis is over.

The council has received some criticism of the level of its precept for 2020/21 (i.e. the part of our annual council tax bill specifically requested for Hethersett's budget) from a number of residents, who had been invited to the meeting to put their concerns to the council. None, however, attended.

The final items on the agenda of the meeting were discussed after exclusion of the public (i.e. me), a procedure allowed by law for confidential matters.

Two items were listed; first, "Lease relating to the new Parish Council office within Hethersett Library", the finalisation of which has been a long drawn out affair, and second "staffing matters", the nature of which will remain a mystery for the time being.

How To Contact The Parish Council

THE parish council office in the village hall is currently closed to the public due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Parish clerk Annette Palmer can be contacted by telephone on 07902 322729 or via email at hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk.

The council has a website at

www.hethersett-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

and also a Facebook page.

Annette is asking local businesses and residents to keep the parish council updated on closure and opening information during the current crisis.

We have not published the usual list of parish council meetings in this edition of the Hethersett Herald due to uncertainties caused by the pandemic. We will re-instate dates once the virus threat is over (whenever that may be).

Hannah's Hethersett Life

All stories and photographs by Hethersett Herald Associate Editor Hannah Harrison who begins by telling us about her experiences of being isolated by the coronavirus pandemic.

I WILL start by talking about what is at the forefront of all of our minds, the coronavirus.

This is definitely the most terrifying time I've lived through in my nearly 30 years. I've had my fair share of heartbreak and illnesses, but absolutely nothing compares to the magnitude of this. The country is now in a state of lockdown and, although I think we all saw it coming, it was still quite a shock. Like a teacher punishing a whole class for the bad behaviour of a few, we are all now suffering because people cannot and will not take this epidemic seriously.

My family and I have been self isolating for around eight days now. In the beginning, it was really tough. By day two or three I felt like I was rapidly losing my mind. Having a poorly husband to care for and an active three year old was already becoming too much without having support from my friends and family.

As the sun started to shine, we've started spending as much time in the garden as we can. It's much less claustrophobic out there and feels less restricting. I'm dreading it if the weather turns bad, my mood is usually affected by the weather anyway, let alone if it means we can't get outside during this time.

Because of caring for my husband, we are usually always at home. But as many of you know, I try to be as active in the village as I can, always popping to the shops or the pharmacy, taking my daughter to the parks or popping into the cafes for a drink or the library for some books. I get out for the sake of my own sanity, as I'm sure many of us do.

I see friends as often as possible, particularly those in the village, my family also. Now that those luxuries have been taken away, I feel stripped bare and isolated. My only comfort is that we are all in the same boat, other than those on the front line (NHS, shop workers etc etc) who are risking their lives for us each day.

It certainly feels like life as we know it has been cancelled. My daughter is four on 10th April. She was due to have an Easter themed party at the village hall with all of her friends which has of course had to be cancelled. She is very disappointed but has been so grown up about it, despite not really understanding what's going on.

Hannah's Hethersett Life

We have told her that we will have a party with just us three at home instead, because we of course can't even have family over. I've already purchased the party bags and the contents for her friends, so we said we would drive around the village and drop them at her friends' houses (leaving on doorstep, no contact) but I am assuming we shouldn't do this on lockdown so that's another disappointment for her.

My sister-in-laws wedding has been cancelled amongst so many other things. It's ok to be disappointed at things being cancelled, the things that we've probably been looking forward to and preparing for for months, even years.

I won't get too much into politics as I don't know what I'm talking about to be honest. I will say that I am not a Tory supporter and I did not vote for them. I am not Boris Johnson's number one fan by a long shot, but you have to feel for the guy having to deal with the pandemic, trying to keep a whole country safe. I cannot imagine how difficult it is.

It's a period of uncertainty, we don't yet know how bad this will become, we don't know how long it will continue. All we can do is STAY AT HOME. Do not go out unless it is absolutely essential (bare essentials food shopping, work), do not go to the park, do not go to the shop for just a chocolate bar, do not go to visit your parents. This is literally a life or death situation, if you leave your home unnecessarily you could be putting people in danger of serious illness, possibly even death.

What has struck me from the very beginning of this epidemic, is how strong our Hethersett community is. As soon as things started to take a turn for the worse, the helpers in our community were offering their services immediately.

Andre Smith has set up Hethersett Community Stores, a service where you can order through him or the website, to get food supplies and essentials delivered

Hannah's Hethersett Life

Follow Hannah every month in Hethersett Herald as she takes her own personal look at what's going on in our village.

Hannah's Hethersett Life

to your door with no contact, this is a service purely to help the vulnerable, ill and elderly who are unable to leave their home due to self isolation or their vulnerabilities.

Andre helped me and my family. Within an hour of placing an order, he'd been and left the shopping at my door. How amazing is that? My friend Sarah who works at Tesco has dropped me off many groceries too, as well as beautiful flowers! I've had a number of friends in the village, Laurie, Geoff, Christina and Jo to name but a few, who have also left beautiful flowers and/or care packages on my doorstep to cheer me up. I am feeling so grateful to have such wonderful people in my life and to live in such a fantastic village, I never want to leave.

The local shops, Tesco, Church Farm Shop and Park Drive Stores have been working extra hard to make sure they are well stocked for what can only be described as mass panic. The staff at Boots and Hethersett Surgery have been doing a grand job of keeping us all healthy and safe, still offering doctor/nurse appointments in surgery and over the telephone. Boots have been working around the clock to dispense our much needed medications. Without these vital services, we would crumble.



Someone else who has really gone the extra mile is Jenny Melvin, who has been collecting prescriptions for people who are self isolating/vulnerable. Jenny got mine and my husband's today then cycled to our house to give it to us.

She then took my post for me to post at the post office, what an angel! She's providing such an important service, people would probably really struggle if she wasn't offering to help them. She's putting herself at risk by queuing up numerous times a day, thank you so much Jenny.

Cafe Kin, Janey's Cafe and the Queen's Head restaurant were even offering takeaway services with minimal contact, which has since had to cease to com-

Hannah's Hethersett Life

ply with government guidelines.

Monday 23rd March was a big day for shop closures, Hodge Podge, Tasty Bites, PACT charity shop and Ketts Kabin charity shop were just a few of the shops that were forced to shut.

There's no doubt that this will have a massive detrimental effect on shops, many will not survive the closures. But when we are dealing with the spread of a disease, it's what we have to do.

Here is something I recently wrote on the Facebook group, All Things Hethersett;

"I want to say a HUGE thank you to the people in our village who are keeping us going, the people who are going to work/volunteering each day and putting their own lives on the line by doing so.

Thank you to all staff at Tesco who continue to show up for their shifts to make sure Hethersett and the surrounding areas can get food throughout this epidemic.

Thank you to the Boots staff who I imagine are absolutely run off their feet trying to make sure everyone has their important medication for this difficult time whilst still trying to keep social distance.

Thank you to the staff at Park Drive stores who are showing up each day and for being a part of the Hethersett Community Stores.

Thank you to the people who are volunteering to get food and care packages for vulnerable people in self isolation.

Thank you to people who work for the NHS in any way (whether it be on the frontline in A and E or doing admin at a desk), I can't even begin to explain my gratitude for what you do.

Thank you to the people who work in the care home who are taking care of our grandparents at what must be an awfully lonely and scary time for them.

Thank you to all staff involved with the Church Farm Shop and Tearoom, who are rushed off their feet supplying the village with stuff that most other stores have run out of.

Thank you to Tasty Bites who have offered vulnerable people free food, this is so heart-warming.

Hannah's Hethersett Life

Thank you to the people who are staying in their homes to keep themselves and everyone else safe.

Thank you to the people putting teddy bears or rainbow pictures in their windows to make children and adults smile as they walk past.

Thank you, to every single one of you who has put aside any differences we may have with one another and who have come together to make this community even more solid than it already was.

It's going to be horrible, it's going to be difficult, it will be something we possibly never get over, but I do know that we will get through it together.

Sending you all so much love and virtual hugs, my Hethersett family x”

All I can say is that I hope you all take care; look after those in your household, help others if you can do so safely, stay home if you can. Enjoy time in your garden with nature, I can guarantee you it will help your mental health.

Use this time to your advantage as much as you can; finish the puzzle that you've never usually got time for, re-paint your bedroom like you've been meaning to for months, finish that book, spend proper time with the members of your household, watch all of Netflix! Tidy up your garden, write a poem, write a story. The possibilities are endless, although don't put too much pressure on yourself to do everything.

I've spent a number of days just sat on my sofa feeling sorry for myself, not that it's doing any good but it's ok not to be ok at a time like this.

Don't be afraid to ask for help if you are vulnerable, we can and will get through this together.

Many families are worried about the school closures and what this will mean for their children's education. I've seen on social media some impressive home school set ups, with schedules and proper routine. Whilst this is fantastic if you have the time and inclination, do NOT feel any pressure to do it! You are not a teacher (unless you are..), you are a parent, your child will be learning from you regardless.

The approach I'm trying to take with Eva is to learn through fun and real life experiences. We will be spending as much time as we can in the garden, learning about our plants and flowers, insects and birds etc. I will be teaching her simple things like how to turn the washing machine on, washing up, baking, stuff like that. Again, I'm not putting myself under any pressure to do so.

A Garden Full Of Life

MY garden is absolutely full of life at the moment. Regardless of what is happening with human life, the natural world carries on and thank goodness for that. We now have two or three goldfinches visiting the back garden daily, I've only ever seen them in the garden twice in the seven years we've lived here so it's a pleasure to have them coming regularly, they are my favourite bird, such beautiful striking colours.

The rooks have started coming in their tens, cackling loudly and dominating the garden, eating me out of house and home! We are getting regular jackdaws, the same amount of wood pigeons as we get all year round of course. The blue tits are in and out of our nest boxes all day long, indicating that they will be nesting in there for the third (or fourth, I can't remember) year in a row. Robins come by daily, as do dunnocks, great tits, long tailed tits and blackbirds. We have a pair of collared doves nesting behind our satellite dish which is lovely, and loud! We have started to see a jay come by now and then, but he/she is so very shy, the slightest movement of us inside the house scares him/her off.

We've recently put some grass seed down in the hopes of repairing our very damaged lawn, I never swept the fallen tree leaves off of the grass last year so once they turned to mush it ruined the grass unfortunately. But, as long



Hannah's Hethersett Life

as my garden is habitable to wildlife, I don't mind!

Our plants are starting to grow and they look beautiful, we have a Camilia which is now flowering and has really brightened up the garden. Many other flowers have grown, I just don't know what they are all called ha ha!

I recently bought a new bird feeder for the front garden. I've had a feeder out there before but for reasons that I can't remember, I took it down. I know that house sparrows visit our front garden, so I'm hoping to attract them this year – for some reason they only come into the back garden fleetingly when they have youngsters.

We had a new visitor to the garden a few days back, a stock dove. They look very much like a dove and a pigeon to be honest but you can tell that it's not your standard collared dove/pigeon, although they are of course all from the same family.

It'll soon be time for baby birds, my favourite time of the year! When birds are in our garden all day long, frantically collecting food for their young, that's when I usually get some good wildlife photos because the birds are a little bit braver.

I have heard of a lot of people seeing hedgehogs in their garden of an evening. They will of course be waking up from hibernation so please leave them some water and meat based cat/dog food out as they will be very hungry and thirsty.

Mr Heckles is still with us and I think will be released in just a few weeks, so maybe by the next issue he'll be gone, it will be a sad but necessary day when we say goodbye to him.

The last few days we've had beautiful sunshine, it's forecast to be the same for the next few days.

I feel like it's mother natures way of saying "I'm really sorry that you're all having such an awful time at the moment, so I'm sending you some sunshine to help you through."

Rainbows and Teddy Bears

YOU may have seen the trend of rainbows popping up in people's windows since the epidemic started. I'm unsure where or who it came from but someone suggested that children or even adults put up paintings/drawings of rainbows in their windows, the aim being that other children out for walks with their families can see and count how many rainbows they see on their walk.

Hannah's Hethersett Life



With our children spending a lot more time at home and no time with their friends, this is a really cute way for them to communicate and make them feel less alone.

We've got one on our back gate and in our front window. The trend has also stretched to Teddy Bears. Pop a Teddy Bear up your window for children to count how many bears they see on their bear hunt. It's such a simple but lovely way of showing how united we are, and that no matter how lonely we may feel during this period of isolation, we are in fact still together.



Jessica Leeder, a Hethersett resident, and her family have taken this a step further by printing and laminating little rainbow cards saying "#Together we are strong" to put around the village. I absolutely love things like this and I feel it's one of the things that sets us apart from other villages.

Hannah's Hethersett Life



News from the Garden

IN the first of a new series Associate Editor Roger Morgan helps you to spruce up your garden in these uncertain times.

IN these troubled times of lockdown and social distancing, it is essential that we all adhere to the government's guidance on how to control Covid 19. It is also vital that we take care of our mental well-being. Getting out into our gardens where there is always so much to do can be the ideal tonic.

Here I give some suggestions of a few things that we could be doing at this time of year:

In the Flower Garden

- Lift and divide perennial plants now to improve vigour and create new plants for your garden.
- Divide primroses once they have finished flowering.
- Divide hostas before they come into leaf.
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsia shoots and sweet pea plants to encourage bushy plants this summer.
- Feed trees, shrubs and hedges with a balanced, slow-release fertiliser, by lightly forking it into the soil surface. Roses, in particular, are greedy plants and will greatly benefit from feeding as they come into growth.
- Deadhead daffodils and tulips as the flowers finish, but leave foliage intact, allowing it to die back naturally.
- Continue to remove faded flowers from winter pansies to stop them setting seed. This will encourage flushes of new flowers throughout the spring.
- Apply a layer of mulch around your perennials, trees and shrubs before



the hot weather arrives. Use organic matter such as well-rotted manure.

In the Vegetable Garden

- Prepare vegetable seed beds by removing all weeds.
- Dig a 5-cm (or more) layer of compost, well-rotted manure or green waste into beds.
- Plant garlic and onion sets and cover with wire mesh to stop birds pulling them out.
- Plant second early and main crop potatoes
- Plant peas and carrot seeds directly into the soil



Other Jobs

- Mow your lawn if it needs it. Choose a dry day and set your blades higher than usual.
- Recut any lawn edges if necessary.
- Repair any bare patches in your lawn.
- Aerate compacted areas of lawn by spiking it with a garden fork.
- Top dress containers with fresh compost. If your containers are already full, replace the top 5 cm of old compost with fresh stuff.
- Remove dirt from your paths and paving before summer arrives. Use a pressure washer or special patio cleaner.
- Check compost bins to see if there is any compost ready to use.
- Top up bird baths and bird feeders to encourage birds into your garden.
- Give your houseplants some TLC - the warmer weather and longer light hours will encourage them to grow and they may require more water.
- Clean out greenhouses and tool sheds and be prepared to get rid of unwanted clutter

This is by no means a complete list but there's a lot to be getting on with.

I am fortunate to have a small allotment and in the recent lovely spring weather it has proved to be the perfect place to self-isolate and get some much-needed exercise. Things are really starting to grow now. Summer fruiting raspberry canes have burst into life as have the gooseberry bushes. Broad beans are growing vigorously, and the spring planted onion sets are well on the way now.

We are still harvesting the Autumn planted leeks and purple sprouting broccoli. All of the first and second early potatoes have been in the ground for a couple of weeks and the main crop will be in soon. It's now time to plant peas directly in the ground and carrots and parsnips will follow shortly. Unfortunately, the grass on the paths has also started to put on a growth spurt so they need regular mowing. The strawberry and asparagus beds both need a good weeding. We mustn't let the recent warm weather fool us as there will certainly be a few cold snaps with possible frosts coming our way. Take care and enjoy your gardening.

More from our green fingered expert in the May Hethersett Herald.

Our pictures on this and previous pages are as follows:

Page 98—Gooseberries

Page 99—Broad Beans

This page—Onion sets and summer raspberries



Thank You To Contributors

A BIG thank you to everyone that has sent in information for this edition of Hethersett Herald. They include: Charlotte Govier, Jenny Melvin, Hannah Harrison, Robert George, Jason Utting, Stephen Slack, Penelope Brown, Jill Williams, Connie Tindale, Jonah Lewis, Rachel Pailes, Gary Wyatt, Roger Morgan, Scott Willoughby, David Gregory, Gillian Saunders, Mel Perkins, Angela Farrington and Ann Wright.

Apologies if we have missed anyone.

If you would like to contribute to Hethersett Herald, please e-mail the editor at:

petersteward@lineone.net

Hethersett Matters

WE regularly feature scams in this publication. In this edition we look at some of the latest to avoid including unscrupulous scammers who are even using the current virus crisis to run their scams. This column is put together in partnership with Norfolk Trading Standards and Norfolk Police.

FOLLOWING the genuine government text message " CORONA-VIRUS ALERT " scammers have begun to send bogus text messages. Stay alert and report scams to 0808 223 1133. An example of bogus text messages is featured opposite.

Law enforcement, government and private sector partners are working together to encourage members of the public to be more vigilant against fraud, particularly about sharing their financial and personal information, as criminals seek to capitalise on the Covid-19 pandemic.

Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police.

They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment.

Stop: Take a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information.

Challenge: Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

Protect: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

Your bank or the police will NEVER ask you to transfer money or move it to a safe account.

Criminals are targeting people looking to buy medical supplies online, sending



Hethersett Matters

emails offering fake medical support and scamming people who may be vulnerable or increasingly isolated at home. These frauds try to lure you in with offers that look too good to be true, such as high return investments and 'healthcare opportunities', or make appeals for you to support bogus charities or those who are ill.

Reports from the public have already included online shopping scams where people have ordered protective face masks, hand sanitiser, and other products, which have never arrived and a number of cases have been identified where fake testing kits have been offered for sale.

Criminals are also using Government branding to try to trick people, including reports of using HMRC branding to make spurious offers of financial support through unsolicited emails, phone calls and text messages.

This situation is likely to continue, with criminals looking to exploit further consequences of the pandemic, such as exploiting financial concerns to ask for up-front fees for bogus loans, offering high-return investment scams, or targeting pensions.

Huge increases in the number of people working remotely mean that significantly more people will be vulnerable to computer service fraud where criminals will try and convince you to provide access to your computer or divulge your logon details and passwords. It is also anticipated that there will be a surge in phishing scams or calls claiming to be from government departments offering grants, tax rebates, or compensation.

Graeme Biggar, Director General of the National Economic Crime Centre, said:

"Criminals are exploiting the COVID-19 pandemic to scam people in a variety of ways and this is only likely to increase. We need individuals and businesses to be fully aware and prepared.

"There is a wealth of advice available from dedicated counter fraud professionals, but in general you should always think very carefully before you hand over your money or your personal details.

"We are working together across law enforcement, government and the private sector to combat this criminal activity and protect the public. If you think you have fallen for a scam contact your bank immediately and please report to Action Fraud*."

Security Minister James Brokenshire said:

"Fraudsters are callous criminals who ruin victims' lives while lining their own pockets. To take advantage of vulnerable people at this difficult time is particu-

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larly reprehensible.

“The Government is committed to working with the NCA and all law enforcement partners to tackle this and protect the public.”

Commander Karen Baxter, City of London Police, National Co-ordinator of Economic Crime, said:

“Criminals will use any opportunity they can to take money from innocent people. This includes exploiting tragedies and global emergencies.

“As more people stay indoors and work from computers and laptops at home, there is more opportunity for criminals to try and trick people into parting with their money at a time when they are anxious and uncertain about the future. This is especially relevant as older, more vulnerable people self-isolate and may be targeted over the phone, or even in person, by despicable criminals.

“It is important that we continue to raise awareness of fraud and protect ourselves, and the vulnerable people in our communities, the best we can.”

Take Five to Stop Fraud is a national campaign that offers advice to help everyone protect themselves from preventable financial fraud. Led by UK Finance, the campaign is being delivered with and through a range of partners in the UK payments industry, financial services firms, law enforcement agencies, telecommunication providers, commercial, public and third sector organisations.

Reporting to Action Fraud can be done online or by calling 0300 123 2040

To report offers of financial assistance from HMRC contact phishing@hmrc.gov.uk

Online Shopping and Auction Fraud

Seek advice: If you're purchasing goods and services from a company or person you don't know and trust, carry out some research first, and ask friends or family for advice before completing a purchase.

Scam messages: Be wary of unsolicited emails and texts offering questionably good deals, and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.

Payment method: Avoid paying for goods and services by bank transfer as that offers you little protection if you become a victim of fraud. Instead, use a credit card or payment services such as PayPal.

If you have made a payment: Inform your bank as soon as possible, they can help you prevent any further losses. Monitor your bank statements regularly for

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any unusual activity.

Computer Software Service Fraud

Installing software: Never install any software, or grant remote access to your computer, as a result of a cold call.

Financial details: Genuine organisations would never contact you out of the blue to ask for financial details such as your PIN or full banking password.

Tech support: If you need tech support, ask your friends or family for recommendations and look for reviews online first. Don't contact companies promoting tech support services via browser pop-ups.

If you granted remote access to your computer: Seek technical support to remove any unwanted software from your computer. Ask your friends or family for recommendations and look for reviews online first.

Lender Loan Fraud

Seek advice first: Speak with a trusted friend or family members first if you're using a loan company you're unfamiliar with, or if the lender requires an up-front fee.

Scam messages: Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails, and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.

FCA register: Use the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) register to check if the company is regulated by the FCA. If you deal with a firm (or individual) that isn't regulated, you may not be covered by the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) if things go wrong and you lose your money.

Pension Liberation fraud

Investment opportunities: Don't be rushed into making an investment. Remember, legitimate organisations will never pressure you into making a transaction on the spot.

Seek advice first: Before making significant financial decisions, speak with trusted friends or family members, or seek professional independent advice. The Pension Advisory Service (PAS) also provides free independent and impartial information and guidance.

FCA register: Use the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) register to check if the company is regulated by the FCA. If you deal with a firm (or individual) that isn't regulated, you may not be covered by the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) if things go wrong and you lose your money.

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.

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

Telephone: 01379 642097

Web site: 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 Adrian Dearnley, Phil Hardy and David Bills. David can be contacted on 01603 813041 or at dbills@s-norfolk.gov.uk, Phil on 07985 695668 or at p Hardy@s-norfolk.gov.uk and Adrian on 07957139880.or at adearnley@s-norfolk.gov.uk.

Hethersett Parish Council

Clerk to the council Annette Palmer can be contacted on 01603 810915. Parish council chairman Adrienne Quinlan can be contacted on 01603 814379.

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 open at the Village Hall (upstairs) on Monday and Thursday mornings between 10 am and 12 noon.

Email: hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk

Website – hethersettpc.info

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.com



The Scott Willoughby Column

STATISTICS can be used to prove anything and often it depends how you look at them. They can be twisted and turned to support an argument but, equally, the same set can be used to oppose the same argument. As they say “you pay your money and you take your choice.”

So how do you turn statistics into reality and find their real meaning? Well this month a few people took to Facebook to question a 34% increase in the village precept. They wondered how the parish council had come to this decision and why it hadn't been announced until they received notice of their council tax for the coming financial year.

The answer to that is quite simple. The matter was discussed by the parish council at its monthly meeting in January—a meeting open to the public but which the public doesn't attend unless there is something contentious. All full parish council meetings are open to the public and residents have two chances during the meeting to raise concerns or issues—one close to the start of the meeting and one close to the end.

Anyone attending the January meeting would have had the opportunity to make their views on the council tax increase known. But only two residents bothered to turn up for that meeting which is a shame because the parish council is a body not beset with politics or party divisions and there for the genuine good of the village.

So back to the statistics. On the face of it the 34% seems to be a swingeing increase but when you look beyond that figure to the actual reality you will see that in effect it means an additional £1.40 per month for a Band D property—scarcely a fortune and you can be assured that the additional £40,000 raised from this will be put to good use within Hethersett and not fall into a political dark hole.

It's good to see that Old Hall School has been bought by Norfolk Police to use as a training establishment. Whether some of the facilities will also be available to the community remains to be seen.

How wonderful to see my friends at Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway club not sitting in judgement on youngsters causing a nuisance in the village but inviting them to join the club (see our story earlier in this edition).

We are certainly living in strange times. The Coronavirus has virtually brought Hethersett (and everywhere else) to a standstill. But the spirit with which people have been offering to help each other has been wonderful to see. Hethersett Herald is I know committed to keeping everyone well informed about the latest news on the virus. Over the coming two or three months it is likely that the publication will also have to change. We will obviously be short of news from groups

The Scott Willoughby Column

and societies all of which have been subjected to the “village lockdown.” Plans by the editor for major coverage of the VE Celebrations and Easter have now been shelved. I was musing about how that VE coverage would represent a piece of village history and how this magazine could fully cover it, only to suffer huge disappointment that this will no longer be the case and then realise that we will still indeed be reflecting a part of village history by fully covering the virus and its affect on Hethersett.

There are few people who can have experienced anything like this village lockdown before. The Second World War is the only thing that could be compared. I would suggest that living in Hethersett during the years 1939 to 1945 certainly eclipsed anything we are experiencing at the moment but that doesn't detract from the uncertainties that we are currently experiencing. It all seems to be very surreal.

Re-Living The Top Stories

WE are working on a series of features for the May edition of Hethersett Herald which will also bring you the latest news in the village of the continuing saga of coronavirus.

One of the items will be a look back at the top six stories from the village over the lifetime of our publication which began in November 2015.

We would like readers to vote for what they feel have been the major stories that have most affected the village over the past 54 editions of the Herald. Here are some suggestions (in no particular order).

The Beast From the East which saw the village cut off by snow.

Lead stolen from the roof of St Remigius' Church.

Hethersett being the first village, town or city in the country to be given a Prime Minister's Big Society Award.

The closure of the King's Head Public House.

Coronavirus.

The closure of Old Hall School .

There may be other stories that you feel are as or more important than the above. We would love to hear from you. Please send your responses to the editor at petersteward@lineone.net

Honouring The War Dead

A NEW online publication honouring soldiers from Great Melton who either died or served in the First World War is available on the Great Melton Parish Council Website.

The Great Melton Parish World War One Roll of Honour includes the service records of parishioners and the paper lists those men from Great Melton who served their country in the Great War and also commemorates those who gave their lives and are remembered on the Great Melton War Memorial (pictured above).



The paper also covers a brief history of the war itself and gives a flavour of what it was like in the parish during the conflict.

The paper has been put together by David Gregory “with the hope that knowledge of their service and sacrifice may ensure our parish war memorial remains relevant to future generations of parishioners.”

You can view the Great Melton paper online by going to:

<https://gtmelton.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/category/history/>

We are very grateful to Great Melton Parish Council for permission to reproduce a section from the booklet. This excerpt covers the kind of

Honouring The War Dead

work being undertaken by men from Great Melton during the First World War.

“Young, fully fit Great Melton men were usually posted to serve in the front line infantry or artillery units, as were their colleagues from other walks of life. Later in the war the tank units attracted some Great Melton men. Several physically sub category A parish men were A.S.C (Army Service Corps) drivers or drivers in the Ambulance corps.

Later in the war as the age of men conscripted increased, a great number of older Great Melton men entered the services.

These older men, familiar with farming procedures but sub Category A in physical condition, commonly laboured in an Agricultural company working the land to produce greater quantities of human and animal foods.

Some Great Melton men were in the Forage Department of the Labour Company gathering foodstuffs from farms and storage for forward shipment to fighting forces and their animals.

“Forage Teams” of 12 men each spent much of their time moving from place to place baling hay and straw into high density wire tied bales ready for transportation to France; work that had to be done day after day, summer and winter, rain or shine to ensure a continuous supply of animal food and bedding in Northern France.

In the Great Melton absent voters lists, four confirmed Great Melton parishioners were recorded as members of Agricultural companies; George Charles Bales, Albert Edward Joy, William Ernest Morter and William Herbert Roberts.

These men were almost certainly employed in Great Melton, their lives probably little changed by membership of an Agricultural Company apart from a welcome increase of pay from agricultural wage rates to British Army wage rates and having to wear army clothes.”

Hot and Cold, Wet and Dry

The equinox has passed and now the days are slowly getting longer than the nights and the sun has been shining after weeks of persistent rain.

The end of March saw warm days and freezing nights but that has not stopped the hedgehogs waking from hibernation up to two months early when there is some but not a lot of food available.

Instead of being fast asleep in their little dens they are out and about and even mating which means that we could have lots of babies in a few weeks when food could still be short. Mating hedgehogs are very noisy.

Pregnant females will be looking for safe places to build a nest and bear their young. Help them out if you can by leaving dry straw or leaves around a log pile. Baby hedgehogs are a joy to watch. We do not want to lose any tiny new additions due to any nasty weather conditions that might befall us.

It appears the hedgehog numbers might be increasing now that people are more aware of their plight. My co-hedgehog-carer, Paul Baisley, who like myself is in voluntary isolation over the Coronavirus bug, has seen on his camera footage that he also has lots of hedgehogs in his garden.

I know I have hedgehogs in my garden that have not hibernated at all so I have been putting food out all winter. Now, those insomniacs combined with those newly awake, make my garden seem quite crowded so I have doubled the food I put out. The two that were 'in care' have also been released and will not have wandered far.

For some reason the marauding cats have been even more persistent than usual so I have had to stop putting wet food out for a while until I can find a foolproof way of stopping them getting into the feeding stations. The hedgehog diet has been reduced to complete-food cat biscuits and mealworms. I know there is controversy about mealworms but they are a great source of protein for adults.

The controversy over feeding bread to ducks led to some of them starving when there was no other alternative source of food available. We do not want to repeat this.



Hethersett Hedgehogs



Hedgehogs climbing a low wall to reach food.



Hedgehogs might have spindly little legs but they are good climbers and can manage low walls that have footholds for them. The ones in the photos are of hedgehogs that have caught a whiff of the food in the feeding station at the top of the wall. It is not easy to identify individuals in the garden but sometimes the camera can pick out pigmentation variations in their spines.

Just as the hedgehogs are awake and gardens are bursting into leaf, the slugs are already eating voraciously. Many of them will be eaten by the hedgehogs but there will be escapees eating big holes in the leaves of their favourite gourmet treats such as Ligularias and Hostas. I was a bit late in treating my Ligularias which are already about four inches high and the older leaves look like purple lace.

If this is happening to your plants then please do not put the hedgehogs' lives at risk by putting down slug pellets. They might kill your slugs but they will also kill your prickly friends.

The remedy I wrote about last summer really does work if you get in there quickly and repeat the treatment regularly. It can be smelly but only for a few hours and soon dissipates. All you need is a saucepan, a jug, sieve, a sprayer and a garlic bulb.

Boil the garlic bulb in some water until it is soft and about to disintegrate, then sieve the 'soup' into a jug. Pour the liquid into the sprayer and fill it up with cold water then spray your plants liberally. This solution is also thought to help control black spot and act as a foliar feed on roses. It is well worth the effort, is cheap and will save a little life. You do not have to throw away any unused solution as it maintains its 'strength' for months, just repeat spraying at regular intervals.

Many people are in voluntary or enforced isolation with unwanted idleness so now is a good time to think how you can make your garden wildlife friendly.

From The Archives

IN our regular feature looking at the Hethersett archives we have the second part of our look at Hethersett Rectors over the centuries. Much of the information below is based on the writings of the Rev. Frederic Jarvis (pictured below).

1541 John Barret. Resigned the next year.

1542 Chris Wilson. For reasons not given this Rector was deprived in 1554.

1554 Edward Jackson.

1573 Miles Hunne. Deprived in 1596.

1596 Joshua Hutton. Presented by Queen Elizabeth.

1603 Miles Hunne (restored). It appears that certain charges had been brought against him and that he was deprived whilst a General Enquiry was being made. In the answer he made to the Enquiry he stated that "there were 200 communicants in the parish, that he held it with Forngett St Mary and St Peter, one Benefice though two distant churches, valued at £20. That he was Chaplain to Lettice, Countess of Essex, and as such was a licenced preacher, and had been so 30 years, and that Thomas Flowerdew, Gent, was Patron here."



1609 Thomas Hunne M.A. Erasmus Hunne B.A was his curate. Thomas Hunne was presented to the Living by King James I, but as the King had no legal right of presentation he was forced to be reinstated in 1615, Thomas Greenaway being the real patron.

1617 William Warren M.A. The King appears to have been sufficiently interested to usurp the right of presentation again, and the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas had to intervene a second time.

1620 William Warren M.A. Probably a son of the above

1639 Edward Mitchell

1647 Philip Tennison. He was in addition Rector of Foulsham and Archdeacon of Norfolk, but was turned out of the living in the Rebellion. In 1654 Cromwell appointed committees in each county with power to summon incumbents before them to enquire into their characters and capabilities. If they were found guilty of any offence or of encouraging dancing or play acting or of speaking irreverently of Puritans, or of using the Prayer Book in public service, they were to be eject-

ed, and Archdeacon Tension was one of many to suffer in this way.

1654 Jeremiah Coleman. Presumably a Puritan.

1658 Thomas Moore Junior. He published a pamphlet called "Breach upon Breach, or an acknowledgement of Judicial Breaches made upon us, occasioned by sinful breaches made among us with Instruction, Admonition and Encouragement, yet to turn to Him that smites us; being the sum of what was delivered at the Funeral of Mr Jeremiah Coleman, late Preacher of the Gospel at Hetherset in Norfolk, Feb 18th, 1658. Published in quarto at London in 1659 by Theo Moore Junior, his successor there." He was presumably also a Puritan, as he was turned out of the living at the Restoration in 1660.

1660 Thomas Church.

1673 William Lock MA.

1702 John Amyas, who held it united to Melton All Saints.

1704 John Murrant M.A. It was during this incumbency that Dr John Gostlin, then patron and also President of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, gave the patronage to the College and the Master and Fellows of the College have been the patrons since that date. John Murrant was a Fellow of the College and held the living united to St Clement's in Norwich

1736 John Berney D.D. He was Archdeacon of Norwich, Chaplain to the Bishop, Rector of the two consolidated Rectories of the Saxlingham and of the Rectory of St Clement's, Norwich. He died at the age of 83 and was buried in the church, where his tombstone can be seen at the end of the north aisle.

1782 Bartholomew Edwards.

1820 Jeremy Day who is still remembered by a few of the oldest inhabitants (sadly not anymore - editor).

1855 William Collett M.A. Hon. Canon of Norwich Cathedral, during whose incumbency the chancel was rebuilt.

1903 John Still M.A, R.D. Hon Canon of Norwich Cathedral. He died in church on August 9th, 1914. after celebrating at the altar.

From Our Own Research

Rev Frederic Jarvis 1913-1931

Frederic Jarvis was born in or around 1887 and his birthplace is given variously as either Grimston, Freebridge or Cromer.

In the 1891 census he is recorded as being three years of age and the son of John and Fanny Jarvis. At the time he seems to have had five siblings. The 1901 census has him aged 14 and lists his parents as John and Frances (presumably also known as Fanny) Jarvis.

He was educated at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he gained a Bachelor's Degree (BA) in 1910 and a Masters' Degree (MA) in 1913. He was ordained a Deacon in 1910 and priest in 1911.

From 1910 to 1912 he was Curate of Blakeney with Glandford and Cockthorpe and the 1911 census shows him living in a household of 13 people at Blakeney Rectory. From 1913 to 1914 he was chaplain to Gonville and Caius College and came to Hethersett as Rector and served the village from 1914 until 1932, apart from his year of service as an army chaplain on the Western Front. He subsequently became Vicar of Wymondham and was responsible for writing a history of Wymondham Abbey and served the town until 1953 when it is likely he retired. He was also an honorary Deacon of Norwich Cathedral.

Frederic Jarvis died on 18th November, 1959, at St Andrew's Hospital, Thorpe, just outside Norwich. The value of his effects were put at £8,309 2s 6d (£8,309.13p). At the time of his death his address was given as Bennetts, Hethersett, and his telephone number was Hethersett 343. At the time the village had its own exchange.

We also know that Frederic was married and had at least one daughter. As far as his war service is concerned, he left for France on 27th December, 1916, leaving behind his wife, Dorothy Eleanor and a baby daughter Marion. At this point he was said to be 31 years of age (there seems to be a slight discrepancy in his age as outlined in various censuses). He was 5ft 9in tall and weighed 147 lbs (10 stone 7 lbs), He was passed fit for duty as a Temporary Chaplain 4th Class to H.M Forces, with the relative rank of Captain at a payment of 10 shillings (50p) a day. All his transport was free of charge.

Rev James McAnally 1932-1942

The Rev James Mortimer La Fontaine McAnally introduced himself in the parish magazine and was to spend over seven years serving the village before the outbreak of the Second World War. Like his predecessor he was to write extensively about war and the part it played in Hethersett. The Rev McAnally was married with a daughter Rachel Mary. Rachel married Donald Dashwood on 21st December, 1940 and died on 8th May, 2001. Rev McAnally had a very varied career. He was born in 1888 which made him 44 when he moved to Hethersett and 51 at the outbreak of the second world war.

He was educated at Keeble College, Oxford, gaining a BA degree in 1909 and a Masters' Degree in 1913. He was made a deacon in 1911 and a priest in 1912 and was curate at Wymondham from 1911 to 1913 before working at Edgbaston in Birmingham from 1913 to 1916 and Eton College from 1917 until 1921. He was Rector of Newdigate in Surrey from 1921 until 1927 and Rector of Haslemere in Surrey from 1927 until 1932 when he moved to Hethersett where he stayed until 1942. He was also vicar of nearby Ketteringham from 1939 until 1942. He moved to Alton Barnes in Wiltshire where he stayed until 1945 when he became vicar of Netherbury with Solway Ash in Dorset. He served there

until 1953 and was curate in charge of nearby Stoke Abbott from 1949 to 1951 and Rector from 1951 to 1953.

He was Rural Dean of Beaminster in Dorset from 1948 to 1953 before moving to St Edmundsbury and Ipswich from 1953 to 1956 and that saw him living in Southwold. He was Rector of Spexhall with Wissett in Suffolk from 1956 to 1958 before being awarded the living of Shotesham in 1959. He was curate in charge at Worstead and at Westwick with Sloley from 1962 to 1964. It is likely that he died in either 1976 or 1977.

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Society

At the March meeting of the society we had a very interesting presentation by Paige Pope, the Supporter Relations Officer of the Dogs Trust at Snetterton. She explained about all the rescue work they provide for dogs which for one reason or another are in need of 'TLC'. Some are strays, undernourished or neglected or it may be that their owners were unable to cope with them any more at home. The Trust restores them to health, feeding, vaccinating, and hopefully re-homing them. While at Snetterton they are given lots of care, attention and exercise and time for play. There is an excellent web page explain about re-homing, fostering and lots more.

Please note that due to the coronavirus outbreak the society will not be meeting until the all clear is given.

Please Get In Touch

If you have any stories or information you would like to see in the Hethersett Herald, please get in touch with us. You can find the contact details elsewhere in this edition.

Groups and Societies

We have kept reports from groups and societies as they were sent to us. Where they mention coming diary dates please check with them as to whether these are still going ahead in light of the Coronavirus.

Jubilee Youth Club

By Gillian Saunders

The first meeting to discuss this year's fete was held on 26th February and the four of us made a good start talking about different ideas and how we could get more people involved. It was really good to see new faces as well as those who have been involved before.

We are looking to borrow a (small) marquee for the outside stalls. If you have one or know of one we could borrow then please let me know! We are also looking for a face painter and ice cream van. If you can help with anything then please let myself, CJ or Alahna know.

The next meeting is April 22nd at noon at the youth club hall. We will provide a sandwich lunch. All Are welcome to come along. Editor's note—please check whether this meeting is still taking place).

The Fete and Dog Show are on **Saturday 27th June** at the hall from 12-3:30 pm. We are taking bookings for stall holders now, so if you are interested or know someone who is please get in touch with me. It is £10 a table, inside or out.

We are also collecting books, white elephant, bottles and Tombola prizes for the fete. If you have anything to donate let me know or leave them in the lobby when the hall is open and we can store them in the loft.

Youth club for those who are aged 9, 10 or 11 runs every Wednesday 5:45-7:30 pm in term time and there are lots of fun activities planned with the young people. Lots seem to include food! If you want to see what it is like then go along and find out and hopefully have a great evening. Subs are £1.50 a week and there is a tuck shop if you wish to purchase sweets or crisps. Activities have included pancake making (and eating of course!) also a quiz and chip evening.

Then on the first Wednesday of the month there is a session for those at High School, age 11-14. Again subs are £1.50 and it is open to all, just go along at 7:30-9 pm at the hall. Recently they decorated flower pots which was very therapeutic and planted Primulas in them and also discussed lots of things that were important to them and how everyone had been feeling. There is never any pres-

Groups and Societies

sure on anyone to join in the discussions if they don't feel comfortable. There is no reason not to go along for companionship and fun.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the early group on a Wednesday evening to serve tuck, make drinks and generally help out. Whatever you feel comfortable with. We ask only that you commit to a regular time eg 1st Wednesday in the month or every other month. Please think about it and arrange to go and see club or contact me on 01953 607566.

We are also expecting delivery of our new shed soon thanks to a very generous donation and also a badge making machine which will save us having to borrow one every time we want to make badges. We also hope to have this out at the fete too. More details next month.

Editor's Note—The regular youth club sessions have been suspended for the duration of the current coronavirus outbreak. We will let you know in our groups and societies section when the club is due to re-start.

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@lineone.net.

Reports of events and meetings can also be sent to the above email address.

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

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 via e-mail.

If you enjoy reading Hethersett Herald please pass details on.

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Hawks

By Mel Perkins MBE

HETHERSETT Hawks/Yellow Brick Mortgages finally got some racing for their keen youngsters after three weeks of storm postponements. Four young Hawks braved the cold windy conditions for the Go-Ride event with Norwich riders at Harford Park. McKenzie Loombe dropped just one point in the heats before winning the Under-15 Final while, in the Under-11s, Will Clarke was second and Lewis Smith third. Oscar Norton won what must be the youngest age competition ever - Under-5s. Hawks got their club nights up and running on March 10th and had an unprecedented 24 participants for the first session. This included six newcomers of which four were girls. This all augurs well for an exciting season ahead, especially with the new youth team. (Editor's Note: The Hawks' season has been put on hold due to the coronavirus)..

At our Annual General Meeting John Nelson stood down as Chairman after over 30 years in the role and he was thanked for this amazing service to the club. John will continue as a committee member.

The club were saddened to hear of the death of Brian Denmark who was a pioneer of cycle-speedway in Hethersett in the 1940s and 1950s racing for the Hornets at the Parish Pit.

Fixtures for April have been cancelled due to the Coronavirus.

You can keep up to date with our activities on our website www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk

Methodist Church

HETHERSETT Methodist Church holds shoppers' coffee mornings every Saturday from 10.30 am until midday. All are welcome with refreshments available. The art and craft group meets on Wednesday mornings at 10 am. Once again everyone is welcome and further details are available from Tina Greenhalgh on 810364.

The church has Bible Study sessions on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7.30 pm. More details are available from Leonie Pritchard on 01603 812634. **The above have been cancelled during the Coronavirus epidemic.**

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Short Mat Bowls Club

THE club plays all year round in Hethersett Village Hall and is affiliated to the English Short Mat Bowls Association. The club meets twice a week but inexperienced bowlers and newcomers are invited to attend the Friday evening sessions which take place at 7.30 pm. Sessions last for approximately two hours and take place on purpose-made bowling mats with refreshments served between games. Bowls can be provided. More information is available from Mick Wright on 07825 759162.

Norfolk Association For The Disabled

By Angela Farrington

We are a group which enables people with disabilities, their carers and others who may want to join a friendly group for afternoon socials and trips out or for anyone wishing to volunteer their services to help others.

Our socials are held on the first Thursday of the month at Hethersett Methodist Church hall from 2-4 pm. We have three trips out each year. We can provide transport or help with taxi costs if needed. Feel free to turn up at any of our meetings and you will be guaranteed a very friendly welcome. Membership fees are due in April and are £15. The committee provide refreshments, sandwiches and cakes followed by a raffle with a fun activity or visiting entertainment at all socials.

For more information about the group please contact myself on 01603 810342 (leave a message if I'm not at home) or Rob Reeve, chairperson on 01603 810440.

Hethersett Art Group 'Paint with Us'

By Ann Wright

The group meets on Thursdays from 1.30 to 4 pm in the Village Hall, Back Lane.

The group was formed in 2003 with 13 members. It has gone from strength to strength, now having over 30 members. About 15 members come each week from Hethersett and surrounding villages.

An annual exhibition of the artists' work is held in the autumn with no one under any obligation to exhibit their paintings, cards or small sculptures.

Artists of all abilities are welcome from beginners to experienced artists.

Groups and Societies

There is no formal tuition. We encourage each other and members are always willing **to** give help when asked.

The first session is free for new members. Contact email is suefhope@gmail.com or come on a Thursday to see if you would like to join us.

Membership is payable on a six monthly basis to cover the cost of hiring the hall and miscellaneous expenses.

Heart of Hethersett Group

The Heart of Hethersett Bereavement Group is widening its remit to take in a number of other subjects other than bereavement. The group was formed four years ago and meets regularly every two weeks in the lounge at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex in Firs Road from 5.30 until 6.30 pm.

Over the past few years the group has looked at many aspects of bereavement and also extended its remit to include depression and anxiety.

Now the group will be looking at a whole mix of subjects including loneliness, solitude and alienation, isolation, the use of social media etc. New members are always welcome although meetings at the present time have been suspended due to the Coronavirus outbreak.

Hethersett Dementia Support Group

The monthly café on 17th March is likely to be the last for some time until the Coronavirus outbreak ends. Usually the support group organises an informal coffee morning on the first Tuesday of each month and a more structured morning which features films and speakers on the third Tuesday.

The café runs from 10 until 11.30 am and the regular dementia group sessions form 10 until midday. All meetings take place in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall.

Hethersett Pensioners' Association

The association meets monthly in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 2 to 4 pm. Hethersett Herald editor Peter Steward gave a talk to the group on 9th March entitled "Hethersett Heroes, Heroines and a Horse" covering famous people either born in the village or with close connections with Hethersett. These included American pioneer Temperance Flowerdew and Australian pioneer Elizabeth Pulley and of course the horse Hethersett which won the classic race the St Leger.

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Parochial Charity

Funds are available for those in need in the village through the Parochial Charity. If you know somebody in need who lives in the village contact clerk to the trustees Stephanie Clarke on 811589 or in writing to 43, Lynch Green, Hethersett, NR9 3JT.

Messy Church

Messy church dates in St Remigius for the remainder of 2020 are 11th July (picnic), 3rd October and 28th November. In the light of the Coronavirus please check whether these dates are going ahead.

Probus Club

President John Nortcliff gave a brief history of the earth at the first meeting of 2020. He emphasised that the population had increased from one billion in 1800 to two billion in 1927, four billion in 1974 and a potential eight billion in 2024. He questioned its sustainability and what kind of world will be left for our grandchildren. A debate followed on population management and issues of climate change, food production and reduced land availability due to housebuilding.

At the second meeting of the new year, Luke Hancock, Norfolk Fire and Rescue Station Manager at Wymondham which covers Hethersett, gave an informative talk on the structure of the service in Norfolk. He underlined how important education, prevention and risk assessments are to the service. He also underlined the importance of having smoke detectors in homes.

Women's Institute

Age UK volunteer Carol Williams described the work of the charity both in this country and abroad and described campaigns and research designed to make the lives of older people better. Carol supports action against loneliness and helps people to remain as independent as possible.

Mothers Union

Hethersett Mothers' Union held its annual general meeting in January

Groups and Societies

which started with lunch. The act of worship was led by the Rector of Hethersett the Rev Derek McClean who also conducted the AGM, after which members discussed the topic of modern day slavery.

In February Hethersett Herald editor Peter Steward entertained members with his talk “Hethersett Heroes and Heroines and a Horse” featuring some of the well known and not so well known heroes who were either born or lived in the village.

New members are always welcome. The group meets in the Church Hall in Henstead Road on the fourth Monday of the month from 1.30 pm. As well as enjoying talks, the group also raises money for the Mothers’ Union around the world.

The village litter pick scheduled for 11th April has been cancelled. The next scheduled pick is on 9th May but this is subject to possible cancellation as well. We will update you on this in the next edition of Hethersett Herald.

Please note that the art exhibition at Hempnall Village Hall scheduled for 25th and 26th April has been cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak.

During the current coronavirus crisis there are a number of Facebook pages that will keep you informed of what is going on (or not going on) in Hethersett.

The best page to view is the All Things Hethersett site which has over 2,500 members and includes numerous postings throughout the day from residents.

There is also a Hethersett Facebook page and a Hethersett Herald page. Just pop along to Facebook and search for them.

Where To Eat In Hethersett

Church Farm Shop and Tea Rooms -

Norwich Road (B1172). Telephone 01603 814151

Open Mondays to Saturdays 9 am to 5 pm. Closed on Sundays.

Janey's Village Café -

32A Mill Road. Telephone 01603 811234. e-mail - janeyd11@yahoo.co.uk.

Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday 8 am to 3 pm.

Friday and Saturday 8 am to 5 pm.

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.

The latest edition to Hethersett coffee culture, Café Kin is part of the Rowan House Health and Well Being complex on Queen's Road. Food and coffee served during the day from 8 am until 2.45 pm Mondays to Fridays.

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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 Greggs, Burger King, Subway and McDonalds and there is also a petrol station and Travelodge.

All the above are closed at the present time due to the coronavirus outbreak. We will inform you of re-opening dates as soon as we have them.

Hethersett Herald

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

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.

Information, reports and photographs are always welcome. These can be e-mailed to petersteward@lineone.net. Everyone who works or contributes to Hethersett Herald does so on a voluntary and unpaid basis. We are happy to hear from anyone who would like to help us increase and improve our coverage of village life. Views expressed are those of the individual authors.

Herald Team

Editor - Peter Steward

Associate Editors - Roger Morgan, Gary Wyatt and Hannah Harrison.

Columnists - Scott Willoughby. Connie Tindale and Penelope Brown

Proof Reader - Anne Steward.

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

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@lineone.net

Please note that these events will not be taking place at present due to Coronavirus. We have decided to keep this page active in order to inform residents of what is available to them once the epidemic is over.

Regular Events:

Hethersett Croquet Club meets on the Memorial Playing Field from 2.30 pm on Wednesday and Saturdays during the summer.

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 Table Tennis Club meets in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 7 pm on Fridays.

Hethersett Methodist Church Shoppers' Coffee takes place on Saturdays from 10.30 am until midday.

First Steps pre-school Group meets in Hethersett Village Hall on Tuesdays from 10 am during school term time.

The Heart of Hethersett Bereavement Group meets in the lounge of Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex from 5.30 to 6.30 pm on alternate Tuesdays. All welcome, light refreshments available free of charge.

Hethersett Dementia Support Group's monthly café takes place in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am until midday every third Tuesday. There is also a social morning meeting on the first Tuesday of each month from 10 until 11.30 am.

Hethersett Short Mat Bowls Club plays two sessions each week in Hethersett Village Hall. The first is on Tuesday afternoons from 2.15 pm for a 2.30 pm start and the second is on Friday evenings at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start.

In the light of the Coronavirus epidemic we have suspended our April What's on listings. The listings will be re-introduced once groups and societies begin meeting again.

Open Day For U3A

THE Wymondham branch of the University of the Third Age (U3A) will be holding an open day on 6th June in Wymondham Central Hall from 10 am to 4 pm. **In light of the Coronavirus please check with the organisers whether this will be going ahead as planned.**

Wymondham U3A is made up of retired or semi-retired people from Wymondham and the surrounding villages including Hethersett.

U3A was founded in France during the 1970s and is now world-wide and aimed at semi-retired and retired people who wish to make new friends, experience new opportunities and above all bring joy and laughter into their lives.

The monthly magazine called 'Third Age Matters' encompasses the idea that the third stage of our lives matters and that each and every day should be lived to the full.

The Wymondham U3A has been in existence since 2001 and provides a vast array of choices with the many groups from books to bridge, from gardening to golf, from Spanish to Scrabble and much more. Over to the organisers of Wymondham U3A.

"If you are on your own or a couple, you will receive a warm and friendly welcome in your first step into a social environment with a visit to one of our coffee mornings held each Thursday from 10 – 12 am at Central Hall, Wymondham.

"During our Open Day on 6th June, you will be able to browse amongst the many activities on offer including holidays, coach trips and social events. You can be involved as little or as much as you feel comfortable and will soon find that the strangers you meet will soon become friends.

"Do come along and see for yourself when you will be met with friendly faces and laughter. If you would like to know more before our Open Day, please look at our website on

www.u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/welcome.

You can also email Gilly at gillyflour4@gmail.com who will be happy to answer any of your questions.



**U3A STANDS FOR THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE THIRD AGE
FOR PEOPLE IN THEIR "THIRD AGE"
IN RETIREMENT OR SEMI-RETIREMENT**

THIRD AGE MATTERS

**LIVE
LEARN
LAUGH
A WARM
WELCOME
AWAITS**

Happy Thursday



**Would like to know more?
Why not join us for our
coffee mornings
Every Thursday 10 - 12 am
Central Hall
Wymondham**

STRANGERS

.... are just

FRIENDS

.... waiting to

HAPPEN

**INTEREST
GROUPS**

**A
WARM
WELCOME**

**SOCIAL
EVENTS**

**JOIN
NOW**

HOLIDAYS

**REGULAR
NEWS
LETTERS**

**COACH
TRIPS**

**MONTHLY
OPEN
MEETINGS**

Step into an interesting and friendly new world

Make new friends

Experience new interests

Get involved

**A vast array of information is available
on our website:**

www.u3asites.org.uk/wymondham/welcome

Hethersett Social Club



In light of the coronavirus please check on the club's website on club's hours and coming attractions. The club is currently closed

Normal Club Opening Hours are:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - 7 pm to 11 pm

Wednesday - 7 pm to 11 pm

Thursday - 7 pm to 11 pm

Friday - 5 pm to 11.30 pm

Saturday - 12 pm to 12 am

Sunday - 12 pm to 6 pm

For more information on club activities telephone 01603 811195 or visit the official website at: www.hethersettsocialclub.co.uk

News From Hethersett Library

Library Shuts Its Doors

HETHERSETT Library shut its doors on 21st March and will be closed for at least three months as part of the precautions taken against the Coronavirus. During that time there will be no need to renew books and no fines will accrue. We will have details of the re-opening as soon as a decision is made.



Message From South Norfolk Council

The following message from South Norfolk Council was received too late to form part of the main magazine but we are happy to add it at the end of this edition in order to help local residents in need.

The Coronavirus pandemic is an international problem. There is a national strategy that seeks to minimise the impact but South Norfolk Council is on the front-line helping families to manage in our local villages.

So far South Norfolk Council have taken over 1,500 calls from local residents needing help. Over the last four days alone, our Help Hub has dealt with over four hundred cases of people requiring urgent help. We have been able to ask volunteers to help isolating people with shopping, collecting prescriptions or arranging for dogs to be walked. That's one person helped every five minutes - and we're ready to handle even more.

We're Open!

If you or someone dear to you needs help you can call the General Coronavirus Help Hub at South Norfolk.

Please call 01508 533933 (Monday to Friday 08:15 - 17:00).

or email communities@s-norfolk.gov.uk

or fill in our online form on our website www.south-norfolk.gov.uk if your enquiry can wait until the following day.

Our Help Hub will remain open this weekend, Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March 09:00 - 17:00 for support, available on the above number. If you need to contact us urgently out-of-these-hours, please call 0800 3896109.

A dedicated team for Hethersett and surrounding villages

The council has set up a team of local staff who will be with us all the way over the next few months. It's their job to ensure nobody is overlooked and to help volunteers focus efforts where it's needed the most.

Hethersett and surrounding villages including Bawburgh, Little Melton, Cringleford, Colney and Keswick have a dedicated team of people who are led by Julie Ringer and Barbara Howard at South Norfolk Council.

You can call them directly on 01508 533747 if you need help or can offer help.

They're keeping the register, which may be enhanced by the names from the Government's list of the especially vulnerable and NHS volunteers.

If you need help...

If you need help, we may not have captured your requirements don't be afraid to ask even if you're not in the national lists. We're there to support everyone.

If you can offer help...

If you have expressed an interest in volunteering, Jake, Andrea or one of their colleagues may call you.

Remember, the council will not ask you for money. And you might want to call us back if you're unsure whether the person calling is genuine. There's no embarrassment about this. Our main concern is for your safety and security.

As time goes on, we may need to ask volunteers to do more than fetching or carrying. We might ask help to assist people get home from hospital by moving a bed downstairs or simply by cutting the grass for those stuck inside.

Look out for the letter from the Council.

Finally, everyone in South Norfolk will be getting a letter in the next day or so detailing the help available to the vulnerable, those who are in hardship or for businesses affected by the crisis. We have a comprehensive action plan to help everyone who has been affected, whatever their circumstances.

But you don't have to wait for the letter. You can get all the latest local information at

<https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/communities/coronavirus>