

THE NAB



NEATISHEAD • IRSTEAD • BARTON TURF PARISH MAGAZINE

THE BENEFICE OF ST BENEDICT

What does it require to live a good life?

The Church has recently commenced the holy season of Lent. Christians since the earliest times have used the weeks leading up to Easter (40 days or 46 days if you include Sundays) as a time to draw closer to God by increasing their prayers, undertaking study, and committing more time to spiritual reading. Christians also use the Lenten season as a time for fasting and self-denial.

Fasting and self-denial are not overly popular activities to undertake in our modern world. Our society is heavily influenced by consumerism and materialism and we are all constantly encouraged in adverts to buy more things and to consume to excessive levels. We have all seen the adverts, whether it might be for a new car, a luxury holiday, or a new sofa. Yet in all of these different adverts the actors always look incredibly happy, the message is clear: buy this item and your life will suddenly be great and you will be really happy.

I recently read a wonderful book by the Irish author, Mark Boyle - *The Way Home, Tales from a Life Without Technology*. The author has spent the last ten years living in the countryside without any sort of modern technology. Mark Boyle has no smartphone, no computer, no TV.

He wrote his book the old-fashioned way - pen and paper! The author spends his time living off the land and helping his local community. The book is a joy to read and the author is incredibly happy and content; he is living a good life. He does not need any of those things that the adverts constantly tell us that we do need to be happy.

During the season of Lent Jesus calls us to reject the false message of consumerism and instead, to remember what is really needed to live a good life. To live a good life is not about buying lots of things, nor is it about eating and drinking excessively. To live a good life is about serving, caring and loving others. We only receive true joy and happiness by generously helping our neighbours and supporting our community.

'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Mark 8.34-36.

Praised be Christ,

Revd Ben



St Michael and All Angels', Barton Turf

Thank you to those who came to the coffee morning last month, luckily the weather was warmer. Another £100 was raised. We are very grateful to all who attend as last year we raised over £1,100, a magnificent total.

March is going to be a busy month. Church cleaning will take place on **Friday and Saturday, the 8th and 9th** of the month in the morning. Dust raising on Friday, polishing on Saturday. Refreshments available but please bring your own dusters etc. The more people who turn up the smaller the task!

The **10th March** is Mothering Sunday, when we will be handing out posies to all the congregation. If anyone could give a hand to make the posies up please get in touch. The March coffee morning will be on the 16th from 10am until noon as usual. We are always happy to sell homemade goodies on the produce stall, so any contributions are gratefully received.

Palm Sunday will be written about elsewhere in the magazine, just to say that everyone is welcome on the walk and at the service. The Easter Sunday service will be at 11am and will be followed by the usual Easter Egg hunt for the children.

May I wish you all a Happy Easter.

Barbara Pilcher, Churchwarden

Barton and Irstead Church Fete preparation

The Barton and Irstead Church Fete will be held on June 1st this year in the grounds of Barton Hall, by kind permission of Mr Robert Peel.

There will be a fete helpers meeting in Barton Church on **Tuesday 12th March** at 10.30am. Please do come if you are able to help in any way, even if you have not been before. The fete requires a lot of help to make it the success that it is so we would be grateful for fresh ideas and offers of assistance. Refreshments will be provided for the meeting. Looking forward to seeing you.

Barbara Pilcher, Churchwarden

St Peter's, Neatishead

St Peter's Church Schoolroom requires some bright curtains as it is transformed into a venue for our new Sunday Club. Does anyone have any brightly coloured material in their craft box, or curtains no longer used that can brighten up the schoolroom to make it welcoming and cheerful for children and young people?

If we can obtain a suitable fabric, do you have the necessary skills to make the curtains on our behalf? Our PCC members would be very grateful for your help. Please contact me for further details.

Pauline Simpson, Churchwarden 07818 599303

Tulips in Neatishead

Saturday 27th April

Hopefully the mice will not have consumed all the tulip bulbs planted by Fran and Louis in their wonderful Neatishead Hall Garden, or those we planted in our garden! All being well, they'll be in full bloom on **Saturday 27th April** for you to visit. This event, in support of St Peter's Church will also have plants for sale, a cake stall, raffle and light refreshments. Further information in the April NIB.

Nick & Jane Fowle
01692 630249

St Michael's, Irstead

Lent and Easter at St Michael's, Irstead

Mothering Sunday this year is on **Sunday 10th March** when our Holy Communion Service (BCP), with posies, will be at 8 am. We then look forward to welcoming you to St Michael's during Holy Week and at Easter for our **Good Friday, 29th March**, Stations of the Cross service at 7pm. On **Easter Sunday, 31st March**, our Easter Holy Communion service is at 9.30am.

David Murrells, Churchwarden



St. Michael's Church, Irstead

Re-riding Appeal

Save the Dates

Saturday 15th June

Open Garden

Grove House Irstead 2-5pm

Wednesday 4th September

Talk by Mick Aldred, thatcher

St Michael's Church, 5.30-7pm

Full Details to follow

Easter Altar Lilies

As in previous years, we will be decorating our churches with altar lilies at Easter. If you would like to make a donation towards their cost in memory of a loved one then could you please contact Barbara on 01692 536132 for Barton, Gail on 01692 631427 for Irstead and Jane on 01692 630249 for Neatishead by 18th March. Thank you.
Gail Murrells



Thank you to everyone who has so generously made a donation to the NIB. Your donations and the income generated from adverts allow us to continue to print the NIB and make it available to every household in our villages. So, thank you, we really do appreciate your support.

If you would still like to donate, please either drop cash or cheque into the White House Stores or send a bank transfer to the NIB business account:

Account name: The NIB
Bank sort code: 20-99-21
Account: 70660744

A few of us from your NIB team will be at the Easter Fair at the New Victory Hall on **Saturday 23rd March** where we hope to have on display a selection of NIBs going back over the past 48 years. We look forward to seeing you there and we welcome your feedback and ideas.

Mandy Parks, Treasurer 07547697010
nibfinancials@gmail.com



New Victory Hall Easter Fair
Saturday 23rd March 2024 – 2pm

The New Victory Hall Easter Fair on **Saturday 23rd March** from 2pm includes stalls with Easter themed gifts, cakes, crafts, plants, plus games and competitions.

The WISE Nordic Walkers will be running craft activities for children so there's lots of fun for all. Refreshments, including delicious cakes, will be available. Do pop in and join us. An Easter bunny or two may also come along!

Events Committee

Community Market at The New Victory Hall, Neatishead

March 9th, 9am – 12 Noon

**Come and meet our new stallholders for
2024**

Katie our new cake lady with a fabulous selection of sweet and savoury items.
Ian and Jenny – plants/bird feeders.
Anne – Norfolk Artist plus
Appleton Soap

And all the usual stalls:

Fruit and veg, Infusion teas,

Garden Bird Direct, Crafts



And our Market Café

Delicious Bacon Rolls



All proceeds to New Victory Hall Reg. Charity No.225178

New Victory Hall AGM

The New Victory Hall **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 8pm in the New Victory Hall**. An election will be held for up to five Trustees as part of the proceedings. Nominations from those wishing to stand for election as Trustees and serve on the Management Committee should be sent to Mrs D. Dean, Willow Green, Hall Road, NR12 8AR or by email to doreen.dean@victoryhall.info received no later than 12pm on Wednesday 20th March 2024.

For information about serving as a Trustee, please contact Doreen Dean as above or on 01692 630637. The five elected Trustees and eight Trustees appointed from user groups together with two co-opted members make up the management team.

Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM but only those over 18 years of age and resident in Neatishead, Barton Turf and Irstead may vote on the Resolutions.

Once the AGM business is complete, there is a chance to enjoy some light refreshments. Please do come along.

Doreen Dean

Opportunities for New Activities at New Victory Hall

Although the hall is very popular and busy, a review of booking slots shows some spare capacity which gives opportunities for some new activities to come into the hall.

Currently there is space in the main hall on:

Monday 1-4pm.

Wednesday 1- 6pm except 3rd Wednesday in the month and 8pm -11pm every week.

Thursday 9am - 4pm on 1st and 3rd week of the month, 1 pm - 4pm on 2nd and 4th week of the month.

Friday 1pm - 4pm and from 7pm onwards.

Weekends - Subject to advance bookings for social events, there is reasonable availability.

The Dolly Newcombe Community Room also has space most days.

If you or a group that you are involved in might be interested in using the hall, please contact me. Also let me know if there is any particular activity you would like to see at the hall. Your ideas and suggestions are very welcome.

Doreen Dean, doreen.dean@victoryhall.info
01692 630637



Knit & Stitch

What is a 'Twiddlemuff'?



Or a sensory band as they are sometimes called? This is a familiar term for those in the crafting world but may be not for others. It is a knitted or crocheted muff with different textures and items attached to it which those suffering from dementia can fiddle with to keep their hands occupied.

People with dementia often have restless hands and like to have something to keep their hands busy so a 'Twiddlemuff' is a great source of visual, tactile and sensory stimulation, and keeps hands snug and warm at the same time. They are very

easy to make and are an excellent way of using up that left over yarn or 'stash', as we in the crafting world call it, that sits around in bags taking up valuable space at home!

We have copies of patterns but a quick search on the internet will bring up patterns on both knitting groups and hospital websites. Another item I have come across recently is a marble maze - a material item containing a marble to keep restless hands occupied. We will have some of both on our stall at the New Victory Hall Easter Fair on **March 23rd** so we hope to see you there. Meanwhile our meetings this month at the New Victory Hall are on **Wednesdays 13th and 27th March, 7-9pm**. All welcome.

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



Gardening Club

This winter's weather has not been kind to farmers and gardeners, with mud and puddles everywhere. But our spring flowers have not been deterred and have appeared on time to cheer us all up. There should be plenty to pick from for our spring flower show this month. Do see what your garden has and bring a selection along.

The meeting on **18th March** also has our AGM, as well as a tabletop quiz and a supper (£8 per person. Please let the club know by 8th March if you're coming so we know numbers).

We will have a stall promoting the club at the Easter Fair on **23rd March**. If members can bring any gardening related items for sale, this will help our funds.

Then looking to next month and towards summer, we have Sweet Peas as our subject. Such a worthwhile summer flower - so many wonderful colourful and scented varieties that flower for weeks on end. Some of you may have sown yours already, but there's still time!

Wendy Price



Dogs and Cats - Lost and Found

If you'd 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, 07850 436211



Bridge Club

When people first start learning bridge, they often feel a bit out of their depth. It is a game with several elements, each of which requires skill and practice. It's worth the effort though! Bridge is a way of freeing your mind to focus on one thing and forget about "stuff". It's a bit like fly fishing.

The basic idea is to win as many "tricks" as possible for your side. A "trick" is where each player plays a card in turn and the best card wins. The "best" card is either the highest of the suit led, or a "trump". The "trump" suit is decided in an auction at the start of each hand. There are 13 tricks to be won in a game.

The first phase of a game is the auction. The idea is to find the trump suit and number of tricks that a partnership think they can make. Each person makes a bid, starting with the dealer. A bid says what you propose as the trump suit and how many tricks you think your hand is worth. The number of tricks is how many over 6 (roughly half of 13) you think you can make. So a bid of 1 club is saying that you are proposing clubs as the trump suit and you can make 7 tricks (6 + 1).

The suits have a priority of Clubs (lowest), Diamonds, Hearts and Spades (i.e. alphabetical order) followed by No Trumps. The lowest possible bid in an auction is 1 Club and the highest is 7 No Trump (i.e. all 13 tricks with no trump suit). Each bid made must be higher than the previous bid. If you don't want to bid at this stage, you can pass.

The auction ends when there are 3 consecutive passes and the last bid becomes the Contract. So a contract of 4 Spades means that you have to make 10 (6 + 4) tricks with Spades as trumps. Needless to say, the bidding is complicated because you are trying to find the best contract which takes into account your partner's hand. The only way to communicate is through the bidding.

It is even more complicated when the opponents decide that they want to join in the bidding fun as well. Everybody learns a bidding Convention that helps give special meaning to bids. Not everybody plays the same convention...

Because bridge is a competitive game, there are rules of etiquette to ensure no unpleasantness takes place at the table. You refer to your partner as "Partner", even though you may have been married to them for the past 30 years. You never comment on your opponents' bidding or play in a derogatory sense – you always say, "Well done". It is best not to comment on your own partner's bidding or play.

You may catch yourself rolling your eyes towards the heavens or thinking "You did WHAT?!" (It is considered bad form to actually verbalise this). Just think of having tea at Betty's or being in the City Stand at Carrow Road – you get the idea. For more information about either Horning or Neatishead Bridge Clubs contact Jim Fletcher on 07565 507060 – I'm on WhatsApp. If you want to learn Bridge from scratch or need to brush up, contact Matt Jackson on 07845 658131.

Jim Fletcher



Village Screen

Monday 4th March

The Great Escaperer (2023: Cert 12A: 96 min: Drama Romance) is based on the true story of the Royal Navy veteran Bernard Jordan, played by the iconic Michael Caine. In 2014 whilst living in a care home with his wife Irene, brilliantly played by Glenda Jackson (RIP), WW2 veteran Bernie wishes to attend the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings in France. Unfortunately, he misses the deadline to go with the other veterans. Urged on by his wife and despite being 90 years of age, Bernard 'escapes' from his care home and makes the journey to France on his own in order to pay his respects to his fallen comrades.

Heartwarming, touching and funny with wonderful performances by Caine and Jackson plus beautiful scenes of the English South Coast and France, we are sure that this will be a film to remember.

Monday 25th March

Wonka (2023: Cert PG: 116 mins: Fantasy Musical). Based on the extraordinary character at the centre of Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, this film tells the wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today.

Both films will be at the New Victory Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm where coffee/tea/biscuits will be available for a small charge of £1. Tickets are £6 for each film and can be purchased from the White House Stores (cash only please). Advance booking is preferred by calling Christine on 01692 631347. Contactless payment is an option for unreserved tickets on the door.

Village Screen Team



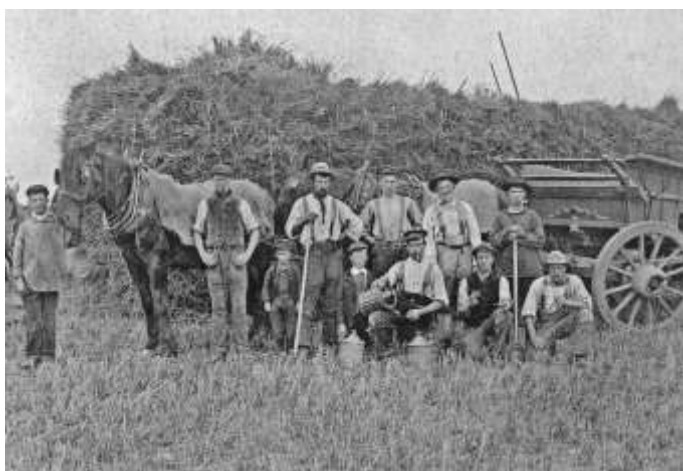
Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf Community Heritage Group

Our next meeting on **Wednesday 6th March** is a presentation by Louis Baugh entitled 'Farming – Past, Present and Future' and takes place at Neatishead School, at 7.30pm. All welcome, NIBCHG Friends free, visitors £3. I have been looking through the NIB Archive for Louis' first 'Farming Notes' which appeared in July 2002 and read as follows:

"The dry period in March and April produced the best conditions for sowing and planting crops in years. A long-established saying is 'sugar beet should meet across the rows by the Norfolk Show' and in some cases this occurred two weeks early. May and early June have been changeable and cool, good for crops, but it has made grass silage making difficult. This is the winter feed for the cows - we were lucky in choosing the two warmest days in mid-May to make ours.

As we write these notes on June 12th we wait the arrival of summer, we usually say summer is here when the spotted flycatcher, our last summer visitor, arrives. We hope it warms up soon as the preparations for the Royal Norfolk Show are in full swing. The show was lost to foot and mouth last year, so we hope to see some of you there this year. Louise and Fran Baugh, Neatishead Hall".

So nearly 22 years later, the weather continues to bring challenges for the farmer and sadly, at the moment, there are no cows at the farm. We look forward to hearing more of the changes and challenges for the farmers of 2024 at Louis' talk on **6th March**. This will also be an opportunity for NIBCHG Friends to renew their membership for the coming year and for new Friends to join.



Harvest time in Irstead

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

FONS Friends of Neatishead School Children's Mental Health Week

The week of 5th February brought us Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. Working alongside the Primary School, FONS members arranged drop-in sessions for the children. It included activities such as mindful colouring, relaxation jars, the Positivitree and many more. It seemed to be a great success and it has been lovely to give something back to the children.

In March, we will be putting on an Easter Party for the school children with Moore Madness coming to entertain. It will be great fun for them all.

Lisa Seager & Kerry Smith



NABS The Golden Years of NABS

2024 has started very well for NABS. After finishing on a high from the Musical Extravaganza, we are in full swing preparing for our celebration for the 50th year of NABS. Join us on **Saturday 4th May** for "The Golden Years of NABS".

We are always in need for those few talented people to keep the gears working backstage, so I am calling out to anyone who fancies learning and having a go at the tech desk with lighting and sound. Please email thenabs74@gmail.com if you are interested.

Finally, I am pleased to say that NABS Juniors is alive and kicking again at school. It is great to see our upcoming stars beginning to develop their talents.

Lisa Seager, NABS Secretary



Neatishead White Horse Bows Club

Our 2024 flyer is enclosed with this copy of the NIB. Have a look at our display in the White House Stores window too.

The Opening Day is **Saturday 13th April**, 1.30pm for 2pm start. As you will see, we are extending our social opening times to allow an evening of entertainment every Wednesday. This starts on **Wednesday 17th April** at 6pm.

We would like to extend an invitation once again to groups. It was really good fun hosting two enjoyable summer evenings. If you would like any details, please contact me.

Chair, Cathy Smith 07810 586551



**White House Stores
Community Shop
Annual Members Meeting 4th
March 5.45pm**

Calling all members, we need you! You can help us out and attend the Village Screen all in one evening!

We hope that you will be able to attend the Annual Members' Meeting on **4th March, 5.45pm** at the New Victory Hall, which is conveniently followed by the showing of the film, "The Great Escaper". If you don't want to stay for the film, you can make your own escape around 6.15pm, back home in time for dinner.

The necessary resolutions are of obvious importance and unless we have a minimum number of members present, a quorum, nothing can be achieved at this important meeting. The agenda will be displayed in the shop window and was emailed to all members recently. If the meeting is not quorate, it will be reconvened on **5th March 2024** at 5.45pm at the New Victory Hall.

A group of our staff, volunteers and committee are having a trip to Norton's Dairy in a few weeks' time. We're looking forward to meeting the cows and will endeavour to include an interesting write-up for you next month. We will also see if we can think of other events we can organise for anyone involved in the shop.

It was a great pleasure to welcome the Lord Lieutenant, Lady Dannatt, to the shop on 8th February. One of our volunteers had spoken to her at a meeting and had told her about our wonderful village community shop. She said that she would love to come for a visit and the date was arranged, despite her busy schedule.



Allison Bradnock & Lady Dannatt

She arrived in time for coffee and was shown round by Allison Bradnock, the manager on the day. She was enthusiastic about the range of products, the warm atmosphere and the sense of community, particularly when she bumped into some old friends!

The Lord Lieutenant is the Sovereign's representative in each county. It is their foremost duty to uphold the dignity of the Crown and in so doing they seek to promote a spirit of co-operation and good atmosphere through the time they give to voluntary and benevolent organisations and through the interest they take in the business and social life of their counties.

Margaret, shop & committee 01692 631549
margaret@whitehousestores.co.uk



Community Gym

If (on a Monday, Wednesday or Sunday morning) you glance through the floor-to-ceiling windows of Neatishead's New Victory Hall, you will see this wonderful space transformed into a fully equipped gym! Gym members of all ages can follow a personalised programme, using a variety of equipment. Attendance has been very lively since the start of 2024, with new members joining and also former 'gymmers' re-committing to fitness goals.

GYM INTERVIEW of the MONTH

In what decade were you born? 1940s

How often do you come to the gym? Three times a week for an hour a time

What are your favourite gym activities? Cross-trainer & bench pressing (30+ kgs!)

What are your fitness goals? To stay flexible and strong in my 80s!

Key fact about Neatishead Gym? It's such a unique village facility.

GUESS the CLOSE-UP!



What piece of gym equipment is this? Find the answer on p15 'Future dates!'

For a free gym trial, email: gym@victoryhall.info or call Gary, our instructor, on 07387 876216. For photos, video and more information: www.neatisheadcommunitygym.com

Joan Dickie

**Raising funds for
Neatishead Community Gym**



Plant & Bake Sale
& coffee morning

Saturday 20th April 10-12pm
New Victory Hall

Donations welcome during Gym Hours

Neatishead Parish Council

At the February meeting Neatishead Parish Council were delighted to welcome a new member, Daniel Moulton, to the team. Councillor Moulton will be a great addition to the council and will be offering some welcome support to the other councillors who have been operating with two vacant seats for some time. There is still a vacancy available and if you are interested in learning more about the role, please do not hesitate to contact the clerk at neatishead.parish@gmail.com.

With the days slowly getting longer and the Easter bank holidays approaching, work is being undertaken to get the staithe ready for visitors. With some general upkeep and new hoses being sourced, the area will soon be ready for boat users to visit and enjoy, especially with the addition of the climbing wall that was installed in the latter part of last year!

The council are eager to find a suitable location for a new defibrillator as the funds to purchase a machine have now been raised. Finding a power supply and fixing point in the desired locations has not been as easy as hoped, but the council are exploring a couple of options and are optimistic of a positive outcome, so watch this space.

Laura Bateman, Parish Clerk

Barton Turf and Irstead Parish Council

We all know that everything has been increasing in price and unfortunately this also affects the cost of running the Parish Council. Increased costs for insurance, wages, contracts, and our legally required website means we have had to take the decision to increase this year's precept from £8,085 to £10,106. This equates to an average increase of approximately 16p per week per household and will allow us to not only meet these costs but also help fund future projects.

You may ask, just what do your Parish Councillors do? Firstly, they give their time for free. In between the public meetings every 6 weeks, they work hard on your behalf. This includes managing contracts, applying for grants, organizing defibrillators, rotating the speed camera locations (in conjunction with Neatishead PC), working with the community to enhance and maintain our villages' public spaces and staithes, collecting monies from the honesty box at Barton Turf Staithe, liaising with County Council highways, reviewing planning applications, and so much more.

We are very proud of our lovely villages with their amazing community spirit and are always available to talk through any concerns a parishioner may have. Together we are looking forward to a positive 2024.

*Glenn Neave, Chairman, Barton Turf and Irstead
Parish Council*



Horning Flower Club

In February, many members enjoyed a workshop run by Charlene, who showed us how to create a simple contemporary spring arrangement. Upcycling and using no floral foam ensured it had the bonus of being eco-friendly. Everyone went away with a beautiful and cheerful arrangement and their spirits lifted. There was no competition. Our meeting on **11th March** will see the return of Crystal Dyball with her theme Junk and Jumble, and members are encouraged to enter the competition 'spring flowers in a piece of junk'.

Anyone interested in joining the club should contact the secretary, Carole Swan, on 01692 536270.

Rachel Clayton



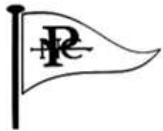
Wildlife Working Party

Many thanks to the amazing volunteers who joined us on Saturday 17th February. We spent a good three hours coppicing a very large hazel in the corner of the common. The hazel was taken back to base level, removed wood cut to manageable sized pieces and transported to the wildlife area. This provides light at ground level, varying the habitat through time to encourage different species to thrive, increasing biodiversity.

The cut back wood has enabled us to build up our wildlife log piles and will be used to build up pathways near Dale and Forge ponds. Fingers crossed the deer don't eat the new hazel shoots as it grows back.

We wouldn't be able to manage the common without help from volunteers. If you want to be on the list of volunteers, then let me know. You don't have to turn up each time. There's a real sense of community, bringing together residents of a wide range of ages from the local area, a bit of hard work and usually a nice cup of tea.

Neil Sanderson nesanderson@yahoo.com
07788 787149



Norfolk Punt Club

Moored in the centre of the NIB's three villages, on a pontoon in the middle of Barton Broad, Norfolk Punt Club is one of the friendliest sailing clubs on the Norfolk Broads.

The Punt Club (NPC) offers sailing in sheltered waters and opportunities for non-sailors to help with activities. The club welcomes all abilities and a wide variety of boats from dinghies to sailing cruisers, at the original home of the amazing Norfolk Punt.

Complementing the terrific sailing programme is an active social scene for both newcomers and life-long members. Don't own a boat and can't sail? Don't worry; we can teach you and lend you a boat too!

Already a member? Be ready to 'hop' into your boat for our first event of 2024: the Barton Bunny! And if you are free, please bring your gardening gear (and wellies?) for a working party, on **2nd March** at 9am to tidy up the dinghy park: more details from Simon Clayton or from the website www.puntclub.co.uk.

The NIB will now have monthly updates of Punt Club news, during the March to October sailing season. Meanwhile you can check out our website for more details of the 2024 season.

Joan Dickie



Wildlife Notes

The main talking point in February was the sightings of large flocks of Starlings at dusk, firstly by residents of Barton Turf and then later by those in Irstead Street. These flocks are known as murmurations and can comprise of many thousands of birds which put on a spectacular show, twisting and turning to form complex shapes, before finally dropping down to roost at a chosen roost site.

I am indebted to Roger Lamb for sending me a superb video clip taken at sunset on the 4th February showing the birds going to roost in some trees on his marsh at Barton Turf and I was fortunate to be able to see the display a few days later joining him at dusk.



Starling – Jon Kelf

The birds flew in from all directions in small groups at just above tree top level before meeting up and forming one much larger flock numbering several thousand birds. Just before roosting they did the most dramatic display turning and twisting into different shapes so that you could hear the swish of the wings from some distance away.

On 12th February I was contacted by Fran Baugh to report that the previous evening there had been a large Starling murmuration at Irstead Street with the birds dropping into the reed beds at How Hill.

Many of these birds will be winter visitors from northern Europe, especially Russia and Scandinavia and in the past the sheer numbers of birds could cause massive problems due to the quantities of droppings produced at the roost sites. Big cities used to attract massive flocks and in London in 1949 the sheer weight of Starlings on the hands of the clock on Big Ben stopped the clock from working.

Starling numbers have declined massively and have reduced by over 60% in the last 25 years. This is noticeable after the winter birds have gone, with only a few breeding birds locally, to the extent that they are quite unusual visitors to my garden.

Whilst starlings may not be everyone's favourite bird, being seen by some as greedy and noisy feeders, they are now red-listed as being of conservation concern.

I love the old Norfolk name for them of "Chimney Snipe" (although I am less fond of the other Norfolk name "wheezer"), and the fact that they can imitate various sounds in addition to the whistles and calls they normally produce.

Mozart was reputed to have kept one in a cage to give him inspiration. Get out and see them while they are still here in early March.



Murmurations – Roger Lamb



Chiffchaff – Jon Kelf

During February we have had a male Goosander and a juvenile Great Northern Diver on Barton Broad though they have both tended to stay at the Barton Turf end of the broad so good sightings have been difficult to obtain.

March will see the return of the first warblers with Chiffchaffs making their distinctive calls towards the end of the month and then followed by Blackcaps. Tune into the dawn chorus as it builds up.

Jerry Simpson 01692 630674
simpsonj24@btinternet.com



Weather Exceptionally mild and very wet February

January - The total rainfall recorded was 63.9mms/2.52in or 116% of average.

Gales swept through the area on the 21st and 23rd and notably on the 28th in Kinlochewe, N.W. Scotland, the highest ever U.K. January temperature was recorded at 19.6°C!

February - The rainfall to date is 89.6mms/3.53in or 224% of average, so extremely wet for what is usually the driest month of the year. The highest total to date is 18.8mms/0.74in on the 18th and this latest deluge has resulted in widespread local flooding once more as already high groundwater levels are recharged. Temperatures have been exceptionally mild throughout, peaking at 17°C on the 15th.

Peter Mills

White House Stores Community Shop
(The Three Villages Community Association Ltd)



Do you love your Community Shop?

Are you a member of your Community Shop? If not, why not?! Maybe you weren't living here when the shop was started, and you didn't know you could be a member to give vital support to your shop. Would you be upset if the shop were to close? If you support the shop by shopping in it, it is clear you value its existence, so the next step is to be one of the nearly 400 and rising members. We need you – we cannot survive through tourists alone!

Community shops such as ours are owned by their members/shareholders, who each have a vote in the way it is run, helping us serve the needs of its members and the wider community. The committee, made up of local people who voluntarily give their time, determines how the shop is managed and if you are really keen, you could ask about being part of our team.

The extent to which you become involved as a member is up to you. You can pay your £10 and do nothing else. That's fine, but of course we would like you to shop with us regularly as a minimum! You can vote at annual meetings (which can usually be done by email or in person), and maybe become more involved. You will receive occasional emails from us to keep you updated on the shop news or annual meetings. If you need more information, please email us at info@whitehousestores.co.uk or ask in the shop.

Application for Membership

I wish to become a member of the White House Stores (Three Villages Community Association Ltd) by purchasing a share for a one-off fee of £10 per person and enclose cash for this amount. I agree to my contact details being used to send me information regarding the shop and Association. I confirm I am over 18.

Name: _____

Address: _____

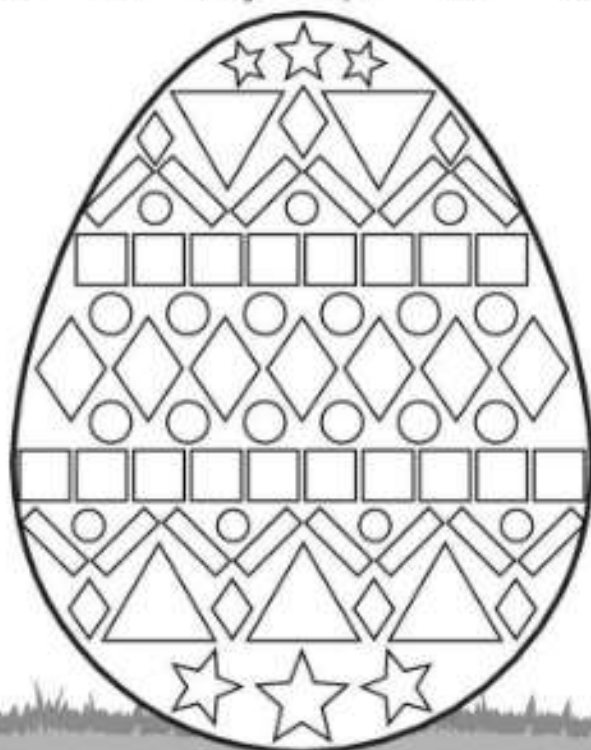
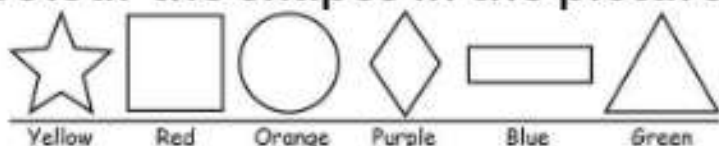
Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Signature: _____

Please return the completed form to the White House Stores Community Shop together with your payment in cash only. Thank you.

Colour the shapes in the picture



Easter Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters B A S K E T

. Don't guess - use logic

		A	T		
	K			S	
B					K
A					B
	T			A	
		S	K		

Easter Word Search



Word list:

BASKET
BOUQUET
BUNNY
CARROTS

CELEBRATION
CHICKS
CHOCOLATE
COTTONTAIL

DYE
EGGS
FIND
FLOWERS

HIDE
HOP
PEEP
RABBIT



*What do rabbits say before they eat?

Lettuce pray

*How can you tell which rabbits are getting old?
Look out for the grey hares

*What do you call an easter egg from outer space?
An Egg-straterrestrial !

*Who is the Easter Bunnys favourite actor?
Rabbit De Nero

March 2024 ADVERTS

SWIMINABARN – Private swimming in unique barn conversion. From £11 for 30-minute slot. Max 6 people. Please call 07468 458403 www.swiminabarn.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.

HORSE PADDOCKS available at Irstead with double stable, water and electrics, terms arranged. Would suit 1 or two elderly or quiet horses. Please phone 07594 168139.

MEGS GEL NAILS, professionally qualified, gel nail polish and removal. Neatishead based. Please contact Megs on 07577 195732 or at msmith876@icloud.com.

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

HOME VISITING CHIROPODIST/PODIATRIST Fully qualified, 28 years' experience, friendly service. Telephone Ellen 07470 875647.

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.

AJP HEDGES & TREES Andy on 07827 668038.

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 £80. To book a delivery or for more information, please call 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, regencyhouse1786@gmail.com, 07790 011098 or 01692 630233.

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, £8.50 booked in advance, or £9 drop in. 07557 353723. www.YogaBreeze.co.uk.

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

STEVEN LUXFORD Experienced local decorator. Please call 01603 891662 or 07786 510558 for a free quote.

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.

LOCAL SMALL BUILDER Andy Payne, based locally, over 20 years of experience, including brickwork, plastering, tiling and decorating. Tel 01603 737807 or 07706 991443.

BROADLANDS HOME MAINTENANCE SERVICES for all your DIY needs: painting, decorating, tiling, kitchen & bathroom fitting, fencing, patios, decking & roof repairs etc. Please call Shane on 07834 915732.

GARDEN BIRD DIRECT sunflower hearts, peanuts, seed mixes and more! Free delivery by Rose & Peter. Please call 01493 740288 or email gardenbirddirect@aol.com.

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

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

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.

SAM THE LADY SWEEP Wood burners, open fires, agas etc. Guild of Master Sweeps trained. HETAS registered, NVQ qualified. Please call 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 01692 538515.

SIMONS KITCHENS & BATHROOMS design, fit & supply and other home improvements. Please contact Simon for more info on 07368 982830 or at simons.kitchens1990@gmail.com.

1st CLASS AERIALS new TV aerial, free view/sky/freesat or extra TV points. HD over Ethernet. Please call 01692 670901 or mobile on 07725 182952.

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.

WINDOW CLEANER locally established window cleaner. Call or text Zak 07585 919093.

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

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 & 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, 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.

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. £145 a full load, £75 a half load. Contact jamienickerson@live.co.uk or 07747 450776.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

- £1.25 a line, maximum five lines.
- Payable by bank transfer please.
- Please email the team at nibadverts@gmail.com or contact Sue Clayton on 07850 436211.

All contributions welcome to The NIB, but please note the Team reserves the right to amend or omit items. We also start the magazine from the first 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 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.

Welcome Pack

The NIB team have created a package to welcome newcomers to the villages. This package contains a range of useful information and leaflets, including a NIB (obviously!) and details of the shop, village hall, pub etc. If you are aware of a property which is due new residents, please let us know.

If you know, manage or run a local group or business and would like your flyer included, please do get in touch.

Sue Clayton, Editor 07850 436211
nibeditor1@gmail.com

Magazine Team for February 2024 – December 2024

News & dates: Margaret Maxwell (Editor) – 07460 740700 - nibeditor1@gmail.com

Dates: Joan Dickie (Deputy Editor) – 07796 617704 - 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

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL EDITION – 19th March 2024

Diary Dates for March 2024

Friday	1 st	10.30am	World Day of Prayer service: St Helen's RC Church, Hoveton
Monday	4 th	5.45pm 7-7.30pm	NVH: White House Stores AMM, Members - please come and vote! NVH: Village Screen: The Great Escaper, 2023,12A, 96min
Tuesday	5 th	5.45pm	NVH: White House Stores AMM, Members. NOTE: only if quorum not reached on March 4 th
Wednesday	6 th	10.15am 10.35am 10.55am 7.30pm	Mobile Library: Pennygate, Barton Turf NR12 8BE Mobile Library: Ex-Post Office, Barton Turf NR12 8BB Mobile Library: Staithe Road, Barton Turf NR12 8AZ NIBCHG: Farming, Past, Present & Future: Neatishead School
Friday	8 th		Barton Turf Church: cleaning (8 th and 9 th)
Saturday	9 th	9am-noon	NVH: Community Market and Café
Sunday	10 th		White Horse Inn: Mother's Day - Mother's Day: Book ahead!
Monday	11 th	2pm	Horning Flower Club: Junk & Jumble: Chrystall Dyball
Wednesday	13 th	7-9pm	Knit and Stitch: Community Room NVH
Thursday	14 th	10am-noon	Friends and Neighbours: NE Norfolk Conservation Volunteers
Saturday	16 th	10am-noon	Barton Turf Church Coffee Morning
Sunday	17 th	10am-3pm	Hoveton Village Hall: Wroxham & Hoveton Lions Craft Fair
Monday	18 th	7.30pm	NVH: Gardening Club: AGM with tabletop quiz & supper
Tuesday	19 th		Deadline for March edition of the NIB
Wednesday	20 th	8pm start 2pm	White Horse Inn: Quiz Night: Brain Tumour Charity WI: NVH
Saturday	23 rd	2pm	NVH : Easter Fair
Monday	25 th	7-7.30pm	NVH Village Screen: Wonka, 2023, PG, 116min
Wednesday	27 th	10.10am 11.15am 7-9pm 8pm	Mobile Library: Pitt Corner, Neatishead, NR12 8BT Mobile Library: Council Houses, Ashmanhaugh, NR12 Knit and Stitch: Community Room NVH NVH AGM
Thursday	28 th	10-noon	Friends and Neighbours: Mike Gower & friends: Ukelele
Saturday	30 th	10-11.30am	Hope Café. Neatishead Baptist Church NR12 8YF

For the **New Victory Hall** regular activities weekly programme see their website: victoryhall.info

Future Dates

April 24th: NVH: Plant and Bakes Sale 10-12: funds to community gym

April 27th: Tulips in Neatishead: Neatishead Hall Garden

10th May: NVH: Quiz 7.15pm

Gym quiz (page 7) **Guess the Machine photo:** *It's the pedal crank on the recumbent bike!*

Local Services and Contact Details

- New Victory Hall - Street Hill, Neatishead, Norfolk, NR12 8AD
Bookings by email bookings@victoryhall.info or phone 07551 008065
- White House Stores Community Shop- Irstead Road, Neatishead NR12 8BJ, 01692 631549
To join the Community Shop Membership please email info@whitehousestores.co.uk
- White Horse Inn - The Street, Neatishead, NR12 8AD, 01692 630828

Parish Council Clerks

- Barton & Irstead: Nicola Ledain, bartonturfirsteadpc@yahoo.com
- Neatishead: Laura Bateman, neatishead.parish@gmail.com

Defibrillator Locations

- New Victory Hall, Street Hill, Neatishead, NR12 8AD
- Cox's Boatyard, Toilet Block, Staithe Road, Barton Turf, NR12 8AZ
- Irstead Staithe, Car Park, Shoals Road, Irstead, NR12 8XS

Benefice of St Benedict: March 2024

Date	Time	Service	Church
3 rd	9.30am	BHC	Neatishead
10 th Mar	8am	HC (BCP)	Irstead
	9.30am	MP	Horning
	9.30am	HC	Barton Turf
	11am	HC	Ashmanhaugh
17 th Mar	9.30am	HC	Irstead
	11am	HC	Horning
	11am	MW	Neatishead
	4pm	EP	Barton Turf
24 th Palm Sunday	10.30am	Procession	New Victory Hall, Neatishead-Barton Barton Turf
	11am	All age service with Bishop of Norwich	
Holy Week Services			
Mon 25 th	7pm	Ashmanhaugh Eucharist and address	
Tues 26 th	7pm	Neatishead Eucharist and address	
Wed 27 th	7pm	Horning Eucharist and address	
Thur 28 th	7pm	Maundy Thursday with vigil Barton Turf	
Fri 29 th	11am	Good Friday on the Green Horning	
	7pm	Stations of the Cross: Irstead	
Sat 30 th	7pm	Easter Eve: Holy Saturday Neatishead	
31 st Easter Day	6.00am	Dawn Eucharist	St Benet's Abbey
	9.30am	HC	Horning
	9.30am	HC	Irstead
	11am	HC	Ashmanhaugh
	11am	HC	Barton Turf

HC: Holy Communion
BCP: Book of Common Prayer
BHC: Benefice Holy Communion

EP: Evening Prayer
MP: Morning Prayer
MW: Morning Worship

Sunday Club

Please join us at Neatishead Church for our new, exciting Sunday Club for all children aged 3-11: 1st Sunday: 9.30am; 3rd Sunday: 11am.

Parents are encouraged to stay for the church service whilst children go into the next room for engaging activities and games. Sunday Club is led by an experienced team of youth workers with safeguarding training and DBS checks. More info: Revd Ben: brother_ben@btinternet.com

Parish Church Wardens

Neatishead Pauline Simpson...01692 630674
Nick Fowle 01692 630249
Irstead David Murrells01692 631427
Barton Turf..... Barbara Pilcher.....01692 536132

Neatishead Baptist Church

3 rd Mar	10.30am	Marc Grimston
10 th Mar	10.30am	Val Khambatta
15 th Mar	10am	Prayer meeting
18 th Mar	2pm	Fellowship Meeting
24 th Mar	10.30am	Rev Neville Khambatta
29 th Mar	9am	Good Friday Breakfast and Service
30 th Mar	10am	Hope Cafe
31 st Mar	10.30am	M Grimston. Easter Day

Hope Café = fellowship, coffee, games etc. 10am to 11.30am on last Sat. of the month. All welcome
Fellowship Meeting Bible study, worship, prayer.
Prayer Meeting Second Friday of the month at 10am, in church usually. More details: [Sue Gibbons secretary@neatisheadbaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:SueGibbons@neatisheadbaptistchurch.org.uk)

Roman Catholic Churches

- St Helen, Hoveton, NR12 8QJ.
Sat Mass at 5.30pm; Wed Mass at 9.30am
- Sacred Heart, Norwich Road, North Walsham, NR28 9JP: Sunday Mass at 11am.
01692 403258, parishpriestfrpeter@gmail.com

Wroxham & Hoveton United Reformed Church

Interim Minister: Rev Carole Pearl. For any pastoral concerns, please contact the secretary: lmhoward100@btinternet.com

For up-to-date information: wroxhamurc.org.uk

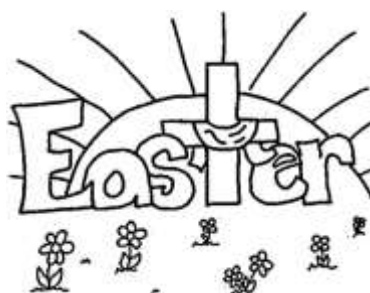
Do join us for any or all of the following services:

Sun 3 rd Mar	10.30am	Alex Instone-Brewer
Sun 10 th Mar	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Rev Carole Pearl Inc. Holy Communion
Sun 17 th Mar	10.30am	Rev Zephany Kennedy
Sun 24 th Mar	10.30am	Rev Rosemary Tusting
Thu 28 th Mar	6pm	Tenebrae Service Rev Z Kennedy
Sun 31 st Mar	10.30am	Easter Day Service Rev Carole Pearl inc. Holy Communion

The Community Café meets for coffee and cakes from 10.30am to 12 noon on Thursdays. All are welcome, there is no charge.

We look forward to seeing friends old and new.

Secretary: Lynne Howard, 01603 738835



NIB deadline for our April edition is **19th March**