

HETHERSETT HERALD

December 2017

Number 26



Celebrating 200 Years

A SPECIAL day of celebration was held at Hethersett Junior School to mark the bicentenary of education in Hethersett.

Present day staff and pupils joined with former teachers, governors, support staff and guests to see the Bishop of Thetford, the Right Reverend Alan Winton, unveil a special plaque commemorating 200 years of education. For photographs and a full report turn to page 12.



Memorial To The Fallen

HETHERSETT'S annual remembrance service took place outside and inside the parish church on Sunday, 12th November and was led by the Rector, the Rev Derek McClean, and the Methodist Minister, the Rev Mathew Olanrewaju

Representatives from village groups, including youth and uniformed organisations, laid wreaths on the war memorial.

For a full report and pictures of this year's event see our six page special report which starts on page seven.

INDEX

Celebrating 200 Years of Education in Hethersett	1
A Decade of Outstanding Judgements for Woodside School	3
Herald Comment	5
Youth Club appeal for help	6
Hethersett Remembrance Day Special	7
Junior School Celebrates 200 Years	12
New Crossing Point Welcomed	15
Art Exhibition at Village Hall	16
Cycleway Work to Begin	17
Red Skies over Hethersett	20
Countryside Wander with Gary Wyatt	22
Reporting Poor Phone Reception	23
Hethersett Village Screen	24
Hethersett Matters - News from Norfolk Trading Standards	25
Council and Government Contact Numbers	27
Woodcote On Show	29
Nigel Wins National Award	32
Unfamiliar Territory - How a German Jew Escaped Nazi Germany	33
News From Wider Afield	38
Herald What's On	40
Christmas Church Services	42
News From Hethersett Parish Council	44
News From Hethersett Library	45
News From the Village	47
Christmas Information and Opening Times	48
Charity Picture Special	50
Old Hall School Winter Wonderland	52
Groups and Societies	54
Hethersett Hedgehogs	57
Media Watch	59
Ricey's Footballing Record	63

Ten Outstanding Years

Woodside celebrates

HETHERSETT Woodside Infant and Nursery School is celebrating a decade of outstanding education, after retaining the top Ofsted judgement in its latest inspection.

The school was visited by Ofsted last month for a one-day monitoring visit. It was Woodside's first Ofsted visit since February, 2007, when the school achieved its outstanding judgement.

The latest inspection highlighted strengths in the school's leadership, safeguarding and pupils' progress. It also recognised the children's love of the school and the nurturing and safe environment created for pupils.

Angela Jermy, head teacher, said: "Everyone at the school is thrilled that this inspection has recognised our commitment to do the very best for our children.

"Our ethos is to really nurture our pupils and to help them develop a life-long love of learning, so I am particularly pleased that the inspector highlighted how happy and safe our children feel at school.

"Our success is a real team effort. We have fantastic staff and are lucky to receive tremendous support from both parents and the wider community."

Among the areas highlighted in a letter from inspectors were:

- Standards are improving rapidly.
- The head teacher has built an exceptionally strong senior leadership team.
- Governors provide good support and challenge and know the school exceptionally well.
- There are strong systems to check that the most vulnerable children are safe.
- Pupils feel safe because of the nurturing environment.
- Playtimes are a delight.
- Staff understand precisely what the school priorities are.



- The writing programme has had a significant impact on improving boys' attitudes and achievement in writing.
- The new mathematics programme has already had an impact on girls' confidence in learning mathematics.

Hethersett Woodside will become an all-through primary school in 2019, moving to a new site in the village.

Simon Cooper, Chair of Governors, said: "We have tremendous staff at our school and I am glad that this report recognises all of their hard work and commitment to do the best for our pupils.

"This inspection has come at a really exciting time, as we prepare to become an all-through primary school.

"It gives us the impetus to begin to prepare for the changes the school will face over the next couple of years and the confidence to plan for the future knowing that the school is in a really strong position."

The inspector recommended improvements to the school's written improvement plan; the recording of the methods used in mathematics and information on the school website relating to additional funding.



Festive Fellowship

Hethersett Methodist Church's Singing Fellowship will be holding a Christmas music and tea afternoon on Friday, December 8th, from 2.30pm.

The afternoon in the church will feature music, readings, poems, tea and home-made cake.

Everyone is welcome.

If a Picture Paints a Thousand Words

THOSE of you interested in music will recognise the above heading as lyrics from the song “If” which was recorded

Herald Comment

by the American group Bread and written by David Gates (and not Telly Savalas as some people might think from his hit version of the song).

In this edition of Hethersett Herald you will find our largest number of photographs ever and they really do replace a thousand words. Associate Editor Gary Wyatt captured the impressive red skies over the village and our county councillor David Bills was out at the charity Christmas market organised by the Hethersett-based Respect Yourself charity to bring some highly colourful images of that event.

There’s also plenty of photographs from our village remembrance event and also a craft day at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex. As always we hope you enjoy our coverage of village matters and, particularly in this issue, our photographic coverage.

Congratulations To Our Schools

WE are delighted to be able to comment on the continued excellence of all of our Hethersett schools as the village celebrates 200 years of education. On November 14th, I was fortunate to be able to join in with the celebrations at Hethersett Junior School which, as Hethersett National School, was the first in the village to offer structured education to children. The Bishop of Thetford was on hand to unveil a plaque and there were many familiar faces from the school’s past there to enjoy morning refreshments and a look round the school. I was very honoured and proud to be able to serve the school for many years, firstly on the PTA, then as a parent-governor and eventually as a community governor and then chair of governors. It is a school that will always be dear to my heart and it seems to be going from strength to strength.

Then came news that Woodside Infant and Nursery School has once again been rated by Government Inspectors as “Outstanding.” The school has now held this rating for a decade and once again it is richly deserved. Particularly heart-warming were comments made about the children’s love of the school and the nurturing and safe environment created for pupils.

Add to this the successes achieved by both Hethersett Academy and Hethersett Old Hall School which we have reported on at length in the past and it's easy to see that, 200 years on from the dreams of Caroline Lindley and her benefactors, education is indeed thriving in our village.

This will be a vitally important base from which to move forward with schooling over the next 10 years - a decade that will bring many challenges and upheavals as Hethersett continues to grow.

Renewed Appeal for Help

HETHERSETT Jubilee Youth Club has renewed its appeal for more volunteer help.

“We urgently need new volunteers to help out at the club, especially on the 4th and 5th Wednesday for the younger group and all weeks of the month for the older group. Volunteers play an important role, sitting and chatting with the young people, making drinks, selling tuck, helping with craft activities or even baking cakes.



“We are also looking for people who are willing to help with the club in other ways if you don't want to be hands on with the club.

“We urgently need a new treasurer. We are also looking for people to join us as trustees or committee members to help with the day to day running of the club and hall. We try to meet twice a term, so not a huge commitment,” said Gillian Saunders.

Anyone interested in helping or finding out more can telephone Gillian on 01953 607566 or speak to her or Norman Saunders at the village Christmas market at Hethersett Methodist Church on December 1st.

Remembering the Fallen

YOUTH organisations and village groups were once again well represented at the 2017 annual Remembrance Service at St Remigius Parish Church.

The service inside the church was preceded by an act of remembrance around the village war memorial in the churchyard. John Head read out the names of those from the village who died fighting for their country in the two World Wars.

Two minutes' silence was immaculately observed and wreaths were laid by representatives from many of the village organisations including Hethersett Parish Council, Hethersett Explorers, Hethersett Scouts, Hethersett Cubs, Hethersett Old Hall School, Hethersett Brownies, Hethersett Guides, Heth-



John Head reading the names of the fallen

Writing in the village "Good News" magazine, the Rector of Hethersett, the Rev Derek McClean, summed up the importance of Remembrance Sunday:

"John Donne's famous saying states that No Man is an Island. His famous poem is about the fact that the death of any member of society affects us all. We are all lessened by the death of a member of our village or district.

"November gives us both Remembrance Sunday and All Saints' Day. Both are good reminders that we are indebted to those who have gone before. Those who have given up their time and efforts, and may even have paid the ultimate sacrifice, so that our society can be what it is.

"Remembrance Sunday is a stark reminder of the fact that we enjoy the freedoms we have because of the sacrifices of others, even to the point of death. It asks us to stop and remember that part of the day is also about seeing an end to all wars and violence. In our turbulent times of posturing and sabre-rattling, this message is needed more than ever. We are not islands. Actions do have consequences.



ersett Beavers, Hethersett Pensioners' Association, Hethersett Methodist Church, Hethersett Parish Church and the Royal British Legion. In his address inside the church the Rector of Hethersett, the Rev Derek McClean, looked at the fall-out from war and

(Continued on page 11)



NO MAN IS AN ISLAND

No man is an island,
Entire of itself,
Every man is a piece of the continent,
A part of the main.
If a clod be washed away by the sea,
Europe is the less.
As well as if a promontory were.
As well as if a manor of thy friend's
Or of thine own were:
Any man's death diminishes me,
Because I am involved in mankind,
And therefore never send to know for
whom the bell tolls;
It tolls for thee.

MEDITATION XVII

Devotions upon Emergent Occasions
John Donne

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

by John McCrae (1872-1918)





the tragic loss of life. He spoke at length about the 30th anniversary of the IRA bombings at the Enniskillen Remembrance Service in 1987 and the bravery and courage shown by Gordon Wilson who lost his daughter in the bombing but refused to be bitter and worked tirelessly for peace.

Rev McClean paid tribute to Duncan Pigg who has read the names of the war dead for decades and who has now passed the task on to John Head.

Prayers were led by Rev Matthew Olanrewaju and the St Remigius Church Choir sang the anthem "They Shall Grow Not Old."

Festive Songsters

THIS year's community carol singing organised by Hethersett and District Churches Together will take place outside Tesco Express in Great Melton Road on December 16th from 10am.

There will be a bucket collection in aid of the Jenny Lind children's ward at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.

Educational Help

HAVE you lived in Hethersett for the past five years and are between 18 and 25?

Are you in need of financial help for further education?

If the answer is yes to both these questions, the Caroline Lindley Educational Foundation can possibly help financially towards your educational needs.

Full details of how to claim and application forms can be obtained by contacting Geoff Brownsey on 01603 811624.

Junior School Celebrations

A SPECIAL plaque to celebrate 200 years of education in Hethersett was unveiled on November 14th at Hethersett Junior School by the Bishop of Thetford, the Right Reverend Alan Winton.

Our photograph opposite shows Bishop Alan ready to unveil the plaque which contains the words:

“This plaque commemorates the 200th anniversary of Hethersett Voluntary Controlled Junior School 1817-2017.”

The Bishop underlined the close ties between the school and the Church:

“This really is a celebration event with the current pupils at the school making their own history as we speak. Thousands of young people have been educated here over two centuries and there has always been a strong link between the Church and the school in this community.

“Every child at this school is special and precious, “ the Bishop added.

He reminisced on a number of celebration events he has attended in the village over a number of years:

“I remember the church clock and bells being repaired and replaced. I also remember the celebrations surrounding six couples who were all celebrating their Golden Weddings and a combined total of 300 years of marriage,” he said.

The Bishop brought along his ceremonial gear including his mitre and crook for pupils to try on and asked them what they like about the school. Answers included:

- Making friends.
- The kindness of teachers and teaching assistants.
- Always having things to do.
- Working hard.



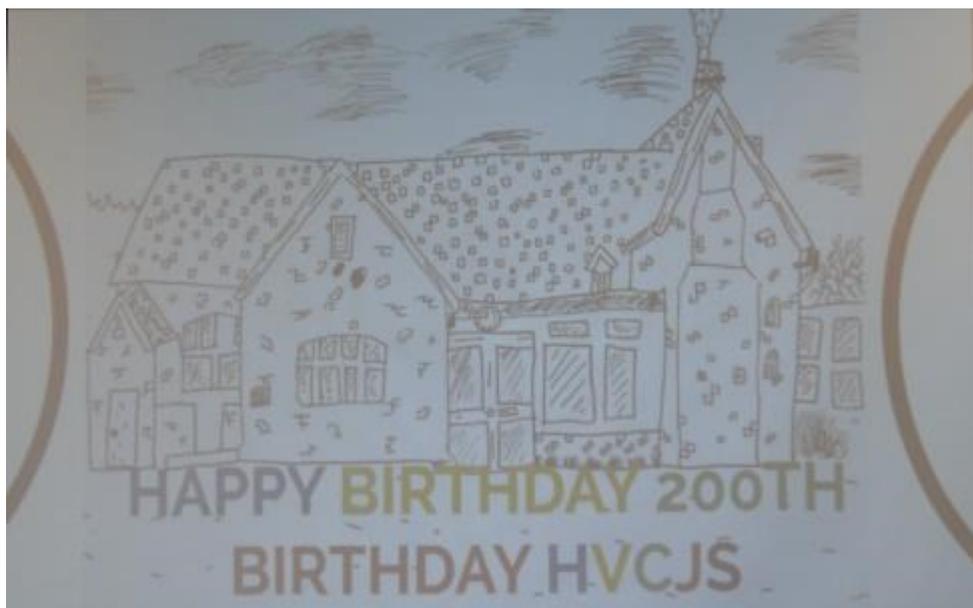
- The school swimming pool.
- Maths tests.

School Head Matthew Parslow-Williams outlined the history of the school over its 200 years and included extracts from school log books and punishment books including details of corporal punishment for disobedience and bad behaviour. He also underlined the transition to a Middle School and then Junior School and the building of the swimming pool in 1972.

A full history of the school and education in Hethersett was featured in the November edition of Hethersett Herald which is available from the village web site at www.hethersett.org.uk.

Two more photographs from the celebration day are on the following page.





THREE heads - The three most recent head teachers at Hethersett Junior School. Left to right - Andy Whittle, Matthew Parslow-Williams (current Head) and Tim Strugnell. Picture courtesy of Hethersett Junior School.

New Crossing Point Welcomed

THE building of a crossing on the B1172 has been largely welcomed, although one or two adverse comments have appeared on social media.

The two paths and crossing were put into place to help pedestrians move safely from the Steeple Tower area to the businesses at Church Farm.

A couple of residents took to social media to question the cost of the crossing and whether it was really needed.

Numerous people then made positive comments in support of the initiative which was funded through a partnership between Hethersett Parish Council and Norfolk County Council.

“The new crossing places seem to have been successful and increased the number of people using the area,” said chairman of Hethersett Parish Council Jackie Sutton.

Comments on social media have included the following:

“I believe making the farm shop and butchers more accessible by foot is a credit to how the village supports its shops and services.”

“I frequently cross there to farm shop and find this crossing a blessing, thanks to everyone who fought for it.”

“Bear in mind the number of people that have to walk home after delivering a car for work and then do the return walk to collect their vehicle. Also, the village is set to grow substantially in the next few years and most of those new homes are going to be close to those businesses.”

“I’m so pleased a crossing has been put in as now I can safely walk there with my daughter rather than going in the car.”

More Trustees Needed More trustees are needed for both Hethersett Memorial Playing Field and Hethersett Village Hall. Both bodies are currently under strength.

“We would love to hear from anyone prepared to support our village by serving on either of these bodies,” said Hethersett Parish Council Chairman Jackie Sutton

Anyone interested in serving or who would like further details of what the volunteer roles involve should contact village clerk Ian Weetman on 01603 810915

Artistic Variety



COLOUR and variety were the key words for an art exhibition in Hethersett Village Hall on November 26th. Hethersett Art Group (formerly Hethersett Aspiring Artists) opened its doors for an exhibition of great vibrancy with subjects as diverse as still life, animal portraiture, landscapes and abstracts - for sale at great value prices.

The group has been in existence for over a decade, being an informal, social group. Artists use their various painting talents to produce a wide variety of work - often over a cup of tea or coffee. Everyone is welcome whether they are complete beginners or have considerable experience. The group is currently close to full membership but does have a few places available and the first session is free. The group meets on Thursday afternoons in Hethersett Village Hall beginning at 1.30pm and finishing by 4pm.

The Future of Cycling

WITH work having started on the extension of the cycle path between Hethersett and Wymondham, there is likely to be considerable upheaval in the area over the next six months. Here we look at what the work will mean.

The extension will see the walking and cycling path extended from the existing cycle path near Haconsfield at Hethersett as far as the Drive at Wymondham to create a continuous link between Norwich and Wymondham.

The work will involve widening the existing footpath to create a pedestrian and cyclist path and providing low level lighting. It will be undertaken in two phases - the first between the existing path near to Haconsfield and David James Cars. The second phase will be between David James Cars and Wymondham.

There are no plans to install a roundabout or traffic signals at the junction of New Road and the B1172 although Norfolk County Council have added the following proviso:

“If a significant housing development be proposed for the surrounding area, traffic modelling would be undertaken to ensure that this does not significantly impact existing traffic flows. “

Bus stops will be retained in their current position once the work is complete, although there may have to be some temporary relocation during the work.

Residents of Kett's Oak have complained about the danger of the new cycleway crossing their properties but the county council has dismissed these concerns in the following terms:

“The proposed design of the facility is similar to a number of other shared-use facilities both within Norfolk and elsewhere in the UK, where vehicles are required to pass over a shared-use facility to join

the carriageway.

To enable the new facility to be constructed, we acknowledge that some highway trees and hedgerows will require removal or cutting back.

Furthermore some private hedgerows that encroach within the highway boundary will also require cutting back to the highway boundary.”

County add that wherever possible existing trees will be retained:

“It is noted that the removal of some trees and hedging may reduce privacy and increase traffic noise for residents. Where this occurs, Norfolk County Council will work with residents to minimise and/or lessen any disturbance caused.,” the council states.

Some residents have asked why a cycle path couldn't be constructed on the opposite side of the road.

Norfolk County Council says that this was considered but would have required users to cross the road to access the new path and would mean a fracturing of the path already in existence from Thickthorn as far as the village.

Of course whether the cycleway will be used once it is in place is another matter. There are mixed views on the existing path which some cyclists are happy to use but which others ignore, claiming it damages tyres.

“It is acknowledged that some cyclists, particularly those riding in fast groups, may continue to ride on the carriageway despite the construction of an adjacent shared-use facility.

“However, the new facility will provide an alternative route separated from general traffic should those users wish to use it, and will be particularly beneficial for less confident cyclists and those new to cycling,” the county council states.

Letter to the Editor

We have been given a copy of a letter from resident Nick Lewis which he has sent to Norwich Transport and which is reproduced here with his permission:

Dear Norwich Transport

We note works on the cycleway are imminent which will inevitably cause large queues of traffic from New Road to that junction whilst the works are being carried out.

Residents of St David's Road, Karen Close and St John's Close will have difficulty exiting the junction with New Road unless there are signs to stop it being blocked by queuing traffic. Please could you ensure the contractors use temporary signage to try to prevent this happening? Ideally the junction should have a yellow hatching but, with a bus stop opposite, this is not practical.

Also the temporary signage currently in place to announce the works makes it hard to see for cars turning right out of New Road. To avoid an accident, please could this be placed more sensitively.

Charity Market Update

THIS year's Village Christmas Charity Market will take place on December 1st at Hethersett Methodist Church from 6 to 9pm.

"Please walk in to the Church in the Great Melton Road if you can. Do please come and support the many local and national voluntary organisations or registered charities. New attendees this year are Hethersett Dementia Group, Venture Farm for Cats and Greyhound Rescue. Children's support is represented by the Jubilee Youth Club, the Junior School and Children's Society. Help for the ailments of ageing do feature with the Hethersett Dementia Group as well as several charitable causes supporting anti Cancer care and research. The animal and natural world will be represented by the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and RSPB. In the background, music and singing will be performed or played in the Church proper, refreshments will be available in the Church," said joint organiser Leslie Dale.

Red Sky at Night

THE photographs on this and the next page were taken by Associate Editor Gary Wyatt.





And an Autumn Scene



Countryside Wander

With Associate Editor Gary Wyatt

THIS month we venture out of Hethersett for a stroll around two local villages - Mulbarton and Swardeston - including a lovely section of the Tas Valley Way.

Distance: about 7 km or 4.5 miles. **Under-foot:** in winter, some paths can be muddy so walking boots are recommended. **Starting point:** parking areas in front of Mulbarton Church or pond. **Abbreviations:** R/RH right/right-hand; L/LH left/left-hand. **Map:** Route marked in red. Map adapted from Streetmap EU Ltd 1997-2016 with grateful thanks. **Refreshments:** The World's End pub opposite the pond in Mulbarton. **Disclaimer:** the publishers of the Hethersett Herald cannot be held responsible for your safety or well-being when using this route.

- i) With the church on your L, walk along the pavement away from the pond, passing the village hall. At the road junction, turn L into Rectory Lane.
- ii) After about 500m, turn L into the field at the footpath sign (if you have reached Lodge Farm, you have gone too far) and follow the clear path roughly north-east around various field edges. The line of the public footpath is actually diagonally across the field (see dotted line map) but clearly the field edges have become the usual route.
- iii) After about 1km you reach a belt of pine trees. Here turn L onto a track, and after about 100m turn R onto a field-edge path, keeping the hedge on your L. This path first becomes a stony track and then a tarmac road as it enters Swardeston, eventually turning L to reach the main road.
- iv) Cross the road and walk up towards the church. Pass the church gates and continue ahead through the green gates (with white posts) of the Old Rectory and go down the curving driveway (this is a public footpath). Pass through a gate at the bottom of the drive and turn L on the track.
- v) After about 100m, the track bends L (ignore the gated wide green lane on the RH side at this point). After a further 100-150m, turn R onto a path on the LH

side of a tall hedge. Keeping the hedge on your R, walk down to a kissing gate at the bottom, but do not pass through. Instead, turn L along the field edge, with the hedge on your R. You are now on the signed Tas Valley walk.

vi) Ignore another kissing gate in the hedge on the R, and continue into woodland, then over a small area of fen, crossing a bridge by a large pond. Continue on this path through further woods to reach a road (Catbridge Lane).

vii) Cross the road and continue on the path, first through more woodland and then turning L on a path up a field edge and R at the top, following the Tas Valley walk signs.

viii) Continue with the hedge on your L, cross an open field and, after a small plantation of trees, turn L up a path between the plantation and a fence. Continue into Mulbarton, emerging on the road opposite the common.

ix) Turn L along the pavement towards the pond, cross the road and follow the track by the pond back to the church and parking area.

Mobile Plea

HETHERSETT'S county and district councillor David Bills is appealing for information on mobile phone black-spots in the village and surrounding area:

“There is currently an analysis of digital phone reception around the county and we know that there are local areas where the signal is not as good as it should be. I am keen to find out where these areas are so that we can work with service providers to improve matters,” he said.

Councillor Bills can be contacted via email at

david.bills@norfolk.gov.uk

Posted Early For Christmas

THE January edition of Hethersett Herald will be published earlier than usual in order to cover events in the lead-up to Christmas. After all who wants to read about festive events once the New Year comes round?

We will therefore be out on December 23rd. The e-magazine will as usual be available via the Hethersett Village Web Site at www.hethersett.org.uk or via social media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter and Next Door.

Hethersett Village Screen

OVER 40 people turned out on a wet and windy afternoon to see the November offering from Hethersett Village Screen “Viceroy’s House” which starred Hugh Bonneville and Gillian Anderson.

It told the story of Indian independence from Britain and the partition which saw the establishment of Pakistan. Interwoven within the almost documentary historical setting was a love story. It was another hugely enjoyable afternoon in Hethersett Village Hall.

The main film was preceded by an interesting nostalgic look at whelk fishing in Wells, crab fishing in Cromer and herring fishing in Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft from the East Anglian film archives and featuring footage from Anglia Television in 1961.



The group’s film year concludes on Sunday 17th December with the modern remake of the classic comedy “Whisky Galore” which will take place in Hethersett Village Hall from 3pm with admission just £4 and coffee and biscuits being served at a nominal charge of £1.

Next year will see regular film events. January 7th and February 11th will be the first two dates of the year with the programme still to be announced. We will bring you details as soon as we have them.



Whisky Galore (PG) **Sunday 17th December, 3pm**

Whisky Galore is a remake of the classic British comedy in which Scottish islanders attempt to steal whisky from a wrecked ship. It features a rich cast of comic talent, including Ellie Kendrick, James Cosmo, Eddie Izzard, Sean Biggerstaff, Tim Pigott-Smith, Naomi Battrick and Gregor Fisher.

HETHERSETT MATTERS

Working with Norfolk Trading Standards and other organisations to make you aware of some of the latest scams to avoid and how to be winter ready

Norfolk Trading Standards are warning residents about telephone cold calls claiming to be offering 'Government grants' for replacement boilers.

Trading Standards advises residents to always be very wary of any approach made in a telephone cold call and NEVER give or confirm any personal details or agree to someone visiting your home if approached in this manner.

Impartial advice on energy saving and accessing genuine grants is available from the Energy Saving Trust.

If you need advice about telephone cold calling or have agreed to a visit during a cold call, contact Trading Standards via their partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on their website or by telephone to 03454 04 05 06.

*

*

*

A new national campaign has been launched to help residents to be ready for the coming cold winter weather.

Be Winter Ready aims to encourage people to prepare in case they experience a power cut or gas emergency this winter. In recent years the chances of unscheduled problems with electricity and gas supply have dropped dramatically. Since 1990, network companies have invested £80bn in improving the reliability of local energy networks in the UK. As a result, on average, electricity customers have a power cut just once every two years and gas distribution customers will have their gas supply interrupted without advance notice just once every 40 years. But whilst the UK's gas and electricity supply is very reliable, bad winter weather can cause damage and disruption.

Steps you can take to 'Be Winter Ready':

- **Know your free emergency numbers:** In a power cut dial 105 or, for a gas emergency, dial 0800 111999.
- **Prepare your home:** Keep a torch handy and get your appliances serviced by a Gas Safe registered engineer to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- **Register as a vulnerable customer:** Vulnerable households can get extra support by signing up to the Priority Services Register.

HETHERSETT MATTERS

Keep your eyes open: Keep an eye on the weather forecast and, if you have a power cut or a gas emergency, check on your neighbours.

By The Weeping Willow



ANOTHER photograph of Autumn in Hethersett

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 Leslie Dale and David Bills. Leslie can be contacted on 01603 810952. David can be contacted on 01603 813041.

Hethersett Parish Council

Clerk to the council Ian Weetman can be contacted on 01603 810915. Parish council chairman Jackie Sutton can be contacted on 01603 811170.

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 10am and 12noon

Email: hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk

Website – hethersettpc.info

News From The Village



Woodcote On Show

CRAFTY residents from Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex showed their artistic side at their weekly coffee morning on November 1st.

Residents displayed a variety of artwork from paintings and photographs to cross stitch and model-making.

There was something for everyone to admire in a display of diverse skills.

The photograph above is of an Indian cross stitch



lovingly put together by Nigel Hendry who also produced the tiger image on the next page. Nigel is pictured on the right.

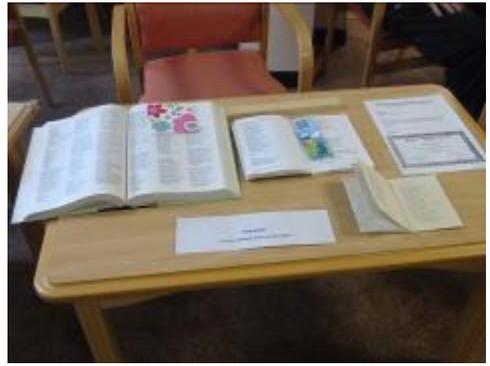
A previous coffee morning at the complex raised a magnificent £250 for MacMillan Cancer Research.

In a previous edition of Hethersett Herald we carried a story about a presentation of a cheque to Hethersett Surgery, proceeds from this year's Forties' Day at Woodcote.

The surgery has begun to purchase blood pressure monitors with the money and the first eight of these should be in circulation within the community in the near future.



ROY Howland is a keen model maker and specialises in farm carts and agricultural vehicles as his display above shows.



Just some of the art and handicrafts on display at the Woodcote coffee morning. Work included cross stitching, art, poetry, model-making, colouring-in, fabric work and jewellery.



Nigel's Milestone Award

NORFOLK environmentalist Nigel Ford (pictured right) has won a top national award.

As reported in the last edition of Herald, Nigel was shortlisted in the Best Rescue, Recording or Interpretation of an Historic Place section of the Historic England Angels' Awards for his work in restoring milestones throughout Norfolk.

Nigel was also responsible for cleaning and renovating the old Hethersett Village sign which is now on the piece of land close to Tesco Express in Great Melton Road.

To win his section, Nigel held off a challenge from a Birmingham man who organises autism friendly tours and a group that works with the Canal and Rover Trust and the Help for Heroes charity.



The awards were founded by Andrew Lloyd Webber and are co-funded by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. The judges had the following to say about Nigel's work:

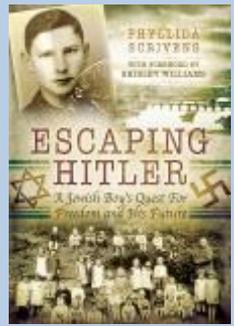
"Nigel Ford's project to recover and restore hundreds of milestones across Norfolk is clear for everyone to see. For his team of volunteers (which includes many children) and for all visitors to the county, the project highlights an important part of Norfolk's heritage.

"What began with a single milestone and one man's determination to restore it has become an epic, collective quest as Nigel Ford and his team of volunteers have criss-crossed Norfolk to restore and reinstate many of the county's 350 ancient milestones. The work continues, but the legacy of the project is already visible for all who travel through the county. " Further details about Nigel and his group's work are available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/get-involved/angel-awards/best-rescue-recording-or-interpretation-of-a-historic-place/norfolk-milestones/>



A German Jew who escaped from Nazi Germany in 1938 was the guest of honour at a recent meeting of Hethersett Probus Club.

Joe Sterling (who was born as Gunter Stern) was inspired to have his story told in the book “Escaping Hitler” which was written by Phyllida Scrivens (pictured opposite) and published by



Pen and Sword Books Ltd in 2016.

Joe witnessed the brutality of Hitler’s regime and the Jewish community at first hand. As a 14-year-old, he escaped from Koblenz and made his way to England.

In 2016, Phyllida Scrivens wrote an article for the Norfolk Family History Society magazine “Norfolk Ancestor” and below we reprint that article with the author’s permission.

Unfamiliar Territory

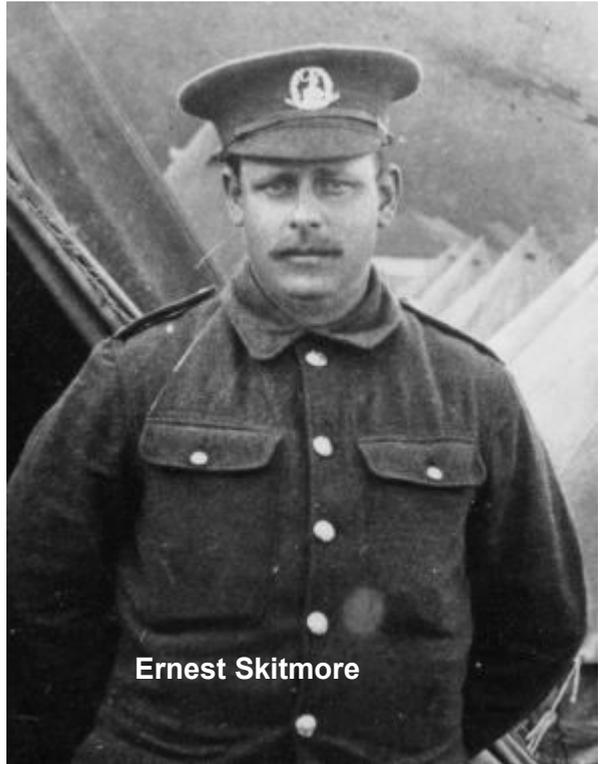
ON 21st May, 1946, a young couple were married in St Mary’s Church in Attleborough, proudly wearing their British Army uniforms. Inside the sacred Norman building, both bride and groom were on unfamiliar territory; she born into a strict Brethren family, the groom a German Jew who entered England as a fourteen-year-old refugee on a Kindertransport some seven years earlier.

There were no family members on his side of the church. In 1944 his superior officers had changed his name from Stern to Stirling, officially retaining his



Joe Stirling and Jean Skitmore on their wedding day

given name of 'Günter'. The boys in the Glasgow barracks were having none of it and dubbed him 'Joe'. Nearly 30 years later, Joe Stirling would become the Sheriff of Norwich. I met Joe quite by chance in December, 2011, during a Human Library event at the University of East Anglia. He was telling the story of his early life in Nazi Germany. Within minutes I knew he would be an inspirational subject for my postgraduate studies in Biography. I began to visit his home regularly and as his stories developed I resolved to research his remarkable 90 years of life.



Ernest Skitmore

Over four years, I interviewed 35 people who had connections with Joe, studied family trees on Ancestry.com, acquired Joe's Army records and contacted World Jewish Relief who uncovered the Kindertransport file on young Günter Stern. Most exciting of all I experienced a 'footstepping' research trip to Germany in 2013, finding Joe's birthplace, the flat in Koblenz where he and his mother fled following Kristallnacht, and retracing the route of the boy's desperate walk across Northern Europe in 1939 in his own attempt at escaping the Nazis.

Pen and Sword Books accepted my proposal and have now published this

biography as "Escaping Hitler: A Jewish Boy's Quest for Freedom and His Future."

'No man is an island' (John Donne 1624) and so it proved. The people whose lives had touched Joe's were as fascinating as the man himself. During 2013, while researching Joe's early marriage, I was introduced to members of his late wife's relatives, descendants of the Skitmore family of Attleborough, two of whom were keen family historians. Excited by my project, both generously gave me access to their personal research material, documents and original photographs.

Originally from Little Ellingham, Jean's father, Ernest William Skitmore (born 29th May 1886) was conscripted into the 10th (Reserve) Battalion of the Norfolk Regiment in June 1916 and spent some time in France. Ernest stood only five foot two inches, with a girth disproportionately wide. He was not suited for combat and in September was transferred to the Agricultural Company of the Eastern Command Labour Corps, based in Norwich. This was an ideal posting for the poorly educated former gardener at Attleborough Hall,



the ancient seat of the Mortimer family.

On 8th May, 1915, at the Chapel of the Primitive Methodists in Rockland St Peter, Ernest had married Lucy Leach, born in Great Ellingham on 5th October, 1889, an assistant cook at the Hall. The couple's first daughter Joan was born during December, 1916. They would go on to have three further children, Marjorie in June 1918, Jean Mary on 23rd August 1920 and a late arrival, Gordon in November 1928.

I was honoured to meet with the irrepressible Kathleen Bidewell, daughter of Joan Skitmore, now well into her nineties. In her room at Quebec Hall, a retirement home for Christians, she

eloquently shared her memories of life in Norwich as the daughter of a Brethren preacher during the early decades of the 20th century, as well as her recollections of the German born young man who had married into her extended family shortly after the end of World War II. It became clear that the Brethren faith held an integral role in the story of Joe Stirling's early married life. In October, 2013, I posted an online appeal on the Norwich and Norfolk Christian Community Website, asking if anyone remembered the Attleborough Brethren.

I was delighted to be invited to the home of David Jack, who introduced

me to others who remembered the Skitmores worshipping together in the tin Gospel Hall in Hargham Road, Attleborough. They taught me much about the beliefs and traditions of the Brethren, enabling me to add invaluable contextual interest to my narrative.

Headstrong and determined, Jean rejected the restrictions and rules of her parents' religion in 1934 when leaving school. Her job in the Briton Brush Company in Lady's Lane, Wymondham, exposed her to the pleasures of youth; a drink after work, music and away-days with her colleagues, all of which were forbidden to her.

In an effort to break away, Jean first joined the Salvation Army where she could more freely engage with the community and then, in 1942, aged 21 and legally beyond the control of her parents, left Attleborough to join the British Army and train as an Ammunition Examiner in Bramley Camp near Basingstoke in Hampshire.

Had the Skitmores been members of the Exclusive Brethren sect, it is likely that her family would have denounced her. But fortunately for both Jean and later for Joe, Ernest and Lucy were followers of the Open Brethren and, although disappointed, did not reject their youngest daughter.

Joe's army career led him to Bramley in February, 1945. He was soon attracted to the Norfolk girl, four years older than

him, her diminutive figure making her appear deceptively youthful.

When comparing my research findings into each of their backgrounds, I realised that Joe and Jean were remarkably similar, possibly explaining their immediate empathy for each other. Joe, the only Jewish child in the school in the rural Catholic village of Nickenich, gradually rejected and outcast by neighbours, teachers and friends; Jean a Brethren girl in her village school, 'different' from the others. Both the Sterns and the Skitmores were from humble rural backgrounds, both families knowing hardship and poverty.

When Joe first met Jean's parents in Attleborough, he was relieved to find that they lived modestly in two disused railway carriages in Leys Lane, without electricity or mains water, the toilet some way down the garden, keeping farm animals and growing vegetables. It was a familiar existence.

His concerns about the possibility of prejudice from Jean's Brethren parents, in view of his nationality and Jewish background, were unfounded. Ernest and Lucy welcomed him into their home with open arms, Lucy offering tea from her best Royal Vale bone-china pot.

"Escaping Hitler: A Jewish Boy's Quest for Freedom and His Future" (ISBN 978-1-47384-346-4) by Phyllida Scrivens explores all aspects of Joe's long life

including his childhood in Nazi Germany; school years as an evacuee in Gloucestershire; his time in the British Army; his move to Norfolk and Norwich; the development of his pioneering business, Stirling Holidays; his year as Sheriff of Norwich; his continuing charitable work as a senior member of Lions Clubs International and how he came to travel the world before retirement.

Published by Pen and Sword Books, signed copies by both the author and

Joe Stirling are available direct from the author at www.escapinghitler.com, or from Norfolk bookshops and Amazon.co.uk.

Phyllida's next book looks at the Lady Mayors of Norwich from 1923 to 2017 and will be published by Pen and Sword Books in February, 2018. There will be an official launch in Jarrolds Department Store, Norwich, on Thursday, 1st March, 2018, in the presence of the current Lord Mayor and Sheriff.



Village Autumn Scene taken from Old Norwich Road towards the B1172.

From Further Afield

Occasionally we are contacted by people from outside Hethersett with information that might be of interest to local residents.

Barbershop Choir

Brian Pincher contacted us to promote his male Barbershop Choir "Fine City Chorus" which performed in Hethersett Parish Church earlier in the year.

They sing unaccompanied A' Capella style harmony, and also hold singing courses. The group meets at Lionwood Infant and Nursery School on Telegraph Lane East, Norwich, NR1

4AN. They are always on the look-out for new members. Their youngest member is 11 and oldest is in his late 70s. They sing all over Norfolk and Suffolk in aid of various charities and at corporate events, private parties, wedding and funerals.

The group has a web site at www.finecitychorus.org.uk and a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/finecitychorus



Appeal Over Dog Mess

THE seemingly never ending problem of dog mess in the village has come to the fore again with an appeal from one of the village's district councillors.

Leslie Dale who, along with David Bills, represents Hethersett on South Norfolk Council took to social media with the following appeal:

"it was so disappointing to walk along Henstead Road this afternoon (November 26th) between Greatt Melton Road and Lynch Green and find regular evidence of dog mess and a large pile near the Church Hall. If anyone has seen this in progress do let South Norfolk Councillors know," Mr Dale said.

Hethersett Herald

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

www.hethersett.org.uk

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 and Gary Wyatt.

Proof Reader - Patricia Mills

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

Hethersett Herald What's On

The following are just some of the events taking place in Hethersett in December and further ahead. If you have an event you would like to see featured in Hethersett Herald, please send details of the event, its date, time and venue to the following email address:

petersteward@lineone.net

December 1st - Hethersett Velo Club Christmas Party and Awards Ceremony, Cellar House, Eaton, 7pm.

December 1st - Annual Christmas village sale, Hethersett Methodist Church from 6pm.

December 5th - Heart of Hethersett Group for those suffering bereavement or from anxiety and depression. Woodcote Sheltered Housing Complex, 5.30pm.

December 9th - The Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group (The RiNG), Christmas lunch at Park Farm Hotel.

December 11th - Hethersett Pensioners' Association Christmas Tea, Methodist Church Hall, 2pm.

December 11th - Hethersett Society Songs from Musicals with Joan Hocking. Methodist Church Hall, 7.30pm.

December 12th - Hethersett Writers' Club, 8pm. Venue to be announced.

December 13th - Hethersett and District Horticultural Society, members' evening, Methodist Church Hall, 7.30pm.

December 17th - Hethersett Village Screen presents "Whisky Galore," Hethersett Village Hall, 3pm.

December 18th - Hethersett Parish Council meeting in Hethersett Village Hall at 7.30pm.

December 19th - Hethersett Dementia Group café at Hethersett Methodist Church Hall, 10am to midday.

December 19th - Heart of Hethersett Group for those suffering bereavement or from anxiety and depression. Woodcote Sheltered Housing Complex, 5.30pm.

2018

January 20th-27th - Village Pantomime Robinson Crusoe.

HETHERSETT SOCIAL CLUB

CHRISTMAS QUIZ



Merry
Christmas

+ Fish
& Chips



Saturday

16th December

7.30 pm

£7.50

Including
Fish &
Chips



*Please note this event will not run unless we
have enough teams so enter your team with
Sue as soon as possible*

Open to Members and Guests

Panto Tickets Selling Fast

TICKETS are selling fast for next year's village pantomime **Robinson Crusoe** and it looks odds-on to be another sell-out with only a handful remaining.

It will be the first time Hethersett Pantomime Group has performed this particular pantomime in its 49-year history.

The pantomime will run from January 20th to 27th and once again there will be a matinee on the Sunday, but no performance on the Monday. There will be matinees on Saturday 20th, Sunday 21st and Saturday 27th at 2pm and evening performances on the 20th, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £7 for all performances and include a programme and refreshments. Tickets are available by phoning 01603 811337 or by e-mailing hethersettpantotickets@gmail.com.

Tickets are also on sale on Saturday mornings from 10.30am to 1pm in Hethersett Library.

Christmas Church Services

ONCE again this year Hethersett and District Churches Together will be producing a Christmas card which will be distributed to homes throughout the village. As well as sending the season's greetings, the cards will also list church contact details and services in Hethersett, Little Melton and Great Melton over Christmas.

Christmas services include the following:

Advent Sunday (3rd December)

- 10.00 Morning worship in Hethersett Methodist Church.
- 10.30 All Age Worship in St Remigius, Hethersett.
- 16.00 Christingle service in St Remigius.
- 18.30 Evening worship and holy communion in Hethersett Methodist.

Monday 4th December

18.00 Four Schools' Carol Concert in St Remigius.

Second Sunday in Advent - 10th December

10.00 Morning worship with holy communion in St Remigius..

10.00 Family worship in Methodist Church.

15.30 Christingle and carol service at Great Melton Church.

18.30 Evening worship in Methodist Church.

Third Sunday in Advent - 17th December

10.00 Morning worship in Methodist Church.

10.30 Carol service in Little Melton.

16.00 Carol service in St Remigius.

18.30 Candlelit carol service in Methodist Church.

Christmas Eve

10.00 Morning worship in Methodist Church.

10.30 United Benefice Communion in Little Melton Church.

15.30 Crib Service in Little Melton Church.

16.00 Christingle service in Methodist Church.

16.00 Crib service in St Remigius.

18.30 Carols with communion in Great Melton Church.

23.15 Midnight communion in Methodist Church.

23.30 Midnight communion in St Remigius Church.

Christmas Day

09.30 All age communion in St Remigius.

09.30 All age family communion in Little Melton Church.

10.30 Christmas Day Praise in the Methodist Church.

New Year's Eve

10.00 Morning worship in the Methodist Church.

10.30 United Benefice Communion in Great Melton Church.

21.00 Social Evening and Watchnight Service in the Methodist Church.

News From the Parish Council

HETHERSETT Parish Council is asking local people working from home to check whether they need planning permission for a business.

At the latest meeting, councillors heard that an increasing number of people are now either working from home or setting up businesses there.

“Some of these will need planning permission and others won’t but it is important that people running a business from home check with South Norfolk Council as to whether they need planning permission.

“They should contact the planning officers to ensure they are working within the district’s planning guidelines. There seems to currently be a proliferation of businesses springing up in the village,” said parish council chairman Jackie Sutton.

Work is expected to begin shortly on sprucing up the entrance to the village at Steeple Tower. Concern has been expressed about the poor state of the area. It is likely that Taylor-Wimpey will take on the tidy-up with financial support from South Norfolk Council.

The final Hethersett Parish Council meeting of 2017 will take place in Hethersett Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday, 18th December.

Full council meetings in 2018 will take place on January 22nd, February 19th, March 19th, April 16th, May 14th, June 18th, July 16th, September 17th, October 15th, November 19th and December 17th. All meetings start at 7.30pm.

Planning committee meetings take place on all the above dates and also on January 8th, February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd, April 30th, June 4th, July 2nd, August 6th, September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th and December 3rd. All planning committee meetings start at 7pm. All meetings are open to the public who are encouraged to attend.

The village’s annual parish meeting will take place in Hethersett Village Hall on Wednesday, 2nd May.

December in Hethersett Library

with Rebecca Warner

'What's On' in your Library in December

Monday 4th	0930 – Walk & Talk walking group departs from library. 1030 – Just a Cuppa coffee morning. 1400 – Book group.
Wednesday 6th	1030 – Colour Yourself Calm colouring group. 1415 – Bounce and Rhyme for babies and toddlers.
Thursday 7th	1400 – Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind
Saturday 9th	1500 - Christmas Party (see details below)
Monday 11th	0930 – Walk & Talk walking group departs from library. 1030 – Just a Cuppa coffee morning. 1400 – Knit and Natter Group. 1400 - Parish Council Pop In Afternoon
Wednesday 13th	1030 – Colour Yourself Calm colouring group. 1415 – Bounce and Rhyme for babies and toddlers.
Monday 18th	0930 – Walk & Talk walking group departs from library. 1030 – Just a Cuppa coffee morning. 1400 – Knit and Natter Group.
Wednesday 20th	1030 – Colour Yourself Calm colouring group. 1415 – Bounce and Rhyme for babies and toddlers.

Traditional Christmas Party::

Hethersett Library Friends' Group is holding a traditional Christmas party on Saturday, 9th December from 3-5pm. This will include party fayre, games, gifts and a possible visit from Santa. Optional fancy dress - come dressed as a Christmas book or story character - prizes for the best. There are a limited number of tickets available from the library on a first come, first served basis - £2.50 per child. Dietary needs will be catered for.

Hethersett Library will be hosting a Christmas read aloud session with teas, coffee and mince pies on December 14th at 5.30pm.

Hethersett Library
Queen's Road, Hethersett
www.library.norfolk.gov.uk
Email: libraries@norfolk.gov.uk
Tel: 01603 810188

Information on library groups

Colour Me Calm

Come and join our established group. Templates and pens provided. Refreshments available

Knit and Natter

Come and join our lively knitters and Natterers. Learn how to knit or crochet, bring a project or just natter. The event on the first Monday of the month is held at another venue

Library Book Club

A relaxed and informal book group held in the library on the first Monday of the month except on bank holidays.

Walk and Talk

A gentle stroll around Hethersett with refreshments afterwards in the library. Departs the library at 9.30am. every Monday except bank holidays.

Hethersett Library Opening Hours: The library is staffed on the following days and times:

Monday: 10am-1pm and 2-5pm.

Wednesday: 10am-1pm and 2-5pm.

Thursday: 2-7pm.

Friday: 10am-1pm and 2-5pm.

Saturday: 8am-2pm.

During times when the library is available but not staffed, you can access the building using the Open Libraries system, as long as you are registered. This gives you self-service access to library materials, public computers and quiet, creative spaces even while the building is unstaffed. Please contact the library for more information. Access under the open libraries system is available at the following times.

Monday: 8am-5pm

Wednesday: 8am-5pm

Thursday: 8am-7pm

Friday: 8am-5pm

Saturday: 8am-2pm

News From The Village

For Dancing Funds

Stella's School of Dance, Hethersett, held a quiz at Hethersett Village Hall to raise funds for next year's bi-annual dance show at Norwich Theatre Royal. Seventeen teams took part in a quiz organised by Roger Morgan and Mike Anderson. The evening also featured the annual grand raffle draw. The proceeds from the event will go towards purchasing costumes for the 2018 show which will take place on 6th May.

The school's next fundraiser will be a Christmas party in Hethersett Village Hall on December 9th.

A Sign of the Times

The pictured sign is likely to become a well known village landmark during much of next year as work starts on the new cycleway between Hethersett and Wymondham.

Work was due to start on November 27th and last until next May. This sign has been placed towards the end of New Road close to the junction with the B1172.



Three Into One?

THERE is a distinct possibility that when it comes to parish councils three into one will go at some time in the future.

Proposals being put forward by South Norfolk Council would see Hethersett Parish Council being merged with those at Little Melton and Bawburgh.

A district council meeting scheduled for the end of November was due to discuss the feasibility of the idea which comes at a time when all three parishes are likely to expand with the building of hundreds of new homes.

We will keep you informed of any developments on this matter.

Christmas Information and Opening Times

Christmas Bin Collections

There will be a number of changes to bin collections over the Christmas period. There will be no garden waste collections from 25th December to 5th January and collections on the week commencing 25th December will be one day later than usual as below:

Usual Collection Day

Tuesday 26th December

Wednesday 27th December

Thursday 28th December

Friday 29th December

Revised Collection Day

Wednesday 27th December

Thursday 28th December

Friday 29th December

Saturday 30th December

Hethersett Library

Hethersett Library will be closed on Monday 25th December, Tuesday 26th December and Monday 1st January, 2018.

Hethersett Butchers - 35 Great Melton Road, Hethersett

Opening times over the holiday period for Hethersett Butchers are as follows::

Friday 22nd December 7am to 1pm

Saturday 23rd December 7am to 1pm

Sunday 24th December 7am to 1pm

Thursday 28th December 7am to 1pm

Friday 29th December 7.30am to 1pm

Saturday 30th December 7.30am to 1pm

The butcher's will be closed on Monday 25th December, Tuesday 26th December, Wednesday 27th December, Sunday 31st December and Monday 1st January, 2018. From Tuesday 2nd January it will be business as usual with Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays opening from 7.30am to 5pm and Wednesday and Saturdays opening from 7.30am until 12.30pm

HETHERSETT SOCIAL CLUB

CHRISTMAS



OPENING TIMES

SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER	-	12.00pm - 12.00am
SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER (Christmas Eve)	-	12.00pm - 11.00pm
MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER (Christmas Day)	-	11.30am - 1.30pm
TUESDAY 26TH DECEMBER (Boxing Day)	-	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY 27TH DECEMBER	-	2.00pm - 11.00pm
THURSDAY 28TH DECEMBER	-	2.00pm - 11.00pm
FRIDAY 29TH DECEMBER	-	5.00pm - 11.30pm
SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER	-	12.00pm - 12.00am
SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER (New Years Eve)	-	12.00pm - 3.00pm
MONDAY 1ST JANUARY	-	7.00pm - 1.00am
	-	2.00pm - 6.00pm

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from SUE, IAN and all the Bar Staff



Charity Picture Special





THE photographs on this and the previous page were taken by David Bills and show stalls at the Christmas sale organised by the Hethersett-based Respect Yourself Charity at Colney Woods. Charities raised funds for themselves as well as supporting Respect Yourself which provides daily messages to help young people make informed life decisions.



A Winter Wonderland

THE gymnasium at Hethersett Old Hall School was transported to a winter wonderland for a Christmas Fair on November 18th.



The hall was full with over 50 stalls and plenty of Christmas cheer on a surprisingly mild day where members of the public were welcomed by a snow making machine in the absence of the real thing. There were refreshments and a personal appearance from Father Christmas.

Pictures on this and the next page by the editor and also Hethersett Old Hall School.





Groups and Societies

Hethersett Society

Herald associate editor and Hethersett Society member, Gary Wyatt, reviews the society's November meeting.

THE talk at Hethersett Society's November meeting was given by David Morton who had previously spoken to the society about the Tower of London. This time David's subject was another iconic London landmark, Buckingham Palace.

David told us that it is the largest 'working' royal palace in the world and is the epicentre of the monarch's realm and the Commonwealth. The well-known front view is the east wing, the royal apartments are in the north wing, the offices in the south wing and the state apartments in the west wing, facing the palace gardens.

In total, there are 775 rooms, including 52 bedrooms and 78 bathrooms, and there are some 750 staff in the charge of the Lord Chamberlain.

David then told us something of the history of the palace. In 1532 Henry VIII

bought almost 5000 acres of land from Eton College, as a royal hunting ground. James I then had an idea to produce 'home grown' silk, as this was a very expensive commodity at that time, and planted extensive mulberry orchards, the sole food plant of silk worms. However, it appears that he planted the wrong variety of mulberry, one on which silkworms do not feed!

A gardener's house was built at the same time, and this was subsequently extended and used for court visitors. In the first of two local connections, the house was then bought by George, Earl of Norwich. Unfortunately it was destroyed by fire in 1674 and rebuilt as Arlington House. In 1703, it passed to the Duke of Buckingham who demolished it and built the three-sided Buckingham House.



Groups and Societies

The next monarch, George III bought it for £28,000 by compulsory purchase when he wished to impress, and then marry, Charlotte. Now known as Queen's House, it was then transformed by the renowned architect, John Nash, in 1828, and he included a marble archway as a grand entrance. However, this proved to be a design fault, as it was not wide enough for carriages to pass through, and so was moved to its present position, becoming better known as Marble Arch.

Subsequent monarchs continued to enlarge the palace, until Queen Victoria decided that it also needed a nursery and a ballroom, which it lacked, and so Nash built the east wing, today's frontage, with its famous balcony, in 1847-50. At the same time, hot and cold water and sewerage were installed. She also renamed it Buckingham Palace. Unfortunately, the new wing was built of Caen stone (as was Norwich Cathedral) which blackened and eroded rapidly in the highly polluted London atmosphere. Edward VII added to the grandeur of the setting by building the Victoria Monument, The Mall and Admiralty Arch, using Thomas Cubitt of Buxton, Norfolk, as his builder. In the final major alteration, George V refaced the Caen stone of the east wing with much more resistant Portland Stone. However, a further £380 million programme of restoration is currently under consideration.

David finished his talk by showing slides of the major state rooms as they look today and told us that some of the Mulberry Trees are still growing in the grounds, and it is possible to buy cuttings from these. All in all an excellent talk, enjoyed by a large attendance of members, and David is clearly an enthusiast for his subjects.

The December meeting (Monday 11th) of the society is the Christmas social, which includes a talk (and performance) by Joan Hocking entitled 'Songs from Musicals'.

Hethersett Women's Institute

The subscription for the New Year will be £41. Joining a second WI costs half of this. The WI is the largest women's organisation in the country. Hethersett WI has a craft group, monthly lunches at a local venue and organises outings to local plays etc.

One of the benefits we have is being able to park at the Norfolk HQ in Norwich subject to availability.

Groups and Societies

Hethersett and District Horticultural Society

By Leslie Dale

At Hethersett and District Horticultural Society's meeting on 15th November Charlotte Philcox described her idea of "Eden" as being a walled garden and she went on to describe the history and variety of such gardens.

Principally found around the sometimes stately Victorian and Georgian houses, these enclosures originated with the purpose of providing a reliable source of food and flowers for their wealthy owners' households and staff.

Larger estates had as many as 40 gardeners, including the young apprentice garden boy, the improving journeyman gardener, the skilled journeyman gardener and, for a few, the Head Gardener role.

There were flower and vegetable gardens, nutwalks, and orchards. Besides the walls, other structures were for food storage and tool sheds. Some walls were heated Roman style and associated glasshouse structures were given an auxiliary heat source. Sometimes exotic fruit such as pineapple and grapes were grown.

Some such gardens became very run down after years of use. Latterly some owners rebuilt walled gardens at a distance from their residence; that at Holkam Hall comes to mind.

The society meets on Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Great Melton Road, Hethersett. All are welcome - occasional visitors are charged £1.50; refreshments are included.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 13th December when our members will provide their own entertainment appropriate to the Christmas season. On 18th January Kathy Gray will be warming us up with "The Flora of Morocco".

Heart of Hethersett

THE Heart of Hethersett group for those who have been bereaved and those suffering from anxiety and depression meets in the lounge at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex in Firs Road on alternate Tuesday evenings from 5.30 to 6.30pm.

Meetings in December will be on December 5th and 19th. All are welcome and light refreshments are provided free of charge.

Winter Leads To Confusion

Connie Tindale updates us on the progress of her Hethersett Hedgehogs

Winter is here – but sometimes does not know it.

THE temperature recently has been so erratic, veering between freezing and spring-like, that the hedgehogs are really confused over hibernation. Many of the larger healthy hedgehogs are still wandering about and several visit our feeding stations every night. Remember to put out water for them. The three larger hogs in the outside run are as equally confused. At times they do not eat and just settle down inside their hibernation boxes as though ready to sleep but then emerge hungry and feisty when the temperature rises. We have a dilemma over whether they should or should not be released to fend for themselves. If we were guaranteed a mild spell without torrential rain then it would be possible for them to find somewhere to live for hibernation as well as to find sufficient food, but as soon as we have a nice day they forecast snow and ice.



The outside run – home to three hedgehogs

There is a major problem with autumn juveniles again this year with one Norwich-based rescue centre already having more than 60 in its care. We have had great success with those weighing 275-300 gms upwards but much less success with the very small ones which have already been exposed to freezing temperatures. Once a hog starts slipping into hibernation it is almost impossible to pull it back. As a hog needs to be at least 450 gms before it has any chance of

surviving hibernation, the little ones that go to sleep just will never wake up and it is tragic to see them fade away. If you see a small hog out and about either in daylight or at night, pick it up if you can and weigh it. If it is less than 450 gm then get it to a rescue centre but if it is above that weight then it might be best to just put it back where you found it as it may fare better in the wild than in captivity.

Another problem with the juveniles is that some are very heavily infested with lung worms that they have picked up from worms, slugs and snails and many have intestinal worms as well. Finding treatment to eliminate these parasites is not easy for the home carer as different worms require different medications. However, there is a multi-purpose wormer called Panacur which seems to still work in Norfolk although it has lost its effectiveness through built-up resistance in some other parts of the country. The parasite that everyone is aware of is the flea. There is no need to worry about humans or other pets catching them as they are hedgehog specific.

Hedgehogs do pick up ticks. Healthy hogs can cope with them but smaller less healthy ones can really suffer. There are instances of tiny hoglets having more than 20 ticks sucking blood from their little bodies. They can be removed with a tick twister, which is a small gadget that confuses a tick into releasing its grip so that they are easily picked off. The ticks have to be removed but taking off too many ticks at one time can stress the hoglet so badly that it can lose the will to live. What constitutes 'too many' varies from hoglet to hoglet so it is not easy to judge. The ticks look like small grey/blue balloons on the tummy or between the spines. An illustration is in the photograph below.



There is now a far greater awareness of the plight of our hedgehogs so please let Hethersett become more of a safe haven for them.

www.hethersetthedgehogs.com

The following stories have appeared in the local newspapers - the Wymondham Mercury, the Eastern Daily Press and the Norwich Evening News

Richard's Brave Effort

THE Eastern Daily Press underlined the bravery of Hethersett stroke victim Richard Boyce who took part in the 100th Norwich Parkrun just four months after suffering a devastating stroke.

Richard stood up from his wheelchair to walk the last few yards with his wife Lou. The newspaper stated that Richard suffered a stroke whilst at home on his own. Mr Boyce is a head teacher at Sprowston.

The stroke necessitated surgery at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridgeshire and Richard is now having to learn to walk again.

The parkrun took place in Eaton Park and Richard was cheered on by many of those taking part. Richard told the EDP that the physical effort involved was "hard and overwhelming." Richard's efforts helped to raise more than £6000 for the Stroke Association.

Cheque for Finnbar's Force

Hethersett charity Finnbar's Force has donated £5000 to Action Medical Research. Founders of Finnbar's Force, Tristan and Claire Cork, presented the cheque to Action ambassador Fiona Bruce at a special presentation night in London.

Action and The Brain Tumour Charity are jointly funding a research project headed by professor Andrew Peet of Birmingham Children's Hospital, which aims to use new technologies to provide more personalised and targeted treatments for children with brain tumours. The study hopes to increase the effectiveness of minimally invasive scans, reducing the need for surgery in determining prognoses.

Mr and Mrs Cork founded Finnbar's Force earlier this year after losing their son, Finnbar, to a brain tumour at the age of five.

Since then, the charity has raised £35,000, which is being used to fund research, raise awareness and support children diagnosed with brain tumours.

Christmas Bowling Spirit



HETHERSETT HAWKS / MYHILL DECORATORS started Christmas early with a festive ten-pin bowling party night at Namko Funscape in Bowthorpe, Norwich. Twenty members, friends and family rolled up on the night and it turned out to be a fairly riotous but very enjoyable occasion, especially with free drinks included in the group entry price.



Young and old were given enthusiastic support when they hurled down the balls all with very different styles to say the least!!! Harley Hamill finished most of his throws flat on his front (nothing new there!!) while Kevin Wells was going for the land speed record.

Lee Hulcoop looked the part with his own flash bowling ball and it proved not to be just showmanship as he topped the scores over two games with 215. Danny Machin was just behind on 212 with Kevin Wells on 208.

Those present were indebted to Kevin & Lisa Wells who organised the evening - definitely will be an annual event going forward.

Next up on the social calendar is the Club's Presentation Night at Hethersett Social Club on Friday December 8th then in February there are plans to hold a four-a-side tournament on the cycle speedway formula - but on the dart boards at the Social Club - intriguing!!!

Meanwhile the Club's next GO-RIDE session at the Memorial Playing Field is on Sunday December 17th at 11 a.m.

Have You Missed an Edition?



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

News and Features Needed

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

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

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

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

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

Hethersett Funrun Date Set

A provisional date of Sunday, July 8th, has been set for the 2018 Hethersett Run the Square funrun. The event continues to gain in popularity with the eighth running this year attracting over 250 runners/walkers of all ages.

The funrun started in 2010 as part of the village's lead-up to the 2012 London Olympic Games and has continued ever since as part of the ongoing Olympic Legacy which also saw the setting-up of the Hethersett and the Meltons Sports Association.

We will bring you more news on the funrun in future editions of the Hethersett Herald.



#TinyTuesdays
Pre-School Rugby

JUST £12 FOR 6 SESSIONS

FULL

PRE-SCHOOL RUGBY CLASSES @ ~~9.30~~ & 10.30am

To Book: email crusadersrugby@hotmail.com
or message us on Facebook

Crusaders Rugby Club, Little Melton Rd, Hethersett. NR9 3NP

Ricey's Record

HETHERSETT Athletic footballer James Rice has set a new appearance record for the club.

James equalled the existing record of 414 league and cup appearances at the home league game against North Elmham on November 4th and then set a new record away to Rocklands on the following Saturday.

He overtook Matt Steward who has held the appearance record for a number of years but who has now retired from playing.

James began his career with the club as a raw youngster. He was given honorary club life membership on reaching 300 appearances but is now well on the way to becoming the first player in the club's history to complete 500 league and cup matches. Our photograph shows James receiving a gift from club chairman Neal Luther to mark his record beating appearance.



Hethersett's Top Ten Appearances

Hethersett Athletic's players with over 300 appearances.

James Rice 416

Matt Steward 414

Richard Manington 386

Daniel Holman 385

Paul Martin 362

Nick Benfield 347

Matt Molloy 318

Steven Beck 310

Mike Pugh 301

We Are On Facebook

Hethersett Herald is on Facebook. You can follow us at

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

Zumba Opportunities

There are plenty of opportunities in the village to take part in Zumba classes. Alahna Eamer has contacted us with details of her classes which take place at Hethersett Old Hall School and Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club on the following dates:

Tuesdays at 7.15pm - Aqua Zumba at Hethersett Old Hall School - £6.

Wednesdays at 7.30pm - Aqua Zumba at Hethersett Old Hall School - £6.

Fridays at 7.15pm - Zumba at the Jubilee Youth Hall - £5.

Alahna can be contacted on 07825 924 515 or via email at alahnae@hotmail.co.uk for further details

Sports Reports Needed

We are happy to carry reports and results from sports clubs from Hethersett or with connections to the village.

If you would like your club featured just send the details to petersteward@lineone.net. Photographs are particularly appreciated.

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