

The NIB

Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf Parish Magazine



THE BENEFICE OF St BENEDICT

The Parishes of Ashmanhaugh, Barton Turf, Beeston St Lawrence, Horning, Irstead and Neatishead

Rector: The Rev'd David Smith

01692 630216

draesmith2@btinternet.com

From your Parish Priest

We are constantly being told that the current COVID-19 situation is 'unprecedented'; that we live in 'unprecedented times'. In some cases this seems to be used as an explanation for actions or measures which might be 'unthinkable' in 'normal' times, or in other cases an excuse for not being able to solve the issues and get us all back to 'normal'. If we only stop to think for a few moments about the changes many of us have seen in just our own lifetime, we may perhaps conclude that we are always living in 'unprecedented times, and begin to understand that, for us humans, that is in fact 'normal'.

Back in the 1960's, the puppets in the TV series 'Thunderbirds' all had wrist watches on which operated as video links through which they could talk to each other. Pure science fiction, of course, because at the same time, the BBC used to broadcast 'Forces Family Favourites' as a way of people keeping in touch with their family members serving in our armed forces in the far corners of the globe. Even then, the radio links were variable and 'iffy' to say the least. Instead, we now have 'unprecedented' access to personal communications, with the number of mobile phones world-wide measured in billions, and yes, video phones on your wrist if you can afford it!. We have commercial aircraft capable of reaching anywhere on the planet, without stopping and refuelling, and where the endurance of the aircraft is probably greater than the endurance of the crew and the passengers! All this, and lots of other technological advances, are widespread, new to humanity, -- and are completely 'unprecedented'! Previous generations have never seen their like, and we can only imagine the life that the generations who come after us will experience.

Given this 'unprecedented' rate of change (which is actually the new normal, if we're honest), it's sometimes comforting to seek apparently stable fixed points, that may give us a better sense of security and permanence, if not so much for ourselves individually, as for humanity as a whole. Many of our churches stood for hundreds of years - some for over a thousand – and the churches and their communities are still here, despite wars, plagues, famines, persecutions, recessions, etc. And in these so-called 'unprecedented times', faith is still here. Christianity is still here, with its permanence, and yet its adaptability to remain fresh, to embrace all these new developments. Admittedly, that may not always seem to be the case, but we should nevertheless strive to make it so, to keep adapting, to keep up, to keep going, and to accept the 'unprecedented' as being intrinsic to Christianity and to humanity.

With every blessing,

David

From the NIB Parish Churchwardens

Sadly, under current government Covid restrictions, our churches must remain closed for the foreseeable future. Under recent Government proposals for the gradual release of these restrictions, those relating to places of worship could possibly be relaxed in July, although in what respect is not currently known. We remain grateful to our Rector who continues to provide a weekly videoed Sunday act of worship, which can be found on the following parish websites:

Barton Turf - www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8026/

Irstead - www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4739/

Neatishead - www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8029/

Meanwhile, we as your churchwardens remain available to offer such help and support as might be required in these difficult and troubling times on the following telephone numbers or email addresses:

Barton Turf - Barbara Pilcher 536132, barbara.pilcher@btinternet.com

Irstead - David Murrells 631427, davidandgail21@btinternet.com

Neatishead - Pauline Simpson 07818 599303, pauline761@btinternet.com

Barton Turf and Irstead Pools Trust – Corona Virus Pandemic

In these difficult and troubling times the Trustee of the Barton Turf and Irstead Pools Trust would like to remind parishioners of the trust's existence and the availability of funds for those in our parishes who are in need of financial support during the current pandemic. Do you know anyone who has a genuine need of help at this time, the elderly, the sick, the unemployed or others? If you know of anyone, or feel that you personally might have such a need, then please contact the Secretary to the Trustees, Chris Dockerty, on 631102 or any of the trustees. All information provided will be treated in strictest confidence.

Gail Murrells

White House Stores Community Shop

'What a wonderful shop!' I have heard many people say and indeed it is. During these troubled times the shop has been open every day, despite the growing number of restrictions that have arisen. Sadly many of the volunteers fall into the vulnerable category, making them unable to work in the shop, but the managers and remaining volunteers, as well as the members of the Management Committee, have done sterling stuff and have dealt admirably with any problems caused by the situation. Of course, without its customers the shop could not carry on. Luckily there are many loyal customers as well as new customers now unable to go further afield because of the lockdown. It is anticipated that the tourist industry will be badly hit this year, which may ultimately have a knock-on effect on the shop. Please continue to use the shop and encourage everyone else to do so. The villages are so lucky to have this wonderful facility - please help to make sure that we don't lose it.

Liz Powell

Gardening Club and Village Show

Despite the ongoing uncertainty with regard to the lifting of lockdown procedures, we still aim to have the Village Show schedules ready by the beginning of June with a view to the show taking place on the first Saturday in September in one form or another! We will email Gardening Club members copies of the schedule. Anyone else wanting a copy please contact me either by phone or email (janeelizabethking@hotmail.com) and I will ensure that you receive a schedule. Have a productive June and enjoy the great outdoors!

Jane King, 630002

Neatishead White Horse Bowls Club – Three Hammer Common

The date of writing is 11th May 2020. During these past few weeks, the bowls club green has been monitored to abide by the confines of the government rules. All the best to our members who are recipients of the NIB and thanks to everyone who has been helping to keep this splendid village going.

Cathy Smith, 630602 or 07810 586551, smithcomptoncroft@btinternet.com

New Victory Hall

At the time of writing, the hall continues to be closed due to the Covid-19 situation. Trustees are watching government advice carefully and will reopen the hall when we are advised it is safe to do so. It would seem that it is likely to be a gradual return with some activities that can follow social distancing being possible before others. The earliest anything is likely to be possible will be July so I hope to give more information next month. As many NVH activities involve people gathering in quite large numbers, it is going to be some time before the hall returns to full normal use.

The trustees continued with arrangements for the 'sand and seal' maintenance to the main hall floor and an excellent result has been obtained, so if you are on a walk, please do have a look through the windows at the back of the hall to see for yourself. The lockdown is having a financial affect on the hall, due to loss of hire income but a rate support grant has been received and, with the reduction in some operating costs, the situation is sustainable. I would like to thank all the trustees for their on-going work in looking after the hall in these circumstances.

I look forward to seeing you all back at the NVH when this is possible but in the meantime, please take care to stay safe and well.

Doreen Dean

Neatishead Parish Council Report

A much reduced short meeting of Neatishead Parish Council was held on Tuesday 19th March. Unfortunately this report missed the last online edition of the NIB. David Church having stood down as chairman, Caro How was duly elected chair and Nicholas Fowle vice chair. David was thanked for his outstanding contribution as chairman and councillors were pleased to note that he will continue to be a councillor. Matters under discussion included brief reports on the Hoveton housing situation and local planning and a planning appeal were duly noted and discussed. The subject of improving the water taps at the staithe including upgrading the hose was also raised and the council will be provided with estimates for this work before seeking agreement to go ahead with the work. The main subject of the evening was the council's response to the Covid-19 virus and the impact on the council's work.

All meetings have been suspended until government approval is given to reconvene. Matters arising in the meantime will be dealt with via email. This council, along with our neighbouring councils are working closely together to respond to this situation as it develops as will have been noted in the very helpful pamphlet distributed with the April NIB. Please refer to the noticeboards or the parish council web site for the full minutes of this meeting. Date of next meeting to be advised, however the councillors hope to arrange a conference call via Zoom in the near future to discuss matters that have arisen since their last meeting such as highways issues, planning, finances and postponed events. The council wishes to thank all of you who have helped in whatever way during this pandemic. We are so fortunate to live in an area where the community spirit is alive and kicking!

Charlotte Hummel, Parish Clerk and RFO to Neatishead Parish Council, 01493 718128

Women's Institute

Although still in lockdown, some of our members, if not reading War & Peace again, tackling a tapestry that was started earlier in this decade or the one before, or sorting out all those photos taken when the Box Brownie was a new invention, have been busy making scrubs for the NHS, laundry bags, hats or masks. The WI Federation Office in Norwich has been sending us newsletters and other notifications, including information about all those dreaded scams – where it is so easy to answer THAT call or press THAT computer link and the fraudsters have got in to ruin lives – so please be warned. Continue to keep safe, well and cheerful.

Monica Riley, 630336

Neatishead, Irstead & Barton Turf Community Heritage Group

The VE Day 75 Anniversary on 8th May was not how we quite hoped it was going to be. I should like to thank those who were going to work with us for the celebration weekend and hope that we can arrange a WW2 event at some time in the future. Meanwhile it was good to see bunting and union jacks flying in Neatishead village and a few decorated houses in the villages. I know some enjoyed afternoon tea social distancing with their neighbours. In Irstead the flags were flying as we celebrated the day cheering our adopted Irstead WW2 veteran, Brian 96 years, who, inspired by Captain Tom, challenged himself to walk 10 miles in a month, which equated to 70 laps of his daughter's garden, to raise money for the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital - total to date of over £3000, a fantastic achievement for Brian who suffers with a chronic lung disease. Captain Tom, who has now been given a knighthood, has certainly been an inspiration for many to do wonderful things for their community - "Go Brian Go".

Moving away from WW2 and looking at other events in our villages' history, Michael has been researching Lord Nelson and his links with Barton Hall. There is a popular story supported by a strong local tradition that Nelson the schoolboy learnt to sail on Barton broad. However, for this to be true then it must have happened some years before his sister came to live at Barton Hall in 1787. Robert Hewitt is reputed to have taught the youth to sail, although other accounts suggest that he merely rowed Nelson across the broad. The story was told by Robert Hewitt many times before he died in 1838 aged 80; he was born in the same year as Nelson in 1758. The young Horatio was a pupil at Paston Grammar School, North Walsham, which is close to the Broads, but Nelson himself makes no mention of any boating expeditions before he joined the Royal Navy in 1771 at the age of 12.

We look forward to welcoming you back to our meetings in the not too distant future.

Claire Penstone-Smith and Michael Brandon-Jones

Knit and Stitch

Our group are keeping themselves busy and creative with various individual projects as well as helping others. After the call went out to help make scrubs for the NHS, Mandy signed up and has made over 20 sets, some of which have gone to our local Hoveton & Wroxham Surgery. Monica has been busy too making laundry bags for the NHS. This has been a national campaign with groups organising sewers locally. You may have seen the article in the EDP on 21st April.

Meanwhile, locally, you will see an article in the NIB about the Village Show which we hope will take place in September. We have been working with the Gardening Club to extend the Handicraft section so we very much hope to see a wider range of exhibits this year - remember you don't have to be a member of the Gardening Club or Knit & Stitch - it is open to everyone.

Looking even further ahead, last month I wrote about the alternative Christmas Tree we would like to create - we will need lots of squares, so please keep knitting or crocheting - any colour, any wool - just make sure they are 6" square. If you would like a supply of wool, please get in touch. We hope to be able to get together soon.

Claire Penstone-Smith, 630580, claireps@btinternet.com

Free exercise telephone support for vulnerable adults

Active Norfolk wants to ensure that vulnerable and digitally isolated residents are supported to be physically active. A free call-back service is now available through the Norfolk County Council Customer Service line. People who are vulnerable and without access to the internet can call 0344 800 8020, select Option 5 and speak to someone to request a call back from Active Norfolk. A qualified physical activity instructor will call them back free of charge and give tailored one-to-one guidance on how they can safely exercise at home.

Diane Bradley, Parish Clerk to Barton Turf & Irstead Parish Council

Wildlife Notes

Continuing on my theme of trying to look at the positive side of the current lockdown situation for wildlife I'm sure that those of you who have been taking exercise walks around our country lanes cannot help but have noticed the wild flowers on the roadside verges. Instead of being mown they have been left to flourish and I have enjoyed the vivid blues of the Germander Speedwell, Bluebell, Self Heal and Ground Ivy as well as the green/yellow flowers of the Alexanders. The Alexanders are wonderful flowers for insects but who would have known that the tiny Germander Speedwell has a species of mining bee associated with it, namely the Red-girdled mining bee which has a red abdomen surrounded at the base and tip with black and is said to be quite scarce in Norfolk. The wildlife has carried on as normal and my garden blue tits have utilised my camera nest box again so I have watched with interest as their daily dramas have continued. The first two eggs were laid on April 9th and by the 12th there were seven finally ending with eight by the 15th. This was quite similar to 2019 when they had laid ten by the 14th April. The first chick hatched on the 25th at lunchtime and by tea time there were three. Being at home more, meant that I was actually able to watch the eggs hatch out on my TV screen instead of missing it because of being out at work, another lockdown positive. The remaining five eggs hatched over the next twenty four hours but this coincided with the only wet period of April and our adult birds struggled to find food for a short period of time resulting in the loss of three chicks. As I write this on the 12th May the five surviving chicks are nearly fully grown with feathers on their wings and starting to look like miniature blue tits so I expect them to be leaving the nest box in the next four or five days. It has been calculated that the parents collect between 600 – 1000 caterpillars every day meaning that the brood receives somewhere in the region of 15,000 before they fledge. Swifts have returned to our villages and some of you will be lucky enough to have them nesting under your pantiles. The RSPB are doing a survey on nesting swifts so please go online and report them or let me know so I can do it for you.

Jerry Simpson, 630674, simpsonj24@btinternet.com

Music Study Days (sponsored by the Horning Boat Show)

We were ready and eager to begin our 2020 study days with 'Byrd to Britten – 400 years of choral music' on Tuesday 17th March. Preparation had been completed and food purchased, but as we were loading the car we heard the news that we were all to 'stay at home, keep safe and protect the NHS'. Disappointed, but completely understanding the situation, we complied and settled down to enjoy all the food we had just bought! We were keen to begin this new series of study days, especially as there had been so much interest and 25 students were enrolled. Not wishing to lose the momentum, and with the aid of YouTube, have been sharing music memories, funny and amusing songs and generally keeping our spirits up. We are hoping that we shall be able to start the study days before the end of the year, but if not, so be it. We would rather we all kept safe and well. There will be other opportunities and we shall publicise details once we are clear about the future. If you would like to join our music emailing group then please contact us on thea_medlockboshier@yahoo.co.uk. Meanwhile 'When you walk through a storm, hold your head up high.' Best wishes.

Thea and Peter Boshier

Valerie Ryall

I would like to thank all the kind folk who have sent their kind wishes and condolences following the death of Valerie on 26th March.

She bore increasing medical and mobility problems with great fortitude and no complaints for several years, and gave me 17 very happy years.

My thanks to everyone for their good wishes and offers of assistance. Fortunately she was not suffering from Covid-19, so I was not in isolation. There will be a memorial service later in the year.

Paul Ryall

Hoveton and Wroxham Medical Centre: extended hours 7am to 8am to see prescribing clinicians and nurses. For more information visit www.hovetonandwroxhammedicalcentre.nhs.net

Community Transport: Dial-a- Ride 01692 500840 for shopping journeys
For NORFOLK SWIFT RESPONSE SERVICE call 03448008020

ADVERTISEMENTS for JUNE 2020

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YOGA CLASSES with Clare Badham at New Victory Hall, Neatishead, Wednesdays 6.10pm to 7.40pm Please call me on 01692 598022. www.yogabreeze.co.uk One to one also available in your own home.

STEVEN LUXFORD – Experienced local decorator. Please call 01493 732138 for a free quote.

THE MOWER DOCTOR garden machinery, service and repairs. Extremely competitive prices with no VAT. Free collection and drop off service. Broadland based. Please call 01603 291927 or 07790 530015

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DOMESTIC OIL BOILER SERVICING. Heating requirements, pipe work, oil tank installation and power flushing. For more information please call Charles Brown on 01603 781888

GARDENING SERVICES including lawn mowing, hedge cutting, digging, weeding, fencing, decking, patios etc. Friendly, reliable service. For free estimate call Paul on 01692 535316 or 07826857728

HANDYMAN: local handyman for all your DIY needs, inside and outside. Please call Shane 07834915732

GARDEN BIRD DIRECT bird feed in sizes from 2kg to 20kg. Free delivery. Call Rosa on 01493 740288

BG OIL BOILER SERVICES Registered heating engineer. Servicing, repairs, new boilers and tank replacements. Please call Brian Greenwood on 07947817767, or evenings on 01692 535552

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GLEAMING GUTTERS: gutters, conservatory and patio cleaning. Fascia barge and all plastics washed. Specialising in hard to reach gutters.lennysmith_036@yahoo.com **01603 782112** or mobile **07771363702**

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COLIN the PLUMBER: oil, gas, and electric boilers and oil tanks. All types of plumbing services. Please call Colin on 01692 670657 or 07990650331

YOUR FRIENDLY LOCAL ELECTRICIAN Glen Rogers Electrical. From an electric shower to a garden light. Give us a ring on 01692 538515

LOCAL GARDENER - weeding, pruning and hedges. Please ring or text Joe on 07902076352

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DAVID WRIGHT Painting and decorating. Established since 1997. Horning based. Call 01692 631366

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C & B GARDEN SERVICES - Garden maintenance, Pressure washing, (patios, paths etc) Pest Control,
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COMPUTERS: problem solving and tuition. Call Jamie Nickerson 01692 630553 jamie@burntfn.plus.com

YE OLDE SADDLERY: BBQ & PIZZA takeaways Thurs & Fri 5.30-8pm. Also ready meals 07810874603

LARGE TIMESHARE SWIMMING POOL IN BARTON Unique conversion of barns into 16½ metre pool.
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GRASS CUTTING – commercial and domestic enquiries welcome. Please call Stephen on 01692 631468

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Contact: Yvonne Kendrick 01692 630261 for Bank Transfer details.
email yonny.kendrick@googlemail.com with your advert.
School House, School Road, Neatishead NR12 8XW

Future Dates

5th September Village Show, NVH - **TO BE CONFIRMED**

New Victory Hall bookings: by email bookings@victoryhall.info or call 07551 008065

Mobile Library

All Mobile Library Services **are suspended until further notice**. Existing loans will be automatically renewed. All libraries are closed until further notice.

Parish Council Clerks

Ashmanhaugh	Clare Male 07803 705434	Barton/ Irstead	Diane Bradley 07867 422925
Horning	Jo Beardshaw 01692 670787	Neatishead	Charlotte Hummel 01493 718128

PLEASE NOTE: All church services in the Benefice have been suspended until further notice.

Church Wardens:

Neatishead	Pauline Simpson 01692 630674
Irstead	David Murrells 01692 631427
Barton Turf	Barbara Pilcher 01692 536132

Neatishead Baptist Church: All services have been cancelled until further notice.
Pastor, Ian Bloomfield pastor@neatisheadbaptist.org.uk
Sue Gibbons, Church Secretary, 01603 738893 secretary@neatisheadbaptist.org.uk

BartonTurf Methodist Church: Services suspended until further notice.
www.northnorfolkmethodist.org.uk/bartonturf, Rev Sharon Willimott, Superintendent, 01692 218657

Wroxham & Hoveton United Reformed Church: All services suspended until further notice. We are producing a Sunday service each week on line at 10am. Please go to <http://devotions.urc.org.uk> to listen to this. More local services produced by the Norwich URC team can be found at <https://ipswichroadurc.org.uk>. The community café is also cancelled and our JAM (children's church) will not be held. Children can access Sunday school themed activities via Facebook. The foodbank has moved to a delivery-only service and still needs your donations. God bless you all at this difficult time.

Lynne Howard 01603 738835, lmhoward100@btinternet.com

Contributions welcome to The NIB, but please note the NIB team reserves the right to amend or omit items, we also start the magazine from the 1st of the month, and 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 errors. Everybody who sends in articles, including advertisers, automatically consents to having their details published on the internet, unless they specifically request otherwise, in which case we will endeavour to omit details before uploading onto the churches' websites.

Magazine Team March 2020 to February 2021

NEWS and DATES to:	Sophia Hale-Sutton (Editor)	01692 631175	nibeditor1@gmail.com
NEWS and DATES to:	Alan Smith (Deputy Editor)	01692 535164	nibdeputyeditor1@gmail.com
ADVERTS to:	Yvonne Kendrick (Manager)	01692 630261	yonny.kendrick@googlemail.com
NIB POSTALS:	Jane King	01692 630002	janeelizabethking@hotmail.com

FOR THE JULY EDITION - DEADLINE 14th JUNE