

# Victory Hall News

## Snippets

- The Trustees would like to thank Robert and Elaine Powell for suggesting the name for the new hall
- There will be a competition in due course to design a logo for the Swallowtail Centre, the name for the new building (see over).
- Building work is on schedule and the Swallowtail Centre is expected to be ready by the end of August
- Enquiries are already being received about booking the new hall for functions!
- Pictures of the building are being posted regularly onto the notice board outside the White House Stores and onto [www.victoryhall.info](http://www.victoryhall.info), which also has the latest schedule on it.
- A new website is planned for the Swallowtail Centre in good time for the opening.
- A transition team has been formed by the Trustees to organise the smooth transfer from the old building to the new.
- Ed King has agreed to be co-opted as a Trustee—it's brilliant news that he is willing to help make this a building for users of all ages.
- Next farmers market is Saturday April 11th. Use it or risk losing it....

## Help Required in April to Move Straw Bales

There are currently over 1000 straw bales in dry storage awaiting the big day when they have to be transferred to the new hall site. The plan is to move them by tractor from the storage point to the new hall car park and then manually move them under the cover of the new roof for temporary storage before the contractors install them into the frame of the main hall. **We need as much help as possible to complete this transfer swiftly and safely on the chosen day.**

The current schedule suggests that this will probably happen at some point very close to (or even over) the Easter Weekend, which falls between 10th and 13th April. However, the timing could vary depending on the

building progress, farmers' availability and the weather. If you are willing to help then please look out for notices around the three villages nearer the time that will confirm the exact date. Alternatively, please call Dolly Newcombe (536354) or Ian McFadyen (630150) to volunteer and we will ensure that you are contacted in advance.

This being the modern world the Trustees and contractors are conducting risk assessments, checking insurance policies and preparing method statements before finalising the arrangements. The lower age limit for children has not yet been agreed but we are trying to get as many youngsters as possible involved, albeit anyone under 16 will have



to be supervised by a responsible adult. At this point in time, and subject to any insurance conditions, the lower age cut-off limit is likely to be about 12 but we are working to lower this to 10 if possible. Planning is in hand to arrange other events so that children who are not allowed on the site can help with the project and feel part of it in other ways.

We hope to make the event a fun one, possibly with a BBQ and media coverage so watch out for the notices!

## Straw Builders Needed in June!

Another round of community involvement is planned for late June, when volunteers are needed to help build and render the straw bale circular meeting room (which will be called the Victory Room). This is expected to take about 2 weeks from start to finish and about 15 to 20 people will be working on the project each day. No experience is needed as training will be pro-



vided by Amazonails and volunteers can help for anything from one day to the full 2 weeks. We

hope to sell some places on this project to non-local participants as there is considerable interest nationally from people who wish to learn how to build with straw. The funds raised will help offset the cost of the professional trainers who will be employed to make sure we do it right!

More details will be available in due course.

# Swallowtail Centre



**The Village Hall for Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf**

In January and February 2009 the residents of Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf were invited to propose names for the new village hall that is currently being built. The Trustees of the Victory Hall decided to canvas opinion in this way because a number of people had suggested to them that, whilst it remains very important that we never forget the sacrifices made by local soldiers during WW1 and WW2, times have moved on and the name 'Victory Hall' is not as appropriate in 2009 as it was in 1919.

A ballot was therefore taken amongst eligible attendees of the Victory Hall AGM on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009. A short-list of the names suggested by the community was put to the meeting and people were invited to write down their preferred choices. Over 60% of the votes cast listed their first choice as 'Swallowtail Centre'. Less than 30% of the total votes elected for either 'Victory Hall' or 'New Victory Hall' as their preferred choice.

The Trustees debated this outcome at some length at their next meeting and it was agreed that the name for the new building should be in accordance with the wishes of the overwhelming majority vote, which was for 'Swallowtail Centre', albeit with the words 'the village hall for Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf' appended to the name to eliminate any doubt about the purpose of the building!

The Trustees recognise that many people will have strong views both for and against the new name. In reaching their decision they considered the following:

1. A plaque will be located on the wall of the Victory Hall to commemorate the soldiers of WW1 so that their sacrifices and the efforts that they made to acquire that building for the community will not be forgotten.
2. The name 'Swallowtail Centre' is in keeping with modern times and is considered very appropriate for an eco-building in a rural Broadland setting.
3. The name is excellent for marketing purposes and it will be more likely to encourage visitors into the building and surrounding area. This will be an important factor in the future, as it is essential that we increase the use of the hall if it is to be financially viable without the need for constant fund-raising.
4. The image of a Swallowtail butterfly fits well with both the Neatishead primary school and the Broads Authority logos, and it is something meaningful to the primary school children of today, who will become the hall users of tomorrow.
5. Swallowtail butterflies are relatively rare yet are found in this area, so there is a link between the name and local fauna.
6. For any sailors, the Yare and Bure class of sailing boats – which originates from Norfolk - are all named after moths or butterflies.
7. They (the Trustees) should be guided by the outcome of a democratic vote that was open to everyone in the community over 18 and which had been properly advertised beforehand in good time.

As a further recognition of the efforts of the WW1 soldiers it has also since been agreed by the Trustees that the circular meeting room in the new hall will be called the 'Victory Room'. All the photos and other memorabilia will, of course, be transferred from the Victory Hall to the Swallowtail Centre prior to the scheduled opening.

The Trustees hope that this explains the process used to choose the new name and the potential benefits that come with it but if anyone has any questions or comments on this matter then please contact Patrick Palgrave-Moore on 631231 or [ian.mcfadyen@victoryhall.info](mailto:ian.mcfadyen@victoryhall.info) for more information.