



Continuing our Celebration of 50 years of the NIB



The Conker and Yard of Ale Competitions
(see pages 8 and 9)



A parallel "yard-of-ale" drinking contest was won by Stuart Dennes in fifteen seconds with Valerie Horner taking the ladies prize in thirty seconds.



The Benefice of St Benedict

Rev Ian Johnson - Mistaken Identity

I recently received a text message from a friend simply saying, "What's happened?" At the time we were at our daughter's house on grandparent duty and our immediate reaction was that something had happened to our house or wall or trees. But no. We phoned and discovered that a rumour was circulating the village saying that I was in hospital, and Caroline, my wife, was soon receiving kind messages offering support and hugs. But it was a case of mistaken identity. One of my ministerial colleagues was indeed in hospital but not dangerously ill, and people in our village mistakenly thought it was me. When I turned up two days later at the village Coffee Morning, fit and well, we discovered how the rumour of my hospitalisation had spread quickly. To family and other friends, I sent Mark Twain inspired message to reassure them: "The news of my hospitalisation has been greatly exaggerated!"

In the Bible we read of Jesus often dealing with those who mistook his true identity. Some thought he was simply a miracle worker and flocked to see him perform another one; some thought that he was simply an incredibly wise teacher and came in large crowds to sit and listen. His enemies even thought he was the devil incarnate – a rumour that he was very quick to scotch. And some thought he was the sort of political leader who had come to drive out the invading Roman forces and make Israel great again.

So, Jesus asked his closest friends, the disciples, about his identity, who people thought he was and who they thought he was, and even they struggled at that time to understand his true identity.

What about the identity of Jesus for us? Who is he, or was he? Whilst it is true that he did perform miracles, and was a wise teacher, is that all that can be said about his identity? Have we taken the time to consider the evidence about his true nature and what that might mean for our lives now and for the future? The evidence is to be found in the Bible and in the life stories of those Christians who testify to the profound difference he continues to make in their lives. Let us take the time to discover his true identity and not be mistaken.

Rev Ian Johnson



Table Tennis at the NVH

Join us every Tuesday from 7-9pm. All are welcome: bats and balls available - just bring yourself. £3 per session, refreshments are available.



St Michael and All Angels' Barton Turf

September has been a busy month with Harvest Festival; Celebration of the 40 years of the dedication of the bells and our Saints Day. It was good to welcome everyone to our coffee morning. We also welcomed the bike riders on the 12th, the church being open but not manned this year. And we played host to the Deanery Synod on 16th September. October may be somewhat quieter!

We look forward to welcoming the bell ringers from Buxton on **Saturday 10th of October**. The October coffee morning will be on **Saturday 17th October** 10am until noon. A reminder that the clocks go back on **Sunday 25th October**. Please note that from November onwards as the nights draw in the evening service will be at 4pm.

This month's Church work party will meet on the morning of **Tuesday 6th October** from 9.30am. Do join us if you are able.

Barbara Pilcher Church Contact



St Michael's Irstead

Harvest Thanksgiving Songs of Praise, held on 13th September

On behalf of St Michael's PCC may I thank all those who contributed in any way towards making the service the successful community event it was. Thanks to your contributions we all enjoyed a truly delicious harvest supper afterwards.

Thanks also on behalf of YANA (You Are Not Alone) for your generous donations to this worthy cause. A very happy, meaningful and well attended occasion.

David Murrells

Barton Turf & Irstead Poors Trust Winter Fuel

The Poors Trust was founded in 1810 to help those in need in the parishes of Barton Turf and Irstead by providing a contribution towards the cost of their winter fuel bills. It is at this time of year that the Trust allocates its funds to residents in the parishes who are in need of such help.

Do you know of anyone who has a genuine need of help this winter, the elderly, the sick, the unemployed or others? If you do know of anyone or feel personally that you might qualify, then please contact the Clerk to the Trustees, Chris Dockerty on 07771 866437 or any of the Trustees. All information provided will be treated in strictest confidence.

Gail Murrells



Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride

A huge thank you to those from our villages who took part in the Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride on a beautiful sunny, but a little windy Saturday in September.

Some visited churches across North Norfolk while my friend, Julie, and I stayed nearer home, visiting 13 churches and cycling 25 miles, just a fraction of the 600+ medieval churches in Norfolk.

We truly have some amazing churches in this county, all with their individual stories to tell and architecture to wonder at.

Claire Penstone-Smith



The Community Market NVH Neatishead

Saturday 10th October 9am till Noon
New Stalls PLUS

Book a Table Top or Car Boot Space
for individuals as well as Community Groups

£5 per table or car boot space

To book get in touch asap with

Pauline 07818 599303

***Please support all our stalls as well as
enjoying our delicious bacon butties***



We look forward to welcoming you to the New Victory Hall, tea/coffee is available for a small charge. Please visit www.victoryhall.info to book tickets, or call Christine 01692 631347 to reserve a ticket. Subject to availability, cost £6 or can be purchased on the door, card or cash.

The Village Screen Team



Call my Quaff

An evening of Wine and Fun!

Saturday 3rd October 7pm for 7.30pm



Come to the NVH for an entertaining evening where you can:

- Taste a selection of fine wines
- Pitch your wine knowledge against our expert and entertaining panel as well as decide who is bluffing and who is telling the truth!
- Enjoy a tasty light supper.
- Pay bar for drinks on arrival and during the interval. Nibbles provided.

The evening is based on the Call My Bluff panel game, you will be guessing which of our entertaining panel is bluffing and who is telling the truth about the wines that you are tasting along with them. A light supper is included plus a raffle. All welcome - but for over 18s only. An event not to be missed - the emphasis is on having a laugh in good company.

There will be prizes for the winning table, a raffle and other games, so please bring a few coins to play along. Tickets for this entertaining evening of fun and wine are £15 and available from White House Stores or on line at www.victoryhall.info.

Doreen Dean The NVH Events Team



Village Screen at the NVH

Monday 5th October 7pm for 7.30pm

Midwinter Break

2026 Cert:12A 90 Minutes

This film is about an empty-nester couple who, having relocated to Glasgow from Northern Ireland following a traumatic episode during the Troubles, decide to take a trip to Amsterdam.

Their marriage is seemingly affectionate and comfortable, but Gerry (Ciaran Hinds) has a not-so-secret drink problem and his wife Stella (Lesley Manville) is unhappy that he does not share her deep Catholic faith. She has a secret agenda for the visit which she has not divulged to him. Hinds and Manville give exceptionally thoughtful and intimate performances which will linger with you long after the film ends.



Broad Arts - Saturday 3rd October NVH 10am-2pm

Come and enjoy a wide range of art and locally made crafts, while having tea and cakes provided by Neatishead Community Gym. Meet the Broad Arts group - some of the most creative and skilful makers and artists in the area, plus some special guests. You can also find out more and help support The Nancy Oldfield Trust who will be there with a raffle. Browse or buy, but enjoy!

Fiona Johnson



Quiz evening - NVH Friday 6th November 7.15pm for 7.30 start

If you are not out celebrating Bonfire Night, please make up a team of 6 or just come along and

join a table for an informal and sociable evening at a cost of £5. To book your place message or call Pauline on 07818 599303 or Cheryl on 07387 267729. The quiz will begin at 7.30pm with the doors open from 7.15pm. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. There are prizes for the winning team members and there will be a raffle.

NVH Events Team



Friends and Neighbours

Thanks to the Nancy Oldfield Trust about a dozen of our members had a lovely trip early in September on the Broads from Stalham Staithe.

Our first meeting of October is on

Thursday 8th in the NVH at 10am for a talk on Keeping Fit the Easy Way given by Sally Sutton.

On **Thursday 22nd October** the club is holding a beetle drive. There will be the usual bring and buy and raffle at both meetings. It has been good to welcome some new members and visitors over the past few months. These are all very sociable occasions to which visitors are always welcome. For more information about the club please contact the Chair Person, Jean Barber on 01263 721698.

Jane King



Horning Flower Club

We had an enjoyable meeting this week after our summer break.

Crystal Dyball stepped in at the last minute to give us one of her

demonstrations when our original person was unable to come. We all had a great time.

Our next meeting is our AGM on **Monday 12th October at 1.15pm** followed by the meeting at 2pm. Please come and join us. Contact Carole Swan on 01692 536270.

Janice Lupson



Garden Club

Thank you to everyone who entered and or came along to the Village Show last month and a massive thank you to Sally, Dolly and Poppy who kindly did the judging for us. Considering the extremely hot and dry summer we have had we were delighted with the wonderful entries.

This month's meeting is at the NVH on **Monday 19th October** at 7.30pm with Peter Lawrence talking about East Anglian Houses of Influence. As ever, visitors are most welcome at our meetings for the cost of £4 which includes a cuppa and biscuits. Please note that we now serve the tea and biscuits before the talk, from 7pm. I hope to see lots of you there.

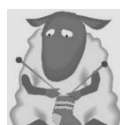
Sue Clayton 07850 436211
gardenclubnib@gmail.com



Neatishead & Barton Turf District WI

As I write this, I am looking forward to meeting our members again at our next meeting. The days are turning into Autumn, which means dark evenings, cooler weather and leaves and acorns. We are looking forward to our Harvest Supper on **Monday 26th October**. This is always a lovely way for our members and friends to come together. We also have a walk planned from Sea Palling to Waxham in October and of course, Christmas. We are already excited about our plans. It's not too late to join us. I would like to thank anyone who came to our charity afternoon tea which raised £368 for PaNDR. Thank you also, for those who donated unwanted school uniforms for Leeway, particularly Neatishead Primary School and Suffield Park in Cromer. If you have anything you would like to donate to our charity sale-table please let us know via email. We are happy to collect, all monies raised go to local Norfolk charities. For information about anything WI please email neatisheadwi@gmail.com. With best wishes to you all.

Sally Church President



Knit and Stitch

Our numbers seem to have dwindled in recent months, perhaps it has just been the very hot weather, but hopefully as Autumn approaches it might be a good time to get out those knitting needles and come and join us - it would be lovely to see some new faces.

As well as knitting and stitching it's an opportunity to have a 'mardle' and 'put the world to rights' - well try

to - and have a cuppa too. Don't feel you have to come every week - just when you can. We meet in the Dolly Newcombe Community Room at the New Victory Hall on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** of the month from 7-9pm.

If you would like to know more do get in touch. As well as Norfolk Knitter events we are always on the 'lookout' for other crafting events and workshops.

One that has come to my attention is on **Saturday 17th October from 10am-4pm** when the Costume and Textile Association www.ctacostume.org.uk/ are holding a Vintage and Craft Fair at the Costessey Centre, Longwater Lane, Norwich NR8 5AH. Everyone is welcome - perhaps some early shopping for Christmas? My contact no is 07760 643739.

Claire Penstone-Smith



Neatishead White Horse Bowls Club

Our season is now over and the green has been put to bed for the winter. It's been a good season with us sitting mid table in the league and we also won the Cox Cup against our friends and rivals Barton Turf. Our Annual General Meeting this year is being held on **Thursday 29th October** at the pavilion and we are planning some winter activities to keep the social connections going through the colder months.

As always, we welcome new members and if you didn't manage to come along to one of our rollups this season we would love to see you next year, perhaps you want a new hobby or are new to the village and just want to meet some new friends whichever it is, you would be very welcome. If you need any more information, please contact Andrew on 07715 801309, email a.wood2207@btinternet.com.

Annette Wood Club Secretary



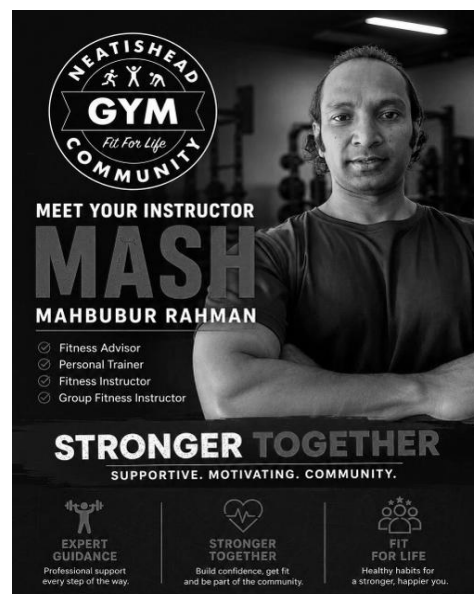
Neatishead Community Gym

There have been a number of new faces turn up to the gym this year, some new to the area completely, others just looking to keep fit and take advantage to the facilities on offer. We have also had a number of new committee members, bringing fresh ideas and energy – they are Cameron MacDougal, Rob Mitchell and John and Bec Jenkinson.

In respect of the trainers we would like to thank them all for their enthusiasm and support to all members. To highlight their qualities, below is a message from our Fitness Instructor Mash:

"I am a qualified Level 3 Personal Trainer and Fitness Instructor and run my own personal training business, Maaar Fitness. I have worked in the fitness industry for several years, including as a Fitness

Advisor and Personal Trainer at PureGym from 2021 to 2022. Since 2022, I have also worked as a Group Exercise instructor at the University of East Anglia (UEA), a role I continue alongside my personal training work.



My approach to fitness is friendly, supportive and encouraging. I believe exercise should be accessible and enjoyable for everyone, regardless of age, previous experience or current fitness level. I particularly enjoy getting to know people, understanding what they want to achieve and helping them exercise safely and effectively - whether their goal is to improve strength, mobility, general fitness and confidence, or simply to enjoy being more active.

At Neatishead Community Gym, I will be on hand to support members with their exercise programmes, demonstrate exercises and equipment, provide guidance on correct technique and encourage everyone as they work towards their individual goals.

I will also help welcome and induct new members into the gym.

One of the things I particularly like about Neatishead Community Gym is its inclusive, welcoming and positive approach, which very much reflects the way I like to work with people."

All our trainers are independent contractors, and although we have our main trainers, we always need cover for holidays etc: if you would be interested in being considered for irregular standby roles, please contact: gym@victoryhall.info. We hope to continue to welcome new faces to the gym to take advantage of the wonderful facilities. The first step to fitness is always the hardest, but each one is a step forward!

For details of trial visits, membership and standby trainer roles please contact Mash on 07387 876216 or see: www.neatisheadcommunitygym.com.

Rebecca Jenkinson



Barton Turf Bowls Club

As the season comes to a close the green has been scarified, top dressed and overseeded putting it to sleep for the winter. We can now look back on a pretty successful season. In the league we finished about halfway up which was our best result,

There were two end-of season friendlies, one against Mundesley and the return match against Chedgrave. The Mundesley game we won but at Chedgrave we went down quite heavily! We need to thank friends from Neatishead who helped us put out a full team at Chedgrave. As always, the visit to Chedgrave was very enjoyable, particularly the food! In addition to winning the Presidents Day Cup, we also won the St Benets Shield, played for between Barton, Horning, Neatishead and Ludham.

This year, though we lost the Cox Cup, the weather was against us all throughout and Neatishead coped with the weather far better than Barton did! We played host again at the club for the final of the North Walsham Three Wood League Knock Out Cup. The final was between Smallburgh and Hickling. Smallburgh came out winners by 2 shots in a very close match. Finally, we held our Coffee Morning with bric a brac at the Barton Turf Staithe. The coffee morning raised just over £500 which was a great result. Many thanks all those who came, and those who helped in any way.

We now look forward to our Club dinner and our AGM. Don't forget we are always keen to have new members

Barbara Pilcher Secretary



Xmas Card Delivery

Once again, the Christmas Elves will be happy to deliver all your Xmas Cards to our local villages, Neatishead, Irstead, Barton Turf, Pennygate and Beeston St Lawrence.

The Post Boxes will be in the Village Hall and White House Stores from **Monday 30th November**. Delivery of the cards will be on **Wednesday 16th December**

For anyone new to the area, this is a service we happily provide, sorting and delivering all your local Xmas cards. We ask that the envelopes are clearly marked with full name and address. All donations are gratefully received and help fund activities and events for our village youngsters.

Ruth Dockerty for The Christmas Elves.

Barclays Bank Hub Church Road

Wroxham - Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Friday 9.30am to 1.1pm then 1.30pm to 4.30pm

NOTE Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday Not Open



Ali's Challenge - Northumberland Mighty Hike

I felt a mix of excitement and nervousness about setting out on my half-marathon walk, having received such great support from sponsors and wondering whether I'd manage the physical challenge. The route took us from Alnwick Castle to the coast then up to Craster, it was stunning all the way. My start was at 8am in the first wave of 1800 walkers.

The MacMillan staff and volunteers were fantastic, getting us numbered up, warmed up and ready to go. It was 6 miles to the first pit stop where snacks, fruit and loos were provided! I felt good so only stayed for some half-way oranges before pushing on. My family 'support crew' met me at different points, a lovely surprise as I didn't know where I'd see them and also a morale booster as it rained for the second half of the walk. I walked in the company of a fellow first timer along this part; with both of us having a goal to achieve spurred us on and it was good to share the experience.

The finish was soon not far away and we crossed the line, wet, emotional and looking forward to a warm drink. I had completed the walk more quickly than I had expected in just under four hours. It felt very special to have been part of an event where everyone had the same motivation, to remember loved ones, friends, anyone affected by cancer. Each walker had a sponsorship target. I am very happy to say I have achieved that and more.



So far, I have raised £320 with still more to come. I feel very honoured to have had your support and encouragement. Thank you.

Ali Bradnock



Neatishead, Irstead & Barton Turf Community Heritage Group

"We cannot live in the past, but perhaps sometimes it doesn't do any harm to take a backward glance", as Alice Dennes wrote in her book, "A look at Neatishead", and about whom we heard during my presentation in April. With this thought in mind, NIBCHG has been researching the villages' history and creating displays for the past 13 years in order that the local and wider communities can "take a backward glance." During this time many have had close family members researched and are now able to hold on to precious memories that have been discovered. So many people we speak to say, "if only we had asked grandad/grandma about their lives before the war or during the war" Don't let the chance pass you by.

Last month, as well as undertaking research, we were particularly busy creating displays for the Village Show, organised by The Gardening Club celebrating their 45th anniversary; for St Peter's Church celebrating their bell refurbishment and restoration of churchyard wall and attending the Friends Day at the Radar Museum where a recording of our WW1 drama "Tomorrow is Yours" was shown.

October is the month for our AGM when we will take another "backward glance" at the past year on **Tuesday 27th October**, 7.30pm, at the NVH - everyone welcome. This will also be an opportunity to watch two films recently created for NIBCHG about the lives of Jack Pestell who served during WW1 and his son, Sid Pestell, "The Last True Countryman" see image below. Both of whom were born, brought up and lived their entire life in our villages.



For many years, Sid, or Cuddy, as he was known, was the secretary of the local branch of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers. Following his death in 1994 the union published his obituary in their magazine which concluded with the words "There are not many people left like Cuddy. He was one of the last true countrymen". This image of Sid, or Cuddy as he was known, tending his allotment near the Victory Hall, was captured by a passing

photographer who spotted this iconic scene of a worker outlined in silhouette.

The AGM is also a chance to look forward while our list of research, projects and events for the future ever grows. If you would like to join us to help fulfil our aspirations you would be most welcome - please do contact me. We are especially in need of some help now with our two websites that need updating and are costing us more than they need. if you can help or know someone who might be able to, please let me know - we would be most grateful.

Everyone welcome. NIBCHG Friends free, guests £3. Displays and refreshments from 7.15pm. Contact 07760 643739 claireps@btinternet.com.

Claire Penstone-Smith



Wroxham & District u3a

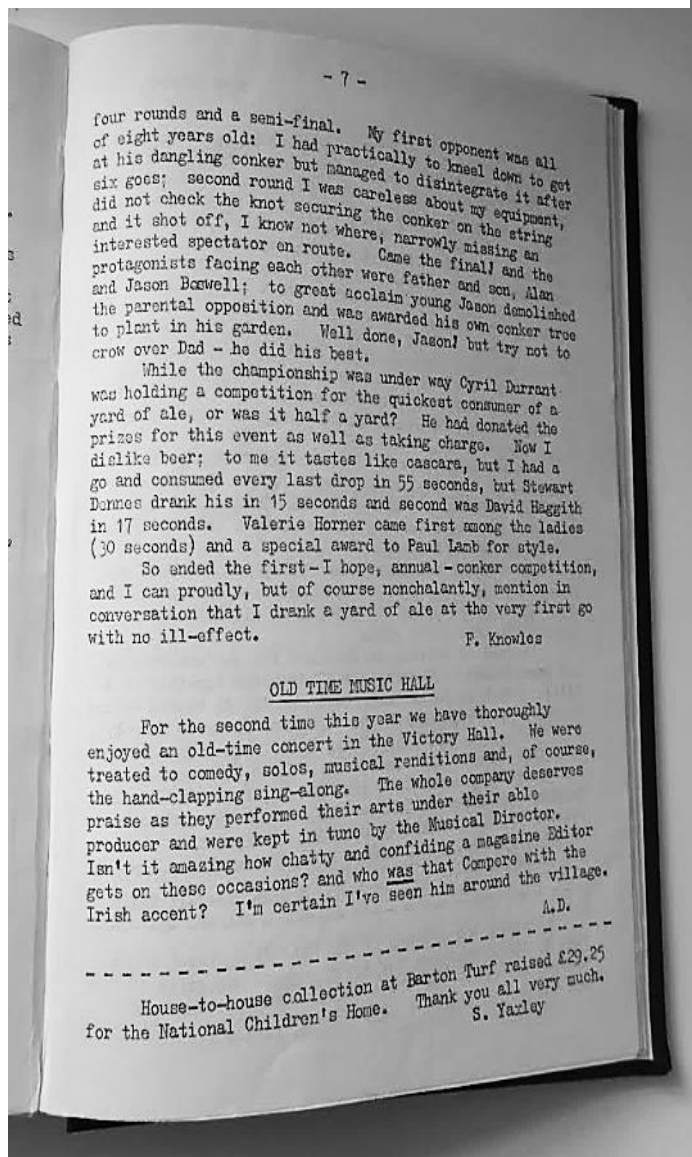
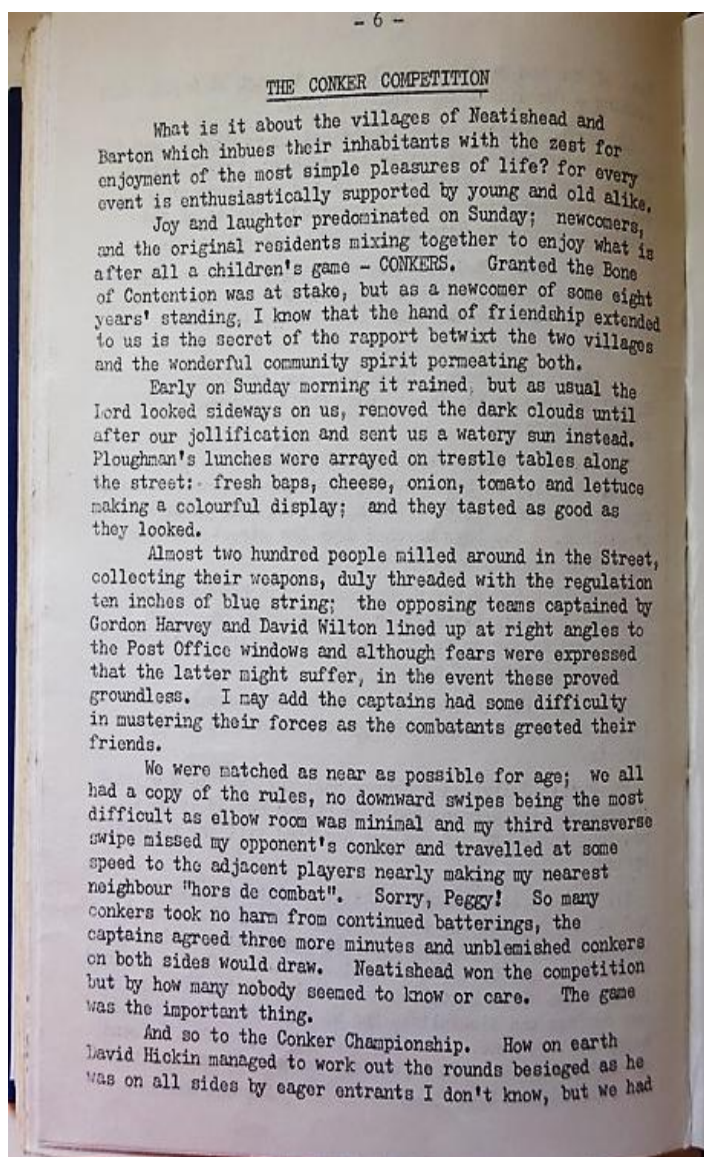
Our u3a, and its interest groups, have been ramping up their activities for the autumn. The history group have a 'Blue Plaque Walk' in Norwich and are planning a meeting with a speaker, talking about Edith Cavell. The photography group visited the Sainsbury Centre and took a varied series of photos with the walking group going to Ludham and Fairhaven. The book group read 'Lincoln in the Bardo', which was a very different read and had a mixed reception from the group, while the poetry group read poems on 'School Days'. The Art Group have produced some lovely work, here is an example.



Apart from our many other interest groups we have our general meeting monthly at Hoveton Village Hall, where we have a speaker and tea and biscuits. If you want to know what we are about and meet some of the members, do come along, it's on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, doors open at 2pm, £2 for members and £3 for visitors. The next 3 general meetings (Tuesdays) are as follows: **20th October**-Dark Skies: what is out there? Andrew Sutkowski, **17th November** Radar and WW2-Ian Dormer **15th December**-Christmas Party wroxhamu3a@mail.com.

Pauline Wright-Marchant

The Conker and Yard of Ale Competitions from November 1978



Lunch ready for the Contenders



Grateful thanks go to Claire Penstone-Smith and Michael Brandon Jones for all the pictures, the copy of the NIB from 1978 and the following transcription of the original NIB pages.

The Conker and Yard of Ale Competitions

What is it about the villages of Neatishead and Barton (and Irstead) which imbues their inhabitants with the zest for enjoyment of the most simple pleasures of life?

For every event is enthusiastically supported by young and old alike. Joy and laughter predominated on Sunday; newcomers and the original residents mixing together to enjoy what is after all a children's game – CONKERS.

Granted the Bone of Contention was at stake, but as a newcomer of some eight years' standing, I know that the hand of friendship extended to us is the secret of the rapport betwixt the two villages and the wonderful community spirit permeating both.

Early on Sunday morning it rained, but as usual the Lord looked sideways on us, removed the dark clouds until after our jollification and sent us a watery sun instead.

Ploughman's lunches were arrayed on trestle tables along the streets; fresh baps, cheese, onion, tomato and lettuce making a colourful display; and they tasted as good as they looked. Almost two hundred people milled around in The Street collecting their weapons, duly threaded with the regulation ten inches of blue string; the opposing teams captained by Gordon Harvey and David Wilton lined up at right angles to the Post Office windows (now the Regency Guest House) and although fears were expressed that the latter might suffer, in the event these proved groundless.

I may add the captains had some difficulty in mustering their forces as the combatants greeted their friends. We were matched as near as possible for age; we all had a copy of the rules, no downward swipes being the most difficult as elbow room was minimal and my third transverse swipe missed my opponent's conker and travelled at some speed to the adjacent players, nearly making my nearest neighbour 'hors de combat'. Sorry Peggy!

So, many conkers took no harm from continued battering's, the captains agreed three more minutes and unblemished conkers on both sides would draw. Neatishead won the competition but by how many nobody seemed to know or care. The game was the important thing.

And so, to the Conker Championship. How on earth David Hickin managed to work out the rounds besieged as he was on all sides by eager entrants I don't know, but we had four rounds and a semi-final. My first opponent was all of eight years old. I had practically to kneel down to get at his dangling conker but managed to disintegrate it after six goes; second round, I was careless about my equipment, did not check the knot securing the conker on the string and it shot off, I know not where, narrowly missing an interested spectator on route.

Came the final and the protagonists facing each other were father and son, Alan and Jason Boswell, to great acclaim young Jason demolished the parental opposition and was awarded his own conker tree to plant in his garden. Well done Jason, but try not to crow over Dad he did his best.

While the championship was under way Cyril Durrant was holding a competition for the quickest consumer of a yard of ale, or was it half a yard? He had donated the prizes for this event as well as taking charge.

Now I dislike beer; to me it tastes like cascara, but I had a go and consumed every last drop in 55 seconds, but Stuart Dennes drank his in 15 seconds and second was David Haggarth in 17 seconds. Valerie Horner came first along the ladies in 30 seconds and a special award went to Paul Lamb for style!

So ended the first I hope, annual conker competition, and I can proudly, but of course nonchalantly, mention in conversation that I drank a yard of ale at the very first go with no ill-effect.

Frances Knowles



The White House Stores



If you feel you could give us a hand for a couple of hours a week we would really love to hear from you. Please support your Community Shop - there are many things to do to keep it running and the managers need help on a daily basis. Routine tasks: shelf filling, serving at the till, cleaning, tidying the stock room, shopping for fruit and vegetables. Full training is given. Pop into the shop for a friendly chat or contact Chris Warren or email info@whitehousestores.co.uk.



We are looking for someone to join our NIB editorial team for 2027

The NIB editorial group are looking for a Deputy Editor for next year. If you are interested in joining our happy team then please contact Sue thenibmanager@gmail.com or 07850 436211



Weather

Rain returns to ease drought

The total rainfall for August was 61.1mms/2.4in which is 94% of average. This all fell in the second half of the month as we reverted to an unsettled and cooler Atlantic airflow following the prolonged dry and hot spell.

The highest daily total was 20mms/0.79in on the 29th which fell in a torrential downpour about 6pm, leading to some local flash floods. The unsettled weather continued into September with rainfall of 20mms/0.79in which is 33% of average, has been recorded so far. The highest daily total to date is 8.8mms/0.35in recorded on the 4th. Overall, temperatures have been close to average, with the warmest day so far recorded on the 6th at 25.1°C.

Peter Mills



Wildlife Notes

Following the hottest and driest summer on record, it will be interesting to see how the wildlife has managed to adapt to the climatic changes. Perhaps the most obvious changes will be to some of our local butterfly populations as the plants on which they lay their eggs and their caterpillars subsequently feed, have dried and withered. I am thinking, mainly of the grassland species like Meadow Brown and Ringlet, both species which were less common in my garden this spring. Obviously if the host plant dies off before the plant has set seed, then it will not regrow in the following year unless there is a healthy store of surplus seed in the ground. One species which has benefitted from the drier climate is the Ivy Mining bee (*Colletes hederæ*) as it digs small tunnels into patches of dry bare earth in which to lay its eggs often forming small colonies.



Jon Kelf

At the end of August, I was pleased to see an active colony on some dry ground along the side of one of my neighbours' driveways in King Street. This species is a relatively new coloniser to the UK, having been first seen in Dorset in 2001 and as the name suggests it feeds mainly on the flowers of Ivy. If the weather stays mild enough you can still see the bees

in October and even into early November. They are easily recognisable as they have ginger coloured thoraxes and distinctive orange/yellow striped black abdomens and the females are very slightly larger than a honey bee. At the end of August there were numerous reports on social media from people who had them nesting in holes on their dried-up lawns and were panicking as they thought they were wasps. Ivy bees are the last of the solitary bees to appear each year as they time their emergence with the Ivy coming into flower. Another species which is now breeding in the UK and surviving the winter here.

One other recent coloniser is the Willow Emerald damselfly which I have been seeing in my garden at the beginning of September and which will still be on the wing in October.

Young Green Woodpeckers have been busy on the dried lawn in my garden presumably looking for ants so they appear to have had a good year and may well benefit from the warmer, drier conditions.



Jon Kelf

Another species which many of you have reported seeing in your gardens this summer is the Hummingbird Hawkmoth and the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) has announced that this year has been a record year for the number of sightings from members of their Garden Birdwatch scheme.



Jon Kelf

Please contact Jerry on 01692 6300674 or email simpsonj24@btinternet.com.

Jerry Simpson

Wroxham Library



Below are some of the events and services we offer but see our Facebook page or call the library on 01603 782560.

- **Build confidence to manage your money online.** Free, one-to-one support available. Find out about: online banking; budgeting and saving money; spending money online; online safety and security. Sessions available Tuesday 1-2 pm. Please contact the library to book a session.
- **Digital Help.** Thursdays 11-1am during term times. Free, one-to-one support available. Perfect for beginners and those ready to take the next step. Please contact the library to book a session.
- **Just a Cuppa,** every Tuesday 10. – noon. Come along for a friendly chat over a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.
- **Toys** We have a selection of toys and games that can be played with in the library, from Duplo, and counting games, to jigsaws. Look in our folder to see what is available.
- **Crafting** 10.30 - 3.30 pm on alternate Saturdays (staff dependent). Aimed at children aged 5 -11 (under 8s require supervision).
- **Knit and Natter – not just for knitters!** Bring your embroidery, textile, or crochet project along to our informal gathering. **1st and 15th October, 2.- 4.pm.**
- **Crib Club** (Cribbage card game) – new players welcome - **Thursday 8th October 2.-4:pm.** Please bring your own board and cards if you have them.
- **Scrabble Club** Usually last Thursday of each month from 2.-4.pm. Next session **Thursday 29th October.** All welcome.
- **Thinking of starting up or growing your own business?** As a local Business and IP Centre, we have free access to a wide range of business resources at Wroxham library. Find out more at: www.norfolk.gov.uk/bipcnorfolk
- **Our Bounce and Rhyme** sessions take place on Wednesday at 10.30am. No need to book just drop in and sing along!
- **Family History** – Use our free access to Find My Past any time the library is open. Drop-in on Wednesday and Friday evenings between 4.pm and 6.pm to get advice from Diane, our family and local history expert. Please ring the library ahead to confirm availability.
- Use our self-service Baby Weigh Scales.

Housebound Library Service

If you are unable to get out to the library to get your library books, we can bring them to you! Details from the library.

Our normal opening hours are below, though please check for updates on our Facebook and Webpages. We have further extended our opening

hours with the Open Library service – contact the library for more information.

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: to Saturday 10 - 7
- Sunday: Closed

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: 01692 403258

Fr Alan Hodgson alan.hodgson@rcdea.org.org.uk.

Secretary rcnwalsham@gmail.com.

Wroxham & Hoveton United Reformed Church

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

Sunday 4th 10.30am. Service including Holy Communion.

Sunday 11th 10.30am

Sunday 18th 10.30am

Sunday 25th 10.30am

Minister: Rev Tina Wilson, 07763 354740. email: revtinawilson@outlook.com.



JAM (our Sunday School) welcomes all children aged 4 to 16. In our sessions we watch, read, listen, discuss, play, act, sing, chat, pray, cook, create and have a great time. We meet regularly in the church hall from 10.15–11.45am.

For information on future sessions and other events please go to: <https://wroxhamurc.org.uk/jam> or for more details contact jam@wroxhamurc.org.uk or call Chris on 01603 783992.

The Community Café meets for coffee and cakes from 10.30am to noon on Thursdays. All are welcome, there is no charge. We look forward to seeing friends old and new contact 01603 738835.

Lynne Howard

secretary@wroxhamurc.org.uk

Norfolk Police North Norfolk Online Neighbourhood Drop-In Sessions.

Our Monthly online Neighbourhood Drop-In Sessions are open to all members of the public to raise concerns and ask questions about policing issues affecting North Norfolk. The sessions take place on the first Wednesday of each month.

Upcoming sessions:

- Wednesday 7th October 2026– 6:30pm to 7:30pm
- Wednesday 4th November 2026– 6:30pm to 7:30pm

To join any of the sessions, please use the Teams link provided: [Recurring Teams Link - First Wednesday of each month - 6:30pm - 7:30pm.](#)

Melanie Eversfield
Neatishead Parish Council



HALLOWEEN DOT TO DOT

Name: _____

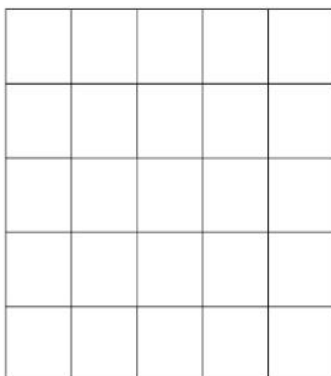
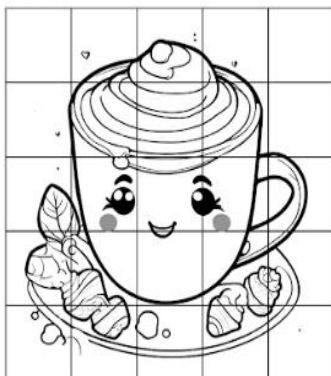
COLOR BY NUMBER

5 = yellow 6 = purple 7 = black 8 = gray

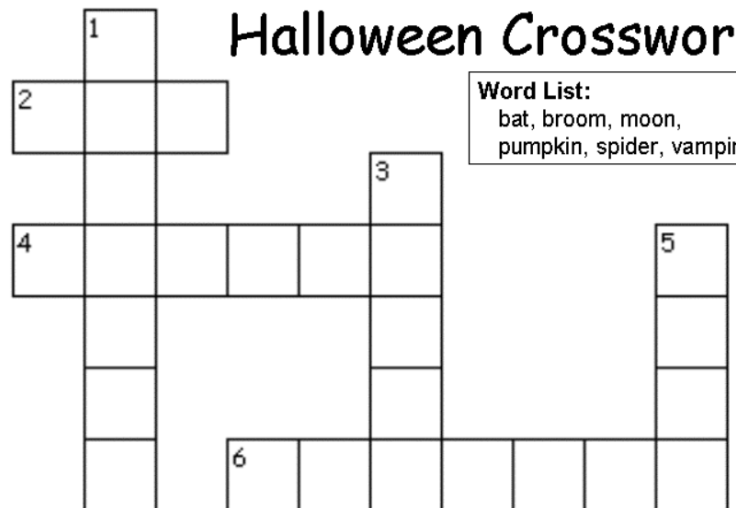


Hot Chocolate Grid Drawing

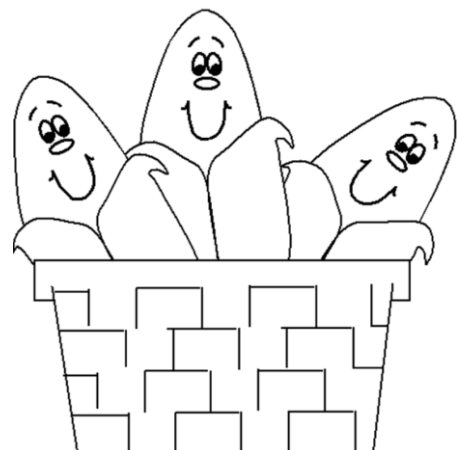
Let's have some hot chocolate fun! Copy what you see in the grid containing the image to the empty grid below, concentrating on one square at a time!



Halloween Crossword



Word List:
bat, broom, moon, pumpkin, spider, vampire



October 2026 Adverts

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.

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.

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. Please 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.

COUNTRY HOME HEATING Oftec & Gas safe® heating engineers, oil, gas & Lpg servicing breakdown & installation throughout the villages. Please call us on 01493 749010 or 07899 014797.

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.

GARDENER: weeding, pruning, planting etc. Please contact Rosie for availability 07584 345320.

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

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

RIVER OF BEAUTY at Womack Staithe, Ludham. For beauty, massage, skin care products and holistic treatment. Please contact Carrie on 07938 016363.

DEE'S PERSONAL SUPPORT– personal care, social support, shopping & cleaning. For more information contact Denise on 07969 636826 or dee4addy@gmail.com.

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.

CHIMNEY SWEEP Mike Wicks & Son. Fully insured. Certificate issued. Please call either 01692 536592 or 01603 387400

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.

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.

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.

GARDENER lawn cutting service and general garden maintenance. Please contact Lenny on 07771 363702. Locally based.

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 at simons.kitchens1990@gmail.com or on 07368 982830.

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.

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

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.

LANCE BUCKINGHAM CARPENTRY all building work undertaken, incl kitchen fitting, extensions, roofing, fencing, cart sheds, hanging doors & bespoke carpentry, decking & maintenance. 01603 720229/07795 210522, lance@lb-carpentry.co.uk.

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

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 Keith on either 01692 402747 or 07975 620630. See also website www.kcwastewater.co.uk.

LOGS FOR SALE barn stored, seasoned firewood, delivered locally. £185 a full load, £95 a half load. Please contact Jamie on 07747 450776 or jamienickerson@live.co.uk.

MICHELLE STEPHENS DECORATING (MDEC) for flawless interior & exterior decorating, expert wall-papering, & premium finishes. Quality craftsmanship, attention to detail, and a clean, professional service every time. Visit www.mdec.me or call 07866726178.

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

OLD MILL GARAGE 01692 536926

All contributions are welcome to The NIB: please note the Team reserves the right to amend or omit items. As the magazine runs from 1st of the month, 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 submits articles or adverts, 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.
- 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

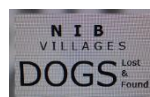
Barton Turf -

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



Dogs – and Cats - Lost and Found

We have expanded the group to include cats too! If you would like to be included in this Whatsapp group which aims to reunite lost dogs, or cats, with their owners, please let me know.

Sue Clayton, Editor 07850 436211
nibeditor1@gmail.com

Magazine Team for February 2026 – December 2026

News & dates: Christine Breden (Editor) - 07510 224490 - nibeditor1@gmail.com

Dates: Sue Clayton (Deputy Editor) - nibdeputyeditor1@gmail.com

Adverts: Sue Clayton (Manager) - 07850 436211 - nibadverts@gmail.com

NIB Postals: Jane King (Deputy Manager) - 01692 630002 - janeelizabethking@hotmail.com

NIB Kids: Georgina Grocott - 07900 411103 - nibskids12@gmail.com

NIB Treasurer: Mandy Parks - 07547 697010 - nibfinancials@gmail.com

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

DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EDITION – 14th October 2026

Diary dates for October 2026

Sat	3 rd	10am-2pm	Broad Arts exhibition of local arts and crafts in NVH
Sat	3 rd	7pm	"Call my Quaff", an evening of wine and fun, NVH
Mon	5 th	7 for 7.30pm	Village Show, NVH, Midwinter Break
Tues	6 th	9.30am	Barton Truf Church working party
Wed	7 th	10.10am 11.15am	Mobile Library: Pitt Corner, Neatishead NR12 8BT Mobile Library: Council Houses, Ashmanhaugh NR12 8YL
Thurs	8 th	10am	Friends & Neighbours, Keeping Fit the Easy Way talk, NVH
Sat	10 th	9am-noon	Community Market and Café, NVH
Mon	12 th	1.15pm	Horning Flower Club AGM and meeting (2pm), Horning Village Hall
Wed	14th	NOTE	Deadline for the November NIB Edition: Wednesday 14th October
Wed	14 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
Wed	14 ^h	7-9pm	Knit and Stitch, Dolly Newcombe Community Room, NVH
Wed	14 th	8pm	Quiz Night at White Horse Pub, Neatishead – Supporting Happisburgh Lifeboats
Sat	17 th	10-noon	Barton Turf Church Coffee morning
Mon	19 th	7.30pm	Garden Club, NVH – East Anglian Houses of Influence
Tue	20 th	2pm	u3a "Dark Skies: what is out there?", Horning Village Hall
Wed	21 st	2pm	WI, NVH
Thurs	22 nd	10am	Friends & Neighbours, Beetle Drive, NVH
Tues	27 th	7.30pm	NIBCHG – AGM followed by Videos of Life in our Villages, NVH
Wed	28 th	7-9pm	Knit and Stitch, Dolly Newcombe Community Room, NVH
Sat	31 st	10-11.30am	Hope Café: Neatishead Baptist Church Chapel Road NR12 8YF

Future Dates and Events - see future NIBS for further details of these events:

Monday 2nd November – Village Screen: Savage House, NVH

Friday 6th November – Quiz Night, NVH

Tuesday 17th November – u3a Radar & WW2 – Ian Dormer

Monday 23rd November - WW2 RAF Aerial Reconnaissance

Monday 30th November – Post Boxes in shop and NVH for Christmas cards (see page 6)

Monday 7th December – Village Screen: The Christophers, NVH

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:07551 008065. Online ticket sales for events and cinema, order these via Red Box 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, thewhitehorseinnneatishead.com
- Wroxham Library: 01603 782560; <https://www.facebook.com/WroxhamLibraryNorfolk/> Weekdays 10am-7pm, Saturday 10-4pm. Many exciting and interactive things to do. Groups for all ages- not just reading! See Facebook for full details: many interesting things to do and join.

Parish Council Clerks:

Barton & Irstead: Nicola Ledain, bartonturfirsteadpc@yahoo.com Meet monthly 3rd Thurs 7.30pm NVH.

Neatishead: Melanie Eversfield clerk@neatisheadpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Benefice of St Benedict - Church Services – October 2026

Sunday 4th October: Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

- 9.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church, Neatishead

Sunday 11th October: Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

- 9.30am Holy Communion (Harvest Festival) at St Swithin's, Ashmanhaugh

Sunday 18th October: Luke the Evangelist

- 8.00am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer at St Michael's, Irstead
- 11am 5 Holy Communion (Harvest Festival) St Benedict's Church, Horning

Sunday 25th October: Last Sunday of Trinity

- 11am Holy Communion at St Michael and All Angels's Church, Barton Turf

Weekday Morning Prayer Services in our Benefice church at 9.15am

Thursday: Barton Turf

Parish Church Contacts

Neatishead - Pauline Simpson on 01692 630674

Barton Turf - Barbara Pilcher on 01692 536132

Ashmanhaugh – Anne Mulhall at anne.mulhall1@btinternet.com

Horning - Christine Hewitt at christine.hewitt@hotmail.co.uk

Irstead - Pauline Simpson on 07818 599303



St Peter's Bell before restoration

Neatishead Baptist Church - Chapel Road, Neatishead, NR12 8YF

Sun 4 th Oct	10.30am	Harvest – Communion Marc Grimston	Sun 18 th Oct	10.30am	Rev'd Neville Khambatta
Fri 9 th Oct	10am	David Osbourne - Communion	Sun 25 th Oct	10.30am	Dedication Val Khambatta
Sun 11 th Oct	10.30am	Helen Vinter	Sat 31 st Oct	10am	Hope Café
Mon 12 th Oct	2pm	Fellowship Meeting			

Hope Café meets for coffee, games, etc - 10am to 11.30am on the last Saturday of the month.
Everyone is welcome for a bit of fun and fellowship.

Fellowship Meetings 2.00 pm

Prayer Meeting 10am in church.

Please contact the Secretary for more details.

Secretary: Sue Gibbons secretary@neatisheadbaptistchurch.org.uk

