

# Hethersett Newsletter

Published by Hethersett Parish Council—[www.hethersettpc.info](http://www.hethersettpc.info)

Volume 1 Issue 46

December 2011

**MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL PARISHIONERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## **Wild About Hethersett**

The Hethersett Environmental action Team (HEAT) would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the village biodiversity survey so far. We will be collecting observations right up until the end of December before sending the project off to be published in early January. This is going to be a limited edition and will be on sale at the bargain price of £4. Book your copy now to avoid disappointment! Contact Anne Edwards, tel. 812309, [mail@greenhethersett.org.uk](mailto:mail@greenhethersett.org.uk) or any HEAT member.

Next HEAT meeting, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 8pm. All welcome.

## **25 January - Pledge2012**

To celebrate the London 2012 Olympics & Paralympics - Norfolk Pledge 2012 is a Countywide legacy project which is going to be hosted at Hethersett Woodside Infant & Nursery School on 25 January. Whilst village school children are going to be involved in activities during the day, there will be an opportunity for people of all ages to come along between 3-5pm to record their pledge by photo, video or on the "Woodside Pledge Wall." The pledge can be anything from simply committing to take regular exercise, to healthy eating or doing something specific like taking up a new sport. [www.hethersettwoodside.org.uk](http://www.hethersettwoodside.org.uk) & [www.pledge2012.com](http://www.pledge2012.com) for further details.

## **5 July - Olympic Torch**

Hethersett is honoured to receive a "special visit" of the 2012 Olympic Flame early on the morning of 5 July. This will be a "once in a lifetime" opportunity to see the Olympic Flame close up at Hethersett High School. The Olympic Torch is taking 70 days to travel around the UK between May & July next year and people will catch a fleeting glimpse of the Flame on its journey. However in Hethersett the visit will coincide with village celebrations and school activities and there will be ample time for all villagers to witness the spectacle! The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games have yet to finalise all the details of the Hethersett visit so watch this space and the village website for further details in the New Year!

## **22-24 June - Open Weekend**

Hethersett Open Weekend returns for the third year running with another extensive programme of events around the twin themes of sport & culture. The full programme will be announced in the Spring. Please note the earlier dates in your diaries and visit the village website [www.hethersett.org.uk](http://www.hethersett.org.uk) for regular updates

## **VILLAGE HALL**

There is always extra demand on the Mini recycling Centre (MRC) bottle bank facilities at the Village Hall (and Memorial Playing Field) over Christmas and New Year. please do not leave bottles if the recycling containers are full. Empty plastic bags or cardboard boxes should be taken home and disposed of as household rubbish and not left at the MRC.

## **COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**

Are you looking for a way to help the village and meet people? Then join the Speedwatch team and help to keep the streets safer. Men and women welcome to join. All that is required, after training, is one or two hours per month. Please contact the Parish Clerk for more details.

### **Hethersett and Green Space - Progress**

Green Space is of premium value - to us personally and to our identity as a village. Current plans under previous planning laws leave these areas at high risk of development. However, the new Localism Bill offers us an opportunity to consider, with guidance, a Neighbourhood Plan whereby we can assess and value those very areas for ourselves.

The Hethersett Green Spaces Group held a first public meeting on November 3rd at the Woodside School to discuss how the village might begin to grasp this nettle.

As stated at the meeting it is our vision that Hethersett becomes

***“a village where the green spaces are held for the common good: used, cared for and developed for and by the people of the village, with a respect for nature and for the needs of the community.”***

To help make this vision a reality we are now wish to form **two new groups**, that will meet for the first time later in January .

Firstly we are extending the **Green Spaces Working Group**. This group will examine the issue of green space in the village in its broader context. The group will work together with HEAT to consider the community potential of, among others, the Parish Pits; the land surrounding the village hall; the Beckhithe Meadow and the current grazing land adjacent to the high school playing field. It will also be looking at green spaces in the vital context of any new housing development in the village, and consider the issue of neighbourhood planning. To discuss the Green Spaces group contact **Simon Floyd on 814171**, [simon-floyd49@gmail.com](mailto:simon-floyd49@gmail.com)

The other group is to be provisionally called '**Friends of the Field** . This will be an active, multi-representative group that will work with the playing Memorial Playing Field Trust to bring activity, fun and involvement to the park. The Trust committee is ready to hear and offer support to any ideas that the community has for events on the field. To register your interest in the first instance contact the HMPF Trust Secretary **Peter Hoult**, on 811337, or email him at [hethersett@aol.com](mailto:hethersett@aol.com).

We invite you to be a part of either or both of these groups. Your involvement, in whatever capacity you feel able, will be the key to our community's success.

Happy Christmas

**Anne Edwards, Eileen Mulvaney and Simon Floyd, Hethersett Parish Council, Green Spaces Group and HEAT.**

### **Champion of Champions**

Hethersett has become the ultimate sporting/fitness village in the county.

At the end of November our efforts to enhance fitness and well being by encouraging participation in sport and exercise was recognised when Hethersett was named Norfolk Sports Village of the Year and Norfolk Sports Champion of Champions at a special awards evening organised by the Eastern Daily Press Newspaper and Active Norfolk.

The awards mark the culmination of a fantastic year for the village with groups such as Hethersett Olympic Committee, Hethersett Parish Council, Hethersett Open Spaces Group, Hethersett Environmental Action Team, Hethersett Memorial Playing Field Committee and now Hethersett and the Meltons Sports Association working tirelessly to enhance fitness and well being and encourage active participation in exercise and an interest in the environment.

Hethersett and the Meltons Sports Association was set up in February to promote sport and health in the three villages. It meets quarterly to discuss successes, help set up new activity groups and to lobby for improved facilities. The association is open to anyone interested in sport, leisure and fitness and the next meeting will be in February at a date still to be set. Further information on the sports association is available from Peter Steward on Norwich 811052.

Hethersett is already being recognised locally, regionally and even nationally as a shining example of what can be achieved when groups work together. This ethos will be carried into 2012 as we continue to work towards our goals of making Hethersett the ultimate fitness village with opportunities for everyone irrespective of age or ability.

Up to date news on future events is available on the Hethersett Village web site at [www.hethersett.org.uk](http://www.hethersett.org.uk)