



Double Delight For Shop

CONGRATULATIONS to Church Farm Shop in Hethersett for being named South Norfolk Retailer of the Year for the second year running.

It was a glittering evening at the Broadland and South Norfolk Business Awards evening held at Norwich City Football Club at the beginning of March.

The award judges heaped praise yet again on the shop:

“This family-run farm shop in Hethersett offers a wide range of almost exclusively local produce and delicious homemade cakes. Judges were blown away by the exceptional level of customer service and work ethos. A business that truly goes the extra mile.”



Herald Content

Special Features and News

A Colourful Show

Colour and enthusiasm were on show as Hethersett Academy presented a high octane musical—"Legally Blonde" in March. You can read our review and see a photo gallery.....Page 4

Vandalism In Village

Glass in doors at Hethersett Methodist Church in Great Melton Road were kicked in during the month in an act of wanton vandalism. You can read about this and other anti-social behaviour affecting the village.....Page 8

Nitrous Oxide Canisters Discovered

A number of large nitrous oxide canisters have been discovered in the village. We have a warning from our county and district councillor about the dangers of nitrous oxide taken to give illegal highs.....Page 9

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Hello Everyone

There seems to be a debate going on at the moment around claims that we are subjected to too much negative news and this is something that I generally agree with.

Too much negativity is depressing and so in this edition of Hethersett Herald we are pleased to be able to redress the balance a little, although we still have to highlight the continuing and concerning trend of the illegal use of Nitrous Oxide after large canisters were found in the village.

Later in this edition we discuss why young people are ignoring the news because it has become too depressing.

This month you will see our lead story is about another top award for Church Farm shop.

Then one of our major features looks at the colourful performance of a musical by pupils and staff from Hethersett Academy.

Sometimes we have to hold onto positivity amongst all the negativity that swims around us.

But we cannot ignore the issues and problems that exist and will endeavour to continue to show both sides of the coin—both good and bad.

Hethersett is a rapidly growing community and that in itself brings problems with housing development continuing to far outstrip growth in facilities.

At the latest parish council meeting, one of our district councillors John Moreland said he is still hopeful that Hethersett will have a new surgery within three years and talks are continuing to this end.

The council expressed its concern, however, at the possible lack of school places for village children.

These issues will continue to dominate our headlines over the coming year along with parking problems in the village which were once again also highlighted.

But we mustn't let the bad overrule the good that is going on in Hethersett and the huge number of groups, societies and people who always strive to make out village what it is—a wonderful place to live.

We should always be aware of what we already have but we should continue to fight for the things that we still don't have but surely deserve to have.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Hethersett Herald.

Peter

Herald Content

Bringing The Past To Life

Hethersett artist and historian Colin Wilson has started a new You Tube podcast bringing photographs taken of the village 100 years ago to lifePage 22

Hethersett Village Screen

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Hethersett Parish Council has expressed its concern about schools being full in the village, as development continues apace.....Page 25

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The parish council has also expressed its concern once again about fly tipping in the village.....Page 26

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We have a warning to be on guard after a delivery driver entered a home uninvited.....Page 26

Gearing Up For Cricket

Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club is gearing itself up for a busy new season, which will be its 21st year

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playing at Flordon. You can read the latest news from the club.....Page 35

Remembering The Fallen

Regular columnist John Head visits a Norfolk Church to remember the fallen of the Second World War..... Page 60

In This Edition

A spate of vandalism in the village has led residents to call for vigilance and incidents to be reported to the police.

Windows were smashed at Hethersett Methodist Church and youths have been making a nuisance of themselves with anti-social behaviour on the Memorial Playing Field and also ringing door bells.

In one of the most upsetting incidents, a memorial plaque has been taken from a bench on the outside of the new pavilion.

Shelley Walker posted the following on Facebook:

"Sadly my husband's memorial bench which is outside the Hethersett Hub has had his plaque removed so very upsetting for myself our family and all our friends.

"They are checking the CCTV but please if anyone knows anything or even finds it please do let me know."

What can the village do to arrest increased vandalism and anti social behaviour in the village?

That's the question many are now asking.

You can read more on this story and also a rise in the use of nitrous oxide to obtain illegal highs later in this edition of Hethersett Herald.

* * *

Have you ever wondered what Hethersett was like 100 years ago? Well local historian Colin Wilson has some of the answers with a new You Tube podcast looking at different aspects of village life.

You can find out how subscribe to Colin's channel a little later in this edition.

Colourful and Full of Zest

WHEN Hethersett Academy decide to put on a show , they certainly put on a show.

“Legally Blonde” oozed colour and zest as pupils and staff combined to produce a high octane show over three days and four performances in March.

As Assistant Principal and Musical Director Tom Hilton said in the programme:

“Legally Blonde represents the culmination of many tireless hours of rehearsal and we are so proud and excited to share the fruits of your children’s labour with you all.”

At times it was difficult to remember that these were young people performing, such was their confidence, ability and maturity.

Of course there were some difficult moments with a rather tough musical score, but these were more than made up for through the enthusiasm shown by those performing.

“Legally Blonde” is very much an American show but the accents never slipped. It started life as a novel and then a film before being adapted to the stage.

The musical tells the story of Elle Woods, a sorority girl who enrolls at Harvard Law School, not really to study law but to win back her boyfriend who dumped her when she was expecting him to propose. But slowly and surely she realises that her ability at law can make the difference to people’s lives. She has the opportunity to win back her ex but in the end turns it down to spend her life with one of her colleagues.

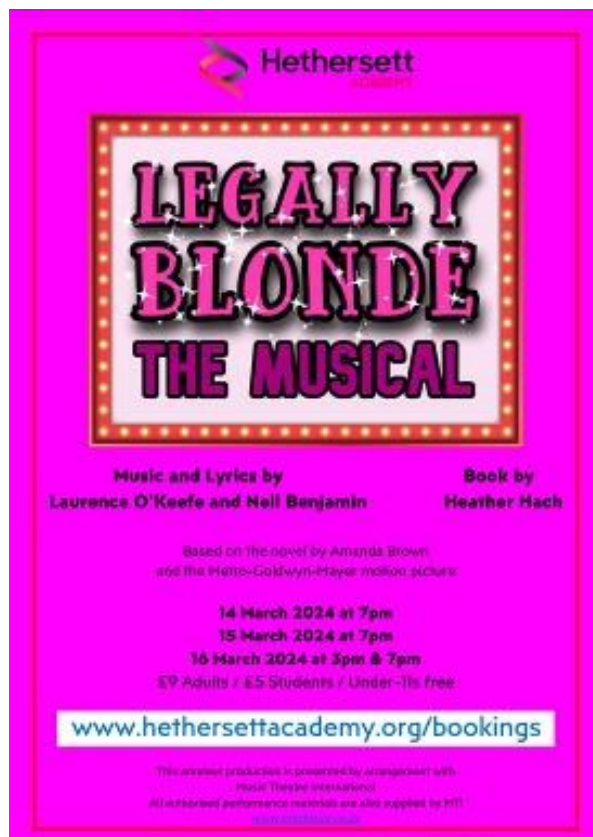
The piece may be dated as the programme points out:

“Although attitudes and tastes have changed rapidly in the two decades since the show was created, the message behind Legally Blonde holds firm today, encouraging us all to defy stereotypes, forget what others see or think of us and stand proud of who we are.”

The school always picks musicals to stretch the pupils to the max. “Legally Blonde” is a show that has to have pace or it could fall rather flat. But this show had plenty of pace and plenty of chutzpah.

Again the last word should go to Tom Hilton from the programme which sums up the essence of the performances:

“At Hethersett Academy we promote kindness, hard work, taking pride and embracing opportunity. There is



no richer example of these four core values at work than in a school production or sports team. We are so impressed with the incredible commitment and enthusiasm shown by so many.”

Commitment, hard work, pizzazz and fun—all were abundantly on show as the Academy turned “Legally Blonde” into a memorable show.

For The Record—The Cast

Margot a Delta Nu girl
 Serena a Delta Nu girl
 Pilar a Delta Nu girl
 Gaelen
 Kate
 Girl
 Bruiser The Dog
 Elle Woods
 Saleswoman
 Store Manager
 Warner Huntingdon III
 Elle's Mom
 Elle's Dad
 Grandmaster Chad
 Professor Winthrop
 Professor Lowell
 Professor Pforzheimer
 Emmett Forrest
 Aaron Schultz
 Sundeep Padamadan
 Enid Hoops
 Vivienne
 Professor Callahan
 Paulette
 Whitney
 Dewey
 Rufus The Dog
 Brooke Wyndham
 Kyle The Delivery Guy
 Nikos The Pool Boy
 Carlos, his lover
 Judge
 Chutney Wyndham
 District Attorney Joyce Riley
 Ensemble

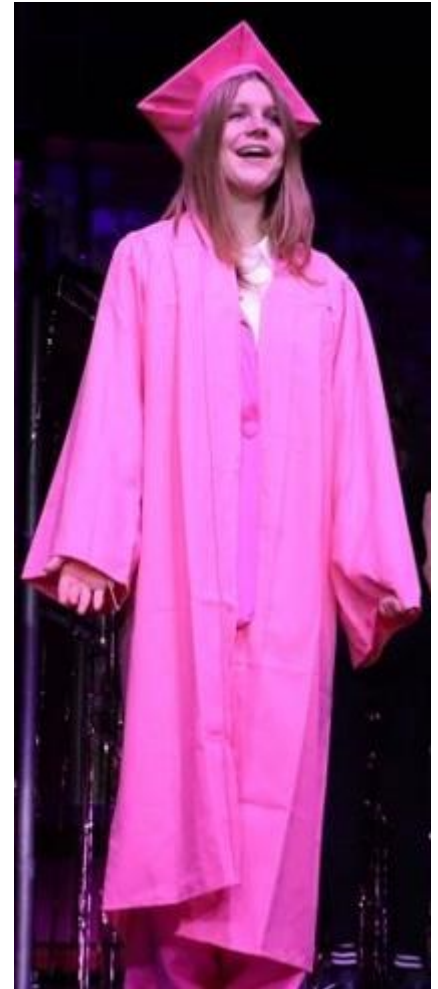
Alisha Blundell
 Eleanor Gooding
 Poppy Bradbury
 Rose Weale
 Scarlet Mills
 Edward Rakhit
 Betsy Weale
 Evie Collins
 Zara Inward
 Lucas Eley
 Luke Hood
 Zahra Arbon
 Logan Jolliffe
 Obi Brighthouse
 Edward Rakhit
 Alice Hills
 Maisie Skeet
 Lewis Hayes
 Beau Berwick
 Maisie Cole
 Kitty Dixon
 Rose Watson
 Joe Spence
 Aiesha Musa
 Leanne Heath
 Matthew Sidell
 Nathan Barns
 Fleur Tilbury
 Aviv Chayut
 Lucas Eley
 Harrison Neman
 Isabelle Smee
 Zoe Menegaz Maclean
 Maisie Skeet



Zahra Arbon, Hayden Barns, Nathan Barns, Bella Barry, Beau Berwick, Theo Berwick, Obi Brighthouse, Lexi Brighton, Lucy Bushell, Aviv Chayut, Maisie Cole, Abby Collins, Isis Comben, Charlotte Convery, Phoebe Copeman, Meredith Corr, Sam Craig, Lucas Eley, Amelia Evans, Ellie Hamer, Lily Harvey, Leanne Heath, Alice Hills, Joyce Hui, Zara Inward, Logan Jolliffe, Olivia Keen, Rose Leverett, Yeva Makieieva, Freya McGreevy, Zoe Menegaz Maclean, Scarlet Mills, Harrison Newman, Edward Rakhit, Prenati Shastri, Matthew Sidell, Maisie Skeet, Izzy Smee, Jacob Spence, Jude Walker, Brea Watts, Betsy Weale, Rose Weale, Elizabeth Weston, Erin Wilson

For The Record—The Band/Backstage/Staff Team

Flute 1	Eve Wickerson
Flute 2	Isabelle Russell
Sax/Clarinet 1	Esmee Norton
Sax/Clarinet 2	Mrs D. Stenton
Trumpet 1	Isla Hamilton
Trumpet 2	Verity Hamilton
Horn	Mr A. Smith
Keyboard 1	Mr T. Hilton
Keyboard 2	Stuart Qiao
Keyboard 3	Daisy Huang and Irrys Tay
Keyboard Guitar	William Ward
Percussion	Paula Valero Delgado
Drums	Harvey Ormerod
Bass Guitar	Max Schweigart
Lighting Op	Gabriel Pleureuse Grancourt
Lighting Design	Lewis Hayes
Sound No 1	Bobby Burns
Sound No 2	Jenna Bishop
Followspot	Dylan Thacker and Amber Bishop
Radio Mic Tech	Noah Webster
DSM	Mia Gotts
ASM	Max Elbro
ASM	Jack Janner-Burgess
Wardrobe	Amelia Eggleton
Props	Felix Copeman and George Ellis
Director	Miss L. Knights
Musical Director	Mr T. Hilton
Assistant Director	Mrs T Bruen-Brooks
Assistant MD	Mrs D. Stenton
Tech Team	Mrs N. Dixon
Set Construction	Mr L. Smith and Mr O Hazell
Tech Support	Mr G. Bush
Vocal Coaching	Mrs E. Platten and Mr M. Marshall
Props and Photograph[hy	Mr W. Cooper
Props	Ms L Szabo
Costume	Mrs E. Siddall
Bar	Friends of Hethersett Academy





All photographs courtesy of Hethersett Academy





Vandalism at Methodist Church—Anti Social Behaviour on Park

PEOPLE turning up for regular activities at Hethersett Methodist Church on March 19th were shocked and dismayed to find glass both inside and outside the building.

An act of vandalism overnight had seen glass panels in the front door smashed in with what was obviously some force. Police later said that it appeared the glass panels had been kicked in and attempts had been made to vandalise other areas around the building.

Operation clean-up began, the doors were boarded up and Norfolk Police were informed.

There was no evidence that the building was entered.

It looks as if this was an act of mindless vandalism in our village. Anyone seeing or hearing anything suspicious in the village should contact Norfolk Police and if they witness a crime being committed should ring 999.

Vandalism and anti-social behaviour was also reported on Hethersett Memorial Playing Field during the month with youths shouting and a commemoration panel in memory of village stalwart Steve Walker (photographed opposite) being unscrewed from a seat at the pavilion.



Warning Over Gas Canisters

By Peter Steward

HETHERSETT in keeping with many villages, towns and cities in the UK, has a problem with the illegal use of Nitrous Oxide, the March meeting of Hetherset Parish Council heard.

Large canisters the size of a Thermos flask have been turning up in parts of the village and are proving a health hazard and also difficult to dispose of as Hetherset's district and county councillor David Bills explained:

"If the canisters are found on county council land, it is the county council's responsibility to dispose of them. If they are found on district council land it is the district's responsibility but if they are found on land owned by the parish it will be the parish council's responsibility," Councillor Bills said.

And Councillor Bills had a warning for people ingesting the gas from the canisters in order to get an illegal high:

"It is crazy what people are doing to themselves. To me this beggars belief," he said.

Currently Veolia Waste Disposal are charging up to £14 to dispose of the canisters.

A number of years ago before lockdown, numerous small Nitrous Oxide canisters regularly turned up in the village, but the new trend is for much larger canisters to be used and then left scattered in parts of the village.

You can see examples in our photographs taken by a Hetherset resident and verified by Hetherset Herald as being found in the village.

To all intent and purpose the canisters look harmless enough. One has the inscription "Drink Infusion Cartridge" and then in smaller letters "Food Additive Nitrous Oxide."

But these canisters are anything but harmless if used in the wrong way. Health authorities have issued stark warnings that ingesting the gas can lead to:

Losing consciousness leading to suffocation from a lack of oxygen.

Dizziness.



**"It is crazy what people are doing to themselves" —
Councillor David Bills**



Headaches and anxiety or paranoia.

Vitamin B12 deficiency and anaemia.

An increase in blood pressure and danger of a stroke or heart attack.

Brain damage, coma or death if ingested in large doses.

It is also known that ingesting nitrous oxide can lead to anti social behaviour, not to mention the danger to young children from canisters that

aren't fully empty being picked up by them.

Anyone finding canisters should contact Norfolk Police.

Known as NOS, Nitrous Oxide is used as a recreational drug and use soared during the pandemic and it is presently one of the most-used drugs by 16 to 24-year-olds in the United Kingdom.

Nitrous oxide is a colourless gas commonly used as an analgesic - a



painkiller - in medicine and dentistry, and for producing whipped cream in cooking.

The law with regard to inhaling Nitrous Oxide remains rather woolly although according to the Gov.UK website the following is now the law:

“It is a criminal offence to be found in possession of the drug where its intended use is to be wrongfully inhaled, ‘to get high’. Where a person is found in possession of nitrous oxide and intends to wrongfully inhale the substance and/or in the cases of importation, exportation, production and supply, knows or is reckless as to whether it is likely that another person will wrongfully inhale it, they will be committing an offence.

“Wrongful inhalation” means inhalation other than for medical or dental purposes, and which is not accidental inhalation of nitrous oxide which has been released into the atmosphere (such as in industrial processes). Medical, dental and veterinary administration of nitrous oxide (which may involve inhalation) will therefore continue to be lawful, as will other activities such as use in industry or model rocketry. Those found in unlawful possession will face either an unlimited fine, a visible community punishment or a caution - which would appear on their criminal record. Repeat serious offenders may face a prison sentence of up to two years, an unlimited fine, or both. The penalty for supply or production will double, to up to 14 years in prison, an unlimited fine, or both.”



THESE smaller silver cannisters were the norm before things began to change in an

New Musical Director For Hethersett Singers

HETHERSETT SINGERS have appointed a new musical director.

Justin Bindley (pictured opposite) has a fascinating CV in the world of music. He sang with English National Opera, Opera North, Scottish Opera, New D'Oyly Carte Opera, English Bach Festival (at the Royal Opera House) and London Opera Players. He has appeared several times at the BBC proms and was vocal advisor to the Cheltenham Bach Choir and Newport Cathedral. He was asked to form the Salveo Singers for the NHS in London.

He moved to Norfolk at the end of 2021 and was appointed Music Director for Harleston Choral Society. He also conducted Bungay Voices and the Carolean Chorus at the Minster, Great Yarmouth.

Justin said that he is delighted to be joining the Hethersett Singers.

His first concert will be at Hethersett Methodist Church in Great Melton Road on Saturday 25th May at 7.30 pm. The group is also inviting would-be members to join a rehearsal, any Wednesday at 7.30 and discover if it is right for them. This year's Spring Programme is on the theme of love. The programme will include songs from the musicals, classic love songs and more.

Hethersett Singers has described the appointment as: “a significant development” in its history.

The choir of around 28 members is keen to welcome others to experience the pleasures of singing together. This includes sopranos, altos, tenors and basses. Anyone interested can just turn up at a rehearsal – no charge to try – and just see how they enjoy it.

If you would like to find out more you can also contact hethsing@btinternet.com



FABB

FOOD AND BEVERAGE BUDDIES

HETHERSETT HALL care home has teamed up with a Norfolk-based charity to create a food bank in the reception area of the hall.

Food items, toiletries, cleaning products and much more were donated to the hall to help with the Food and Beverage Buddies charity (FABB).

A box full of goodies was handed over to FABB on 15th March, and the charity also gave a talk at the care home.

Food and Beverage Buddies was founded five years ago to help alleviate food poverty/insufficiency wherever it exists in our communities. The charity is run by volunteers who are passionate about using end of the day unsold food as the basis of weekly food parcels to families, and in-home cooked meals which are delivered to hostel residents.

Anne Larner, Local Area Champion for Hethersett and Wymondham, lives in the village and delivers weekly food parcels to the doorsteps of struggling families. These parcels include whatever fresh produce has been collected from supermarkets - vegetables, meat, fruit, bakery, ready meals - but the charity also needs ambient food such as: - tinned beans, spaghetti, peas, soup, corn etc, pasta and rice, jars of pasta sauces, cereals, milk and dairy products and toiletries and cleaning products.

Caroline Evans from Hethersett Hall said: "Wow absolutely FABB. Thank you so much to everyone who kindly donated food items, toiletries and cleaning products to our foodbank. We managed to fill a box and have more bags full of goods which just keep coming. Everyone has been so kind to help us in support of Red Nose Day."

FABB co-ordinator Carol McWhinnie was inspired to start the charity a number of years ago after seeing a city-wide shut-down in Norwich in response to a suspected terrorist situation. She was shocked by the extent of the presence of young people begging on the streets, with their whole lives contained just in a backpack. On returning home Carol quickly became involved in the Haymarket food kitchen in Norwich, working there every Sunday. The volume of 'traffic' reached around a hundred each Sunday.

Carol saw a different approach was possible. Rather than



forming a queue, how about taking the meals direct to those who need them? She started FABB in September 2018 and the idea evolved quickly into an efficient process of cooking food at home, packing it into tinfoil boxes and delivering it via the buggies along the streets of Norwich, particularly the Prince of Wales Road and St Stephen's Street areas. The principle is that clients receive a hot meal, and a 'pack-up' to see them through the next day.

"There are a lot of really vulnerable people in Norwich but some worry about queuing for food, being worried about potential violence and unwanted social contact," said Carol.



The Story of A Wartime Massacre

A NEW book on a Second World War massacre in Northern France has been published and written by two men with close connections to Hethersett Herald.

Peter Steward and John Head, who both live in Hethersett, are members of the Le Paradis Commemoration Group and have written "Hell in Paradise" which tells the story of the massacre in the small village of Le Paradis on May 27th, 1940. It is the story of 99 British soldiers, the majority of whom were serving with the Royal Norfolk Regiment, who surrendered to the Germans but were marched into a farmyard and machine gunned. Two of them survived—Private Bill O'Callaghan from Dereham and Private Bert Pooley from London.

The book tells the story of those who died, those who survived, the bravery of the French people, the fighting in the area on the eventful day and also the stories of those left behind in the UK. Those who died in the massacre were attempting to hold back the German advance so that over 300,000 troops could be evacuated from the beaches at Dunkirk.

The book follows on from the website, also called Hell in Paradise, which is available at www.leparadismassacre.com.

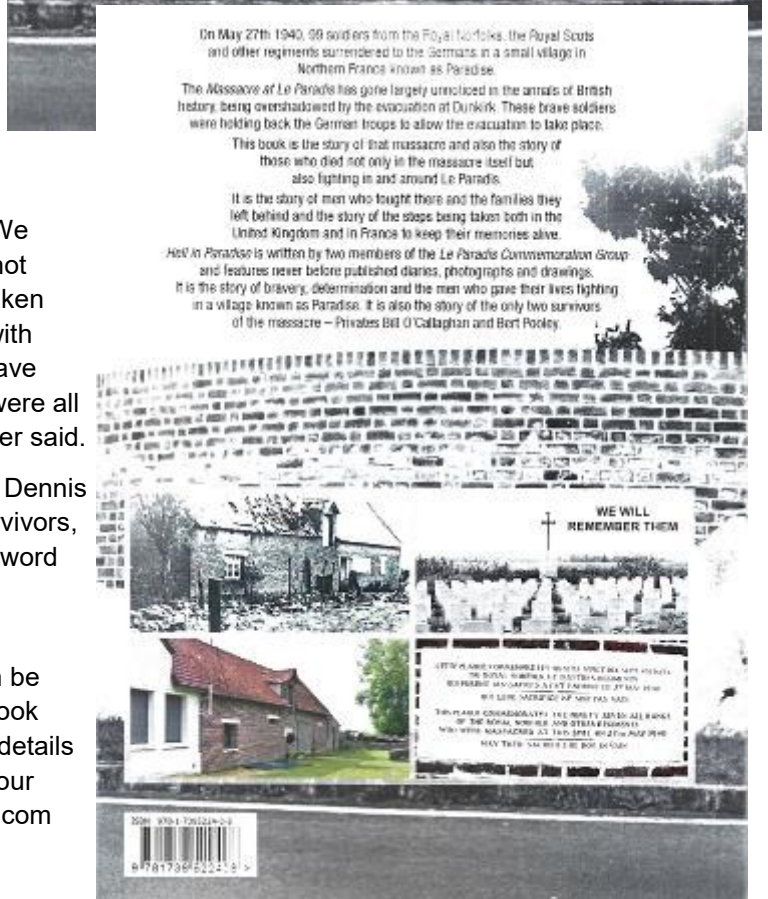
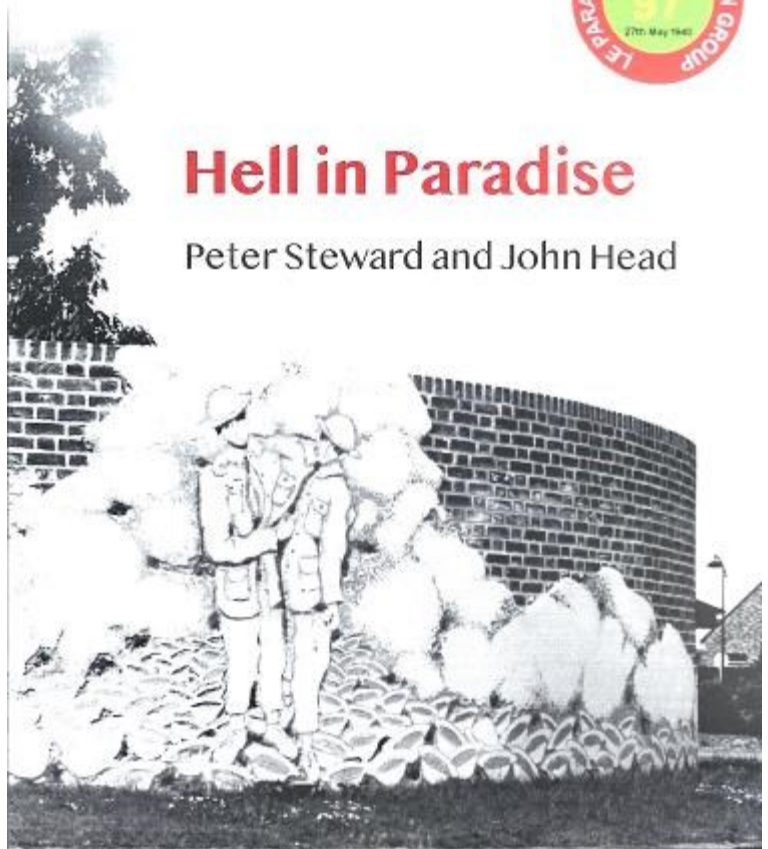
The book contains original diaries and artwork never before published in a written format and also details of how the German officer who gave the order to fire was later hunted down and hanged for war crimes.

Peter Steward is editor and owner of Hethersett Herald and John Head is a regular contributor and columnist. We will have more about the book along with excerpts in future editions of Hethersett Herald.

"Writing Hell in Paradise was a labour of love for us. We wanted to ensure that the bravery of these men was not forgotten amongst the wider story of Dunkirk. It has taken over three years to produce and involved interviews with some wonderful people descended from those who gave their lives and fought in the area and survived. They were all keen to have their family members remembered," Peter said.

The Le Paradis Commemoration Group also includes Dennis O'Callaghan who is the son of one of the only two survivors, and Norfolk historian Nick Smith. The book has a foreword by historian and author Neil Storey.

Hell in Paradise is self published by the Le Paradis Commemoration Group and costs £10. Deliveries can be made in Hethersett and the surrounding areas. The book can also be posted out to UK addresses for £15. Full details of how to purchase a copy are available by sending your name and address in an e-mail to petersteward@sky.com



News—Turning The Younger Generation Off

HETHERSETT Herald reporter Sophie Stanley asked some “younger people” about why they no longer watch or listen to the news on television and radio.



WITH the media now being more accessible than ever; online, on television, on social media, a click away, wouldn't you expect to find that more younger people would be paying attention to the news?

It turns out this might not be the case. A study I conducted, found that 100% of 13-21 year olds (within a small sample) read or watch the news less than once a week. 75% of those suggested the reason was that the news tends to display content that is “depressing.”

Anonymously I asked people to suggest what they'd like to see change in the media which would result in them keeping more up to date with it. One individual stated: “I think the news is important, but doesn't promote things that are suitable for all ages. I am not someone that would sit and watch the news but would be interested if it were executed properly.” Another individual responded with a similar comment: “Some more positive subjects covered to counteract all of the negative ones.”

It is true that the Media tends to promote news such as wars, deaths and politics more than it does topics of achievements and accomplishments. Perhaps this is something we need to see implemented in our Media in order to encourage the younger generation to take more of an interest in the news at such an important time.

Is There Just Too Much Negativity In The News

IS there too much bad news around and do newspapers, radio and television give us a skewed view of the world?

Herald Comment

These were the questions I had after reading the comments of young people with regard to why they no longer listen or watch the news.

There is no doubt in my mind that today our attention spans are much shorter than in the past. This is largely due to being bombarded with information and having so many choices available as to how we access this information.

When I was growing up we had just two television stations. There wasn't much choice. It was just BBC or ITV. Then there was almost a revolution in 1964 when BBC2 started.

I was a few days short of my third birthday when ITV began and for me in my really early years it was BBC or nothing at all, although admittedly I was too young to be either aware or care. And of course that was the situation if you had the luxury of owning a television at all.

Today we literally have hundreds of TV channels, although in our house we are very much traditionalists by sticking mainly with BBC or ITV channels, although we have now branched into Netflix and probably watch Sky Sports more than any other channels.

As for news. Well we now have 24 hour coverage on TV, radio and of course the Internet. There isn't a time of night or day that you can't find out what is happening (or not happening) in the world. But for young people, this in itself is a turn off. If you are bombarded with negativity you end up switching off as it's all just too depressing.

Here at Hethersett Herald, and with our sister publication Good News, we try, in the words of the song, to accentuate the positive and eliminate the negative.

Of course that's not always possible, but I do firmly believe that we carry far more positivity than negativity.

Our two main stories this month are of a top award for Church Farm shop and a review of the latest musical production from pupils at Hethersett Academy. News doesn't get a whole lot more positive than that. But we have to be realistic at the same time and that means covering stories about illegal Nitrous Oxide and vandalism that hit one of the main buildings in the centre of the village and the memorial playing field during the month.

Peter Steward



Hethersett Memorial Playing Field

Registered Charity Number 303972

The Hethersett Hub

A perfect place for almost any gathering

Regular Classes and Clubs – Parties – Concerts - Sales Events
Conferences and Meetings – Receptions – Dances - Performances

For booking enquiries call 0747069803
OR Contact via mpfthethersett@gmail.com

Calls will be checked and replied to within 24 hours



Hethersett Herald has a new Facebook page to keep you up to date with what is happening in the village between editions of Hethersett Herald.

The page has been put together by Sophie Stanley who writes regularly for the publication. You can access it by going to the following address.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553854300881>

Praise as Great Melton Councillor Is Honoured

By Bruce Fleming

GREAT Melton Parish Council is delighted to extend its congratulations to fellow parish councillor and vice-chairman, Ian Sears, who was awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours List for public service. Ian is a commercial specialist at the Cabinet Office.

Great Melton Parish Council met on Monday 11th March.

Councillors expressed their gratitude to all those who kindly gave up their Saturday morning on 9th March to contribute to the success of the annual Great Melton litter pick.

The Great Melton landscape is unfortunately not immune from the wilful, cynical casting aside of fast food outlet containers, cigarette and vape packets, beverage cans and bottles, and the efforts of committed and concerned residents of the village are greatly appreciated.

The parish council welcomed county and district councillor, Mrs Margaret Dewsbury, to the meeting. She updated the council on the dual strategy of flood defence in conjunction with water storage management – the latter with a view to improving drought condition resilience – as well as new investments in the Fire Service, funding allocations for road maintenance and improvements and the outcome of applications to the Parish Partnership Scheme.

An encouraging update was received from the Highways Department at Norfolk County Council regarding the parish council's bid for the introduction of speed restrictions in Great Melton. Any further developments will be shared in due course.

An application for a South Norfolk Council 'Clean Up and Bloom' grant has been successful – the parish council looks forward to sharing ideas for adding colour to the village by way of suitable planting in pleasing locations.

With increasing local evidence of the Hornsea 3 offshore wind farm cable route development, attention was drawn to the Hornsea 3 Community Fund, providing a total of £700,000 towards grants annually. Applications for the first of two rounds this year, close on 8th May and further information is available at:

<https://grantscape.org.uk/fund/hornsea-3-community-fund/>

The minutes of meetings and related documents are published on the parish council website at: <https://greatmeltonpc.wixsite.com/greatmeltonpc>

The next meeting of Great Melton Parish Council will be the AGM on Monday 13th May at 7.30 pm in the village hall (cricket pavilion), Hall Road, Great Melton.

It will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7 pm. Members of the public are welcome, as always.

Vacancies on Hethersett Council

HETHERSETT Parish Council has three vacancies.

The council has been two members short for some time and now an additional casual vacancy has arisen with the resignation of Salena Dawson.

It is unlikely that enough people will come forward to join the council to make an election necessary and so places can be filled through co-option.

Anyone interested in becoming a parish councillor or finding out more about it should contact parish clerk Penny Hubble on 01603 810915 or via e-mail at office@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk.

At the latest council meeting on March 18th only seven of the existing 11 councillors were present. The council can have up to 14 members.

You can find a list of councillors and their contact details later in this edition of Hethersett Herald.

Sarah's World

HETHERSETT stalwart Sarah Lawrence continues her monthly column and tells us what has been happening in her life as Spring is with us.

BY the time you read this it will be Easter so, Happy Easter.

I know Easter is early this year, but it really feels like it's snuck up on me (despite the eggs being out since Boxing Day in Tesco, where I work). I think because they're there all the time, they just become part of the usual background. Not particularly special in any way, just background fodder.

It's now that I've realised that I need to get my butt in gear and I need to sort out Easter treats for my friends and family. Not to mention help Hattie decorate her all-important Easter Bonnet! Thankfully I did think to pick up (lots of) eggs for the playgroup party when they were on offer a few weeks ago too.

Speaking of playgroup, you may remember that I talked last month about Jade and I having a bit of a clear up in the cupboard. This meant that we can now buy some new things to replace the older bits that we got rid of.

We're in the really fortunate position to be able to do this because playgroup is doing so well, we're fully booked most weeks. The money we take on the door goes towards the running of the sessions, room hire, snacks, buying and replacing toys and equipment. These are our outgoings. We save up from this money for our ever-popular parties too. We don't keep a penny of the money people pay to get in, it all goes towards the running of the group. We are entirely self-sufficient, and we're very proud of that.

In the last month we've invested in a new mat for underneath the slide, some new cups and bowls for snacks, some new musical instruments for the music box, a couple of wooden car garages, and some dolls and carriers for the parent role-play box.

Everything is looking fresh again and the children are excited about the new toys. We are too. Part of the reason we love playgroup is watching the children enjoy themselves there, so when we see their smiles we know we're doing something right.

Meanwhile, at Youth Club, unfortunately we have had a trustee step down due to work pressures. Fortunately, we have had another trustee step into her place so numbers are still good. We do realise that we need more volunteers though, to help on either Wednesday or Friday evenings. Wednesday sessions run from 17:45 -



19:15, with Fridays from 19:00 - 20:30, and you can help as little or as often as you'd like. Sessions are very informal, with most being young person-led. That is, we usually ask what they'd like to do and then raid the cupboard.

Recently we've made mug cakes and pizza! Volunteering is a very worthwhile thing to do and you'd be very welcome. Please email our chairman Sandra at sandrahenden2@gmail.com if this sounds like something you'd like to be involved with.

One of our family hobbies is Geocaching. I've spoken about it before, but it's essentially a worldwide treasure hunt game, played via an app. On the app, you can see where people have hidden their 'caches' and you follow maps or coordinates to find it. You can use the app to hide your own too, once you have found a certain number.

On the app, you can also unlock virtual souvenirs, which are graphics you receive when you have hunted on a

Sarah's World

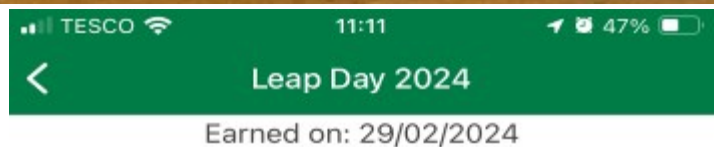
certain day, or passed a landmark number found. On Leap Year's Day, the team that made the app announced that there would be a special souvenir for finding a Geocache on that day, well, I thought it was one.

I set out on my own on that very rainy day to find some of the Hethersett caches I was missing, seeing as though my family were at work and school. The first, was one we had looked for together before and, on my second try, I still couldn't find. I had a little bit of an embarrassing moment when someone I know walked round the corner to see me staring into a bush down Shop Lane, but eventually I lost all hope of finding that one so I headed for one further along instead.

We'd tried for this one before too, but I had a sense it had been pinched (or 'muggled' as we say in Geocaching). The cache owner had messaged me after and confirmed it too. This time I had no problem finding it and I waited for my souvenir to unlock but it didn't. After a quick Google, I found that I'd read it wrong and the challenge was actually four caches. Determined, I set off for another three and I ended up walking a long way down Colney Lane to find another two, taking a left turn into Braymeadow Lane, Little Melton, for my fourth and final. The sense of accomplishment I felt when I managed to unlock that souvenir. And what a story I had to tell my family. I walked home very tired, and a lot wetter than I was when I set off, but I felt proud that I'd completed the challenge I set for myself.

And a final little anecdote. I went into Woodside School earlier in the month to speak to my youngest daughter's Year Two class about my job at Tesco and the volunteering roles I do. It was good fun. I put together some photos and sent them to the teacher in a PowerPoint beforehand, and arrived in my Tesco uniform to tell them all about how we work in Tesco Express.

I could have talked for ages about every aspect of my job, but I kept it reasonably short as I know what my daughter's attention span is like! After I had chatted a while about both my paid and voluntary positions, the children had lots of questions. My favourite was: "Do you know your five times table?" Children that age are hilarious. The most heart-warming thing for me was when the teacher asked the children who would like to do some volunteering at some point, most of the children put their hand up. The afternoon was 100% worth it for just that.



On this Leap Day, geocachers are making up

Sarah's World



Down Memory Lane

The Days of the Races at Hethersett



FOR many years, Hethersett was famed for its regular horse races which attracted large crowds. Special trains ran from both Norwich and Fakenham and the London train stopped at Hethersett Station which was close to the racecourse.

The first recorded race meeting in the village may have taken place on 9th March 1875 and was organised by the 19th and 20th Hussars Regiment. This is not a definite date and races could have taken place earlier. Racing stopped for a time but then recommenced in 1904 under the auspices of the Norwich Hunt. These meetings continued until the outbreak of World War One.



The course was over 120 acres and was sold in 1927 to a Mr R. J. Read and a Hethersett Race Committee was set up to run the events. Their first meeting was on Thursday 8th March, 1928. The races attracted large fields and were well supported by local people. The final meeting before the Second World War intervened took place on Thursday 4th May, 1939. After the war the course was used by Norwich Staghounds for point to point races between 1953 and 1963 and meetings finally ceased in 1970.

It is likely that part of the A11 dual carriageway is on land that would have been part of the racecourse. In the early days of racing it is likely that there was a wooden grandstand.

Down Memory Lane



Bill Morton was born in 1920 and brought up in Hethersett. He clearly remembers race day as a boy as he explained a few years ago in an article sent to Hethersett Herald.

“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 brigade. 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.”

Mel Perkins MBE was born in Ketteringham, but has lived in Hethersett most of his life. He too has a vivid memories of race days at Hethersett.

“Many people walked to the races through Kissing Alley and down Suckling Lane. There was a definite class structure with the toffs going one way and ordinary members of the public the other. I remember going to one race day with my mum and dad when I was about 12. That would have been in 1961 or 1962. I later went in 1967 when I was courting.

“I remember watching the start of a race and then running across fields towards the railway line, watching them over a couple of jumps and then running back to see the finish. It was a reasonably good standard of racing.

“There was a beer tent and a rather crackly public address system with an announcer with a very posh voice. It was a good day's outing for people from the village. I think it was about five shillings (25p) to get in but £5 for the car park and that was a lot of money in those days.

Down Memory Lane

"Much of the land for the races is now part of the bypass. Up to about five years ago part of one of the fences was still in a hedge but it is no longer there. It was quite a long course going down as far as what is now Thickthorn Services."

New Podcast Video Channel Remembers Hethersett's Past



MEMORIES of Hethersett will come flooding back thanks to a new You Tube podcast channel launched by a village resident.

Renowned Hethersett artist Colin Wilson, who is possibly best known for producing the stunning backdrops for the annual village pantomime, is also a keen historian.

For many years Colin and village stalwart Duncan Pigg produced presentations on the heritage and history of the village to entertain local groups with 100-year old photos.

Duncan died a couple of years ago but Colin is now continuing the tradition by giving it a modern twist by producing "The Old Hethersett Podcast" on You Tube. To date Colin has produced six episodes ranging in length from just under 11 minutes to just under 16.

"The podcast celebrates the village and residents of Hethersett from about 100 years ago. I am using digital copies of 35 mm slides that were used in the past for presenting "Slides of Old Hethersett" at the local Jubilee Hall in Back Lane," Colin said.



The episodes are themed and are as follows:

Episode One: The turnpike part one—A journey along the old turnpike near Hethersett.

Episode Two: The turnpike part two.

Episode Three: Farms and Farmers.

Episode Four: Hethersett Trades.

Episode Five: Fetes and Festivals.

Episode Six: Schools.

You can subscribe free to Colin's podcast by going to the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@OldHethersettPodcast/videos>.

The photographs on this page are courtesy of Colin's collection and taken from Episode Five—Fetes and Festivals.

**Hethersett celebrates the
coronation of Queen Elizabeth
II in 1953**



**The Village Hall in the photograph is now
Hethersett Social Club**



Two contrasting impressions of the same scene. Above is Colin's modern day interpretation of Smith's Bakery with the inset photograph taken about 100 years ago.

Plenty of Pinkness

THE Spring season of films organised by Hethersett Village Screen continues on Sunday 7th April with Barbie and this is followed on May 12th with the epic film and multi Oscar winner "Oppenheimer."

After that village screen will take its usual break before returning on 8th September with a programme still to be announced. Further films in 2024 will be shown on 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December. There will be no films in June, July and August. Dates have also been announced for 2025 and will be 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April and 11th May. All films take place in Hethersett Village Hall at 3 pm on a Sunday afternoon and tickets are £5.

The main film is usually preceded by short films, often with a local angle/connection.



Barbie (12)
Sunday 7th April, 3pm

Margot Robbie (Barbie) and Ryan Gosling (Ken) star in director Greta Gerwig's acclaimed drama that works on more levels than you might expect.



Oppenheimer (15)
Sunday 12th May, 3pm

Cillian Murphy is exceptional in the title role of director Christopher Nolan's tale of the father of the atomic bomb.

News From The Parish Council

Below are details of the current parish councillors. There are still three vacancies. Councillors can now be contacted on the e-mail addresses listed.

Position	Name	Email Address	Telephone
Chairman	Bridget Williamson	cldr.bwilliamson@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	810259
Vice-Chair	Leslie Dale	cldr.ldale@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	810952
Councillors	Paul Everett	cldr.peverett@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	07871 700228
	Heath Dakin	cldr.hdakin@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	Via the clerk
	Anne Edwards	cldr.aedwards@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	812309
	Kelsea Law	cldr.klaw@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	Via the clerk
	Jonathan Loomer	cldr.jloome@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	Via the clerk
	Eileen Mulvaney	cldr.emulvaney@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	811997
	Habib Ur Rehman	cldr.hrehman@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	07899 719173
	Jennifer Walpole	cldr.jwalpole@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	811932
	Rameez Asif	cldr.rasif@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	Via the clerk
Clerk	Penny Hubble	office@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	810915
Deputy Clerk	Sara White	office@hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk	810915

Crossings and Yellow Lines

WORK to provide a new pedestrian crossing in Back Lane to help control traffic close to village schools will take place in May, members of the parish council heard at their March meeting.

A number of bushes have been taken down to facilitate the work. Meanwhile a decision is also expected in the near future on whether double yellow lines in Henstead Road will be extended further along the road from its junction with Queen's Road/Great Melton Road.

The council has been supporting this move following complaints from motorists and bus companies about difficulties in negotiating the junction through cars parked on the opposite side to the PACT charity shop



News From The Parish Council

Meeting Dates

The council meets monthly usually on the third Monday of each month.

Council meetings begin at 7.30 pm. For other committee dates refer to the council's website which can be accessed at:

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

The website includes agendas, minutes and supporting documentation for items to be discussed at meetings.

Committee and full council meetings are open to the public. Residents are given the opportunity to make comments at the beginning and towards the end of each full council meeting.

Full council meeting dates for the remainder of 2024 are: 25th April, 20th May, 17th June, 15th July, 16th September, 21st October, 18th November and 16th December.

Schools at Capacity Level Concern

HETHERSETT Parish Council has expressed its concern that parents moving into the village are not being able to get their children into local schools.

Councillors were told that there is currently only 50% occupancy on new development in Hethersett North and parents were already finding it hard to obtain places in the village schools: "What happens when we have 100% capacity? How much noise do we want to make over this matter? We need a response from our community by asking people to tell us if they are having problems getting school places," said Councillor Eileen Mulvaney.

Councillor Heath Dakin also voiced his concern: "Woodside School is three years old and already full. We have reached saturation point. People just cannot get places for their children," he said.

Parish clerk Penny Hubble pointed out that 720 more houses are due to be occupied in the future. Some pupils at Hethersett schools come from other areas.

Councillor Jonathan Looome pointed out that the parish council has no control over the matter but Councillor Mulvaney felt that the council should collect residents' views to send to the relevant authorities.

"We cannot mount a campaign but we can pass on people's views and be a vehicle for them." Other councillors pointed out that, with parental choice, some parents would opt for their children to be educated in other places such as Norwich.

Chairman Bridget Williamson said: "It is very hard to listen to Hethersett families telling us they cannot get their children into local schools." One Hethersett school has advertised that it still does have places however in reception as you can see in their poster later in this edition of Hethersett Herald.

New Surgery Update

TALKS to provide a new surgery in Hethersett are ongoing, Hethersett District Councillor John Moreland told the March meeting of the parish council.

"Meetings of the Integrated Care Board are continuing to come up with plans. Six and a half million pounds has been allocated within the next three years and within three years we will have a new surgery," Councillor Moreland said.

Speed Checks Widen

Speed checks using the Sam 2 mobile unit will be extended in the village following an agreement that the machines can be used on Burnt House Lane.

The units detect speeds of passing vehicles and provide data for the village speedwatch team and the police. The machine has been in regular use in other parts of the village.

At the March parish council meeting chairman Bridget Williamson said that statistics available suggested that most motorists were adhering to village speed limits.

News From The Parish Council

Fly Posting Problem

HETHERSETT Parish Council has once again expressed its concern at advertising posters and banners being put up around the village outside of the accepted noticeboards.

The matter has once again come to a head after Councillor Dr Anne Edwards complained about a banner advertising a gym being put up in the area of Haconsfield in the village.

"We have had a long battle with people putting up posters everywhere. Now a massive banner has gone up in Haconsfield advertising a gym that isn't even in Hethersett," she said.

Members heard that they could take down any advertising matter on their own land but will refer the gym banner to Norfolk Highways and ask them to remove it.

Hethersett Parish Council has approved the use of their land in Melton Court, just off Great Melton Road, for an open air service being organised by Hethersett and District Churches Together. A similar event last year proved successful and councillors agreed unanimously to allow a similar service in 2024.

The church organisation also applied for an event in another part of the village but councillors pointed out that this was out of their jurisdiction as they did not own this land.



Householders Warned To Be On Their Guard

CONCERN has been expressed in the village at people having their homes entered by uninvited guests.

A resident took to social media with a warning:

"I have read a few times recently about front doors being opened by uninvited people. This morning this happened to me. A knock first, I was upstairs, as I went down the door was being opened. I managed to push it shut and lock it, only to hear, 'Sorry Madam, you do not have a doorbell.'

"What gives anyone the right to enter a property uninvited. I was shocked and just want to warn everyone to be on the guard."

Police advice on this matter is to always keep doors locked and to report anyone acting suspiciously to them.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT

Hethersett & District Aid In Sickness Fund?

(Formerly known as the Hethersett Nursing Association)



DO YOU LIVE IN

Hethersett
Ketteringham or Little Melton?

ARE YOU

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



Examples of help available

Grants are available towards:

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

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



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

All applications are treated in the strictest confidence.

Registered Charity Number 211284

News From Hethersett Hall

Stories and pictures by Caroline Evans

Betty's Big Day

THERE were huge celebrations at Hethersett Hall when our gorgeous Betty celebrated her 103rd birthday.

Betty Cator is a remarkable woman and we were so honoured to be able to celebrate her special day.

Betty was given a surprise tea at Park Farm Hotel before returning to Hethersett Hall for entertainment and music from Derrin Sings.

In the photograph opposite, Betty celebrates her birthday and below that is a photograph of the young Betty.



Residents enjoyed a trip to the Norfolk Broads which was just what the doctor ordered.

* * *

Residents also received a bunch of daffodils to mark the great daffodil appeal. These were freshly picked from the garden. There was a slice of lemon drizzle cake to go with them and we raised money for the Marie Curie Cancer Charity.

Staff all wore something yellow to blend in with the theme.



News From Hethersett Hall

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

at Hethersett Hall Care Home

every Friday of the month
10.30am - 12.00pm

Join us in the lounge for baby and toddler group
there will be delicious refreshments available throughout
Parking is available at the home.
Everyone is welcome!



Hethersett Hall Care Home

Norwich Road, Hethersett, Norfolk, NR9 3AP

Tel: 01603 810478 • www.barchester.com

Residential Care • Dementia Care • Respite Breaks



News From Hethersett Hall



We had the pleasure once again to welcome the Venerable Martin Grey for Holy Communion. We are always so delighted to see him. We all read our prayers and shared our thoughts. This is so special for us as it supports our religious needs. It's just something so magical.

Celebrating St Patrick's Day

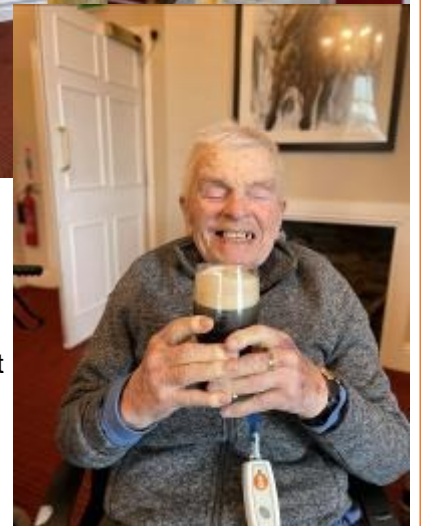
WE enjoyed a sparkling St Patrick's Day. We had some delicious treats including Irish stew, chocolate and Guinness cake, Baileys tiramisu followed by a nice glass of Guinness, Baileys or Jamesons.

We had Irish music playing through the home all day. It really did get everyone dancing and show off dance moves we didn't realise we could do.

We also had the joys of having a Irish band perform for us. This really got us tapping our feet and we loved it.

We decorated the home with lots of flags and shamrocks with biscuits to match.

You will find more news from Hethersett Hall earlier on in this edition of Hethersett Herald and a special relationship that has sprung up with a Norfolk-based charity helping the homeless.



News From Hethersett Hall



Thank you so much Framingham Earl High School for a wonderful morning with drinks, chocolates, chats and games. We had so many laughs together and talked about so many memories. It's always a pleasure to have you with us and we can't wait to see you again.



Join The Email Group

We currently use Social Media to inform residents when a new edition of Hethersett Herald is published.

We also post copies of new editions, along with an archive of editions from the past seven and a half years, on the website www.hethersettherald.weebly.com.

If you would like to be alerted via e-mail of the publication of a new edition please send an e-mail requesting this service to the editor—petersteward@sky.com. We will now be sending the Herald as an attachment to those who have registered their e-mail address with us.

Your e-mail address will not be disclosed to any third parties and will be used exclusively for notification of new publications.

The May 2024 edition of Hethersett Herald will be online from the end of April, bringing you news and views from the village.

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

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

petersteward@sky.com

We Are On Facebook

Hethersett Herald is on Facebook. You can follow us at

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

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

Council/Government Contact Numbers

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

Member of Parliament

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

Email—Richard@richardbacon.org.uk

Address—Grasmere, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 4LE

Telephone: 01379 642097

Facebook—Bacon4SouthNorfolk

X (formerly 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: John Morland (Labour), Kathryn Cross (Conservative) and David Bills (Conservative). David Bills can be contacted on 01603 813041 or at dbills@s-norfolk.gov.uk. Kathryn Cross can be contacted on 07722 019116 or Kathryn.cross@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk and John Morland can be contacted on 01603 813247.

Hethersett Parish Council

The council can be contacted on 01603 810915. The clerk is Penny Hubble and assistant clerk is Sara White. Contact details for individual councillors can be found elsewhere in this magazine.

The parish council meets on the third Monday of each month in the Village Hall. The planning committee meets on the first and third Mondays (depending on the need to discuss nplanning applications). Other committees meet at various times and can be checked out on the council's official website at:

<https://hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Agendas for 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 in the library or are available from the clerk or online.

Email: Hethersett.pc@tiscali.co.uk

HETHERSETT HERALD

Your Monthly E-Magazine

News, views, comment, information and photographs keeping you up to date with what is happening in our village. Hethersett Herald is published on the first day of each month exclusively at:

www.hetherssettherald.weebly.co



Police Contacts For Hethersett

Hethersett falls into the Hethersett and Mulbarton Safer Neighbourhood Team with the following representatives



Sergeant Stuart Barnard



Inspector Andy Terry

**Police Constable Arvi Bhogal
(Engagement Officer)**

Police Constable James Smith

Police Constable (Beat Manager)

Cricket Club Prepares For New Season

HETHERSETT and Tas Valley Cricket Club is gearing up to what could be the most successful season in the club's history.

The cricket season kicks off in April with local leagues following on in May. 2024 marks the club's 21st year playing its matches at Flordon, following its move from Hethersett Memorial Playing Field in 2003.

The close season has been spent renovating and extending the clubhouse to provide a new enclosed veranda area along with a new patio area. A number of partnerships have been formed with alcohol suppliers and the club has signed up numerous sponsors.

Last season saw the first team finish sixth in its first ever year in the Premier Division of the Norfolk Alliance. This year the club will be fielding four adult Saturday sides, competing in both the Norfolk Cricket Alliance and the Norfolk Cricket League. Additionally, the club runs a Sunday side in the Mid Norfolk Sunday League. The club also competes in the National Village Cup, Challenge Cup, Hunts Cup, and the Norfolk Association of Cricket Umpires (NACO) Shield competition. For younger cricketers, it runs junior sides at Under-9, Under-11, Under-13, Under-15 and Under-17 levels, all playing in both the South Norfolk Community League and the Norfolk Alliance Junior Leagues. The club also runs a Men's Over-40s team, with Ladies hardball and softball elevens competing in the Norfolk Women's League. The Under-19s participate in the regional Vitality Blast T20 competition.

John Head's Photographic Diary

This month's photographic diary returns to March 2000 where a band of intrepid Hethersett villagers, many sadly no longer with us, were treated to a walk about the fields of Hethersett organised by Vic and Hugh Redington. This finished with refreshments at Home Farm off Ketteringham Lane which Vic and Hugh were then developing during their retirement.



John Head's Photographic Diary





All photographs are courtesy of John Head



Where To Eat In and Around Hethersett

Janey's Village Café

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

Hethersett Queen's Head

12 Norwich Road. Telephone 01603 810226

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

Hethersett King's Head

Old Norwich Road, Hethersett. Serves food seven days a week from midday to 3 pm and 6 until 9 pm.

Park Farm Hotel

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

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

Café Kin

Rowan House, Queen's Road, Hethersett.

Café Kin is part of the Rowan House Vets on Queen's Road. Food and coffee Mondays to Fridays 8 am until 4 pm. Dogs welcome. It is closed on Saturdays and Sundays

* * *

You will also find a variety of eating outlets close to the Thickthorn Services area off the B1172. These are technically in Hethersett although they are two miles from the village centre. Outlets include Burger King, Subway and McDonalds and there is also a petrol station and Travelodge.



Peter Pilkington is one of the artists living at Hethersett Hall Care Home who take part in weekly art classes organised by Juli Mobbs.

Peter has sold a number of his paintings on behalf of charity.

One of his latest images is included opposite.

Comparing Petrol Prices

	Unleaded	Change	Diesel	Change
Asda, Hall Road, Norwich	142.9	+1p	152.9	+4p
Tesco Express, Earlham Road, Norwich	142.9	NC	152.9	+2p
Sainsbury's, Queen's Road, Norwich	143.9	+2p	152.9	+2p
Tesco, Harford Bridges, Norwich	142.9	NC	152.9	+2p
Sainsbury's Longwater, Norwich	143.9	+3p	153.9	+3p
Abbeygate, Wymondham	159.9	+6p	169.9	+8p
Waitrose, Wymondham	159.9	+4p	169.9	+7p
Thickthorn Services, Hethersett	151.9	+2p	161.9	+3p

EACH month we check prices at eight petrol stations in easy reach of Hethersett and see how much prices have risen or fallen.

Unfortunately the three stations closest to Hethersett—Abbeygate at Wymondham, Waitrose at Wymondham and Thickthorn Services, continue to be the most expensive fuel around with some of the top prices in the whole of the county of Norfolk.

The above details were taken on March 18th and show more rises. The prices may fluctuate during the remainder of the month.

Please Send Us Your Reports

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@sky.com

Reports of events and meetings can also be sent to the above e-mail address.

The deadline for copy and information is the 15th of each month. Hethersett Herald is published on or around the first day of each month via the website

www.hethersettherald.weebly.com

Announcement of publication is also made on social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Next Door. You can also be notified by e-mail by sending a request to the editor at:

petersteward@sky.com.

If you enjoy reading Hethersett Herald please pass details on.

Groups and Societies

First Steps Stay & Play Playgroup

Hethersett Village Hall

9:30 – 10:45 every Tuesday during term time



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

Babies under 6 months are free!

Email: firststepshethersett@outlook.com

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

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

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

Groups and Societies

Forget Me Not Café

ANGELA Bishop made a welcome return to the Forget Me Not Café to bring reminiscences of films, music and fashions from the 1960s.

It was also a special day for café committee member the Rev Christopher Mallett who celebrated his 80th birthday. Our photograph shows Anne Steward presenting Rev Mallett with a birthday cake which was enjoyed by all.

There was more time for reminiscences in March when “time for a chat” was held on the 5th and was followed by a presentation from Lesley Woodton.

The café meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the hall at Hethersett Methodist Church from 10 am.

A café is also held each month at Hethersett Hall Care Home. For more information please contact Anne Steward on 01603 811052. You can view the coming programme opposite.

Below, members of the Forget Me Not Café joined artists from Hethersett Hall Care Home on March 26th during one of their weekly art sessions. The Forget Me Not Café also meets once a month in Hethersett Hall.



April 2nd	Celebrating Easter
April 16th	Hilary Varley Decoupage
April 23rd	Café at Hethersett Hall
May 7th	Time For A Chat
May 21st	Wiltshire Farm Foods
May 28th	Café at Hethersett Hall
June 4th	Time For A Chat
June 18th	To Be Arranged
June 25th	Café at Hethersett Hall
July 2nd	Time For A Chat
July 16th	Strawberries and Music



If you would like your group, club or society featured in Hethersett Herald and/or our sister publication Good News, please send details of events and coming dates to the editor at:
petersteward@sky.com

Groups and Societies

Hethersett Mothers' Union

Our February meeting included a talk by The Venerable Martin Gray on "A Calling". This was a most interesting and frank talk about his life and the lead up to committing to join the Ministry. We are now in March and look forward to our Annual Corporate Communion which was due to take place on Monday March 25th in Little Melton Church.

Our next meeting MU meeting is on April 22nd and will include a talk by Clare Styles on her Café project in Wymondham called "Poppys Pantry".

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

Kate Reynolds

Playing Field Bowls Club

By Ron Butcher

Hello Folks, at last Spring is upon us and thoughts are turning towards outdoor pursuits, in particular, healthy, social type sports.

Well, outdoor bowls fills both those conditions, and The (Playing Fields) Outdoor Bowls Club is pleased to announce that the new season will commence at its opening day of Saturday, the 27th April at 1.45 pm.

In particular new and prospective members will be more than welcome to join us. So come along and see what you think, all that new members will need are flat heeled shoes as bowls can be borrowed for the first game and there will be no charge. Please roll up, as the club would very much like some new blood.

For information please contact Ron on 813096 or David on 811399.'



Images from Hethersett Hall's art group

Groups and Societies



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 next session on TUESDAY 2nd APRIL 2024

**Future Dates: Tuesday 7th May 2024
 Tuesday 4th June 2024**

For more information tel: Pauline 01603 812610

Village Hub Open For Bookings

By Sarah Lawrence

THE new name for the pavilion on the Memorial Playing Field is Hethersett Community Hub. This building now incorporates up-to-the-minute sports changing facilities and can accommodate two separate teams and two groups of match officials to the latest Football Association standards.

The other part of the building, which is available to residents of our village for hire, has a large room that will comfortably seat 60.

There is also a smaller room and a fully fitted kitchen. In addition there are toilet facilities including one for disabled users.

The whole building incorporates “no step” access for easy entry.

All rooms are now available for hire. If you are planning a party, a meeting or a regular event, please email MPFThehethersett@gmail.com or leave a message on 07470689803 to express an interest.

Groups and Societies

Friends of Hethersett Library Presentations

THE Friends of Hethersett Library opened its 2024 programme on February 22nd with a talk and presentation by Mel Perkins MBE on his memories of growing up and living in Hethersett with particular emphasis on Hethersett Railway Station and Hethersett Racecourse. Mel's talk was entitled "Trains, Aches and Pains."

In April there will be a return visit from Paddy Anstey with more tales from the railways. In a fully illustrated presentation, Paddy will talk about his fascination with railways from the 1950s and 60s in South Gloucestershire (steam) to the present day in Norfolk. Paddy will explain what has particularly captured his interest and will take us on a journey visiting various parts of the British Isles with the occasional venture into Western Europe. Paddy's presentation will start at 6.30 pm on Thursday April 25th and will be followed by refreshments supplied by the Friends of Hethersett Library. Tickets for this event are £5 which includes the refreshments and can be purchased on the door with no need to book in advance.

In June, Norfolk author Phyllida Scrivens will be talking about coronation celebrations in Norfolk through the ages. Tickets for these events will be £5 which once again includes light refreshments and we will have more details of more coming events in future magazines.



THE RiNG (Rheumatoid in Norfolk Group) with Viv Hawes

OUR meeting in February saw Ivan Fisher giving us an insight into his career and what a fascinating tale it was.

Brought up opposite St Faiths Crematorium and knowing the people involved with its running, meant that death and the rituals and formalities were not mysterious to him.

It was however an interest in farming that took him to Easton College but it didn't take long for him to realise that perhaps this was not the right path.

A change of course to working at a Funeral Directors in Norwich was the start of a journey leading to his now having three funeral homes and a reputation second to none for personal attention and going the extra mile.

This care was apparent to those who attended the funeral of John Nightingale when Ivan provided his own grey Fergie to send John on his way with a smile.

Our April meeting on 24th has Caroline Ferrari, sister in charge of the Rheumatology Day Unit at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, as our speaker and it is also our birthday month (16 years and still going strong despite Covid blips).

If you would like to join us, we meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at Hethersett Village Hall and, for a charge of £4 to cover costs, we offer tea/coffee and home made goodies.

For any more info ring 01603 811347 or e-mail me at viv.hawes@talktalk.net

Hethersett Herald What's On

The following are just some of the regular events taking place in Hethersett. If you have an event you would like to see featured in Hethersett Herald, please send details including date, time and venue to petersteward@sky.com.

You can also visit Hethersett Parish Council's community directory on its website at:

<https://hethersettparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Hethersett Croquet Club meets on the Memorial Playing Field from 2.30 pm on Wednesday and Saturdays during the summer months. During the winter the group play indoor games in Hethersett Queen's Head.

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

Hethersett Methodist Church offers Wednesday morning coffee from 9 am.

First Steps pre-school Group meets in Hethersett Village Hall—see poster in this edition.

Hethersett Forget Me Not Café (under the auspices of Hethersett Dementia Support Group) holds twice monthly meetings in the Methodist Church Hall from 10 am on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10 until 11.30. The group also meets at Hethersett Hall Care Home on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Hethersett Short Mat Bowls Club plays weekly in Hethersett Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons. The club opens at 2.15 pm for a 2.30 pm start and finishes around 4.30 pm.

Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Bowls Club meets on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2 pm during the summer months from April onwards.

The Paint With Us Art Group meets in Hethersett Village Hall on Thursdays from 1.30 pm until 4 pm.

Hethersett Gardening Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month (apart from December when it is on the second Wednesday) at 7.30 pm in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall.

St Remigius Church Baby and Toddler Group meets on the first Tuesday of each month in St Remigius Church from 10 am until midday.

Hethersett Village Screen shows current films in Hethersett Village Hall at 3 pm on the first Sunday of each month from September until May.

Hethersett Parish Council meets in Hethersett Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the third Monday of each month.

If you would like your organisation/group represented in Hethersett Herald, please send details of meeting time, place and any other information you would like printed to the editor at: petersteward@sky.com.

Hethersett Herald What's On and Opening Hours

Opening hours for Hethersett Community Post Office in Hethersett Library are as follows:

Monday: 9.30 am to 5.30 pm

Tuesday: 9.30 am until 5.30 pm

Wednesday: 9.30 am to 5.30 pm

Thursday: 9.30 am to 5.30 pm.

Friday: 9.30 am to 5.30 pm.

Saturday: 9.30 am to 2.30 pm.

Sunday—Closed

Library users with Open Access will be able to get into the building using their library cards. Those without Open Access wishing to use the post office will need to ring the doorbell and will be admitted by one of the post office volunteers.

The Post Office is closed for lunch between 1 pm and 1.30 pm.



MORE photographs featured in Colin Wilson's new podcast on Hethersett. The bottom one was taken in Mill Road and the one above shows a celebration of the harvest taken over 100 years ago.



Wymondham Music Events Group *Presents*

Counterfeit Quo

Sunday

5th May 2024

7:30pm

Tickets: £18



Wymondham Central Hall

Back Lane, Wymondham, NR18 0QB

For Tickets : Norman and Helen - 01953 600563

George R Reeve Gifts & Stationery, Market Street, Wymondham, NR18 0BB

www.ticketsource.co.uk/wymondham-music-events-group

In Aid of 3 local charities - all 2024 profits will be divided between:

Wymondham Dementia Support Group - Charity No. 1143347

Wymondham and Attleborough Talking Newspaper - Charity No. 1089872

Star Throwers Cancer Support - Charity No. 1162237

At your Library

in Hethersett



Regular Events at Hethersett Library

Knit, Stitch and Natter - Mondays, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Baby Bounce and Rhyme - Mondays, 2 - 2:30 pm

Stay, Chat and Play - Mondays, 2:30 - 3:00 pm

Colour Me Calm - Wednesdays, 11 am - 12 pm

Just a Cuppa - Wednesdays, 11 am - 12 pm

Board Games for Families - Thursdays, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Board Games for Adults - Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Autism Café - 1st Friday of the month, 5 - 6 pm, drop in event so no need to book

LEGO Club - Saturdays, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Browse all events online by scanning the QR code

Alternatively, speak to staff or call us at 0344 800 8020



10-2

OPEN GARDEN

Sat 13th July & Sat 31st Aug

8 Melton Court,
Hethersett, NR9
3HE

Free entry

Hethersett Herald What's On

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*

Monday	8am – 7pm
Tuesday	8am – 7pm
Wednesday	8am – 7pm
Thursday	8am – 7pm
Friday	8am – 7pm
Saturday	8am – 4pm
Sunday	10am – 4pm

Staffed Hours

Monday	1.30pm – 7pm
Tuesday	Unstaffed
Wednesday	11am – 7pm
Thursday	1.30pm – 7pm
Friday	1.30pm – 7pm
Saturday	11am – 4pm
Sunday	Unstaffed

*During times when the library is available but not staffed, you can access the library using our Open Libraries system. Please visit www.library.norfolk.gov.uk or call 01603 774777 for more information

borrow discover connect

 **Norfolk** County Council



Methodist Church dates for your diary include the following.

The Art and Craft Group meets every Wednesday at 10 am. Please contact Tina Greenhalgh for information on 01603 810364.

The **Wednesday Coffee Stop** is open every Wednesday from 9 am until noon. Fresh coffee will be served. Please come and enjoy with a group of friends.

Men's Mardle meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 10 am.

Hethersett Herald What's On

New Village Churches Venture

HETHERSETT and District Churches Together will be launching a new venture on Sunday 21st April with a village café church.

Free tea and cake will be available from 4 pm and will be followed by a café style service at 4.30 pm.

This will be the first of a series of such events which will continue on Sunday 19th May and Sunday 16th June. All will take place in Hethersett Methodist Church.

Hethersett and District Churches Together has enjoyed a very busy year. A resume of events from January 2023 to January 2024 has included the annual Lent course, the World Day of Prayer, the annual Easter Good Friday walk of witness and service, support for Christian Aid Week, Christmas services and community outdoor carol singing which raised £60 for the Save The Children Charity.

There were also other outdoor worship services including one under the tree on land close to Park Green which was held with the permission of the landowners, Hethersett Parish Council.

Hethersett & District Churches Together



Invite You

to

Village Café Church

For **FREE** Tea and Cake from

4pm

followed by a Café Style Service at

4:30pm

The dates are:

Sunday 21st April at Hethersett Methodist

Sunday 19th May at Hethersett Methodist

Sunday 16th June at Hethersett Methodist





Hethersett Village Screen

Community Cinema

Sunday 7th January 2024
The Old Oak (15)

Sunday 4th February
A Haunting In Venice (12A)

Sunday 3rd March
The Great Escaper (12A)

Sunday 7th April (12)
Barbie

Sunday 12th May (15)
Oppenheimer

All screenings at 3pm

Hethersett Village Hall

All tickets £5 ea.

In association with 

 **Hethersett Village Screen**

 **@hethersettvs**

Hethersett Herald What's On



www.hethersett-yc.co.uk

Back Lane, Hethersett
NR9 3JJ

Youth Club

During term time

Wednesday 5:45 - 7:15
(School Years 5 & 6)
Friday 7:00 - 8:30 (Year 7+)

£2 per session (Tuck is also available for a small amount on the night)

 @Hethersett Jubilee Youth Centre

Made with PosterMyWall.com

YOU can read more about Hethersett along with Little and Great Melton in our sister publication Good News which can be delivered to your door towards the end of each month.

The magazine has been in existence for over 150 years and includes news and coming services for the three Church of England churches in the Benefice—St Remigius at Hethersett, All Saints at Little Melton and All Saints at Great Melton. There is also news from Hethersett Methodist Church.

Good News also includes adverts for local businesses and trades people. Each individual edition costs just 60p and an annual subscription is just £5 for 12 issues.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list and take out a subscription, please contact Kim Arnall on 01953 308309.





Knit & Natter

Join us for a natter whilst you knit!

Fortnightly at 10.30 am.

Come along to our weekly Knit & Natter group,
enjoy a welcoming and friendly atmosphere.

Light refreshments are available.



Hethersett Hall Care Home

Norwich Road, Hethersett, Norfolk, NR9 3AP

Tel: 01603 810478 • www.barchester.com

Residential Care • Dementia Care • Respite Breaks



Spring fair

Sunday April 14th

from 10am to 4pm
at Park Farm Hotel
Hethersett, NR9 3DL

Crafts • Jewellery • Fine Art
Photography • Textiles

One Voice Glee Club
2.00pm



Jabbawocky Crafts Village



Hethersett Herald What's On

Hethersett Social Club Opening Hours

Current opening hours are:

Monday *Closed*

Tuesday 7pm - 11pm

Wednesday 7pm - 11pm

Thursday 7pm - 11pm

Friday 5pm - 11.30pm

Saturday 12pm - Midnight

Sunday 12pm - 8pm



Business Opening Hours

This is a free service for businesses in Hethersett. If you would like your opening hours posted here please e-mail details to petersteward@sky.com

Kin Café at Rowan House in Queen's Road is open on Monday to Friday from 8 am until 4 pm. You can find the café as part of the Rowan House complex in Queen's Road. Dogs are welcome.

Hethersett Butchers in Great Melton Road is open from 9 am to 6.30 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 9 am until 3 pm on Saturdays. It is closed on Sundays and Mondays. 01603 810293. www.thehethersettbutchers.co.uk. E mail hethersettbutcher@btinternet.com and Facebook [@thehethersettbutchersltd](https://www.facebook.com/thehethersettbutchersltd).



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

Hethersett Methodist Church
Gt Melton Road, NR9 3AB

is offering

a Gathering Space

A space for all, as well as an opportunity for Ukrainians settling in the area, to meet each other.

a Coffee

(Tea and Squash is also available!)

a Warm Welcome

Election Time Again

HETHERSETT will be amongst towns and villages throughout Norfolk going to the polls on May 2nd to elect a Police and Crime Commissioner.

Present incumbent Giles Orpen-Smellie (Conservative—pictured on the left) will be standing again and his opponents will include Sarah Taylor (Labour—pictured in the middle) and John Crofts (Liberal Democrat—pictured on the right).



Polling in Hethersett will take place in the village hall from 7 am until 10 pm. Just a reminder that in order to vote you must take along photographic ID.

Unlike in past elections, this one will be decided on a simple first past the post vote.

April What's On

Tuesday 2nd—Forget Me Not Café—celebrating Easter— Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am.

Tuesday 2nd—St Remigius Baby and Toddler Group, St Remigius Church, 10 am to midday.

Wednesday 3rd—Institution service for the new Rector of Hethersett (see panel opposite for details).

Sunday 7th—Hethersett Village Screen presents “Barbie.” Hethersett Village Hall, 3 pm.

Sunday 14th—Spring Fair organised by Jabbawocky Crafts, Park Farm Hotel, 10 am to 4 pm.

Tuesday 16th—Forget me Not Café—Decoupage (paper craft) with Hilary Varley. Hethersett Methodist Church Hall from 10 am.

Sunday 21st—Hethersett and District Churches Together café church. Free tea and cake from 4 pm followed by a café style service at 4.30 pm.

Monday 22nd—Hethersett Mothers’ Union talk by Clare Styles of Poppy’s Pantry.

Thursday 25th—Friends’ of Hethersett Library talk by Paddy Anstey on his love of railways from the 1950s to the present day. Hethersett Library 6.30 pm. Admission £5 including light refreshments.

Saturday 27th—Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Bowls Club’s season opens, 1.45 pm.

Tuesday 30th—Annual meeting of Great Melton Parochial Church Council at the Old Rectory, Great Melton. 7.30 pm.

Institution Service

The institution service for the new rector of Hethersett and the Meltons, the Rev Lynn Chapman, will be at 7 pm on Wednesday 3rd April in St Remigius, Church Hethersett.



Village Show Date Announced

Little Melton Village Show is on Saturday 7th September. The countdown begins.

Only five months to go.

It's time to think ahead to sunnier drier days. Have you sown your seeds for those winning carrots and parsnips? Or planted out those perfect potatoes and onions? Or perhaps you're waiting for the rain to stop and the temperature to rise. Either way there's still plenty of time to get ready for the Show of the year in Little Melton! We look forward to seeing you there with your wonderful produce.

More details of these events and news from churches in Hethersett, Great Melton and Little Melton are also available in our sister publication Good News.

Good News is supported by advertising and costs just £5 for an annual subscription. Individual copies are also available for 60p each. Details of how to obtain copies are published earlier in this edition of Herald.



Remembering The Fallen

Regular columnist John Head remembers those featured on war memorials—this time the Yaxley Brothers of Irstead in Norfolk.



St Michael's Church Irstead: Second World War Memorial Plaque - The Yaxley Brothers.

War memorials are very poignant. I'm forever visiting them and looking at the list of names wondering who they were but most of all telling them they are not forgotten.

Most of the younger soldiers may have represented their village at cricket or football – the older soldiers may have been stalwarts of their community probably on the parish council. The poem 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae really does bring this home.

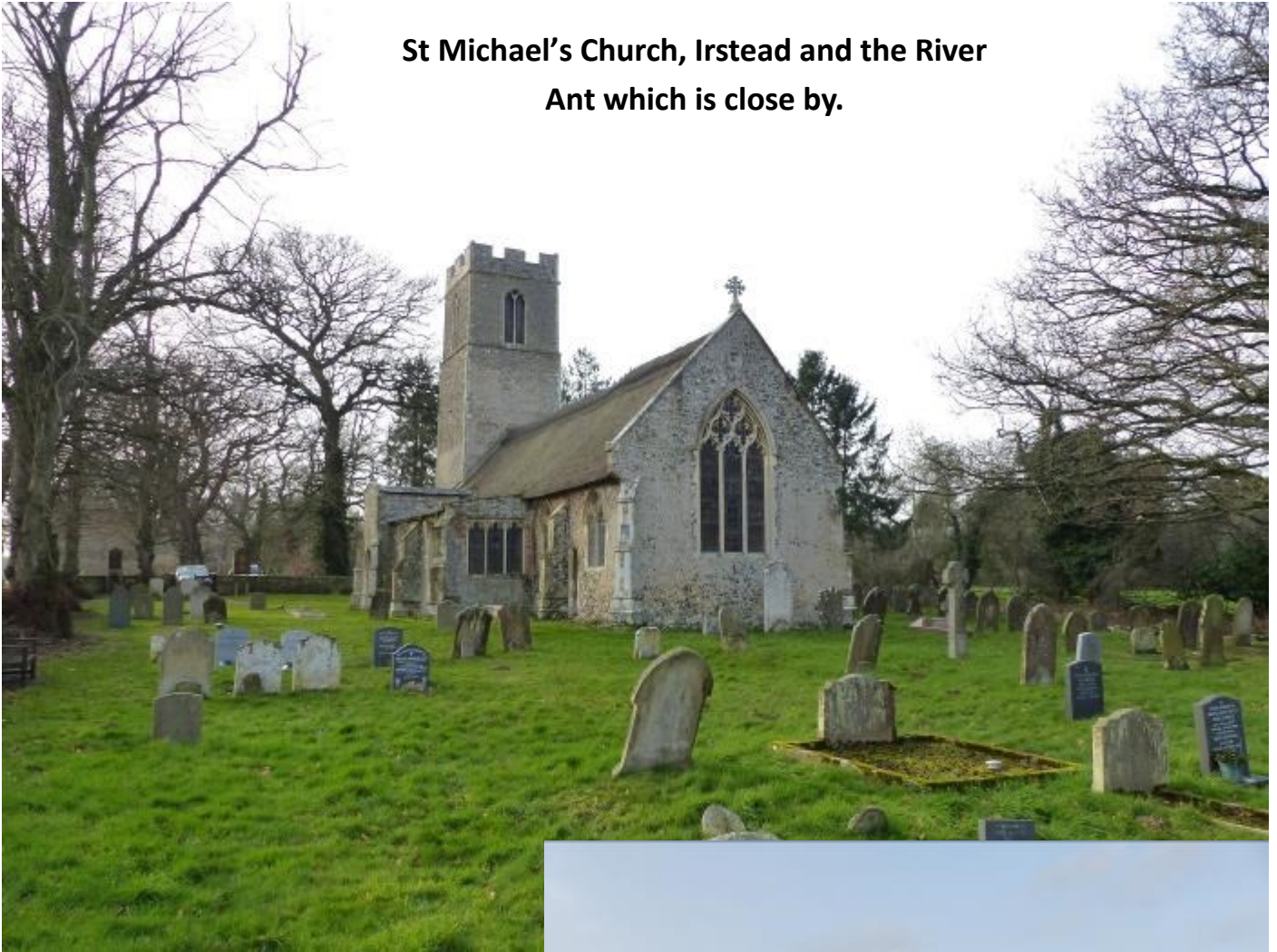
*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.*

The First World War is often referred to as 'The Lost Generation' but that is not entirely correct and for the inquisitive I refer the reader to an excellent book written by Gordon Corrigan 'Mud Blood and Poppycock' Chapter 2 – The Lost Generation.

St Michael's Church Irstead. (pictured above)

There is a Second World War Memorial Plaque in the beautiful and well maintained Broadland

**St Michael's Church, Irstead and the River
Ant which is close by.**



church of St Michael's Irstead close to
the River Ant.

The memorial reads as follows;

**A memorial to the men of Irstead
who gave their lives in the World
War of 1939-1945**

Thomas C Clitheroe

John M H Wilson

George A Yaxley

Horace W Yaxley

We will remember them.

Whilst it was not uncommon to lose several members of a family in the First World War, to lose them in the Second World War, particularly from a small village such as Irstead, is exceptional and must have been deeply felt by all in the community. I am referring to brothers George and Horace (Toby) Yaxley.

Both brothers were part of 2nd Battalion the Royal Norfolk Regiment, the first full battalion to land in France as part of the BEF (British Expeditionary Force) in 1939.



George was lance corporal and records show he was attached to HQ Company of the battalion. His headstone in Le Paradis Cemetery notes he fell on 26th/27th May, 1940.

Horace (Toby) was a Corporal and records show he was attached to D Company of the battalion. His headstone in Dunkirk Military Cemetery notes he fell on 23rd May 1940.

On the next page you can see Horace (Toby) Yaxley's Headstone inscription and the writer paying his respects.



the Second World War Memorial Plaque in St Michael's Church Irstead.

Capt. Charles Benjamin Wilson, M.C. and Janet Wilson, of Neatishead, Norfolk. Remembered with Honour Benghazi War Cemetery.

A one-word poignant epitaph on the headstone reads: Johnny.

We will remember them.

Both brothers died within three to four days of each other as part of the valiant Dunkirk rear-guard which was sacrificed to keep the corridors of Dunkirk open to ensure the successful evacuation of the BEF.

Dunkirk; *"a miracle of deliverance, achieved by valour, by perseverance, by perfect discipline, by faultless service, by resource, by skill, by unconquerable fidelity."* (Churchill).

It is with pride that I write that the Yaxley brothers were part of this deliverance.

You can see photographs of the brothers on page 64.

Remembering too the other two names on the memorial plaque:

Thomas C Clitheroe:

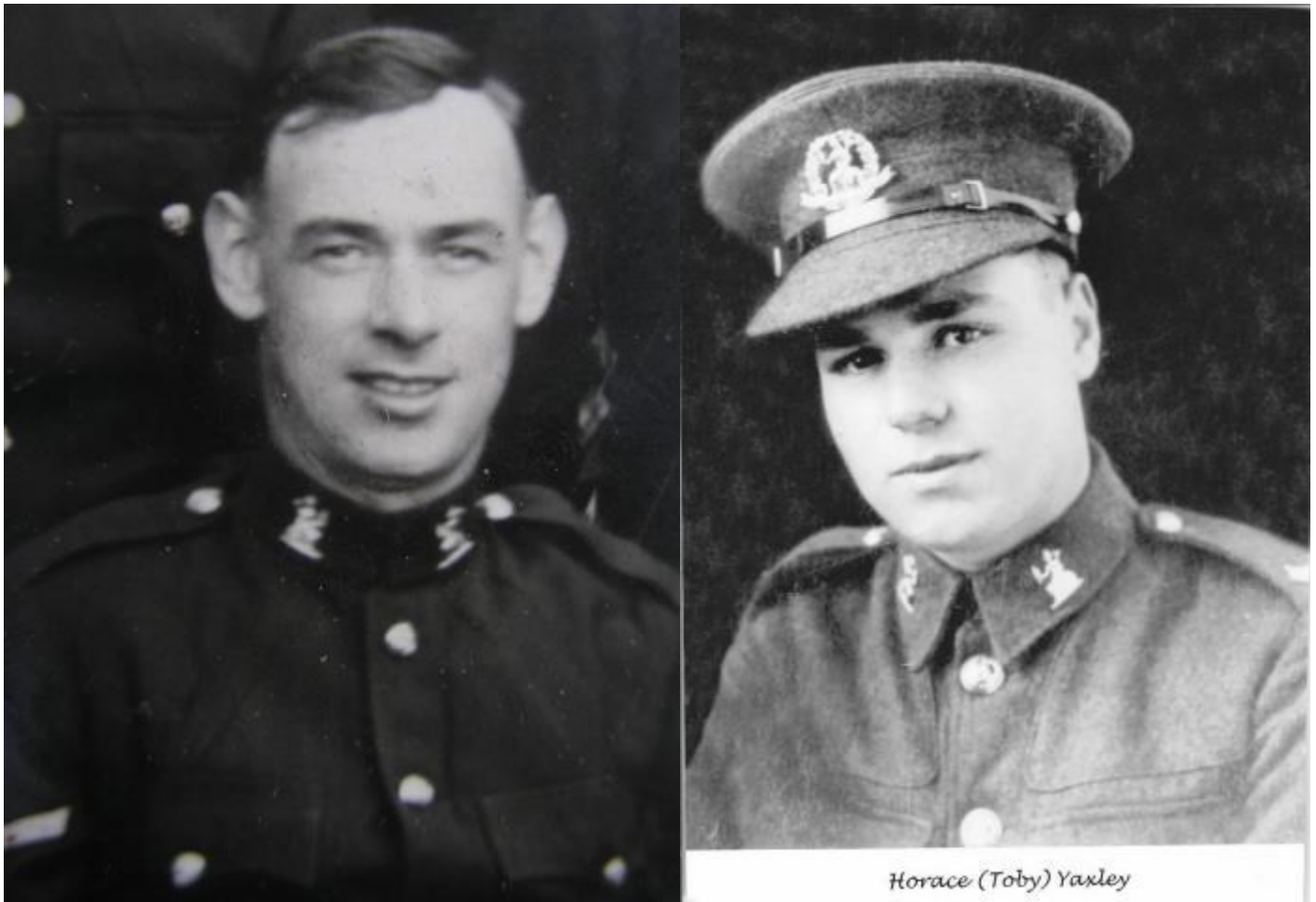
Sergeant Thomas Craske Clitheroe 12 Sqdn., Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. Died on 29 July 1944 Age 23 Son of Charles James Clitheroe, and of Rosa Ellen Clitheroe, of Irstead, Norfolk. Remembered with Honour at Runnymede Memorial.

John M H Wilson

Second Lieutenant John Malcolm Hamersley Wilson 10th Royal Hussars, Royal Armoured Corps. Died on 23 January 1942 Age 20 Son of







Horace (Toby) Yaxley

If you are in the Broadland area then please visit the beautiful church of St Michael's, Irstead, in its idyllic Norfolk surrounds close by the River Ant.

Photographic Credits

John Head and the Le Paradis Commemoration Group Collection

except for the photographs of:

George Albert Yaxley and Horace (Toby) William Yaxley: Courtesy of Claire Penstone-Smith and the Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf Community Heritage Group.



Hethersett Herald

HETHERSETT Herald is published electronically towards the end of each month via the Hethersett Village website at:

www.hethersettherald.weebly.com

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

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

Herald Team

Editor and Owner—Peter Steward: petersteward@sky.com.

Associate Editor: Sarah Lawrence.

Regular contributors—Sarah Lawrence, John Head and Sophie Stanley.

Proof Reader—Gary Wyatt.

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

To contact us e-mail petersteward@sky.com. Also use this address if you would like to be added to our mailing list to be informed of when a new edition is available.