



# Opposition to Care Village Plan For Hethersett

**P**ROPOSALS for a new care village for the elderly on land west of New Road and north of Kett's Oak have met with opposition from residents.

The proposals come just one month after the go-ahead was given for an additional 200 homes in the village, something that brought a flood of protests from residents who complained about over development and the huge pressure this would put on facilities already at breaking point.

Residents were given just 12 days to make their comments on the proposals by Glavenhill Ltd for what they refer to as “a purpose designed care village to help meet a pressing need for specialist forms of older person care and independent living accommodation in South Norfolk.”

A presentation was given to Hethersett Parish Council's planning committee on November 15th by Lanpro

Tom Pike from Lanpro explained that Glavenhill will be applying for outline



planning permission for a 2,300 square metre care home and around 26 separate bungalows for the elderly.

Over 40 residents attended a presentation to Hethersett Parish Council's planning committee and expressed concerns that included over-development, the possibility of flooding, further pressure on facilities and increased traffic along New Road. It was also claimed that the development would erode the strategic gap between Hethersett and Wymondham.

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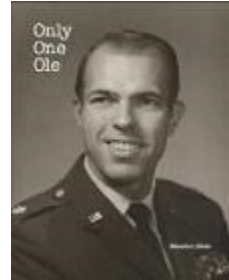


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**The January edition of Hethersett Herald will be available exclusively online from Christmas Eve.**

# A Message From The Editor

Hello Everyone

I seem to spend much of my time when putting together the Hethersett Herald, talking about development in the village.

It's a difficult matter getting a handle on all that is going on at present. Firstly we had the decision to allow another 200 homes in addition to the 1196 already agreed.

This was certainly controversial and a decision labelled by many, including me, as being undemocratic.

Now we have plans for a care village on land off new Road and Kett's Oak. Personally I have nothing against a care village. In fact it's probably a very nice idea.

But the problem remains of how much more development can we take in our village and I think we all know the answer to that?

When I turned to Facebook to talk about the idea of seriously limiting development until facilities significantly improve, I had it pointed out that planning rules, strategies and other interminable matters would make it difficult for the district council to turn applications down.

My gripe is planning rules, regulations, strategies etc completely ignore the human element .

I have nothing against development but feel that the pace at which it is coming is too fast. We have massive

development at Attleborough, Wymondham, Hethersett and Cringleford bringing thousands of new homes, ignoring the wishes and needs of existing residents.



Facilities are by and large ignored. Developers may make some token offer like the £150,000 offered for health care, but that's all it is—a token.

Where are the real plans for new businesses, new health facilities, new shops? They just don't exist and that is why we should be fighting any new development until facilities are in place.

The plans for the care village would seriously erode the strategic gap between Hethersett and Wymondham despite the applicants suggesting this wouldn't be the case. And a major concern is that if and when this care village is built on two strips of land, it will open up the centre swathe of land to even more housing.

It will also bring an intolerable amount of additional traffic along New Road, bearing in mind that traffic from new development in North Hethersett will also be using this road as an entrance and exit.

Peter

# Care Village Plan Opposed

(Continued from the front page)

BUILDING a care village on the edge of Hethersett would erode the strategic gap which provides green land between our village and Wymondham, put even more pressure on local facilities and cause drainage and traffic problems, it was claimed at a meeting of Hethersett Parish Council's planning committee.

Over 40 residents attended the meeting to voice their opposition to a two part development on land off Kett's Oak and New Road. The proposals would see a care home with approximately 20 beds on one side and up to 26 bungalows for independent living on another parcel of land with land between them being left undeveloped.

Glavenhill will be applying for outline planning permission for developing the land in the near future following a consultation period with the public.

Residents voiced a number of fears at the meeting. These included concerns over drainage despite the area being designated as low level risk of flooding, concerns that existing medical facilities would be put under even more pressure, concern over the erosion of the strategic gap and concern over the additional traffic the site would generate.

Tom Pike from Lanpro, agents for Glavenhill, said the development would not erode the strategic gap with green fields left between the two

developments but residents felt that this land would eventually be opened to further development. One resident underlined the stark reality of the situation: "Is anybody going to listen to us. None of us want this because of the additional strain it will put on the village?"

On the question of low risk of flooding, one resident said: "Every time we get rain my property in that area floods and I get raw sewage in my garden. The drainage is poor."

There were a number of comments on additional traffic that the site would generate on New Road, particularly in light of new road lay-outs from the North Hethersett development which will also see a large increase in traffic using New Road.

Another resident said: "There is already a considerable amount of speeding down New Road. It's getting more and more difficult to get out onto the B1172 and onto the cycle paths."

Medical concerns were also expressed: "There's a helluva problem getting a doctors' appointment now," one resident said.

Another resident said that if a care village had to be built it should be within village development and not on the fringe of the village: "If it is built on the fringe I can see further development continuing along the road towards Wymondham.

Tom Pike said that studies had shown a need for a care facility and bungalows for the elderly were needed in the area. Once outline planning permission is applied for it will come before Hethersett Parish Council for comment before a decision is made by South Norfolk Council.

# Local Views Being Ignored—Claims Council

HETHERSETT Parish Council is making its views on additional development in the village known to South Norfolk Council in a strongly worded letter which claims that local views have been ignored.

Councillor Eileen Mulvaney prompted the decision at the November parish council meeting when, in a report, she told members:

“I am sorry to read that the 200 house uplift has been agreed (3-2 in favour) by South Norfolk Council despite the comments in the village, pleas from the surgery and the Parish Council’s own input.

“My disappointment stems from believing this is no friend to democracy and perpetuates disenfranchisement and a sense that ‘we are not listened to’ – because a whole community is indeed not being listened to. I would like to suggest and put forward, that the Parish Council write to South Norfolk Council expressing dissatisfaction with the outcome of the decision and concern for the Village.”

Councillors unanimously agreed that a letter should be sent to South Norfolk under the heading “Housing Development and Urban Expansion in Hethersett 2011-2021.”

It asks for a ceiling on housing numbers informed by local knowledge and sensibilities. The letter is worded as follows:

*“When Neighbourhood Planning was first introduced, the parish council addressed it as a possibility for the Village. Members looked at protecting*

*areas and green spaces as vital to character, well being and health. We also looked at protecting local assets.*

*“Frequently what inhibited progress was our lack of funds as a Parish Council and that the service members give is voluntary, so many have work commitments to keep. Yet Town and Parish Councils are vital in maintaining a ‘democratic thread’ across the country. What they can and can’t do is legislated but they remain a potential for good. Parish Councils do not have the power of veto however, so their voice is restricted and in effect doubles back on what they can achieve.*

*“Political reasons legislated for increase in house building of certain type and persuasion. For instance, social housing promised in Planning Permissions, is squeezed out and reduced by the time of construction. Infamously the ‘infrastructure’ promises are consistently misleading. It will be written into a Permission but not deliverable by a developer as it instead relies on local NHS or Education sources.*

*“So called ‘green build’ or the catch phrase, ‘sustainable’ build is also only nominal. In 2011 the promoting company of a development said privately that to use greater sustainability cut into their profit margin and was not appropriate to use. Since 2011 Hethersett has been nominated as a Key Service Centre. 1196 houses helped South Norfolk attain its ‘five year’ building goals. Further plans (2018/2020) in consultation have seen that number grow. Developers put*

*forward schemes in Strategic Gaps despite knowing that they are Strategic Gaps. (Why would they go to the expense of a presentation and plan when they know the area is defined as non build? EDP November 5 )*

*“Infill increases chaotically throughout the village. The surgery is at breaking point. Most recently despite previous objection by the Parish Council and further comment from them, a 200 house ‘uplift’ has been allowed by South Norfolk on land held by the joint developers, Taylor Wimpey and Persimmon.*

*“Despite urgent local response to the proposal. Throughout the past ten*

*years the village has continued to grow without regard for a local plan or facilities. The Parish Council’s response, guided by the community, has largely been ignored. Our request to South Norfolk Council is for an Holistic Village Plan which includes a ceiling on housing numbers, regard for the climate emergency and for all living species and informed by local knowledge and sensibilities.*

*Planning that is only about fulfilling a politicised housing agenda continues to weaken what holds communities together as people see their voices are disregarded. “*

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## From Zeroes to Heroes

HETHERSETT Athletic’s men’s Saturday football team have gone from zero to heroes this month as they turn their season round.

Following a desperate plea for new players, the team received a boost thanks to a link-up with Wroxham Football Club. Now the team are off the bottom of the Central and South Norfolk Division One and are upwardly mobile.

The no-hopers have turned into high flyers with three wins out of three in November—scoring eight goals and conceding none in the process. This has taken them off the bottom of the league.

The month began with a 3-0 win over Watton Reserves and they followed this by beating Castle Acre Reserves 4-0 and then Brandon Reserves 1-0. Previously the team had recorded one draw and six defeats but are now looking more like champions than relegation fodder.



# Remembering The Fallen



## **HETHERSETT came together on November 14th to remember the fallen of two world wars.**

Remembrance Sunday saw the customary two minutes' silence observed around the war memorial in the grounds of St Remigius Church.

Wreaths were laid by a number of Hethersetts groups and organisations including: Norfolk Fire Service, Hethersetts Explorers, Hethersetts Scouts, Hethersetts Guides, Hethersetts Cubs, Hethersetts Beavers, Hethersetts Brownies, Hethersetts Parish Council, Hethersetts Methodist Church and Hethersetts Old Comrades.

A short service of remembrance around the memorial was led by the Rector of Hethersetts, the Rev Derek McClean and the Last Post was sounded by Jeremy Lightowler, The names of Hethersetts's war dead were read out by John Head.

The village's uniformed organisations presented their colours outside the church. Last year with COVID restrictions firmly in place there was no church service.



This year there was a limited service without the uniformed organisations. This was led by Rev McClean with prayers being said by Hethersetts's Methodist Minister The Rev Steve Cullis. Details of those from the village who died in the two world wars can be found on one of our partnership websites at: <https://hethersetatwar.weebly.com>.



# Remembering The Fallen





# Church Hall To Become A Home

**P**LANNING permission has been granted to turn the Church Hall in Henstead Road into a dwelling.



A meeting of South Norfolk's Development Management (Planning) Committee voted unanimously to give the go-ahead after hearing from the Rector of Hethersett, the Rev Derek McClean, about the drain on church resources that the current building is creating and how the money from its sale will be used to improve community facilities at the church on the B1172.

But the decision will leave a Hethersett-based dance school without a home.

Rev McClean told the meeting:

"We have a shrinking congregation with limited budgets. We want to use the sale of the hall to benefit the community. We have to get the best value for the sale of the hall. Under charity law our hands are relatively tied. We are looking to sell the church hall in order to help maintain the church building."

Chairman of the committee, Vic Thompson, referred to the village hall as a piece of history which needs to be maintained. "This development would certainly do that," he said.

Plans are to turn the hall into a private dwelling and this would include knocking down parts of the hall put up between the 1950s and 1980s including a kitchen, store areas and toilets. Otherwise the essential

character of the building from the 19th century will be maintained.

The decision is a blow for the Stella School of Dancing which uses the hall for over 23 hours a week.

Stella Gretsinger, the dance school owner, said they were finding it almost impossible to find an alternative venue that could accommodate over 20 hours a week of hire time: "If anyone has knowledge of such venues locally that are available for hire from 4 pm onwards Monday to Friday, I would be extremely grateful to hear from them," she said. Mrs Gretsinger can be contacted at

[info@stellaschoolofdance.co.uk](mailto:info@stellaschoolofdance.co.uk).

Local resident and Herald columnist John Head explained the costs involved and facing the church: "It costs £75,000 to keep the church doors open each year. Over the next five years, £150k needs to be spent to upkeep the heritage building of the village. The £75k each year is found from approximately 100 people plus the occasional legacy. The church hall is struggling to be maintained and, I assume, would have to be closed if it

continues to deteriorate. The money from the church hall will go towards preserving the heritage building else that too will be in jeopardy.”

The committee heard that there are six venues in close proximity to the church hall that could possibly be used by the dance school, although it was pointed out that one of these (the new pavilion on the Memorial Playing Field) had not yet been built and two of the others were schools which couldn't be hired during the day.

Nevertheless the committee voted unanimously to approve the plans.

With the debate splitting residents,

there was a plea from one for everyone to come together to help solve any problems.

“Please remember there are real people behind these stories, with families and worries you can't begin to imagine.

“Please be kind always. We are a community, nothing is gained by being aggressive or dividing,” said Sara Kenny.

Conditions put on the approval will include limiting construction hours to avoid noise for nearby residents.

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## **Renewed Call For Parking Restrictions on Henstead Road**

**THERE** have been renewed calls for parking restrictions down Henstead Road from Back Lane to Queen's Road after a parish councillor labelled the situation “ridiculous.”

**Councillor Chris Morriss** told the latest meeting of Hethersett Parish Council about a recent journey along the road:

**“I** drove down Henstead Road from Back Lane to Queen's Road. The parking on the left hand side was almost solid, making the trip difficult and dangerous. The situation is ridiculous. It is a bus route! With all the development in Hethersett North, Henstead Road will become even busier in the future.

**“Commonsense** would suggest that there should be no parking whatsoever along this stretch to allow for safe two way traffic flow.”

**Council clerk Annette Palmer** said that the matter had been considered on numerous occasions by the parish council.

**Councillor Mike Stark** said that parking along the road could be responsible for a reduction in speeding and posed the question: “Where are we going to let people park?”

**It was agreed** that the matter should be further discussed by the council's development committee along with a general discussion on parking in the village.

# Christmas Is Coming

## Finnbar's Force Lights Up Hethersett



FINNBAR'S Christmas lights are back to bring a rosy glow to residents this Christmas and this year's display is bigger and brighter than ever.

The area around Park Green has become a winter wonderland in memory of Finnbar Cork who died of a brain tumour in 2016.

Finnbar's memory lives on each year at Christmas with this year's big switch on having taken place on November 27th. The display continues throughout December.

Hethersett Parish Council has entered into the spirit of things by allowing an Oak tree it owns to be illuminated.

Planning for the event has taken many months and the arduous task of putting the lights up began in September.

"All the hours of climbing ladders have been worthwhile. I really think that our display takes some beating and this is the best one yet," said Finnbar's dad Tristan.

This year's display features over 65,000 bulbs and a whole army of volunteers including a number of tree surgeons who helped to light up the Oak tree. All the

# Christmas Is Coming



Christmas trees featured in the display have been donated by Norfolk Christmas Trees of Great Melton.

The big switch on took place on November 7th and was by Father Christmas himself. The event featured mince pies and mulled wine despite wet and windy weather which failed to dampen spirits.

Donations in Finnbar's memory can be made in collection tins and a wishing well or online.

On the next two pages we tell the heart-rending story of Finnbar's fight against his brain tumour. It is taken from the Finnbar Force Facebook page and reproduced with the permission of Finnbar's Family.



**We will have lots more Hethersett Christmas pictures in the next edition of Hethersett Herald which will be online on Christmas Eve.**

# Remembering Finnbar

**Finnbar was a little boy full of fun when he was struck down by a brain tumour in 2016. Here his parents Tristan and Claire Cork talk about their memories of their son. The following is taken from the Finnbar Force's Facebook page. The charity set-up in Finnbar's memory has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds into research into brain tumours in children and also in support of families.**

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OUR wonderful little boy Finnbar was born on 10th September 2010 and enjoyed a lovely start to life, doing all the things little boys love doing and being around his loving family.

He was doing really well at school and was a fantastic reader - he absolutely loved stories and always had at least two every bedtime. In November 2015, a couple of months after his 5th birthday, he started to suffer from occasional dizzy spells, which were initially put down to an ear infection. We became concerned after the dizziness was getting no better after a few weeks and noticed that he seemed to be developing other subtle symptoms.

By January 2016 we were very worried and got him referred to the NNUH. A brain scan revealed abnormalities in his cerebellum, but we were relieved to be told that it may not be the worst case - a tumour - at all, and even if it was, it would be low grade (slow growing and not very aggressive). After several weeks of observation under Adenbrookes hospital, Finnbar continued to deteriorate and he underwent emergency brain surgery to relieve high pressure.

During the same hospital stay a biopsy was taken. In early March, our worst



fears were confirmed and he was diagnosed with a Grade 2 Astrocytoma (very rare in young children). He began chemotherapy soon after. Finnbar was incredibly brave throughout his illness and treatment, being subject to many terrifying MRI scans, needles and tablets, as well as spending many nights in hospital. He never complained and



tried his hardest to be his usual happy self.

However, instead of improving during the course of his treatment, he seemed to worsen. In May 2016, after another long hospital stay and further tests, we were told that the initial diagnosis was probably incorrect and that the tumour was a much more aggressive type.

We were given the heartbreaking news that the doctors felt that there was nothing that could be done to save, or even help, our dear little Finn. We refused to give up so easily and neither would Finnbar, despite being desperately poorly. We obtained a second opinion from GOSH and managed to push for radiotherapy to be commenced urgently to keep him alive. We were warned many, many times that Finnbar wouldn't make another night, but he kept fighting and got through the

radiotherapy. We left Addenbrokes after four weeks and spent a week at Quidenham (EACH) Hospice, who were wonderful to us. He seemed so settled and was even showing a few signs of improvement neurologically.

We took him home in early July and did as much as we could fit in with him over the next few weeks, even managing to get him out and about in a new car we were able to buy after the wonderful fundraising efforts of our friends, family and amazing local community.

Sadly however, some of the essential medications that he was taking had some very nasty side effects which caused some serious complications. On Friday 5th August, despite having had several good days beforehand, Finnbar became very poorly and that evening we cuddled him as he slipped away from us.



# Christmas Is Coming



THE Hethersett Giant Bauble Trail 2021 is underway.

Following its success last year when it brightened up the lonely days of lockdown, the trail is back.

Giant bauble posters will be displayed in a variety of homes in the lead up to Christmas between 29th November and 12th December.

Maps will be available to buy from the office at Woodside School from 29th November to 1st December, costing £2 each.

“There is no pressure to find ALL the Baubles. Find as many as you can, and just have a lovely time,” said one of the organisers Sarah Lawrence.

There will also be prizes, with a prize for the bauble voted as the favourite by people doing the trail, and three winners will also be picked at random from the boxes containing the completed trail maps.

“When you have spotted as many baubles as you can, maps can be dropped off into one of two boxes located in the Woodside school office, and Tesco Express,” Sarah added.

# Christmas Is Coming



SANTA Claus is coming to town (sorry village).

By popular demand, the man in red will be in Hethersett on Saturday 18th December, doing a round of the villager and his journey this year will take him through much more of Hethersett,

Last year COVID restrictions limited just where Santa could go with most people watching him pass from their doorsteps. This year Santa will travel through more of the village's main roads starting at the King's Head at 4 pm. He will then travel round the village with his friends—Snowman, Rudolph and his Elves.

From the King's Head, Santa will travel towards Wymondham before turning into New Road and then Mill Road, Great Melton Road, Henstead Road, Back Lane, Churchfields, onto the B1172 to Colney Lane and then into Heather Gardens to Harness Makers Way, Frederick Grove and then to Coachmakers Way, Baker Drive, Back Lane and Henstead Road to Queen's Road, Norwich Road and back to the King's Head where there will be carol singers, music and food.

Children are also being asked to make decorations to put on a Christmas tree in the garden.

And this year there will be a charity element to Santa's visit with his helpers collecting for the Hethersett-based Finnbar's Force Charity.

In an exclusive interview for Hethersett Herald one of the elves told us that they were "very excited" to be returning to Hethersett and they were hoping

# Christmas Is Coming

that as many people as possible could come out and support Santa on his journey.





# Having A Heart For Hethersett

THE Hethersett Hearts charity has sent out a massive thank you to all its volunteers along with a rallying call that they are always on the lookout for more.

The group has recently sent flyers to homes in the village with the following words:

“You can help out as little or as often as you like—no commitments, no obligations. The more the merrier.”

Anyone wanting to volunteer can telephone 07716 769124 or go to their Facebook page.

Volunteers undertake such tasks as collecting prescriptions, posting mail, organising community get-togethers, making phone calls to have a chat with people, pick up shopping and fundraising.

The group also has community get togethers on the second Friday of each



month at the Jubilee Youth Club in Back Lane from 11.30 am until 2.30 pm. The get togethers are free and transport can be arranged.

Anyone wishing to join these social events should telephone the number on this page or e-mail [hethersetthearts@outlook.com](mailto:hethersetthearts@outlook.com).

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**AS is customary the January edition of Hethersett Herald will be published before Christmas in order for us to report on pre-Christmas festivities in the village.**

**The edition will be published on Christmas Eve and we would appreciate an early submission of articles and stories by the 15th December please.**

**The February edition will then follow on with a publication date of the end of January. Everyone involved with Hethersett Herald would like to take the opportunity of wishing all our readers and supporters a Happy Christmas and successful New Year.**



# A Platinum Tribute

**H**ETHERSETT kicked off its celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee early with the planting of an oak tree.

Lady Dannatt, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, visited Hethersett to plant the parish council's tree which has been taken from a cutting from a mature oak in the village.

trusts and the Hethersett plaque will find a permanent home in the village hall. The plaque includes the words: "Live your best and act your best and think your best today."

The planting was attended by Hethersett's South Norfolk Council representatives David Bills and Adrian Dearnley, members of the parish



Lady Dannatt was accompanied by one of Norfolk's Deputy Lieutenant's Thomas Courtauld. She also presented a plaque to chair of the parish council Adrienne Quinlan. Hethersett is one of 400 parishes to sign up to receive a plaque commissioned by the Lord Lieutenant which commemorates community resilience during the pandemic. The project has been funded by private

council, parish clerk Annette Palmer and a number of residents. Parish Councillor Jenny Walpole presented Lady



Dannatt with a floral arrangement.

The tree is planted just a few metres from a more mature one which is blooming since being planted a number of years ago.

Together the two trees could provide a leafy gateway for a small community orchard. Parish councillor, Hethersett Tree Warden and leading environmentalist Dr Anne Edwards said:

“The trees give us hope for the future. They represent the green shoots of growth as well as absorbing carbon dioxide. Oak trees have always been a symbol for Hethersett and are featured prominently on our village sign.”

Hethersett Parish Council is lining up a number of celebrations for the Queen’s landmark year and these will include a major village event on 5<sup>th</sup> June featuring music and entertainment, a children’s disco, a fete with games and stalls, a walking trail and fancy dress competitions for all ages from under-fives to adults and also dogs.

On the following Thursday the Hethersett Hearts charity will be organising an afternoon tea for senior residents and this will take place in the village hall.



# Good and Bad News On Memorial Field

THERE'S been a mixture of good and bad news from the Memorial Playing Field over the last month.

Firstly the good news: Work on the playground has been finished and it was reopened on November 12th. The surfaces under the equipment have been replaced and this has helped enhance the safety for those using the playground.



The equipment used to install the surfaces has, unavoidably, left some repairs necessary to the grass around the side entrance so that gate will remain closed for the time being.

Now the bad news. A large piece of concrete was obviously used to smash a hole in the top of the table tennis table which has been subjected to vandalism in the past.



It is likely that the table tennis table will now have to be scrapped. Our photograph shows the latest damage to the table which was previously repaired after being damaged.

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## “Chaos Saturday” Hits Hethersett

IT could have been called Chaos Saturday on November 20th as traffic backed up on the B1172 as far as Thickthorn and beyond.

Herald reader Bob Crawley had this to say about the situation:

“Ok, so who in Highways had the genius idea to close the A11 and divert traffic along Norwich Road while there are roadworks and temporary traffic lights? “

Parts of the A11 were shut for re-surfacing and traffic travelling south was re-routed along the B1172 where temporary traffic lights caused the aforementioned chaos with a continuous line of traffic.

# Memories of a Hero— 41 Years On

**IT was 41 years ago this month that an American hero was killed in an air crash over Norfolk, leaving a widow and two young children. Peter Steward tells the story of a Vietnam Veteran and his family's Hethersett connection.**

**W**HEN William "Ole" Olson took off for what should have been a routine day's flying on 18th November, 1980, his wife of 10 years Nanette was concerned.

Nanette recalls that there was nasty weather and strong winds blowing.

"Surely you're not going to fly in this weather are you?" Nanette inquired.

"Honey we fly above this. See you later," Bill replied.

It was the last time Nanette saw him alive.

At 9.15 am two US Air Force A10 Tankbuster aircraft from RAF Bentwaters collided over Norfolk. One of the pilots ejected but Lieutenant Colonel Bill Olson flew out to sea in an attempt not to crash over populated areas. He was forced to eject into the sea off Winterton.

A rescue helicopter was scrambled from Coltishall and David Bullock was lowered to try to free Bill from the waterlogged parachute which was dragging him through the waves. In gale force winds and heavy waves, David became entangled in the parachute. Then the steel winch cable snapped. Divers from a second rescue helicopter freed the men and pulled them from the water but both were

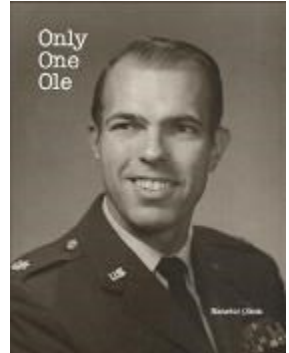
pronounced dead on arrival at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. Both men were 38 and married with two children. Nanette's nightmare had begun as she recalled in the book that she has put together in the past year.

"Just too many things had gone wrong that morning."

Ironically Nanette and her mother called into USAF Bentwaters where Bill was stationed as they were in the area. There they were given the tragic news by Bill's boss.

Nanette admits that she didn't remember the journey back to Hethersett, but she had to break the news to her two young children Tony and Alexandra: "I sat on the bed, held the children's hands and told them that Daddy had died that morning and gone to heaven."

William "Bill" Olson was known to friends simply as Ole— a charming man whose beaming smile could light up



The cover of Nanette Olson's tribute book to Bill "Ole" Olson.



any room. Nanette remembers him as “a fun-loving, very clever, highly intellectual man with impeccable manners.”

“Although we were only able to spend 10 years as a married couple, I am forever grateful that I met Ole, created a beautiful family with him and that we shared so many exciting times together. We were able to travel the world and our children were able to experience different countries and cultures.

“He had a wonderful gift with people and a great smile.”

Bill Olson was born on 20th December, 1941, and would have been 80 this year. He grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and joined the Airforce Academy in Colorado in 1959.

He studied for a Master’s Degree in economics from Georgetown University in Washington DC before returning to the USAF in Texas and Arizona. Bill saw active service in Vietnam and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross Air medal before being posted to Weathersfield in Suffolk and subsequently to Bentwaters.

When Bill and Nanette met, he was sharing a house in Braintree with two other bachelor pilots. Their first date was a romantic trip to London and love blossomed from there.

How Bill and Nanette came to live in Hethersett is a story in itself as she explained.

“My mum and dad moved to near Diss. One day I was on my way to Norwich when I passed Old Hall School and thought that my daughter would love to go to school there.







The last family photograph taken in summer 1980



Bill and Nannette with their daughter Alexandra

"I was driving along the A140 and stopped to get the children some sweets. I saw an advert for a house in Hethersett in the Eastern Daily Press newspaper and it looked really interesting."

The result was Nanette put in a bid for the house which was accepted and she and Bill moved in.

At that time Bill was expecting to be posted to either Lakenheath or Mildenhall, both of which are easily accessible from Hethersett.

But then news came that Bill would be moving to Woodbridge and the couple decided to sell their Hethersett house and move closer to his new base.

Then came the tragic accident and Nanette has lived in "her interesting" house in Hethersett ever since and admits that she loves the village.

Writing her book "Only One Ole" has been therapeutic for Nanette: "It all seems as if it happened yesterday. The more I wrote, the more memories came flooding back," she said and ironically as Nanette wrote the book a piece of metal from the wing flap of Bill's plane was discovered on the beach at Happisburgh.



The grave of William "Bill" Olson in St Remigius Churchyard, Hethersett.

The words on the memorial are taken from a poem entitled High Flight by John Magee.

I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace

Where never lark or even eagle flew --

And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod

The high untrodden sanctity of space,

Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

The bottom stone reads:

"This is also the final resting place of Frederick Slack who tended this grave of his son-in-law regularly until his death on 10th August, 1991, aged 79 years.

And also of his wife Hannah Emma Jane Nan

Who died on 13th November, 1992.

Aged 80 years.



# A Day of Poignant Memories

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**John Head recounts the details of a tragic day and his pride in attending two memorial services**

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**O**N November 18th 1980 two USAF A10-Thunderbolts took off from USAF Bentwaters. Carrying out a manoeuvre over North Norfolk they were involved in a mid-air collision. The pilot of one, Major Steve Kaatz, ejected safely, the plane crashing near the village of Litteringham. The pilot of the other A-10 Lieutenant Colonel William Olson bravely attempted to return to Bentwaters flying around the coastline to avoid any built-up area whilst at the same time alerting the rescue services. Unfortunately, the hydraulics of the aircraft were severely damaged and he ejected into the sea just off Winterton.

A Sea King rescue crew from RAF Coltishall was alerted to pick up Major Kranz but was diverted to pick up Lt. Col. Olson whose parachute failed to release and he was being dragged through waves up to 15ft high with windspeeds up to 45 knots.

The winchman, Master Air Load Master David Bullock went down to free Lt. Col. Olson from his parachute but also became entangled. The weight of the two men and the waterlogged parachute snapped the winch cable and both were dragged further out to sea.



**The fly past over Hethersett. You can see a gap in the formation which is in honour of Ole Olson**

The Sea King could not alight on the rough seas and made contact with a USAF MH53 Helicopter from a Recovery Squadron based at Woodbridge. Guided by the Sea King the MH53 dropped two rescue men into the inhospitable sea. They managed successfully to cut MALM Bullock and Lt. Col Olson free. They were taken on board the MH53 but sadly both were pronounced dead on arrival at Norwich. From the alert being received at RAF Coltishall to the recovery of MALM Bullock and Lt Col. Olson took approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes.

On David Bullock's headstone are the words 'who gave his life so willingly' on 'Bill Olson's headstone are the words 'I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace. Put out my hand and touched the face of God' These words are taken from John Gillespie Magee Jnr's. poem 'High Flight'.

I was extremely privileged to be invited to attend memorial services in Aylsham cemetery for MALM David Bullock and in the churchyard of St Remigius, Hethersett, for Lt Col William Harold Olson.

These were both extremely poignant events timed to precision by the organisers and credit must go to Mrs Nanette Olson who initiated the idea, the Spirit of Coltishall Association and the USAF represented by Col C E Metrolis US Air Attache from RAF Lakenheath. The young cadets which formed part of the Colour Party should be applauded for their professionalism.

Two things have been indelibly etched into my mind on that day. 1. The sacrifices made during peacetime to protect our nation for the liberty we enjoy today, this thanks to our armed forces, our allies and our rescue services that always remain in a state of vigilance and readiness. 2. Politicians have waxed lyrical about the 'Special Relationship' Britain enjoys with the United States of America. It needed no politician to remind those gathered at the memorials. I could feel it so deep inside me as we honoured two exceptionally brave men; one of whom was an American who surrendered his life for the protection of our nation.



The flypast in honour of David Bullock



The Olson Family around the Hethersett grave







# Where Is Our MP?

WHERE is our MP is the question on the lips of many residents at the moment.

Residents have taken to social media during the month to complain that e-mails to our Member of Parliament Richard Bacon have been ignored and trying to contact him is “a waste of time.”

Mr Bacon has also got into hot water when he did reply to e-mails—sending a list of addresses. When 86 residents complained to him on various topics, his office replied by sharing all the addresses, something that breaks data protection rules.

Mr Bacon has been accused in social media posts of failing to represent Hethersett:

“I would imagine Richard Bacon MP would struggle to find Hethersett on the map,” said one poster.

Jenny Hallett urged local people to bombard Mr Bacon with emails regarding Hethersett and the village’s concerns.

“Having just watched BBC Look East, I note that other South Norfolk residents are dissatisfied with the lack of interest our MP takes in local affairs. Perhaps as this has been highlighted - it is time to bombard him with emails outlining our own village concerns.”

This brought a swift response from many others. Comments included the following:

“I have never had a reply from him to



any of the emails I have sent. Not even an acknowledgement.”

“I sent an email to Richard Bacon a month ago and still haven’t even had an acknowledgement of it let alone any answer.”

“I have written to him several times over several years. I had a cut and paste response, once six years ago. Once.”

James Utting who was formerly a Conservative Party Branch Chairman has also expressed his frustration at trying to contact Mr Bacon:

“I emailed him - along with every other regional MP - expressing my disquiet over the Owen Paterson affair. I received a detailed, apologetic, personal reply from Duncan Baker and

Jerome Mayhew, who are not my MPs.

"From my MP - Mr Bacon - however, I received a belated imperious and perfunctory acknowledgment along with the email addresses of a large number of other correspondents whom he had 'copied in'.

"I am a former Conservative Party branch chairman - when John MacGregor was MP for South Norfolk - and I am seriously concerned that Mr Bacon is failing in his duty to represent his constituents."

Mr Bacon has the following message on his website which seems to be under reconstruction:

"I am here to serve and represent local people in South Norfolk regardless of how you voted. If you need my help then please don't hesitate to get in touch."

Mr Bacon has been MP for South Norfolk since 2001 and has been re-elected four times often with an increased majority.

Mr Bacon was previously on the record of supporting the idea that facilities should come before development but since then nobody seems to have heard from him.

Hethersett Herald sent Mr Bacon an e-mail on November 20th asking for comments and to date has received no reply. The question we posed was:

"In the light of adverse comments made by Hethersett residents regarding a lack of response to their e-mails and claims that you are not truly representing the village, would you like to comment on how you will regain the confidence of Hethersett people and how you will be supporting our village in the future?"



**Photograph By John Head**

# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery

A gallery of photographs sent to us by readers showing just some of the ghoulish fun in the village at Hallowe'en after a break last year due to COVID



Photos on this page from **Phuong Chu/ Sarah Collins/ Dorian Hindmarsh and Adriana Birchenall.**



# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery



Ghostly goes on. A photographic montage from Kenneth Swanson, Lesley Hurn and Joanna MacFarlane.



# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery

Herald reader and Hethersett resident David Wyatt certainly embraced Hallowe'en with his family as his photographs show.





# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery



The Ghostbusters car returned to Hethersett and is pictured on the new Heather Gardens estate. Photograph courtesy of Ross Wainwright.



Photograph by Alfie Hamilton



Photograph by Claire Clarke

# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery



The photographs on this page are courtesy of Shannon Aldred, Zoe Louise Leske, Jessyka Emylee Louise Hartnell-Baker and David Wyatt



# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery



Photographs by Steff Bennett and Kelly Francis-Kelly



# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery



Photographs by Nick Priestley—Park Green

Thanks to all our contributors. There were a number of messages on social media from residents saying how much fun Hallowe'en was this year and how well behaved all the children were.

# Happy Hallowe'en Gallery



Photos by Helen Nalod, Rebecca Appleton and Jason Slack



# Road Closures Update

## Vehicles re-routed along B1172

WORK on stretches of the A11 continues throughout December with just a break for Christmas.

The work started on October 24th and will continue in one form or another until next February. It will see parts of the A11 repaired where the road has suffered cracks. Potholes will also be filled in. There will be new drainage and road markings and cat's eyes will be installed.

Phase one will repair the carriageway between the Tuttle Lane Interchange at Wymondham and Thickthorn. This will see the A11 southbound carriageway closed between 8 pm and 6 am until December 9th.

Then the northbound carriageway will be closed overnight from December 9th until December 23rd. There will be no closures over the Christmas period from December 23rd until January 4th.

From January 4th until February 13th, the northbound carriageway will be closed overnight as the work is completed. There is also the possibility of some other overnight closures.

During the closures vehicles will be re-routed along the B1172 through our parish.



Hethersett Herald



December 2021



## New Volunteers at Coffee Morning

A COFFEE morning was held in St Remigius Church on November 27th by the church's Flower Guild.

A couple of new volunteers came forward to help with future arrangements.

There is still plenty of space for other volunteers. Anyone interested should contact Adele Kent on 07714 210436 or [ajkent58@gmail.com](mailto:ajkent58@gmail.com).

Our photograph above shows some of the volunteers with the Rector The Rev Derek McClean and his daughter Lizzie around the church Christmas tree which has been partly decorated by children from the Messy Church group. Christmas floral displays will be put together on Saturday, 18th December from 9 am until 1 pm. Any help will be very welcome.



# Hethersett Churches Together

## ***Christmas Message and Christmas Church Services***

*Joint Christmas Message from the Rev Derek McClean (Anglican) and the Rev Steve Cullis (Methodist Minister).*

"Hethersett is such a good community for people to live in. This Christmas here's an idea for us to strengthen these ties amongst one another:

Many people still send and receive Christmas Cards. This year after you have enjoyed them, or hung them up, or put them on mantelpieces, why not put them into a box. Each day during January (and if you received a lot you can take this on into February, and March... even April) take one card and sit quietly for a moment.

Think, perhaps pray, for the person who sent it. And see where your thoughts take you. It might be you'll pick up a phone to that person and check in with them... or something different. If they live in the village you might end up knocking on their door.

The belief of the Christian Church is that Jesus joined the community of Earth to make us part of the community of Heaven - part of the life of God through eternity.

Christmas is a chance to celebrate that as we build up those ties of community with one another. 2022 may well be a year in which you'd like to explore more that central belief of Christianity of being invited to part of the life of God through Jesus. Please do get in touch with either of us if you'd like to know more."

Over the page is a list of Christmas services in Hethersett, Little Melton and Great Melton.:

Contact Details.

Rev Derek McClean—01603 946656 [revdmac@gmail.com](mailto:revdmac@gmail.com)

Rev Steve Cullis—01953 609106 [stephen.cullis@methodist.org.uk](mailto:stephen.cullis@methodist.org.uk)

# Christmas Church Services

December 5th	All Age Advent Sunday Service with informal communion	St Remigius	11 am
December 5th	Christingle Service	St Remigius	4 pm
December 12th	Christingle and Carol Service	Great Melton	3.30 pm
December 19th	Carol Service	Little Melton	10.30 am
	Carol Service	St Remigius	4 pm
December 24th	Christmas Eve Communion	Methodist Church	3 pm
	Crib Service	Little Melton	3.30 pm
	Crib Service	St Remigius	4 pm
	Christingle Service#	Methodist Church	4 pm
	Carols with Communion	Great Melton	6.30 pm
	Midnight Communion	St Remigius	11.30 pm
December 25th	All Age Family Communion	Little Melton	9.30 am
	All Age Family Communion	St Remigius	9.30 am
	Family Worship+	Methodist	10.30 am
December 26th	United Benefice Communion*	St Remigius	10.30 am
January 2nd	United Benefice Communion*	St Remigius	10.30 am

+ - Please bring a present to show

\* - No services in Little or Great Melton

# - Please book for the Christingle at the Methodist Church on Christmas Eve by emailing: [church@hethersettmethodist.org.uk](mailto:church@hethersettmethodist.org.uk)



**Late  
November  
afternoon  
in  
Hethersett.  
Photo by  
John Head**

# Top Trophies Go To France

CAPTAIN and coach Ben France was named Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club's player of the year at the club's presentation evening and meal at Park Farm Hotel on November 12th.

Ben scored 959 runs for the first team at an average of 56.41. This included six 50s and two centuries. In addition all-rounder France captured 37 wickets at an average of 12.08 and a wicket on average every 23 balls.

Main club awards were presented to the following: Player of the Year, Ben France; Batting Award, Ben France; Bowling Award, Alex Rennie (49 wickets); Catching Cup, David Mathews; Wicketkeeping Cup, Damon Cresswell; Most Improved Player, Will Worley; Best Performance, John Curtis; Young Player of the Year, Alex Bird; Clubman of the Year, The Woodruff Family; Duck Cup (for most ducks), Lewis Keeley; Ladies batting, Veera Davey; Ladies bowling, Ella Hill; Fourth Team Batting, Sam Woodruff; Fourth Team Bowling, Will English; Third Team Batting, Stephen Hayes; Third Team Bowling, Andy Baker; Second Team Batting, Damian Fahy; Second Team Bowling, Jay Back; First Team Batting, Ben France; First Team Bowling, Ben France.

The club's annual general meeting was held at Park Farm Hotel on November 25th.

Chairman Harriet Curtis reported on a successful 2021 season and thanked the army of volunteers who have all contributed to the success of the club.

The club were runners-up in the Norfolk

Junior Cup and the Under-9s youth side won the Norfolk Hardball League. Numerous new players had joined and a number of female players had enjoyed cricket for the first time.

The club currently has 247 playing members and, in the 2022 season, will once again be fielding four adult Saturday teams in the Norfolk Alliance and Norfolk League. There will also be a ladies team, an over-40s team, a Sunday side and numerous youth teams. A decision on whether to enter the National Village competition will be taken at a later date.

There was a lengthy discussion about creating a robust pathway for talented youth players to move up into senior cricket.

Seven players had represented Norfolk at various levels and 11 juniors will be looking to represent the county in the coming season. The club now gives competitive cricket to 132 juniors.

New nets have been installed at the club's Flordon headquarters along with new fencing around the pitches.

Treasurer Stephen Hayes reported a healthy financial situation with bar takings at record levels.

Sara Worley was presented with gifts to mark her time in charge of youth cricket and was thanked for her "exceptional and immense contribution to the club." She was honoured by being made the club's first female vice-president.

The following were elected:

Chair, Harriet Curtis; Vice-Chair, vacant; Treasurer, Stephen Hayes;



Secretary, Helena Last; Welfare Officer, Helena Last; Club Development Officer, Meg Cresswell; Director of Senior Cricket, Tom Collishaw; Junior Liaison Officer, Matt Steward; Director of Ladies Cricket, Jordanne Moy; League Administrator, Damian Fahy; Youth Cricket Fixture Manager, Sara Worley; Junior Co-ordinator, Karina Fish; Bar Manager, Nick Morton; Sponsorship Manager, Richard Matthews; Spond Administrator, Emiel Grobler; Groundsmen—Richard Ellis Senior, Richard Matthews, David Osborn, Peter Baker, Nick Morton, Stuart Cooper, Stuart Last.

First Team Captain, Ben France; First Team Vice Captain, Tom Collishaw; Second Team Captain, Nick Burrett; Second Team Vice Captain, Damian Fahy; Third Team Captain, Stephen Hayes; Third Team Vice Captain, Stuart Last; Fourth Team Captain, Sam Woodruff; Sunday Captain, Sam Morton; Over-40s Captain, Damian Fahy; Ladies Captain, Meg Cresswell.

The 2022 season will begin in April. Once again there will be two senior Saturday leagues with the possibility of a one league set-up for Norfolk being put off until at least the 2023 season and perhaps beyond then.

## Appeal For Volunteers

WE are pleased to include with this edition of Hetherett Herald an appeal from the East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) for volunteer help.

The charity is looking for people who can spend a couple of hours a week or even as little as an hour a month helping a family in their own home who have a child who accesses one of their hospices.

“Caring for a seriously ill child or young person can put a lot of extra demand on a family. The aim of our Help at Home service is to put a caring individual into a family's home to provide everyday practical support such as cooking, sibling support, cleaning and gardening.

“We provide volunteers with the necessary support and training, all you need to do is provide some of your precious time. We have got families that need support in the local area,” said Anne Rayner, Volunteer Co-ordinator for EACH.

More information on just what is involved can be gained by contacting Anne at: [anne.rayner@each.org.uk](mailto:anne.rayner@each.org.uk) or by calling 07771 275320.



# News From Hethersett Hawks

**By Mel Perkins MBE**

HETHERSETT Hawks/Yellow Brick Mortgages brought the curtain down on the 2021 season with the home matches against Great Blakenham postponed from the previous week due to heavy rain.

Proceedings started with the Youth League match and, with Great Blakenham only having four riders, there was a comfortable victory for the young Hawks who demonstrated their strength in depth with arguably their best four riders being unavailable.

It provided an opportunity for a debut for Austin Brailley while Alex Osborne remained unbeaten - he was the only one to not face Harvey Young. Matthew Sidell looked in much better form on new machinery.

Hethersett Under-16s 84. Great Blakenham Under-16s 34. Hethersett scorers—Matthew Sidell 15, Amelia Dodson 15, Luca El Labany 14+1, Alex Osborne 13+3, Ronnie Harding 11, Thalia Silver 9+2, Austin Brailley 7+3.

The Combination Division match was a friendly end-of-season affair which proved very entertaining with Hawks calling on former members Olly Buxton and Scott Grimes for rare appearances. Teamwork from Harley Hamill, despite a football rib injury, helped Rod Burke to some valuable points and Paul Delaiche won a couple of races. In the end the Hawks were quite pleased with

## Celebration Time

Hawks will celebrate their season at the club's presentation evening on Friday, December 4th, at Hethersett Social Club.

You can keep up to date with our activities on our website:

[www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk](http://www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk) or via social media



just a 13-point defeat.

Hethersett 73, Great Blakenham 86. Hethersett scorers—Paul Delaiche 16, Olly Buxton 14+2, Harley Hamill 12+2,

# News From Hethersett Hawks



Rob Silver 10+1, Rod Burke 10, Scott Grimes 8, Katie Adams 3+1.

It has been good to get back to Regional League racing and the Hawks have competed well despite limited availability of riders and using

24 different riders across the eight fixtures.

The Youth team has been a terrific success, building on the successful training sessions - 54 were held during the year with 81 different participants.

## Have You Missed Out ?

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

[www.hethersetterald.weebly.com](http://www.hethersetterald.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 Pfeter Steward on

[petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net)



# News From Hethersett Village Screen

HETHERSETT Village Screen is looking for a new committee member to organise catering on film Sundays.

Jacky Sutton will be stepping down from her role in the New Year and the group is looking for a replacement.

Duties aren't too onerous as James Utting from the group explained: "It will involve helping to select films for the Autumn/Spring seasons and running the refreshment bar at the nine showings (September through to May inclusive).

"Jacky Sutton- committee member and 'head of catering ' at HVS has regrettably decided to stand down in the new year, so we are looking for a replacement.

"There are a number of benefits to the job which include social, cultural and economic. In other words the post holder gets to see the films free of charge."

Anybody interested in filling the vacancy should contact James Utting by e-mail at: [j-utting@outlook.com](mailto:j-utting@outlook.com) or call 07771876480.

The final film of 2021 will be Summerland which stars Gemma Arterton as a reclusive writer who is forced to bond with a young boy who has been entrusted to her care during the Battle of Britain in 1940 and later during the early days of the London Blitz.



Films are shown on Sunday afternoons at 3 pm in Hethersett Village Hall.

Summerland will be on screen On Sunday, December 5th.

Ticket prices are £5 for adults.



# News From The Parish Council

In the first of a regular column on environmental matters, the parish council looks at steps to keep our village litter free.

## Keeping The HEAT On Hethersett

EVERY month, Hethersett Parish Council's Environmental Action Team (HEAT) organises a Saturday litter pick around the village.

Pickers, hi-vis jackets and gloves are provided, but if you have your own gloves, please do bring them along. We alternate between meeting at the Methodist Church at 10 am and the Village Hall at 2 pm, so there should be a time and a place that is suitable for all.

The November litter pick took place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November when 22 people, including a number of children, took part on a cold but clear morning. Between them they collected 12 bags of litter.

The next litter pick will be on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm at the Village Hall – this will have a Christmas theme, so please don your Christmas jumpers and Santa hats.

We must also thank our litter pickers

who go out voluntarily on a daily basis. We are so lucky to have so many residents who really care about our community.



Litter is not just an eyesore, it is also dangerous to wildlife – animals can climb inside plastic bags and suffocate, or attempt to eat them and choke. Animals looking for food can also get trapped in cans or injured by sharp edges; even elastic bands, although seemingly harmless, can in fact wrap around small animals and the beaks of birds, and if swallowed, they can also cause choking.

Glass, of course, is not just a threat to wildlife, but also to our beloved pets, so it is very important to ensure there are no glass bottles lying around our pavements and parks.

We hope you can come and join us – you will be guaranteed a very warm welcome, a healthy walk, and a deep feeling of satisfaction, knowing you have done your bit to keep Hethersett safe for all.

# News From The Parish Council

## Meeting Dates

The final full council meeting of 2021 will take place on December 20th. Council meetings in 2022 will take place on the following dates: January 17th, February 21st, March 21st, April 20th, May 16th, June 20th, July 18th, September 19th, October 17th, November 21st, December 19th. There is no meeting in August. All meetings are on a Monday except for April which will take place on a Wednesday due to Bank Holidays. Council meetings begin at 7.30 pm. For other committee dates refer to the council's website which can be accessed at:

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

Committee and full council meetings are open to the public.

The 2022 annual parish meeting for residents will be held in Hethersett Village Hall on May 11th.

## How To Contact The Parish Council

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

The council has a website at

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

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

# News From The Parish Council



## HETHERSETT PARISH COUNCIL COUNCILLORS CONTACT DETAILS

### Chairman

Mrs A Quinlan, 8 Childs Road, Hethersett NR9 3HN

Tel: 814379

### Vice-Chairman

Mr S Slack, 70 Priory Road, Hethersett NR9 3EY

Tel: 811824

### Councillors:

Miss K Adams c/o the Parish Council Office, Village Hall, Hethersett

Via the Clerk

Mr L Dale, 46 New Road, Hethersett NR9 3HH

Tel: 810952

Dr A Edwards, 6 Queens Road, Hethersett NR9 3DB

Tel: 812309

Mrs S England, c/o the Parish Council Office, Village Hall, Hethersett

Tel: 07582 225895

Mrs S Lawrence, c/o the Parish Council Office, Village Hall, Hethersett

Via the Clerk

Mr J Loomer, 6 Miller Close, Hethersett NR9 3GD

Tel: 07799 608978

Mr C Morriss, 19 Haconsfield, Hethersett NR9 3AW

Tel: 810060

Ms E Mulvaney, c/o the Parish Council Office, Village Hall, Hethersett

Via the Clerk

Mr J Nightingale, 2 Buckingham Drive, Hethersett NR9 3HT

Tel: 811513

Mr M Stark, 61 Lynch Green, Hethersett NR9 3JT

Via the Clerk

Mrs J Walpole, 16 Canns Lane, Hethersett NR9 3JE

Tel: 811932

Mrs B Williamson, 8 Churchfields, Hethersett NR9 3AF

Tel: 810259

**Above are details of the 14 parish councillors with their contact details.**

## Parish Shorts

- The parish council has given permission for the Finnbar's Force Charity to illuminate the Oak tree off Great Melton Road on Great Melton Close during the Christmas period. Health and Safety assessments have been carried out and councillors voted unanimously for the tree to be lit up throughout December.
- The parish council offices in Hethersett Village Hall will be closed over the holiday period from 12.30 pm on Christmas Eve until 9.30 am on Tuesday, 4th January.
- South Norfolk Council will not be demolishing the youth shelter in Admirals Way. Concern has been expressed over a number of months about the amount of rubbish and graffiti around the shelter. It is hoped the district council will remove graffiti and ensure the area is kept clean.

# News From The Parish Council

## Hethersett Backing For Climate Control

HETHERSETT Parish Council is backing a bill aimed at helping to slow down climate change.

The November council meeting agreed to support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill and has

written to MP Richard Bacon, Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk Council urging them to also consider supporting the CEE Bill.

It is hoped that the bill will be put before Parliament during the 2021-22 sessions.

An executive summary of the bill is available at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eeo34sbxlsHtTnLxQm9ilm6kMqeo3ni/view>

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt in the UK and around the world. Global temperatures have increased by 1.2°C from pre-industrial levels and the natural world has reached crisis point, with 28% of plants and animals currently threatened with extinction.

Hethersett Parish Council believes that unless we drastically change course, the world is set to exceed the Paris Agreement's safe 1.5°C limit. Pledges like the Paris Agreement and updated emissions targets are not legally binding. The gap between pledges and policies leaves the world on course for catastrophic warming of near 3%.

As the 2018 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) made clear, every half a degree makes a world of difference: severe climate impacts with 1.5°C of warming, such as extreme weather patterns causing flooding and heat waves, get significantly worse with 2°C.

According to the IPCC, limiting heating to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector and local communities. The UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world and more than one in seven of our plants and animals face extinction and more than 40% are in decline. We have lost 95% of our hedgehogs.

The UK needs a legally enforceable nature target so that by 2030 nature is visibly and measurably on the path of recovery, in line with the Global Goal for Nature and the Leaders' Pledge for Nature.

Hethersett Parish Council has noted that many local authorities are playing an important role in the UK taking action to achieve net zero carbon emissions, and to protect and revitalise local wildlife and natural habitats. In addition, Parliament in May 2019 declared an Environment and Climate Emergency and also there is a Bill before Parliament – the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published



# News From The Parish Council

as the “Climate and Ecology Bill”), which, if it became law, would require the government to develop a strategy to address the emergency that would ensure:

A. The ecological emergency is tackled shoulder to shoulder with the climate crisis in a joined-up approach; B. The Paris Agreement is enshrined into law to ensure that UK does its real fair share to limit global temperature rise to the most stringent end of the Paris Agreement -1.5°C. C. The Leaders Pledge for Nature is enshrined into law to ensure that the UK’s ecosystems are protected and restored with a focus on biodiversity, soils and natural carbon sinks;

D. The UK takes full responsibility for our entire greenhouse gas footprint (i.e., consumption emissions plus shipping, flights, and land-based transport) by accounting for all of the emissions that take place overseas to manufacture, transport and dispose of the goods and services we import and consume; E. The UK takes full responsibility for our ecological footprint so that we protect health and resilience of ecosystems along both domestic and our global supply chains; F. An independent, temporary Climate and Nature Assembly is set-up, representative of the UK’s population, to engage with the UK Parliament and UK Government to help develop the emergency strategy. Members of the Parish Council are calling for joined-up action that responds to the emergency of our natural world, our parks, villages and towns, our landscapes and wildlife.

## More Parish News

THE future of a post office in Hethersett continues to hang in the balance. The parish council heard at its November meeting that negotiations with a potential business have fallen through and the current office in Oak Square is due to close early in the New Year. Members agreed to continue to monitor events.

Road safety around Back Lane continues to be a priority for the parish council. With the new Woodside school now in the area and Hethersett Academy looking to develop further, the parish is looking to have more safety signs put up and continues to meet with district and county council representatives and highways department staff to ensure the area is as safe as possible and this could include calls for a pedestrian crossing on Back Lane. The idea of improved signage has met with the approval of the Children’s Services Department at County Hall who said: “From a Children’s Services point of view I think we need to set up a meeting with the school to discuss the design of additional signage with input from the pupils and then liaise with highway colleagues on the best location to install these.

The bus shelter on the B1172, which was severely damaged when hit by a car, belongs to the parish council. Repairs will be covered by an insurance claim \_\_\_\_

# News From The Parish Council



## Village Speedwatch Scheme To Be Extended

### And more 20mph zones set for Hethersett

Hethersett's Community speedwatch could shortly be operating in 20 mph zones, the parish council heard at its November meeting.

Councillor Bridget Williamson reported on the current state of the scheme and advocated its extension into 20 mph zones.

"The Speedwatch team continues to monitor speed once a week at pre-designated sites. Despite public perception, the vast majority of drivers are driving safely and within the speed limit.

"A very small minority take no heed of our presence and drive well above the speed limit - these are all reported to Norfolk Constabulary, and the driver will be sent a letter.

"We have received an e mail from Norfolk Constabulary asking for our views on whether to monitor 20 mph zones or not. The survey has duly been filled in, expressing our view that we would indeed like to monitor 20 mph zones. This, to us, seems like a step in the right direction."

Councillors agreed that the scheme should be extended to cover 20 mph zones.

Agreement has also been reached for 20 mph zones to be included on parts of the North Hethersett development.

Norfolk County Council has given the go-ahead for the limits on a new housing estate off Great Melton Road. The council says the 20 mph speed limit zone will improve safety for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists.

The inclusion of the 20 mph speed limit was approved as part of the planning permission for the new housing development, but Norfolk County Council had to agree to a new traffic regulation order.

# News From The Parish Council

## Letter From The Queen

HETHERSETT Parish Council has received a letter of thanks from the Queen following its letter of condolence following the death of The Duke of Edinburgh.

The letter on Buckingham Palace notepaper is from Andrew Paterson, Director of Operations of the Private Secretary's Office.

It reads as follows:

"The Queen has asked me to thank you for your thoughtful message of sympathy sent on the death of her Majesty's beloved husband the Duke of Edinburgh.

"The Queen has been touched by the messages she has received and is most grateful for your kind words."

## Planning Decisions

Each month we will give a list of results of planning applications. Planning applications are decided by South Norfolk Council. Hethersett Parish Council can make comments and recommendations as to whether they should be approved or declined. The following results are therefore the decisions made by South Norfolk Council.

Erection of storage and refuge building with toilet facility on land off Station Lane—approved.

Erection of a single storey side front and rear extension at 9, Karen Close—approved.

Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear lean to extension to dwelling at 36, New Road— approved.

Extension to use as a utility room at 10A Lynch Green—approved.

Change of use from summer house to annexe at The Willows, Cedar Road – approved.

Stories by Anne Steward



## A Warm Welcome Awaits

Hethersett Methodist Singing Fellowship Invite you to their Christmas Music and Tea Afternoon on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December from 2.30 pm, in the Methodist Church. Great Melton Road.

An afternoon of Carols and readings with tea and cakes to follow.

A warm welcome awaits you. Please book your place on 01603 810237

## Wednesday Morning Coffee Stop

Do you work in the centre of the village, walk to school, wait for public transport, visit the shops, doctors or dentists? Why not drop in for a coffee at this new community venture at the Methodist church, Great Melton Road.

Specially brewed coffee is available between 9 am and 12 noon every Wednesday morning.

HETHERSETT Dementia Support Group will be holding a Christmas café from 10 am to 12 noon on Tuesday 21st December when Michael Delph will be entertaining with Christmas songs on his guitar. On 7th December, the singing fellowship from the Methodist Church will lead carol singing from 10.15 am and seasonal refreshments will be served.

We look forward to seeing you with any friends and family you would like to bring along.



# HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT

## Hethersett & District Aid in Sickness Fund?

(Formerly known as the Hethersett Nursing Association)



### DO YOU LIVE IN

Hethersett

Ketteringham or Little Melton?

### ARE YOU

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

**Infirm  
Convalescing  
Sick  
Unwell  
Disability**

#### Examples of help available

Grants are available towards:

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

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



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

**All applications are treated in the strictest confidence.**

Registered Charity Number 211284

# News From Jubilee Youth Club

**By Gillian Saunders**

WELL I am pleased to say the roof work was completed and well within the time scale we were promised.

After the weather towards the end of the month, I think we can say it has been well tested! So we are once again snug and dry for the winter.



We have taken the opportunity, as we were given some unexpected funding, to upgrade the lights in the hall too. We have got rid of the dimmer switches which caused no end of confusion and everything is now labelled up so people know what they are switching on and off!

We also sorted some of the outside lights too as they had seen better days and seemed to go off just as you were trying to lock up or get to the car in the dark. They also got left on easily. So now they are on time switches so no more dancing in front of the sensor by the door to get the light to come on. So hopefully we should be able to see better and get in and out of the hall safely as well as being dry when we get in.

We need next to look at the outside lights on the sides and back of the building for security and safety. We are also looking at improving the outside area as a whole to include a seating area with tables and an area where we can grow some vegetables and flowers with the young people. If anyone with green fingers would like to be involved please get in touch. We will need some help with what to plant and when! We are looking at raised beds and a nature area too as the young people have expressed an interest in making part of the area more attractive to the local birds and hedgehogs.

The Year 7+ group has got off to a slow start on a Friday evening at the hall. 7pm to 8:30 pm each Friday except the 3rd Friday as there is a regular booking at the hall.

We were unable to appoint an assistant for this group so are desperately in need of volunteers. We will advertise for an assistant in January, but if you have experience of children or young people and would be interested in the post please talk to one of the trustees. If you are able to volunteer with this group or with the Wednesday group we would be very pleased to hear from you.

We are going to wait until next year to look at the Well Being group as we want to establish the Year 7+ group and ensure we have enough volunteers before

starting another two groups and also MTM are running a well being session once a month, so maybe this is no longer needed at our hall. I would be interested to hear the views of the young people as to whether they want a monthly session at our hall as well.

We have a few daytime slots available for hall hire and it is free most weekends too. However evenings are very busy. If you are interested in hiring it for one off or regular bookings please get in touch with me on 01603 759449.

The young people held a bingo evening and sold cakes etc and raised over £120 for Children in Need. This was a fantastic achievement and a huge well done to all those involved. If you look on the club's Facebook page there are photos of the lovely cakes that were on sale!

The last club night for the Wednesday group is December 15th and the Friday group 10th December. Clubs will then restart again in January.

Please consider volunteering it need only be once a month or if we get enough volunteers every couple of months for a couple of hours. If you have any questions please see Alahna or Becca.

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## In Aid of SANDS Charity

A craft fair is being organised on 12th June, 2022, in aid of the Sands charity.

The fair will take place in Sands Awareness month and is being organised by Sarah Brailey in Hethersett Village Hall from 10 am until 3 pm.

“The main aim of the event is to make people aware of the support that we offer and to get our voice out there. If we can also help other people by giving them a chance to promote their business or sell their crafts/goods then we would love to do that,” Sarah said.

“Stalls will cost £7.50 each and a 5ft table will be provided, although you are welcome to bring your own.”

Sarah can be contacted on: [www.facebook.com/sarah.brailey.399](https://www.facebook.com/sarah.brailey.399).

Stillbirth and Neonatal Death (SANDS) has the following aims:

To support anyone affected by the death of a baby.

To work in partnership with healthcare professionals to ensure that bereaved parents and families receive the best possible care.

To promote improvements in practice and fund research to help reduce the number of babies dying.

## Gaining Christmas Momentum

**A**S THE year ends, things seem to gain momentum.

Meetings, parents evenings, Halloween, Fireworks night, Christmas. It all seems to require a lot more time and work, it's hard not to get overwhelmed sometimes. This time of year, I have to make sure I'm noting things down in my diary, just so we don't double-book ourselves.

At the end of October, we held a Halloween party at playgroup. It was so much fun! Bookings are still being taken online for sessions, the slots open on a Wednesday morning.

The slots for the Halloween Party flew out, they all went before lunch on Wednesday. We had to put people on a waiting-list in case of cancellations.

We'd have loved to let everyone come, but sadly we are restricted on numbers in the Village Hall. When it came to the

morning of the party, it was all hands on deck. Luckily, we have more than enough volunteers to help set up, clean and put away. We had to get the food ready, sort out the activity tables, organise the toys, hang decorations, and obviously tidy away and clean everything after. We were very thankful for all of their help.

It was so wonderful to see all the children with their parents and grandparents having a lovely time. Most of them were dressed up, some of the parents even dressed up too! It was great to have a party like



pre-Covid times. Covid wasn't forgotten, just put to the back of our minds for a morning. Children were able to share (pre-packed) party food together, we even had a table giving children temporary tattoos. One of our volunteers, Jo, made some playdoh for the occasion and put together a special Hallowe'en sensory area



# Sarah's World

for our smaller visitors. We also had a competition with prizes for the three best dressed children, a very hard decision to make! Goodie bags were given out at the end, packed with some chocolate, sweets and an age-appropriate toy.

It really couldn't have gone better. Next is planning our SPOT-tacular, our special fundraiser for BBC Children in Need. I'll let you know how that goes in the next issue.

Hallowe'en itself was fun too! I had the half term school holiday off of work and we had it jam-packed with activities. Amelia was at a Brownie camp at Patteson Lodge in Coltishall with both sets of Hethersett Brownies from Wednesday to Friday, and we'd made plans to see loads of our friends that we don't have time to see during term time.

We had some of our friends over for a pizza night and went to Wroxham Barns for the day for rides and pumpkin picking with

some others. It was an action-packed week, but so much fun! I was back for the early shift on Hallowe'en, where some of the staff made an effort to dress up. I was a skeleton, my colleague Steve was Uncle Fester and Duncan was the red Power Ranger.

In the evening, the girls and I went round my friend's for a Hallowe'en party. We had such a good time and it made a nice change from trick or treating. But don't worry, we left sweets out with our pumpkins for the trick or treaters that visited ours!

I mentioned last month that I was going to take on the mission of sorting out the



pre-loved Woodside School uniform that was sitting untouched in boxes in the school. Well, I've now made a start! I spent three hours on that first day, just sorting through the boxes and bags of new



# Sarah's World

donations which had yet to be looked at. After I'd finished, I took home two large bags of clothes and set to work with making a Facebook page and selling a few of the clothes online. The Facebook page is called 'Hethersett Woodside Preloved Uniform' and it's packed with photos of all the uniform up for sale.

I've already managed to sell quite a bit, and gone back for more stock to sell from home! All of the money goes into the Friends of Woodside coffers, and I can take it to the school reception to be picked up from there, or you can pick it up from my house if that works better for you.

If you're not on Facebook, contact the school office. They can put you in touch with me and I'll see if we can find you what you need.



# Sarah's World



Read Sarah's World column every month exclusively in Hethersett Herald



## Design Awards For Two Hethersett Buildings

TWO Hethersett schools have won "notable mentions" in top design awards.

The Norfolk Design and Craftsmanship Awards celebrate

the best in contemporary architecture and community projects.

The awards are a collaboration between the Norfolk Association of Architects, The Norwich Society and Civic Voice, and are divided into four categories - houses and housing, non-residential, conservation and community. They recognise all those involved in providing innovation in design leading to community benefit.

Amongst those mentioned in the non residential category are: Hethersett Woodside Primary and Nursery School: a new primary school, designed by NPS Property Consultants and built by Morgan Sindall Ltd and Hethersett Academy: a new teaching block designed by NPS Property Consultants and built by R G Carter Ltd.

HETHERSETT has been featured in numerous Media stories over the past month, both directly and indirectly.

Our MP Richard Bacon is in hot water over e-mails as the Eastern Daily Press explained.

Mr Bacon was accused of ignoring e-mails from residents of South Norfolk including Hethersett's James Utting who wrote to him about concerns over a planning system which allows an additional 200 houses in my village on top of the 1,396 for which planning permission had already been granted. You can read more about the disquiet over our MP earlier in this edition of Hethersett Herald.

The local media also carried details of two court cases with a Hethersett connection.

Jordan Ellis, 27, was sentenced to two years and eight months in prison for a string of sexual offences which took place in Lowestoft. In court his current address was given as Benbow Close in Hethersett.

Robert Cathersides, 65, was given a 20 year sentence after admitting numerous indecent image offences and child sexual offences between 2007 and 2020. Cathersides was formerly of Muriel Kenny Court in Hethersett.









# Dance school is in need of new home after hall plan approved

**By [Name]**  
 The dance school, which has been operating from its current premises for many years, is now in need of a new home after the council has approved a plan to demolish the hall. The school's founder, [Name], said the school has been a part of the community for over 50 years and is a very important part of the town's cultural life. She said the school has a waiting list of children and is looking for a new home that can accommodate the growing number of students. The council has approved a plan to demolish the hall and build a new community centre. The school is currently in negotiations with the council to secure a new home. [Name] said she is confident that the school will find a new home in the town and continue to provide a high quality of dance education for the children of the town.

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News From The Media



# News From Hethersett Hall

Stories by Charlotte Govier and Emily Parton

## All Aboard for a Virtual Cruise

All-aboard! We took part in a Virtual Cruise with Unilever as part of Barchester's regular Live Virtual Events. Residents gathered in the library where activities staff had put up holiday-themed decorations. Our chef Tony had made some delicious taster dishes from the different countries. Our residents enjoyed the selected menu and hearing all about the different locations including Germany, Holland and Belgium. This event sparked some great conversations and reminiscences.





# News From Hethersett Hall

## A Trip Down To The River

Residents of Memory Lane were invited to the lounge for a sensory session with Juli, a local drama teacher.

Juli had prepared a story of going down to the river with appropriate props such as pebbles, a fishing net, a picnic and blue chiffon material to represent a river. We also had the water sounds to enhance the scene. Residents were fully engaged throughout and expressed how much they enjoyed it. One lady acted out paddling through the stream, it was amazing.

The session ended with residents reading a lovely poem about a river by Valerie Bloom.



We can't wait for the next session in December.

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## Hallowe'en Fun

Our residents enjoyed music from the fabulous Splash Duo for their Hallowe'en party. During the performance, we served spooky-themed cocktails such as Vampires Kiss and Witches Brew. It was a fantastic atmosphere and everyone enjoyed themselves, it was very special to see our residents and staff singing and dancing.

Residents also got creative, designing some fantastic pumpkins to display in our home. Not forgetting our lovely staff who dressed for the occasion!

To further our Hallowe'en activities we invited Hethersett's Local scientist Lucy to host some spooky science experiments along with some little ones via Friend in Deed. It was great fun, with the children all in fancy dress and always a pleasure to see them!

# News From Hethersett Hall



# News From Hethersett Hall



## Bonfire Night Celebrations

Great fun was had on bonfire night with the fantastic Lee Vasey and fireworks display from our awesome maintenance team! The month also

saw entertainment from the Splash Duo who are featured on the left. All photographs courtesy of the Hall.



# Leaving A Lasting Legacy



**You may have wondered the best way of donating to charity in your will. In the first of a series from Spire Solicitors, partner, Alisdair Liddle gives you the facts.**

WITH charities at the heart of our society, the importance of public generosity is paramount in allowing their vital work to continue. In 2019, more than £3 billion was left to good causes in wills. With fundraising hit hard by the covid-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to leave a lasting gift.



## **Why leave a gift to a charity in your will?**

Gifts in wills make up around 30% of a charity's income allowing them to reach vulnerable people, complete vital research or perform essential services. Without these gifts left in wills, many charities would struggle to survive.

Not only can you support the work a charity does and play a part in helping countless people, but you can also benefit from reduced inheritance tax. A gift to a charity is free from inheritance tax and if you leave more than 10% of your estate to a charity, then the total amount of inheritance tax you pay is reduced from 40% to 36%. This reduction of inheritance tax means leaving more to charity can mean the charity receives a larger sum and the other beneficiaries still receive the same amount or more.

## **Can I leave a small amount?**

Any size donation will make a huge difference to the cause you care about. See our table on the next page to see how small donations can provide essential support and services:

The more you leave to charity, however, the bigger difference you make.

## **How do I leave a gift to charity in my Will?**

If a charity has made a difference to you or someone you care about, our highly regarded and friendly solicitors can assist you in writing this into your will. They will support and advise you throughout the process of writing a will or amending an existing one to ensure that your wishes are reflected.

There are two ways you can leave money to a charity in your Will. You can either specify a named charity or charities that will benefit, or you can let the trustees of your will decide. The gift you leave can be in the form of a cash sum, a property or asset or a share, or the whole of your residuary estate.



As long as you make reasonable provision for any financial dependents you may have, it is up to you to decide how much you would like to leave to charity.

If you would like to discuss any points in this article further or are looking for legal advice relating to donating to a charity in your will, please contact Spire Solicitors LLP on 01603 677077.

<b>Charity</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Pays for</b>
Stroke	£29	Someone to talk to and receive emotional support needed to begin to rebuild their life after stroke.
NSPCC	£5	Covers the cost of answering 1 call to
Cancer Research UK	£30	Help improve treatments for patients with lung cancer by covering the cost of a trial for a day.
British Heart Foundation	£20	Provide an hour of vital support from a Helpline Cardiac Nurse.
Sightsavers	£8	Could pay for trachoma operations to stop two people going blind.

## **CAR MECHANIC NEEDED**

Full/Part time  
For small family  
Run garage  
Near Wymondham  
For more information/apply  
Contact  
Martin 07771517778

# An Historic Hethersett Argument

Lewis Buckingham continues his look through Hethersett history

**T**HE year 1739 was only a week old as an assorted group of people made their way to the King's Arms in Norwich. It was a Monday morning and the pub was quiet. The main Music Room with its two marble fire-places and great stage stood quiet. There was little revelry to be had, as all had arrived at the summons of the King's Chancellor.

The Lord Chancellor had commanded four eminent gentleman to question an array of farmers and labourers, gentlemen, clerks and ladies. They wished to know the truth of an argument between two men of means.

Many that visited did not know each other - though perhaps more were neighbours - but the second question each was asked was "Do you know the Village of Hethersett, and if so, for how long have you known it?"

They all had Hethersett in common.

Before that question they were also each asked, "Do you know John Berney, Rector of Hethersett, the Complainant?, Do you know Claude Roberts, Farmer of Hethersett, the Defendant?"

The remaining queries all sought to answer two things:



The Madhouse—Image taken from the Rake's Progress.

What ancient customs of Tithe are held and remembered in Hethersett?

And what happened between John Berney and Claude Roberts in the year from September 1736 to September 1737?

Images of the "Rake's Progress" and the "Harlot's Progress" looked down from the walls of the room at each testator. They were an admonishment of where fate would lead them should they not answer truthfully.

So each told what they knew.

Perhaps at times they under-estimated the worth of an acre of wheat, and at

other times they over estimated it. They could be forgiven if their judgement was swayed somewhat by which party had called upon them to testify for their cause - The Farmer or the Priest

This came naturally.

You might remember from some months back when I spoke about the games the farmers would play when they reckoned their Tithes with the Rector. A legacy in a farmer's will for "Tithes Forgot" often proved there was no harm in it, that it was all part of country life.

But for some people it was more than a game.

John Marrant, the Rector of Hethersett previous to John Berney had been seemingly driven mad by this "game" of Tithes.

He most certainly didn't see it as such:

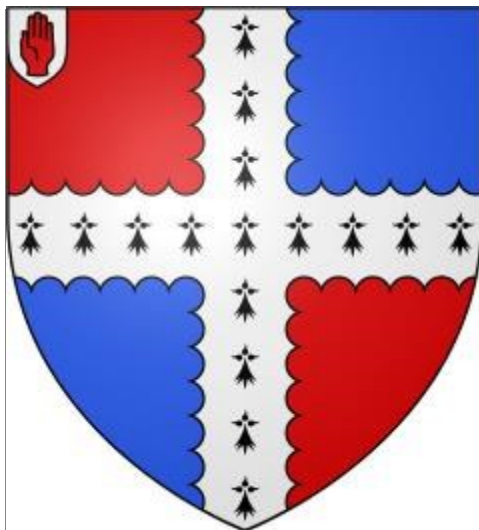
*"There was never such a pack of Hell-hounds as the Generality of People I have had to deal with in Hethersett. No, not in all Christendom."*

- John Marrant, Rector of Hethersett

He left messages in the Parish register, scrawled between notices of birth and death. They were messages to his successor - both pleas and warnings. And perhaps he primed Reverend Berney for this battle to come with Claude Roberts:

*"I Beseech My Successor (whoever he shall be (I hope Mr Berney)) for Gods sake to Gather Tithe or else he will be Cheated as I have been year after year & year after year &c"*

- John Marrant, Rector of Hethersett



The Berney Family Arms

Then again, perhaps it was inevitable.

While Marrant was the son of a doctor, he hadn't been born to privilege. And when he had tried to play at the game of Ecclesiastical preferment, he had been badly stung.

Berney was a man of a different sort.

Born in 1699 in Kirby Bedon, he was the eighth son out of ten children born to a Baronet. John's two eldest brothers each in turn succeeded to the title, but he was too far down the line of succession to imagine ever receiving that honour himself. As was the way with the youngest sons of gentry, he took up Holy Orders.

Though he may have had no expectations of inherited wealth or prestige, he was brought up to privilege. No doubt a belief that the world was his to mould was instilled in him from a young age.

He attended Cambridge, completing his BA and MA, and at the time of this

Court Case was well on the way to completing his Doctorate in Divinity. At 22 he had been ordained a priest, and at some stage after became chaplain to the Dean of Norwich. You may remember that Jonathon Thornton - the man who took the Tithes of St Clements in Norwich out from under the nose of John Marrant - had risen in much the same way.

It's hard to see this close relationship as anything other than the reason behind Berney's sudden elevation from no official standing to the Rector of both St Clements in Norwich and of Hethersett. It came seemingly of the blue in 1736 after he had survived without a living for the previous 15 years of his priesthood.

John had strong connections to the powers that be near to Hethersett. His mother was a daughter of Lord Branthwayte, the Lord of Hethel Hall nearby, and that couldn't have hurt. He was also a Fellow of Gonville and Cai-

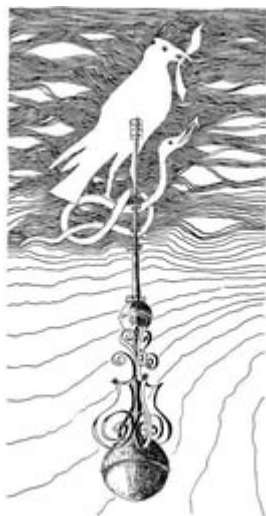
us College at Cambridge, which held the right to appoint the Rectors of those two parishes. That must have helped too.

Many years later Berney would repair the church steeple, and I wouldn't be surprised if it was his idea to top it with a weather vane in the form of the crest of Dr Caius, who founded the original Gonville College.

John was likely at this time already in an arrangement with Elizabeth Baron, the Dean of Norwich's daughter, and he would marry her in 1741. Her father died not long after the day of the Depositions. His will was already written. In it he gave the tithes of his Parish of Saxlingham to the Bishop of Norwich in perpetuity. He had been forced to buy the rights back from a gentleman speculator, and they were now to go specifically to whoever would succeed him in the parish.

I'm sure Berney appreciated the simple handover of those tithes when he consolidated the Rectory of Saxlingham with Hethersett the following year. He probably also appreciated the vast estate and wealth he came into upon marriage to Elizabeth Baron, Dean Baron's heiress.

This was still to come, but I think it reflects Berney's character.



The weathervane on top of St Remigius' Church



St Remigius Church before the spire. Detail from an 18th century map.



He was more apt to having things fall in his favour than poor old John Marrant. He was also more apt to act decisively and strongly in order to have things go his way. This is something we shall see in due course.

Now if you asked Claude Roberts about himself, he'd tell you that around 1719 he came to London, having saved some money. He had the idea of becoming a steward in the household of some Reputable or Honest family. It was a way to get by without eating into his savings.

He became servant to a couple of gentlemen, the second of which, a Mr William Hamilton, lived with a close friend named Alice Goddard. Roberts stayed in Hamilton's service until his death in 1721.

On his death bed, Mr Hamilton recommended Roberts to Alice as *"a Person in whom she might safely confide."* And indeed during his tenure with Hamilton, Roberts previously found occasion to help Mrs Goddard with some of her transactions, *"always to her satisfaction"*.

From then on Roberts looked after her affairs.

Now her nephew Joseph Norton saw things differently.

I don't think I can better Joseph's own words:

*"One Claude Robert, a man then in very mean Circumstances wanting to get a footing into my Aunt's house Offered his service to Digg and do other servile Work there which being Accepted, the said Claude Roberts by Artful Insinuations came by Degrees to live entirely at my Aunt's house and was Employed to look after the Garden and*

*to Act in the nature of House Steward and therein Egregiously Imposed upon and Abused the Confidence of the said Alice Goddard.*

*"But the said Claude Roberts in apprehending he could not succeed in his Fraudulent designs while there was a good understanding between myself and the said Alice Goddard, Frequently insinuated to the said Alice Goddard that I only Valued her for what She could leave me And that I daily wished her death."*

The truth perhaps lies somewhere in between these two accounts.

Nevertheless what neither man disputed was that Mrs Goddard had a friendship with Mary Amyas, the widow of John Amyas. He had been Rector of both Hethersett and Great Melton before John Marrant took over his role in Hethersett.

Alice and Roberts would visit Hethersett every Summer to spend some time in Mrs Amyas' company, and one year Alice remarked to her friend that she wished she could stay there all year round. If there was an estate for sale, she would buy it and spend all of her time there.

By chance Mary Amyas knew of just such an estate.

Anthony Ransome, a Norwich Gentleman, was looking to sell a farm he owned which lay by the Turnpike to Norwich. It sat on the higher ground to the North of the Road, opposite Church Farm, and was of about 70 Acres or so, straddling the road thereabouts and then ran up the road to Colney. At that time a third road ran from Lynch Green and the Meltons down near to where Colney Road and the Turnpike met, so



Part of Claude Roberts' Farm—Pink areas were entire fields. Yellow areas were common fields he held land in.

*her for Money and whose Wants she had frequently supplied."*

They fitted up a little apartment there on the farm for Alice and Claude to stay in during the Summer months. A few years later, when Isaac Bell, the tenant farmer there finished up his lease, Roberts and Goddard moved in permanently.

Claude took over the running of the farm and kept Alice company as she fulfilled her dreams of the country life.

At this distance it's hard to say exactly how it happened, but a year or so after they moved to Hethersett fulltime, *"in Consideration of his faithful services for many years to her,"* and an annuity of £60 a year, Alice gave the farm to Claude.

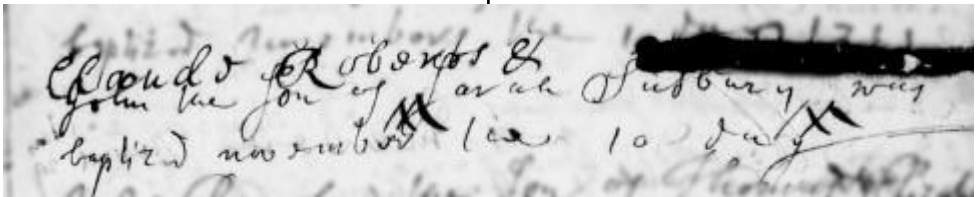
the farm was placed in an eminent position for travel wherever a Gentleman or Lady might wish to travel.

Mrs Goddard asked Roberts - though he *"endeavoured all in his Power to Prevent but could not Prevail"* - to travel to Norwich and make an agreement there and then, and soon after the Farm was hers for about £1,100.

In Roberts' opinion, although Mrs Goddard liked the idea of living near to her friend, he also opined (during a Court case with regard to Alice's Will) that she had liked the idea of *"removing at some Considerable Distance from her nephew who was continually pressing*

By this time Claude was putting down roots in Hethersett. His special live-in friend Sarah Sudbury had had her son John (no father listed) baptised there a couple of years beforehand, and eventually this same John would end up with the farm and more lands besides. His family in the end held a stake in Hethersett until the 1780s, and it was all due to the attentive care he gave to Mrs Goddard.

And she did indeed require much care. You see not long after they moved to



Baptism entry of John Sudbury with helpful later gloss. What was struck through above Sarah's name I wonder?

Norfolk - in fact not long before Alice gave him her farm there - "she was seized with a Paralytick Disorder and in some measure lost the Use of her Right Side."

At first she could not even write her own name, so he helpfully did it for her. She did improve somewhat over time, and he assisted her in whatever way he could: writing letters to the family, running the farm, looking after all of her business affairs.

All of that helpful stuff.

He helped her right up until her death. You see, during her last illness, he was glad to be of service in organising her will. In fact he agreed to continue on as her steward even after her death, acting as her Executor.

He was a very faithful servant.

It was a simple will.

Oddly unnecessarily, the bulk of it was caught up in a confirmation of the sale of her land to Roberts six years previously. The sale was all legal and proper of course, but one must dot one's is and cross one's ts I suppose.

She was so concerned that Claude be amply rewarded for his services, that after the lawyer had read the Will out for her (as Claude recalled later on):

*"She expressed herself to Mr Fuller and Mr Reynolds Two of the Witnesses that she had determined with herself to do what she could to regard this*



*Defendant for all his Services and wished she was worth ten times as much as she was and she would for that Purpose give it all to him.*

*"And after She had Executed the Will she talked a good deal about it and said she hoped everything was made Secure to Roberts for that it was her Desire he should have everything and hoped it was not in the Power of her nephew to give him Trouble or Words to that Effect."*

Contrarily, her nephew Joseph had been under the impression that, being her only blood relation, he would be set for life. He knew for a fact that a Will was written to this effect. Claude had no recollection of writing them, but apparently he had sent Joseph a few letters to that effect on Alice's behalf.

Anyhow, in the end Claude was able to prove the Will before Joseph knew of his Aunt's death. So no harm done.

In fact he proved it 4 times to be sure.

The first time he proved the Will, he returned from Norwich to find that Alice wasn't quite dead yet - just very very sick. She died the following week, and the second, third and fourth times

he proved it were all part of resolving that small initial act of overzealous helpfulness.

Which brings us back to the day of the Depositions.

The above will palaver had happened after Roberts and Berney had reached their impasse. Yet it was fresh in the minds of those giving their depositions at the King's Arms. In fact two of the lead Farmers of the Village had been witnesses to Alice's Will, and they were now prepared to give evidence on his behalf.

In monetary terms, this case was an argument about whether Roberts should have paid Berney £8 10 shillings, £9, or £10.

But of course it wasn't really about that.

Both men were incredibly well off. They had no need to quibble over a couple of pounds here or there. As a matter of fact, Roberts paid Berney his Tithe at

the end of 1738 without question or rancor.

The Tithe of 1737, however - well that was another matter.

It was a question of will and of moral right. It was a question perhaps of who was the bigger dog. Or maybe it dealt with the high concern of a person's obligations towards God and towards His servants.

Whatever the case, I don't think they liked each other very much, and they took their disagreement to the highest Court in the land.

The Lord High Chancellor would decide who was in the right, because they'd both gone too far for either to admit they'd been wrong.

But what happened?

How did they end up here?

For that you'll have to wait until the new year.





# My Photographic Diary *by John Head*

Hethersett resident and friend of Hethersett Herald, John Head, is a keen photographer who regularly posts his excellent photographs on Facebook. Here we feature a selection of John's photographs taken during his wanderings in and around Hethersett. You will also find other photos taken by John dotted throughout this edition of Hethersett Herald.



Skies—Late afternoon on Hallowe'en.

Now the day is over

Night is drawing nigh

Shadows of the evening

Steal across the sky

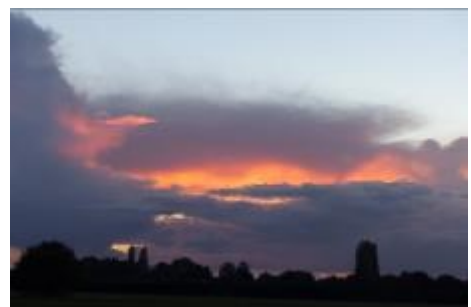
# My Photographic Diary *by John Head*



Same Hethersett fields but a more calming evening sky which bids the Norfolk inhabitants a good night but will be there in the morning to welcome strangers and attract those who wish to return to their Norfolk roots. There is a cloud formation which reminds me of Captain Nemo's 'Nautilus' in *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*.... but that's my vivid imagination.

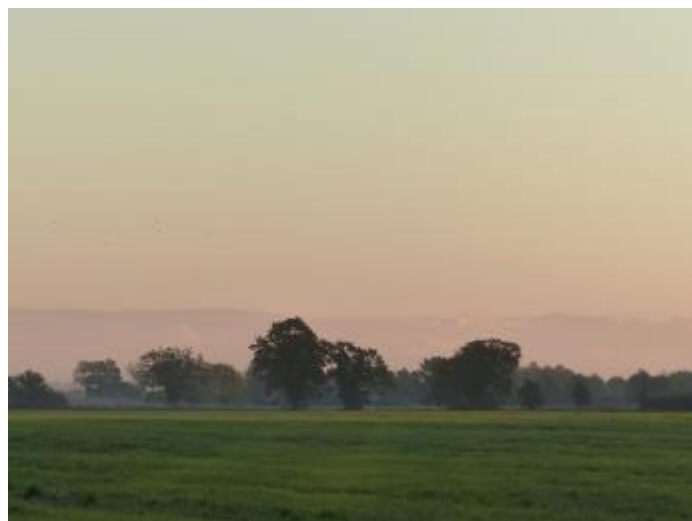


Hethersett Herald



December 2021

# My Photographic Diary *by John Head*



Good morning  
Hethersett. Good  
Morning Sun.

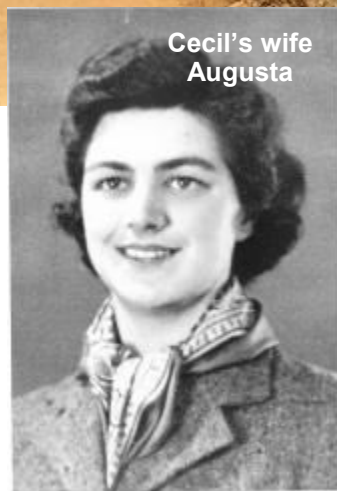
“Think how it  
wakes the seeds -  
Woke once the  
clays of a cold  
star,

(Wilfred E. S, Owen  
Killed In Action—4th November  
1918).

  
**HETHERSETT HERITAGE**  
+ AN ARCHIVE OF OUR VILLAGE HISTORY +



Hethersett Herald



December 2021



# HETHERSETT HERITAGE



2002 village pantomime—Sinbad The Sailor





# Remembering A Desert Rat

*By John Head*

**I**n the last edition of the Hethersett Herald, I told you about my late brother Warrant Officer 681258 Keith Head of RAF EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal). Readers may also be interested in my father CSM 602501 George Edward Head who was a Desert Rat from Dereham.

I come from a family with a military history and my father epitomises that. He was a grocery assistant for the Dereham Co-Op when, in 1940, he was called up for duty. After being posted to the 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Essex Regiment at Worley for training, he travelled aboard the Troopship HMS Cameronia and straight into the North African Campaign as part of the Montgomery's 8<sup>th</sup> Army RASC (Royal Army Service Corp). Specialising in logistics his objective was always to ensure his convoy provided front line troops with supplies necessary for effective fighting.

Living in constant danger from Rommel's Afrika Corp, my father found himself at one stage attached to the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division during the legendary Siege of Tobruk surviving over 1,000 enemy raids for 84 days. As the Axis forces continued to advance eastward my father, in June 1942, successfully retrieved sensitive documents from behind enemy lines near Mersa Matruh. For this, on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1943, he was mentioned in Dispatches for his gallantry. He ended his war campaign in Italy. His years had taken him from 'Rookie Private' to Company Sergeant



Major and, whilst being offered a rewarding career in the Army, he chose to return to Dereham and to his family. He worked at Metamec as a storekeeper until his retirement living with his wife Irene at Sandy Lane Dereham for the rest of his life. Belatedly in 1980 he was presented with the Tobruk Siege Medal issued by the Federal Government of Australia.

Shortly before he died he was asked by the Desert Rats Association to provide anecdotes of his time in the Western Desert so I am privileged to have a wealth of memories attaching to him, including him becoming lost in the desert and surviving on water from the truck's radiator until being rescued by friendly Arabs. He took this ill-fated desert route as the coast road was under constant Stuka attack.

I also remember his story of the loss of the HMS Ladybird. This was a Royal Navy 'insect class' river gun boat built in 1916 which was one of the few defences to Tobruk harbour. For nights the Ladybird outwitted enemy aerial attack by changing its location in and near the harbour. It was a blow to morale when this brave little craft was finally sunk on 12<sup>th</sup> May, 1941.

I have many things to remind me of my father but last year our daughter, Faye, sourced the Rats of Tobruk 'No Surrender Rose' which is now planted



in our garden. The rose is a red floribunda with a yellow reverse and was specifically chosen for its colour. The red to signify the blood shed by the Rats in battle and the yellow to signify the desert sands around Tobruk. The sourcing of this rose took Faye's enquiry to Australia where she was advised that it was 'sold out'. It was finally acquired with assistance from Germany. Perfect reconciliation.



Doc F 18-7-80

# Medal for George after 39 years

A REMINDER of 84 days spent in a siege in the second world war has been received by "Desert Rat" George Head of Dereham.

Mr. Head, of 10, Sandy Lane, was in the Service Corps, attached to the 9th Australian Division during the siege of Tobruk by the Germans in 1941.

Now some 39 years later, he has received a commemorative medal issued by the Federal Government of Australia.

### IN LEGION

Mr. Head, 65, and a member of Dereham Royal British Legion branch, applied for the medal when he was informed of their issue by a letter from the Rats of Tobruk Association last year.

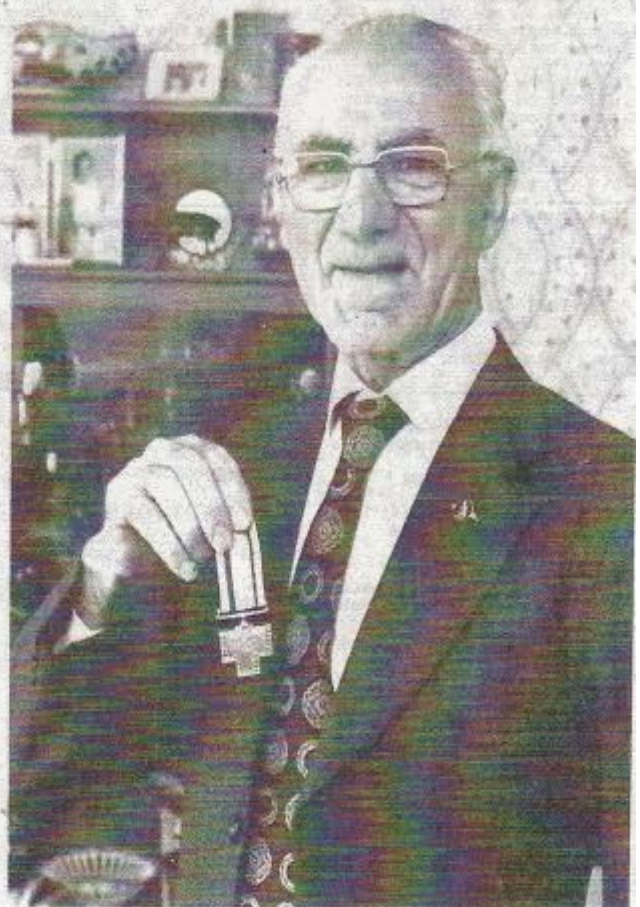
Although he thought it strange that the association should have waited so many years before issuing such a medal, he was pleased to receive this reminder of his service years.

"You only remember the good times," he said. "I've got my old campaign medals, but this is something different."

### CORPORAL

The medal is T-shaped and the ribbon is a sandy colour — representing the Libyan desert with sky blue, dark blue and red stripes indicating the Mediterranean Sea and the colours of the Armed Forces.

Mr. Head was a corporal during the siege, where troops held out



Mr. George Head with his Tobruk medal, just struck by the Australian Government, to go with the Desert Rats badge in his lapel.

against 1000 German raids. His other mementoes of Tobruk include copies of the weekly garrison newsletter, "The Dinkum Oil." Later, as acting sergeant, he was Mentioned in Despatches in 1943. He finished his time in the Forces with the 8th Army in Italy.

Until his retirement last October Mr. Head was head storekeeper for Metamec, Dereham's clock factory. He and his wife Irene have two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren. His main interest is coarse fishing and he is a sick visitor for the Odd Fellows.



## Dale Evans at the Willows

Advanced Beauty Clinic

The Willows, Hethersett, NR9 3JY

Tel. 07921367910

[info@daleevans.co.uk](mailto:info@daleevans.co.uk)

[www.daleevans.co.uk](http://www.daleevans.co.uk)

By Appointment Only

[@daleevansbeauty](https://www.instagram.com/daleevansbeauty) 



## **LITTLE MELTON PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY**



*Our Pre-School is run by a team  
of experienced,  
qualified and caring staff.*

*Open Monday-Friday during term time.*

*Rated 'Good' by OFSTED  
Open to children from 2 1/2 - School age.*

*Providing Quality Childcare  
for over 30 years.*

*Please contact us to arrange a visit.  
Little Melton Village Hall, Mill RD, Little Melton  
01603812362*

*[www.littlemeltonpreschoolnursery.co.uk](http://www.littlemeltonpreschoolnursery.co.uk)  
Registered Charity No:1028459*

*This organisation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children  
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 six years, on the website [www.hetherssettherald.weebly.com](http://www.hetherssettherald.weebly.com).

If you would like to be alerted via e-mail of the publication of a new edition please send an e-mail requesting this service to the editor—[petersteward@lineone.net](mailto: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 January 2022 edition of Hethersett Herald will be online on Christmas Eve.

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

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

[petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net)

The February 2022 edition will be online at the end of January.

## We Are On Facebook

Hethersett Herald is on Facebook. You can follow us at

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

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



# Council/Government Contact Numbers

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

## **Member of Parliament**

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

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

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

Telephone: 01379 642097

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

Facebook - Bacon4SouthNorfolk

Twitter - @Bacon4SNorfolk

## **Norfolk County Council**

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

## **South Norfolk Council**

Our South Norfolk Council representatives are Adrian Dearnley, Phil Hardy and David Bills. David can be contacted on 01603 813041 or at [dbills@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:dbills@s-norfolk.gov.uk), Phil on 07985 695668 or at [phardy@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:phardy@s-norfolk.gov.uk) and Adrian on 07957139880.or at [adearnley@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto: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 currently closed but will eventually be open in the Back Room at the Village Hall (upstairs) on Monday and Thursday mornings between 10 am and 12 noon.

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

Website – [hethersettpc.info](http://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.co](http://www.hetherssettherald.weebly.co)



# 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.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 Stu BARNARD**  
Beat Manager

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

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



101 Ext: 2386



Stuart.Barnard@norfolk.police.uk



SNTHethersett@norfolk.pnn.police.uk



/SouthNorfolkPolice



@SouthNorfPolice



**NORFOLK**  
CONSTABULARY  
Our Priority is You

# Where To Eat In Hethersett

## **Janey's Village Café -**

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

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

12 Norwich Road. Telephone 01603 810226.

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

## **Park Farm Hotel**

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

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

## **Café Kin**

Rowan House, Queen's Road, Hethersett.

Café Kin is part of the Rowan House Health and Well Being complex on Queen's Road. Food and coffee served during certain days. From July 26th opening hours will be Wednesday to Friday 8 am to 2 pm, Saturday 9 am to 1.30 pm. The café will be closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. It will also be closed between August 30th and September 4th for staff holidays.

## **Hethersett King's Head**

Norwich Road. The venue has re-opened with food served every day including Sunday lunch.

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



# Where Are The Best Deals?

IT pained me during the month to have to get petrol in Wymondham. I did it because I was

## Herald Petrol Watch

getting really low and wouldn't have the chance to get into Norwich.

But instead of filling up I just put in £20 of petrol to give me enough for the coming few days until I could get more reasonably priced petrol. But that said there is no such thing as reasonably priced petrol at the moment as prices continue to rise.

Over the past two or three months we have seen prices reach record levels and the three stations closest to Hethersett are the major culprits. Abbeygate, Waitrose and Thickthorn have all shot over the £1.50 a litre mark. Our aim is to compare garages within easy driving distances of Hethersett to let you know where the best value is.

Each month we will be using the eight garages listed below to show how prices have increased or decreased over the past month. The best value petrol and diesel is highlighted in red.

There may be even better value if you go slightly further afield and please note that these prices were checked towards the end of the month but may have changed further before publication. Once again our advice if you want the best deals is shop around and avoid paying inflated petrol and diesel prices. You could save yourself hundreds of pounds over a year and that's a lot of additional motoring mileage. Peter Steward

	Unleaded	Change	Diesel	Change
Asda Hall Road, Norwich	144.9	+4p	146.9	+4p
Tesco Express, Earlham Road, Norwich	145.9	+2p	148.9	+3p
Sainsbury's Queen's Road Norwich	144.9	+5p	<b>146.9</b>	+6p
Tesco Harford Bridges, Norwich	146.9	+6p	<b>146.9</b>	+6p
Sainsbury's Longwater, Norwich	<b>144.9</b>	+6p	147.9	+5p
Abbeygate Wymondham	151.9	+4p	153.9	+2p
Waitrose Wymondham	151.9	+4p	153.9	+2p
Thickthorn Services, Hethersett	151.9	+2p	156.9	+3p

# Groups and Societies

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

Hethersett Village Hall

9:45 – 11:00 every Tuesday during term  
time



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

Babies under 6 months are free!

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

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

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

Spaces are limited to stay Covid safe.

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

# Groups and Societies

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](mailto: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](http://www.hethersettherald.weebly.com)**

**Announcement of publication is also made on social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Next Door. You can also be notified via e-mail.**

**If you enjoy reading Hethersett Herald please pass details on.**



# Groups and Societies



The Friends of Hethersett Library group has met for the first time since COVID restrictions were eased. Things are beginning to get back to normal and a number of talks and presentations are being organised for 2022.

These will take place every two months on the second Wednesday, starting on February 9th when Hethersett Archivist Gary Wyatt will be giving an illustrated talk on some aspect of Hethersett History.

Events on April 13th and October 12th still have to be arranged. On June 8th The Widow Kett will be making an historic appearance and on August 10th Norfolk author Phyllida Scrivens will give a talk on her latest book which features the Great Thorpe Rail Disaster.

The Colour Me Calm group has re-started on Wednesdays from 11 am. This is a colouring group for adults and coffee will be provided.

Current opening hours for the library are as follows (open library is currently not available).

Monday—1.30 to 7 pm

Tuesday—closed

Wednesday—11 am to 7 pm

Thursday—1.30 to 7 pm

Friday—1.30 to 7 pm

Saturday 11 am to 4 pm.

Sunday—closed

Books have to be renewed once again as from the beginning of November.



# Hethersett Herald What's On

## St Remigius Baby and Toddler Group

St Remigius Baby and Toddler Group will be celebrating Christmas and look forward to welcoming parents, grandparents and carers with their babies and toddlers in St Remigius Church from 10 am on Tuesday 7th December. There will be lots for the children to do as well as refreshments. The group meets on the first Tuesday of the month.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 3 p.m.

St Remigius Church, Hethersett

## ROUNDSTONE PERFORMING ARTS

PRESENT

An afternoon of all your Christmas favourites, carols, music, readings, refreshments and an opportunity for you to raise the roof as we celebrate the joy of the festive season!

Free entry, donations to St Remigius Church, Hethersett

Hethersett Dementia Support invites you  
to its

## CHRISTMAS CAFÉS

AT HETHERSETT METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 10:00 to 12:00 noon

Carol singing with Hethersett Methodist  
Singing Group.

Seasonal refreshments will be served.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 10.00 to 11.30 am

Christmas Sing-along with Michael Delph.  
Coffee and mince pies will be served

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO COME AND JOIN US AND  
BRING ALONG YOUR FRIENDS, FOR A MORNING OF  
ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD AND CHATTER.

# Groups and Societies

## Change of Name For Former Horticultural Society

*By Leslie Dale*

A NEW group with a traditional look has been set-up in the village.

Announcing the birth of Hethersett Gardening Club.

At Hethersett and District Horticultural Society's last ever members' meeting on Wednesday 17th November, one of the first actions taken at its belatedly late AGM was to agree a name change to the: Hethersett Gardening Club.

Hethersett Gardening Club held well attended members' meetings very successfully in October and November and has a programme of speakers identified up to April next year. The time is now right for gardening enthusiasts across the new and old parts of Hethersett village or further afield, to come and enjoy the talks. Here new friends can be made.

Perhaps there is benefit to be gained by understanding other peoples' experiences or a vital piece of gardening knowledge, acquired. New members will be very welcome, we have four joined already.

The Hethersett and District Horticultural Society was founded soon after the end of World War One, when the local environment was of farming and market gardening. Nowadays village residents who enjoy gardening would probably be enthusiastic listeners to radio, or viewers of television's, "Gardening Programmes".

We felt it was time to change the name. Hethersett Gardening Club meets in the Methodist Church Hall in the Great Melton Road on the third Wednesday of every month at 7.30 pm. Come and join us!

More information is available from chairman Chris Morriss on 01603-810060 or myself on [lsdale@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lsdale@yahoo.co.uk) 01603-810952. We are affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and the Norwich and Norfolk Horticultural Society.

Dr Anne Edwards talked to the group on the flora and fauna of her delightful cottage garden situated in the original village environs. Anne decided to re-wild her garden. We were amazed by the breadth of hedgehogs, bird life, butterflies, moths, insects and even slugs. We saw many photographs, including one of a dove in her front room, a robin eating meal worms out of her hand and a blue tit nest box with 10 eggs.

Our next meetings are on Wednesday 15th December when Ted Hallett will talk about Hatchlands, a garden in Surrey, known from his younger days. We will then have some Christmas Festivities. On Wednesday 21st January, Ian Bedford will advise on Companion Planting For A Balanced Garden.

# Hethersett Herald What's On

## Hethersett Singers Are Back

"We are delighted to tell you that the Choir is back! We have struggled along with unsatisfying Zoom sessions, but since the Autumn we are back, singing with each other. It is so good to do so and maybe you might like to think about giving it a try, too. It's an excellent time to think about it, as you could come to our concert next month, to see what we do," said David Kinnaird from the Singers.

The group will be presenting **The Hethersett Singers' Music Box in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall on 4th December at 7.30 pm**. It will be a concert of gentle and joyous music. Tickets are £8, which will include an entry into a free prize draw. The mixed choir will be under the direction of conductor, Rob Goodrich.

"If singing might be for you, just speak to any of us on the day, or find out more by emailing [hethsing@btinternet.com](mailto:hethsing@btinternet.com)," David said.

Tickets can be booked on [hethsing@btinternet.com](mailto:hethsing@btinternet.com) or by phone or text on 07949 533253, or at the door.

"We are very conscious of Covid Safety and will ensure a safe and enjoyable evening for everyone," David added.

It's music all the way in the build-up to Christmas. December 4th sees a Christmas Pot Pourri in St Remigius Church at 7.30 pm. On December 12th the Wymondham Helicopter Group will be organising a charity Christmas concert with the Taverham Band at 3 pm in St Remigius Church. Posters on all these concerts are in this section of Hethersett Herald.

## Hethersett Social Club Opening Hours

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

Monday—Closed

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—7-11 pm

Friday—5-11.30 pm

Saturday—3 pm until midnight

Sunday midday to 6 pm.

The venue has returned to bar service and the wearing of face masks is optional



## CHRISTMAS POTPOURRI



Christmas Songs and Carols

by Norwich Music Group

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm**

St. Remigius Church, Hethersett

£5.00 entry on the door. A retiring collection will be held for the Priscilla Bacon Appeal Fund and Wymondham Dementia Support Group

Further information: 01953 600599



# Hethersett Singers' Music Box

Concert of atmospheric and  
uplifting seasonal music

conducted by

**Rob Goodrich**

**Sat Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm**

Methodist Church

Gt Melton Rd

Hethersett

**Tickets £8**

email: [hethsing@btinternet.com](mailto:hethsing@btinternet.com)

phone/text: 07949 533253

*Also available at the door*



# The Wymondham Helicopter Group

Presents

A Charity Christmas Concert with  
**THE TAVERHAM BAND**

Sunday 12th Dec 2021 at 3pm

**St Remigius Church**

27 Norwich Road, Hethersett, Norfolk, NR9 3AR



**Tickets £10 - Including Refreshments**

**Contact: Norman & Helen Illsley on**

**01953 600563 / [helen.norman.i@uwclub.net](mailto:helen.norman.i@uwclub.net)**



# 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*

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

**First Steps pre-school Group** meets in Hethersett Village Hall. See poster on page 71 for full details.

**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.

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

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**ST Remigius Church has changed the time of its morning Sunday service. Services will now start at 11 am rather than the previous time of 10.30 am. This year's Remembrance Service will take place on Sunday, November 14th.**

# Hethersett Herald What's On

## DECEMBER

**Saturday 4th**—Christmas Pot Pourri featuring the Norwich Music Group, St Remigius Church, 7.30 pm.

**Saturday 4th**—Hethersett Hawks presentation evening, Hethersett Social Club

**Saturday 4th**—Hethersett Singers' Music Box concert of atmospheric and uplifting seasonal music, Methodist Church, 7.30 pm.

**Sunday 5th**—Hethersett Village Screen presents Summerland, Village Hall, 3 pm.

**Tuesday 7th**—St Remigius Baby and Toddler Group Christmas event from 10 am.

**Tuesday 7th**—Hethersett Dementia Support Group coffee and chat morning. Methodist Church Hall, 10 am to 11.30 am.

**Wednesday 8th**—Colour Me Calm group meets in Hethersett Library from 11 am.

**Saturday 11th**—Roundstone Performing Arts. Afternoon of Christmas favourites, 3 pm.

**Sunday 12th**—Charity Christmas Concert with the Taverham Band in St Remigius Church, 3 pm

**Wednesday 15th**—Colour Me Calm group meets in Hethersett Library from 11 am.

**Wednesday 15th**—Hethersett Gardening Club. Ted Hallett on Hatchlands, a garden in Surrey and Christmas festivities. Methodist Church Hall, 7.30 pm.

**Friday 17th**—Board Games afternoon in Hethersett Library from 2 pm.

**Saturday 18th December**—Village Litter Pick. Meet at Hethersett Village Hall at 2 pm.

**Monday 20th**—Hethersett Parish Council meeting. Village Hall, 7.30 pm. Preceded by planning committee meeting at 7 pm.

**Tuesday 21st**—Hethersett Dementia Support Group meeting. Methodist Church Hall, 10 a.m to midday.

**Wednesday 22nd**—Colour Me Calm group meets in Hethersett Library from 11 am.



# Hethersett Herald What's On

## 2022 Pantomime Is Cancelled

AS reported in the previous edition of Hethersett Herakd, next year's village pantomime has been cancelled.

Chair of the pantomime group, Neville Greenhalgh, said : "It is with sadness that we have to inform you that due to unforeseen circumstances next year's panto has had to be cancelled.

"This decision was only taken by the committee after much heart searching and discussion and looking at different options and we are all terribly disappointed as I am sure that you all are."

Aladdin will now be performed in January 2023.



# Hethersett Herald

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

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

Hethersett Herald is a non profit making and independent publication providing news, views and information about Hethersett. It has no affiliation to any specific group, organisation or political party. Views expressed in Hethersett Herald are those of individual authors and not necessarily the views of the volunteers or the editor.

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

## **Herald Team**

Editor - Peter Steward—[petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net)

Associate Editors - Roger Morgan and Hannah Baldry.

Regular Columnists - Sarah Lawrence and John Head.

Proof Editor - Gary Wyatt.

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.

To contact us e-mail [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net).