

# G R H E T H E R S E T T E N

Newsletter issue 1, May 2009

## Welcome to the new group

We have been formed by the amalgamation of HEAT (Hethersett Environmental Action Team) with the Parish Council Green Village committee. However, we will continue to operate under the familiar and long-standing HEAT name. Our activities will concentrate on improving the 'greenness' of Hethersett in three main ways -

***The village environment*** including the open garden event & the Hethersett in Bloom competition, litter picking, tree, shrub & bulb planting, allotments, footpaths & village walks.

***Use of resources*** including energy efficiency, waste reduction (re-use & recycling), transport.

***Nature and wildlife*** including provision of bird, bat & hedgehog boxes, the churchyard & other green spaces, school & village ponds, the parish pit.

Trying to coordinate all of this will be the new chairman of the group, Anne Edwards, tel. 812309

## News

***George Beckford*** You may already have heard the sad news of the death of George Beckford at the age of 89 on 23 April. George was the founder and driving force behind HEAT, and chaired the group until earlier this year when ill health forced him to step down. Recently, he became the first Environment Champion of the Year, sponsored by the Evening News Local Heroes Awards for outstanding contribution to community life. George was also involved with many other organisations in the village who will, no doubt, be paying their own tributes. He will be greatly missed by the HEAT group, and we feel that the best memorial will be to carry on the work with the same enthusiasm that George had for environmental matters. You can read a full obituary for George on the village website ([www.hethersett.org.uk/george.pdf](http://www.hethersett.org.uk/george.pdf)).

**Green Hethersett survey** About 25 residents responded to the Green Survey in the Parish Council newsletter - thank you. Many of the responses were along the lines of "keep up the good work" but some new ideas were sent in, and we shall be looking at these in the near future. However, we still need YOUR HELP and MORE IDEAS. If you are willing to contribute in any way (we don't mean money, although it would be most welcome!), please contact Anne by phone, or use the website/email addresses below.

**Village litter pick** Could you help our regular band of volunteer litter pickers keep Hethersett looking clean and tidy? If so, please come along to the next one - we will be meeting outside the King's Head (and possibly inside later.....) at 6pm on Wednesday 3 June. Equipment is provided. The aim this time is to clear the lanes and footpaths south of the B1172, including Ketteringham Lane and the off-road footpaths Suckling Lane and Kissing Alley. It is being timed to coincide with the Clean-Up Norfolk Week, running from 1-7 June 2009, organised by the Norfolk Anti-Litter Group.

**Like to show your garden to the village?** This year's Hethersett Open Gardens event will be held on Sunday, 5 July from 2-5pm. So far, about eight owners have kindly volunteered to open their gardens to the public but we would like to hear of anybody else willing to take part. Your garden doesn't have to be large or posh in any way. If you are interested in finding out more about what is involved, please contact us as above.

**Youth HEAT group** Most of the HEAT group are rather 'mature' in age (if not in behaviour) and we would very much like to recruit some younger members, perhaps to run their own project. Such a group could operate in conjunction with the Jubilee Youth Club, which is currently being revitalized due to the hard work put in by Colin Wilson and his team. Again, if you are interested, please contact us as above.

**Soil and earthworm survey** Discover more about the world of earthworms and help scientists with valuable research. The Natural History Museum of London is inviting everybody to take part in one of England's biggest nature surveys. Earthworms are extremely important and play a vital role in recycling plant nutrients and aerating the soil. By taking part in this survey you'll help improve knowledge of earthworms and the soils they live in - something we know surprisingly little about. It's simple, fun and your findings will be used to update the national record. You'll also be able to see your contribution instantly on the website ([www.opalexplorenature.org](http://www.opalexplorenature.org)) which also has more information. If you interested in taking part, please contact us.



Website: [www.greenhethersett.org.uk](http://www.greenhethersett.org.uk)  
Email: [mail@greenhethersett.org.uk](mailto:mail@greenhethersett.org.uk)