

ANNUAL REPORT OF PAM for THE PARHAM PARISH MEETING

We have had a successful year with increased visitor numbers exceeding 6,500. This included many school and club visits out of our normal opening times, thanks to our enthusiastic but small number of volunteers. We have also hosted several servicemen's descendants who are always pleased to be shown round what remains of the old base.

After a lot of discussion and planning we have changed our Charity Status to C.I. O. (Charity Incorporated Organisation) with a new Reg Charity number 1201587. This should offer better protection to our trustees in the event of a claim for neglect being made against them as individuals. This also involved changing the bank accounts....Not an easy task these days.

Finances are very sound, and we continue to improve our contacts with the 390th in America. Our exhibits also continue to improve with the addition of over 40 items this year, including some from the B17 that crashed in Parham village, and including a display of the roll of the Blacks on base and the way they were treated. It is proposed that we add an extension to the South side of our Moller building to display a large collection of U.S. Airforce memorabilia that we have recently inherited from the late Charles Cairnes, a friend for many years of the museum.

We suffered flooding in October. Water built up outside the tower off the field and flooded the control room downstairs. With family help we managed to sweep it out and the local volunteer fireman pumped the water coming from the field away to the valley. We were able to open on the following Sunday as usual with only a bit of a muddy floor.

We have changed our phones from BT to digital along with the Alarm system which has also been digitalised, saving us about £20 a month in call charges.

As part of the D Day anniversary celebrations, we are hosting some 250 American tourists that are sailing into Gt.Yarmouth, and will be visiting us this coming Saturday and Sunday. A local radio club will also be at the museum broadcasting, on short wave radio, the missions of the 390th that were part of the preparations for the Normandy landings 80 years ago.