

Waveney Heritage : News letter June 2021

Hallo everyone. It seems a long time since I sent you any news but I've been waiting to see if we could get some definite information from Government re opening up again. Needless to say we still cannot be certain but we are hoping very much that we can start our talks again in July as planned, with minimal restrictions on visitor numbers.

I hope you have all received Jill's message with the list of events and talks we have planned. We're very grateful to Jill for setting up all these varied and interesting speakers for us. It is once more a great pleasure to have managed to recruit them all from people who live within about a fifteen-mile radius of Brockdish:- one in the eye for those who think this is a boring rural backwater! We have asked you to book in advance so that we have some idea of likely visitors and can contact you if new restrictions mean we have to limit numbers. We can then operate on a "first-come-first-served" basis should the worst happen.

Needless to say we haven't been idle whilst locked down! The grounds need regular work as always, especially as the weeds seem to have taken on the challenge of overwhelming us in a big way! Thank you to Janet Moxham, our newest trustee, Henry Munro and Gareth Leech who have done all the work.

We are about to install a second-hand chair lift to improve access to upstairs (to comply with legal requirements). This means that the radio collection will be more accessible to interested visitors. For a spacious building there is remarkably little storage space, so we are wondering how best to provide a bit more. We think it might be possible to acquire a 20ft container to place where the very scruffy cycle shed is at the rear of the car park. This will do the trick without affecting the building itself, and will not permanently impinge on the grounds themselves or reduce parking space. We might look for a Banksy to decorate the outside!

You may also remember the lean-to structure adjoining the Centre wall, also in the car park. One of our members has volunteered to smarten this up, for which we are very grateful, so that we can store the snow plough under cover. This has the added advantage of moving it from its present position where it is reducing the width of our entrance to the extent that we are unable to get a cherry picker up there to access the roof and solar panels for cleaning and maintenance.

We're carrying on with our work on the Archive and now have a pretty good idea of what we have and how to catalogue and store it. The next mammoth task will be to scan it all onto our computer so that it will be accessible to the world!

In the meantime, we now have two organisations who wish to rent some of our space. A fortnightly art group will make use of the studio space, also a sewing machine instruction class and a self-help group, supported by HIP in Harleston and SNDC will be using the hall, again once a fortnight. We are delighted to welcome them both.

Most of all though, we are looking forward to welcoming you all again. See you soon!

Mary T and all your Trustees

PS. Don't forget you can book by phoning Jill (01379 669057 or me 01379 668279