

HETHERSETT
LITTLE MELTON
AND GREAT MELTON



Photographs of the annual Remembrance Sunday commemoration around the War Memorial in Hethersett on November 12th.
More photographs and a report on page 21.

DECEMBER 2023

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“GOOD NEWS” PARISH MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

The committee which administers the magazine is a sub-committee of the Hethersett Parochial Church Council, consisting of members from that council with powers to co-opt other members.

The Committee: Kim Arnall, Mark Alexander, Ros Head and Peter Steward

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Items for publication should be delivered to the Editor by the 12th of each month prior to publication - contact details are on page 23.

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The Parochial Church Council cannot accept responsibility for the wording of advertisements or the work performed by any advertiser in this magazine.

A Time To Celebrate

A Christmas message from the Venerable Martin Gray

Dear All,

ONCE more Christmas is upon us when, perhaps, we can escape from the reality of the modern world with its horrors of war and conflict, cost of living crises and the effects of climate change and, for a week or two at least, enter into the celebrations of this special time of the year; the parties, the turkey, the family gatherings, the presents, the carols, and all the things associated with the modern Christmas.

Once more, no doubt, come January 1st 2024, the short escape will be forgotten and it will be back to reality. Many will be left feeling empty and lost. Some will content themselves with the fact that it was marvelous while it lasted. Others will wonder whether it was all worthwhile. For some it will have been a painful time. There will have been no escape for those caught up in war.

Those without families, those who mourn, those who are poor, will not have been able to take part fully in the partying and the present giving and the family gatherings and some will be glad that the festivities are over but, of course, as wonderful as they are for those that can enjoy them, Christmas is about far more than parties, present giving and family gatherings and an escape from the reality of life.

The real truth of Christmas is good news for all; not just until January 1st but for eternity. God, in his love for us, enters into the reality of human life. He

sees the pain and the suffering of the world; the selfishness and greed that prevents us from experiencing that love and comes to be with us as a helpless, homeless child; as a victim of injustice, cruelty, selfishness and greed and, in love, overcomes them through the crucifixion and resurrection.

He comes in Jesus and stands with us in the mess. He becomes the light shining in the darkness of this world in order to lead us and carry us towards salvation. He comes to show us that the way to know him and the peace which passes understanding, the peace that we all long for, is not experienced by escaping from reality, even though, at times like Christmas, almost every part of us is telling us to do just that, but by engaging with it as he did; giving of our very selves to God and to those around us so that we too are heralds of the good news of the gospel of God's love.

The good news of Christmas is fantastic news for all whether we are three or 93, caught up in the horrors of war, rich or poor, surrounded by family, or bearing the loss of a loved one. Because of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection we know that God is with us; loving us with a love that cannot be destroyed and that is news in which we can all rejoice.

A truly happy, joyous and blessed Christmas to you all.

Martin Gray – Christmas 2023

News From Hethersett

Christingle Service on 3rd December

THIS year, St Remigius Church and Hethersett Methodist Church are joining together to present the Christingle Service. It will be held in the Methodist Church on 3rd December at 4 pm. We will start in the hall with refreshments and then move into the church to learn the message of the Christingle and to make our own to take home. The Service raises funds for the Children's Society which supports children and young people in this country. This year they are highlighting the financial plight of youngsters leaving care at 16. Find out more at www.children's society.co.uk.

New Bus Services

There have been significant changes to the bus service to and through Hethersett. Here is a quick rundown of the new services.

Number six goes along the B1172 as it previously did.

Number 11 goes through the village and to and from the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital as it previously did.

Number 13 goes along the B1172.

Number 14 takes the place of the old number 15 and goes through the village.

Number 15 now goes along the B1172 and not through the village.

Number 16 goes along the B1172

The Ourbus service goes through the village to the Longwater Retail Park on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Lowering Speed Limit

THE speed limit along a section of Colney Lane in Hethersett is likely to be lowered from 60 to 40 mph in the near future.

A letter from Norfolk County Council has outlined the proposal:

"Norfolk County Council is planning to convert the existing national (60 mph) speed limit on Colney Lane/Hethersett Lane to 40 mph.

"The proposed 40 mph will extend from Hethersett Lane's roundabout with Rosalind Franklin Road south to its junction with Norwich Road."

Hethersett Parish Council agreed unanimously that the reduction in the speed limit was "an excellent idea."

Plans still exist to put traffic lights at the junction of Colney Lane and the B1172.

Hethersett District and County Councillor David Bills has also backed the plans: "I am strongly supportive. Safety-wise this is definitely needed. People seem to think that because it's a 60 mph zone you have to drive at 60 mph," he told the Norwich Evening News.

News From Hethersett

Post Office Celebrates First Birthday

HETHERSETT'S community post office celebrated its first birthday in Hethersett Library at the end of October.

The post office is an example of the Hethersett community working together for the benefit of all. Post office staff, library staff, volunteers and local councillors came together in the library to celebrate the birthday with coffee and cake. Hethersett County and District Councillor David Bills praised everyone for making a success of the venture since the former office in Oak Square closed.



The post office is run by two paid staff and a host of volunteers under the auspices of the Hethersett Hearts charity. The post office also has five unpaid volunteer directors as a Community Interest Company (CIC).

"This is certainly something to celebrate and shows once again what Hethersett can do thanks to the hard work of so many people including the post office staff, the volunteers, Hethersett Hearts and the county council. What we have to offer is brilliant and I haven't received a single complaint since the post office opened in the library," Councillor Bills said.

Fellow County Councillor Margaret Dewsbury, cabinet member for communities and partnerships, also praised the initiative:

"This works so well. Libraries are the public face of the county council. It is certainly unusual to have a post office in a library but it fits in beautifully with all the other groups and things going on here," she said.

One of the two paid staff, Alison Barnard, thanked the library staff for making them "so welcome."

Hethersett Post Office is open six days a week and only closed on Sundays. Our photograph shows post office and library staff and volunteers at the birthday celebrations where refreshments were paid for by the Friends of Hethersett Library Group.

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Parish Church Services in December



**As we currently have no Rector, service times may vary.
Please check the list below and also further through the magazine for
information from the individual churches.**

3rd December: Advent Sunday

Little Melton	9.30 am	Family Communion
Hethersett	11.00 am	Informal Communion with the Bishop of Thetford
Hethersett	4.00 pm	Joint Christingle Service at the Methodist Church
Great Melton	4.00 pm	Garden Church at the Cricket Pavilion

10th December: Advent 2

Hethersett	10.30 am	Parish Communion
Great Melton	3.30 pm	Christingle

17th December: Advent 3

Hethersett	9.00 am	Said Communion Service
Little Melton	10.30 am	Family Carol Service
Hethersett	6.00 pm	Carol Service

24th December: Advent 4 - Christmas Eve

Hethersett	11.00 am	Parish Communion with the Archdeacon of Norwich
Little Melton	3.30 pm	Crib Service
Hethersett	4.00 pm	Joint Crib Service at St Remigius
Great Melton	6.30 pm	Candelit Carols and Communion
Hethersett	11.30 pm	Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

Little Melton	9.30 am	Benefice Communion
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31st December: Christmas 1

Hethersett	10.30 am	Benefice Communion
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Hethersett Wednesday Communion Services will take place at 10:00am on:

6th December 13th December 20th December

No service on 27th December

Little Melton Tuesday Morning Prayer at 10.00am on:

12th December ONLY

No service on 28th December

Groups and Societies

HETHERSETT Hawks/Yellow Brick Mortgages joined the Norwich Stars club in contesting the Norfolk Individual Championships at Eaton Park. In total 26 riders contested the eight categories and, with three of the recently crowned Hethersett Club Champions absent, there were easier opportunities for others to grab the glory.

Nyla El-Labany successfully defended her Under-eight title but it was Ronnie Harding who defeated all the field to win the Under-10 title. The Under-13s is often the most competitive and this again proved true with Zachery Eastwood coming out on top of the podium next to the holder Will Blackmore and Lola Martin. Lola went on to win the Ladies title at the age of 11 and, to complete a successful day for the Martin family, Mason completed another hat-trick, winning the Under-16, Under-19 and Senior - probably one of the youngest to win the latter in the event's 70-year history. Paddy Wenn finally had to surrender the veterans' title as he was beaten three times by Glyn Morgan.

Full results - (H) = Hethersett (N) = Norwich

Under-8 (sponsored by Dave Blackmore) - Nyla El-Labany (H) 16, Isaac Emms (H) 13, Jax Lockhart (H) 9, Thomas King (N) 6, Henry Everson (H) 6. Under-10 (sponsored by Jenny Melvin) - Ronnie Harding (H) 16, Kenzie Bushell (N) 15, Nyla El-Labany (H) 14, Isaac Emms (H) 13, Jake Harvey-Riches (H) 12, Theo Coomber (H) 11, Henry Everson (H) 10, Michael Whitfield (H) 9, Kallum Ward (N) 8. Under-13 - Zachery Eastwood (N) 20, Will Blackmore (N) 18, Lola Martin (H) 15, Luca El-Labany (H) 15, Isaac Emms (H) 12, Jake Harvey-Riches (H) 10. Under-16 - Mason Martin (H) 16, Zachery Eastwood (N) 11, Will Blackmore (N) 10, Lola Martin (H) 8, Amelia Dodson (H) 5. Under-19 - Mason Martin (H) 16, Zachery Eastwood (N) 11, Amelia Dodson (H) 7, Lola Martin (H) 6. Senior - Mason Martin (H) 15, Paddy Wenn (N) 14, Harry Everiss (N) 13, Dave Martin (H) 10, Rory Freeman (H) 7, Jamie Medler (N) 7, Steve Copping (N) 4. Ladies - Lola Martin (H) 16, Amelia Dodson (H) 10, Tabi Nierop (N) 9, Jade Emms (H) 5. Veterans - 1 Glyn Morgan (H) 15, Paddy Wenn (N) 13, Rory Freeman (H) 7, Steve Copping (N) 5.

The annual Charity Day at Hethersett had a distinct end-of-season feel to it with a cold northerly wind and, disappointingly, a poorer than expected attendance. The Charity Cup had a field of only seven, the lowest in its 54-year history and followers of Norfolk racing will not be surprised that the winner was Mason Martin. Paddy Wenn and Glyn Morgan renewed their rivalry and this time Paddy got the upper-hand to finish runner-up. Dave Martin rode consistently to step up to the podium also. Amelia Dodson was nominated by regular supporter Neil Attoe to receive the Entertaining Rider award, presented in memory of Colin Chamberlain each year.

Scores - Mason Martin 16 Paddy Wenn 13 Dave Martin 12 Glyn Morgan 10 Connor Jarrett 8 Lola Martin 7 Amelia Dodson 4

News From Hethersett

Keeping Warm In Hethersett Library

THINGS will be hotting up in Hethersett Library once again as winter takes hold.

The library will be inviting residents to "keep warm and well this winter" by providing special packs and bags.

The library is providing blankets and hot water bottles, toiletry bags and sanitary bags and also hot drinks at times when it is staffed.

The initiative follows the success of a similar one last year as the country struggled to recover from lockdown.

Free hot drinks will be available during times when the library is staffed which will be Monday from 1.30 pm until 7 pm, Wednesday from 11 am until 7 pm, Thursday from 1.30 pm until 7 pm, Friday from 1.30 pm until 7 pm and Saturday from 11 am until 4 pm.

The toiletries' bag contains deodorant, shampoo, bodywash and toothpaste and toothbrushes are also available.

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Norfolk County Council

New Classrooms At Hethersett Academy

HETHERSETT Academy has been given planning permission for a major new extension.

Planners at South Norfolk have backed a three storey teaching block.

This will feature 12 new classrooms, a dining hall and kitchen in order to increase the school's intake by up to 40 additional pupils.

The ever-popular school has been turning pupils away for two years due to being over-subscribed after glowing Ofsted reports.

Hethersett Parish Council was informed of the new plans at its October meeting.

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LEAFLETS detailing Christmas church services and arrangements for the festive season will be distributed around the villages of Hethersett, Little Melton and Great Melton this year. The printed flyers have been put together and will be distributed by Hethersett and District Churches Together.

The Methodist Church

St Remigius and The Methodist Church are inviting you to a joint Crib Service on Christmas Eve at St Remigius 4pm Come and join us

Come and Join Us at the **Coffee Stop** 9am to 12pm Every Wednesday

Christingle The Children's Society

The Methodist Church and St Remigius are planning one **Big Christingle** together this year at The Methodist Church Hethersett 3rd December at 4pm Come and Join Us

Please visit our Facebook Page—Hethersett, Morley and Wymondham Methodist Churches -where you will find service details and a "Thought For the Week."

Minister: Rev Steve Cullis 01953 609106

We look forward to welcoming you at any of our Advent and Christmas Services. Our services for December are:

Sunday 3rd	10.30 am	Rev Steve Cullis, Holy Communion
	4 pm	Rev Steve Cullis, Christingle Service with tea before
Sunday 10th	10.30 am	Rev Nigel Fox
	5.30 pm	Community Carols in Park Green
Sunday 17th	10.30 am	Rev Steve Cullis, Holy Communion at Wymondham
	6.30 pm	Rev Steve Cullis, Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve	10.30 am	Rev Steve Cullis, Section Christmas Communion
	4 pm	United Crib Service in St Remigius
Christmas Day	10.30 am	Rev Mary Cousins, Christmas Day Service
Sunday 31st	10.30 am	Rev Mary Cousins at Wymondham

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The Methodist Church

The Art and Craft Group meets each Wednesday at 10 am (Please contact Tina Greenhalgh for information: 810364).

Men's Mardle will meet on Wednesday 6th December, 10 am.

Everyone is welcome at the Christmas Music and Tea Afternoon with the Singing Fellowship on Friday 8th December at 2.30 pm. It will be lovely to welcome you for this special afternoon of carols, poetry and Bible readings followed by tea and cake.

Winter Wonderland in December

HETHERSETT'S winter wonderland is once again in full swing.

The Christmas lights in Park Green were switched on towards the end of November and will be on every night throughout December from 4 pm until 10.30 pm.

The now traditional magical scene is in memory of Finnbar Cork, a young boy who died from a brain tumour.

For a number of years, the lights have been switched on as part of the Finnbar's Force Charity as local resident Jean Starling explained:

"We are pleased to announce our fantastic Christmas lights display is once again on for all of December.

"Your donations help the charity to support families who suddenly find their child is in need of children's cancer treatment. Also large donations go to research into a cure for children's cancer.

"Please come and enjoy our lights with all your family. Take photos and place whatever you can into the Wishing Well."

The photograph montage opposite was taken at last year's event.



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Groups and Societies

Friends of Hethersett Library

THE Friends' group quiz in Hethersett Village Hall at the end of October raised over £600 with 15 tables taking part. The winning team went under the name of Splendid Rush which we suspect is something to do with Norwich City's anthem "On The Ball City."

The money raised from the evening will fully cover the cost of a children's village party which is due to take place in the new pavilion on the Memorial Playing Field on December 2nd.

The Friends of Hethersett Library arranges regular presentations in Hethersett Library and is already sorting out a programme for 2024 which will include a return visit from Paddy Anstey to talk about railways in April and another presentation from Norfolk author Phyllida Scrivens in June. We will have full details of the coming programme in coming editions of Good News.

Talks and presentations always close with refreshments provided by committee members.

Hethersett Gardening Club

JIM Payne of Walnut Tree Nursery spoke about climate change and its amelioration by changes to our gardening practices.

Commencing with the "technical side" of a high altitude thin layers of gas, carbon dioxide, methane et al, which retain solar energy and effectively regulate the world's temperature, Jim continued with a summary going back millions of years, ice ages, sea levels rising and falling, and how 200 years of industrialisation has increased that gas layer's thickness, making the world a warmer place.

He then proceeded to show how the natural world has gone on to reflect that over arching process. Beware the "Colorado Beetle" and its affect on certain crops; it's been seen in southern England; the Environmental Agency must be informed if it is spotted. We continued to the present day's developing climate patterns and finally choices of crops and grasses for drought prone areas and coping with peat free compost when raising seedlings.

Hethersett Gardening Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month apart from December, which is usually on the second Wednesday, at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Great Melton Road, Hethersett.

All are very welcome - occasional visitors are charged £2 and refreshments are included. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 13th December when John Freeman brings us memories of holiday tours abroad, prior to Brexit and Covid.

Leslie Dale, Committee Secretary—Isdale@yahoo.co.uk

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Groups and Societies

Forget-Me-Not Cafe

Dec 5th	Carols with the Methodist Singers
Dec 19th	Christmas Traditions with Angela Bishop

The café meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am and enjoys a mixture of games, talks, presentations and musical events, always with coffee/tea and refreshments. All are welcome.

At the groups AGM, chairman David Bills reflected on a very successful year with numbers attending continuing to increase. Committee member Anne Steward reported on the cafes that had been held during the year with a variety of talks and entertainment. The following were elected for the coming year: Chairman, David Bills; Minute Secretary and Project Leader, Stephen Baxter; Treasurer, David Smith. Committee—Lesley Evans, Anne Steward, Pippa Downes, Janice Morter and the Rev Christopher Mallett.

The patron Nick Evans-Loome was thanked for his family's generous sponsorship of the group which has been in existence for almost 10 years and is under the auspices of Hethersett Dementia Support. The AGM was followed by a soup lunch. On November 21st members enjoyed a craft morning with Georgette Vale. For more information on the Forget-Me-Not Café please contact Anne Steward on 01603 811052.

Hethersett Mothers' Union



Hethersett Mothers' Union meets on the last Monday of the month in St. Remigius Church at 1.30 pm.

The year has spun round again and we were due to hold our annual Christmas party on 27th November where we were due to be joined by some members of Little Melton MU. Our annual Christmas lunch takes place on December 4th at the Queen's Head and we close our busy year looking forward to our meeting on Monday January 24th which will be our AGM.

Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year for 2024 to all.

THE Hethersett Hearts charity is looking to reach out to help others this Christmas with an appeal for some Christmas Cheer. The group which was launched during lockdown and which continues to support people in the village with lunches and many other activities is putting together Christmas hampers for those in need in the local community. The group is appealing to residents for donations of sustainable goods including tinned items, sauces, pasta, rice and pulses and Christmas treats.

Goods can be left at Hethersett Queen's Head and Hethersett Hearts can be contacted via Facebook or by telephone on 07716 769124 or by email on hethersetthearts@outlook.com.

Little Melton News—All Saints Church

Services for December

Sunday 3rd December 9.30 am— Holy Communion.
 Sunday 17th December 10.30 am—Carol Service: Please note change in time.
 Christmas Eve: 3.30 pm—Crib Service.
 Christmas Day 9.30 am—Benefice Family Communion.

Please see page seven for details of services available in the benefice throughout December.

Carol Service Sunday 17th December at 10.30 am – this will be a gift service. We are supporting St Martin's Housing Trust again this year and gifts for them will be collected during the service. Ideas for gifts are as follows: Men's toiletry sets (eg Lynx sets); new socks and underpants; small value food gift cards (eg Greggs); men's gloves; chocolate, biscuits; puzzle books/pens.

Christmas Eve Sunday, 24th December at 3.30 pm—Crib Service. This is a short informal service directed at children. The crib scene is built by the children as the Christmas story unfolds.

Morning Prayer in December will be held on Tuesday, 12th at 10 am. Please note there will be no morning prayer on 26th December.

Preparing For Christmas



Christmas Decorations

On Saturday, 2nd December between 10 am and midday we will be decorating the church for Christmas. Everyone is invited to bring along their decorations, ideas or just a willing pair of hands. If you have made some decorations for the church but cannot come at that time, please leave them in the church during the week before and we will put them up for you.

Christmas Fayre Saturday, 9th December 2-4 pm in the church. Father Christmas will be here again so bring the kids along to meet him.

Entertain the children with a few games while enjoying the festive food and music.

There will be Christmas decorations for sale and maybe you will be able to find that elusive present you've been looking for on one of the stalls. There will also be the perennial favourites - a prize draw, bottle stall, gifts and children's tombola.

Please give any donations for the prize draw, bottle stall or children's tombola to Liz (01603 812209) or Lavinia (01603 810149)



News From Little Melton

New Community Café For Village

LITTLE Melton's December Community Cafe in the Village Hall will take place on Wednesday 20th December (between 2 pm and 4 pm).

As well as being able to enjoy a mug of tea or coffee with cake and biscuits, there will be a book swap with a good selection of books available to take home .

The cafe is being funded by the Little Melton Charitable Organisation which runs the village hall.

Change To Library Dates

A reminder that the mobile library service to Little Melton has changed and will now be stopping in School Lane opposite numbers 93 and 95 from 9.30 until 9.50 am on the following dates: November 30th, December 28th, January 25th, February 22nd, March 21st, April 18th and every four weeks after that.

The Band To Play

Norwich Citadel Band of the Salvation Army will be leading the carol concert in Little Melton Church this Christmas. The concert will take place on Thursday 14th December at 7.30 pm and details of how to purchase tickets can be found on the poster opposite.



Thursday 14th December 7.30pm

All Saints Church, Mill Road, Little Melton

Tickets £6 Including Refreshments

For tickets call 01603 812280 or

Text 07867 126484 or

E-mail ; mail@friends-of-lmc.co.uk



Registered Charity no. 1078896

News From Little Melton



Messy Church

During our half term Messy Church our theme was families. We looked at the story of Joseph and his brothers and thought about our own

families and the fact that we are all part of the same family of God. In our activities, photo frames were made to take home and fill with our own family pictures as well as painted jam jars containing a candle to light and remember those members of our families who are no longer with us. For our Messy Church Christmas tree, we made bells for Ding Dong Merrily on High to fit in with the theme of Christmas carols. At the end there was a shared meal that was enjoyed by all.

We meet in the Christmas Holidays on **Thursday 28th December 11 am** in church. Do come and join us.



Church News from the Parochial Church Council

Family Service in November

We held a family service with a difference in November. It was led by the Rev Dave Lloyd, the leader of Garden Church who brought a small group of musicians to lead our singing. During his talk which began with the story of the tower of Babel, children from the congregation built their own "Jenga" towers which reached an impressive height but, despite some wobbles, did not fall down. It was also the christening of baby Imogen who, together with her parents and godparents, was welcomed into our church community

Remembrance Sunday

We held our usual service of remembrance on 12th November. The statue of the unknown soldier in the churchyard acted as a poignant reminder to prepare us for the service. It was seen by all passers-by prompting a pause for thought about all those who have fought and died for our freedom.

Churchyard matters

Our next working party will be on **Saturday, 2nd at 10 am**. There will be some work to do in the churchyard but there will be plenty to do inside the church, decorating for Christmas.

There are now designated compost areas by the waste bin. It would be much appreciated if these were used for any green waste matter and the bin for anything non-compostable. Thank you.

News From Little Melton

Little Melton Mothers' Union

THE November meeting began by us thinking and praying for peace in our very troubled world as we prepared for the Christmas season. Following this, we were introduced to the craft of making Christmas decorations in a session led by Rebecca Mallett. We had great fun going back to our childhood days making paper chains and snowflakes. A little guidance was needed on the snowflakes as it was so easy to cut the wrong bits ending up with very odd shapes. We also taxed our minds a little to come up with Christmas carol ideas for our tree decoration in church. We came up with three ships, angels, holly, bells and music.



The afternoon ended by acting out Rebecca's version of Cinderella complete with costumes, props and sound effects. It was really funny. This week Little Melton, next week, The Theatre Royal or the West End! Next month will be our annual Christmas Party to see out the year on 4th December, 1.30 pm in the village hall. We will deck the hall with our paper chains. All are welcome to join us.

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Woman's Institute with Margot Markham

At our monthly meeting Juliet Webster recalled the story of "The yellow caravan". It actually related to her relatives who set off on a great adventure in May 1922. Honor, her two chums and dogs Caesar and Kaiser hired a horse drawn caravan from a Mr Trenoik. He accompanied them. He looked after the horse and if the horse couldn't pull them up a hill, he hired another. Their maid, back at their home in North Wooton, helped prepare the caravan with essential supplies. The girls had obviously planned their route calling in at acquaintances along the way. They could be given tea or perhaps they may have a field where they could camp. They were only travelling across North Norfolk and then back across the centre part of the county. It took two weeks. Honor kept a diary of their travels. It's an hilarious account of their expedition. She describes the scenery from the sandy beaches, the sand dunes, mud flats and salt marshes to the cliffs of Cromer and Overstrand. They then trundled south. Villages like Poringland and Hingham were mentioned. It was an interesting and fun trip for them. Within a short time, with rumours of War, the girls left for France where they were to become nurses. Many members went to a group meeting along with members from other local Institutes. The title of the talk was "From Bed and Breakfast to Bed and Bondage." I didn't know what to expect. The talk wasn't mentioned in the WI book of recommended speakers, but it was incredibly funny and I think most of us realised what naive and sheltered lives we have had. During the month we have enjoyed walks and meals together at our local hostelry.

We will Remember Them



UNIFORMED groups joined with residents to fill St Remigius Church for the annual Remembrance Sunday Service when the village remembered those who gave their lives in the service of their country in the two World Wars.

Before the service inside the church there was an act of remembrance around the war memorial with the names of those commemorated on the memorial being read out by Hethersett's Methodist Minister the Rev Steve Cullis.



Organisations then laid wreaths around the war memorial. These included the Royal British Legion, Hethersett Methodist Church, Old Comrades, Hethersett Parish Council, Hethersett Brownies, Hethersett Rangers and Guides, Hethersett Explorer Scouts, First Hethersett Cubs, First Hethersett Scouts, First Hethersett Beavers, First Hethersett Squirrels. Wreaths from the emergency services were laid by representatives from the Police, Ambulance and Fire Brigade.

The service inside the church was led by the Venerable Martin Gray, assisted by Rev Cullis. In his address to a packed church Rev Gray talked about the positive steps taken towards peace since the fall of the Berlin Wall almost 34 years to the day.

He spoke about the shoots of hope despite the "thousands of victims of evil in our World." He praised the Scouting movement which he has been a part of for 70 years. "Young people have such an important part to play in uniting people in common humanity," he said adding that sadly today we have many thousands of additional people to remember than when the Berlin wall fell. He spoke of the brutality and wickedness of war.

"Is peace just a pipedream? The circle of despair has to be broken and that process has to start with us," he said. To read about the Hethersett men who died in the war visit www.hethersettatwar.weebly.com.

We will also have more photographs of Remembrance Day in Hethersett in the December edition of Hethersett Herald.



St Remigius Church Baby and Toddler Group

Our Baby and Toddler Group is held on the first Tuesday of the month 10-00 – 12.00 in St Remigius Church.

A friendly and fun time for everyone with babies and toddlers. We look forward to welcoming you at our Christmas session on TUESDAY 5th DECEMBER 2023

For more information tel: Pauline 01603 812610

St Remigius Church Car Park Lighting Project

THE October edition of Good News and Hethersett Herald featured a coffee morning we held at our home in Firs Road in aid of the above project. We would just like to thank on behalf of the PCC and Church Treasury team everyone who sent us donations for the project after the event. We have responded personally to those whose addresses accompanied the donations but for those who 'anonymously' donated please accept this as our grateful thanks.

This is a sizeable project as it entails groundwork and there will be more fundraising events during the winter months.

The car park lighting project will continue to improve the church facilities for use of the village.

St Remigius Church is the heritage building of the village which we want the village to use and enjoy for the future years to come. Thank you once again for your support.

John and Ros Head (for and on behalf of Hethersett PCC and the Church Treasury Team).

Open Library

**Extending opening hours at
your library**

Open Library gives you access to the library when the building is unstaffed, making your library available at times that are more convenient for you.

Library Available*		Staffed Hours	
Monday	8am – 7pm	Monday	1.30pm – 7pm
Tuesday	8am – 7pm	Tuesday	Unstaffed
Wednesday	8am – 7pm	Wednesday	11am – 7pm
Thursday	8am – 7pm	Thursday	1.30pm – 7pm
Friday	8am – 7pm	Friday	1.30pm – 7pm
Saturday	8am – 4pm	Saturday	11am – 4pm
Sunday	10am – 4pm	Sunday	Unstaffed

*During times when the library is available but not staffed, you can access the library using our Open Libraries system.

Contact Details for Good News

The deadline for items for Good News is the 12th of each month. Editorial copy should be sent to the editor Peter Steward at: petersteward@sky.com. Telephone number 01603 811052.

Advertising enquiries and copy should be sent to Kim Arnall: Telephone 01953 308309 or email kim.arnall.goodnews@gmail.com. Good News is published monthly.

From January 2024 the annual subscription to Good News will be £5, working out at under 42p a copy. Individual copies will also be available at 60p each.

Our annual advertising rates will be £75 for 1/8th of a page, £150 for a quarter page and £300 for a half page. All advertisers can now have a full colour advert.

Any monies relating to Good News should be delivered to the treasurer Ros Head at 42, Firs Road, Hethersett.

We are also looking for people willing to distribute magazines on a monthly basis.

If you can help please contact Kim Arnall using the details above.

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Post Office Opening Hours

HETHERSETT'S community post office is open at the following times in Hethersett Library

Mondays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Tuesdays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Wednesdays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Thursdays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm.

Fridays: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Saturdays: 9.30 am until 2.30 pm

Hethersett Village Screen

The final film in the Autumn series of village screens will be "The Fabelmans" on 3rd December. This is a biopic of the early life of film director Steven Spielberg and is highly entertaining. The line-up for post Christmas films will be announced shortly.

All films take place in the village hall at 3 pm on a Sunday afternoon and tickets are priced at £5 and refreshments are available. The main film is preceded by other short films of general interest.



Aid In Sickness Fund

HAVE you heard about the Hethersett and District Aid In Sickness Fund which was formerly known as the Hethersett Nursing Association?

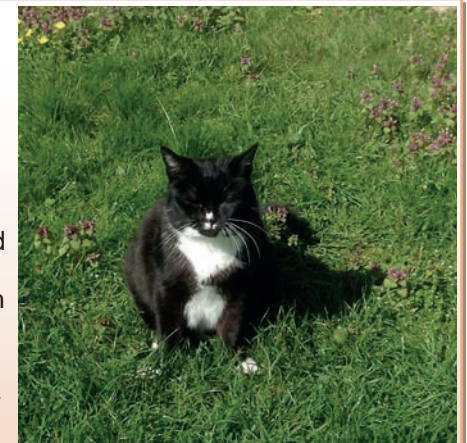
If you live in Hethersett, Ketteringham or Little Melton and you or someone you know is in need of financial help because of illness or disability you could qualify for a grant. Examples of help available include car adaptations, wheelchair or other mobility items, support during a sudden medical crisis, nebulisers and other equipment or pre-payment of certificates for prescriptions. All applications are treated in strictest confidence.

To apply for a grant contact any of the following: Alex on 07805 242326, Rachel on 01603 812596, Mary on 01603 811330, Barbara on 01603 810502, Christopher on 01603 811010 or Debby on 01603 812221.

News From Great Melton

Christmas Message From Molly

ONE of the great celebrities in Great Melton is the church cat Molly. Anne Wilkinson feeds her every day and says she has quite a following in the village and surrounding area. Apparently she has written her own Christmas message which we are happy to publish here.



"I just want to say a big thank you to all my fans for my treats and cuddles over the summer months and especially to the kind person who made me my lovely cosy little house. I will really appreciate that even more when the icy winter blasts whip round my nethers!

"I do hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and please don't forget that I wouldn't be averse to toying with a little cold turkey if any could be spared!

"I look forward to seeing you all soon."

Molly.

Great Melton Bowls Club

WE had just had 65 millimetres of rain. The country roads were awash. It was testimony to Joe Huckle and David Gregory that many members of the Bowls Club should make the effort to get to the Village Hall to thank them for all they had done in maintaining the green. Joe Huckle had been the green keeper since the Bowls Club began in 1994.

Very sadly David Minter, who had also worked tirelessly with Joe for most of that time, died last year. The greens and the surroundings were meticulously looked after. Joe and David are passing on the care of the green but I am sure they will continue to play. Members of the Bowls Club are most grateful to Joe and David for all they have done and we wish them a happy retirement.

Margot Markham

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News From Great Melton

Services for December

The services for December are as follows:

Sunday 3rd 4 pm - Garden Church, Great Melton Cricket Pavilion.

Sunday 10th 3.30 pm - Christingle Service in Great Melton Church. The collection at this service will be in aid of the Children's Society. After the service we are all invited for tea and mince pies at Church Farm courtesy of Lynne and Rogers Symonds, a lovely tradition which we all enjoy each year.

Christmas Eve 6.30 pm - Candlelit All Age Communion Service. This is always a very special service with many favourite carols.



Something A Little Different

GARDEN Church gathered in Great Melton Cricket Pavilion on the first Sunday of November for something a little bit different. We were led by gifted artists, Meg and Charles, who visited from another Garden, to lead us in a time of arty exploration (with hot chocolate). Using Gelli plates, we printed patterns which we turned into 'pots' and thought about the way God takes the formless and gives it form. We had a really fun time and enjoyed sharing talents, time, tea and testimonies as we exercised our creativity.

It's great meeting around the table to discover more about God. You are welcome to come along to a gathering on the first Sunday of the month, 4 pm at Great Melton Cricket Pavilion or email hello@garden-church.org.uk to find out more.

Great Melton will be hosting a Garden Folk Band - Carols with mulled wine in December - keep your eyes peeled on our social media for more info. Our photographs on this page are of Garden Church.

If you would like to keep up to date with what is going on at Great Melton Church please follow us on Facebook @greatmeltonchurch or visit our website greatmeltonchurch.co.uk.



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Little Melton Parochial Charity is able to help any Little Melton resident who is in need of financial assistance. All claims are considered and treated with utmost confidentiality.

Please apply to the trustees:

Mr T Baker 531086

Mrs J Chamberlain 812031

Mr T Hedges 812778

Mr I Plummer 810668

Mr R Wallsworth 07760 805642

Mr J Leverett 811102

**The Charity administers some allotments in Little Melton.
If you wish to apply please contact any of the above trustees.**

Good News What's On—December 2023

We are pleased to include a list of coming events and dates for Hethersett and the Meltons. If you have a date you would like listed just send details to the editor at petersteward@sky.com. See also individual sections, and church services are listed on individual pages.

Friday 1st

11 am: Hethersett Hall Christmas Market.

Saturday 2nd

10 am: Christmas decorations in Little Melton Church.

11 am: 4pm: Hethersett VC Primary School, Queen's Road, Christmas Fair.

4-6 pm: Friends of Hethersett Library children's party, Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Pavilion.

7.30 pm: Hethersett Singers Christmas Concert with Advent carols and a performance of Dan Forrest's Ubi Caritas, Hethersett Methodist Church. See poster on the next page.



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Sunday 3rd

10 am: Jabbawocky Crafts Christmas Fair, Park Farm Hotel.

3 pm: Hethersett Village Screen presents The Fabelmans. Hethersett Village Hall.

Tuesday 5th

10 am: Hethersett Forget-Me-Not Café. Carols with the Methodist Singers.

10 am: St Remigius Church Baby and Toddler Group,

Wednesday 6th

9 am: Hethersett Methodist Church coffee stop, 9 am.

The Rheumatoid In Norfolk Group (The RiNG) Christmas lunch in Hethersett Queen's Head.

Saturday 9th

2 pm: Little Melton Christmas Fayre in the church.

Wednesday 13th

9 am: Hethersett Methodist Church coffee stop.

7.30 pm: Hethersett Gardening Club. Post Brexit Memories with John Freeman. Hethersett Methodist Church Hall.

Thursday 14th

7.30 pm: Carol Concert in Little Melton Church, featuring Norwich Citadel Band of the Salvation Army.

Monday 18th

Hethersett Women's Institute social evening with fun and games.

7.30 pm: Hethersett Parish Council meeting, Hethersett Village Hall.



Hethersett SINGERS
Concert
Sat 2nd Dec 7.30pm
Hethersett Methodist Church

Countdown to Christmas

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Accompanist David Ballard

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Tickets £8

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Jabbawocky Craft Events



At Park Farm Hotel Colney Suite

Christmas Fair

Sunday 3rd December 10am - 4pm

Event Address: Park Farm Country Hotel & Leisure, Hethersett, Norfolk NR9 3DL

Tuesday 19th

10 am: Hethersett Forget-Me-Not Club. Christmas Traditions with Angela Bishop.

Wednesday 20th

9 am: Hethersett Methodist Church coffee stop.

2 pm: Little Melton Community Café in the Village Hall

Wednesday 27th

9 am: Hethersett Methodist Church coffee stop.

Thursday 28th

9.30 am: Mobile Library in School Lane, Little Melton.

January 2024: Saturday 20th to Saturday 27th

Hethersett Village Pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk. Hethersett Village Hall. Performances on Saturday 20th (2 pm and 7.30 pm), Sunday 21st (11 am and 3 pm), Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th, Thursday 25th and Friday 26th (all at 7.30 pm), Saturday 27th (2 pm and 7.30 pm).



Groups and Societies

The RiNG (Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group) With Viv Hawes

WE had such an interesting meeting in October with Maria Pennington giving us the history of Rene Lalique and his wonderful creations. I think we all learned a lot about the Art Nouveau jewellery he designed and his fantastic artistry in enamels, but it is definitely his glassware that most of us know. The use of opaque and clear glass made for some original statuary, bowls, plates and vases and even car mascots. We cannot wait until her next visit when Maria will be talking about Peter Carl Faberge. We have arranged the list of speakers for 2024 and, as usual, hopefully have catered for many interests. We are looking forward to Peter Steward and John Head in January talking about the Massacre of Le Paradis when we lost many men from the Royal Norfolk Regiment. Another highlight will be the visit of Dr Jordan Tsigarides, his work being the use of Virtual Reality in helping to reduce pain in patients, especially those with musculo-skeletal conditions and in teaching medical students.

If you are interested in joining us at any time, we meet in Hethersett Village Hall on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 2 pm. We have an entry fee of £4 with home made cakes and savouries and tea/coffee included. If you require further information please contact viv.hawes@talktalk.net or ring 01603 811347.

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