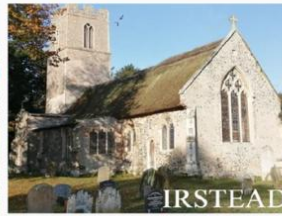


THE NIB

COMMUNITY



PARISH MAGAZINE OF NEATISHEAD, IRSTEAD & BARTON TURF



THE NIB VILLAGES REMEMBER

SEE PAGES 7-10

The Benefice of St Benedict

Love In Action On The River Kwai



During the Second World War, Japanese prisoner of war camps were places of death and despair. The prisoners were forced to work until they dropped, building bridges or working to construct the railroad to Burma. Many fell ill from exhaustion, disease, or lack of food, and many died. Captain Ernest Gordon was among the prisoners of war who were marched into the jungle to build a bridge over the River Kwai. He became desperately ill, suffering, among other things, from dysentery, malaria and diphtheria and its after effects. He could not bear the stench and airlessness of the sleeping platform reserved for sick prisoners, and he asked to be moved to a place in the open air, where the bodies of those who died were stacked. One day he heard the doctors say that he would soon die. But prisoner friends built him a little hut and furnished it with a bed of split bamboo, covered with clean rice sacks. Gently and carefully they carried his thin body and laid it on the bed. Then two fellow prisoners came to see him, offering to nurse him. He was too ill to do anything for himself.

Both men were Christians. Dusty was a Methodist and Dinty a Roman Catholic. Dusty set to work at once. He fetched warm water and some rags and gave Captain Gordon the first wash he had enjoyed for weeks. Then, with great care and gentleness, he cleaned the sores and ulcers that covered his legs. Before he left, he sprinkled the dirt floor of the hut with water and swept it clean. When Dusty had to report for evening duty in the kitchen, Dinty, who had finished work for the day, took over as night nurse. In the morning, Dusty reappeared with a breakfast of rice. Then he would set about washing the captain and tending his ulcers. Next he began to massage the washed limbs to bring back some feeling and strengthen the muscles. Gordon began to get better. In time he took his first few stumbling steps. His own courage and determination completed the recovery.

The love and care of those two Christians had saved him from certain death, but neither had said much about their faith, until asked. Both clearly showed Jesus' love in their willingness to do even the most unpleasant tasks cheerfully and kindly. Captain Gordon and some of the other prisoners began to read about Jesus in the Gospels and let his love come into their own lives. Soon they wanted to show his love to others.

The whole camp was transformed. Before, everyone had fought for his own rights. Now, men thought of one another's needs. Selfishness and despair shrivelled up and happiness and hope grew strong as more and more prisoners began to share the love and care of Jesus, for his sake. If love and care in this way can be shared in this place of death and despair, may we also show the love of God by the way in which we lead our daily lives amongst those with whom we live and work.

Pauline Simpson – Licensed Lay Minister, St Benedict's Benefice and Chaplain to Far East Prisoners of War



Two Malarials with a Cholera (Ray Parkin)
Changi Museum, Singapore

Latest news from our Sunday Club

We had fantastic fun at our recent 'Church in the Sun' event. Due to the weather on the day, Noah's Ark would have been a more fitting topic!

Sunday Club upcoming dates and events

Sunday 7th Sept - 9.30am at Neatishead Church.

Sunday 21st Sept- 11am takeover at Neatishead

For more information about Sunday Club: Revd Ben- brother_ben@btinternet.com 01692 630216



St Michael and All Angels', Barton Turf

Many thanks to all of you who attended Barton Fete on 14th June 2025. The sum raised was **£2736.20**. We have a raffle prize unclaimed: the name on the back of the ticket appears to be *Sue Lismonde*. If you recognise this could you please get in touch: 01692 536132

We were happy to welcome a number of you to our annual Friends celebration evening. The weather was beautiful and two groups went up the tower to admire the scenery.

The August coffee morning will be on **Saturday 16th August** from 10am until noon. We look forward to seeing you. On the **8th, 9th and 10th August** from 10am to 4pm, we will be having a book fair in the church. We have a large collection of second-hand books, including some for children. Entry is free and the money from all books sold will go to the church. Light refreshments will be available, and each afternoon at 2.30pm there will be a children's session with stories to listen to and to take part in.

From The Registers: Funerals and Burials

25th June 2025 - Robert James Clinch (Jim)

26th June 2025 - Roy Lawrence

Barbara Pilcher Churchwarden

From Tina and Lucy Clinch

We would like to offer our sincerest thanks and appreciation for all that the community has done to support all three of us during Jim's illness. He passed away peacefully in late May from pancreatic cancer. Despite his terminal diagnosis, he never lost his spark of humour and kindness, and faced the ordeal with dignity and bravery. He is sorely missed.



St Michael's Irstead

Irstead PCC would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who supported the Open Garden event at Grove House (bakers, helpers and visitors) and, of course, Eric and Rosemarie Hutchinson who kindly allowed us to hold the event in their garden. Mandy still has a circular cake box with a green lid: please contact Mandy to reclaim.

By the time you read your NIB, the re-riding of St Michael's should be well underway. Regrettably the church and churchyard need to be closed while the work is undertaken, but we hope planned services during August will take place. For those interested to see the work, there should be a good view from outside the church wall. If you have need to access the church or churchyard during the period of closure, do please contact me. We hope the work will be completed before the end of August. Looking ahead to September, everyone is welcome to attend our Harvest Thanksgiving Songs of Praise followed by a Bring and Share Harvest Supper which will be on **Sunday 28th September** at 6pm.

*Claire Penstone-Smith, claireps@btinternet.com,
07760 643739, 01692 630580*



St Peter's Church Neatishead Heritage Lottery Success

We are delighted to announce that St Peter's Church has been awarded the full Heritage Lottery Grant applied for. Together with monies already given and raised, we are now in the position to carry out the restoration to the bell and its housing. We are also able to conserve and rebuild the east flint and brick road side boundary wall, where necessary. Thanks are owed to many who have helped us reach this conclusion,



especially to Nigel Pickering for his expertise in completing and submitting the Heritage Lottery Grant application forms and to Pauline for all the work she has put into the bell part of the appeal. Hopefully, work to the bell hopefully will be completed this year, while the work to the wall will continue into 2026.

St Peter's Church, Neatishead

The Village Show

Only a month or so to get your entries ready for the Village Show on **Saturday 6th September**. My marrow is only the size of a small courgette as I write this article! The Garden Club and Knit and Stitch are running the event and residents of the NIB villages and neighbouring communities are welcome to enter. I will be at the August Community Market, if you would like to ask any more about the show. In order to enter and plan your exhibits ahead of the show schedules are available online from Christine Breden at christine.breden@btinternet.com.

Jane King



Garden Club

Sadly, our visit to Highview House at Roughton was cancelled due to lack of numbers, but we had a lovely time at Natural Surroundings at the end of June. With no August meeting, we are taking advantage of the free stall offered to village groups by the Community Market on **Saturday 9th August**. We will be publicising the club and upcoming events. If anyone has any excess garden produce, they would like to sell, please bring it along – you can't beat home-grown fruit and veg! Please come to support us and the Community Market.

Jane King 07423 820228



Weather

Very dry end of June; showery start to July

The total rainfall recorded for June was 36mm just 60% of average. Most fell in the first half of the month with only 5mm in the second half. This follows on from one of the driest springs on record.

July has started on a more unsettled theme with a total of 32.8mm recorded to date, up to the 14th. This is 59% of average and most fell on the 6th (28.8mm) in separate downpours lasting only about 20 minutes each. This was sufficiently intense to cause drains to overflow and local flash flooding to occur. Temperatures have been above average, peaking at 29C on the 1st and the 11th July.

Peter Mills

Neatishead Parish Council



Meet the Councillors

Cllr Robert Ferrier-Hanger: Chairman
NPC

"I was first asked to be a parish councillor soon after moving back to my home village to start my own family. Having grown up in the area and seeing my Dad and other friends be councillors; I thought it was time I contributed to our small village and the great people who live here. I was slightly hesitant at first, having a young family and a busy work schedule. I was concerned I wouldn't have enough time to commit. Once I joined, I realised it didn't take much to help run the Parish Council and assist in making decisions to help improve our local area. The other councillors made me feel very welcome and we share the work between us. There's certainly always more we can do if time permits, but it's not essential for the running of a parish council, especially when you have a good parish clerk! After 10 years on the council and now into my second year as Chair, I can truly say I'm pleased to have signed up all those years ago and love seeing the improvements our team has made.



If you are interested in joining Cllr Ferrier-Hanger in the rewarding role as a parish councillor then please contact the Parish Clerk, Laura Bateman on 07917 841665. neatishead.parish@gmail.com.



Friends and Neighbours

We were treated to lovely eats and drinks in the garden of Mr and Mrs Drake. Thank you! On Thursday August 14th we are meeting at the Crumbs Cafe in the Radar Museum for tea/coffee and a scone. If anyone would also like to visit, the tickets are £14 (£12 for senior citizens); tickets are valid for a year (also see article p10). The meeting on **Thursday 28th August** is a Mardle and Quiz in the NVH at 10am with a trade table, raffle and home-cooking. Visitors welcome! Contact Chair: Jean Barber on 01263 721698.



White Horse Inn

There are new summer flavours at The White Horse Inn! We're excited to launch our new menu featuring light bite sandwiches served weekdays, noon til 3pm, perfect for a relaxing lunch. Our evening specials are fresh, seasonal dishes. Do join us this summer for great food and friendly faces

Litter Pickers update

Our local heroes, the volunteer litter pickers, Eddie and Gary Firman, were interviewed by Amy Blunt from Radio Norfolk at the beginning of July as they have been chosen as finalists for the 'Make a Difference Award'. The overall winner will be announced at a ceremony on September 25th.

Jane King



Eddie and Gary with BBC reporter Amy Blunt



White House Stores

As part of our continued maintenance, you might have noticed the shop has had a coat of paint on the outside and is looking lovely and fresh. By the time you read this, we should also have a new shop sign in place. Lots of work has been going on with electrics, and water too, and we hope the occasional early closure hasn't been too disruptive.

Our staff are always looking to keep the shop well stocked with everything you need. Recently a customer realised for the first time that we stock frozen fish, which we've had for over two years!

Hence, a reminder to have a good look around to see how we can save you driving to a supermarket occasionally. We may be a small shop but we are packed full of a whole lot more than newspapers!

Volunteers are a valuable part of a community shop. We cannot function without them. If you'd like to volunteer in any way, pop in for a chat.

White House Stores Committee
info@whitehousestores.co.uk



Art Exhibition

A big thankyou to all exhibitors and visitors to the July 13th Art Exhibition in the NVH. It was a great success and hopefully the first of more exhibitions in the future.

Lisa Seager



Village Screen

Monday 4th August – 6.30 for 7pm

Our August film **Wicked** (2024:160 mins: Cert PG) is an American musical fantasy film about the untold story of the Witches of Oz. The story explores the complex relationship between the Wicked Witch of the West and the Good Witch. This film is suitable for families, so on this occasion we have changed the **start time to 7pm**.

Wicked, the musical in London, is regarded as one of the most successful musical shows of all time. If you can't get to London to see it why not come along to the New Victory Hall and see the film version and avail yourself of a **complementary Wicked fizz drink!**

Coffee/Tea / soft drinks will be available too.

Visit www.victoryhall.info to book tickets, via The Box Office. You can also make a reservation by calling Shelagh on 01692 630702. Subject to availability, tickets will also be available on the door – card or cash.



Village Screen Team

JOIN THE SUMMER FUN
WITH OUR

Fairy Tale SCARECROW TRAIL

£5 per map

11TH - 17TH AUG 2025
NEATISHEAD VILLAGE

WHAT TO DO:

- Buy our map from The White House Stores – Cash Only
- Complete The Trail Map and return it to the shop
- Await to hear if you get picked out as the grand prize winner!

Neatishead & Barton Pre-School

ALL FUNDS RAISED
GOING TO NEATISHEAD
AND BARTON
PRESCHOOL

To volunteer to make a scarecrow, contact nbpsacc@gmail.com to let us know which fairy tale you will represent: deadline July 31st.



The Norfolk Punt Club

The two women's sailing days at the Norfolk Punt Club were hugely successful, aided by the lovely weather. It was particularly good to see local ladies trying sailing for the first time. Watch this space as there may be another Women's Day in September and non-members will be very welcome.

Sailing is for all ages and in August there are two events with children as young as five on the water. Barton Bugs is for the younger group who enjoy small Optimist dinghies specially designed for youngest sailors. Older sailors (8-18) enjoy Junior Week which includes a Junior Regatta.

The two big events will be the Norfolk Punt Championship on the weekend of **16th to 17th August** and the Open Regatta which takes place over the following three-day Bank Holiday **weekend 23rd to 25th August**. A whole village of boats will moor on the broad with big fleets racing and entertainment each evening: well worth watching even if you don't sail. Come and watch the fun from the Irstead Boardwalk or out on the water. For more info see puntclub.co.uk

Liz Ollier

Neatishead, Barton and District WI

Our WI continues to be well supported and to thrive. A trip to Cromer Pier show is planned for September. Our Christmas lunch with Dale Bullimore, is booked at How Hill and we are looking ahead to 2026 and our Theatre Royal trip to see Carousel. We have had some very entertaining speakers at our meetings and some wonderful food. There is no meeting in August but we do have our yearly charity fund raising afternoon planned on Wednesday 13th August at St Benet's Hall, Horning from 2-4pm with tea and cake plus stalls and a raffle. Please come along for a lovely afternoon. All proceeds to Hear For Norfolk. For more information: neatisheadwi@gmail.com.

Sally Church President

30 years ago: Neatishead WI keep fit!



This photo featured recently in the local press, remembering the Keep Fit classes held over 30 years ago in Neatishead, led by the indomitable Jean Chapman. It seems very fitting that the next article had already been submitted about women's 'Keep Fit' in 2025!



Community Gym

With an increased emphasis on fitness throughout life, and especially 'resistance training' to improve bone density and muscle strength, it is not surprising that over 50% of the Community Gym's 80+ members are female. Members range in age from their 30s to 90s. Here is a snapshot of our women members' reasons for coming regularly to enjoy our gym facilities and opportunities:

My consultant said she wished more people with arthritis went to a gym, to keep mobile and fit.

I'm over 90 and was one of the original members: I'm still coming.

I love that I can now lift my own suitcases so much more easily than my non-gym friends.

I come for well-being and especially resistance strength training which helps manage menopausal symptoms.

I believe if I hadn't attended this gym for years, I'd now be walking with sticks.

Walking uphill with friends, we were the only ones who didn't need to stop to take a breather.

At first I was exhausted after rowing 500m and now I'm not out of breath after 2km.

The gym helps my strength and stamina. I love to support my husband here after his stroke.

I'd definitely be far less mobile after my stroke if I hadn't started coming to this gym.

I've lost a stone and a half and become far more mobile after surgery.

After a stroke I've been given so much help especially with my balance.

The thing I'm really proud of is that I can now get up from the floor without help.

I feel so much stronger. Attending this gym has been life changing.



Inspired? Arrange a trial session in this supportive and welcoming environment by phoning our instructor Gary: 07387 876216. Open Sunday, Monday and Wednesday 8.30 to 12.30.

More info: neatisheadcommunitygym.com.

Joan Dickie

The NIB Villages Remember

VJ Day has a particular importance to many Norfolk families, as a number of East Anglian regiments fought and were imprisoned in the Far East. Their memories will be represented at the prestigious Commemoration Service in Norwich Cathedral on Friday 15th August, organised by Neatishead's Pauline Simpson, and also in the NIBCHG's exhibition in the NVH on Sunday 17th August. Details for both events are below.

The NIB is also very grateful to four villagers who have shared their particular memories and photos. We realise that there are many readers with similar stories to tell.



Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf Community Heritage Group (NIBCHG)



On 14th August 1945 World War Two ended as Japan agreed to an unconditional surrender. At the stroke of midnight, Prime Minister Clement Attlee broadcast this news to the British people and the following day, August 15th, then became known as VJ Day (Victory over Japan). Please see full details above of our event at the New Victory Hall on **Sunday 17th August** to commemorate the **80th Anniversary of VJ Day**. In addition to our exhibition with displays relating to significant events of the Far East Campaign, there will also be stories from relatives of members of our community who served there. We are very pleased that at 2.15pm Louis Baugh, Deputy Lieutenant (representing the Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk), will be attending to pay tribute to all those who took part in the Far East Campaign - The Forgotten Army. We hope you will be able to join us to mark this significant day.

Claire Penstone-Smith
claireps@btinternet.com, 07760 643739

Preparations for VJ Day 80

The Dean of Norwich Cathedral, the Very Revd Dr Andrew Braddock gave permission for the hub of commemorations in Norfolk to be in Norwich Cathedral 2 years ago. From that moment, planning for this special occasion has been ongoing. Our aim is to honour veterans, both those who returned and those who sacrificed their lives in the Far East during the WW2.

Why Norwich you might ask? It seemed appropriate as FEPOW (Far East Prisoners of War) has strong links with the Royal Anglian



Regiments (Royal Norfolks, Suffolks, Cambs, Beds and Herts) that suffered so horrifically in this conflict. By the time you receive this approximately 900 tickets will have left my house: 150 lunches ordered; table plans in place; numerous meetings held and correspondence with HM the King, Government officials and Commonwealth

ambassadors, and many military and civic officials. All in a day's work you might say! I am hugely delighted that HRH The Duke of Gloucester will be present as well as HM Lord Lieutenant Lady Dannatt and General the Lord Dannatt. Do look out for a Dakota aircraft flying overhead – expected over Norwich at approximately 12.40-12.50pm. Please do join me at this very special service as it would mean everything to have the support of this community in which I have lived and worked for many years.

You can apply online for tickets at www.nationalfellowship.org.uk

Pauline Simpson, Benefice Lay Minister and Chaplain to Far East POWs and their families.

Villagers' memories



Neville Hogan

by Shirley Hogan

My father, Neville Hogan was born in Rangoon in 1923 the son of an Irishman and a Burmese mother. He joined the local Burma Auxiliary force at the age of 16 in August 1939 to learn to drive, ride, shoot and map read. He, like many,

was preparing himself for the Japanese invasion of Burma which started in 1941. He was sent to officers' training and was commissioned into the Burma Rifles. They were the eyes and ears of the Chindits (Wingate) expeditions in 1943/44. My father was a reconnaissance commander. Along with other allied troops, he had to parachute deep inside enemy lines looking for the best spots to receive supply drops from their support. He also had to find good landing sites where planes could pick up casualties, locate food and water and find places where 400 men and 100 mules could hide for the night, plus set booby traps for the enemy. It was exhausting and painful as the men were hunted like animals by the Japanese.

In 1944 Vera Lynn came to visit the troops wounded in a hospital in India. My father was recovering from a bullet wound in his shoulder, pneumonia, malaria and typhus. When she asked would he like anything, he replied "a kiss", as it had been his 21st birthday the day before. He met Vera Lynn again at the 60th anniversary at the London Imperial War Museum where he reminded her of

that day he had treasured over the years and she gave him another kiss!

Major Neville Hogan was awarded an MBE on the 1st January 2004 for his services to The Chindits Old Comrades Association for providing welfare to war widows and disabled veterans. He accepted it on behalf of all the people that had helped him, including a big thank you to my mother.

My mother, Glory Rose Hogan, had a very different war from my father. She was at boarding school and had to be rushed home when war broke out. The family tried to leave for India by plane but before they could, the Japanese bombed the airport. They started their long journey to India, but on their way they were captured and sent to an internment camp in Maymyo. She was only 11, but was expected to do many jobs to keep the camp running smoothly. The Japanese commandant had been educated at Cambridge and was therefore less harsh. However, Glory had to stay there until the end of the war.



James McMillan

by Shelagh Tyrell

Like many veterans of that war my father did not talk about the horrors on the battlefield, certainly not to his children. His Artillery Battery was among those regiments trapped in what was

known as the Admin Box, an area surrounded by jungle-clad hills hiding Japanese artillery and snipers). There are detailed accounts of the deprivations suffered by the Colonial troops on YouTube.

Lieutenant James McMillan, was attached to the Indian Army, 19/6th Punjab Rifles RA which was made up of Indian Sikhs. Given that his troops were Indian, Dad had to learn Urdu to command his men. Officers were expected to take an Urdu exam within three months. My father was "Mentioned in Dispatches" in 1946 for distinguished service which I believe referred to an occasion in 1945 when travelling in his Jeep with his driver they passed a road convoy of military vehicles moving on a main route. Having passed the convoy and continued for a short distance they heard gunfire coming from the road they had recently passed. As they were armed they turned around to find out what was happening. It transpired that there was a group of Japanese soldiers who had ambushed the convoy and were firing on it from an area of raised ground. Having

been unseen by the Japanese my father and his driver were able to reach higher ground and start attacking the Japanese resulting in the failure of the Japanese attack on the convoy. It is most likely that the Japanese had seen the Jeep passing but as they were there for the convoy they let the Jeep pass. My father was on parade in Rangoon on 12th September 1945 when the surrender of the Japanese in Burma was signed.



Sydney Vincent

Echoes of Captivity (ed Louise Cordingley) is a collection of memoirs by the children of Prisoners of War who returned, in 1945, from several years of captivity in the Far East. A recurring theme is how these men rarely or never talked about their horrific experiences.

Neatishead's Pauline Simpson has her own chapter in the book. Pauline remembers her father Sydney George Vincent, born in Norwich in 1917. Sydney worked in the village shop in Topcroft before joining the 560th Field Company Royal Engineers as a driver. Sydney was taken prisoner in 1942 and held at Changi Singapore, then transferred to Thailand, to several jungle camps. He then worked as a mechanic at a transport camp when he received news of the Japanese surrender on 16th August 1945. Sydney returned to Norfolk to work back in the village shop which expanded to be a newsagents and post office before marrying and starting a family at the end of the 40s. He died aged 84 in 2001. Pauline writes, 'I often wonder how he ended up in the Royal Engineers because he was living in a Norfolk village and many of the families that I know around me were all in the Norfolks. It's a question I wish I'd asked him. He was a driver and, this is what I like to believe, that maybe he wasn't as badly treated as some because he was looking after some of the Japanese vehicles. He used to tell stories about doing things to the vehicles, so that they didn't work and they would conk out or whatever, but maybe I'll never know.'

As many NIB readers will know Pauline eventually became the Far East Prisoner of War (FEPOW) chaplain. She has worked tirelessly for many years to ensure that their stories are not forgotten; that the war did not in fact end on VE day in May 1945.

Whilst everyone in Europe was celebrating VE day, 'they were forgetting this large contingent of men in the Far East, who were still under sentence of death and at the time, digging their own graves.' In 2015, to mark 70th VJ day anniversary, Pauline spent over four years organising a prestigious event at St Martins in the Fields in Trafalgar Square. With only a month to go she recalls, 'I had a phone call from the Royal Household saying that it had come to the notice of Her Majesty that I was hosting this service and she would like to know if she could come.' Pauline had to keep this amazing, and stressful, news to herself. 'Basically I said to myself that I had to be strong and that it was the veterans' day. That they would be remembering their colleagues that they left behind, the men they saw suffer just as they did, but who didn't actually make it. The hymns, the readings, the poems were all planned around the veterans.'

John Spurgeon Kendrick by Vincent Kendrick

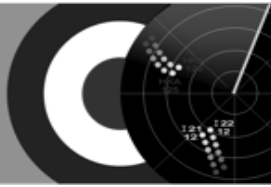


A short analysis of his experience in the Burma Campaign.

My father was a surveyor in the Royal Artillery attached to the Indian Army. He travelled by ship firstly to Cape Town, then on to Chittagong before seeing active service in the

Burmese Jungle. His mission was to set up Trig Points on hills in enemy territory, to calculate the elevation of fire for his artillery who were positioned behind him on the allied front line. Too high and the shells would go over the heads of the Japanese entrenchments and too low, they would hit him!

He experienced horrific atrocities of colleagues being garrotted under the cover of darkness. He always said he owed his life to the Gurkhas with their Kukri knives as they escorted him through the jungle with hand-to-hand combat. He was confirmed in the jungle by the Bishop of Assam, presumably in case he didn't survive. Survival was multi-faceted, he contracted dysentery and hepatitis and by the time he returned home he was skeletal and jaundiced. Not an experience he relished recalling.



The dark shape of a Junkers bomber slips in and out of the clouds, high over the North Sea in September 1941. The pilot had learned the hard lessons to survive the massed raids on Britain the previous summer. He knows on a cold night that the bomber's engine-contrails would glow in the moonlight and make them an easy target for British night fighters. By skimming the clouds he hoped to mask his course, but the poor tail gunner behind him couldn't see much through the fogged glass of his turret. If he could see, he might have spotted the black shark fin parting the clouds, 400 yds away. The fin belongs to a Beaufighter, a twin-engine RAF night fighter equipped with 4 cannons and the wonder that is airborne radar. Onboard, the radar operator can see little outside his bubble in the fuselage of the fighter, but, with his forehead pressed to his glowing radar scope, he focusses on the flicker of interference which shows exactly where the enemy bomber is.

The fighter's radar has a range of a few miles, but



with the careful guidance of 'Seacut' they have snuck into the perfect position below their prey. 'Seacut' is the callsign of the ground controller operating the radar from a canvas covered

lorry parked in the middle of a field between Horning and Neatishead. Watching his circular radar display, he sees the blips of the bomber and fighter close and then merge. It takes seconds for the Beaufighter to emerge from the cloud, unleash devastating cannon fire, and watch as the bomber rolls towards the dark sea, a large white circle of spray marking its end.

The development of radar was a crucial part of Britain's air defences, to enable the survival of the RAF during the Battle of Britain, to interrupt the night raids of the Blitz and even to combat the V1 Doodlebug flying bombs that struck London and Norfolk in the last year of the war. The RAF Air Defence Radar Museum has fascinating displays and talks about radar technology and the real stories of the men and women involved in this secretive world through wartime and peace. The volunteer-run museum is open 10am-5pm, Tues to Sat every week until the 15th November: entrance tickets last a year from date of purchase.

Matthew Parrott: Museum Manager

Wildlife Notes



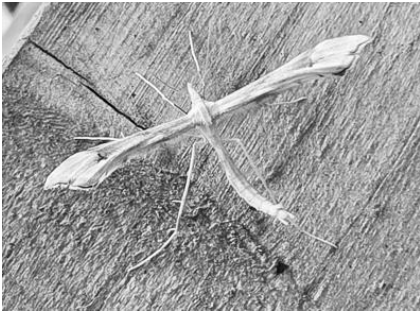
Having written about dragonflies in last month's notes it was with some surprise that in July I encountered a new species for me locally. Many of you will be familiar with the Emperor Dragonfly which is Britain's largest species and is a pond loving dragonfly which can be quite territorial. The males are blue-bodied with a green thorax and blue/green eyes and often fly with the abdomen drooping downwards. In recent years there has been a big increase in its smaller relative, the Lesser Emperor (*Anax parthenope*), being recorded in the UK having first been seen here in 1996. Most of the sightings have been males and they are usually seen during July and August. During July this year I have seen males at both Wroxham and Salhouse Broads whilst I have been sailing. They are slightly smaller than the Emperor and have green eyes, a violet brown thorax, below which is a thin yellow line and then a bright blue section with a dark coloured abdomen. It is the bright blue section which catches the eye as it is just below the wings and is quite distinctive. Dr. Pam Taylor, Norfolk's dragonfly recorder, tells me that there has been an increase in sightings this year.

I am indebted to Duncan Hale-Sutton for another insect record during July as he found and photographed a large black Longhorn Beetle (*Stictoleptura scutellata*) which appeared inside his house on the 11th. Its identification has been confirmed by the Norfolk beetle recorder and it appears that it is a nationally scarce species which has been recorded in the Broads at Sutton Fen since 2016 and has



also been found at How Hill and East Ruston. Longhorn beetles, as the name suggests, tend to have long segmented antennae and are often large bodied (Duncans was 17mm in length) and sometimes brightly coloured. The beetle is nearly all black in colour but has a small orange marking mid-body just below the thorax on what is called the scutellum.

Jon Kelf has been busy with his moth trap during July and has recorded a Tansy Plume moth (*Gillmeria ochrodactyla*) which is also a nationally



scarce species with only around 40 records from Norfolk. Plume moths are very distinctly shaped dainty moths with elongated thin wings. The name

derives from the fact that the larvae feed on tansy which is quite a tall, yellow-coloured aromatic plant flowering at this time of year in dry places. It can be found on many of our village verges, often at the top of a bank, and if you rub the leaves between your fingers, it will release the oils revealing a nice smell.

Jerry Simpson

01692 630674 simpsonj24@btinternet.com



Ashmanaugh and Barton Wanderers Cricket Club

Our All Stars (age 5-8) have finished their 2025 course and have had a lot of fun. We are very grateful to Vicky for running the All Stars for the past few years.



New players are always welcome and should get in touch about practice evenings. Summer camps for juniors are running through August so please contact the club for details. This is a great way to receive small group coaching with Mitchell Van Buuren assisted by Tristan Elam, both high level coaches with international experience.

On **Sunday 24th August** we will play the annual Lewis Pegg memorial game at Ashmanaugh to honour and remember Lewis who we lost in 2007. After the match we will be at Barton Turf for drinks and BBQ.

On **Monday 25th August** we will have a family fun day at Barton Turf, food, music as well as fun & games all welcome: ABWCC.events@gmail.com

Jayne Everett



The Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust

We have joined forces with the Museum of the Broads at Stalham for Museum and Sail events which take place at 10am, 11.15am, 12.30pm, 1.45pm and 3pm on **Tuesday 5th and Thursday 21st August**. Passengers will be taken by the Museum's steam or electric launch from Stalham to meet a wherry yacht near Barton Turf. After boarding the wherry, they will then enjoy a two-hour sail with refreshments around Barton Broad before returning to the Museum by launch. Tickets cost £35 per person, which includes admission to the museum. Ticket sales are one of the main sources of income for the WYC charity



which restores, maintains and operates five of the last remaining eight wherries in the world. Visit www.wherryyachtcharter.org to research or book.

Roman Catholic Churches

- St Helen, Hoveton, NR12 8QJ. Saturday Mass at 5.30pm, Wednesday Mass at 9.30am.
- Sacred Heart, Norwich Road, North Walsham, NR28 9JP, Sunday Mass at 11am

For more information, call 01692 403258.

Father Peter Raj, parishpriestfrpeter@gmail.com

Wroxham & Hoveton United Reform Church

Interim Minister: Rev Carole Pearl. For any pastoral concerns, please contact the church secretary in the first instance: Lynne Howard, 01603 738835. lmhoward100@btinternet.com. Please see website for up-to-date information www.wroxhamurc.org.uk.

Do join us for any or all of the following services:

Sun 3rd August 6th 10.30am Service led by Rev Paul Whittle, including Holy Communion.

Sun 10th August 10.30am: led by Tina Wilson

Sun 17th August 10.30am Service led by Rev Canon Peter Howard

Sun 24th August 10.30am led by Rev C Pearl.

Sun 31st August 10.30 am led by Rev Paul Whittle
JAM (our Sunday School) doesn't meet in August
The Community Café meets for coffee and cakes from 10.30am to 12 noon on Thursdays.

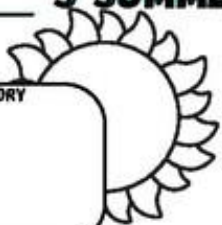
Lynne Howard (Secretary) 01603 738835. lmhoward100@btinternet.com




Colour in the scarecrow
...and join the Fairy Tale Scarecrow Trail (see page 5)

'S SUMMER

FAVORITE MEMORY



FAVORITE SUMMER TREAT



FRIENDS OR FAMILY



Summer

l	w	s	u	n	g	l	a	s	s	e	s
q	e	l	h	o	l	i	d	a	y	b	l
c	j	s	o	j	f	r	i	s	b	e	e
o	d	w	b	m	b	c	w	a	t	a	o
s	e	i	u	m	a	a	m	n	s	c	n
u	c	m	t	o	r	m	e	d	n	h	p
n	k	m	t	l	b	p	h	c	h	r	o
s	c	i	e	c	e	i	p	a	r	q	r
h	h	n	r	n	q	n	p	s	s	t	w
i	a	g	f	c	u	g	i	t	z	d	q
n	i	p	l	l	e	d	r	l	s	r	b
e	r	g	y	s	b	i	f	e	p	j	j



holiday	beach	sunglasses
deckchair	barbeque	sandcastle
sunshine	camping	butterfly
frisbee	swimming	

September 2025 Adverts

GLEAMING GUTTERS Gutter cleaning and washing, plus washing of fascias, soffits, barge boards etc. Conservatory cleaning & pressure washing to patios, paths etc. Free friend quote. Lance 07771 363702 or 01603 782112.

NO DIG KITCHEN GARDENS, composting, honeybee wildflower meadows, biochar & geo-injecting, foraging hedgerows, tree planting & agro-forestry. Alexander Standing 07753 565739 or at alexander@organic-kitchen-gardens.co.uk.

COLIN the PLUMBER oil, gas, and electric boilers and oil tanks. All types of plumbing services. Please call Colin on 01692 670657 or 07990 650331.

GRASS CUTTING and general garden maintenance service. Contact Lenny on 07771 363702 or 01603 782112. Based in Hoveton.

SAM THE LADY SWEEP Wood burners, agas etc. Guild of Master Sweeps trained. NVQ qualified. Please call Sam on 07835 476106, www.samtheladysweep.co.uk.

YOUR FRIENDLY LOCAL ELECTRICIAN Glen Rogers Electrical. From an electric shower to a garden light. Give us a ring on 07774 103426.

SIMON'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS We design, supply & fit kitchens, bathrooms, tiling, carpentry, flooring, plumbing and much more. Please contact Simon on 07368 982830 or at simons.kitchens1990@gmail.com.

INTERIOR ACCENTS SOFT FURNISHINGS - Made to measure curtains, blinds, loose covers, cushions etc. Selection of fabrics, poles & tracks. Please contact Debbie 07799 031933 or email enquiries@interioraccents.co.uk.

GRASS CUTTING also pruning, shed and fence painting and garage/shed sorting. Light garden tasks. Please call Carol on 01692 630478 or mobile 07879 442860.

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVICE Wills & Power of Attorneys, Probate and Executor Service, very competitive rates to local residents. Home Visits available or at Hoveton office. Call Martin Smith on 01603 273590 or 07584 030071.

SIMPSON'S MOTOR GROUP for MOTs or servicing on all makes of cars, motorhomes or vans. Free collection/return for the NIB villages. Please call 01493 601696 and ask for Howard.

INEXPENSIVE MOORINGS available at Barton Turf Staithe, please ring Martin 07501 622068.

DAVID WRIGHT Painting & decorating. Established since 1997. Horning based. Please call 01692 648535 or 07748 257176.

MARINE ELECTRICIAN 35 years' experience. Installation, fault finding, repairs & spares. Fully insured. Please phone Steve on 07958 679118.

NORFOLK FOOT MOBILE HEALTH CARE Routine care, diabetic foot care, corns and callus, verrucae and fungal nails. Please call Richard Parnell Dip FH BSc Econ Hons 07766 167562.

C&B GARDEN SERVICES for Garden Maintenance and Pest Control, specialising in wasps and moles, rabbits & squirrels etc. For FREE quote please call Clive 01692 538356 or 07867 632572.

JON THE BOOKKEEPER offering local book keeping and general accounting services: Year end, Self Assessment, CIS subcontractors, VAT etc. Contact Jon on 07545 545358 to discuss any requirements. Jonathan.g.dawson@gmail.com.

LANCE BUCKINGHAM CARPENTRY all building work undertaken, incl kitchen fitting, extensions, refurbishment, roofing, fencing, decking & maintenance. Phone: 07795 210522 or 01603 720229, lance@lb-carpentry.co.uk.

ROOF REPAIRS scaffolding, flat roofs, pitched roofs & chimney repairs. Also fascias & gutters. All high-level maintenance work undertaken. Ring Leighton for a quote or advice 07766 563513.

COMPUTERS: friendly IT Tuition and Support. Please contact Jamie Nickerson at jamienickerson@live.co.uk or 07747 450776.

GARDEN MAINTENANCE SERVICES: Mowing, hedges trimmed, raised beds, fences, patios, outdoor covered spaces & more: all projects considered. Please call Craig on 07535 044198.

KC WASTEWATER Service and repairs to all make of domestic sewage treatment plants. Over 30 years' experience, Felmingham based. Please call 01692 402747 or 07975 620630. Website www.kcwastewater.co.uk.

LOGS FOR SALE barn stored, seasoned firewood, delivered locally. £170 a full load, £88 a half load. Please contact Jamie on 07747 450776 or jamienickerson@live.co.uk.

NB NORFOLK BUILDS – local experienced builder. Call Steve for repairs & small works, home improvements, specialist brickwork, extensions and roofing. Please contact Steve on 07568 384934 or at norfolkbuilds@hotmail.com.

MICHELLE STEPHENS DECORATING - Quality efficient interior and exterior decorating 07866 726178 www.mdec.me.

PAINTING & DECORATING by Chris Ryan. Prompt and professional. Free quotation. 01692 631194 or 07758 127983.

OLD MILL GARAGE Car MOTs 20% off. Other vehicle repairs at competitive prices. K Roll Motors, Barton Turf 01692 536926.

CHIMNEY SWEEP Member of guild of master sweeps. Fully insured. Clean and efficient. All work certificated. All solid fuel appliances. Call Harry on 07799 484012 or 01263 833362.

BARTON REED PANEL FENCING - handmade reed panels and screens. All types of fencing work undertaken. Please contact Jon on 07881 717692, email at jon.moore61@btinternet.com or see bartonreedpanelfencing.co.uk.

LOCAL SEASONED FIREWOOD free delivery various load sizes available, starting at £90. Will stack on request. To book a delivery or for more information, please call Brent 07551 753127.

PLATTEN PEST CONTROL specialising in the management of wasps, rats, mice, moles, and rabbits. Free survey. Please contact us on 01692 631173 or 07711 391839.

REGENCY GUEST HOUSE, GIFT SHOP & PICTURE FRAMING - The Street, Neatishead, NR12 8AD. Contact us at 07790 011098, 01692 630233 or regencyhouse1786@gmail.com.

EAST ANGLIAN TANKERING SERVICES a local cesspool and septic tank disposal service, also blocked drains cleared. Smallburgh based. Tel 07988 020984 / 07988 406305 www.eatankering.co.uk.

M STUDIO HAIRDRESSING at Ikens, Smallburgh Road, Barton NR12 8AP. Please call Maz 01692 630744.

YOGA CLASSES with Clare Badham at New Victory Hall, Wednesdays 18.15-19.45, more details at www.yogabreeze.co.uk or call/text 07557 353723.

ANTHONY HOWARD & SON – wet rooms, kitchens and bathrooms. All plumbing, plastering, tiling, carpentry etc. Please call 07954 224216.

PROFESSIONAL PAINTER & DECORATOR Call Steven Luxford on 07786 510558 and see also: <https://www.facebook.com/SLneatpaint/>.

THE MOWER DOCTOR for garden machinery, service and repairs. On site repairs and servicing meaning reduced machinery downtime. Stalham based. Please call Rob 07799 530015 or 01603 291927.

A R PAYNE - for all your local painting and decorating needs. Over 35 years' experience within the building trade. Please contact Andy on 07706 991443 or andyrpayne.ap@gmail.com.

GARDEN BIRD FEED Free delivery of seed mixes, peanuts, sunflower, fat balls, mealworms and more! Please contact us on 01493 740288 or visit our website at gardenbirddirect.co.uk.

All contributions welcome to The NIB: please note the Team reserves the right to amend or omit items. We start the magazine from the first of the month, therefore events in the previous month will not be advertised. Views expressed are those of the named author. No responsibility can be accepted for any content or errors. Everybody who sends in articles, including advertisers, automatically consent to having their details published on the Internet, unless specifically requested otherwise, in which case we will endeavour to omit details before uploading onto the churches' websites.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

- £1.50 a line, maximum five lines.
- Payable by bank transfer please.
- Please contact us at nibadverts@gmail.com or phone Sue Clayton on 07850 436211.



Defibrillator Locations

Neatishead

New Victory Hall, NR12 8AD
The Granary Business Park, School Rd NR12 8BU

Cangate

Cangate House, NR12 8YH

Barton Turf

Point Farm (barn wall) NR12 8BB
Cox's Boatyard toilet block NR12 8AZ

Irstead

Staithe Car Park, NR12 8XS

Pennygate

Berry Hall Lodge (left of gate) NR12 8BE

Magazine Team for February 2025 – December 2025

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Social Media: Margaret Maxwell - 07460 740700 - margaretemmamaxwell@yahoo.com

DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER EDITION – 14th August 2025

Diary dates for August 2025

Sun	3 rd		Wroxham & Hoveton Lions Charity Fete & Classic car show: Hoveton VH
Mon	4 th	6.30-7.00	Village Screen: Village Screen: Wicked (2024) 160 mins Cert PG
Tues	5 th		The Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust special sailings: 10am, 11.15, 12.30pm, 1.45pm, and 3pm at The Museum of the Broads
Fri- Sun	8 th -10 th	10am-4pm	Book Fair St Michael and All Angels Barton Turf
Sat	9 th	9am-Noon	Community Market and Café: NVH
Sat	9 th	10am-4pm	Broadacres Summer Fete
Mon	11 th	10am & 2pm	Wherry Yacht Charitable Trust Sailings to Nature Reserve, visit www.wherryyachtcharter.org for more trips/information and booking
Wed	13 th	10.10am 11.15am	Mobile Library: Pitt Corner, Neatishead, NR12 8BT Mobile Library: Council Houses, Ashmanhaugh, NR12 8YL
Wed	13 th	7-9pm	Knit and Stitch: Dolly Newcombe Community Room NVH
Thurs	14 th	10-12noon	Friends & Neighbours: Meeting at the Radar Museum Crumbs Café
Thurs	14th	NOTE	Deadline for the September NIB Edition: Thursday 14th August
Fri	15 th	11am	11am Norwich Cathedral 80th Anniversary of VJ Day Commemoration Service (see article re important attendance details)
Sat	16 th	10am-noon	Coffee Morning at St Michael and All Angels Barton Turf
Sun	17 th	2-5pm	V J Day 80 th Anniversary NIBCHG Exhibition see article NVH
Wed	20 th	10.15am 10.35am 10.55am	Mobile Library: Pennygate, Barton Turf NR12 8BE Mobile Library: Ex-Post Office, Barton Turf NR12 8BB Mobile Library: Staithe Road, Barton Turf NR12 8AZ
Thurs	21 st	6-8pm	Norfolk Wherry Yacht Charitable Trust: Gin Tasting: How Hill
Sat	23 rd	4.30-5.30pm	Norfolk Wherry Brass Band: How Hill
Sat - Mon	23 rd to 25 th	All day	Barton Broad Open Regatta organised by the Norfolk Punt Club.
Sun	24 th		Cricket Club annual Lewis Pegg memorial game Ashmanhaugh
Sun	24 th	11.30am and 3pm	Sip and Sale: Wherry Yacht Charitable Trust and Chet Valley Vineyard- Wine tasting. Sailing from Wroxham – fundraising event
Mon	25 th		Family Funday at Barton Turf Cricket Club (see article)
Wed	27 th	7-9pm	Knit and Stitch: Dolly Newcombe Community Room NVH
Thurs	28 th	10am-noon	Friends and Neighbours Coffee Morning: Mardle and Quiz: NVH
Sat	30 th	10-11.30am	Hope Café; Neatishead Baptist Church Chapel Rd NR12 8YF

Future Dates and Events

Monday 1st September: Village Screen: Please check the NVH website see below

Saturday 6th September: Annual Village Show NVH

Sunday 7th September: 9.30am Sunday Club at Neatishead Church.

Tuesday 9th September: The Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust special sailings: 10am, 11.15, 12.30pm, 1.45pm, and 3pm at The Museum of the Broads

Sunday 21st September: Heritage Open Days Celebration at St Benet's Abbey (see article)

Monday 22nd September: 7.30pm NIBCHG A talk on The Norfolk Textile Trade & Norwich Shawl NVH

Friday 26th September: Macmillan Coffee Morning NVH

Saturday 27th September: Ceilidh NVH

Sunday 28th September 6pm Harvest Songs of Praise and Bring & Share Supper St Michaels Irstead

Sunday 28th September: Sirens of the Helm Norfolk's only female Shanty group 3-5pm: How Hill

Local Services and Contact Details

- New Victory Hall: Street Hill, Neatishead, Norfolk, NR12 8A. For enquiries/hall bookings www.victoryhall.info or email bookings@victoryhall.info tel:07551008065. Online ticket sales for events and cinema order these via red Box Office link
- White House Stores Community Shop: Irstead Road, Neatishead NR12 8BJ, 01692 631549. To join the Community Shop Membership: info@whitehousestores.co.uk.
- White Horse Inn: The Street, Neatishead, NR12 8AD, 01692 630828: thewhitehorseinnneatishead.com
- Wroxham Library events: 01603 782560; www.facebook.com/wroxhamlibraryofficial. Extra activities planned in **August** to inspire children through reading, storytelling and nature.

Parish Council Clerks Barton & Irstead: Nicola Ledain, bartonturfirsteadpc@yahoo.com

Neatishead: Laura Bateman, neatishead.parish@gmail.com. Meets every 3rd Thursday 7.30pm

Benefice of St Benedict - Church Services – August 2025

Sunday 3rd August 7th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Horning Sailing Club Service

11am Benefice and Holy Communion Beeston St Lawrence

Sunday 10th August 8th Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am Benefice and Holy Communion St Swithin's Ashmanhaugh

Sunday 17th August 9th Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion (BCP) St Michael's Irstead

9.30am Holy Communion St Benedict's Horning

6pm Evening Prayer St Michael and All Angels' Barton Turf

Sunday 24th August 10th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion St Michael's Irstead

11am Morning Prayer St Benedict's Horning

11am Holy Communion St Michael and All Angels' Barton Turf

Sunday 31st August 11th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Benefice HC St Michael and All Angels' Barton Turf



Weekday Morning Prayer Services are only at St Michael and All Angels' Barton Turf this month on Thursdays at 9.15am. Please check with church warden Barbara Pilcher for details.

Contact details Rev Ben-brother_ben@btinternet.com or 01692 630216.

Other Events

Friday 8th August to Sunday 10th August 10am - 4pm Book Fair at St Michael and All Angels' - Light refreshments available.

Friday 15th August: 11am Norwich Cathedral will be holding an 80th Anniversary of VJ Day Commemoration service

(see article by Pauline Simpson for important attendance details)

Sunday 7th September 9.30am Sunday Club Neatishead Church.

Sunday 21st September 11am Sunday Club at Neatishead Church

Sunday 28th September 6pm Harvest Songs of Praise followed by Bring & Share Supper St Michaels Irstead



Parish Church Wardens Neatishead: Pauline Simpson on 01692 630674, Barton Turf: Barbara Pilcher on 01692 536132.

Neatishead Baptist Church Chapel Road NR12 8YF

3 rd Aug Sunday	10.30am	Marc Grimston - Communion	22 nd Aug Friday	10am	Prayer Meeting
10 th Aug Sunday	10.30am	Paul Rosser	24 th Aug Sunday	10.30am	Fellowship Praise
11 th Aug Monday	2pm	Fellowship - St Mark Study	25 th Aug Monday	2pm	Fellowship – St Mark study
17 th Aug Sunday	10.30am	Jon Vinter	31 st Aug Sunday	1.30am	Marc Grimston

Hope Café meets for fellowship, coffee, games etc. 10am to 11.30am on last Saturday of the month. Everyone is welcome for fun and fellowship. Contact for more details:

Sue Gibbons Secretary secretary@neatisheadbaptistchurch.org.uk