

# HETHERSETT HERALD

June 2021—Number 68



THIS stunning photograph by regular columnist John Head makes it look as if Hethersett is on fire. No need to panic as it was just a shot across the fields.



## Medical Services Being Overwhelmed

MEDICAL services in the Humbleyard Practice are being overwhelmed with staff suffering burnout, according to a senior doctor.

Dr Siobhan Rowe took to social media to express her concerns and to appeal for patience as staff deal with unprec-

edented levels of demand.

Dr Rowe said that staff are “working flat out throughout each day, but it is still impossible to keep up with the volume of patient queries.”

To read the full story see inside.

### School Reunion

**SCHOOL** days will return to Hethersett old Hall School in July—but only for one day as former pupils and staff are welcomed back for a picnic in the grounds. For the full story see page 11.

### Cycle Marathon

**HOW** do you travel from Hethersett to Paris without leaving the village?

To find out turn to our article on page 48.

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**The July edition of Hethersett Herald will be available exclusively online at the end of June.**



**From Hethersett to Paris without leaving the village. Page 50.**

# A Message From The Editor

Hello Everyone

Welcome to the June edition of Hethersett Herald and I hope you find something of interest within our pages.

As I was preparing this edition, I was struck by the amount of news and the number of issues there are in the village at the present time.

You will find a number of in depth articles including a look at health issues and also the controversial plans to replace the historic church hall in Henstead Road with housing.

We run Hethersett Herald for a number of reasons that include informing, educating and (hopefully) entertaining.

Of these, providing information is perhaps the most important. Our aim is to highlight issues as we hear about them and as they come up during the month.

Hopefully some of what we write will help to simplify issues to help residents to understand just what is going on.

We will also continue to campaign on behalf of the village and stand up for what we think is right.

This will mean supporting the fight for improved facilities in the village. New development cannot continue without the infrastructure to support it.

It is no good continually increasing population levels without adding

shops, health facilities and much more. In this issue we look at the thorny question of medical facilities in the village that are now stretched to their absolute limit—and those are the words of Dr Siobhan Rowe from the Humbleyard Practice.



The problem with developers is they “rock up,” build homes and then move on. They rarely have any real understanding of community life.

As I have already said, you will find a number of in-depth articles in this edition. Some people have commented in the past that the length of articles has been excessive but we feel that coverage of an issue should be at length to do it justice and we will continue to do so as we have little or no constraints over space.

I also hope that this edition reflects the latest relaxation in lockdown.

Over the next few months, local organisations, groups and clubs will start meeting again. After over a year of being put on ice, it will seem strange to get back to normal.

It will be interesting to see how many have decided to call it a day during lockdown and decided not to meet again.

Peter

# Opposition to 200 Homes

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**HETHERSETT'S District Councillors Phil Hardy and Adrian Dearnley have written to the planning authorities opposing proposals for another 200 homes which we highlighted in the May edition of Hethersett Herald. They have also called for improved medical facilities for the village. Below is their submission to the planners.**

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**“ AS South Norfolk District Councillors for Hethersett Ward, we oppose this application for another 200 homes.**

We wrote to the NHS in 2019 expressing serious concerns about the level of service Hethersett residents are getting from Hethersett surgery.

Many residents have contacted us saying they had to wait four-five weeks for an appointment and Councillor Hardy himself was quoted five weeks for an appointment at the end of 2019. This is not acceptable for an expanding village which is taking a disproportionate level of housing growth compared to the rest of the district.

A new doctors' surgery was included in the 2013 outline application but the existing surgery opposes it. Through no fault of the developer, the Hethersett surgery is run as a private business and a new surgery would take away their profits and compete with it. This same situation happened at the new development at the former Royal Norwich golf course in Norwich: a new doctor's surgery was included in the plans but the existing surgery managed to prevent a new surgery on site. The system is broken in this respect and Heth-

ersett simply cannot take another 200 homes increasing the population by another 400-500 people when the existing surgery is unable to cope and deliver an acceptable level of service to our existing residents, including those in the surrounding area. This was the situation prior to the pandemic and the surgery has done its best to support the community during these testing times but they cannot cope. In addition, the chemist is not big enough to service a village the size Hethersett has become and all the shops and facilities promised in the 2013 outline application have not come to pass.

South Norfolk District Council has a five year housing land supply position therefore we do not need more housing in Hethersett. We have had more than our fair share, Hethersett is now much larger in population and the character of the village has changed significantly



**Phil Hardy—  
Development would  
turn countryside  
gateway into a housing  
corridor.**

over the last 30 years. We acknowledge that permission was already granted on the site within the previous application but it is not acceptable to cram another 200 homes in because the developer squeezed the 1200 homes agreed into a more dense site area. Housing numbers are regulated in the Local Plan and, with a five year housing land supply position, our policies carry full planning weight and we do not need this proposed 'uplift'.

The council is working on and preparing to adopt a village clusters policy that will take new housing in other areas across the district in line with Paragraph 78 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which promotes development in one area that can support services and facilities in nearby areas. This policy will effectively spread housing requirements across the whole district instead of continuously adding to Hethersett. We do not need a further 200 homes in Hethersett with a five year housing land supply position, and with a village clusters policy in the pipeline that will alleviate pressure on Hethersett to keep taking new development in line with housing targets.

The site is in a beautiful part of Hethersett and walking down Grove Road towards the countryside is a jewel in Hethersett's crown. Grove Road becomes more rural the further up it you walk; on the left side is the new estate to the north of Myrtle Road and on the right is the site subject to this application. This gateway to the countryside, which is used by so many in Hethersett for walks, would be transformed into a mere corridor between two housing estates. Councillor Hardy uses this route regularly having discov-



**Adrian Dearnley— Hethersett has received its fair share of new housing.**

ered the wide variety of walks this way in lockdown. The open area on the right would no longer exist as the housing estate would take its place. We have taken an extraordinary amount of new housing development in Hethersett and do not want yet more from the same developers, who have already received permission for 1200 homes.

Additional housing would erode the enjoyment of our countryside, affect the landscape in this area with its environmental interest and detract from the enjoyment of walkers who use the walks regularly.

Although this is an outline application, a full range of new ecology surveys are required in this ecologically rich area and a holding objection has been lodged by the senior Norfolk County Council ecologist. We would also have expected a robust surface water drainage strategy to have accompanied the application and the Norfolk County Council flood risk officer has objected to the application due to the lack of information provided.

We must retain Hethersett's countryside character as much as possible and not cram in a further 200 homes here whilst the doctors' surgery is not coping with existing service demands before lockdown and this has deteriorated further still since the pandemic took hold.

There comes a time when enough is simply enough.

We also support the views of the Parish Council, including those relating to increased traffic flows and road safety, which will also have implications for Little Melton.

If officers are minded to recommend approval for this application, we request that it goes before the planning committee (D.M.C.) to determine the application."

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## Radical and Swift Action Needed

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**Councillor Hardy is working with Dr. Rowe and the Humbleyard Practice to see what is needed to help the practice and improve things for local people. In a special article he expands on the comments made in the previous piece**



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"Hethersett surgery has done a remarkable job during the pandemic helping residents and rolling out the vaccination programme. They have helped me personally and the online service has been an overwhelming success for those who can access it.

I suggested writing to the NHS in 2019 before the pandemic expressing serious concerns about

the level of service our residents were receiving from Humbleyard practice. Conservative councillors from Hethersett, Cringleford and Mulbarton then wrote expressing serious concerns and making the case that we need a doctors' surgery sufficient for our expanding settlements.

Many were having to wait four-five weeks for an appointment and for an expanding village our

size, it is simply not acceptable for the surgery to stay the same size with a small chemist on the opposite side of the road. We need a bigger surgery and a bigger chemist.

Woodside First School is currently unoccupied and is a sufficient size to house a new surgery and chemist with sufficient car parking for local people. A change of use planning application for this Norfolk County Council owned

building with heritage and architectural value could help deal with the root cause of the problems currently faced by Hethersett surgery.

A new doctors' surgery was included in the 2013 outline planning approval for the 1200 new homes in Hethersett North but the new surgery has since been removed from the plans.

Doctors' surgeries are run for private profit and it is against private financial interests to support a new surgery. The system is broken in this respect as financial interests should never come before patient care.

Some may suggest this is not a material planning consideration as developers provide planning obligations to support local doctors' surgeries; I argue it is a material consideration which should weigh heavily in favour of refusal for a 200 dwelling scheme when the surgery is on its knees and they have a conflict of interest in expanding the practice.

Hethersett cannot take on yet more development - another 200 homes - increasing the population significantly when the current practice which is working so hard cannot

cope. We can see from the Facebook plea (see the next page) they are working in unprecedented circumstances and are struggling.

I empathise with their situation but I am concerned about the messaging that Hethersett residents should not contact them unless it is serious. Often residents do not know if a condition or symptoms they are suffering are serious or not and that is why they contact experts to diagnose them.

We are often told not to go to A and E unless it is absolutely essential and I am uncomfortable with a similar message going out to residents now in relation to the doctors' surgery.

What is essential is that we deal with the root cause of the issues with Hethersett surgery as soon as possible.

We need the public sector stakeholders to get together to allocate a site for a new surgery that is much bigger like the former Woodside First School site and make this happen without delay.

Alternatively, provide the village with a new surgery like the one proposed in Hethersett North which

has since fallen away. The people of Hethersett have taken such a large amount of development and they deserve a doctors' surgery of an appropriate size and scale to accommodate their needs.

In the meantime, I express my heart felt gratitude to the doctors, nurses and staff at Hethersett Surgery who are working tirelessly around the clock in a global pandemic to help us all.

The public sector needs to get together now and deliver a solution to help these amazing people in the surgery to carry out their jobs properly without having to ask residents not to contact them unless absolutely necessary.

This touching Facebook plea in itself clearly demonstrates that enough is enough and we need radical and swift action now from public sector bodies including South Norfolk District Council, Norfolk County Council and the NHS to help our remarkable health care professionals to do their job for the common good of the people of Hethersett.



# Burnout Fears For Staff

DEMAND on the Humbleyard medical practice which includes Hethersett is at an all time high and at unmanageable levels.

That is the view of one of the senior GPs Dr Siobhan Rowe (pictured opposite) who took to social media to explain the current situation.

“Despite working flat out throughout each day, it is proving impossible to keep up with the volume of patient queries, resulting in frustration both for patients who might have to wait for appointments and for clinicians who feel they can’t provide the level of care they aspire to,” Dr Rowe said.

She appealed for patients’ help and support but underlined the pressures being put on staff: “We try to ensure that at all times we can address our patients’ needs swiftly and prioritise them in accordance with the medical urgency.

“We recognise that in a perfect healthcare system, patients would be able to consult a healthcare professional at a time and in a way of their choosing, and the healthcare professional would be able to commit the time necessary to ensure the patient’s needs are met. Unfortunately, at present, this simply isn’t possible.

“Clinicians routinely have to deal with 30-40 patient contacts per day, on top of numerous other activities such as medication requests, reading and acting on hospital letters, and looking at and acting on blood test and scan results.

“Burnout is a significant issue in general practice at present with clinicians either reducing hours to manage the stress or leaving altogether.

“Please access our services responsibly, this will allow us to continue to provide a safe, effective service.

“When we are full it can be unsafe for us to continually add extra appointments, so please do not get upset with the Practice if we are unable to see you,” Dr Rowe said.

She added that the Humbleyard team will continue to work tirelessly through the week, routinely working extra hours and going over and above to ensure “we can provide excellent, safe care to our patients. However, we do need to ensure our patient workload is manageable.

“Patient requests are currently being prioritised based on urgency

“As you may be aware, patients are encouraged, if possible, to make contact via our website. In particular, the online ‘Get Help’ form allows you to complete and submit a request for help with a medical problem, avoiding the





need to wait in a queue on the phone, and allowing you to give us all the information we need to help you.

“Of course, we understand some patients cannot access this website-based form and so our phone lines remain open for healthcare enquiries. Our skilled reception team will take the medical information and fill in the ‘Get Help’ form on your behalf. Regardless of the initial route of contact, all patient requests are then dealt with in the same way.

“For some months now, we have been receiving hundreds of ‘Get Help’ forms each day. To ensure these are all processed effectively, one of our senior doctors acts as ‘triage doctor of the day’, continually reviewing forms as they are submitted.

“Every form is read and a decision is made about how best to deal with that enquiry. We can cross-reference your enquiry to your medical records to ensure we have all the information at hand to make the best clinical decision. Working closely with our reception team, an appropriate appointment is then made.

“The Humbleyard Practice’s team has been rapidly expanding in 2020 and 2021. As well as doctors and nurses, the team now includes advanced nurse practitioners, emergency care practitioners, minor illness nurses, pharmacists and in-house physiotherapists.

Your request will be put through to the person most appropriate to deal with it. This could be for an online or telephone consultation, or direct to a face to face appointment.”

Dr Rowe has outlined the following points:

1. Please consider whether you actually need to contact us.

The advantage of easy access via ‘Get Help’ means we have been receiving huge number of patient requests over the past few months. Many of the issues we receive are for minor illnesses or issues which will settle on their own and do not need input from the Practice.

Every unnecessary request for help we get results in less time to deal with the complex medical issues which do need priority attention. We understand that often patients are seeking reassurance.

There are numerous well-written online resources which can guide you through your condition and highlight when further input is needed. We have links to these on our website and Practice Facebook page.

2. Is your problem an emergency?

The role of The Humbleyard Practice is not to act as an acute urgent service for emergencies.

Of course, the emergency 999 and A and E services need to be used responsibly but if you have a genuine medical emergency please do go via this route.

3. Please be realistic about the timeframe for a response

Even if you indicate on a ‘Get Help’ form that you would like contact today or tomorrow, this will not happen automatically.

The triage doctor of the day will assess your form and decide on an appropriate timeframe. Genuinely urgent medical matters will be prioritised.

Realistically, routine matters might

need to wait for a week or two. Although we appreciate waiting is frustrating, we can only deal with a finite number of appointments safely each day. We aim to deal with all routine matters within a couple of weeks.

Please bear in mind that the wait for new patient appointments in some departments in hospital is over 12 months.

Although you may have to wait for an appointment at the Practice, we remain significantly more accessible than accessing hospital care.

#### 4. We do get full up

Each day, The Humbleyard Practice will reach maximum capacity at some point during the day (where all appointments for each clinician are filled).

We will continue to look at the 'Get Help' forms coming through and prioritise where we can, but it might be that you receive a reply saying we are full for the day and to use other routes such as the 'Walk-In Centre'.

The Humbleyard Practice has its own Facebook page to keep residents informed of the latest developments. Just search on the Facebook site.

## David is Re-elected



**David Bills—Conservative**

Hethersett resident David Bills was once again elected to represent the Humbleyard Division on Norfolk County Council.

David retained his seat with a majority of 1,116.

He led the way at the local elections on May 6th, polling 52% of the votes with 2,087, which was 196 more votes than the other three candidates together.

It was a bad result for the Liberal Democrats who dropped from second place in the 2017 elections to bottom place in this. They were overtaken by both the Labour and Green Party candidates. The full result was:

David Bills (Conservative)	2,087
Simon Chapman (Labour)	971
Janet Bearman (Green Party)	494
Julian Halls (Liberal Democrats)	426

Giles Orpen-Smellie was elected police and crime commissioner for Norfolk.

# Reunion and Picnic



HETHERSETT Old Hall will become a school again in July—but just for the day.

The grounds of the former school, which is now a training centre for Norfolk Police, will be used for a reunion and picnic for former pupils, staff and their families.

“Working with Norfolk Police, we are delighted to be able to offer a reunion in the grounds of the Old Hall. Former pupils and staff are invited (along with their family members) to bring a picnic to enjoy on the lawn, hear an update from Chief Inspector Keith Philpott on how site developments are working, explore the grounds, purchase a few treats from the tuck shop and view the old dormitories, front hall and dining room,” the organisers state in the latest edition of the Blue Newsletter.

The reunion will run from 12.30 until 3.30 pm. The day will also see the dedication of one of the rooms in the complex to former principal Vic Redington.

The organisers are asking for those wishing to attend to contact them by e-mail at [hohsnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:hohsnetwork@gmail.com) or via the HOHS Reunion Picnic Facebook page.

The newsletter also gives an insight into the future of the former school.

“Almost every inch of the site is now in use by the police. The Jubilee Quad and New Block are fully operational as teaching rooms. The Driver Training Unit now reside in the Home Economics classroom (with no lingering smell of monkey bread).

“The Sixth Form boarding block is under conversion into another lecture space, with hard hats and steel toe caps required to gain entry at the moment. Next up for the attention of the builders is The Barn, which is currently in use as the central storage for the site.

“The flint wall which surrounded the pre-prep department is held together only by the strength of the ivy clinging to the masonry. The wall will be taken down and then rebuilt so it is safe and secure for generations to come.

“And for those with “fond” memories of slowly roasting during GCSE examinations, we are sad to confirm Room 14 has been flattened. May its complete lack of ventilation and rotting floorboards be forever remembered. “

## Overpayment Claim

A HETHERSETT man is fighting the TV licensing authorities on behalf of sheltered housing and care home residents who he claims may be owed hundreds of pounds in back payments after over-paying for a number of years.



Richard Headicar who lives in the village has a keen interest in sheltered and social housing and personally, received a letter from Jackie Garswood, Customer Service Manager for TV Licensing informing him of the need to pay the full licence fee of £159. He is aware that sheltered housing residents have received similar letters.

Richard claims that residents have a long-standing agreement giving them concessionary rates and that the BBC needs to be held to account for “behaving secretly” over the matter.

“Up to 2011, residents either received a free licence if they were over 75 or a concessionary licence for £7.50 a year if younger. These residents had preserved rights but I am certain many residents living in sheltered housing have been paying the full amount over a number of years that could run up to £1,000 in overpayment. Many of them have passed on but I’m sure that the preserved rights are not time sensitive,” Mr Headicar said.

“I believe that many residents living in sheltered housing are entitled to a refund and we are asking the BBC to give back any overpayments. Many will have paid increases levied by the BBC that were counter to their preserved rights,” he added.

“Many people living in sheltered housing find it difficult to get out and are dependent on television which is their lifeline. These people have seen a number of facilities eroded from when they came to live in sheltered accommodation. They were originally offered the concessions and it was one of the incentives. It was not something they requested but it cannot be taken away if the charge is preserved,” he said.

Mr Headicar added that letters sent to residents were threatening. “The letters could upset people and cause them great anxiety. It makes me furious,” he said. Mr Headicar says that he has seen a letter sent to a sheltered housing resident which concludes “If you fail to take action by 19th May, this address will be passed to our Cambridge Enforcement Division who will authorise a visit.”

# Sale of The Church Hall

## The Hethersett Debate

**THE proposed sale and development of Hethersett Church Hall into two three bedroomed homes has proved to be a contentious issue over the past month. Here we take an in depth look at the different views held on this subject.**

HETHERSETT Parish Council is recommending that plans to build two new homes on the site of the Church Hall in Henstead Road should be refused.

The council's planning committee discussed the application on May 4th and urged South Norfolk Council to refuse outline planning permission. The decision ultimately lies with the district council.

The planning committee heard impassioned pleas from a number of residents to keep the hall as a village amenity in light of the threat its sale will pose to the Stella School of Dance which meets there five days a week from 4 pm until 10 pm.

Chair of the parish council's planning committee, Eileen Mulvaney, said she opposed the plans on a number of grounds.

"The hall is very important as a socio economy unit which provides community space and employment. It also has heritage and historic importance although it is not a listed building. There are also traffic concerns on a road that is already congested. There is a strong case for it to remain as a community hub within the village," she said adding that maybe ideas such as community ownership and other fundraising routes could be looked into.

Adrienne Quinlan, who is a member of the planning committee and chairman of Hethersett Parish Council, said she understood that the parish church would want to get as much money for the hall as possible if they decide to sell: "I can also see that the hall has been a very positive venue in the village. It is not in the best state of repair and would be a drain on the church, but it is a resource I am not happy to see change its use," she said.

Councillor Sarah Lawrence agreed that the hall needed repairs but agreed that it is a vital resource within the village. Councillor John Nightingale said he had



**The Eastern Daily Press article on the proposed sale.**

mixed feelings on the matter and realised that the church would not have the necessary funds to bring it up to the required standard of repair.

Councillor Leslie Dale expressed concern about the dangers that would be caused by work to turn the hall into two dwellings and the over development of the site. He too expressed mixed feelings: "I understand the church's needs to reduce its assets in order to concentrate work on the parish church," he said.

After a lengthy discussion, members of the planning committee—Adrienne Quinlan, Sarah Lawrence, John Nightingale, Eileen Mulvaney, Chris Morriss and Leslie Dale—voted unanimously to recommend refusal of the scheme.

A decision on the planning application will be decided by South Norfolk Council.

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## Church Hall—In Bad State of Repair

**There is no doubt that the outside of the Church Hall needs urgent repair as our photographs taken in May show:**





The View of The Church by Hethersett's Rector the Rev Derek McClean.



THERE are many things that might actually need to be clarified regarding this. It has been a couple of years since the building was used in the evening by any other than Stella School of Dance, and there are very few other users due to the lack of availability this creates. Certainly, other than a Wednesday morning (pre-Lockdowns), the Church, itself, does not use this building, and no other children's groups have used it for much longer than this.

The Church Hall has not yet gone on sale. Like many things, the process has been delayed by the pandemic.

When this began to be re-examined as a possibility (having been shelved when the lead was stolen from the Church Roof), we immediately informed Ms. McLoughlin (principal of Stella Dance School), and have kept her informed at every stage of the process. This was either by myself or a Church Warden. It has also been made clear to Ms. McLaughlin that she has the option to raise the asking price that will be realised as part of this process. In fact, when it was Yvonne School of Dance, they too were informed of the possibility of sale (before the lead was stolen from the roof), but the option was refused due to Yvonne wishing to retire.

At the time she made an offer, it was made clear to Ms. McLoughlin that we couldn't accept it because of needing to know what value we would get.

That may sound strange, but the regulations around selling property belonging to the Parish (Deeds held in trust by the Diocesan Board of Finance) mean that we aren't able to just accept any offer but must try to obtain the best possible value for that property. It is our fiscal responsibility as a charitable organisation.

Likewise, proceeds from the sale are also governed by regulations, and can't just be used to resolve financial issues. We are looking to finish redeveloping the West End of the Church building, a project begun 30 years ago.

In order to get the best value for the property, we engaged Spire to help us with the process. They have informed us that selling with planning permission will realise a better value for the property and we are, therefore, obliged to go with that understanding due to the aforementioned regulations.

When the property goes on sale, Ms. McLoughlin is more than welcome to make an offer for the property.

Like all parishes, Hethersett has been hit by financial issues arising out of the pandemic, and a general drop in giving. But Churches are not alone in this. All Charities have been hit by the pandemic.

## The View of The Dance School

Principal of the Stella School of Dance, Stella Gretsinger (nee McLoughlin) attended the planning committee meeting and referred to the hall as “such an important part of village life.”

She explained that the dance school gave classes to over 200 children and adults of all ages with over 20 classes on five days a week.

“We would struggle to find another venue. I would be willing to purchase the building to keep it available for our dance school but I wouldn’t be able to compete with the price if it got planning permission,” she said.



## Comments From Residents

Stella School of Dance was previously owned by Yvonne and Steve Cutting and run as the Yvonne School of Dance. Following the announcement of the possible sale, Mr Cutting sent the following comments supporting keeping the building as a public amenity hall to the parish clerk Annette Palmer.

“I wish to object to this planning application based on the following:

- (1) It is an historic building that should not be lost to housing.
- (2) It is a community amenity and must not be lost as such.
- (3) The Church Hall has been used continuously by a dance school since 1984, no suitable alternative is available within Hethersett.
- (4) The dance school could have moved to the Village Hall in 1994, but remained at the Church Hall at the request of St. Remigius PCC, they stated that without the support of the dance school, the hall would have to close.

I am aware that thousands of pounds have been paid to the Parochial Church Council over this period with little or no maintenance having taken place. Unfortunately this cannot be used as an objection for planning.

At the meeting Mr Cutting added: “The hall has proved invaluable for the village over many years. The dance school has been so good for so many children. It has been character building. If it is forced to stop I dread to think what would happen.”

Dawn Chamberlain voiced her objections to the planning application:

“If the building is shut and the school was forced to shut it would change my daughter’s life dramatically. The dance school is a vital part of many children’s

well-being. It would affect so many local children.”

Sally Reeder told the meeting that she had been a pupil of the dance school since the age of four:

“I am now 24 and cannot envisage my life without the dance school. It is a family and a place we can escape to. It has shaped so many people's lives. It has given me the confidence to become a teacher myself,” she said.

## History of the Building

Much of the credit for the building of the British School (now the Church Hall) must go to the efforts of Caroline Lindley who tirelessly raised money to provide education for both children and adults in the Great Melton district.



The original benefactor of the British School was Edward Lombe of Great Melton Hall who financially supported the project but died in 1852 which is the point at which Caroline Lindley enters the story.

She visited her brother Joseph who was the agent for Edward Lombe. Caroline had a great interest in the provision of education for children and, although by this point in her 50s and living in London, she raised sufficient capital for the school to be established in Henstead Road.

Caroline Lindley was a friend of London businessman William Ellis who, despite having no connections with Hethersett, was to play a major part in education in the village.

Ellis was manager of the Indemnity Marine Assurance Company and had a reputation for integrity whilst being both successful and affluent. He had little use for personal extravagance and devoted a large portion of his income to education throughout the country.

Ellis established schools in numerous parts of London including the Birkbeck School, London Mechanics (1848), the Finsbury Birkbeck School (1849), Paddington Birkbeck School (1850), Bethnal Green Birkbeck School (1851), Westminster Birkbeck School (1851) and Beckham Birkbeck School (1852).

The Birkbeck schools were named in memory of George Birkbeck a mechanics lecturer, scholar and philanthropist. Outside London he established

schools in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leith, Manchester, Salford, Blandford, King's Sambourne in Hampshire, Dunton Bassett in Leicestershire and of course Hethersett.

When Caroline Lindley approached Ellis she found his heart as open as always and in her diary of 23 July 1853 notes:

'Received Mr Ellis' answer to my letter, overjoyed with it and school bought.'

Ellis purchased the British School with money belonging to himself and vested the property in four trustees – himself, his son Edward, Joseph Lindley and Julian Hill. The first management committee consisted of Caroline Lindley of London and William Buckingham, William Morton, Benjamin Baker and James Spurgeon of Hethersett.

Ellis was obviously much taken with Caroline Lindley whom he described as:

'Possessing feelings ever ready to melt at the sight of misery and an intelligence prepared to examine the various means suggested for its relief, and to seize and apply the real ones.'

In commending Caroline's efforts, Ellis said:

'To us be the delight of aiding her in her labour of love.'

Obviously altruism ran in the Lindley family as Caroline's sister Kate founded a school at Warmfield in Yorkshire.

The National and British schools worked side by side until their amalgamation in 1951, when it proved obvious that neither of the existing schools could reach the standard in buildings and amenities laid down in the Education Act of 1944.

When the British and National schools were amalgamated, the British School building was sold to the church and the proceeds used to establish the Caroline Lindley Trust which is still in existence and gives grants for the further education of men and women aged between 18 and 25. In this way the name of Caroline Lindley lives on.

The stated aims of the British School were to provide 'liberal and unsectarian' education for boys and girls, teenagers and adults. Sunday and evening classes were provided for working teenagers and adults who couldn't attend the day schools.

We will have more on the proposed sale of the Church Hall in coming editions of Hethersett Herald.



WRITING about the proposed sale of the Church Hall has been a tough task as, in this case, I can see all sides of the debate which in essence comes down to the basic question of whether the building should be sold off.

To me there are three separate strands to this and in many ways they seem to be of equal importance which makes the debate such a tough one.

Firstly I have written much in the past about the state of finances at the parish church. Not to put too fine a point on it, they need money to fund the upkeep of St Remigius. Those who point to the Church of England as being awash with money are completely missing the point. Each church has to pay for its own existence and it costs £1,500 each week to keep St Remigius on an even keel and keep it open. So selling the church hall would help balance the books. Is it not right therefore to sell something that is a drain on resources in order to keep something else afloat? Just looking at the hall, it is easy to see how this building could be a severe strain on funds. The external brickwork is crumbling and a load of cash needs to be spent on repairs. This would be dead money with more and more needed over years to come.

The second part of this story is whether turning the building into homes is a good thing. It is an historic building going back to the middle of the 19th century when it was one of two schools in the village. The British School is closely linked with village educationalist and benefactor Caroline Lindley. In 1907 the school was named after Miss Lindley. Then in the 1950s it was amalgamated with the National School in Queen's Road and the building was bought by the church. So there is a significant amount of village history there. Is it right therefore to turn the essence of the building into housing?

The third point, and an equally strong one, is that the Stella School of Dance has been holding classes there for decades and could be homeless if the building is sold off. It was previously known as the Yvonne School of Dance. So far attempts to find alternative halls have proved fruitless. The main problem is the dance school holds classes from 4 pm until 10 pm five days a week and so would practically need exclusive use of a venue afternoons and evenings on every weekday. So finding somewhere won't be easy and may mean the school moving out of the village which would be a terrible shame. Even worse would be the school going out of existence due to the lack of facilities available to it.

This all makes for a very tricky and difficult situation.

# Vandalism Halts Progress

A SPATE of vandalism on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field could scupper a football club's plans to expand, according to its chairman.

Over the past few weeks, goalposts have been vandalised and pulled out of the ground, stanchions ripped off on numerous occasions and holes made in pitches by vandals digging with spades. In addition, broken bottles have been thrown onto playing surfaces and, a few months ago, a quad bike was ridden across the pitches, turning grass into mud.

Chairman of Hethersett Athletic Football Club, Neal Luther, has appealed for local people to be vigilant and report any damage or vandalism they see or experience to Norfolk Police.

"There seems to be a general lack of respect, and vandalism is holding the football club back. We provide competitive football for up to 300 players of all ages. Our adult Saturday team which plays on the Memorial Field is looking to step up to a higher league, but to do that we have to ensure our pitches are in good order. Last year we received a pitch maintenance grant, but this vandalism is seriously affecting us and our future," he said.

"We want to provide a safe place for people of all ages. Hethersett is growing rapidly and there will be more and more need for top class facilities free from vandalism. We need all the clubs and local people to work together to ensure we stop the damage by reporting incidents to the police," Neal Luther added.

Trustees of the Memorial Field have also reported graffiti, damage to litter bins, bolts being loosened on play equipment and drain covers being lifted up on the cycle speedway track. The outdoor table tennis table was also vandalised and had to be professionally repaired.

Hethersett Memorial Playing Field is home to a number of sports clubs including





the football club, Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway, Hethersett Playing Field Bowls Club, Hethersett Croquet Club and Norfolk Cricketers in Retirement.

Hethersett Parish Council and the playing field trustees are currently putting forward plans to replace the existing outdated pavilion with a purpose-built building that will serve the community as well as sports clubs.

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## Nursery Provision Moves A Step Closer

HETHERSETT Primary School in Queen's Road is looking to have a nursery facility up and running for the new school year in September.

The school made the announcement via social media with a request for people to register expressions of interest.

"We are working with Norfolk County Council to secure the best provider who will work in partnership with ourselves in order to provide a high-quality nursery provision for the children of Hethersett," the school states.

The school has provided a survey for prospective users and this can be accessed at: <https://forms.office.com/r/YmFfWFr46F>.

"Once the tender has been awarded we will send out further information regarding the nursery," the school said

## Fun Run is Cancelled

**THE annual Run The Square two mile funrun has had to be cancelled for the second year running due to social distancing rules.**

**It was hoped to stage the 10th running of the event this July but organiser Shane Hull has explained the reasons for another cancellation.**

**"In order to plan the event properly for the 10th anniversary, I would need to have been a little more certain on the pandemic front.**

**"It is unlikely that public liability insurance which is a necessary requirement of the event would be available. Therefore we have had to postpone this year's event on health and safety grounds," he said.**

**It is planned that the next running of the event will be before the schools break up for summer holidays in July 2022.**

# Annual Parish Meeting

HETHERSETT'S annual parish meeting was held via the Zoom social media platform on May 5th. Seven parish councillors, three members of the public and the parish clerk were in attendance for what turned out to be a short meeting with reports from various groups previously published in the internet. Below is a re-sume of those reports.

## Hethersett—A Great Place To Live

Council Chairman Adrienne Quinlan (pictured opposite) praised Hethersett residents for their caring attitude and support during lockdown.

"Hethersett has shown why it is a great place to live during the last year and I would like to thank and pay tribute to all those who supported one another.

"In the early days, shopping and prescriptions were delivered to those who could not manage on their own and food was arranged for those in difficulties. Our emergency newsletter was distributed by volunteers to all households telling them how to get assistance.

Front line workers went out to tend to those in need and those in the shops and businesses within the village were there to serve us in those very frightening times.

"Many organisations, like us, have had to change how they work, particularly the doctors' surgery which, along with its volunteers, have also taken on the mammoth task of providing us with vaccinations. Groups and societies have been unable to meet and participation in sports has been severely curtailed, with the pantomime and other annual events that usually mark the year being cancelled.

"Families and friends have been kept apart and many happy and sad celebrations have either been cancelled or held under Covid rules. I particularly feel for those who have lost someone during this time including our Queen.

"We had planned to have a weekend of events over the extended Bank Holiday last year to cel-



### Part-Time Assistant

The chairman reported on plans to increase the parish council staffing levels.

"At the beginning of 2020 it was agreed to employ a part time assistant for the clerk, but this had to put on hold. However, we are going to be advertising for the post within the next few weeks. This delay has meant that the workload of the clerk has been extremely heavy and we thank her for all her hard work."

celebrate the end of World War Two, but it was another victim of the pandemic. Organised litter picks had to stop but many individuals have taken the time to continue doing this while taking their daily exercise. Some outside events did continue and the lights in the village over Christmas did a lot to lighten the mood of all."

Mrs Quinlan outlined the change in council personnel over the past couple of years since the previous parish meeting:

"We had three vacancies after the 2019 election which we were able to fill by co-opting Samantha England, Paul Mallett, and Andre Smith. Sadly, four councillors, Shane Hull, Paul Mallett, Marilyn Savory, and Andre Smith have had to resign from the council over the last few months, but we have been able to welcome Katie Adams, Sarah Lawrence, Jonathan Loomer and Jenny Walpole to replace them by co-option, as no election was required," she said.

"May I take this opportunity to thank Stephen Slack (vice chairman) and all my fellow councillors, both old and new, for their hard work and support? The role of a parish councillor is voluntary and therefore unpaid, but is extremely rewarding.

"As you can imagine these have been a vastly different two years from what we would normally have expected. In late February 2020 COVID-19 started to affect us, in fact, there was one day in March when we were due to have a full parish council meeting and we had to change our plans three times during the afternoon. We have not been able to meet in person, but government legislation has allowed us to use electronic means to have our meetings. We have all become used to successfully using Zoom for our meetings but we hope to return to the Village Hall for face-to-face meetings as restrictions allow.

"Our clerk had to work from home and many of our projects were slowed or in fact had to stop. These changes to our plans meant a reduction in our expenditure and we therefore decided to cap our part of the precept at the same figure as last year and use our reserves to offset any deficit in the coming year.

"I have spoken in the past about our intention to set up the clerk in a new more accessible two-person office. We were due to sign a lease with the library in March, 2020, but the implications of Covid 19 have meant that office is no longer suitable. I am glad to say we were able to arrange to rent the Humphrey Back Room from the Village Hall committee for a two-year period. This not a perfect solution, but our rent has been set to cover the normal income they would have received for the hire of the room therefore giving the Village Hall a secure income stream.

"We are slowly progressing with our plans to replace the changing rooms at the Memorial Playing Field with modern facilities that are suitable for all and to provide a recreation room on the site along with accessible toilets. The building of new houses in the village continues, and we welcome our new residents. A de-

## Council Surplus

The council amassed a surplus of over £43,000. Income was £170,254.72 and expenditure £126,768.35, giving a surplus of £43,486.37.

The figures are subject to audit and end of year adjustments.

velopment of this size will always cause some issues and we are working with the developers to keep them to a minimum. Some of the current concerns are the removal of hedges, the lack of bins, and the planning application to add an additional 200 homes. We hope that we will soon have access to the land and allotments that are part of the S106 agreement for this development and will be able to provide more recreational space within the village.

“Other issues that we will be concerned with in the next few months are the possible loss of our post office, replacement of street lighting with more environmentally friendly ones and road safety within the village, particularly around the schools.

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## Memorial Playing Field Report

**The following is taken from the Memorial Playing Field Report given to the annual parish meeting and written by secretary of the trustees Stephen Slack.**

THE Memorial Playing Field is an asset to Hethersett, especially in the strange times that we have all endured over the past year. During that time the trust has been managed by seven committee trustees who are Ian Fieldhouse, Phil Hardy, Tim Hudson-Church, Steve Irvine, Mel Perkins (treasurer), Stephen Slack (secretary) and Mike Stark (chairman).

The Memorial Playing Field has been significantly affected by the Covid 19 Pandemic. That period has seen the playground closed for a period, use of the sporting facilities severely affected and the amount of everyday use fluctuating along with the various changes in lockdown restrictions. All the sports clubs that use the amenities were affected by cancellation of fixtures and restrictions upon the interaction between individuals.

One effect of that was a reduction in income from booking fees. Thankfully the football club, cycle speedway, croquet club, bowls and (welcome newcomers) Norfolk Cricketers in Retirement all managed to maintain a level of involvement once restrictions allowed. An early feature of the easing of restrictions was the encouragement to enjoy local outdoor spaces like parks and this saw a welcome increase in numbers of people visiting the playing field.

Unfortunately, the small proportion of users that behave inappropriately remains the same as usual. If you increase the number of visitors, then the small proportion of litter droppers, dog owners that fail to clear up dog mess and youngsters that commit mindless damage increases too. Sorting out the problems left by anti-social behaviour continues to be an annoying and costly drain on time and funds. Two particularly disappointing examples of those problems were graffiti sprayed on the pavilion wall and crude writing on the freshly painted playground equipment.

It is believed the person responsible for the graffiti on the playing field was also guilty of similar criminal damage on the Village Hall.

An unforeseen benefit of periods when use of facilities were restricted was that it allowed various changes to be completed in an undisturbed way. In the playground some essential repairs to equipment took place and the re-painting of the play equipment referred to earlier to be completed.

Having said farewell to the aged pair of swings stranded outside the fenced off area, new replacements were installed inside that fence. The area where the old swings had been was tidied up, levelled and re-seeded, as was the area next to the Bowling Club which previously contained an unused Petanque playing rectangle.

Routine tasks associated with the management of the playing field continued, including maintaining the grass in good order and trimming the perimeter hedges. Inspections of play equipment, electrical testing and a survey of the condition of the trees within the park boundaries were completed.

Sadly, the survey of trees found that five required either complete removal or some trimming for safety reasons and that task will be completed shortly. Additional tasks made it an expensive year. It was unfair for sports groups to be charged normal fees when their enjoyment of the facilities was so restricted by the pandemic.

However, that shortfall in income was more than compensated for by a Government Leisure Grant of £10k and, later, Government Local Restrictions Grant of £9 917, both of which came via the District Council. As ever, the

Trustees are grateful to the Parish Council (the Custodial Trustees of HMPF) for their committed support of the trust. In addition to the basic running costs through the Precept of £6300, they have generously granted funds for many of the improvements paid for during the past year.

There is still much to do, but trustees hope that the various grants received from other sources will allow the Parish Council some respite from requests for essential assistance. Those grants will also help with fitting out the new pavilion. The coming year promises to be as busy as ever, and not just because of the hoped for gradual return to relative normality for the various sports clubs.

In addition to the tree safety work already in the pipeline, there are plans to add safer surfaces under much of the play equipment during the next few months and new picnic benches, seats and litter bins are ready to be installed around the park in the near future. The latest annual play equipment inspection has just been completed. Hopefully there will not be any expensive repairs resulting from the report.

What are perhaps the two most exciting future developments on the playing field involve building developments. The Parish Council led project to replace our present pavilion is making steady and determined progress, despite a number of disappointing delays. The deterioration of the existing facilities make the need to rebuild an urgent one. There is a real risk that extended delay might see funds needed for the new building being used for some refurbishment of the present building .

On a more positive note, the trustees are pleased to be working in conjunction with Hethersett Hawks Cycle

Speedway Club as it develops its amenities. The club has already gained planning permission and collected some impressive funds through their various fund-raising initiatives.

As far as the community is concerned, an exciting element of their project will be the Wonky Wheels Community Bicycle Workshop which could become a real help to all the increasing number of cyclists seen around the village.

The Trustees would like to thank the villagers that help keep it tidy and attractive through both small and sustained voluntary actions, especially those that pick up mess and litter left by less caring neighbours. Their community spirit is appreciated and valued.

The trustees are pleased and grateful that the playing field is enjoyed by so many of our village community.

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## Re-surfacing Work for Playground To Start

RE-SURFACING work to the playground on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field will be carried out in the Autumn.

The Memorial Playing Field Trust has obtained quotes from two suppliers of playground re-surfacing.

“We will be making an order shortly with the idea of carrying out this work in the Autumn,” said trustee and treasurer Mel Perkins.

The annual safety inspection on the playground has been carried out. Minor issues were identified and repairs will be carried out. There were no issues above the low risk category.

“We have taken delivery of new litter bins, picnic tables and benches, all of which are awaiting installation. As part of our continued plan to enhance the field for the community we are currently in the early stages of a feasibility study on creating a tennis court next to the bowling green,” Mr Perkins added.

The field continues to be hit by mindless vandalism.

“Unfortunately we continue to experience some mindless vandalism - users are asked to be vigilant and report any observations to the Police on 101 or their website (use 999 only if a crime is being witnessed),” Mr Perkins said.



# Hethersett Village Hall Report

**The following is taken from the Village Hall Report given to the annual parish meeting and written by secretary of the trustees Mike Barton.**

TRUSTEES are appointed by Hethersett Parish Council (three) and by the Hethersett Annual Parish Meeting (two). Trustees serve for a year but may be reappointed or re-elected to serve for further terms. Hethersett Village Hall is registered charity and the charitable objectives are to maintain a village hall for the uses of the inhabitants of the parish of Hethersett without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including the use for meetings, lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

The Village Hall Management Committee is responsible for all aspects of the management of the hall. The public benefit derived from the activities of the charity includes: Provision of the Hethersett Village Hall for public use, Preservation and enhancement of the Village Hall for the use of community. Whilst the public benefit is available to anyone, as there are few restrictions to usage of the hall, a charge is made to cover costs, maintenance and improvements. Analysis shows these fees are similar to comparable halls in the area, and that these do not represent an unreasonable restriction to access to the hall. The Village Hall is mostly used by the local community.

A small increase in charges for commercial use is made. Priority is given to any local community use over a commercial hiring. Caretaker and Booking Officer Julia Stevenson was employed as the caretaker for the year. The employment of Claire Everson as booking officer has continued throughout the year. Bookings, running costs, hire charges and hiring hall bookings were obviously greatly impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic with income for the hall by regular users down by 82% on the previous year.

A combination of Job Retention Scheme and local government grants helped make up this shortfall. Increased use by the Parish Council has also maintained income. At present it is difficult to say if income during the coming year will return to normal, but the hall has sufficient funds to meet its running costs.

A number of routine maintenance and repair jobs have been completed throughout the year despite the pandemic. Work such as the annual servicing of gas appliances, fire alarm systems and fire extinguishers is always done by a competent person employed by an accredited company as is the statutory inspection of the stage equipment. The Management Committee has reviewed all its potential risks and continues to do so on a regular basis and has also carried out Covid secure assessments. It is satisfied that adequate insurances are in place and that all steps are taken to ensure that exposure to risk of any sort is kept to a minimum.

The Management Committee has established a Reserves Policy designed to

ensure continued operation of the Hall by having: Designated Reserves created to ensure the long term viability of the Hall. A major element of these reserves is a fund to allow for a future extension to the hall. Other Designated Reserves will ensure that sufficient funds are available to fund future major repairs and to replace hall fixtures, fittings and equipment.

The level of these reserves is reviewed annually based on expenditure and revised cost forecasts.

The Hall is a valuable village asset and the trustees continue to be concerned about the risk of incidents of anti-social behaviour resulting in damage to the hall. Any serious incidents recorded on CCTV are brought to the attention of the police.

A website for the hall was in operation using a Community Action Norfolk facility at no cost apart from the purchase of a domain name. This has been replaced by a different provider. The website provides information about the hall and is a source for a number of booking enquiries. The web address is <https://www.hethersettvillagehall.org.uk/>

## Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club

**The following is taken from the report on Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club made to the parish meeting. The report is by youth club trustee Gillian Saunders.**

IT has been a strange year at the youth club. The virus and lockdown that went with it meant all the plans we had were suddenly pulled from underneath our feet.

We were uncertain as to when we might reopen and how many of our members would want to come back especially as many had changed schools. The fete and dog show had to be cancelled too like a lot of events. This meant a loss in income of about £1,000.

We have also been seeking grants towards the cost of the leaking roof which we have found needs replacing. One roofing contractor said it was like a patchwork quilt up there and with so many patches it wasn't really viable to repair again.

So in the middle of a pandemic we launched our campaign to replace the roof!! We are grateful to Alahna who organised the launch event and got local businesses involved. Thank you to both. We saw lots of happy children taking part not just youth club members but those of tomorrow too! We would like to thank Emma and Kate for the hard work they put into making club the fun place it is now and for working hard to provide a stimulating and varied programme which

members helped plan so they took ownership of club. Emma also set up a cafe type area where the young people can have hot chocolate, tea and biscuits and somewhere to sit quietly and chat. This is proving very popular.

The other change we recently introduced, was to have a monthly Well Being session on a Thursday for both age groups as we feel there is a need for both Year five and six and the high school ages to have somewhere to go where they can discuss issues concerning them (and if necessary find signposting to more specific help if needed).

We are also going to try and restart the senior club but with a different feel to the Junior group so it meets the needs of the different age group. We said a sad goodbye to both Emma and Kate who have worked hard for the club and we thank them for all they have done. However, as always we look forward to improving our club and that is why after a long afternoon of interviews Anne, Samantha and myself appointed Mel, Alahna and Kim to run the groups.

However unfortunately before Mel could really get going we were under lockdown restrictions again and after a serious personal nightmare struck she was unable to continue as leader. Kim and Alahna have both stepped up to take on this role. We also welcomed both Samantha and Martyn to the club as new trustees. We are grateful you have brought your experience and knowledge to club as Trustees especially at the time when we are working together to get the roof watertight and insulated before the winter.

I would also like to thank Angela Eden who keeps the lovely roses on the front fence looking good. I haven't got the time or expertise to do so! She also cares for the other plants and the young people have planted up the pots which were donated. We are in need of some help with the fete and dog show on 26th June! We hope to welcome lots of dogs and their owners to the fete and hope for another dry but not too hot but successful afternoon. It would be lovely to see the local community come and support us even if only for a quick wander, and a cup of tea or lunch! All profits go back to the club and roof fund.

The Trustees are all volunteers. We held a quiz evening last year and are looking to hold another one in the autumn. We are grateful to the continued support of the parish council, without whom club would struggle to continue. Chairman Adrienne came and visited club and had an enjoyable evening talking to the members and leaders. I know she hopes to visit again. We also wish to thank our loyal volunteers who help out regularly at club and those who are not able to help regularly but help out at fundraising events and special occasions.

We appreciate all your help and support. If anyone else is interested in helping either on a regular basis or at fundraising events please let me know. I wish I could say we have recruited more volunteers to help with club or with events but we do have two new Trustees. We are still only seven trustees working really hard to keep the club and everything else going but we really would like to spread the load a little more! Please consider if you can help in any way and get it touch with me. Details of the dog show and fete can be found on the next page of this edition.

# Fun Dog Show and Fete—26th June 12-3.30pm

We are fast approaching the date of our annual fete and dog show at the hall and outside. We have lots of different stalls from cards to dog inspired crafts, tombola, bottles, raffle and white elephant etc. There will be refreshments including tea, coffee cakes etc and a BBQ, games etc and of course the dog show!

We urgently need items for the various stall we are running. These include bottles, tombola and raffle prizes please. There will be a box at the hall for any items you are able to donate or you can phone myself on 01953 607566 or Norman on 01603759449 and we can arrange to collect from you.

Please come and support us on the day with or without the dog.

The dog show classes are as follows: Lovely Lady, Handsome Hound, fancy dress - dog and owner, best paw shaker, best x breed, judges' choice, most appealing eyes, best puppy, golden oldie, best rescue, waggiest tail and of course Best In Show. At only £1 a class you can afford to enter your dog into several classes. You may take home the trophy and medal for Best in Show!

Please support us to help raise the rest of the money for the roof. The fund is going well and we hope to be able to appoint the contractor soon but just need the final push to raise the rest of the money.

Gillian Saunders (Trustee)



## Youth Worker Position

**HETHERSETT Jubilee Youth Club is looking for a part-time youth worker and assistant from September or sooner.**

Trustee Gillian Saunders writes: "We currently have a growing and lively group of young people attending the weekly year 5/6 group but due to our current Assistant Youth Worker leaving we need a new, enthusiastic person to work with our youth worker, young people and volunteers.

"We also need a Youth Worker for the Year 7+ group and a Youth Worker and Assistant for the monthly Well being group. A background in Thrive or Nurture would be an advantage for the Well Being role but is not essential.

"We would like to see the club grow particularly in the Year 7-9 group (which isn't currently running) but also new members at the start of the school year in the Year 5/6 group, which requires the leaders going into local schools and promoting the club and for the young people to take an active part in their club development and its promotion."

The sessions run on Wednesday evenings in school term time:

Junior Group (Years 5/6: ages 9-11) 5:45pm – 7.15pm

Senior Group (Years 7- 9: ages 11-14) 7:30pm – 9.15pm (currently not running)

Well Being (monthly) ages Year 5/6 and also Year7+ (times to be agreed with new leader).

Have you:

- got experience of working with young people? (Preferably as a youth worker)
- excellent communication skills.
- the ability to help plan a programme of activities to meet the needs of young people in a growing community
- The ability to promote the club in schools
- A background in Nurture or Thrive for the Wellbeing groups an advantage but not essential.

You must be prepared to undertake appropriate training if level two not already held.

This post is subject to successful completion of Enhanced DBS and references.

**Please send for further details and an application form (CV alone not acceptable) to Gillian Saunders.**

**[gilliansaunders3@btinternet.com](mailto:gilliansaunders3@btinternet.com)**

**Closing date is Friday 4th June at noon**

# Ritchie Is A Record-Breaker



A long-standing Hethersett Athletic Football Club record has been broken.

Richard Mannington went to the top of the attendance charts when he played his 458th game for the club in May. The match was against Horsford.

Richard, who has been playing for the club since youth football, overtook the previous record of 457 games held by James Rice, who has retired from playing.

Full details of the club and its results can be found on the website at:  
[www.hethersettathletic.com](http://www.hethersettathletic.com)



Our photograph on the previous page shows Richard Mannington with club chairman Neal Luther (right) and team manager Michael Lemmon (left). Below is the 2020-2021 team squad.



Football club chairman says that vandalism is holding back the club’s chances of progressing up the leagues—see page 20.

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### Nuggets From Social Media

Nev Leverett (pictured right) from Home Farm Gin had some excellent advice for us all as lockdown restrictions were lifted and people were allowed back inside pubs, cafes and bars.

“If you’re going out for dinner and drinks, remember that some of your servers haven’t done this job for over 12 months and in that time may have lost family members, struggled with mental health issues, loneliness and financial problems.

“Be patient with staff and just enjoy the fact that you can sit inside and enjoy a pint.

“Oh and tip them too.”



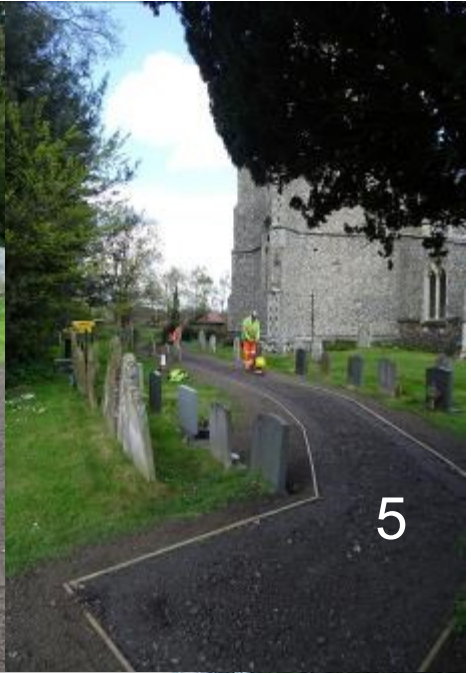
# New Footpath Installed

A NEW footpath has been installed in the grounds of St Remigius Church aimed at helping families and funeral operatives to safely access the new burial area in the Churchyard.

The cost was in the region of £7,000 and has been funded by a number of generous donations.

Our pictorial history of the building of the path features photographs by Hethersett Herald columnist John Head.









## Have You Missed Out ?

YOU can catch up on previous editions of the Hetherset Herald by going to [www.hethersettherald.weebly.com](http://www.hethersettherald.weebly.com)

and following the links. Hetherset Herald is an independent publication for news, views and features about Hetherset and general articles written by residents.

It is currently available only online. If you have news or would like to be featured in Hetherset Herald contact editor Pfeter Steward on [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net)



# Inside The Pubs

It was great to be able to go inside shops and restaurants again when the lockdown restrictions began to ease in May. The Queen's Head and King's Head posted a number of photographs inside their premises on social media. Here are just a few to perhaps whet your appetite for a visit.



## Queen's Head

The photograph on the right is the inside of the Queen's Head before customers were allowed back in.

Above is the current set-up.

Photos courtesy of the venue's Facebook page:



# Inside The Pubs



These photos are of the inside of the King's Head, setting up for lockdown relaxation. In May customers were allowed inside the venue for the first time in almost two years.



# Social Club Improvements



HETHERSETT Social Club is preparing to re-open after its programme of refurbishments.

Initially the venue will be open just at weekends but this will be monitored when restrictions are (hopefully) relaxed further on June 21st.

The grand re-opening will be at 3 pm on Saturday June 5th.

Opening hours from then will be:

Fridays—5 to 11.30 pm

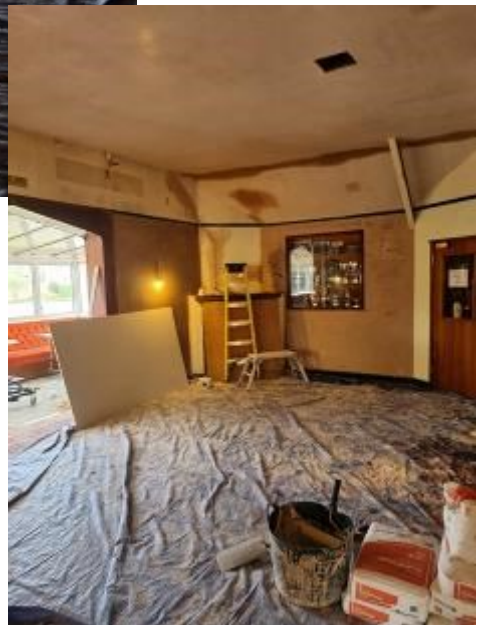
Saturdays—3 pm to mid-

night.

Sunday—Midday to 6 pm.

“We are hoping these hours will just be for the first few weeks and we will be able to re-open fully from June 21st,” the venue stated on its Facebook page.

The Social Club will be taking table bookings for these weekends and adhering to current restrictions that only allow six people or two households at a table inside.



# A Glittering Rock Career

PRINCE, Sting, Paul McCartney, George Michael, Bob Geldof, Queen, Cat Stevens, David Bowie and many more – the list reads like a who's who of the history of rock music.

A Hethersett man has either supported or worked with them all during over 40 years in the music business.

Chris Poole has now settled down to a quieter life away from rock royalty in retirement in our village.

But Chris has a wealth of memories following a glittering career in music public relations and journalism which had humble beginnings as a reporter on daily and weekly newspapers that included the Eastern Daily Press in Norwich and the North Norfolk News in Cromer.

He went on to have a stellar career as a music journalist on the New Musical Express, Beat International, Record Mirror and Sounds Magazine and then as a music fixer and public relations guru for some of the most influential record labels including Decca, Phonogram, A and M and Chrysalis. He also had a spell working for Tony Brainsby Publicity and also ran his own pr partnership with Alan Edwards.

Chris admits that his career had many highs and an equal number of lows but remembers with great affection his time working on a daily basis with household names. He particularly enjoyed working with singer songwriters Sting and Ca-



nadian Suzanne Vega and found David Bowie a delight to represent:

“He was a friendly and gentle soul but also a music perfectionist,” Chris said.

Other artists were more difficult. He singles out Prince as a genius who could be sweet and supportive but who could also be difficult and demanding, Chris refers to the American as “the greatest live artist I have seen.”

“I would describe him as capricious but working with him was never dull. Sometimes he would demand the impossible,” Chris said.

Chris has toured with the best and travelled all over the world with bands like Spandau Ballet and Wet Wet Wet. He even got to be part of the Band Aid and Live Aid charity phenomena, working alongside Bob Geldof. He embraced

## THE RUGBY RAG CHARITIES APPEAL

PRESENTS

# THE SAM CUTLER STAGE SHOW

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 12th, 13th and 14th of September

at RAINSBROOK, ASHLAWN ROAD, RUGBY

**Day 1 Blues 6.30 p.m.-1 a.m.**

Alexis Korner and his new church, Spirit of John Morgan, The Groundhogs, John Dummer's Bluesband, Doctor K's Bluesband and John Martyn

**Day 2 12.30 p.m.-late**

Pink Floyd, The Nice, Taste, King Crimson, Free, The Edgar Broughton Band, Third Ear Band, Bridget St. John, Big Idea and Fagin's Quill. Compered by John Peel

**Day 3 12.30 p.m.-late**

Election, Roy Harper, The Strawbs, Ralph McTell, Mike Cooper, Ron Geesin, Magna Carta, Mike Absalom, Diz Disley, Shelagh McDonald, Colin Scott, Liz MacKinnley and the New Modern Idiot Grunt Band. Compered by Derek Brimstone and Jim McCann.

### TICKETS

Day 1 12/6-15/- at the door. Day 2, £1-25/- at the door. Day 3, 17/6-£1 at the door  
Tickets for Day 1 and Day 2 are priced 30/- and for all three days £2

All tickets from 25 Bilton Road, Rugby . . . . please send cheque or P.O. plus stamped addressed envelope. Or Disci, High Street, Rugby, Tea and Symphony, 74 Hurst Street, Birmingham and Fennells, Lower Precinct, Coventry.

changes in music, looking after bands such as The Damned and The Stranglers when punk became popular and also worked on a number of rock galas organised in aid of the Prince's Trust featuring the likes of Duran Duran and Dire Straits.

Chris was born in Warwickshire but often moved as his father was a police officer. His schools included King Edward VI in Stratford, a school previously attended by William Shakespeare. He developed a love of music at an

early age, being fed a diet of the Beatles, the Beach Boys, Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand.

It was whilst attending Rugby College and also being a cub reporter on the Rugby Advertiser that he helped to organise the Sam Cutler Stage Show, so named after the former tour manager of the Rolling Stones. The show was the same year as the legendary Woodstock Festival in the USA.

"The Rugby festival was the most nerve-racking experience of my life although

## Prince, Sting and Bowie - the Norfolk man who worked with the stars

Chris Cutler, 68, is a Norfolk man who has worked with some of the world's most famous musicians. He has been a roadie, a sound engineer, a producer and a manager. He has worked with Prince, Sting, David Bowie, George Harrison, Tina Turner, Roger Waters, Paul McCartney, Suzanna Vega, Rory Gallagher, David Gilmore, Pete Townsend, The Nice, Pentangle, Alexis Korner, Queen, Al Stewart, Phil Lynott, Mott the Hoople, Ian Hunter, Fleetwood Mac, Jethro Tull, Eric Clapton, Bob Geldof, Spandau Ballet, The Stranglers, The Cure, The Damned, Hazel O'Connor and many more.

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people still talk about it today," Chris said.

That festival, held over three days during which it never stopped raining brought him into contact with artists like Pink Floyd, the Who, The Nice, Pentangle, King Crimson, Free, Ralph McTell and Alexis Korner. Above all it made Chris want to establish himself in the music business, something he certainly achieved.

Eventually Chris decided that enough was enough: "I felt I was no longer at

the top of my game and so I came back to Norfolk to look after my parents. I was very lucky to be involved with rock music when it was at its peak before it became more fragmented."

Today Chris considers himself to be retired although he still undertakes some voluntary work supporting the battle for more social housing, working on behalf of older people and getting together with his son and daughter and three grandchildren.

**HERE are just some of the artists Chris worked with over his 40 year career: Prince, Duran Duran, Dire Straits, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Tina Turner, Roger Waters, Sting, Chris De Burgh, Suzanne Vega, Rory Gallagher, David Bowie, Tin Machine, Wet Wet Wet, John Miles, Cat Stevens, David Gilmore, Pete Townsend, The Nice, Pentangle, Alexis Korner, Queen, Al Stewart, Phil Lynott, Mott the Hoople, Ian Hunter, Fleetwood Mac, Jethro Tull, Eric Clapton, Bob Geldof, Spandau Ballet, The Stranglers, The Cure, The Damned, Hazel O'Connor and many more.**



# Take Our Hand Charity

## Reaching Out To Young People

A Norfolk charity set-up to support young people who have been bereaved is looking to get back on track and expand following the relaxation of COVID restrictions.

Take Our Hand has been in existence since 2018, providing support to those aged between 16 and 25 and their families and friends through alternatives to counselling. This includes face to face contact and support, alternative therapies and the use of drama, art and music.

The charity also puts together care packages that include memory jars, journals and more and these are being made available throughout the country and not just Norfolk.

The charity was set-up by Alex Gough following the sudden death of her boyfriend in 2011. Alex couldn't find the support from traditional sources that she needed, so she started Take Our Hand:

"We understand how difficult it is to be a young person and when you add a bereavement to the mix it can really have a detrimental effect.

"There are many charities offering counselling to help someone through bereavement but there aren't many offering other ways to help which is why Take Our Hand was formed. There is no time limit on grief and so no time limit on the service we provide," Alex said.

Take Our Hand works with local charities, organisations and businesses and has



**Take Our Hand founder  
Alex Gough**



received grants from the Norfolk Community Foundation and the National Lottery Community Fund and has also raised over £2,000 through the Aviva Community Fund. The charity is organising a quiz and chips evening in Little Melton Village Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> November.

Sophie Cooke, who lives in Little Melton, became a volunteer with the charity in February and is looking at ways of increasing fundraising and awareness.

“It has been amazing to see Alex’s passion for the charity to continue growing and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to contribute to such a brilliant cause.

“So far, we have supported almost 50 people in various ways and are looking to increase that number significantly over the coming months,” Sophie said.

The charity is currently taking referrals and more information is available on its website



A typical care package



Sophie Cooke from Little Melton





# Two On A Tower\*

## A View From The Top



Hethersett Parish Church tower is only accessible to authorised persons, strictly on church business. These include bellringers and maintenance workers.

The photographs on this page were taken by Herald columnist John Head in February, 2019, when the weather allowed safe access to the roof. On that occasion John was accompanied by Trevor Radley who is an experienced builder and a man used to working at heights. Trevor was checking on insect infestation in the bell chamber and also for foliage growth around the top of the tower.

### John writes

The first level encountered is the ringing chamber. This, like in most churches, is steeped in the history of bell ringing chambers made at national and local events.



Hethersett Herald



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June 2021



Next we enter the clock chamber which is situated before entering the bell chamber.

Following this a sizeable ladder had to be scaled before lifting the heavy hatch to gain access to the roof.

The first picture on the next page shows the Embrasures (crinellations) which are at various levels around the tower.

The spire on the roof is a Victorian addition and contains evidence of Victorian graffiti.

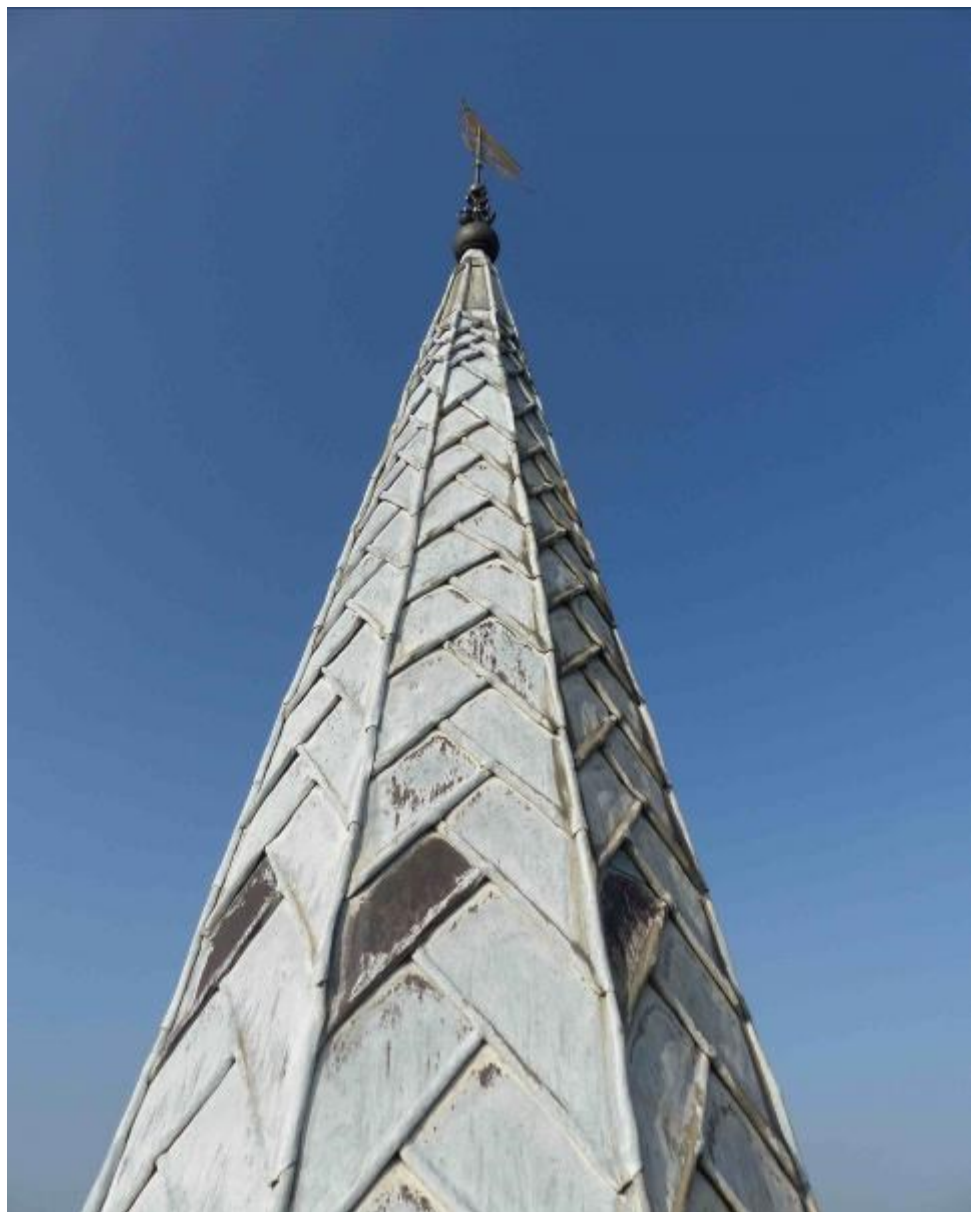
St Remigius Church is the 'Heritage Building' of the village requiring on-going maintenance. At the last quinquennial report it was estimated £150,000 would be required over a





**Trevor Radley on the embrasures.**





five year period to maintain the structure. This amount is over and above the annual running costs of the church which are approximately £75,000.

\* - The headline is taken from the Thomas Hardy novel of the same name.

# Hethersett Across The Fields



**If you have any unusual or interesting photographs of Hethersett we would be delighted to showcase them.**

**They can be e-mailed to the editor: at the address you can find elsewhere in this edition of Hethersett Herald.**

# From Hethersett to Paris



HETHERSETT residents are being urged to get on their bikes for a marathon 24-hour effort.

Residents are being asked to ride from Hethersett to Paris without leaving the village.

Hethersett's Summer Cycling Madness (Pedal to Paris) is being organised as a fundraising event for Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club.

The Hawks are encouraging recreational cyclists of all ages to get involved in the fun and help raise over £4000.

"The idea will be for members of the public to support us by contributing to completing at least 12,000 laps of the track on the Memorial Playing Field from 3pm on the 26th to 3pm on the 27th June. This equates to 381 miles, the equivalent of riding from Hethersett to Paris. We chose this number as it

coincides with the 2021 Tour de France." said Hawks' chairman Mel Perkins.

The 24-hours will be split into 30-minute slots with up to eight riders on the track at once, and a medal for everyone riding and raising funds.

"People might also enjoy a night-time ride under lights," Mr Perkins said, adding that some time slots on the Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning are being prioritised for family groups.

"We are inviting members of the community to ride as many laps as they can around the speedway track on their own bikes and donate or collect sponsorship with the money going towards our development plans at the track, which will also house the already popular Wonky Wheels Community Bike Workshop. The Workshop will be open to provide free bike checks and basic



repairs that may be needed.” Mr Perkins added.

“It’s a wonderful opportunity for the local community to come together and feel connected now that restrictions are being lifted. The village has supported “Run The Square” in recent years but it cannot happen this year, so why not come and Ride the Oval.”

The proposed Run The Square Funrun has been called off for the second year running due to problems with arranging public liability insurance.

Anyone wishing to take part in Hethersett Hawks’ marathon community cycle event can visit [www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk/pedal-to-paris](http://www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk/pedal-to-paris) for more information.

## Tuesday Trainers

HAWKS continue to have up to 30 members for its training sessions on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. The sessions are split into three 50-minute groups. There are still opportunities for newcomers on Saturday mornings and once a month there are taster sessions for all ages.

Cycle speedway events on the Memorial Playing Field in June:

Sun.20<sup>th</sup> Norfolk League—1 pm.

Sat. 26<sup>th</sup>- Sun 27<sup>th</sup> Pedal to Paris 24 hour marathon from 3 pm on 26th.

You can keep up to date with Hawks’ activities on the website [www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk](http://www.hetherssetthawks.co.uk) or via social media.

More Hawks news on page 54.



**Above are two photographs from Hethersett Hawks’ first competitive action for 18 months. You can read about how they got on by going to page 54.**

# Support Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway by joining the Hawks

## Supporters Club

Sign up to pay just £2 per month and have your membership number in a monthly draw for cash prizes

Just complete the simple form below and e-mail it to (Hethersetthawks@outlook.com) or send / deliver to Mel Perkins at 9 Meadow Close, Hethersett, Norwich, NR9 3DZ. Apply early and you could be able to get your favourite number if still available

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PRIZE DRAW

Applicants must be aged 18 or over

Applicants are limited to one membership number

Contributions can be made by cash, cheque or bank standing order / BACS to the Club's account

Contributions can be made monthly, half-yearly or annually

Monthly contribution must be in the Club's bank account by the last day of the month to be included in that month's draw

50% of monthly contributions will be awarded in prizes as follows –

1<sup>st</sup> prize – 50% of prize fund

2<sup>nd</sup> prize – 30% of prize fund

3<sup>rd</sup> prize – 20% of prize fund

Draws take place with at least three club committee members present as soon as possible after the end of each month.

List of winners will appear on the Club's website shortly after the draw and winners notified to arrange payment of prizes

Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club is licensed under the Small Society Lottery Licence through South Norfolk Council.

### HETHERSETT HAWKS CYCLE SPEEDWAY CLUB SUPPORTERS CLUB APPLICATION FORM

I wish to join the Hethersett Hawks Supporters Club

I have read and understand the Terms & Conditions of the monthly draws. I am aged 18 or over

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

E-MAIL ADDRESS.....

Please allocate my favourite number between 1 and 100 being.....

OR allocate me any number at random

I wish to pay my subscription as follows (please tick)–

Monthly(£2).....Half-Yearly(£12).....Annually(£24).....

I wish to pay my subscription by the following method (please tick)–

Cash.....

Cheque..... Made payable to Hethersett Hawks CSC

BACS or Standing Order..... Please provide me with details

Signed.....Date.....

Please e-mail this form to (Hethersetthawks@outlook.com) or send / deliver to Mel Perkins at 9 Meadow Close, Hethersett, Norwich, NR9 3DZ. On receipt of the form a membership number will be allocated for you and e-mailed to you together with, if required, the information needed to set up BACS / standing order.

# Hethersett's Summer Cycling Madness



## Pedal to Paris - Entry Form

Participant Name:

Email Address:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone Number:

Emergency Contact Name:

Emergency Contact Telephone Number:

Relevant Medical Conditions / Allergies:

Additional Participant Names (Family Entries Only):

If under 18, state ages:

Preferred Time Slot 1 (i.e. Sat 4:00 – 4:30):

Preferred Time Slot 2:

Preferred Time Slot 3:

Additional Comments *i.e. I'd like to ride for 3 hours in total.*



I confirm I have read and accept the [terms and conditions](#) of entry published on our website

Please email the completed entry form to [Hethersethawks@outlook.com](mailto:Hethersethawks@outlook.com)

We will contact you to confirm your entry and allocated time slot along with sending your sponsorship form.

Thanks you, and enjoy!

# £2021 for 2021

A pound for every day of the current year – that's the award received by Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club to help it with plans to improve facilities.

Hawks which has its track on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field, has been awarded £2,021 from Norfolk Community Foundation through its Made by Sport Fund. The money will go towards levelling and concreting the pits area and surrounds of the track, making it safer and more accessible for riders, visitors and spectators.

Norfolk Community Foundation (NCF) is an independent, registered charity that bridges the gap between those in need and those who can help.

Jenny Bevan, Head of Programmes for NCF, said: "Norfolk Community Foundation is delighted to support this much needed project that will make a real difference in the community. We wish them every success with their work."

The plans are just one of many track improvements planned for the coming year as club official Jenny Melvin explained:

"We are very grateful to the Norfolk Community Foundation for helping us on our journey and in just over a month, we aim to raise more funds with our 'Pedal to Paris' 24-hour event to enable the building of Hethersett Hawks new 'Nest'. It will provide much-needed facilities for our growing club, plus a space to house the popular Wonky Wheels Community Bicycle Workshop.

"Starting on Saturday 26th at 3pm, ending at 3pm on Sunday 27th June we need as many people as possible to contribute to completing over 12,000 laps of our track. By riding continuously for 24 hours we aim to cover the equivalent distance of Hethersett to Paris," Jenny said.

The Wonky Wheels Community Bicycle Workshop has already proved extremely popular, repairing and donating bikes to those in need in the community:

"We never thought that this initiative would be as popular as it has been. Public support has been fantastic. We have bikes coming in and going out and we are soon to start our group rides and instructor-led workshops," the club said on its Facebook page.

## Hawks Return to League Action

MEANWHILE Hawks got down to competitive action for the first time in over 18 months when they took part in the first round of Norfolk League fixtures organised locally before the regional league starts in July.

Three Senior teams took to the track at Eaton Park and it was the Spixworth

team - made up of those working hard to re-launch the club, two locally based Ipswich riders and a couple of ex-riders, who stormed to victory.

The Hawks had to make a late change, drafting in youth debutant Mason Martin, and also had on track Rob Silver making an impressive debut and comeback veteran Rod Burke.



A battle ensued for the minor places and at times it did resemble a battlefield with several restarts but good teamwork by Harley Hamill supporting sound heat leader performances from Leigh Cossey and Paul Delaiche saw the Hawks edge Norwich Stars out of second place by one point.

Results—Spixworth 105, Hethersett 83, Norwich 82. Hethersett Scorers—L. Cossey 20, P. Delaiche 19, H. Hamill 15, R. Silver 12, R. Burke 11, M. Martin 6.

The Youth match was just between Hethersett and Norwich and the Hawks side consisted of eight riders who had never raced a team match for the club before. Needless to say at times they were outwitted by more experienced youngsters of the home side but they really put up a tremendous effort.

Mason Martin spoiled the maximum hopes of all the Norwich riders by winning his first four rides before a heavy fall in his last ride.

All the others had good promising rides to build their experience ahead of the South-East Youth League later in the season but there was a big cheer for Lola Martin who won the final heat.

Result—Norwich 91, Hethersett 69. Hethersett scorers—M. Martin 17, A. Musa 13, L. El Labany 12, L. Martin 9, T. Silver 7, R. Harding 5, M. Pugh 4, J. Hankey 2.

The abundance of new riders achieved a club milestone - passing the 500 mark for riders who have represented the Hawks in team matches during the past 55 years!!

Match Two in the Norfolk League series is at Spixworth on June 6th (Youth 11.00; Seniors 13.00)

# Tina's Images of Nature



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**THE lovely photographs on this and the next few pages were shot in and around Hethersett by Tina Andrews and are reproduced with her permission.**

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**Really early five mile morning walk round Hethersett. Quite a lot about, but loved seeing the Whitethroat and Buzzard. The Muntjac was ok until he saw me then bolted**



Tina regularly post her photos of Hethersett and other places on Facebook.

We will have more of her excellent photographs in the next edition of Hethersett Herald.





# News From The Parish Council

## Meeting Dates

Full council meeting dates for the remainder of 2021 are as follows:

June 21st, July 19th, September 20th, October 18th, November 15th and December 20th' Council meetings begin at 7.30 pm. There is no full council meeting in August. Planning Committee meetings start at 7 pm on the following dates: June 7th and 21st, July 5th and 19th, August 2nd and 16th, September 6th and 20th, October 4th and 18th, November 1st and 15th, December 6th and 20th.

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 and full details of how to join are available on the website.

It is likely that meetings will recommence in Hethersett Village Hall from June.

## How To Contact The Parish Council

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

Parish clerk Annette Palmer can be contacted by telephone on 07902 322729 or via email at [hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk](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 page 60 along with contact details.

# News From The Parish Council

## What's In A Name?

THE answer to the question is quite a lot when it comes to local councils.

Following Government advice regarding social distancing, councils were given permission to hold meetings via the Zoom social media platform.

That permission came to an end on 7th May when it was directed that all meetings of the parish council with the exception of working groups had to be held face to face.

This decision was challenged through the High Court by Hertfordshire County Council and others but the appeal was turned down.

At Hethersett's annual parish council meeting on 6th May, arrangements were adopted to ensure that the parish council is able to function effectively short term.

This meant changing the status of council committees and re-designating them as working groups until 20th September. This will allow them to continue to be held remotely via Zoom.

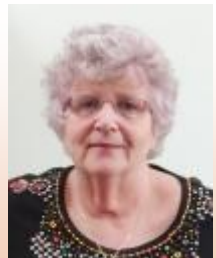
Meetings of the working groups will be temporarily open to the public, apart from the meetings of the Development, Property and Assets Management group. The planning committee will not change to a working party but will only be heard once a month on the third Monday ahead of full council meetings..

Meetings of the planning committee will be held face to face in Hethersett Village Hall from Monday 21st June.

The above arrangements will be reviewed by the full council on Monday 20th September.

### Chairman and Vice-Chairman Re-elected

Adrienne Quinlan and Stephen Slack were respectively re-elected as chair and vice-chair of Hethersett Parish Council at the annual meeting held in May.



# 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.**

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# 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

# Sarah's World

Sarah Lawrence continues her monthly column giving us her take on Hethersett life.

WE'RE free(ish)! Restrictions are at the lowest they've been in a long time, most adults have been vaccinated and we can legally hug again. We can do this!

My Husband and I are still patiently waiting for our turn to get the vaccine, but we're hopeful it will be soon. I don't enjoy injections, but I'll be racing to the clinic when my turn comes.

I'm most looking forward to going to the cinema believe it or not. A trip to the cinema is my absolute favourite thing to do, movies just don't look as good on the small screen. I'll never take those sticky floors for granted again.

While restrictions were tighter and we couldn't dine inside, my friend and I visited Café Kin at Rowan House on a rare, child-free morning. The sun was shining, but there were plenty of chairs outside to sit on and watch the world – more specifically Queen's Road – go by.

We popped inside to place our order (I opted for a hot chocolate and a slice of their delectable spiced apple cake) and took a seat. After a few minutes we were called over to the window for us to grab our food and drinks, and then we tucked in.

It was all delicious, as usual, but what really surprised me was how far they had gone to keep Kin Covid safe. From the soft plastic screen covering the till

area, to how we saw them repeatedly wiping over chairs and tables outside, just in that small amount of time we were outside. If you want an example of how a business has adapted its service during the pandemic for the good of its customers, Kin would be it. And, they did it all with smiles on their faces!

\* \* \*



The subject of litter was a hot topic at the last Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) meeting, held at the end of April. I, myself, have found that



# Sarah's World



litter is on the increase in our beautiful village. Some may argue that it's due to a lack of bins, I disagree.

There are plenty of bins located throughout Hethersett and, if you're not right next to one, just keep hold of your rubbish until you are. It's really not difficult. Evidence of this is the rubbish that is always lurking around the large Oak next to Tesco, where there are not one, but now two bins located mere steps away.

My children, unsurprisingly, are dead against litter. They can't understand why people would drop their rubbish instead of just waiting to get to a bin. I recently cleared up several days worth of smashed glass bottles at the end of

Henstead Road. In addition to being unsightly, broken glass is so dangerous for everyone walking, and that route is often used by children and dog walkers too. After publicising that particular spot on social media and reporting it to the local Beat Officer, touch wood, we haven't had the same problem since. Fingers crossed that continues.

During the HEAT meeting, the subject of resuming community litter picks was broached. This has been something we have wanted to start up again for months, but due to the restrictions that came with lockdown, it meant holding them safely and legally was impossible. However, thanks to Uncle Boris, restrictions are loosening which means we can start up again with precautions in place. Fantastic news! The date set for the next pick is Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June, so make sure to save the date. Obviously we'll be promoting it a lot more, nearer the time, on All Things Hethersett to keep it fresh in people's thoughts! This one looks to be an exciting one, with the staff of McDonalds at

# Sarah's World

Thickthorn coming down to join in the fun. It's been christened the Big McPick! I've included a photo of us litter pickers back in the good old days, I'm so looking forward to getting back to it.

My eldest daughter has just started going to Youth Club on Wednesday evenings at the Jubilee Hall on Back Lane, and she loves it. She attends the 5.45 – 7.15 session for children aged 9-11, but there's another session that runs later in the evening for ages 11+ from 7.30 – 8.45. It's something that she really looks forward to going to each week, well worth looking into if you have a child that always says that they're bored! It only costs £2 per week, payable on the night – well worth it in my eyes, for something to keep them busy. Don't forget about their Dog Show and Summer Fete happening on the 26<sup>th</sup> June too, from 12 – 3.30. Why not join the litter pick in the morning and make a full day of it?

Another thing that has just started up

again is 4<sup>th</sup> Hethersett Brownies, another group that my eldest daughter belongs to. The group is run by the lovely Brown Owl (Angela Butcher) who, with a team of adult helpers, keep a group of girls happy for an hour outside, every Tuesday evening at 7pm. No easy task!

Brownies is such a wonderful group that I'm proud that Amelia is part of. She has already filled her sash with badges she's earned, and we're now onto filling up the back and sleeves of her hoodie.

In fact, she's just earned her Bronze Award, and recently become a Sixer, so we're all very proud of her. We are very fortunate to have two Brownies groups in the village to keep up with demand for spaces, and a very good Rainbows unit too, that I hope Hattie will join once she's old enough.

To find out more, or register your interest for Girlguiding, visit [girlguiding.org.uk](http://girlguiding.org.uk). We've never looked back!



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## NEWS

### Plan to add 200 more houses to 1,196-home bid

DANIEL MORRIS  
Local Media specialist/retired

The developers behind an approved scheme to build almost 1,200 homes in a village near Norwich have applied to add an extra 200 homes to the total.

Perennium Homes and Taylor Wimpey were given outline permission to build 1,196 homes on the north side of Hethersett in July 2019.

The development also consisted of a new primary school and local amenities such as shops, small business units and community facilities like sports pitches, recreational spaces and a nature's nursery.

Phase one of the work is almost complete with 97 of the homes occupied as of January 2020. But now the developers want to add an extra 200 homes on 5.1 hectares of land already included in the initial plan.

In a statement prepared on behalf of Perennium and Taylor Wimpey, senior John Long, Planning said an "uplift" in the number of homes is necessary as "it has become evident that the developers will use less land than anticipated".

The uplift added around 20% of the extra new builds would be affordable homes, including an area used by the developers and 10 to 15 acres coming from the local authority.

If approved, the site for the additional homes would be part of phase four of the development. So far, initial works on phase two have begun and further reserved planners' applications for phase three are in the pipeline.

A spokesperson for the development consortium said: "We have listened extensively with both the parish and district councils on these proposals and, as the properties all fit within the existing development and density parameters, our development should not be a concern."

Northfolk Council's flood and water management team has objected to the plans "in the absence of an acceptable floodage strategy", but said it would review its comments if issues are addressed.

While in Hethersett residents have so far made an official comment to South Norfolk District Council on the proposed increase in homes, several villagers have



Trees and hedgerows on Little Meads Road in Hethersett have been cut down ahead of development on the land by Perennium and Taylor Wimpey

By Alan ANTHONY

voiced their concerns.

Christine Larkworthy, who has lived in the village for 46 years, said: "The residential development is ridiculous."

"We probably need a new doctor's surgery on the 200-acre site I linked with Congleton and Hethersett. Why should residents here have to travel to those surgeries because there are no available appointments here?"

"The roads through the village cannot cope with all the traffic now, with parking on the roads too."

Jo Wason said she was "very concerned" about the impact extra homes and residents would have on school places, and warned it could lead to siblings being split

up.

She said: "I live on the Hethersett/Wymondham border but my oldest goes to school in Hethersett. Loss of siblings didn't get in this year and we are now being trying to move to Hethersett in order to get our younger children in. Even then there is a chance they won't get into the school. I'm very worried about it."

"More children means a bigger fight for spaces. Children from the catchment are about siblings in the pecking order."

In contrast, Katie Clarkishaw, who moved into one of the completed homes on the wider development three weeks ago, said she thought it was a good thing. "I've just bought one and it's a great way for new home owners to buy where we've grown up and wouldn't necessarily be able to afford to stay within these new houses," she said.

Concerns have been raised over trees and hedgerows along Little Meads Road which have recently been cut down.

The spokesperson for Perennium and Taylor Wimpey said: "All tree and hedgerow removal work is being carried out



New houses being built in the north of Hethersett

By Alan ANTHONY

A sign against the new development in Hethersett



in accordance with the outline planning consent. The landscape proposals will, of course, seek to compensate for the loss of existing vegetation and provide a hedgeside network of green spaces that is attractive to both new and existing residents, and wildlife." Concerning the potential loss of allotment space,

the spokesperson said: "The approved outline planning application provided allotments in the strategic gap land and this remains the case."

Hethersett Parish Council discussed the application at back-to-back meetings in April. SNDC will consider the application in due course.

# News From The Media

News



The School of Dance holds classes five evenings per week at St Hilda's Church Hall in Helmsley.

Photo: STELLA A SCOTT OF TADCASTER

## Historic hall sale could leave dance school homeless

A historic 19th-century hall could be turned into two homes and sold off to fund "major work" on the village's church.

Helmsley Parochial Church Council (PCC) has applied for permission to convert St Hilda's Church Hall, with the intention of putting it up for sale.

"The village pastor, the Rev Derek McCrean, said the PCC had been hit by the financial impact of the pandemic, and added it had a responsibility to seek the planning permission.

**ALF ROBERTSON**  
Local Helmsley resident

He said: "The regulations around selling property belonging to the Parish - deeds held in trust by the Diocesan Board of Finance - mean that we aren't able to just accept any offer but must try to obtain the best possible value for that property."

"It is our local responsibility as a charitable organisation. "In order to get the best value for the property, we engaged Alfie to help us with the process. They have informed us that selling with planning permission will realise a better value for the property and we are, therefore, obliged to go with that understanding due to the aforementioned regulations.

"We are looking to finish redeveloping the West End of the Church building, a project begun 30 years ago."

As an unforeseen side-effect of any potential sale would be the need for the dance school which has run in the hall for 27 years to find a new home.



Left: St Hilda's Church Hall in Helmsley could be converted into two three-bedroom homes and sold off to fund repairs to St Hilda's Church. Photo: PCC/ALF ROBERTSON

Stella School of Dance holds 20 classes over five evenings per week, and was previously known as the 'Youme School of Dance' under the direction of Youme Curtis.

Owner Stella Grosinger said: "We have classes from ages six to 18 on two days a week and over 200 pupils aged from three to 65. "We have looked into finding an alternative venue in Helmsley but so far have been unsuccessful, if so late the hall we may have to move out of the village and it could put the whole school in jeopardy."

Mr McCrean said the PCC had kept the dance school informed "at every stage of the process", adding Mrs Grosinger "is more than welcome to make an offer for the property" when it goes on sale.

The planning application will be considered by South North Yorkshire Council.



Left: Stella Grosinger, owner of Stella School of Dance which operates at St Hilda's Church Hall in Helmsley. Photo: Stella Grosinger



The Rev Derek McCrean, vicar of Helmsley. Photo: ALF ROBERTSON



# News From The Media

## Prince, Sting and Bowie: The Norfolk man who worked with the stars

**By David Williams**



When Prince, Sting and Bowie were at the height of their fame, a Norfolk man was working with them. He is now a successful businessman and has written a book about his experiences.

David Williams, 65, of Norwich, has written a book called 'The Prince, Sting and Bowie Years' which details his time working with the three stars in the 1980s. Williams worked for the manager of the three stars, and was involved in their lives both on and off stage.

Williams says that working with the stars was a unique experience. He describes the pressure of working with such famous artists and the challenges of managing their schedules and egos. He also talks about the creative process and the behind-the-scenes work that goes into making a successful album.

The book is a memoir that provides an insider's view of the music industry during one of its most glamorous eras. It is a must-read for anyone who is a fan of Prince, Sting, or Bowie, or for anyone who is interested in the music business.



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## Housing growth a concern for GP services 'buckling' under strain

**By David Williams**



There are fears that the rapid increase in housing in the Hethersett area is putting a strain on GP services. Local residents are concerned that the growing population is making it difficult for the local GP surgery to keep up with demand.

The Hethersett GP surgery is one of the busiest in the area, and is currently facing a shortage of staff. This is due to a combination of factors, including the loss of experienced GPs and the need to recruit new staff. The surgery is also facing a shortage of premises, as the local housing market continues to grow.

Local residents are concerned that the growing population is making it difficult for the local GP surgery to keep up with demand. They are calling for the local council to take action to address the problem. The council is currently reviewing the situation and is expected to make a decision in the next few months.



## Football club fears vandalism could stop expansion plans

**By David Williams**



A football club is worried that vandalism could stop its expansion plans. The club is currently in the process of building a new stadium, but is concerned that the local community might be opposed to the project.

The club has been working hard to secure funding for the new stadium, but is facing a number of challenges. One of the biggest concerns is the possibility of vandalism. The club is worried that the local community might be opposed to the project, and that this could lead to acts of vandalism.

The club is currently in the process of building a new stadium, but is concerned that the local community might be opposed to the project. The club is currently in the process of building a new stadium, but is concerned that the local community might be opposed to the project.

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## Parish Clerk's Marathon Effort Update By Annette Palmer

By the end of 13th June, I hope to have successfully completed the Broads Walk Challenge - walking 90km (56 miles) in 24 hours. When I signed up for the challenge in January, my children said I was



totally mad and I'm finally starting to agree with them! Adrenaline, determination and not letting my chosen charities (Finnbar's Force and CLIC Sargent) down is what is going to get me through the 24 hours of sheer exhaustion and very tired feet! Thank you to everyone who has already sponsored me - its still not too late. If you haven't and would like to sponsor me please visit

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AnnettePalmer4>



# Hethersett Herald—The Collection

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**HETHERSETT Herald began life as Hethersett Online in November, 2015, and has been produced monthly ever since.**

**The first edition ran to just 12 pages and had as its main story the theft of lead from the roof of Hethersett Parish Church.**

**Originally the publication was just called Hethersett Online but later changed its title to Hethersett Herald in May, 2016, with edition seven and we have been going from strength to strength ever since.**

**You can read back copies of Hethersett Herald by going to [www.hethersettherald.weebly.com](http://www.hethersettherald.weebly.com)**

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## Back On Screen In The Autumn

HETHERSETT Village Screen will be back in the Autumn (subject to no further lockdown restrictions).

The new season will begin on 5th September and other dates will be on the first Sunday of each month through to May.

These will be—3rd October, 7th November, 5th December, 2nd January, 6th February, 6th March, 3rd April and 1st May. All films will take place in Hethersett Village Hall at 3 pm and tickets will be £4.50 each.

“Whilst we can't show films at the moment, we are planning for when we can! We're pleased then to announce provisional dates for 2021/22, showing films on the first Sunday of every month from September through to May.

“We know that seems like a way off yet, but we look forward to welcoming you back to the Village Hall as soon as we can, for more film fun. Until then, take care everyone,” the organisers said on Facebook

The actual programme will be announced in the future. Watch this space.

# 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



It was as if The War of the Worlds was being re-enacted across the fields between Hethersett and Great Melton. Chapter 12 of the novel by H.G. Wells talks about the destruction of Weybread and Shepperton. These towns burn on the horizon whilst the invaders (represented by the pylons) continue their unrelenting march forward.



# My Photographic Diary *by John Head*



**Light comes to Hethersett and the invaders continue their march forward.**



# My Photographic Diary *by John Head*



**Dawn explodes  
across the Heth-  
ersett skies at 5.45  
am.**

**“Sun comes up like  
lightning over Tan-  
dle Hills Grey” - Mill  
Boys by Barclay  
James Harvest.**

**“an’ the dawn come  
up like thunder outer  
China ‘crosst the  
bay!” (‘Mandalay’  
Rudyard Kipling)**



## HETHERSETT HERITAGE

AN ARCHIVE OF OUR VILLAGE HISTORY

### THE HETHERSETT ARCHIVE

Honorary archivist Gary Wyatt brings us more images from the archive. You can see many more at <https://hethersettheritage.org>

Wymouth and Littleborough Mercury, Friday, October 3, 1984

### HETHERSETT NEWS

## COUNCIL CLERK FOR 11 YEARS RETIRES

AFTER more than 11 years as clerk of Hethersett Parish Council, Mr. George Schroeder has retired, and on Sunday a reception was held in his honour.

Mr. Humphrey Buck, chairman of the parish council, presented Mr. Schroeder with a cheque.

Mrs. Pat Bond, in whose home the reception was held, presented Mrs. Lucy Schroeder with a floral arrangement.

Mr. Mack said he did not think anybody would have asked Mr. Schroeder to do this for celebration, and it was a great occasion to see almost a 100 per cent turnover from members of the parish council.

In his reply, Mr. Schroeder pointed to the help he had always received from council members and in particular from the present chairman, Mr. Buck, and his predecessor, the late Mr. Robert Robinson.

**"SAD FOR ME"**

"It is a sad day for me, and I don't enjoy working now," Mr. Schroeder said.

The new clerk, Mr. M. Donald Bond, who lives at Little Barton Road

Hethersett Parish Council are now writing for the usual range of prices for Farnham and Hethersett street houses.

Members and friends were welcomed by the newly-elected Mrs. Michael Bond.



**Service for disabled**

Hethersett Parish Council are now writing for the usual range of prices for Farnham and Hethersett street houses.

Members and friends were welcomed by the newly-elected Mrs. Michael Bond.

**LEFT TO RIGHT**

1 JEAN BACK	11 MRS JARVIS
2	12 MRS CAPLETON
3 PETER BOND	13 HAROLD FURNER
4 HUMPHREY BUCK	14 MR PARKER
5 JULIET SALTER	15 MR CAPLETON
6 MRS SHROEDER	16 MRS PARKER
7 PETER SALTER	17 WALLY TYACK
8 GEORGE SHROEDER	18 IRENE DOORE
9 NICK JARVIS	19 DONALD DOORE
10 PAT BOND	

**Gift for retiring secretary**

The Hethersett meeting of Hethersett Mothers' Union ended with the retiring secretary, Mrs. G. Ong, and presented her with a gift in appreciation of her services.

The chairman, with the exception of Mrs. Ong, was escorted with the welcome of Mrs. M. Laidley, Mrs. C. Mack and Mrs. A. Palmer.

A note "Do you know your fellow parishioners" concludes the evening.

This cutting from the local media recognised the retirement of parish clerk George Schroeder in 1984. Many older residents will recognise some faces.



# HETHERSETT HERITAGE



# HETHERSETT HERITAGE



**IF you have any stories, information or photographs you would like to see appearing in Hethersett Herald please send them to the editor Peter Steward at [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net).**

**We are happy to publish articles about the village and also articles of a more general nature written by Hethersett residents.**

# HETHERSETT HERITAGE



Canon John Still was Rector of Hethersett in 1903. He was also an honorary canon of Norwich Cathedral and died in St Remigius Church in 1914 after celebrating at the altar

# Down Memory Lane

## Pancakes Galore at Fundraiser

*By John Head*

The photographs are of a Pancake Fundraising Day for new toilets for St Remigius Church. These are the existing toilets. The photographs were

taken in February 1990. Older residents may remember some of those featured here.

We will tell you just who is in the photographs in the July edition of Hethersett Herald although we can confirm that the man tossing the pancake on the next page is village stalwart Duncan Pigg.





# Down Memory Lane





# Then came the Anglo Saxons

Lewis Buckingham continues his wander through Hethersett's early history.

WHETHER it was a hostile takeover, or friendly, what is clear is that by the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries an Anglo Saxon "Productive Site" had grown up just to the West of the ruins of Venta Icenorum (you may remember that this was just next to present day Caistor St Edmund).

It sat just across the silted River Tas at the head of a westward running road then ran past the Southern edge of Hethersett. It also sat at the top of Pye Road, a road that ran South to Colchester. And do you remember last month when I mentioned a short piece of road than ran northwest from Venta Icenorum? It was their solution to the silting if the River Tas, and ran to a second small landing place for the town. Well that also ran straight from this Anglo Saxon site.

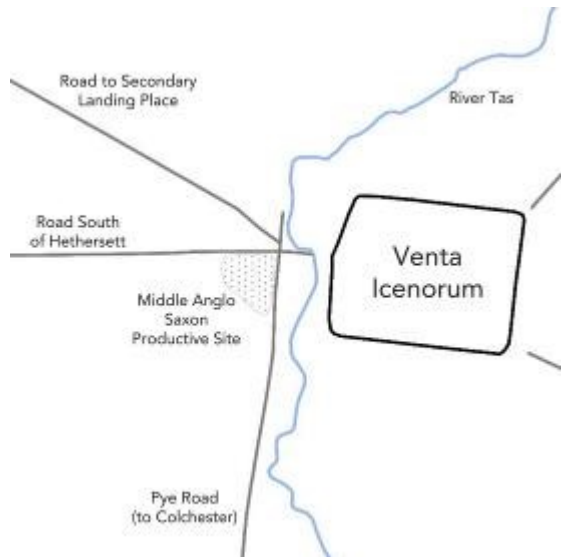
So all in all it was a very good place for people with something to sell. Finds of brooches and coins have led scholars to believe that they were producing metalwork here.

So why am I talking about Anglo Saxons that lived near Caistor St Edmund?

To understand how I think Hethersett came into being, we have to avoid falling into the mental image of it growing from some central place and expanding outwards. This is how villages grow nowadays, but it's not necessarily how they came into being.

It's about focus.

There was no central church about which the village could grow, and there was no Norwich. So there was no main Turnpike from either Wymondham or Melton to Norwich. There was, however, a main road that ran directly inland from this Anglo Saxon site that sat outside the walls of Venta Icenorum. The



## Roads from Venta Icenorum



**Name meanings for the region around Hethersett (water features in blue)**

'wic' in later Norwich represents a market or industrial site, so you could see this unnamed place outside the walls of the old Roman town as a precursor to Norwich.

And as Hethersett would later be focussed around the Turnpike to Norwich, in earlier days, it makes sense that the locals would have been focused upon the Roman Road that lay south.

In the Norfolk fens, there was a pattern of occupation where people ventured out along the low ridges in the land and built their farms there. In between was fenland, great for catching game, but not so good for cultivation of crops. Much of the lower lying land in the time of the Anglo Saxons would have been more akin to fenland than the fields we know today, and it is the example of the fens that may guide our ideas of how Hethersett came into being.

We can see how wet this part of Norfolk was if we look at the names of some of the villages that surround Hethersett (all taken from a brilliant site called the Key to English Place-Names - <http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/> ):

**Colney** - Cola's Island

The 'ey' is from "ēg" (Anglian) - "Island" most frequently referring to dry ground surrounded by marsh.

**Wymondham** - Wigmund's Homestead/Village or Wigmund's hemmed in land

The "ham" is from either:

**hām** (Old English) A village, a village community, a manor, an estate, a home-stead.

**hamm** (Old English) Land hemmed in by water or marsh (perhaps also by high ground); a river-meadow; cultivated plot on the edge of woodland or moor.

**Wramplingham** - The "ham" as above (the first part is perhaps a place description)

**Ketteringham** - As above - Cytra's village or hemmed in Land.

The firmer - and higher - land was to the south and the north of where Hethersett coalesced. Roman Roads ran in both places and we have place names that seem to have been more established by the time that names stuck: The "tun" in East Carleton, Mulbarton, Swardeston and Dunston to the south, and the Meltons to the North refers to enclosures or farmsteads.

"Tun" is an Early English word, which also leads me to believe that these towns began, or were more established, a little earlier than Hethersett. As we go, you'll see that most of the older names that still exist in the landscape of Hethersett are derived from Old Danish, and so must have been named later.

So when we think of early Hethersett, we need to think of a general expansion from the existing roads and settlements that lay to the north and south. Eventually they centred themselves somewhere around where St Remigius Church now sits.

So let me describe a few little hamlets that appear to have grown up on the wetland boundaries in Hethersett

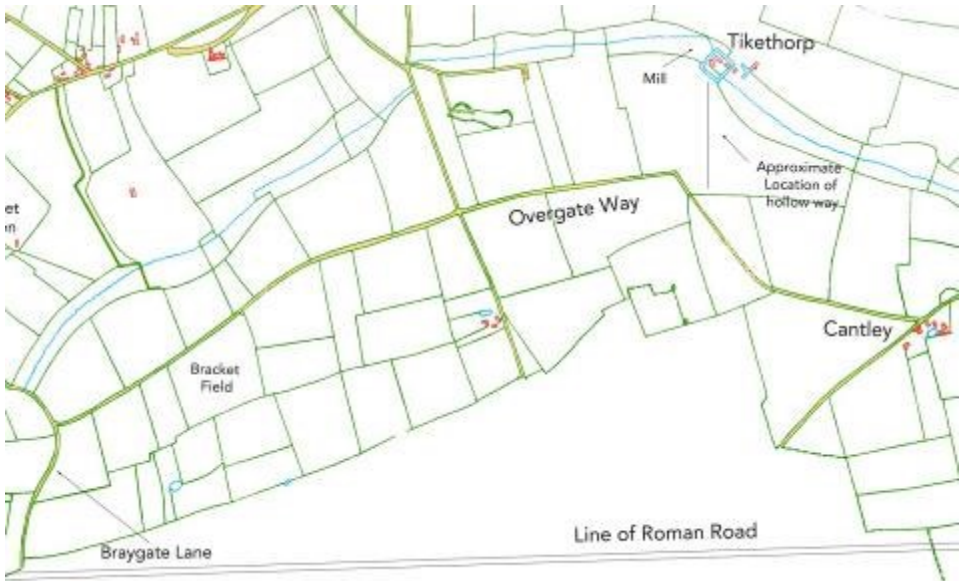
### **The Hamlet of Tikethorp**

If you look at the map over the page, you will see that Overgate Way (present day Suckling Lane) respects both the Roman Road to its south and the watercourse to its north.

Originally, it was not a road that ran parallel to the turnpike in Hethersett. It was instead a road that ran north of the Roman Road through Ketteringham. The later controversy over grazing rights between the Lords of Thickthorn and of Ketteringham may have had its origins in a gradual shift of perspective from an outlook towards the south, to one that looked north towards the turnpike.

Looking closely, you may notice that the hedges to both north and south of Overgate Way respect it. By that I mean that you can't see any cases where an old field was "cut off" and a corner sits lonely across the way from the rest of the field. You also don't see any field lines that simply continue on over the road as if the road has been pushed through existing farmland. At the very least, we can say that Overgate Way has to pre-date the field systems there.

By the time of Domesday, the Saxons had a watermill in Hethersett - most likely on this watercourse. This was probably the basis for what became the moated



### Overgate Way and Tikethorp (from map of 1800)

site of Thickthorn Hall. A Hollow way has been recorded by English Heritage that lies somewhere between Suckling Way and Thickthorn, and may well be the main road that led to Thickthorn - once again radiating from the south where the Roman Road ran, and not from the north.

A hamlet of Thickthorn was described as late as the early 1700s, and as early as the 1290s there were people who described themselves as "of Thickthorn" or "of Tikethorp".

"Tik" hasn't a clear meaning, though it could well be related to "Thick", but the early **'thorp'** is from the Old Danish.

•**þorp** (Old Norse) *A secondary settlement, a dependent outlying farmstead or hamlet (my italics).*

That strange looking initial letter is called a thorn, and gives a soft "th" sound like in the word "thin".

The idea that this was a secondary settlement makes me wonder where this primary settlement was?

The mill was set up where the water was, and it makes sense that a hamlet would have grown up around the mill. The mill would have needed people to both run it and to provide it with grain to grind.

Perhaps the local Lord had his Manor House and chapel somewhere more convenient to the main road. But where was this main settlement? It must have lain somewhere south, near the main Roman Road, and I have a few ideas about this that I'll discuss next month.

With the watercourse dammed for the mill, the marshes below would have dried out somewhat, giving way to heather, and thorns. It was great land upon which to raise sheep, and perhaps an enterprising lord would have eventually relocated to the perfect site for a moated manor at Tikethorpe.

### **The Hamlet of Bray**

You may remember Bracket Lane from some of my earlier articles about Pump Hall.

Nowadays it's known as Ketteringham Lane.

Some early references call it Braygate Lane. It isn't hard to imagine how over time Braygate became Brackett. Now Bray can mean "Broad area" (among other things), and despite the similarity with our own word, "gate" means street.

The "gate" in "Braygate" is actually Old Danish, which dates this name to the Danelaw period, just like the original "Tikethorpe" above for Thickthorn.

In a similar vein, a "Babbergate Way" - probably "Bawbugh Street" - still ran north from "Brackett Green" in the 1600s.

Braygate didn't head in a great diagonal line directly towards Braymeadow, as the lower land was still quite boggy and marshy. Instead it headed up along pretty much the present line of Ketteringham Lane to where it met the turnpike.

Until 1800, there was a Green there called Brackett Green, which would make sense as it was an open area where Braygate met the main road to Norwich. This probably grew up later on, as of course there was no road to Norwich in the very early days.

Until the enclosure in 1800, Bracket Green stood almost at furthest point west on the turnpike before you hit the Great Common. It was a large tongue of unclaimed land between Hethersett and Wymondham, that would probably have lain unclaimed throughout the history of the area before that date.

Braygate would have probably followed the path of the later Turnpike more or less North East, before turning North, in order to make its way around the watercourses and marshy ground in between. It's hard to say exactly what route it took, but this was a lane that likely joined to another road that led from Melton through Beckhithe.

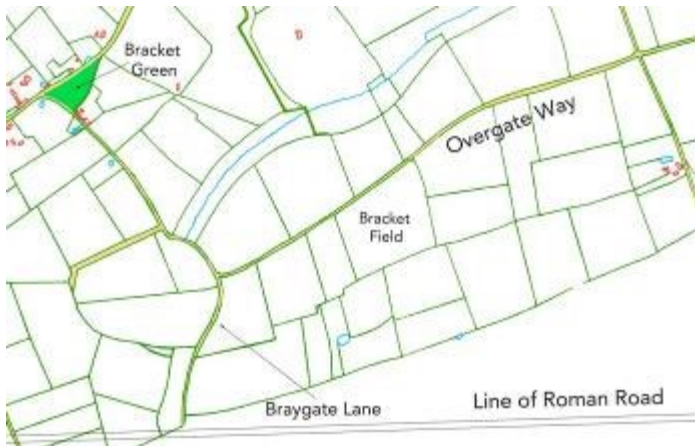
Now Bray Street implies that it leads to a Broad Area, or perhaps a place that was named Bray because it sat in a broad space. Funnily enough, we have a Braymeadow in Hethersett to this day.

Until 1800 there was a Braymeadow Common, which implies people lived nearby and had made use of the land for quite some time. A Common was a neces-



sary part of land cultivation for any village or hamlet in the middle ages. And on the other side of the coin, if there was no village, there was normally no need for a Common, so it implies that there must have been a village or hamlet nearby.

The long area labelled Braymeadow Common in the map below actually follows the line of a shallow valley, where water once ran. My hypothetical village of Bray sat on its southern edge. It was at the end of a broad reach of land that reached out into the marshes. Tikethorp lay south, the River Yare lay east and what became the common would have been marshy ground just north.



**Braygate Lane and Green (from map of 1800)**

As late as the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, in addition to Braymeadow Common, there were large enclosures in that area named Braymeadow Six Acres, Braymeadow Pightle, Lower Braymeadow, and Upper Braymeadow.

Braymeadow Common, being lower than the other fields, would have been marsh during the Danelaw. This would have been an ideal common pace, as reeds could be gathered for roofing, and birds, fish and other animals caught to supplement their meals.

Farming started out without enclosed fields. Enclosures came along when people began to carve out their own pieces of land. The fields marked in green on the map would have been part of a much larger Common Field. A Common Field differed from a common, as it was used for agriculture. Being common, though, all decisions on crop rotations were made together, and everybody could then graze their animals on the fields in winter when they were no longer in use.



**Wet lower land around Bray Meadow and Thickthorn**

Of even more interest is that there is a small bit of toft and croft happening there. It's hard to give an absolute age to them, but you can see Colney Road cuts through the lower corners of two of the crofts, so the crofts preceded that particular road.

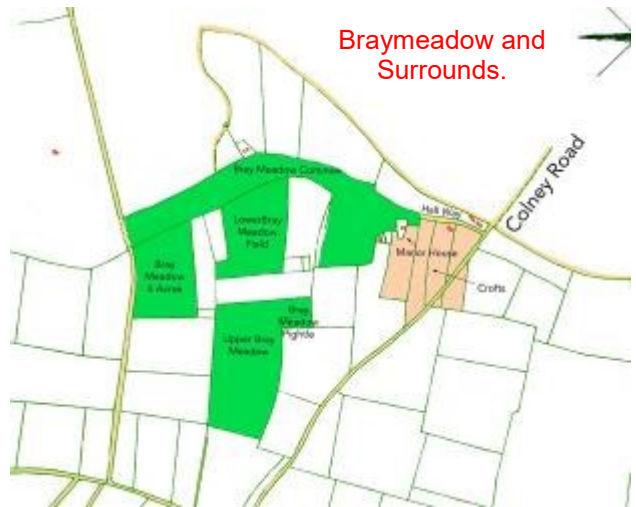
As you follow Colney Road south, you'll also notice that, although the larger enclosures there do have corners cut off of them, none of them continue over the road. These fields would have been hedged after Colney Road went through. The funny cut off corners are because, although the fields were not previously enclosed by hedges or walls, they were likely being farmed in Common in strips. The common fields - probably those belonging to the villagers in the tofts and crofts - had been cut through at some time when the land there was still all open. The strips to either side, though had still been farmed. Over time, as landholders accumulated collections of contiguous strips and enclosed them, the original alignments across the roads would have shifted.

I'm not just going off naming evidence for my thoughts on a hamlet called Bray. We also have an interesting reference in 1706 to Widow Chapman, who lived in the "Manor House" adjoining Braymeadow Common. A way named Hall Way lead there from Colney Road.

So we have evidence of a Manor House, tofts and crofts, a Common, Common Fields and a Road that was named for the Manor.

That sounds like a Hamlet named Bray to me.

On a side note, Brackett Green, eventually had its own gathering of homes around its edges. They probably all grew later as the Norwich Road came to be. One of the Flowerdews in Elizabethan times was known as Thomas Flowerdew of Brackett, so it could be that Brackett Green was eventually also thought of as a place in its own right, if not a hamlet itself.



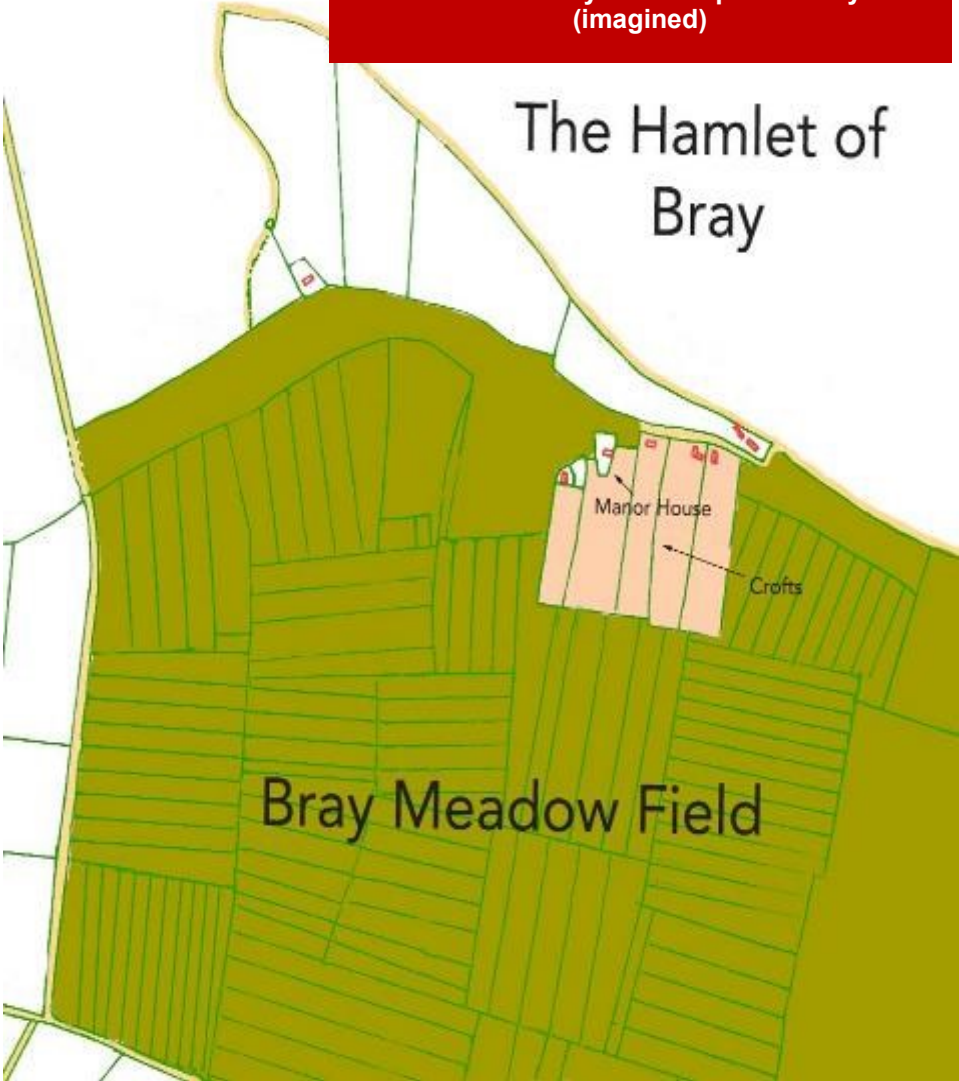
So now we have three hamlets - those of Beckhithe, Braymeadow and Thickethorn.

Next month we'll talk about one more hamlet - perhaps the most important of them all. You see this one had an Old English name, so was older than the three above. It had a church, and it sat at the junction of two main roads and a

ford in a river. It also sat just south of the satellite hamlet of Thickthorn and its water mill.

In a month we'll track back a little in time to before the Danelaw, to what may have been the first "centre" of Hethersett - Cantley.

**The Hamlet of Bray and its open field system (imagined)**



# News From Hethersett Hall Care Home

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## Charlotte Govier and Emily Parden look back on the past month at Hethersett Hall

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### Toddler Time

We had the most wonderful morning meeting some of our lockdown babies through Friend in Deed.

The relaxed session involved mums chatting about their little ones and we also had some dinosaur noises and stories from their big brothers and sisters.

This has proved to be a very difficult year for everyone, especially those in care homes and we have been extremely lucky to have the fantastic support and connection with little visitors from Friend in Deed.

We can't wait to meet all our friends again, including new ones!



# News From Hethersett Hall Care Home



## **An Afternoon Tea for the Queen's 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**We celebrated Her Majesty the Queen's 95th birthday and St George's Day all in one with an afternoon tea.**

**Our fantastic chef made fruit and cheese scones as well as Millionaire's Shortcake, which all smelled delightful!**

**Coffee and tea were served also and residents enjoyed drinking from bone china tea sets and wearing party hats and waving flags to celebrate.**

**While they enjoyed a scone we showed the Queen's Coronation and funny moments via YouTube which had us smiling all afternoon.**



# News From Hethersett Hall Care Home

## VE Day

Outside it may have been raining but in our home it was entertaining!

V E Day was celebrated in style here at the Hall as we welcomed back entertainers for the first time in over a year.

Kitty Collins performed all the well-known songs from the 1940s and some 50s too.

Residents enjoyed bopping along and fervently waving flags to all their favourites. What a wonderful afternoon.



## Reminiscing Quiz

Residents had a lovely afternoon taking part in a 1950s reminisce quiz which was hosted by Kelly from Friend in Deed.

There were interesting conversations around each answer and residents thoroughly enjoyed sharing their memories of that particular time.

We enjoyed another trip down memory lane later during the week, fishing with a reminiscing twist.

After hooking a fish (not real fish, just wooden ones) residents then picked a question relating to the number on the back.

Each question was designed to take them back to the past and stir great memories of times gone by as well as creating good conversation.

# News From Hethersett Hall Care Home



## Terrific Trip Out

**Our residents enjoyed their first trip out in over a year earlier this month.**

**We made our way to Whitlingham Country Park where we stopped right next to the lake and had a takeaway coffee while watching the wildlife.**

**On the return journey, we swung by Cringleford for a short tour as it held some dear memories for one of our residents who was thrilled to spot the Cringleford sign as we rounded a bend.**

# Memories of Senior Duo

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**Woodcote Sheltered Housing scheme's manager Stephen Baxter produces a regular newsletter for residents. Earlier this year he featured two of the older residents—Ivy Thraxton who is 102 and her friend Doris Smith who is 99. Having clocked up over 200 years between them, they spoke to Stephen about their memories. We are delighted to carry this article with kind permission of Stephen and Woodcote.**

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We caught up with the immaculately coiffed Ivy Thraxton, who at 103 is the elder of the “two old birds”, and her “bestie” Doris Smith, a mere 99

Both of our ladies lived through World War Two, while Ivy was born a matter of days after the end of the first and then called Great War.

She of course would also have been a baby and toddler through much of the Spanish Flu pandemic which killed an estimated 20-50 million people before it faded away in the spring of 1920.

Ivy spent the war, while her husband was away in the Army, cleaning at Nor-

wich High School, walking there from Hethersett every day with her friend. Once the air raid sirens went off and, while her friend wanted to go home, Ivy insisted on going on. When they got there they found the school deserted as all the pupils had gone to the shelters. Fortunately, no bombs fell and the pair lived to tell the tale!

Ivy was born and spent a happy childhood in Stoke Holy Cross a village east of Hethersett and about the same distance from Norwich. The village was about the same size as Hethersett then and she still has friends who still live there. She worked as a cleaner and met her husband to be, the son of family friends in Hethersett. She is somewhat coy about how they eventually got together, saying only "well he was there when we visited and I sat there and eventually my mother asked if we were together and I thought why not." Not the most romantic start, but they set up home in a cottage in Little Melton, moving to a cottage in Hethersett and eventually building their own bungalow in Lynch Green. "You knew everyone who lived here back then.

Ivy has many happy memories of life in the village and has seen many changes in her lifetime. "I was taken in a car round by Back Lane and saw all the new houses and I thought it's like a whole little town being built."

Agriculture was of course at the centre of life in the village, but Ivy tells of many more changes, a big coal yard operated in Lynch Green, owned and run by a Mr Butler and his two sons. "They delivered coal all over the place, far and wide," she says. Where Tasty Bites is now and reaching right back to where houses now stand was a bakery that also delivered all over South Nor-

folk. She also remembers the Post Office on the corner where the charity shop is now. Round the corner toward Back Lane was the doctors' surgery where three doctors looked after the people of the village.

Doris meanwhile had a much tougher life. Her father, who was Polish, abandoned her, her brother and their mother to their fate when he left London to go home. She was born Eullianna Dobchinsky in London's North Woolwich, where life was hard and her mother struggled to clothe and feed her young family, once shouting at Eullianna for asking for a half penny pocket money. Eullianna became Doris when she went to school and her mother told her to change it because no one would be able to spell her given one. Doris says life became easier when she was able to work when she left school at 14 and Ivy agreed heartily. She eventually married and moved out to Chingford where she spent her happily married life.

It's 1986 and in Hethersett, recently widowed Ivy, having spent three years living alone in the Lynch Green bungalow, began to find it too much. Her daughters looked at Woodcote, a new sheltered housing scheme, which was being built by Broadland Housing Association, nearby and suggested it. She soon moved in as one of the first tenants. Up in London, Doris was finding life lonely and decided to move to be with her daughter, who had also heard good things about Woodcote and once again Doris moved in a year or two after Ivy.

Our two ladies are now ensconced near to each other in their new flats and quickly become firm friends, you could even say inseparable. They go

everywhere together and of course Doris was there to console Ivy when she sadly lost one of her daughters last year.

Despite that loss Ivy says that she has been very happy during her years at Woodcote, while Doris says that her move here is the best thing that ever happened to her. Next time you see them say hello and even stop for a chat, remembering that they are both very deaf! They are our very own comedy duo and the best double act since Morecombe and Wise. We hope that you will join us when we say that we look forward to continuing to enjoy their company in the coming years.

**Stephen Baxter**

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TWO members of the Hethersett Herald team have a close link with a Second World War massacre in northern France.

On 27th May, 1940, 99 men from the Royal Norfolk Regiment, the Royal Scots and other regiments surrendered to German troops in the hamlet of Le Paradis. They were marched along the road into a farmyard where they were massacred. Only two survived—Private William “Bill” O’Callaghan from Dereham and Private Bert Pooley from London. They were instrumental in hunting down the Nazi responsible for giving the order to fire.

John Head (Herald columnist) and Peter Steward (Editor) are members of the Le Paradis Commemoration Group and Peter is a trustee of the Le Paradis Memorial Fund.

There are a number of memorials in France to those who died but nothing in the United Kingdom (until now).

On May 27th, the 81st anniversary of the massacre, a permanent memorial was unveiled in Norwich Cathedral Close. You can read all about this on the massacre’s website at [www.leparadismassacre.com](http://www.leparadismassacre.com)






# HOW TO CONTACT US

HETHERSETT & MULBARTON Safer Neighbourhood Team



 **A/Insp. Dave BURKE**  
Local Policing Commander

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




101 Ext: 4151



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



 **PC Andy HUDSON**  
Engagement Officer

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

Contact them for local enquiries that affect your neighbourhood.




101 Ext: 2377



[Andrew.Hudson@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:Andrew.Hudson@norfolk.police.uk)



 **PC Chris BODEN**  
Beat Manager

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

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



101 Ext: 2955



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

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

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

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



**NORFOLK**  
CONSTABULARY  
*Our Priority is You*



# **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 five 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 July edition of Hethersett Herald will be online at the end of June.**

**News, features and photographs should be with the editor by June 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)**

## 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.

# Hethersett Health with Rowan House

**By Brett Rennolds**

I am fortunate to be a member of the Rowan House community, all the staff and therapists at Rowan House are committed to supporting you on your well-being journey. Being a member of such a dedicated community is both humbling and affirming. As a 'one-man-band' psychotherapist it can be a professionally lonely experience, compounded still further by the 18 months we have all had to traverse, so in accepting I am a small part of a larger community, I am empowered to commit to action, for myself and my clients, as we all traverse out of lockdown and return to normal.

What does community spirit mean to you? Community spirit is that innate connection we all seek to something larger than ourselves. Social connectivity, aka relationships, is fundamental in meeting our psychological needs. Relationships connect us to the community in which we live, unite rather than divide and provide an environment in which to flourish. Social connection is the essential vehicle to becoming part of a tribe, a tribe that shares our values, that sustains us throughout the 'good and the bad' and remains an enduring source of comfort and validation for our life.

Research tells us that social connectivity is an essential component of good mental health. With the third milestone of the Government's roadmap being met we can now look forward to June 21st and things returning to normal. If this societal expectation being placed on you is causing you concern, an increased sense of frustration, fear or sadness; you are not alone.

The isolation, that inevitably came with lockdown, necessitated many of us to shut down our social connections as we could no longer rely on them as our community retreated further from view. This, neurologically, was an essential survival mechanism many will have adopted, however the question now presents – do you want to socially re-connect?

This is a primary question that when answered honestly to yourself indicates where you reside on a wellbeing scale. Try doing this for yourself – on a scale of 1-10, 10 being 'bubbling over with excitement' to 1 unable to leave your house when you consider how much you want to socially re-connect? Scaling is a useful and simple way to take your 'emotional pulse'. You can ask yourself any number of benchmarking questions. These questions provide you with a platform for acceptance and commitment to action.

'How happy are you?' 1 being sad all the time 10 being the best day you ever had!

"How motivated are you?" 1 being can't get out of bed 10 being the most fulfilled

you've ever been.

'How angry are you? 1 being overwhelming rage 10 being able to rationalise the cause of the frustration.

If when you conduct this exercise for yourself you score 1-4, know that this is the first step to acceptance, acceptance of where you sit at that moment in time.

This score is not permanent it is your current wellbeing 'balance'. In accepting the current situation you are more empowered to commit to action and do something about it. This is how we foster agency in our lives, for we must know where we are starting from. If you scale yourself 1-4 it is a strong indicator that feelings are too often overwhelming and consequently identifying solutions to move from a 3-5 can be challenging. That said it gives you a baseline and a baseline provide us with evidence of progress.

Please accept that in no way does this process negate the very real lived experience that scales you 1-4 however, there are things that can be done to redress the momentum and start to move up the scale and back to that best version of yourself. If you are a 3 the next question to ask yourself is what do you need to do [now] to move from a 3-3.5, what will be different for you when you want to social connect a bit more? By committing to action you can train your mind to notice, savour and value that a small step, regardless of whether it is 0.1 or 1, any movement to the positive is to be noticed, savoured and valued.

With application and, for some, therapeutic help, solutions that are right for you can be identified and in doing so, a positive mindset can be fostered, manifesting as an ability to accept and commit to action.

Rowan House has a dedicated community of therapists for you to choose from offering a diverse range of treatments and therapies committed to helping you be that best version of you.

In engaging with the Rowan House community, you too can become part of something bigger than yourself, for you will no longer be facing these challenges alone you will have accepted and committed to action. In accepting that help would help, you have been brave enough to accept that at this moment in time you cannot do it alone and in retaining a member of the Rowan House wellbeing community you have committed to action.

Each therapist will explain how they work individually, but it remains your decision. A decision to engage is representative of your acceptance and commitment to action, an action that will return you to that better version of yourself.

With Rowan House opening up as of May 17th, this is a fantastic opportunity to re-connect with our wellbeing community. Ask yourself what do you want to be different as you approach June 21st? Look to reach out to any one of our therapists to decide which is right for you and in so doing, begin fostering a positive therapeutic relationship that makes that difference to the quality of your life and those important to you.



# Hethersett Matters



## COVID-19 VACCINE FACT CHECK



The COVID-19 vaccine will always be available free of charge.



The NHS will never ask you to share bank details to confirm your identity.

# 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). Currently all council meetings are being held on the zoom social media platform.

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)



THE weather in May was very disappointing with it probably being the wettest May on record. The temperature was also unseasonably low. This did slow down the growth of many plants, but the weeds certainly seem to thrive in the damp conditions. There are plenty of jobs to be getting on with in the garden this month.



- Harden off any remaining half-hardy bedding plants ready for planting out.
- Keep on top of weeding. Your plants shouldn't have to compete for precious water, light, and nutrients.
- Check plants daily and water them if the soil is dry — especially newly planted fruit trees and shrubs that are still getting established.

## In the Flower Garden

- Harden off and move hanging baskets and containers growing in the greenhouse into their final position. If your hanging basket plants become leggy, trim off the excess to encourage bushy new growth.
- Continue to thin out drifts of hardy annual plants if they're overcrowded.
- Lift and divide clumps of snowdrops and bluebells once the leaves start to yellow.
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of flower bulbs and tubers.
- Wait for bulb foliage to die down naturally before cutting back.
- Pinch out the tips of fuchsias to encourage a bushy habit and more flowers.
- Start to pick sweet peas as soon as they flower to encourage more blooms.
- Dead-head your roses if they're repeat-flowering types. Otherwise, leave the seed heads on for decoration.

- Dead-head and cut back oriental poppies after flowering. Cutting them close to ground level will stimulate new foliage.
- Stake tall perennial plants to prevent wind damage.
- As new shoots grow, use soft ties to train climbing plants such as honey-suckle and clematis to their supports.
- Prune out overcrowded or dead stems of evergreen clematis once they have finished flowering, to maintain a good shape.

## **In the Vegetable Garden**

- Continue to earth up potato plants as they grow.
- Keep the compost of newly planted container potatoes moist, but take care not to overwater, as this compacts the soil, squeezing out the oxygen, and prevents the developing tubers from swelling.
- Pinch out any side shoots from your tomato plants. You can pot these up to create new tomato plants. Start to feed once the first truss is setting fruit.
- Harvest salad crops like spinach and cut and come again lettuce and re-sow every two weeks for a constant supply of tasty leaves.
- When planting out cabbages, use brassica collars to prevent cabbage root fly attack. If possible, cover with mesh or netting to keep off the pigeons.
- Harvest first early potatoes — these are normally ready about 10 weeks after planting.
- Keep an eye on your onion and garlic. When the leaves start to yellow and die back, they're ready to harvest.
- If you haven't already, harden off and plant tender vegetables such as courgettes, squash, tomatoes and sweet corn and plant out.
- Protect crops from carrot fly by covering with horticultural fleece.

## **In the Fruit Garden**

- Start to prune your plum or cherry trees now.
- Although fruit trees will naturally shed some fruit (called the 'June drop'), aim to thin out congested branches further for bigger and better fruits.
- Protect any developing fruits from birds and squirrels by placing netting around your plants.



- If you have plants fruiting in containers, remember to give them a high potash liquid feed to keep them healthy and productive.
- Top-dress patio dwarf fruit trees with fresh compost and a slow-release fertiliser.
- Peg down runners on your strawberry plants to create more plants for next year. If you don't need more plants simply remove the strawberry runners completely.
- Always water potted blueberry plants with rainwater, as the lime contained in tap water reduces the acidity of the soil over time.

## Other jobs

- Feed your lawn with a special lawn fertiliser to encourage healthy green growth.
- Re-cut lawn edges, or install lawn edging to make future maintenance easier.
- Lower mower blades to their regular summer-cut height.
- Clip evergreen hedges such as privet, box and yew while they're in active growth.
- Keep bird baths topped up in hot weather.

# News from the Allotment

All of the planted potatoes are now showing and need to be earthed up regularly. The asparagus bed is still cropping well but the purple sprouting broccoli has now finished. The strawberry plants are in full bloom. The supports for the runner beans have been erected and the mangetout and chickpeas have all been planted.

Take care and enjoy your gardening.

**Litter picks in the village will be starting up again in June now that COVID restrictions are being relaxed.**

**The Hethersett Environmental Action team is inviting residents to take part in the pick on Saturday 26th June at 10 am.**

**Anyone interested in taking part should meet at Hethersett Methodist Church Car Park at 10 am. Equipment is provided but those taking part are asked to wear sensible footwear.**

# Groups and Societies

Due to the current pandemic, groups and societies have shut down for the foreseeable future although we know that many are using social media platforms such as Zoom to have impromptu meetings. We will be expanding and improving our groups and societies section once the pandemic is over and meetings can re-start (please see the notice below).

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.**

## Please Get In Touch

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

# Where Are The Best Deals?

ONCE again this month we looked at petrol prices with our survey taken towards the end of the month. Our aim is to compare garages within easy driving distances of Hethersett to let you know where the best value is.

## Herald Petrol Watch

Prices have continued to rise during the month. There is always a tendency for this to happen the closer we get to school holidays (half-term in this case). It's annoying as always to have to report that the two garages at Wymondham (Waitrose and Abbeygate) and Thickthorn Services continue to be considerably more expensive than some of the other garages.

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 around the middle 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.

	Unleaded	Change	Diesel	Change
Asda Hall Road, Norwich	123.7	???	125.7	+1p
Tesco Express, Earlham Road, Norwich	125.9	+2p	127.9	+1p
Sainsbury's Queen's Road Norwich	123.9	+2p	125.9	+1p
Tesco Harford Bridges, Norwich	125.9	+2p	126.9	NC
Sainsbury's Longwater, Norwich	125.9	+2p	127.9	+1p
Abbeygate Wymondham	133.9	+2p	135.9	+1p
Waitrose Wymondham	132.9	+1p	???	???
Thickthorn Services, Hethersett	132.9	+1p	137.9	+1p

# Where To Eat In Hethersett

## **Church Farm Shop and Tea Rooms -**

Norwich Road (B1172). Telephone 01603 814151

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

## **Janey's Village Café -**

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

## **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 the day Tuesday to Saturdays. Opening hours are: Tuesday to Fridays—8 am to 4 pm and Saturdays 9 am to 1.30 pm.

## **Hethersett King's Head**

Norwich Road. The venue has re-opened with food served Tuesday to Sundays inclusive. The King's is closed on Mondays

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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.

# Hethersett Herald What's On

WITH things (hopefully) beginning to return to some form of normality we will be re-introducing our list of coming events. If you have an event you would like added to this list please send details to [petersteward@lineone.net](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net)

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FRIENDS OF HETHERSETT  
ACADEMY



## GARAGE AND CAR BOOT SALE

Sunday 4th July 2021  
9am - 1pm



Cost of pitch:

£7 (Garage or Car boot)

Closing date to secure a pitch:

Friday 25th June 2021

Contact email:

[foha.ac.uk@gmail.com](mailto:foha.ac.uk@gmail.com)

Hethersett Academy Car Park (Queen's Road Entrance):

- Car boot sale
- Refreshments
- Maps

Hethersett Academy Car Park (Back Lane Entrance):

- Maps



# 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](mailto:petersteward@lineone.net)*

*Please note that many of these events will not be taking place at present due to Coronavirus. We have decided to keep this page active in order to inform residents of what is available to them once the epidemic is over. Clubs that we know have re-started have their details printed in red.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Hethersett Short Mat Bowls Club** plays two sessions each week in Hethersett Village Hall. The first is on Tuesday afternoons from 2.15 pm for a 2.30 pm start and the second is on Friday evenings at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start.

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

## Youth Club Fun Dog Show and Summer Fete

Back Lane, Hethersett.NR9 3JJ

Saturday 26th June 12-3:30pm.

Live music!

Games - Splat the rat, hoopla, hook a duck, football game etc

Stalls- lots of toys, cards, books, white elephant, tombola, raffle, cakes, bottles etc..."

Refreshments - BBQ, tea, coffee, squash, cakes. Entrance - Free (donations welcome!!)

Dog show classes include: Prettiest Bitch, handsomest Dog, best young dog, best veteran...

Come and have a fun afternoon and support the club!



Stalls available to book from Gillian on 01953 607566.



# 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 Harrison.

Regular Columnists - Connie Tindale, Dale Evans, 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).