Hat Trick Heroes

HETHERSETT notched an impressive hat-trick of wins in the annual South Norfolk Council's Community Awards.

At a reception at the John Innes Institute, Heather Williamson was presented with the Lifetime Community Hero award, Anne Steward was named Volunteer of the Year and the Hethersett Dementia Group was named Group of the Year. It was an exceptional evening for our village, winning three of the eight categories.

Heather, who is 88 years young, received the lifetime award for her unstinting work in the village, with particular emphasis on supporting the elderly and the environment. Heather is a co-founder of the Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) and a former Hethersett Parish Councillor. She has been closely involved with the village's open gardens' scheme and the organisation of monthly litter picks.

Anne was honoured for “going that extra mile in order to raise money and improve people's lives.” She has been closely involved in village life and in particular with Hethersett Methodist Church and Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club.

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OUTSTANDING

HETHERSETT Academy has been given top ratings by Ofsted Inspectors just three years after being put into special measures for being unsatisfactory.

Inspectors have rated the school as “outstanding” in all four categories -

Amongst the comments made by the Inspectors are the following:

Pupils at Hethersett Academy are prepared exceptionally well for a successful future. The overwhelming majority are very happy in the academy, and are securing excellent academic and personal achievements.

The academy’s success is founded upon an absolute conviction that all pupils can achieve well. This is matched by very high levels of support and care, as well as the provision of a superb range of enrichment opportunities.

Leaders and governors share a very clearly communicated vision of high expectations and aspirations for pupils. The fostering of personal resilience and a dedication to learning in pupils is central to their actions, and is being successfully realised throughout the academy.

No pupil is left unchallenged or unsupported at Hethersett. The principal and senior leaders are rigorous in their attention to the progress and welfare of every pupil. They take swift, effective action to ensure that appropriate provision or support is in place where it is most needed.

Disadvantaged pupils make better progress at Hethersett than other pupils nationally because the academy ensures that they receive extensive, effective support. As a result, the remaining differences between the progress they make and that of other pupils in the
academy is rapidly closing.

Teachers plan lessons that engage and inspire pupils. They understand pupils’ needs exceptionally well, and structure lessons and tasks highly effectively to support all learners.

Pupils find their learning challenging but succeed because they are guided so well. They are eager to learn, and teachers are unafraid of introducing and exploring high-level knowledge, ideas, skills, and techniques.

Pupils’ behaviour and conduct are exemplary. They are polite, inquisitive and highly supportive of one another. Systems for managing behaviour are clear and consistently applied by all teachers. Pupils are regularly and systematically praised and rewarded for exceptional effort and for their achievements.

The curriculum places a strong emphasis upon academic achievement, while also ensuring that a broad range of subjects and extra-curricular activities are undertaken by all pupils. Pupils’ social, moral, spiritual, and cultural development is central to the curriculum and very effectively nurtured and monitored by leaders.

The Academy is the first high school in Norfolk since 2014 to be judged outstanding. Previously, the school was placed in special measures in March 2013 after Ofsted inspectors found it inadequate. Just months later it became an academy as part of the Inspiration Trust. It is the first school in the trust to gain Ofsted’s top grade.

Principal Gareth Stevens, (pictured above) who has led the school since the beginning of 2014, told the Norwich Evening News: “This is brilliant for the school and for the community as a whole. I think it can

Top Performers

There was also an outstanding set of results for both the Academy and Hethersett Old Hall School in GCSE tables.

The average in England for pupils gaining five GCSE passes at A*-C grades, including Maths and English, was 57.1% and in Norfolk 54.9%.

At Old Hall School it was 81% and at Hethersett Academy 74%. Both schools were amongst the best performers in the county.
be summed up by one of the assemblies I have just had. One of the pupils was punching the air in delight as he was leaving.

“When we arrived it was clear morale was pretty low and there was a lack of leadership at the school. Since taking over we have worked very hard to make sure teaching is outstanding to get outstanding outcomes.”

Mr Stevens said very high expectations meant poor behaviour would not be tolerated, adding “every pupil knows that, and each one has high aspirations”.

Award for Dementia Group

(Continued from front page)

The Hethersett Dementia Support Group was named Community Group of the Year in recognition of their hard work to make Hethersett a dementia friendly community. In May 2015, the monthly Hethersett Dementia Café was launched and now meets in Hethersett Methodist Church Hall.

The evening was compered by local television personality Louise Priest and Sue Lowe from the Cabinet Office underlined the importance of volunteers to the country’s economy.

“In Norfolk there are 3,600 registered charities and thousands of other local groups and organisations not registered as charities. In addition, 41% of the population support some form of voluntary group or organisation. Volunteers are the fabric of our society and are worth an estimated £50 billion,” she said.

John Heaser, from Hethersett’s neighbouring village of Little Melton, was named Environmental Champion of the Year for his work in developing the Norfolk Freegle website which helps people pass on things they no longer need to others who can use them. This reduces waste and clutter, helps people to save money and safeguards the environment. John also takes part in regular litter picks and actively maintains the local toad population by helping them to their spawning grounds.
REPAIRS to the roof of Hethersett Parish Church are likely to cost in the region of £48,000. The amount has to be raised following the theft of lead from the nave aisle roof which we reported on in a previous edition.

The lead will be replaced with coated steel which is less valuable and more difficult to remove, thus cutting its attraction to would-be thieves. Some of the money will have to be raised through fundraising. A temporary roof covering has been in place since the theft and the church has upped its security. Now grants are being applied for and estimates gained to complete the work.

“We have been very encouraged by the number of messages of sympathy and support,” said churchwarden Kate Wood. The church has already received a number of donations. Along with insurance money, a total of £20,000 has already been raised. A quiz at Old Hall School in February raised £600.

Anyone else wanting to make a donation or help with fundraising can contact Kate Wood on 01953 602051.

Our flashback photograph at the top of the page shows Hethersett Rector, the Rev Derek McClean, and Kate Wood surveying the damage from the theft in 2015.

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Special Litter Pick - Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) is holding a special litter pick as part of the Clean for the Queen action on 5th March at 10am, meeting outside the Methodist Church Hall. All equipment will be provided to volunteers on a first come first serve basis and participants should aim for about one hour's picking. Clean for The Queen is a campaign to clean up Britain in time for the Queen's 90th birthday, which will be officially celebrated in June. More info at [http://www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk/home/2365](http://www.cleanforthequeen.co.uk/home/2365).
News From The Village

**Poppy Appeal Record** - The 2015 Poppy Appeal raised £2,650 for the Royal British Legion. The money was raised from house to house collections and static collection points in Hethersett and Little Melton. Local organiser Jerry Wright said it was the largest amount raised in the eight years that he has been coordinating the collection.

**From the Movies** - The next concert by Hethersett Singers will take place on Saturday 14th May and will feature music from the movies. This will include choral arrangements of the music from James Bond, Lord of the Rings, The Lion King and much more.

**Dog Poisoned** - Police are investigating a case of dog poisoning in Hethersett. Lotte, an eight month old King Charles Spaniel, ate a chocolate filled with rat poison in the owners’ garden in Nelson Close. Owners Hana Hausmeister and Adam Hill believe the chocolate may have been thrown into the garden by somebody frustrated by the dog’s barking. A public footpath runs behind their garden and it is thought the chocolate may have been thrown over a fence. PC Andrew Barkway said: “I would be very keen to hear from anyone who may have seen suspicious activity in the area or around a public footpath close to the property.” Anyone with information can contact Norfolk Police on 101. Lotte has recovered after a visit to the vets.

**Fire Death** - A woman in her sixties has died following a fire in her flat at the Woodcote sheltered housing complex. Despite being rescued by fire crews, the woman died in hospital. The fire was contained to the one flat and an investigation has been launched. The incident took place at about 7 p.m on 19th February. Twenty firefighters from Hethersett, Carrow, Wymondham and Earlham were called to the scene.

**Dance Day** - Schoolchildren across South Norfolk hopped, jigged and sang as they celebrated all things British in an annual cluster day. More than 200 year two pupils, aged six and seven, from four schools in the Hethersett cluster brushed up on their English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh culture in a salute to British values. Youngsters from Hethersett Woodside Infant and Nursery School performed an Irish dance, while Mulbarton Infant School donned tartan for a Scottish jig set to the Proclaimers’ song “I Would Walk 500 Miles.”
Work and Play in Hethersett

Hethersett has a very active and diverse community as the following events show, taken from just one day in the village’s life.

Above is the Hethersett rounders team which took part in an Active Norfolk sports event at the UEA Sports Park.

The picture on the right shows one of 80 oak saplings being planted along Cantley Lane by Hethersett tree wardens Dr Anne Edwards and Colin Ward in conjunction with South Norfolk Council and supported and funded by Busseys of Norwich. More planting is planned for the future.

Online Magazine

HETHERSETT online magazine is published monthly with news and views from the village. If you have anything you would like included please send it by e-mail to petersteward@lineone.net. More village news is available on our web site at www.hethersett.org.uk.

The next edition of Hethersett Online magazine will be published the first week in April.
Sports, Awards and VCs

Chairman of South Norfolk Council and representative for Hethersett, David Bills updates us on current initiatives and news.

THIS past month has been another busy one for South Norfolk Council, not the least matter being setting the Budget for 21016/17.

Sports and Well being

I am pleased to advise that early discussions are underway between Hethersett Academy and South Norfolk Council to form an agreement that will see the council manage and operate the Academy’s sport and leisure facilities outside of school hours.

This will give community groups, including the many groups that make up Hethersett and the Meltons’ Sports Association, better access to these important local facilities.

South Norfolk Community Awards

Congratulations to Heather Williamson, Anne Steward and the Hethersett Dementia Support Group, winners of South Norfolk Council Community Awards.

As I was on the judging panel I was obviously not allowed to vote but am so pleased for them and Hethersett. (For more details on the awards see our front page.)

Chairman’s Activities

Amongst my duties this month I was privileged to attend the unveiling of the Victoria Cross commemorative exhibit at the chairman’s reception at Norfolk County Council on 26th February. This is a permanent display to commemorate the award of the five VCs to the county’s regiment. No other regiment was awarded five Victoria Crosses in the Second World War.

Old soldiers and members of the Royal Anglia Regiment were in attendance and I was particularly fortunate in being able to talk with Mrs Jamieson the wife of Captain D Jamieson VC.
From the Archives - 1998

WITH all the current discussion on new housing, it’s interesting to go back to February 1998 when the following appeared on the Hethersett Village website at www.hethersett.org.uk and proved that the years may roll by but the same thoughts and problems crop up.

“Hethersett looks set to increase its population yet again as South Norfolk announces its latest plans for additional housing in the area.

South Norfolk made provisions for 4,288 new homes in the period from 1994 until 2016. Although the increased prediction up to 2016 has yet to be worked out, the level of building in some areas, including Hethersett, has already sparked controversy.

Hethersett has been chosen as a prime site for development.

There is already opposition in the village to the development with facilities unable to cope with additional population.”

In March 1998 there was news of a new youth initiative: A youth parish council came into being but no longer functions, although Hethersett Parish Council is currently looking into new ways to communicate with young people.

“A new youth forum is being set up in the village by the parish council.

It will consist of village representatives, other interested bodies and two young people. The youngsters will act as contacts with other young people meeting on the streets of the village.

The idea is to make recommendations to the parish council and other appropriate bodies for action to improve facilities in the village for the young and to reduce problems caused by anti-social behaviour.

In January 1998 there was news of proposed traffic calming measures

“In an attempt to create a safer and "more pleasant" environment for residents and children, Norfolk County Council has proposed measures for traffic calming in Queen's Road and Great Melton Road.
In the last six years there have been six recorded injury accidents along this length of road, five of which involved either cyclists or pedestrians. According to the county council national research shows that the likelihood of pedestrians/pedal cyclist injury is significantly reduced at impact speeds of 20 mph or less. On Queen's Road and Great Melton Road, humps are considered to be the only effective means of achieving average speeds of 20 mph.

So far two options have been identified. The first is limited to Queen's Road and concentrates on the area around the schools and the library. The second extends the treatment along Great Melton Road to the Mill Road junction.

Option One suggests flat topped speed tables outside the schools and library, a 20 mph zone and contrasting road surfacing and a mini roundabout at the Queen's Road/Henstead Road junction.

Option Two suggests flat topped speed tables in the same locations as option one, a series of speed cushions from the schools to Mill Road and 20 mph zone signing and contrasting road surfacing in Queen's Road and Great Melton Road.

As we now know speed calming humps and 20 mph limits were subsequently introduced along both roads. More dips into the village archive in the next edition.

Youth Worker Required

Hethersett Youth Club is looking for somebody to assist its youth worker for two hours on a Wednesday evening from 7.30 until 9.30 pm during term time.

The position would help with supporting children from school year seven to year nine plus.

Pay is currently £10 an hour and involves supporting the youngsters, running the tuck shop and various other activities.

For further details and to apply, contact Gillian Saunders on 01953 607566
Dip Into The Past

This photograph of Hethersett Parish Church was taken by renowned Norfolk photographer George Plunkett on August 24th, 1940.

King Of Sport Dies

ONE of the best known characters in South Norfolk has died suddenly

Les King was a great supporter of sport in Norfolk and also in Hethersett. Les was 81 and was a well known figure around Fitness Express at Park Farm Hotel in the village.

He was also one of the leading figures in an annual cricket match between Hethersett and Tas Valley Cricket Club and a Norfolk Select XI in aid of the Wymondham based Star Throwers cancer charity of which he was patron.

The death has also been announced of former Hethersett Parish Councillor Peter Salter who was 79. Mr Salter, who was a chorister at Hethersett Parish Church, worked for Norwich City Parks before his retirement. Peter was also an enthusiastic member of Hethersett Singers and Hethersett Pantomime Group.
What’s On in March

BELOW are just some of the many events taking place in Hethersett in March. For regular updates and more information go to www.hethersett.org.uk/what.htm

March 5th - Hethersett Environmental Action Team (HEAT) litter pick as part of the Clean for the Queen action. For more details see page five.

March 7th - Hethersett Parish Council Planning Committee in Hethersett Village Hall at 7 pm.

March 14th - Hethersett Society meeting - "The Lydia Eva" with Don Edwards. Hethersett Methodist Church Hall, 7.30 pm.

March 14th - Parish Pop In, Hethersett Library, 2-4 pm. Members of Hethersett Parish Council will be present to discuss village matters with residents.

March 21st - Hethersett Parish Council Planning Committee in Hethersett Village Hall at 7 pm, followed by full council meeting at 7.30 pm.

Hethersett Library has a full programme of events scheduled for the month and these can be viewed at www.hethersett.org.uk/what.htm.

To have events included e-mail petersteward@lineone.net

MP Speaks to Women’s Group

NORWICH North MP Chloe Smith was the guest speaker at the latest meeting of the Eastern region of the Federation of Women Graduates which took place at Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett.

Ms Smith spoke about her recent work with new MPs in Myanmar and her role representing Norwich in Parliament, along with her thoughts about women in Parliament.

The federation has over 500 members nationwide and is open to all women with a university degree.
ON this page are just some of the press cuttings that have appeared in the Wy- mondham Mercury newspaper over the past month.

**Hawks Prepare For Landmark Season**

HETHERSETT Hawks Cycle Speedway Club is preparing for a landmark season. The club, which races on Hethersett Memorial Field, will be celebrating its Golden Jubilee. A special day of events is being lined-up for Saturday, May 21st and the club will also be racing on foreign soil for the first time when it contests the European Club Championships in Ostrow, Poland, over the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Regular Tuesday club nights begin on March 8th at 6.30 pm and new riders will be very welcome. We will have more Hawks news during the season.
Cricket for All Ages

HETHERSETT and Tas Valley Cricket Club will be providing cricket for all ages in 2016.

The club will be running teams at Under-9, Under-11, Under-13, Under-15 and Under-17 levels as well as four Saturday teams, a Sunday League side and other sides for midweek friendlies and cup matches.

All the youth teams will compete in the South Norfolk Community Youth Leagues with the Under-11s and Under-13s also taking part in the Norfolk Alliance youth section. The club will also be holding a schools youth cricket festival on June 10th. At senior level, the club will run two teams in both the Norfolk Alliance and the Norfolk League and will take part in a number of cup competitions including the national village cup.

The club’s season starts on April 10th with a friendly against Kent side Sidcup. The following week sees Hethersett take on a Norfolk Select XI in aid of the Wymondham based Star Throwers charity. The match will act as a memorial to Star Throwers patron Les King who died suddenly on February 14th. The match will be preceded by a minute’s applause in memory of Les who was a great supporter of sport in Norfolk.

The club’s agm elected the following officers: President, Richard G. Ellis; Vice-Presidents, Harold Kerslake, David Johnson, Duncan Pigg; Chairman, Peter Steward; Vice Chairman, Mark Worley; Secretary and Fixtures Secretary, Richard D. Ellis; Treasurer, Matthew Ellis; First XI Captain and Sunday Captain, Damian Fahy; First XI Vice Captain, Ian Bryce; Second XI Captain, Matt Steward; Second XI Vice Captain, Tristan Hunt; Third XI Captain, Cameron Clarke; Third XI Vice Captain, Ross Jones; Fourth XI Captain, Mark Worley; Fourth XI Vice Captain, Nick Morton; Over-40s Captain, Richard D. Ellis; Cricket Development Officer, Matthew Ellis; Club Development Officer, Peter Steward; Youth Cricket Manager, Renee Broughton; Club Welfare Officer, Jane Morton; Social Committee Chairman, Harriet Matthews; Groundsmen, Richard D. Ellis, Richard G. Ellis, Leigh King and Richard Matthews; Bar Manager, Al Watts; Subscription Officer, Jane Morton; Auditor, David Johnson.