BURNING issues affecting our village will be discussed at the coming annual parish meeting in Hethersett Village Hall on Wednesday, May 2nd.

Road works, speeding, anti-social parking and dog mess are just some of the topics that can be brought up at what is a meeting open to all residents.

The annual parish meeting is facilitated and chaired by Hethersett Parish Council but is a public meeting and not an official council one. There will, however, be reports from groups supported financially by the parish council including the Memorial Playing Field Trustees, the Village Hall Trustees and Hethersett Jubilee Youth Club.

Last year the format of the evening was changed to a more user-friendly one which will be kept for this year’s event. The formal meeting will start at 7.30 pm but refreshments will be served from 7 pm. It is hoped that as many residents as possible will attend in order to voice their opinions and/or concerns on village matters.

You will find numerous comments throughout this edition of Hethersett Herald on current road conditions.

MAY marks the centenary of the death of a Hethersett man in the First World War.

Private Frederick Curson died on May 17th, 1918, and is commemorated on the Hethersett War Memorial.

We look at his life in a special feature on pages nine to 11.
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More Village Road Problems

A BURST water main saw major problems at the junction of Queen’s Road and Henstead Road towards the end of April - something that may have more serious repercussions for the bus service to the village.

The water problem could act as a catalyst for the cancellation of buses going through the village until the work on the junction of New Road and the B1172 has been completed. It seems as if the bus companies will be using the burst water main as a reason for stopping public transport running through the village.

“We have a duty to provide a punctual timetable, and in order to comply with this requirement, we may have no option but to withdraw buses from the Mill Road area until New Road reopens,” said Chris Limbach, Network Officer for First Eastern Counties Buses.

One of the main problems seems to be the confusion and the mixed messages about the service with very few people knowing where and when buses will be run, even before the burst water main.

Writing on the day of the burst water main Mr Limbach said: “Please note that we have, with regret, had to withdraw all bus services from Hethersett village roads with immediate effect. The burst water main near the junction of Henstead Road and Queen’s Road and the positioning of various TM measures means that buses cannot get round the junction

Whilst that was understandable what followed was scarcely acceptable as Mt Limbach continued: “The time taken on service 14 buses to serve Mill Road and West Croft has seen substantial delays in the timetable for all other passengers. Buses are often running in pairs when they should be 15 minutes apart.

“We have a duty to provide a punctual timetable, and in order to comply with this requirement, we may have no option but to withdraw buses from the Mill Road area until New Road reopens. We have suggested that County run the shuttle minibus all day to Back Lane for the remainder of the works and this will require a financial decision from them.

Hethersett Herald doesn’t want to labour the point but it does appear that this village is at times being brought to almost a standstill through ill-thought out plans and lack of communication on behalf of the various parties involved.
Spring seems to have at last arrived in Hethersett after two of the coldest months imaginable. Herald Associate Editor and keen amateur meteorologist Gary Wyatt discusses the unusually late winter we have experienced.

REGULAR readers of the Herald will remember that in the March edition we had extensive coverage of the effects of the ‘Beast from the East’ (which is the first and last time I shall use that over-hyped term in this article) on Hethersett. This month I thought you might be interested in a little bit of the background on why this occurred, and some observations from my recently installed automatic weather station. I have been recording back-garden weather observations for more than 40 years in a number of locations, most recently of course here in Hethersett. Until the beginning of this year, I had always used traditional measuring instruments, i.e. a maximum-minimum mercury thermometer, dial barometer and garden rain gauge. I record these daily in a series of diaries, together with subjective observations of weather type, including wind direction and rough estimates of wind speed. I still use these in the same way, but have now also installed an automatic measuring station in the garden, mounted on a pole as shown in the photo. The sensors transmit data wirelessly to a base unit indoors about every 45 seconds. This unit stores around three months’ data which I download periodically to my laptop for analysis. As you can see from the photo, the base unit also displays the current conditions, including rainfall since midnight, wind direction and speed, temperature, humidity, barometric pressure, light levels and UV index. The display is fascinating to watch as conditions change constantly and even after dark you can see what the temperature is, whether it is raining at the moment, etc. A long-term ambition of mine has been to enter all my long series of data into Excel spreadsheets, something completely unknown when I started recording, but the vast amount of data I have in diaries is just too daunting to do that. However, the automatic station now does it for me with little effort on my part. The data produced seems reliable so far, with the exception of the rainfall figures.
The automatic rain gauge has a ‘tilting bucket’ mechanism which repeatedly fills and empties as rain falls but I have found it occasionally gives random, impossibly high, figures over a very short timescale. It seems that when the instrument mounting pole is subjected to high wind speeds, this can give false readings by disturbing the tilting mechanism. This can also happen when the occasional pigeon chooses to sit on the unit! Fortunately these anomalies are easily spotted and can be corrected in the raw data before it is analysed.

So, what did I observe during the much talked-about weather at the end of winter? First, some background about why the event occurred in, I hope, non-technical language. Our winter weather until the last week of February had been unremarkable, with very little snow, and temperatures somewhat above the long-term average. The three months of December, January and February are generally taken to be the winter season by meteorologists. For winter 2017/18, the East Anglia average temperature for December as recorded by Met Office weather stations locally was 4.7°C (0.4°C above the long-term average) and for January 2018 was 5.4°C (2.0°C above average).

However, on the other side of the world changes were occurring which would lead to a classic ‘butterfly effect’ on our weather at the end of winter. In late January in the Pacific Ocean, an unprecedented vast area of intense thunderstorm activity developed. This caused a wave of alternating high and low pressure systems to travel around the world, which in turn disrupted the Polar vortex, the normal circulation of winds over the Arctic.

By late February, temperatures over the Arctic had risen more than 20°C above the average, from around -30°C to above -10°C. Meteorologists call this effect Sudden Stratospheric Warming, and the arrival of this much warmer air over the Arctic forced the normal very cold air mass south and west across Europe, reaching the UK in the last week of February. The temperature graph shown here is from my weather station and shows clearly the drop in temperature, starting around 26th February and remaining mostly below freezing until around 4th March.

Snow started to fall on Monday 26th February, reaching a maximum depth of about 25cm during Wednesday 28th February. While most of that snow
was falling, the winds were still fairly light but as they picked up the next day, drifts formed and caused transport chaos for a couple of days.

The second graph from my weather station clearly shows the sustained high wind speeds during that period, and the third graph shows how the wind direction persisted in the quarter between north-east (45°) and south-east (135°) during the coldest time.

After that, the snow started to shrink rather than melt, which is something that can happen when the humidity is low, as is often the case with easterly winds from the continental land mass.

Temperatures rose a little on Saturday 3rd March but even then, because the snow had been compacted by the wind and shrinkage, it was very reluctant to melt away and remnants continued to lie by road sides for some time. This was especially noticeable on the road between Great Melton and Wymondham, where drifting had obviously been substantial.

The average temperature in February overall was 2.7°C, 0.9°C below average. This doesn’t sound much but, of course, the cold weather was for only a few days of that month, so the average does not reflect how intensely cold it was during that period.

The cold was also much accentuated by the very strong winds and this resulted in an intense air frost, even during daytime, and many frozen pipes.

There was a return of the cold easterly wind with some snow over the weekend of 17th/18th March and this can again be seen clearly in the temperature graph. Fortunately this was short-lived although still remarkably cold, and high wind speeds are again evident for that period in the second graph.

After that, although the wind continued to stay in the easterly quarter for a while, it was much less strong and cold, but nevertheless, the average temperature for March was 5.2°C, 0.4°C below average. Spring did not really arrive until the first week of April, bringing a lot of rain with it over the Easter weekend. You may or may not think this was preferable to the snow! Roll on summer ….
Death of Former Village Archivist

IT is with great sadness that we report the death of former Hethersett village archivist Bill Reekie.

Bill, who was in his nineties, died at his Suffolk home at the end of March. For many years Bill, a proud Scotsman, looked after the village archive until handing over the reins to Herald Associate Editor Gary Wyatt a few years ago.

A celebration of Bill's life took place at Earlham Crematorium on 24th April when he was described as a “a man of many parts including husband, father, grandfather, airman, glider pilot, sailor, dentist, opera lover, historian and archivist.”

William Buchanan Reekie was born in Cowdenbeath on 25th July, 1924, and died at the age of 93 on 29th March, 2018. Bill joined the RAF during the Second World War and soon rose to the rank of Flying Officer, training fighter pilots. After the war, Bill continued his interest in aviation and turned his hand to gliders.

He trained as a dentist in Edinburgh and moved south when he was appointed to a surgery in Magdalen Road, Norwich, a post he continued in for 40 years, being known as a genial and highly respected dentist.

Bill lived in Hethersett until earlier this year when he moved with his wife Daphne to a sheltered housing complex in Suffolk.

He was Hethersett village archivist for many years and also a keen member of Hethersett Society and the Norwich Opera Society. Bill was also a voracious reader and lover of all periods of history as his son David, daughter Gail and grandchildren Kathryn and Sam outlined in their tributes at the memorial service which was conducted by Major Derek Tyrrell of the Salvation Army. Bill was also a keen quizzer and member for many years of the Hethersett Bookworms team.

Donations from the service will be given to the East Anglia Children’s Hospice (EACH) in memory of Bill.
Jenny’s Sixty Years of Service

Sixty years of loyal service has been marked at St Remigius Church with a special presentation to Jenny Pigg.

Jenny was presented with a Loyal Service Medal by Choir Mistress Rebecca Heaser.

Jenny works tirelessly at St Remigius. She is the choir organiser, looks after the choir fund which comprises money received for singing at weddings etc and organises social occasions such as theatre visits and lunches. She also looks after the choir robes and robes for visiting choristers.

After the presentation Jenny said: “I would like to sincerely thank the clergy, church choir friends, congregation, the children and bellringers for their friendship and support which has enabled me to reach 60 years of service to St Remigius Church Choir and to gain the Royal School of Church Music 60 years Loyal Service Medal.”

For much of Jenny’s time with the choir, her husband Duncan was choirmaster and he paid his own tribute:

“As choirmaster for over 40 of those 60 years, I know what Jenny was like as a chorister. First and foremost she was loyal and ever present when possible. She never aspired to be a soloist or choir leader, but was happy to sing God’s praises with all her friends,” he said.

Jenny and Duncan are pictured above.
MAY sees the centenary of the death of Private Frederick Curson, who was killed in action during the First World War.

Private Curson served in the 101st Company Labour Corps and previously in the 30th Battalion Royal Fusiliers. He died on 17th May, 1918, and is buried in St Sever Cemetery in Rouen.

Frederick was born in Hethersett on 3rd November, 1883, and baptised in St Remigius Church on 3rd February, 1884. In the 1901 census he is shown as still in the village and living with his aunt and uncle William and Ellen Curson. By then he was 17 years of age and working as a bricklayer.

Frederick married Mary Elizabeth Burton on 16th August, 1906. They had one daughter, Marjorie Hilar-ry.

It is not clear how he came to be gassed on 13th May, 1918, but he was in No 9 General Hospital, Rouen, where he died on 17th May, 1918. The most likely cause of death was inhalation of mustard gas, the type most feared by the soldiers. Frederick had been in France for about two years. It is known that he was home on leave just before Christmas 1917.

It would appear that Frederick was employed by the Labour Corps at the time of being gassed, having previously been in the 30th Battalion Royal Fusiliers. He would have been employed in vital if unglamorous work digging trenches, moving stores, repairing roads and railways etc. The Labour Corps had been formed in 1917 and contained men who had been previously wounded and were unable to return to fighting duties, as well as those who, upon enlistment,
were found to be medically unfit or conscientious objectors who would serve in the military, but not fight. Labour Corps soldiers were not immune from snipers, artillery fire, aerial attack, disease or indeed gas attack and the corps suffered 9,000 deaths during the last two years of the war.

A memorial service was held for Frederick Curson in St Remigius Church on June 2nd, 1918.

Frederick’s death was as a result of one of the most serious incidents involving a Labour Corps company on the Somme.

This most devastating attack occurred on the night of 11th/12th May, 1918. On that night 101 Company was burying cables at Fon-
quevillers when the area was attacked with both high explosive and gas shells from 7.30 pm until 2.30 am. Initial reports suggested that no men were killed during the attack although IV Corps Diary refers to 40 officers and possibly 1,400 men being gassed.

Frederick Curson is the grandfather of well known Hethersett resident Jennie Pigg who herself is featured on page seven of this edition of Hethersett Herald.

Frederick was wicketkeeper for the Hethersett Cricket team which won the Norfolk Junior Cup in 1906 beating YMCA, the favourites by 64 runs. The village was jubilant “You’d have thought we had beaten Australia,” said Fred Dodman, the captain.

The team pictures on page nine and this page are of the victorious 1906 Hethersett Cricket Club.
THREE years ago Suzy Smith had a dream of developing a range of highly nutritious foods aimed at helping people to adopt a healthier lifestyle.

Fast forward to 2018 and Suzy and husband Steve are working flat out to produce their nutritional sauces to service a growing market..

Suzy’s original idea was to develop a range of tasty soups aimed at children but
gradually that idea developed into something more:

“The original idea of Bace was conceived when I started batch cooking blends of veg and pulses and then freezing them. They were useful as a base to a meal when I was time-pressed and in need of something healthy to feed the family. They quickly became my versatile go-to meal solutions, giving me a head start in the kitchen. The ability to create a myriad of different meals and snacks by just adding a few other ingredients was life changing and the idea of Bace was born,” Suzy said.

Now the range of foods is in full production using facilities at Crusaders Rugby Club. Suzy and Steve have been working with two more Hethersett residents with Ed Miles acting as a business mentor and Dan Bradbury adding his graphic designs.

The Smiths have even given their specific range original names including Peas for Perks and Beans with Benefits. The sauces can be used as a side and go well with pies, fish, salads, curries, jacket potatoes, chilli and many other dishes.

Suzy added that her aim was to “help increase the range of vegetables and nutrients in food and also help people without the time to cook from scratch.

“I love cooking and wanted to create something that gives people a head start and something that is highly nutritional as well,” Suzy said. The food has no added sugar and is low in salt.

“We would love to help people to achieve their five a day. There is so much evidence that vegetables help to prevent illness. We believe we have a unique product as we can’t find anything like it and we only use British grown peas, beans and pulses,” Suzy said.

The Smiths will be looking to get the Bace brand into supermarkets and hope that they are at the beginning of a big nutritional journey

Bace Foods will be selling their products (currently priced at £3.50 per pot or three pots for £10) at a number of farmers’ markets and festivals in the near future including Reepham Food Festival on Saturday, 27th May and Norwich Food
and Drink Festival on 17th June.
Visit the Bace Foods web site for more information. Below is just one of the recipes featured on the site.

Serves 2

**Ingredients**

1 pot of beans with benefits
2 large slices sourdough, toasted
Grated cheese, handful
Chilli sauce (a chipotle one is especially good)

**For the salsa:**

2 medium tomatoes, chopped
½ lime, squeezed
½ red onion, finely chopped
Cucumber (75g / 5cm width), finely chopped
4 radishes, chopped
Coriander, handful, chopped
1 avocado, peeled, stoned removed and roughly chopped
Extra virgin olive oil, drizzle
2 lime wedges

**Method**

Begin by heating the beans as per the cooking instructions on pot.

Next make the salsa. Chop all the ingredients, put in a bowl and add the lime, extra virgin olive oil and a shake of chilli sauce.

Toast the sourdough and cut in half. Place two halves on each plate and top with the warm beans, some grated cheese and a shake of chilli sauce.

Serve with the salsa on the side and a slice of lime for squeezing.
Jubilee Youth Club News

*with Gillian Saunders*

WE are holding our annual Fun Dog Show and Fete on Saturday, 30th June from midday until 3:30 pm at the youth club hall in Back Lane.

The dog show will be split into two groups and costs £1 a class with the exception of 'musical sit' which is just for fun!

We start part one of the dog show at 12:15 pm with Most Appealing Eyes followed at roughly 10 minute intervals with Loveliest Lady, Best Rescue, Most Fabulous Fella, Best Paw Shaker, Most Gorgeous Oldie (7+) and Judges’ Choice. Finally in part one is Best in Group from classes 1-7.

Part two starts at 1:45 pm with Bad Hair Day (dog and owner), Best Heinz 57, Cutest Puppy, Waggiest Tail, Best Trick, Best Fancy Dress (dog and owner), Best in Group Two and Musical Sit.

Finally at about 3 pm we crown our Best in Show (winners of part one and part two compete) and the cup is awarded!

While all this is going on we will be holding our fete with stalls to browse, games to play and refreshments including a BBQ and tea, coffee and cake.

We are looking for some more craft type stalls and doggy-related ones. Stalls, pitches (inside and out) are £10 each including table and chairs. Outside you are welcome to bring your own small gazebo. If you are interested please contact me on 01953 607566.

We hope you will all come along and help us raise the necessary funds for the youth club.

Flooding - A Thing of the Past

PROBLEMS with flooding in St David’s Road, St John’s Close and Karen Close should be a thing of the past, members of Hethersett Parish Council heard at their April meeting.

In a written report, South Norfolk District Councillor and Norfolk County Councillor David Bills said that drainage work in New Road had proved successful and no further flooding had been reported in the area.

A problem still exists, however, with excess water in South Croft and this is being investigated.
The Meaning of Easter

WE celebrated Easter at the end of March and beginning of April this year, but did you know that Easter was originally a pagan festival as is explained in the April edition of the village Good News magazine.

“Easter did not always symbolise Christ's resurrection from the dead and the meaning of Easter was quite different from what Christians celebrate today.

“The feast day of Easter was originally a pagan celebration of renewal and rebirth. Celebrated in the early spring, it honoured the pagan Saxon goddess Eastre. When the early missionaries converted the Saxons to Christianity, the holiday, since it fell around the same time as the traditional memorial of Christ's resurrection from the dead, was merged with the pagan celebration and became known as Easter. The meaning of Easter was also changed to reflect the new Christian orientation,” the magazine states.

Work Ahead of Schedule?

IT is hoped that the work on the B1172 to extend the cycle path beyond New Road towards Wymondham will be finished ahead of schedule.

The work is due to continue until late May but district and county councillor David Bills told the April meeting of Hethersett Parish Council that work is advancing well and could be completed faster than anticipated. It is also hoped that the gas works further along the B1172 towards Norwich will be completed by May 8th.

One resident received the following assurance:

“Our works on the B1172, Norwich Road, are due to finish on the 8th May, 2018; however, this is still subject to change should we need to request an extension from the council to complete our works. At the current time no extension has been requested and we are on track to complete the work for the 8th May, 2018.”

We will be keeping an eye on whether the above completion date is met.
I had enormous respect for the Readers. They built up a wide knowledge. If you needed to check a fact, speak to the reading room. If they didn’t know, they had a reference book that would tell you.

They became familiar with such small details as dialling codes. Taking down ads over the telephone was - still is - open to error. I recall an incident where a property was for sale in Pakenham but the ad person had misheard and typed Fakenham. The reader realised the dialling code was for Pakenham.

Of course they were not infallible. Walk in the reading room first thing in the morning and that day’s paper would be on the head reader’s desk with “mistakes” marked by the editor. Anything from a spelling error to punctuation to style.

The head reader would look back on the proofs, find who had read what and speak to them.
When reading rooms were abolished we were hit with the mantra “Right first time, every time.” That’s all very well but we are human, and it is difficult to check your own writing. You read what you expect to see not necessarily what you have typed.

Had we had a reading room two of my classics would have been spotted.

Writing about an airfield I talked of the hangers instead of hangars. And in quoting the title of a book I said it was Heroes and Heroins instead of heroines. I must have been high on something when I typed it.

The inevitable phone calls came in, and everyone thinks they are the only one who has spotted it.

Other bloomers I remember was the hotel advertising for someone to work “split shits” and the TV aerial installer who managed to slip through the wording: “For a better erection.”

The most serious post-reading room errors were those in death notices. Things like “A dead granddad” instead of “A dear granddad” are extremely upsetting to the bereaved.

A measure of the distress misprints can cause is well illustrated by a call I took from a lady about her husband’s death announcement. In it we had spelt Ann without an “e”. I went through the usual apologies and offered to refund the money and re-run the notice.

She erupted. For fully a minute she screamed hysterically down the phone at me. I could make out not a word. Finally she calmed down said something quietly which I didn’t catch before putting down the phone.

There was clearly nothing I could have done to make it right, but, perversely maybe I had helped. Perhaps I’d given her someone upon whom to vent her grief.

We had to be alert for malicious notices. We checked as best we could but it was not unknown for spiteful people to attempt to put in a death notice for someone alive and well.
Stella School of Dance presents

LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION

Norwich Theatre Royal
Box office 01603 630000
Sunday May 6th
2.30pm & 7.00pm
New Charges at Recycling Centres

HEATHERSETT do-it-yourself enthusiasts will be hit by a charge when they leave certain items of waste at recycling centres.

The Ketteringham Recycling Centre, in keeping with others throughout the county, will be charging for the following:

- Timber - including kitchen units, fitted furniture, doors, laminate flooring and floorboards, sheds, fence panels, decking, garden structures.
- Rubble - including sinks, toilets, bricks, concrete, stones, tiles.
- Flat glass - including glass from windows and doors, greenhouses, shower screens.
- Plasterboard - all plasterboard and plaster.
- General waste - including roofing felt, plastic guttering, fibreglass and items such as sinks will be subjected to the charge.

The charges will be £3 for rubble and timber, £5 for flat glass, £9 for plasterboard (£15 at Mile Cross), £5 for general waste, £4 per tyre. Metals will be free.

The costs are per item or 80 litre bag or equivalent.

Charity breakfast at Queen’s Head

A charity breakfast at Hethersett Queen’s Head on Saturday, 19th May, will raise money for the Keeping Abreast charity.

Breakfast will take place between 8.30 am and 9.45 am and the cost is £17 for adults and £11 for children under-12. The Queen’s Head staff will be giving their services free for the event. There will also be a raffle.

On arrival, guests will be able to enjoy a glass of Bucks Fizz and then there will be orange juice, melon and cereals followed by a full English breakfast or smoked salmon and scrambled egg. The price also includes toast, warm croissants and tea or coffee.

Full pre-payment is needed in advance and places can be booked on 01603 810226.
Easter Bonnets

Residents of Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex in Firs Road held an Easter bonnet competition. The first three prizewinners are photographed below. First place went to Marion (centre), second was Hilary (left) and third was Denise (right).
“HAVE you always wanted a dog but worried you couldn’t look after it full time?

“A company in South Norwich is giving people the chance to dog-sit whilst their owners are on holiday. Barking Mad hosts have a furry companion to stay for a weekend break or longer.

“Barking Mad South Norwich offers dog-loving people the chance to take in a pooch on a temporary holiday, allowing you to enjoy the social aspects of going out walking and the company of a wagging tail at home. You would also become a member of the Barking Mad family of hosts which meet periodically at organised events.

“This March, I became the proud owner of Barking Mad South Norwich. Myself and my wife are dogless due to our busy schedules. Our first experience of the Barking Mad service was as hosts ourselves. We were both teachers and during term-time could only host at the weekend but it
meant our time off had a whole new purpose and meaning, being filled with dog walks and meeting people in parts of Norfolk we had never visited. We were also fully supported by the Barking Mad franchisee in understanding how to provide the best care for the dogs as well as helping to settle the dog in and maintaining their routine.

“We are passionate about safeguarding the emotional and physical health and well-being of your dog, whilst you are away from them,” Helen said.

**Recruitment**

Helen recruits and trains only the kindest and most suitable hosts into their team: “Lovely people who want to welcome your dog into their homes,” she said.

Becoming a host by looking after someone else’s dog whilst their owners are away, is all set up and organised by Helen. She takes this otherwise often informal arrangement and makes it fully safe, insured and easy to take part in without costing the host a penny.

“As a dog holiday host, you provide a loving home environment where your doggy visitor relaxes and feels at home. Regular exercise and companionship is your part of the deal,” said Helen who personally deals with the transport.”

Helen also deals with the paperwork and liaising with the dog owners. All hosts have to do is meet up with Helen and agree the type of dogs they like and when they are available to look after them.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a Barking Mad Host and about the Barking Mad community, please give Helen a call on 01603 340595 or email helen.tyler@barkingmad.uk.com

**Helen Talks to Bereavement Group**

Helen Tyler from Barking Mad spoke to members of the Heart of Hethersett Bereavement Group at Woodcote Sheltered Housing complex on April 10th.

Helen explained the workings of the organisation and how she works with her customers, her dogs and her hosts to find the best holiday matches.

On the next page we look at the partnership between Barking Mad South Norfolk and the Dogs for Good Charity.
Enriching Lives Through Dogs

BARKING Mad South Norwich is asking fellow dog lovers to join it in helping to change lives. The dog holiday specialists has officially partnered with Dogs for Good, a life transforming charity which creates partnerships between people living with disability and specially trained assistance dogs.

"We are so proud to announce that Dogs for Good is Barking Mad's chosen charity for 2018. Dogs for Good trains assistance dogs to support adults and children with a wide range of disabilities and also children with autism, in order to enrich and improve lives. This is particularly relevant to the work which we undertake with our own dog sitting host community. We offer the opportunity to care for someone else's dog whilst its owners are away and through this initiative, we witness the amazing difference that canine companions can make in terms of improving social interaction and fitness every day” said Helen Tyler.

Cathryn Simpson, Corporate Partnerships Manager for Dogs for Good said:

'We’re absolutely delighted to be working with Barking Mad in 2018. There’s obvious synergy between the two organisations in respect of the dogs but more importantly the ethos of both organisations is closely matched and this is important to ensure a successful partnership.

“Thank you to everyone for getting involved!.”

How can you get involved?

Barking Mad South Norwich’s ultimate wish is to raise enough money to fund the training of a Dogs for Good puppy and it would really appreciate your help.

Throughout 2018 it plans to hold fundraising events and would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved. Helen can be contacted on 01603 340595 or by email at helen.tyler@barkingmad.uk.com and you can also visit https://www.barkingmad.uk.com/franchisees/south-norwich/ to find out more.

Our photograph shows members of the Dogs for Good charity.
ON May 27th, 1940, 99 soldiers from the Royal Norfolk, the Royal Scots and various other regiments were lined up against a barn wall in Northern France and machine gunned by members of the German SS.

The atrocity at the small hamlet of Le Paradis near the town of Lestrem in the Pas de Calais area close to Dunkirk has become accepted as a case of mass murder which resulted in the German officer who gave the order to fire being hanged after the war.

In the second of our articles we look at how the two survivors brought the German officer responsible for ordering the massacre to justice

BEING badly injured, Bert Pooley was repatriated after spending a considerable amount of time in hospital in Bethune. The other survivor, Bill O’Callaghan, spent the remainder of the war as a prisoner in a number of different camps, continually volunteering to move to cut back on the likelihood of the Germans finding that he had survived the massacre.

Bill was involved in the infamous 1,000 mile march in 1945 before eventually finding his way home to Dereham at the end of the war.

After the war the thought of revenge against the German officer who had ordered the massacre was never far from the mind of Bert Pooley who vowed that he would hunt down the perpetrator.

The problem was nobody believed Bert or Bill O’Callaghan, when they told the authorities about the massacre. Indeed there were times when Pooley himself felt that the massacre had been an illusion as he told a magazine at the end of
the war: "I couldn't eat or sleep and was in a perpetual state of nervous tension. In the end I began to think I might be suffering from delusions. I didn't even tell my own family the whole truth in case they didn't believe me," Pooley said.

Eventually Pooley took it upon himself to return to France to find proof. This was typical of his character as his daughter Jeannette explains on the website:

“He was a very tenacious man. When he set his mind on doing something, nothing would stop him. It didn’t matter how much pain he was in he would carry things through,” Jeannette said.

In September 1946, Pooley returned and saw the farmhouse and the site of the mass graves. By this time the bodies had been exhumed and re-buried in the village churchyard. He saw the bullet holes but more importantly met Madame Creton, the French woman who had helped him and Bill O'Callaghan. Bert this time reported what had happened to the French authorities.

The facts were relayed to the War Office in London and Bill O'Callaghan went to the capital to corroborate the details and, in a prisoner-of-war camp, the two soldiers identified Fritz Knoechlein as the man who had given the order to fire.

The trial of Fritz Knoechlein took place in Number Five Court in the Rotherbaum district of Hamburg on 11th October, 1948, with Bert Pooley and Bill O'Callaghan testifying against him.

Knoechlein was found guilty and appealed for clemency as "he had a wife and four children" who depended on him. He was sentenced to be hanged and this was carried out on January 28th, 1949.

“Massacre at Le Paradis - Hell in Paradise” is a website dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives in the massacre. It covers all aspects of the event including the lead up to, the massacre itself and the aftermath and includes a number of exclusive documents never before in the public domain, including a diary kept by Bill O'Callaghan.

On the next three pages we feature drawings by a soldier from Attleborough who captured the horrors of the massacre and the fighting around the French hamlet of Le Paradis.
CAPTAIN Charles Long served with the Royal Norfolk Regiment and was in the area of Le Paradis at the time of the massacre. He survived the war, spending time as a German prisoner of war.

Charles W.H. Long was born in Attleborough on 18th March, 1906. He was the son of Major Herbert Charles Long, also of the Royal Norfolk Regiment. Charles was a keen athlete and, as a young man, represented Norfolk at cricket and hockey. He was also an accomplished artist and was a friend of Michael Seago and his brother Edward whilst they studied at the Ipswich School of Art.

He loved sailing and often sailed with Major Lisle Ryder in the period leading up to the start of the war. Major Ryder was one of the soldiers killed in the massacre.

Captain Long was injured in the last moments prior to the surrender at Le Paradis and ended up in a ditch along with another group. They were
rounded up by a different German detachment and were taken prisoners of war.

Charles was awarded the Military Cross for an act of bravery during his time at Le Paradis. He attended the trial of Fritz Knoechlein and, as Adjutant, provided evidence of the events leading up to the final surrender of the battalion.

After the war he continued his career in the Army, retiring in 1960. Just prior to this he led the Royal Norfolks’ Beating of the Retreat around East Anglia on the occasion of their amalgamation with the Suffolk Regiment.

As already mentioned Charles was a talented artist who drew the following images on pages 27 to 29. In many ways the drawings sum up the events of 1940 better than words. We are grateful to the Long family for permission to reproduce the art work. The drawing on page 27 is of the actual massacre whilst the other drawings are of the general fighting between British and German troops in the area of Le Paradis.

For more information on Charles Long and Le Paradis Massacre visit the website www.leparadismassacre.com.
Summer of Disruption?

Introducing our new columnist Scott Willoughby

SO there I was hoping to get into Norwich on a number 14 bus only to find myself unwittingly having a tour of Hethersett. I got on at the temporary stop on the B1172 only to find myself being forced to go via Queen’s Road, Great Melton Road, Mill Road, Recreation Road, South Croft, Mill Road (again), Great Melton Road (again) and Steepletower. This was all due to the major roadworks taking place on the B1172 to extend the cycle path towards Wymondham.

New Road is closed for seven weeks to change the junction and finish work on the cycle path much to the annoyance of many of the residents of New Road, St David’s Road, Karen Close and St John’s Close who are now forced to go 1.7 miles to get onto the B1172 virtually at the point where they started.
Still I digress. There I was on the bus getting slightly frustrated at the time it was taking to get into Norwich:

“I don’t know why they don’t just shut Hethersett and tell us to stay at home,” I said to my companion. At which a young lady sitting in the seat in front turned round:

“That’s the best comment I’ve heard so far on this debacle,” she said.

And that made me think about two questions I have heard a lot of people ask over the past couple of weeks:

1) Can the amount of money being spent on the cycle path be justified in our current climate of cuts and how many cyclists will actually be using it when it is complete? And

2) How will buses and other vehicles cope with the new narrower junction between New Road and the B1172.

Perhaps point two is the more worrying. How will buses into the village cope with the new junction and how far will be the tailbacks down New Road from vehicles exiting New Road onto the B1172 now it will be too narrow for double file traffic (i.e a lane for those turning left to go towards Norwich and a lane for those turning right to go towards Wymondham).

Of course we won’t know the answers to those questions until the work is complete and we have returned to normality (whatever that may be). Rest assured as Hethersett Herald’s newest columnists I will be out checking the use of the cycle path and also the queues down New Road.

As for that bus journey - well I eventually made it into Norwich. The return bus journey was just as hideous though. The queues trying to get onto Thickthorn Roundabout snaked back almost to the start of the dual carriageway and then I had to get out on the main B1172 and walk along the road to access the path due to the lay-by where buses usually stop being out of action as well.

Then things deteriorated even further when a burst water main meant buses were unable to go through the village towards the end of the month and that provided the bus company with the opportunity to consider cancelling all buses through the village until the New Road junction work is completed.

Am I being too cynical in suggesting we are in for a summer of road disruption? I guess only time will tell.

Scott Willoughby
More Road Works on the Way

JUST when you thought things on the village roads couldn’t get any worse, we have details of another planned closure. This time Back Lane will be closed from its junction with Henstead Road for a distance of just over 120 metres for the renewal of a faulty cable by BT Openreach.

The work will take place between 9 pm and 6 am from 14th May to 17th May inclusive. Work on the cycle path that has seen the closure of the New Road junction with the B1172 and gas work on the B1172 are both expected to finish in May.

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Slow Theatre Company presents

GRUFFED UP & PETER AND THE WOLF

Theatre for young people performed by young people

June 23rd
At Hethersett Village Hall
2.30pm & 7pm
Tickets online at www.slowtheatrecompany.co.uk
All tickets £6, under 5's free
Two plays for the price of one!

Find us on FB: Slow Theatre Company
Twitter: SlowTheatreComp
Call or text 07896179833

Slow Theatre Company provides children’s classes every Saturday in Wymondham. These performances will be performed by our young actors. Slow Theatre Company is a not-for-profit theatre company, company number: 09849483
Acupuncture By Mary Green

Acupuncture works by stimulating the brain and central nervous system to release natural pain-relieving hormones, such as endorphins. Due to this pain relieving effect, acupuncture combined with physiotherapy is the perfect combination to help relieve many people from the pain they live with every day.

The premise of acupuncture is the idea that energy called Qi (pronounced chee) travels in pathways (called meridians) through the body. When qi is blocked, weak or disrupted it can result in pain. Acupuncture involves inserting hair-thin needles into specific points along the meridians, to help improve the flow of Qi and rebalance the body.

With chronic pain, the body is often in constant “fight or flight” mode; muscles and joints are often restricted, nerves are over sensitised, hormones related to stress and inflammation are circulating. Acupuncture can help calm the system down, reducing aches and pains, stress and anxiety and promoting a good night’s sleep.

From a Western Science point of view, neuroscientists have discovered that the tiny needles used have a local response at the tissues to reduce pain, but also de-activate or calm down centres in the brain normally associated with pain.

Acupuncture treatment is very much tailored to the individual. Some patients with chronic pain may not feel able to tolerate any level of touch, even a tiny needle, at the site of pain. However, often needles are used at “distal points” (away from the pain, but on the pathway/meridian of the pain.) These points have a powerful analgesic effect, without actually entering the site of pain.

Other patients may tolerate dry needling direct to muscles knots and tight soft tissues which can also have a very beneficial effect of releasing tension at a local level.

There is a growing body of scientific research to support its effects. Recent re-
search looking at over 18,000 patients concluded that acupuncture has emerged as a viable complementary treatment to conventional pain management for patients wishing to seek alternatives to opioids. (Acupuncture for Chronic Pain: The Latest Research” Areta Cassoobhoy, MD, MPH, November 2017. )

For more information on physiotherapy and acupuncture go to the Acupuncture Association of Chartered Physiotherapists website at www.aacp.org.uk or http://www.facebook.com/AACPLtd/

**Hypnotherapy by David McGee**

If you are experiencing pain, the advice would always be to see your doctor, as they will be able to investigate further to find out what’s causing it and how best to treat it. In many cases, a combination of approaches would be used to help reduce the pain, improve mobility and help cope with any emotional implications. These approaches may comprise medications and painkillers; some form of physical therapy (often involving manipulation, stretching and other pain relief exercises) and therapies that look at the link between the body and mind.

Hypnotherapy is one complimentary therapy that addresses the mind-body link and is often recommended for those dealing with long-term pain. Using hypnosis and the vast resources of your subconscious mind a professional hypnotherapist can help you manage pain-related symptoms and help you change the way you cope with pain. If you are considering hypnosis for pain, please do be sure to tell your doctor so that it forms part of your overall pain management plan.

Hypnotherapy is regarded by medical professionals as an extremely effective therapy to complement traditional medicine.

**Relaxation for pain relief**

When we are in pain our bodies typically tense up. The cycle of stress, tension, fear and pain exacerbates the pain sensation making the chronic pain sufferer feel much worse. Stress and anxiety are very common side effects of chronic pain. A hypnotherapist using hypnosis to treat pain would start by focussing initially on relaxation, both physical and mental. This is an extremely effective way to reduce stress and help you manage any fear and anxiety you may have relating to your pain.

Under hypnosis, you will be able to tune out your conscious mind to help distract you from your pain. Your hypnotherapist will then use guided visualisation and suggestion therapy techniques to encourage pain relief and relax the nervous system to help it become less reactive to pain, addressing the mind-body link. Hypnotherapy is a highly effective natural therapy with no other side effects and many people say that it is an effective part of their chronic pain management plan.

For more information contact David on 07790 555471 or at david@dmhypnotherapynorwich.uk.

Hethersett Herald 34 May 2018
The first week of holiday activity camps at Hethersett Old Hall School have proved a success. We featured King’s Camps in a previous edition of Hethersett Herald and the first camp was held over the Easter holidays.

A team of coaches entertained nearly 40 children from Old Hall and other local schools for a week of games, sports and active play.

The next sessions will be in the summer holidays in the weeks beginning July 30th and August 6th. To book, go to the Hethersett Old Hall page of the Kings Camps website by visiting:

https://www.kingscamps.org/venue/norwich-hethersett-school/

YEARS three and four at Hethersett Old Hall School have been producing artwork inspired by Paul Klee. Just some of the colourful paintings are featured in the montage above.
A Walk in the Woods

Herald associate editor Gary Wyatt is one of a bunch of hardy volunteers doing woodland conservation work in Ashwellthorpe each winter. Here the leader of the group, Dr Anne Edwards, a Hethersett resident who has been nationally recognised for her environmental work, tells us about the project.

IT is only about eight miles away, but Ashwellthorpe Lower Wood offers a peaceful haven from the noisy construction and road closure chaos that currently engulfs Hethersett. The wood is a Norfolk Wildlife Trust nature reserve and a network of woodland “rides” (paths) take the visitor through almost 100 acres of natural beauty.

Welcome to ancient woodland! Ashwellthorpe was mentioned in the Domesday Book, the great survey commissioned by William the Conqueror in 1086 and we know from at least this time, but probably a long time before, that the wood was managed by coppicing, a traditional forestry technique that is centuries old. Coppicing involves cutting down trees to ground level to create a “stool” then allowing the plant to regrow as multiple shoots.

Coppice management is carried out in blocks on rotation so that a crop is available each year somewhere in the woodland to provide a continuous source of wood for fuel, tools or construction. In the past Ashwellthorpe supplied hazel and ash poles to various woodworkers in nearby Wymondham, including the brush factories.

Indeed, it was once owned by the Co-op brush factory and coppiced products were harvested commercially until the late 1970s when cheap imported plastic brushes and tools started replacing traditional wooden implements.

As well as providing raw materials for mankind, coppicing benefits the tree which is maintained at a juvenile stage. A regularly coppiced tree will never die of old...
age and some stools achieve immense antiquity. There are advantages to other wildlife too.

Coppicing allows sunlight to reach the woodland floor which in turn stimulates plants such as bluebells, wild garlic, wood anemones, violets, primroses and early purple orchids to grow vigorously and indeed some ancient woodland plants like the mysterious Herb Paris and the delicate Twayblade are completely dependent on coppice management.

The plants attract insects including certain butterflies, and ground nesting birds including nightingale and woodcock colonise the open areas so that coppice blocks become great hubs of fantastic biodiversity. Conservation volunteers, including several Hethersett residents, turn out come rain, shine or snow on Sundays from October through to the end of March to continue the age-old tradition of coppicing in Ashwellthorpe Lower Wood.

New volunteers are always welcome. We try to cut a hectare, about the size of an international rugby field, every year using bow saws, loppers and traditional bill hooks as well as chainsaws. We coppice hazel, ash, hornbeam, alder, goat willow and birch leaving oak and some hornbeam as standards.

Each wood species has different properties, and all would have very specific uses in days gone by. Ash was traditionally used for cart wheels and agricultural implements, alder made excellent gunpowder, goat willow produced clothes pegs and teeth for rakes, the hard wood of hornbeam made butchers’ chopping blocks and cog wheels whilst strong and flexible hazel was used for fencing, basketry, walking sticks and much more. Today much of the coppiced product is
used for firewood though some hazel is still used for fencing and by traditional hedge layers.

Spring is a truly magical time in the Ashwellthorpe wood calendar. The floor is a veritable botanical carpet as the flora reawakens after winter, sap rises in the regenerating coppice and bird song provides the perfect accompaniment.

Come and experience the beauty of nature for yourselves! On Sunday 13th May, there will be a series of expertly guided walks through the wood followed by a sumptuous afternoon tea in Ashwellthorpe Village Hall.

The cost is a mere £5 with all proceeds going to Norfolk Wildlife Trust. Booking is essential, and tickets can be reserved from Bob Carpenter on 01508 488337. I hope to see you there!

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**All The Fun of the Fair**

Hethersett Old Hall School Parents’ Association will be holding a seaside summer fair on 12th May between 11 am and 3 pm.

The fun-filled day will have a seaside theme with Punch and Judy entertainment, fairground rides, pony rides, a raffle, craft and business stalls, a barbecue and a full range of homemade cakes and refreshments. Entry is free.

The association is taking bookings from local businesses and organisations. Stalls cost £25 which includes a table and chairs. Anyone interested in booking should email pa@hohs.co.uk.
The Dangers of Poo

PAST editions of Hethersett Herald have highlighted the ongoing fight to clean-up mess left around the village by anti-social dog owners. Back in 2010 our sister web site at www.hethersett.org.uk carried an article by Dr Elizabeth Meakins on the health dangers of dog poo and problems on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field. This article is reproduced below.

THERE exists a problem with some irresponsible dog walkers/owners not cleaning up after their dogs. The situation on the Hethersett Memorial. Playing Field has become so dire that a public appeal is now being made by the Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Trust, who oversees and manages this recreation ground and park, to dog owners to take this issue seriously. It is definitely not fair that the Football Clubs have to check and clear the pitches each time they have a match or practise. This issue can compromise the health of about a 100 children who use these facilities on a Saturday morning and those using the play areas on a regular basis. They are being put at serious risk. The faeces of dogs contain Toxocara eggs, posing a threat to especially younger children as these may cause permanent damage and even lead to blindness.

When humans take in Toxocara eggs, present in contaminated soil, hatching takes place and larvae invades body tissues. This is preventable if responsible dog owners/walkers clear-up immediately after their dogs, as fresh faeces are not infective. The danger is that the Toxocara eggs remain in the soil long after the faeces has disintegrated. The Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Trustees have supplied ample doggie bins for such disposal.

There is a maximum fine for someone who fails to remove their dog’s faeces immediately of £1,000 and a fixed penalty fine of £25 on land to open air, which is accessible to the public according to THE DOGS (Fouling of Land) Act 1996. We are making this appeal, as we do not wish to ban dog owners from walking their dogs on the HMPF as many playing fields and parks have done. We are not prepared to punish most of the responsible dog owners who use these facilities for the sake of those who choose to be irresponsible. Please comply with our appeal and do not ignore this problem at the expense of other users of these facilities.

The above is as relevant today as when the article was written.
Hethersett Herald working with Norfolk Trading Standards to highlight some of the latest scams and how to avoid them.

Norfolk Trading Standards is warning residents to be vigilant after further reports of people selling fish door to door in Norfolk.

The reports detail males often using a white sign-written transit style van cold calling at properties offering to sell frozen fish.

In the past these type of sellers have been known to use high pressure sales tactics and there have been issues with the quality of the fish being offered, whether the type of fish is as claimed, and whether it has been appropriately stored for transportation.

Trading Standards advise consumers to never deal with cold callers and never be pressurised into buying on the doorstep.

If you are approached by these sellers please report it to Trading Standards via their partners the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06 or to Norfolk Police on 101

Trading Services are also warning residents to be on their guard after receiving reports of a doorstep cold caller driving a white van offering ‘garden services.’

Home owners are asked never to deal with cold callers looking to undertake work on or around property.

If you are looking to have this type of work done only deal with reputable companies you have researched and chosen yourself and have obtained a written quotation from.

Looking for a Trader you can Trust? Try a Norfolk Trusted Trader. To search the directory and read feedback from customers visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/trustedtrader

Another scam that has recently come to light features a doorstep cold caller offering ‘pressure washing’ Trading Standards advice on this remains: “If you are looking to have this type of work done only deal with reputable companies you have researched and chosen yourself and have obtained a written quotation from.”

Residents are also being urged to be on their guard after reports of flyers being hand delivered offering driveway work.

The flyers claim to offer a range of services and give contact numbers but no further details about the business.
Right or Wrong? Asks Roger Morgan

The four pictures on this page were taken in February this year in Cedar Road, Hethersett. They appear to show kitchen waste like carrot peelings, cabbage leaves etc. that has been dumped on the verge at the side of the road. Is this good practice or not?

On the one hand, you could argue that this does no harm. As the waste is entirely organic it will rot down relatively quickly and, in the long term, provide nutrients to the plants in the verge. In the short term it is food for animals like garden birds and earthworms. It also reduces the amount of waste filling up our kitchen bins, which would ultimately end up in landfill sites.

However, others may say that this is an anti-social practice which looks unsightly. The waste will also attract unwanted visitors like rats and mice to a semi-residential area. What would our streets look like if everybody did this?

We’ll let you make up your own mind on this one and please let us know if you have any views on this matter.
New Bus Shelters in Place

HETHERSETT has two new bus shelters with a third on the way.

The new shelters are opposite the Methodist Church in Great Melton Road and on Steepletower and a third will be placed on the B1172 once the roadworks for the new cycle path have been completed.

The shelters have been funded jointly under a parish partnership initiative between Hethersett Parish Council and Norfolk County Council.

Our pictures shows the new shelter opposite Hethersett Methodist Church.

Is This Paradise?

You might think Hethersett is paradise on earth if the description of the village on Right Move is to be believed. Here is what the estate agent site has to say about us:

“Hethersett village radiates Norfolk charm and character in a tranquil setting. Yet the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, the John Innes Centre and the University of East Anglia are just a 5 minute drive. Norwich city centre and hourly trains to London are just 15 minutes away.”
Below are the contact details for people you may want to get in touch with on village matters:

**Member of Parliament**

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

Email - Richard@richardbacon.org.uk.

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

Telephone: 01379 642097

Website: www.richardbacon.org.uk

Facebook - Bacon4SouthNorfolk

Twitter - @Bacon4SNorfolk

**Norfolk County Council**

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

**South Norfolk Council**

Our South Norfolk Council representatives are Leslie Dale and David Bills. Leslie can be contacted on 01603 810952. David can be contacted on 01603 813041.

**Hethersett Parish Council**

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

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

Agendas of meetings are displayed on village noticeboards at Churchfields, Hethersett Library, Hethersett Post Office, the Memorial Playing Field, and Hethersett Village Hall. Copies of minutes are held at the library or are available from the clerk. The parish council office is open at the Village Hall (upstairs) on Monday and Thursday mornings between 10am and 12noon.

Email: hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk

Website – hethersettpc.info
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.hethersett.org.uk
Hethersett Man Dies in Crash

An inquest has opened into the death of a young teaching assistant who died in a two-car crash. Harry Simons, 19, of Priory Road, Hethersett, died on March 21st on North Walsham Road in Thorpe Market.

He was driving a Vauxhall Corsa at the time of the accident and died at the scene, according to Norfolk Police.

The accident took place near to the junction with the B1436, between Cromer and North Walsham, and involved a Hyundai Tuscan and Vauxhall Corsa. A full hearing will take place on September 10th.

Stem Cell Therapy

It’s almost a year since Jonathan Hamilton had pioneering stem cell therapy to try and halt - and perhaps even reverse - the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis, the Eastern Daily Press reports in a feature looking at Jonathan’s progress. Jonathan is a former soldier who lives with his family in Hethersett. You can read the feature by going to the following address:


Former Hethersett Resident is 100

A former Hethersett resident has celebrated her 100th birthday. Winifred ‘Winnie’ Elvin, who now lives at Badgers Wood Care Home in Drayton, celebrated the big occasion surrounded by family and friends at the Cock Inn.

Mrs Elvin was born in Essex but lived the majority of her life in West Croft in Hethersett.

She moved to the village after leaving school, when her father took on the role of signal master at Hethersett Station.

The full story of her celebrations can be read by going to:

http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/winnie-elvin-100th-birthday-1-5450023
Where Have All the Characters Gone?

That was the question posed by Norfolk’s Keith Skipper in the local Media.

Keith’s article can be read at.

http://www.edp24.co.uk/features/the-decline-and-fall-of-rural-characters-1-5440433

It bemoans the shortage of real characters in a modern society where the media in general and television in particular “constantly glorify daft antics and suggest blatant exhibitionism is normal and healthy.”

Keith’s article ends with the following: “Hands up good folk in ever-growing communities like Brundall, Hethersett, Mattishall, Mulbarton, Rackheath and Scarning and tell me how you miss real village characters.”

A nurse at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital (NNUH) swapped her uniform for running shoes as she took part in the London Marathon.

The Eastern Daily Press reported that Harriet Richards, 32, from Hethersett, a senior nurse endoscopist who has worked at the NNUH for almost seven years, ran the marathon in memory of her grandfather, Pip Pentelow, 79, who died four months after being diagnosed with bowel cancer in 2016.
Plea for Pavilion Improvement

HETHERSETT and the Meltons’ Sports Association held its latest meeting at Park Farm Hotel with member clubs reporting on their latest developments.

Representatives from Hethersett Athletic Football Club appealed for support for plans to raise funds to improve the existing pavilion on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field. The current pavilion is pictured above.

Speaking on behalf of the football club and also the Memorial Playing Field Trustees, Russell Attfield underlined the importance of groups supporting applications for grants for the improvements which will include new changing and toilet facilities along with community rooms. An application has already been made to Hethersett Parish Council for a grant from S106 development money.

Mr Attfield said leaflets asking for support for the plans have been distributed throughout the village and a web site has been set up at:

http://www.hmpf.co.uk/

Club reports at the meeting included the following information:

Hethersett Croquet Club - has started its 2018 season.

Hethersett Netball Club - is attracting up to 70 girls for coaching sessions. One of the club’s two adult teams has gained its second consecutive promotion.

Hethersett Badminton Club - Seventy youngsters are being coached, but more qualified coaches are needed. A number of parents have come forward to take their level one coaching badges and are awaiting courses.

Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Bowls Club - was due to start its 2018 season
at the end of April. The club has a quiz organised for May 11th (more details of this are on page)

Hethersett and Wymondham Velo Club - has been hampered by the poor early spring weather but Sunday and Tuesday club runs have been continuing. It is hoped to start a new beginners’ group on Tuesday nights with short 10 to 15 mile rides.

Hethersett Athletic Football Club - is in need of additional volunteers as the club will be losing a number of stalwart members at the end of the current season. The club is still giving competitive football and coaching for up to 130 youngsters and has a thriving youth section.

Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club - is using a £100 grant from Hethersett and Meltons’ Sports Association to buy equipment for its new ladies team. It will also be introducing All Stars Cricket for five to eight year olds. The youth and sponsorship sides of the club continue to flourish. The club has received substantial grants from Norfolk Cricket Board and South Norfolk Council to improve facilities at its Flordon headquarters and also to provide a new electronic scoreboard for its second pitch.

Great Melton Cricket Club - is attracting over 100 juniors to its coaching sessions. It has a new nets facility at Great Melton.

New Cricket Square - a new synthetic cricket square will shortly be in place on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field for use by the public. We will have more information on this in the next edition of Hethersett Herald.

Crusaders Rugby Club - the club has finished in mid-table after a successful end to the season which brought four wins and a draw in its last six matches. The club will be holding a ceilidh on June 2nd from 6.30 pm to midnight. The annual beer festival will be held from July 20th to 22nd and the club is starting a walking rugby group on Tuesday evenings. The club has scotched rumours that it is planning to sell its ground for housing development by stating it is applying for grants to upgrade its facilities.

Memorial Playing Field - there is an opportunity for a concrete table tennis table to be placed on the field through a grant from the English Table Tennis Association under its Ping initiative. This is being discussed by the Memorial Playing Field Trustees.

The next meeting of Hethersett and the Meltons’ Sports Association will take place at Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett, at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, July 4th. Clubs and individuals interested in health, fitness and well being are invited to attend. Annual subscriptions are £5 for clubs but free for individuals.

See also our article on this year’s Hethersett Run the Square Funrun on page 75.
CPRE Norfolk is our county branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England. With so much countryside in Norfolk there is always plenty to do in trying to ensure development is appropriate to its proposed location, as well as other aspects such as protecting our dark skies and tranquillity. Having said this, CPRE Norfolk is not against development per se, as we appreciate the need for more housing in particular, especially when it’s meeting real need, such as that for affordable homes in villages, enabling local people to live near their families and employment, or for example for retired residents wanting to downsize.

Across Norfolk our local authorities have local plans in place which have already allocated sites for sufficient new housing, given current and historic build rates, to last for over 20 more years of construction, and yet many more sites are being added into new and emerging plans. CPRE Norfolk is calling for a common sense approach to be used for these new sites, which is for these only to be built-out once the vast majority of sites in existing plans are completed. This will mean that the most appropriate sites will be built first, providing homes where they are more needed, rather than allowing more of our precious countryside’s greenfield sites to be lost to unnecessary development. This is more likely to happen as developers understandably prefer to build on sites which will give them the highest returns, which often means attractive rural sites. Instead, we urge councils to adopt policies which ensure that existing sites are built out first, thus denying the opportunity to cherry-pick the most profitable sites, which are not likely to provide the homes which are most needed in the most suitable locations.

This approach has already gained the support of 142 Parish and Town Councils across Norfolk, as they have signed a pledge to this effect. With threats of unplanned development increasing, particularly when councils are unable to demonstrate a five year supply of land for housing, as well as those new sites coming on stream in the emerging local plans, we hope that more parish and town councils will sign our pledge. A full list of the signatories to date is available on our website at: http://www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Alliance-Pledge-Signatures.pdf along with further details of our organisation, which is a registered charity, and our other work and campaigns at: http://www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/ I can be contacted at the email address below and can also provide advice on other planning issues.
THE April feature at Hethersett Village Screen was “Film Stars Don’t Die in Liverpool” which starred Annette Bening and Jamie Bell. The film is based on the memoir of the same name by Peter Turner and tells his story of falling for aging Hollywood actress Gloria Grahame in 1970s Liverpool, only to face reality when she is diagnosed with breast cancer.

The group wrap up its current season of film with the Battle of the Sexes on Sunday, 13th May, in Hethersett Village Hall at 3 pm. There will then be a break before a new season of films kick off in September.

We will have a full list and details of the new season of films once they are announced.

Nigel’s Milestone

Milestone enthusiast Nigel Ford, who was one of the men responsible for renovating the antique Hethersett village sign now in the centre of the village, was featured on BBC Television’s Countryfile programme on April 22nd.

Nigel showed presenter Anita Rani the process of restoring milestones that have fallen into disrepair.
Memories of Growing Up in Hethersett

A number of years ago Bill Morton sent the above web site his memories of growing up in Hethersett before he moved to Canada with his family. Sadly Bill died a couple of years ago at the grand old age of 97.

The web site - a sister publication to Hethersett Herald - was contacted by Bill’s niece Stephanie Allison who told us about her family and her plans to turn Bill’s manuscript into a book.

Stephanie’s research into her family history uncovered many ancestors including details of her grandparents Dudley Herbert and Sarah Wiseman (nee Wright) who owned the village butchers. She is also in regular contact with Bill Morton’s five daughters in Canada and the United States and has also visited the graves of a number of family members in Hethersett St Remigius churchyard including Mortons, Ringers, Plummers and Gibbons.

Bill was born in Hethersett in 1920 and brought up in the village in the years between the two World Wars.

Over the next three editions of Hethersett Herald we will be reproducing some of his memories. We start with his thoughts on growing up in the village.

“When I was growing up, the village had three churches. The parish church of St Remigius which was Church of England and Methodist and Baptist places of worship called Chapels. The village had two schools The first was a church school called the National School the other was called the British School which seemed to have had some relationship with the Methodists. The village contained four public houses. The King’s Head, the Queen’s Head, the Prince of Wales and the Greyhound.

The number of public houses out-numbered the churches which accounted for the fact that pubs opened after the Sunday morning services in the churches in
which parishioners were often told to “thirst after righteousness” which was something many did. There was one baker, one post office, three butchers; two sweet shops, a bicycle shop, three grocery shops, one automobile garage, a blacksmith and carpenter’s shop.

The village had a good bus service. Some buses went through to Wymondham along the main London Road. Most turned off the London Road at the Queen’s Head and proceeded through the village turning south at Mill Road and then rejoined the London Road at the New Road where it went on to Wymondham. Some buses continued to Attleborough. It was a good service as a lot of people who lived in Hethersett worked in Norwich and some worked in Wymondham which also had some industry, including two brush factories.

There was a railway that went through Hethersett. It was part of the London and North Eastern Scottish system. There was a railway station but not many trains stopped or used the station.

The best thing about the railway tracks were the big banks on which grew wild strawberries. These wild strawberries were the tastiest I have ever sampled and going there to gather them was a yearly undertaking.

Hethersett was quite flat with only a couple of small hills. The area was drained by two stream systems. One started near the church from a group of springs and another which crossed the Great Melton Road and flowed in the direction of Wymondham where it eventually joined a small river called the Tiffey which then joined the river Yare at Barford. To us village boys the streams were a source of great interest as they hosted moorhens and water rats.

In the years after the First World War ownership of land in England was still very much in the hands of a few large landowners. These landowners lived on the rents they obtained from leasing out farms to the farmers who cultivated the land. This system had existed for several hundred years. As a consequence of this very few people living in the village were able to own the houses they lived in.

Figures available for the year 1938 indicate that less than thirty per cent of houses in the United Kingdom were owner-occupied. In the rural areas the cottages were often tied to the job and were part of the rented property. This made it difficult for a man to leave his employment as he had to give up his house which went with his job. Alternative housing did exist for rent which was built by the local Council but the waiting period to get one was generally fairly long.

Hethersett had its own race course and when I was a boy there were half day races held every summer. The course was off Station Lane. There was a small lane which led to the course which was to the north of Station Lane. The course had jumps of various types and people referred to it as a steeplechase.

The course had no buildings and when races were held tents of various sizes were erected. It was a gathering place for the breeches and bowler hatted bri-
gade. Men turned up with shooting sticks and women strutted around in Jodhpurs. The first time I saw a man perched on a shooting stick I was puzzled and wondered where the top of the stick ended; it was not until the man stood up and walked away that I saw that the stick had a folding sort of saddle on which he sat.

I have clear memories of races, the horses and their riders in their silks. I also have memories of the smells which pervaded the course. The smell of the horses which included their droppings and urine, but also there was a lot of beer drunk and the toilet arrangements were somewhat primitive, which all added to the atmosphere. To us village boys it was all very interesting, particularly watching the bookies and their tic tac men signalling the odds.

There was a stream which ran through the course which provided a water jump, this was where riders would often fall and finish up in the water. I heard one woman say to another that Bunnie had come an arser which I understood to mean he had landed on his rear end. I do not know when the Hethersett races ended but I suspect the onset of the Depression had something to do with it.

The village had a population of about a thousand souls who mostly adhered to the Church of England. There were a few hundred Methodists and a few Baptists. There was a small group of Roman Catholics who attended mass at the nearby town of Wymondham. It was also rumoured that there were a couple of members of the British Flat Earth Society.

The local Church was dedicated to Saint Remigius which reflected local history. After the battle of Crecy which was fought in 1346 Edward III insisted that instead of exporting the raw wool, England should do its own weaving and imported French and Flemish weavers to convert the wool into cloth. A number of these imports settled in East Anglia where a lot of the wool was raised. As a result of these newcomers to the area, they not only built churches they also dedicated churches to their own Saints hence Hethersett got a church dedicated to a French Saint.

One of the strange and ironic twists of history is that Remigius was originally a Christian Romanised Celt from England who was sent to France to Christianise the Franks who were pagan and were invading eastern France. The City of Rheims is named after him. While the Church of England was the largest religious group in the village it was probably the smallest in Church attendance.

The church was a convenient place in which to get married, baptised and buried. A further irony was that there was only one graveyard in the village and that was next to the church. As a consequence no matter what your religion was while you were alive, you were likely to find your final resting place beside or next to members of another Christian sect.

More from Bill Morton’s writings in the June edition of Hethersett Herald.
The future for arthritis care and the NHS as a whole were chewed over along with the birthday cake when the Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group (RiNG) celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Ailsa Bosworth MBE, chief executive of the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society, spoke at the event attended by 70 people at Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett.

Her theme was ‘Changing Minds, Changing Lives’.

She said: “Our vision is for NRAS to be there at the start of every RA patient’s journey because we know we make a difference to people’s lives.”

Among other things, the charity provides a website, a helpline, a wide range of literature and telephone support volunteers.

But NHS funding for a full clinical trial evaluating the effectiveness of a proposed
package of care, advice and support for newly diagnosed patients is currently not available.

Ms Bosworth said that pilot schemes indicate it would save a great deal of money by helping patients manage their disease better.

Professor David Scott, who led the rheumatology team at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital for many years, also spoke at the event.

He said hard-pressed health bosses only notice arthritis when the effective but expensive biologic drugs are costing them too much money, so they want to substitute the new cheaper biosimilars. But he also has wider concerns.

He said: “I was born three days after the NHS but I hope I’m in better shape approaching 70. I worry about where the NHS is going.

“There’s not enough money and health inflation is 8pc a year.

“We need a Royal Commission to take healthcare out of politics. It’s no good just
Groups and Societies

sticking a penny on income tax.”

He thinks many European countries and places like Australia and Japan now have better healthcare than we do and we should look at their systems.

The RiNG puts its decade-long success down to a combination of providing information, support, friendship and fun.

The group hosts a wide range of talks at its meetings on the first Wednesday of each month in Hethersett Village Hall – some medical and some of general interest.

“But tea, home-made cake and making friends are just as important,” said vice-chair Viv Hawes.

Other activities include theatre trips, organised by Jean Nightingale.

“We love musicals for the feel-good factor,” she said.

Programme details are available at www.thering.org.uk or the answering service number of 0800 072 9597.
Groups and Societies

Hethersett Playing Field Bowls Club

The club started its new season on Saturday, 21st April. The club welcomes new members who would like to “have a go.” The club plays in two leagues and also friendlies, roll ups and club competitions. Anyone interested in joining or trying the sport out should pop along on a Saturday afternoon.

Hethersett Women’s Institute

Georgette Vale entertained the WI with her portrayal of Elizabeth Fry. Elizabeth (or Georgette) described her life and achievements as a lady in her 60s. She was dressed in her grey puritanical garb and mob cap. Elizabeth was born in Norwich in 1780 and stayed in the city until she married Joseph Fry when she was 20. Fry was a Quaker and a banker. They moved to London where she had 11 children. She became determined to change the lives of those less fortunate than herself and became a prison performer, improving conditions and bringing education to prisoners.

She also created a school of nursing, night shelters and the Sunday School network. Today she is remembered on a £5 note.

Methodist Church Fundraiser

A fundraising evening with food, a beetle drive, a quiz, a raffle and a “guess the obscure picture” competition raised £130, part of which will go to church funds. The church will be holding a men’s breakfast on 5th May with John Hobson speaking on the subject of “Marmite.” Ring 01603 812582 to book.

WE are looking to improve and expand our groups and societies section. If you would like your organisation to be featured in Hethersett Herald please contact the editor via e-mail at petersteward@lineone.net.

Reports of events and meetings can also be sent to the above e-mail 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.hethersett.org.uk.
The meeting opened with the announcement of the sad news that Bill Reekie, the Society’s president, died recently and one minute’s silence was held in his memory.

The talk this month was given by Susan Maddock, formerly of the Norfolk Record Office, whose subject was “Death, Danger and Destruction in Medieval Lynn.”

The Medieval period (the Middle Ages) in England is generally considered to cover the 5th to the 15th century. Susan highlighted various examples of life in King’s Lynn under the three main topics suggested by her title.
First and very prominently, death featured heavily during those times as the Black Death, or Bubonic Plague, which came to England in June 1348, reached Lynn in 1349. We were told that modern estimates of the number of deaths vary widely but her own research concluded that around 1500 people died in Lynn, about 50% of the population of the time. She used various sources to arrive at this estimate, including a list of 27 burghers (town officials) of the borough compiled in 1342 but with later striking out of 13 names. Many other deaths appear to have been associated with Lynn’s position as an important port as the major cause of recorded accidental death was drowning. Further, the general living conditions were very poor, as shown by a colourful contemporary description of Lynn as “stagnant misery, squalor, famine, loathsome disease and dull despair” comparable to the “worst slums of London and Paris”. To help tackle this, a 15th century regulation stated that every man was to be responsible for keeping the area in front of his house clear of “dung and other filth”. There were also prosecutions for blocking the Millfleet with rubbish and dead dogs!

Moving on to danger, Susan told us that entries in the ‘Leet Roll’ (manorial records) of 1416 mentioned that men dare not go past various houses at night because they contained “prostitutes and Duchemen [Germans]”. There were also major riots protesting against various tolls and charges imposed on the inhabitants. One major target of the protests seems to have been Robert de Monthaut of nearby Castle Rising, and the town was ordered to pay him £4000 in compensation, an enormous sum at the time.

Concluding with the third part of her title, destruction, Susan told us that major fires were common in towns at that time where the buildings were often made of timber, and Lynn was no exception with a devastating fire in 1421. She relayed some very colourful descriptions of the event. Susan finished by telling us that she had found a local connection via ‘Thomas of Hethersett’ who, together with ‘John of Upstone’, both travelling musicians, seems to have become involved with arson in Lynn in 1314. They may, however, been put up to it by the aforementioned Robert de Monthaut in revenge for the riot.

Altogether an interesting talk which brought medieval times to life. Next month’s meeting (14th May) is the AGM of the Society and will also feature a talk by Tony Stimpson and Sally Bate entitled ‘Some Norfolk Gardens’.
HETHERSETT Dementia Support Group held its annual meeting in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall.

Members heard of a plan to bring “caring groups” in the village together under an “umbrella organisation”

Chairman David Bills looked back at the six year history of the group: “The group has succeeded thanks to the amazing efforts of committee members at a time when community spirit seems to be diminishing. Organisations such as ours will enhance community awareness of what we have in Hethersett.

“We have great hope that an umbrella group will help to bring people together by broadening the scope of what we have to offer. We must also network with other dementia support groups that are growing up in places like Eaton and
Groups and Societies

Mulbarton,” Mr Bills said.

Treasurer David Smith said an umbrella group could bring people together from various caring groups in the village to meet on a monthly basis: “We will be looking at caring groups and setting some common ground - providing somewhere people can come for a chat and get advice if needed,” he said.

Dementia Group member Richard Headicar suggested the umbrella group should meet in Hethersett Library.

Mr Smith reported on a “reasonable year” for group finances with donations gratefully received from Hethersett King’s Head, Hethersett Queen’s Head and Rowan House Health and Welfare Centre.

The main aim of the group is “the promotion of equality of opportunity for those experiencing dementia and raising consciousness of the disease in order to combat prejudice.”

Officers elected at the meeting were: Chairman, David Bills; Secretary, Stephen Baxter; Treasurer, David Smith. Committee - Mike Stark, Helen Tyler, Janice Morter, Marilyn Savoury, Pippa Downes, Lesley Evans, Anne Steward.

Health Volunteer Opportunity

VOLUNTARY Norfolk is looking for compassionate and friendly people in South Norfolk to become Health Goal Volunteers for the Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust. The new role involves supporting patients to achieve a particular goal that will improve their health and wellbeing; for example, joining a group to pursue a hobby and to make new friends.

Volunteers will visit the client for around two to three hours per week, for a period of between two and eight weeks, depending on the goal the individual would like to achieve. All volunteers will receive full training, including the opportunity to attend a two-day course in health coaching, and ongoing support.

For more information about becoming a Health Goal volunteer, please contact Pavlina Parashkevova, Volunteer Co-Ordinator (South) on 01603 272336 or email volunteering@nchc.nhs.uk
Dementia Group’s 1950s Quiz

How good is your memory or knowledge of modern history. The agm of Hethersett Dementia Support Group was preceded by a guess the year competition for 20 events that took place in the 1950s. All you have to do in our fun quiz is name the year that the following took place. We will print the answers in the June edition of Hethersett Herald. (Hint - Each year of the decade is featured twice).

1 Anthony Eden became Prime Minister
2 Stereo records were first released
3 Petrol, soap and paper rationing came to an end
4 The Queen’s Christmas message was first televised.
5 King George VI died
6 Postcodes were introduced for the Norwich area
7 The Archers started on the radio
8 The end of all wartime rationing
9 Mount Everest was climbed
10 Squeezy washing up liquid and the Beezer comic were introduced
11 Agatha Christies’ Moustrap play opened
12 The Munich Air Crash
13 The four minute mile was broken by Roger Bannister
14 The Festival of Britain took place
15 Suez Crisis - Egypt nationalised the Suez Canal
16 Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II
17 TV’s Watch with Mother and Andy Pandy began
18 The Channel was crossed by hovercroft
19 The first TV ad appeared on commercial television (Gibbs SR)
20 Premium Bonds were Introduced
Hethersett Horticultural Society

At Hethersett and District Horticultural Society’s meeting on Wednesday 18th April, Pauline Harper gave advice on growing vegetables in small spaces and containers. She provided us with a multitude of tips on how to get the most out a small growing space.

With the drift toward higher housing densities, new build houses tend not to enjoy the larger gardens of older houses, making the growing of vegetables a less practical hobby. Nevertheless, Pauline illustrated how small spaces and containers can be used to grow vegetables. Investment in a packet of seeds will still provide a significant untaxable dividend. Her advice included the following:

Don’t allow high growing vegetables to shield sun from the shorter ones.
Multipurpose compost loses its nutrients after four to six weeks.
Terracotta pots tend to dry out sooner than plastic.
Certain green salad crops, eg rocket, can be picked all season.
Some types of salad leaf will grow over winter.
Use coffee grounds or copper rings to protect valuable plants from slugs and snails.
Nutting can be bought with mesh sizes to defeat cabbage white butterflies and even carrot fly.
Compost bags turned inside out, so they are externally black, absorb the sun’s energy better and can be used as germination encouraging “grow bags”.
Water misting bean and tomato flowers help set-up any which are newly pollinated.
Dry marrowfat peas from a supermarket shelf have been known to grow and produce a pea crop.
Succession planting will help avoid crop gluts going to waste.
The Society meets on Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Great Melton Road, Hethersett. All are welcome - occasional visitors are charged £1.50; refreshments are included.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 16th May when Paul Metcalf will be talking about “Bees” and on Wednesday 20th June, Liz Barnard will be “Designing a Garden”

Leslie Dale, Committee Secretary
Cringleford and Hethersett Flower Club  By Jenny Walpole

THE February meeting unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the Beast from the East, the demonstrator was coming from Chelmsford and was planning on staying overnight. So the committee took the sensible decision of postponing her visit until another date.

March was the club’s AGM, quite an informal affair, and once the business was over, we had a two course supper with wine, followed by quizzes and games.

In April, we had Timothy Green an ex-florist from London and now a wedding planner in Norfolk. It was a very interesting evening as he was quite avant garde and had an able assistant with him. As he said numerous times, he was “off the wall” but the flowers were lovely, an evening we won’t forget for some time.

Forthcoming events in 2018:

21st May - Jeni Baker “The Feminine touch”.

25th June - Members evening “A June Basket”

23rd July - Crystal Dyball “Let’s Celebrate”

We are having an outing to Dale Farm on Monday 2nd July; a personal tour followed by tea with homemade cakes.

There will be a garden coffee morning at 20, Colney Lane, Cringleford, on Saturday 7th July from 10.30-12.30 in aid of Star Throwers Charity.

We generally meet on the fourth Monday of the month (Bank holiday usually the third Monday) at Hethersett Village Hall, 7.30 pm. We have a qualified demonstrator and you have the chance to win one of the arrangements via a raffle at the end of the evening. Our membership for a full year is only £25 and we welcome visitors at a cost of £5 per normal meeting. We are also on Facebook - Cringleford-Hethersett-Flower-Club.
Moaning Minnie Has Her Say

Welcome to our regular monthly comment piece from Hethersett’s Moaning Minnie

What A Mess

There is a lovely play area for children on the Steepletower Estate. It includes swings, slides, etc.

Opposite is a picture of one of the swings that the children love to play on.

Unfortunately, when they built it, they just put a bar across for the suspension of the swing and the birds love that bar.

So the children cannot often use the swing. Why did the Council/Parks Department not put a canopy over the seating to prevent this happening? For the sake of a little bit more thought, this could be in use all the time, and enjoyed by many. Instead of which it is only useable after a heavy rainfall or someone has cleaned it.

Do you have photographs of a village eyesore. If so why not send them to the editor at the email address below.

petersteward@lineone.net
Hethersett Herald

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

www.hethersett.org.uk

Hethersett Herald is a non profit making and independent publication providing news, views and information about Hethersett. It has no affiliation to any specific group, organisation or political party.

Information, reports and photographs are always welcome. These can be e-mailed to petersteward@lineone.net.

Everyone who works or contributes to Hethersett Herald does so on a voluntary and unpaid basis. We are happy to hear from anyone who would like to help us increase and improve our coverage of village life. Views expressed are those of the individual authors.

Herald Team

Editor - Peter Steward

Associate Editors - Roger Morgan and Gary Wyatt.

Proof Reader - Patricia Mills

Thank you to everyone that has contributed to this edition of Hethersett Herald. If you have enjoyed reading this e-magazine please pass on details to friends and relatives so that we can increase our readership.
The following are just some of the events taking place in Hethersett in May. 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

May

Wednesday 2nd - The Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group (The RiNG), Hethersett Village Hall, 2 pm. Behind the Scenes at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

Wednesday 2nd - Annual Hethersett Parish Meeting, Hethersett Village Hall, 7 for 7.30 pm. See front page for details.

Sunday 6th - Stella School of Dance, Hethersett, biennial show at Norwich Theatre Royal, 2.30 and 6 pm. For more information see page 19.

Friday 11th - Hethersett Playing Field Bowls Club Quiz Night. Jubilee Youth Club, 7 pm.

Saturday 12th - Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) litter pick, starting at 10 am from Hethersett Methodist Church car park.

Sunday 13th - Hethersett Village Screen presents the film “Battle of the Sexes,” Hethersett Village Hall, 3 pm. For more details see page 50.

Monday 14th - Hethersett Society AGM - Methodist Church Hall, 7.30 pm

Saturday 19th - Hethersett Singers present A Night at the Movies, Hethersett Methodist Church. See page 69 for details.

Saturday 26th - Soup Saturday at Hethersett Hall from 12.30 pm. For more information see page 69.

IF you would like your group or society featured in Hethersett Herald please send reports and details to the e-mail address below:

petersteward@lineone.net
Hethersett Social Club opening times are as follows:
Mondays - Closed
Tuesdays - 7-11 pm
Wednesdays - 7-11 pm
Thursdays - 7-11 pm
Fridays - 5-11.30pm
Saturdays - Noon to Midnight
Sundays - Noon to 6 pm

HETHERSETT SOCIAL CLUB

Hethersett Social Club opening times are as follows:
Mondays - Closed
Tuesdays - 7-11 pm
Wednesdays - 7-11 pm
Thursdays - 7-11 pm
Fridays - 5-11.30pm
Saturdays - Noon to Midnight
Sundays - Noon to 6 pm

Fete and Dog Show

HETHERSETT Jubilee Youth Club will be holding its annual fete and dog show on June 30th from 12 to 3.30 pm. Stalls can be hired at £5 - either outside or inside the hall. The fete will be opened by Scooby Doo who will also be on hand to sign autographs. There will be stalls, cake competitions, games and the annual dog show.

May 21st Jeni Baker The Feminine Touch
June 25th Members’ Evening June Basket
July 23rd Crystall Dyball Let’s Celebrate
September 24th Lorraine Scott Floral Fusion
October 22nd Anna Potter Ragged Robin Flowers
November 26th Nick Grounds Bah Humbug
January 28th David Wright All Kinds of Everything
February 25th Anne Colby Memories
March 25th AGM

Cringleford and Hethersett Flower Club

Meetings held at Hethersett Village Hall at 7.30 pm (doors open at 7pm)
Hethersett Singers Concert

HETHERSETT Singers will be holding A Night at the Movies in the Methodist Church on May 19th. The concert will feature a varied programme of music written for or featured in films including arrangements by the group’s choral director Rob Goodrich.

The concert will also feature Katie Vaughan, Francesca Girdlestone and Simon Rumsey (baritone).

Tickets can be booked by e-mailing hethsing@btinternet.com or on 07949 533253. The group also has a Facebook page.

A Hearty Welcome

HETHERSETT Hall Residential Care Home is launching Soup Saturdays to help local people suffering from loneliness.

Soup Saturdays will take place on the last Saturday of each month from 12.30 pm.

“We know meal times can be a lonely time for some older people. That’s why we are inviting local older people to take advantage of our hospitality and join us for some hearty soup. Guests are welcome to join us after lunch for games, activities and light refreshment,” a spokesman for the home said.

Places for the soup lunch have to be booked in advance on 01603 810478.

Singing Fellowship Event

HETHERSETT Methodist Church Singing Fellowship will be holding its latest summer music and tea afternoon on Friday, 22nd June, from 2.30 pm.

The afternoon will include music, readings and poems followed by tea and home-made cakes. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book.
News From the Parish Council

Safety Fight Continues

HETHERSETT Parish Council is continuing its fight to have safety measures put in place in Great Melton Road near the shops.

Attempts to have a barrier erected close to the Tasty Bites shop have failed but councillors are still concerned about the dangers to pedestrians from vehicles backing out of the car park and have agreed to take up the matter with Norfolk County Council Highways Department again.

Steepletower Entrance

DESPITE agreements with a number of organisations about improvements to the area at the entrance to Steepletower, no work has been undertaken to date. The council will be following up promises to repair broken brickwork and give the area a general spruce up.

Parish Council Dates

HETHERSETT Parish Council meets monthly, apart from August, in Hethersett Village Hall. Full council meetings begin at 7.30 pm and are preceded by meetings of the council’s planning committee which start at 7 pm. The planning committee also meets on other dates throughout the year.

Meeting dates for the remainder of 2018 are as follows: Full Meetings - May 14th, June 18th, July 16th, September 17th, October 15th, November 19th, December 17th. Planning Committee meetings will take place on the above dates and also on: June 4th, July 2nd, August 6th, September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th, December 3rd.

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

SADLY the number of events being held in Hethersett Library seem to be on the decline since the latest staff changes were made with library manager Tina Cook and library assistant Rebecca Warner both leaving as reported in the last edition of Hethersett Herald.

As a result the latest list of events on the internet show that only the book group, the regular weekly coffee sessions and the adult colouring sessions are now being held. The community board used to promote local groups and organisations has been empty for most of the month.

Is this another erosion of a vital Hethersett service? The library’s Facebook page, previously regularly used to promote events etc, hasn’t been updated since March 25th when a couple of glowing messages were left by library users. These comments included the following:

“This library is an asset for the local community. There is always something going on that caters for all ages and interests.”

“The Hethersett Library is a wonderful community resource. I have found the support for young children very helpful and the librarians and volunteers are great.”

It would be very sad to see any further erosion of facilities at the library which over the past five years has become a hub of the local community.

Groups that will be taking place in May include the following:

Weekly Coffee Mornings will be held on May 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th.

Colour me Calm adult colouring mornings will take place from 10.30 am until midday on May 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th and the Book Group will meet on May 5th and 9th.

If you need more information on library events please contact them on 01603 810188.

Library opening times are on the next page.
Hethersett Library Opening Times:
Mondays: 10am-1pm and 2-5pm (Open Libraries access 8am-5pm)
Tuesdays: Closed no Open Libraries access
Wednesdays: 10am-1pm and 2-5pm (Open Libraries access 8am-5pm)
Thursdays: 2-7pm (Open Libraries access 8am-7pm)
Fridays: 10am-1pm and 2-5pm (Open Libraries access 8am-5pm)
Saturdays: 10am-2pm (Open Libraries access 8am-2pm)
Sundays: Closed, no Open Libraries access

Hethersett Library will be closed on the following public holidays:

7th May - Early May bank holiday
28th May - Spring bank holiday
27th August - Summer bank holiday
AFTER a bad start and forecasts of a return to wintry conditions to come, spring appears to have finally arrived if only temporarily. Like many other people, I have daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, bluebells, mahonias, bergonias, primulas, primroses, heathers, pansies, violas, cherries, magnolias, camellias and assorted fruit trees all in bloom at the same time; a beautiful but crazy situation.

The weather has been totally confusing not just to us but also to our hedgehogs with some having been awake for several weeks and others just stirring. However, the word seems to have got out that there is a hedgehog restaurant in my garden and we have already identified at least six different visitors in any one night. They are identifiable by the markings that show up under the infra-red light of the camera and the lightness or darkness of their facial fur and ruff. A couple have punk rocker haircuts with tufts of hair sticking out above their ears and one has a broken leg which it seems to be coping with quite well.

Two new arrivals came in from Paul Baisley our local dentist. He had been fostering them since the autumn and they were so comfortable snoozing away in his outhouse that they were very late to wake up. They weighed in at 521 gm and 463 gm which is a good weight for an animal that has not eaten for nearly five months. We put them in the outside run, which has two hedgehog houses inside it. At first they were placed into individual homes but quickly moved in together in a single box. After a few days to acclimatise to the elements and to get accustomed to the idea of foraging for food again, they were released.

Fights have already broken out in the garden, not over food as there are eight different bowls on offer, but about who is the alpha male and most attractive to the ladies. In courtship a male will circle a female and nudge her in the hope that
she will respond and submit to him. In fight mode he just charges and may not only upend and roll his adversary away but may get under him and toss him into the air. Errol Flynn would be mightily impressed at the antics.

I have also been around the garden and cleared out all six of the hedgehog houses that were placed here and there under bushes. While doing so I discovered a couple of hibernating dormice and one large mummified rat. The dormice delighted me and the rat freaked me out even though both were totally harmless.

Now all I can really do is put out food and water each night and watch and wait for babies to appear. I hope that we do get some hoglets as we need new life in the garden. The spring not only upset the hedgehogs it upset the frogs too and, after nearly 40 years of having spawn by the bucket-full in the pond, this year I have two tiny clumps.

With the national decline in hedgehogs, sparrows, frogs and other creatures we need to do everything that we can for these wonderful little beings that can give us so much joy.

Petanque Players Needed

A NEW petanque group is ready to take off on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field.

A petanque terrain already exists and Woodcote Sheltered Housing resident Richard Headicar, who has been a supporter of the sport for many years, is inviting people to join.

“We are trying to establish a Hethersett Petanque Group for regular play. Your support is needed and would be very welcome,” Richard said.

Anyone interested in playing petanque should contact Richard Headicar on 01603 814343 or David Smith on 01603 811399.
Fun Run Sunday

PLANS are well advanced for this year’s village funrun on Sunday, 8th July.

Well over 200 runners/walkers are once again expected to take part in the two mile course starting and finishing outside Hethersett Junior School.

The course will once again take runners along Queen’s Road and part of Great Melton Road before turning left to go the length of Mill Road.

It will then turn left again into New Road and left onto the B1172 and then past the King’s Head and Queen’s Head and back to the start.

The event will start at 11 am and village roads along the route will be closed for the duration of the run - expected to be about one hour.

Once again this year Rowan House Health and Welfare Centre and Hethersett Social Club will be hosting fitness-related events at the end of the run until 3 pm in the afternoon.

Attractions will include stalls, fitness classes, South Norfolk’s recycling and energy information bus and much more:

“The event is an opportunity for clubs and groups to promote what they do,” said Rachel Pailles from Rowan House.

We will have more information on these events in the June edition of Hethersett Herald.

Any group wishing to play a part in the day can contact Rachel on 01603 813999 or via e-mail at

Rachel@rowanhousecentre.co.uk

Entry fees for the run have been kept at

Extending Our Service

READERS can find out when a new edition of Hethersett Herald is online via Facebook, Twitter and Next Door Social Media sites and also on the front page of the Hethersett Village Website at www.hethersett.org.uk

We are now also setting-up an e-mail group for anyone who would like to receive e-mail notification of new editions.

If you would like to avail yourself of this service simply send an e-mail request to

petersteward@lineone.net

We will not pass your e-mail address onto any third party.

THE next edition of Hethersett Herald will be published exclusively online at the beginning of May. Back copies are also available on the website.

Hethersett Herald began publication in November 2015.
New Date For Quiz

HETHERSETT Bowls Club have re-arranged their grand quiz night which was cancelled at the beginning of March due to the bad weather.

It will now be held on Friday, 11th May, in the Jubilee Youth Club premises in Back Lane (6.30 pm for 7 pm start).

There will be prizes for the winning team, a lucky ticket prize and a raffle. A finger buffet is included in the ticket price. Teams should be a maximum of eight and tickets are £8 each and available from David and Irma on 01603 810735, Dennis on 01603 814292, Ron on 01603 813096 or any bowls club member.

Proceeds from the evening will go to bowls club funds. Those taking part should bring their own drinks and glasses. The organisers will try to fill tables if the occasional singles/couples or fours turn up.
YOU can catch up on previous editions of the Hethersett Herald by going to http://hethersett.org.uk/emags.htm and following the links. Hethersett Herald is an independent publication for news, views and features about Hethersett and general articles written by residents. It is currently available only online.

News and Features Needed

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

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

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

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

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

DFH Café

A friendly place to meet for those experiencing memory loss, loneliness or needing a listening ear

ALL WELCOME

Café takes place on the third Tuesday of every month at Hethersett Methodist Church Hall, Great Melton Road NR9 3AB 10am – 12 noon Refreshments provided

‘Speak up for dementia...A positive vision for the future’ For info call Stephen Baxter - on 07808 329102
Hawks Open Their Season

By Mel Perkins

HETHERSETT Hawks/Myhill Decorators finally got their 2018 season off the starting blocks following one match cancelled by snow and very little on-track practice time. Conditions were not ideal for those not at full fitness as a heavy track welcomed Great Blakenham to the Memorial Playing Field.

Both sides had first-team riders absent so called on their second-team squads and the Hawks came away pleased with their efforts restricting the title contenders to under 100 points. The home side had no answer to Lewis Osborne and out-of-retirement Jason Ashford but a solid performance from Leigh Cossey, determined riding from Harley Hamill and tactical awareness from Glyn Morgan kept the match interesting.


The respective B teams put on an entertaining Division Two match with Shaun Kell making his Hawks debut. Great Blakenham built up an eight-point lead after three heats and held on until the end despite the Hawks' best efforts. Liam Webster dropped just one point to the experienced Jason Ashford and Owen Wells competed strongly.


The previous day Hethersett had its biggest contingent in a South East Grand Prix round for several seasons at Great Blakenham. In the British Little League event George Larter (13) Shaun Kell (11) scored enough to put Hawks into fourth place.

In the Under-10 Grand Prix, Shaun finished 6th and George 7th. In the tough Junior category Owen Wells scored 12, Daniel Longlands 6 and Paul Delaiche 4 and added to newcomer Josie Kell's 9 points in the girls' event it saw Hethersett take third place in the British Youth and Junior team event. Owen finished third in the Grand Prix, Josie 5th, Daniel 9th and Paul 10th. Harley Hamill and Glyn Morgan both competed well in the Senior Grand Prix.

As already mentioned, bad weather seriously disrupted both track preparation and outdoor fitness training and led to the postponement of the first league fixtures against Norwich Stars on 18th March with the track covered in snow.
Indoor "boot camp" sessions have been running for six weeks at Hethersett Social Club on Wednesday evenings and a regular handful of participants struggling to move the next morning.

The first club night heralded the arrival of "British Summer Time" on March 27th and, despite a damp day, conditions were not bad on the evening and the track was very fast and grippy. Fifteen took part with concentration on graded races followed by Rider of the Night Handicap (won by Shaun Kell) and 24-lap Elimination Race (won by Josie Kell with a bit of assistance). We welcomed newcomers Charlie Lyth and Lewis Smith.

A pre-season social event with a difference was held at Hethersett Social Club - a darts competition run like a four-a-side cycle speedway competition. Seven teams stepped up to the oche including one team from Norwich Stars who also had Lee Grange guesting for Team Cossey. A few heats were won by scores less than 30 so ability with the arrows was not always required. Lisa Wells tried to keep a handle on the score sheets although the Hawks new team manager did not help by putting his mum down twice on the programme and leaving his dad off in the Consolation Final.

In the end it was the Norwich quartet of Paddy Wenn, Gary Colby, Mike Marshall and David Ewbank who proved they had a mis-spent youth to win the final with ease. Kevin Wells excelled to get the lowest possible score prize with three scoring darts - 3 - and Steve Perkins earned himself a bottle of wine for his first visit to the board placing a 133 which was never surpassed as the highest score.

For the record here are the scores on the night -

Semi-Final A - Team Wells 48, Team Perkins 42, Team Nelson/Kell 36, Team Butler/Hamill/Adams 34.

Semi-Final B - Team Norwich 47.5, Team Grimes/Collins/Webster 39, Team Cossey/Grange 38.5, Team Nelson/Kell 35.

Consolation Final Team Butler/Hamill/Adams 50, Team Nelson/Ker 48, Team Cossey/Grange 46.

Final - Team Norwich 53, Team Wells 44, Team Grimes/Collins/Webster 32, Team Perkins 31.

Hawks secured their first win of the season when the B team travelled to Canning Town Rec and defeated East London, who dropped down a division this season. Owen Wells, fresh from a promising debut in the British Elite Junior Grand Prix at Sheffield where he finished ninth with 13 points, had another good day in London. He dropped just one point as did rider/manager Harley Hamill. Two first-half 7-3 wins by Wells and Dan Butler, back from injury, plus another just before the break by Hamill and Glyn Morgan set up the victory. The only race loss by Hethersett was when Liam Webster suffered an exclusion following a collision. The biggest cheer came in the final heat when the Hawks' youngest
Sports Reports Needed

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

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

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

Death of Popular Football Manager

IT is with great sadness that Hethersett Athletic Football Club has announced the death of former Saturday team manager Paul Stone.

“Stoney” was Hethersett through and through and coached and managed the Saturday men’s side in the Central and South Norfolk League for many years, taking them to cup finals and leading them into the league’s top division.

In 2016, Paul was joint winner of the coveted Lee Thompson Memorial Trophy which is given each season to the person or persons making an outstanding contribution to the club. He shared the award with Saturday team player Danny Gray.

Our photograph shows Paul and Danny with the Lee Thompson Memorial Trophy.

riders, Daniel Longlands and Paul Delaiche, romped home to a 7-3 win.

Double Celebration at Athletic

IT was double celebration time for Hethersett Athletic Football Club in April as our photographs above show.

On the left club chairman Neal Luther presents a special club shirt to Olli Hudson-Church to mark his 300th league and cup appearance for the club which gives him honorary life membership.

On the right Neal Luther presents a bottle of champagne to Danny Gray for breaking the club’s scoring record.

Meanwhile the club’s Saturday Old Boys team has pulled out of the Central and South Norfolk League after being unable to field a side on a number of occasions.
Opening Day Defeat For Cricketers

HETHERSETT and Tas Valley Cricket Club opened its season with a defeat at the hands of Norwich Seconds in Division Two of the Norfolk Alliance.

Valley gained a march on other clubs by starting its season a week early due to the Norwich club’s problem with fixtures later in the season.

Hethersett have high hopes of a good season with a mixture of experience and youth as they try to gain promotion to Division One - something they have narrowly missed out on in a number of previous seasons.

But they found Norwich in dominant form as the home side hit 224-5 in their 45 overs with Martin Greiller (102 not out) and Chris Borrett (78) putting on 154 for the third wicket. Robbie Matthews was the pick of the Hethersett bowlers with 3-40.

In reply, Hethersett were bowled out for 187 in 42.5 overs. Matthews completed a good all-round performance with 57 and James Shipley weighed in with 36 and Dave Cosford hit 40.

Hethersett Seconds beat UEA Seconds by four wickets in a friendly. UEA hit 197-7 and Valley replied with 198-6 with Tom Osborn scoring 70.

Valley fixtures for Saturdays in May include the following:

First Team - 5th May away to Great Witchingham; 12th May home to Swaffham; 19th May away to Mattishall; 26th May home to Saham Toney.

Second Team - 5th May home to Stow; 12th May away to Rocklands; 19th May home to Sheringham; 26th May away to North Runcton

Third Team - 5th May away to Cringleford; 12th May away to Rackheath; 19th May home to New Buckenham; 26th May away to Hingham.

Fourth Team - 5th May home to Norwich Bystanders; 12th May home to Garboldisham; 19th May away to Colney.

The club plays its home games at Flordon. It also has a full fixture list for Sundays and also midweek teams. For full details of results and fixtures go to the club’s official web site at:

http://htvalley.play-cricket.com/