

May I take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for inviting me to present an annual report from the NIB Community Heritage Group and for their continuing interest and support in its aims and objectives. We are now using our new logo which we hope better reflects the community of our three villages.

Our WW2 research continued. We uncovered more stories of men from our villages who served their country which was displayed at the two very successful events organised to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in May and VJ Day in August. Because of the national importance of these events we should like to thank the NVH for waiving their hire charges. All the displays are filed in our archive at The Stable and can be viewed at any time by appointment or at our open mornings. The group has been given two very important historical documents. The WW2 Air Raid Warden's Log book for Neatishead which has been photocopied and transcribed and is available to view. The other is the Neatishead School Log Book which has been photographed and summarised.

The group continues to make stronger links with both the Radar Museum and the New Farm Aviation Heritage Group (NFAHG) at Frettenham. We attended the two 1940 weekends at the Radar Museum with local displays and members of the NFAHG have accessed our WW2 research to assist theirs.

We have now moved our regular meetings to the NVH. The presentations have covered a wide range of topics and are well attended. May I just mention my presentation on 27th April – I hope you might be able to attend! This will feature some early oral recordings with interviews by Wally Webb for Radio Norfolk Village Voice in 1982. Very slowly we are continuing with our oral recording project but this is hampered by our limited technical knowledge.

We have been very supportive three heritage projects across the villages:

- 1) of the BT&I parish council in their efforts to renovate the Black Shed – an important heritage landmark on the Broads – and hope this can be continued.
- 2) the re-ridging of Irstead Church and
- 3) the bell and wall restorations at Neatishead Church.

Despite not being able to move forward with a heritage information board for Neatishead for various reasons, we are very pleased with what has been achieved over the past year and the interest that has been taken in all our events. My report each year is just a snapshot of all the group's activities particularly with such a small committee of only five people all of whom I am most grateful to for their support and enthusiasm.

Claire Penstone-Smith, Chair

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