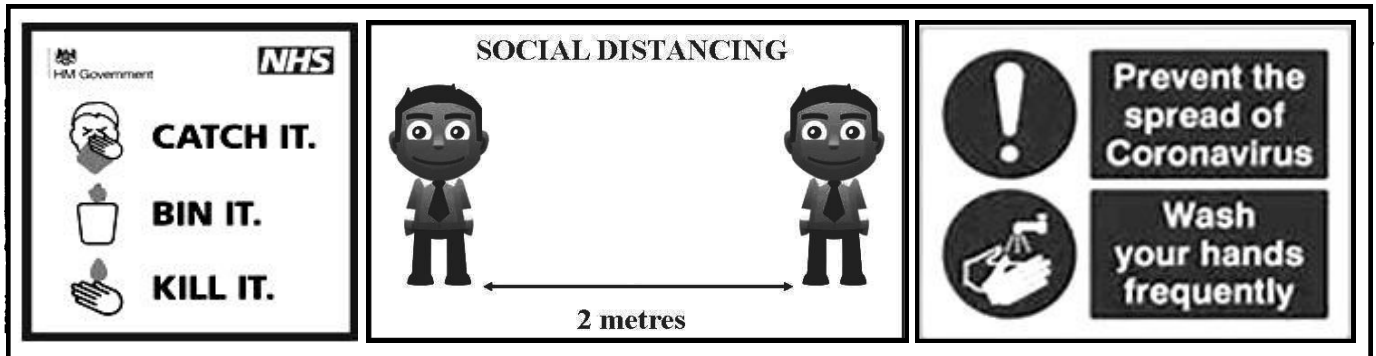


WALSHAM OBSERVER



MAY 2020

Walsham-le-Willows Memorial Village Hall

Current Hire Charges

USERS	ALL DAY	HOURLY
Walsham Villagers	£100	£10
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**All Enquires & Bookings through
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Located in the refurbished red telephone kiosk outside the Memorial Hall this AED has been registered with the East of England Ambulance Service and can be accessed via a digital keypad. The access code can be obtained by simply dialling 999 and asking the Ambulance Service. For reference purposes the location postcode is IP31 3AA.



THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

MAY 2020

No 614

Published and distributed by the Walsham Community Council.

EDITOR Mr I R Toulson
01359-259646 iandmj@outlook.com

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& DISTRIBUTED BY
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ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION

These should be dropped by **FRIDAY 29 MAY** into the box provided in Rolfes or emailed to the above address.

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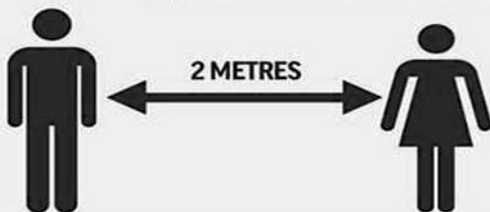
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WHEN WALKING IN THE VILLAGE

**YOU NEED TO STAY 2 METRES
APART TO SAVE LIVES NOW**



Please take the 2 meter distancing rules seriously. This protects everyone. It is a simple and very much appreciated courtesy and no one will take offence.

If you pass people with children, or elderly people who may not be as agile, please give some thought to how much easier it may be for you to cross the road to maintain a social distance of at least 2 metres from them.

EDITORIAL

I trust that there are no glaring errors in this edition of the Observer. Having retired to bed after a full day editing the edition, and feeling good that I had filled all the pages and that all I had to do was write an editorial; only to wake up and discover that I had left out a long article, had failed to put the inside cover details and needed to put in an amended article. Such are the trials that beset one. I trust, though, that the edition that you have in front of you - albeit on a computer screen - will be an enjoyable and informative read. If so it is thanks to a number of villagers who have 'readily' provided copy for me. Hopefully some of you may feel encouraged to send in other contributions. Either deposit your contribution in the box in Rolfes or alternatively email your contribution to me at iandmj@outlook.com. Reminiscences, poems, recipes, puzzles or observations upon life - all contributions gratefully received.

This month I have left out the diary of events, having been regrettably informed that both the Church Fete and Gardens Weekend have been cancelled, and that Music In The Church has also taken a hit. The Horticultural Show is still on - at the moment - so keep tending your prize marrows and honing your skills at the kitchen entries. Hopefully we will - even if it is limited entry into the hall on the day.

With regard to limited entry, both Clarkes and Rolfes are doing their bit producing their own queues - Rolfes' line-up keeping some sort of social distancing - sometimes the long line, at others the organised circle (keeping the 2m from each other); at Clarkes the 'social distancing' being organised bumper to bumper. However, thanks to both organisations for keeping going.

I have kept the Coronavirus notice on the 'back cover' of this edition in case there are any villagers who need help to get through their daily life.

There are slight amendments from some people's operations. Joe at The Blue Boar is only operating for Thursday through Sunday and Maurice will only be bringing the Post Office van to the Village Hall on Thursdays - still from 11:00am till Noon.

So all it remains for me to do is wish you a good read and - as e are all saying these days - STAY SAFE!!



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Smishing ? Phishing ? Vishing ?

With the ongoing coronavirus (Covid-19) situation, criminals are playing on people's confusion to try new scams. Many claim to offer services and products relating to Covid-19, to trick innocent people into parting with personal information and their money. So here are some tips to help you avoid becoming a victim.

Scams to look out for:

Purchase scams offer protective equipment, sanitising products and other desirable goods for sale that you will never receive. Be careful paying for anything via bank transfer and only buy goods from reputable companies that you know and trust.

Smishing is sending text messages that appear to come from a trustworthy source like the UK government or even your own doctor which try to steal personal or financial information. If you doubt the text's authenticity, don't click links. Visit www.gov.uk to check any information given. Verify an organisation's phone number from their website or from old printed correspondence.

Phishing is sending emails which try to make you divulge sensitive personal or financial information. They may appear to be Covid-19 tax refunds, reimbursements from travel bookings, safety advice via email and even donation requests. Fraudsters will try to make you click on links that aren't safe. So think before you click. If in doubt, then don't click. And don't open any attachments from senders that you don't know. If you're still worried, talk to family, friends or someone else you trust.

Vishing is unsolicited phone calls. Always be suspicious of 'cold-callers'. Don't be afraid to challenge them or hang up if you can't verify the caller. Banks, police etc. will never ask for security information, so never give out personal details. If you're concerned, call the organisation back on the number listed on their website, ideally on a different phone as criminals can sometimes keep the line open. Or if it's your bank, use the number on the back of your card.

What to do if you've been caught out

If you think you've been a victim of fraud or given away more information than you wanted to, contact your Bank, the Police or Action Fraud as soon as possible. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Police are urging vigilance after a number of business burglaries in the county.

During the current situation with the coronavirus outbreak, officers are asking businesses to review their security arrangements. Business owners should consider removing equipment/stock, review CCTV, alarm and lighting provision etc. For more detailed advice do visit https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/coronavirus_small_business.docx.pdf

The most recent incident took place sometime between 12:00 pm midday on Tuesday 7 April and 9:00am on Wednesday 8 April at the Bowls Club, King George V playing fields, Green Road, Haughley. Offender/s forced entry to a shed and stole gardening tools.

David Murray

Wash your hands of coronavirus scams!

Friends Against Scams aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams.

Be aware of people offering or selling:

- Virus testing kits - these are only offered by NHS.
- Vaccines or miracle cures - there is currently no vaccine or cure.
- Overpriced or fake goods to protect yourself from coronavirus such as anti-bacterial products.
- Shopping or medication collection services.
- Home decontamination services.

Protect yourself and others:

- Don't be rushed into making a decision. If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.
- Only purchase goods and services from legitimate retailers and take a moment to think before parting with money or personal information.
- Don't assume everyone is genuine. It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- If someone claims to represent a charity, ask them for ID. Be suspicious of requests for money up front. If someone attempts to pressurise you into accepting a service they are unlikely to be genuine. Check with family and friends before accepting offers of help if you are unsure.

**Be a good friend,
help to protect
your family, friends
and neighbours
from scams.**

**Read It.
Share It.
Prevent It.**

**#Coronavirus
#ScamAware**



Contact

For advice on scams call the
Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 11 33
To report a scam call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040
Contact your bank if you think you have been scammed.

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Scams Team

To learn more about the different types of scams visit www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk

SEARCHING FOR WORDS

P	E	N
A	T	A
M	R	G

Starting with any letter and moving horizontally, vertically or diagonally, see how many words of three letters or more you can find, using each letter only once in each word.

There should be one nine letter word which will make you a star.

Get 50 words and you are doing well.

MANY THANKS FOR:-

WALSHAM STARS

I set out to write a piece about those in the village who have volunteered to help during the Corona crisis. I hoped for stories about who had been helped, in what way and by whom.

The Walsham website says there are 77 volunteers, 57 people in the village who are living alone or are particularly vulnerable to the virus and 17 who have requested help with the collection of prescriptions. Some of the volunteers are themselves vulnerable and can't deliver food but have still volunteered to keep in touch with people living alone by phone or just a friendly wave through the window.

Due to our age Diney and I both fall into the 'vulnerable' category and have had food and prescriptions delivered to our door. You will all know that Paul Hubbard has adjusted his shop opening hours so that he can prepare orders without starting work at 3am (as I believe he did to make up the first batch), others will have made similar sacrifices.

To all of us needing support these volunteers are Stars, but they have one characteristic in common – modesty. They say they are just doing what anyone would do, nothing special, nothing worth writing about, so I can't write the article I had planned.

But let all of us who benefit from deliveries of food and medicine, companionship, transport and countless other kindnesses thank those nameless Stars, by clapping for them every Thursday evening.

From Richard Martineau

JOE

Just a quick note to provide a heartfelt record of appreciation to Joe & his team at Walsham Blue Boar for providing such a tasty Takeaway Menu during these unusual times.

The choice is good, the food delicious - anyone who knows me will realise that accolade is not easily earned - & the delivery service scores 5 stars. I thoroughly recommend the menu to you all. We are blessed to have such a facility here & for those requiring a change of chef & diet as Easter approaches: Do Not Hesitate.

From Howard Gilbert

THE HELP

I would like to say sincere thanks to all the kindness I received after my recent hip operation. Cards, flowers, gifts, good wishes and offers of help were in abundance> I am very grateful to all and I am very lucky to live in Walsham with so many kind people.

From Jean Nielsen

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



online

Dear All. How lovely to be able to talk to you through our new in house publication The WI Hive. Sadly the WI News has ceased printing for the time being, brought about by - yes - the Coronavirus, I'll try not to mention that word again, this is meant to be a cheery publication not a catch up on the virus! Our great thanks go to Lauren, the freelance designer and Greg, Managing Director of Today Magazines and all the magazine staff. Of course I can't complete the thanks without acknowledging Jill Gooch's huge contribution as Editor, Jill has filled this post for many years, since Dorthy Lodge had to resign due to ill health. Jill, I know is most upset about losing the magazine but at present in an uncertain world, we have to follow the wishes of our publishers. For the foreseeable future, this new publication is being set up and managed by Rachel Hows, our Federation Secretary, but Rachel has a secret, she's a trained journalist and is going to edit and produce this for us. It will be entirely different from our wonderful WI News, it will be keeping you up to date with what's going on.... but not on that word I promised not to keep mentioning! What have you been doing since your WIs have temporarily closed down? I'm keeping busy contacting the office by email and phone, drinking tea, and going for an afternoon walk, I'm very lucky to live down a lane so no contact likely. I say walk, Graham walks and I go along on my mobility scooter as my leg is still bandaged like something discovered by Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon. Keep happy, keep healthy and keep in touch with one another and us. We can get through this girls and come out the other side. By the way, let us know what you think of our new publication. Julie Higgins, Federation Chairman
P.S. There are reams of information/activities etc on the National Federation of Women's Institutes website the WI.org.uk. Just a thought !

Jill

VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

I hope you are all staying safe and well. Whilst the Village Hall doors are closed, in line with Government restrictions, we are using this time to get on with some much needed maintenance work.

- 1 The exterior of the rear extension is currently being repainted where it had blistered and flaked off last year.
- 2 The lobby entrance is to be smartened up with fresh paint and new skirting board to replace the existing rotted skirting.
- 3 Quotes in hand to upgrade the kitchen electrics to finally connect the cooker and dish washer which were purchased last summer.

Amanda Ellis

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STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH R B L.



Sadly one of our branch members has died , Terry May aged 84 served in the RAF for over 20 years, we send his family our deepest sympathy.

The RBL has taken the difficult decision to postpone events to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day ,Friday 8th May this is due to the governments social distancing guidelines introduced in response to the Covid -19 pandemic , there will be no service at our war memorial or in St Marys Church on that day. Anyone would be welcome to place a cross on the memorial in memory of a loved one who served in the Armed Forces, I have a supply of crosses ,if you would like one please contact me 259724.

We will be remembering three men from Walsham on this day.

Telegraphist Douglas Kerry Royal Navy Age 20 died 2nd November 1941 in HM Submarine Tetrarch.

Bombardier Amos Largent 33 Field Regiment Royal Artillery Age 39 died in France 9th July 1944.

Petty Officer Ralph Kerridge Royal Naval Patrol Service Age 26 DIED 7TH October 1944 in HM Trawler Vidonia.

At the present time the VJ day 75th anniversary in August is still expected to go ahead.

Please take care and stay safe

Hubby Frost

GARDENS WEEKEND CANCELLED

It is with much regret that the Gardens Weekend Committee has decided to cancel the weekend festivities because of the uncertainty of how long this epidemic might last. This year was to be our 40th Anniversary; however, we shall have to make up for it next year.

Robin Newell
Chairman,

RHUBARB & DATE CHUTNEY

Horticultural Show Class 79 Rhubarb and Date Chutney.

If you have rhubarb in the garden, now is the time to make chutney.

There is a recipe in the February Observer, and also on the Walsham Website.

HOWEVER; if you cannot get hold of all the ingredients, any Rhubarb Chutney may be entered this year if the Show goes ahead as we hope.



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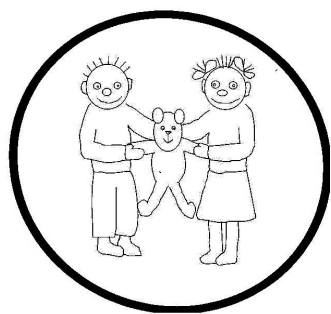
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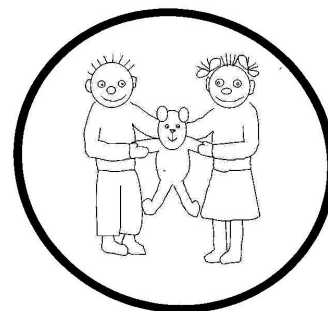
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LITTLE WILLOWS PRE-SCHOOL OPEN DAY CANCELLATION



During these strange and unprecedented times, we would like to start by wishing everyone a safe, harmonious, and healthy lockdown.

Little Willows Pre-School, along with Walsham le Willows CEVCP Primary School have joined together to offer EMERGENCY childcare and education to children of Key Workers. Being Key Workers ourselves, we understand what a difficult and stressful time this can be. We are also liaising remotely with our families, offering inspiration, support, and a listening ear, where we can.

During this summer term, we would, normally, be preparing our older children for their transition to school in September and getting ready for our annual open day. This is normally our opportunity to meet new families, who may be wishing to join us in September and show them our lovely setting. Sadly, due to government lock down restrictions this has had to be cancelled.

We would like to let any families out there, with young children, know that we have spaces for September. Hopefully, we will be back to (the new) normal by then! Through the wonders of technology, we are able to link with families. We can offer support on any child development questions, general questions about early years, and give information about the setting and staff.

Please feel free to contact us at:

office.littlewillows@gmail.com or sarah.littlewillows@googlemail.com

*Sarah Diggins
Manager*

SUFFOLK LIBRARIES

All libraries are closed and the mobile library is suspended. The borrowing period for books is extended to the end of July. There are online books and information on the Suffolk Libraries website.



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4						7	9	
			5		1			
	2			8		6		
7	6		9		3		4	
	1		2		5		8	7
		5		9			2	
			3		4			
	4	3						1

For the uninitiated, the rules of So-Doku are very simple.

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9 inclusive.

Each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 inclusive.

Each large square must contain the numbers 1 to 9 inclusive.

It's as simple as that, but you must apply logic to find which number goes where.

So, beginner or expert, happy hunting!

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There are ten differences between these two pictures, see if you can find them all before the coach moves off.

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WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of meeting Tuesday 14th April 2020

online via Zoom due to Coronavirus restrictions. Members of the public were able to join the meeting to observe or make representations by registering in advance with the Clerk.

PRESENT Cllrs. Arbon, Bartholomew, Belson, Kinnair, Mecrow & Roberts. Cllr Fleming for the County & Cllr Meyer for the District.

[Pending formal approval at the next meeting, these minutes have been informally approved by Parish Councillors as a true record. If any corrections are required these will be minuted at the next meeting prior to formal approval]

1 FIRST BUSINESS

- 1.1 Acceptance of apologies** – Cllr. Ellis, apologies unanimously accepted.
- 1.2 Minutes of the last meeting** held on 10th March 2020 were unanimously approved. Cllr Roberts to digitally sign pending further advice once face to face meetings can be resumed.
- 1.3 Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary interests of members** – none declared
- 1.4 Applications for dispensation** - none
- 1.5 Public Open Forum** – No members of the public present
- 1.6 County and District Reports** – Cllrs Fleming & Meyer presented their respective reports. These included for the County, Consultation on new Orthopaedic Centre in Colchester, School Transport Opt-In, Street Lighting capital investment, Suffolk Walking festival, and Civil Parking Enforcement. And for the District, Mid Suffolk Covid-19 response, detail of changes to Customer Services in light of response to Covid-19. The full reports can be found on the village website at: <https://www.walsham-le-willows.org/explore/governance-community/parish-council/>

The Clerk enquired as to the capital investment for streetlighting and if this was available for streetlamps owned and maintained by the Parish Council. Clerk to email the inventory to Cllr Fleming who will make enquiries.

Cllr Fleming to advise Clerk of any more **report information for the website.**

Cllr Mecrow raised the issue of **possible restrictions on the lighting of bonfires** with Cllr Meyer as these can make things very difficult for anyone with Coronavirus breathing difficulties. Outcome was that the powers do not exist to prevent this which would require temporary emergency changes to law/regulation. Clerk to place notice in Observer asking people to consider the impacts on their neighbours particularly in the light of the Coronavirus epidemic.

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There is already a post on the website.

Cllr Meyer flagged the **grant monies available to assist with extra costs associated with responses to Coronavirus epidemic**. Cllr Meyer to send application form to Clerk.

Cllr Arbon raised issue of dumping of grass cuttings in hedges due to the suspension of collections by MSDC and asked how the Parish Council might respond. Clerk to contact local farmers to see if something could be arranged for disposal of green waste if supervised by the Parish Council.

2 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED (plus any received after the publication of this agenda)

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78 **Appeal Reference:** APP/W3520/D/20/3246469 **Appeal by:** Mr Ali Waugh **Proposal:** Householder Planning Application- Erection of two storey rear extension with ground floor bay window **Location:** 44 Townhouse Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 3BP

APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - DC/20/01225

Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent - Demolition of derelict outbuilding **Location:** The Blue Boar, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AA **The Parish Council supported this application.**

RECONSULTATION APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/20/00672 **Proposal:** Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for removal or variation of condition following grant of application 1352/17 decided 05/07/2018 to allow variation of condition 5 (provision of footpath)- to amend wording to read "Before the occupation of the eleventh dwelling, a footway is to be provided along Wattisfield Road from the application site to link with the existing footway to the south of Mill Close. The footway shall be provided in accordance with layout and design details that shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter it shall be retained in the approved form." **Location:** Land West Of, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk **The Parish Council has already objected to this application and the same objection will be resubmitted.**

Cllr Roberts passed on a thank you to the Clerk and the Council from Trevor Pollard for efforts to assist with objections to application 1352/17.

3 PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning)

DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990



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Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for 1352/17 - Condition 24 (Ecological Reports) and Condition 25 (Ecological Design Strategy) **Location:** Land West Of, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk. **MSDC Approved the discharge of conditions.**

DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for 1352/17 - Condition 3 (Approval of location and phasing of affordable housing), Condition 4 (Materials), Condition 12 (Written Scheme of Investigation), Condition 13 (Safeguard Archaeological Assets), Condition

16 (Surface Water Drainage Flow Paths) and Condition 18 (Surface Water Drainage)

Location: Land West Of, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk Mid Suffolk District Council hereby gives notice that the details submitted in pursuance to the conditions referred to above have been determined as summarised below in relation to each relevant

condition together with any appropriate comments, limitations or advice. **MSDC Approved the discharge of conditions.**

APPEAL REF: APP/W3520/W/19/3242243 re application Ref DC/19/01250, dated 12 March 2019 Rookery Barn, Rookery Lane, Walsham-le-Willows, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP31 3BD. **Appeal Allowed by the Planning Inspectorate.**

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/20/00595

Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Cedar (T1) - Fell, Leylandi

(T2) - Fell and Leylandi (T3) – Fell **Location:** Cherry Tree House, Finningham Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BQ **MSDC does not wish to object.**

4 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 Development & Neighbourhood Plan** – Clerk advised that a meeting would go ahead online using Zoom on Thursday 16th April.
- 4.2 Streetlighting conversion** – Quotes from SCC and Pearce & Kemp presented. After discussion, Cllr Bartholomew proposed that Pearce & Kemp should be engaged for phase II of the upgrades. Seconded by Cllr Mecrow and agreed unanimously subject to Clerk confirming with Cllr Fleming that they are a contractor approved by SCC highways. Clerk advised response from SCC re Phase I. These should all have now been completed by the end of the week and the work will then be invoiced.

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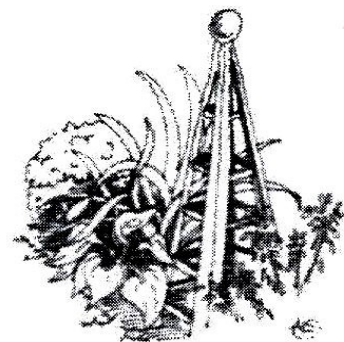
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- 4.3 Community Council** – Cllr Bartholomew reported that the Memorial Hall has been closed due to the Coronavirus outbreak, but this is being used as an opportunity to get decorating and electrical work completed. Also, that the Hall is reasonably secure in terms of long-term viability. Compliance with the Charity Commission action plan for the Community Council was also noted and this is being worked through, the review of finances having been completed as far as possible. Cllr Bartholomew reported a positive response to the online version of the Walsham Observer which had been prepared for the website by Ian Toulson and the Clerk. There have been hardly any cancellations of advertising. In response to a question from Cllr Mecrow it was confirmed that the recycling bins in the Memorial Hall car park continue to be emptied
- 4.4 Parking Finningham Road blind bend** – Cllr Bartholomew reported that lines of communication were being kept open with Flagship Housing for when deliberations on proposals can proceed. Currently on hold.
- 4.5 Street Cleaning** – Clerk asked the Parish Council to confirm the interim decision taken by Cllrs Roberts and Bartholomew to allow the street cleaning to continue through the Coronavirus outbreak. This was unanimously agreed. Clerk to formally write contractor to confirm and also reiterate social distancing measures that must be complied with. Clerk reported that the new contract was yet to be drawn up. Clerk to ask Cllrs Fleming/Meyer about PPE introduced for County and District street cleaning contractors.
- 4.6 Re-designating the Six Bells as an Asset of Community Value** – Clerk reported that this application had been submitted.
- 4.7 Annual Parish Meeting** (between 1st March – 1st June incl.) – It was noted that the Clerk advised that this is now on hold due to Coronavirus epidemic.
- 4.8 Induction Course for Cllr Arbon** – It was noted that Cllr Arbon has decided to wait for face to face courses to resume after the lockdown is relaxed.
- 4.9 Parish Council Risk Assessment** – Clerk reported more conversations with representatives of the Parochial Church Council re enquiries as to the risk assessment in place for the Closed Churchyard. Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should review the current risk assessment and revise to base it on a risk register that will include all aspects of risk that the Parish Council needs to mitigate.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 Sustainability Appraisal of the Babergh Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan** – The Parish Council unanimously agreed that no comment would be submitted. Nothing had been heard from the Neighbourhood Plan group on this.
- 5.2 Highways Bridge Repairs** – The clerk reported, and it was noted, that this work is on hold pending relaxation of Coronavirus lockdown.

6 REPORTS



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- 6.1** Clerk's report & financial report to 31st March 2020 & request for online payments. Payments were signed digitally by Councillors Bartholomew and Kinnair pending further advice from SALC on how this should be followed up once face to face meetings can be resumed.

#	Payee	Amount	Description
1	SALC	£445.81	Annual Subscription
2	K Boardley	£14.39	Zoom Conferencing Subs
3	SCC	£2452.49	Street lighting maintenance & energy
4	Thomas Hunter	£56.00	Play Area Maintenance
5	Thomas Hunter	£122.08	Street Cleaning
6	Parish Council Employee	£548.40	Wages

#	Payments In	Ref	Amount	Description
1	MSDC Precept Due	00004 20720	£10,824.50	First payment 1 st April
2	MSDC Street cleaning Received	00003 44493	£373.56	Street Cleansing Grant 4 th Qtr.

6.1.1 Complaint made against Cllr Roberts for alleged breach of Code of Conduct

– The Parish Council noted that a complaint had been sent in October/November of last year to the Monitoring Officer at Mid-Suffolk District Council against Cllr Roberts. The Monitoring Officer has responded that, following investigation, it has been determined that the allegation of bullying is not upheld for reason that “Councillor Trevor Roberts was the Chair of the Parish Council and was also the Parish Council representative on the Community Council. As the Parish Council representative, he is duty bound to raise any concerns of the Parish Council at the appropriate meetings.” The Monitoring Officer has closed the case.

6.1.2 Problem Reports SCC – this item was not discussed

6.1.3 Bank interest rate on deposit account – It was noted that the Council has been advised that this is to be reduced to zero from 21st May 2020

6.1.4 Internal Audit – Clerk reported that SALC have advised postponement of completion of internal audits until further Government advice is received by external auditors regarding statutory timescales and required paperwork is circulated. In the meantime, the Clerk has been in touch with SALC and is preparing audit documents for electronic submission.

Stuart Walker



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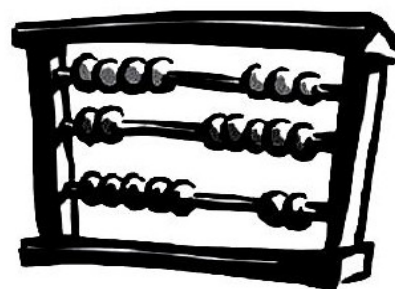
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6.2 Play Area –

- **Play Council/Parish Council governance relationship** – update from Cllr Kinnair and the Clerk. No further progress other than for peace of mind the Clerk had asked Clive Wadham-Smith to review the situation and Option II as put to Council and agreed in March. ACTION Clerk to go ahead with proposed reconvening of the Play Council Committee by virtual Extraordinary General Meeting, notifying this 21 days in advance (Website and Observer) as required by the Constitution and drawing up the agenda and resolutions to be passed. The monies raised by 200 club for the Play Area was discussed. It was unanimously agreed that this should be paid into the existing bank account pending the transfer of the account balance to the Parish Council. Clerk to contact Chair of Play Council to advise.
- **Keys for the gate** – Clerk reported One with tree works contractor and the other with grass cutting contractor. Cllr Roberts reported that the signage re Play Area Closure had been erected and an image was taken in case it should be removed.

6.3 Footpath Warden – Cllr Roberts to seek advice from contact with regard to who flails the Fishponds Way footpath hedges. The Clerk enquired as to who is responsible for the footpath bridges to the north and west of Betty's bridge as these need some repair. Clerk to advise SCC.

6.4 Tree Warden – Cllr Belson reported that the trees felled by wind in the play area will be dealt with by David Brown with the other work that is in hand. The point was also made that there is no way that these sorts of occurrences can be picked up in advance, even by the detailed baseline condition report that was commissioned earlier in the year as in these cases there was no obvious evidence of any weaknesses with these particular trees at that time.

7 OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

None

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS/QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN (No decisions made under AOB)

None

Meeting closed at 20:44

Kevin Boardley, Proper Officer, Clerk to Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council





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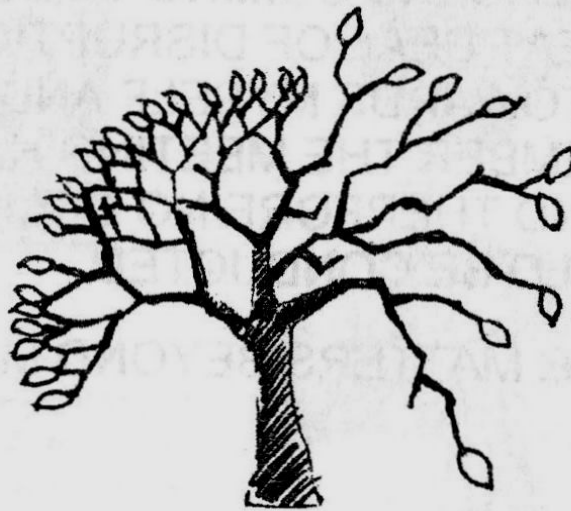
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PLAY COUNCIL

Walsham le Willows Play Council [Charity number 293364] Update on current position from the Parish Council

A fantastic group of volunteers from the village, with the agreement of the Parish Council, has completed valuable work consulting with residents on ideas for the development of the Play Area on Townhouse Road. They also took on the formidable task of removing the skate ramp which had become unsafe. Their excellent volunteer consultation exercise has resulted in a plan of phased development ready to be used for fundraising and then implemented. They continue their work behind the scenes on further consultations, on fundraising from local organisations and on getting the support of the school and sports club for future fundraising efforts. The Parish Council is extremely grateful for this work whilst the legalities of the situation with the governance of the charity were investigated and worked through.

Efforts have been made to get a new Play Council Executive Committee formally established without success. The last AGM of the Play Council was held on 23rd May 2018.

The Parish Council assumed direct responsibility (rather than grant funding the Play Council) for the day to day maintenance of the Play Area in 2018 and, having identified the route to resolving governance and funding issues, recently resolved to take on the development of the Play Area as well.

The Play Council constitution states that assets can only be passed to another ‘charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to some or all of the objects of the Play Council but only with the approval of the Charity Commissioners’. Assets include the bank account balance of £7937.75 as at 25th June 2018. This amount covers the first of five planned phases of development. The Parish Council believes that there has been no significant financial activity since then. This balance, as far as we can tell from accounts from 2015-2017, is comprised almost entirely of direct grants from the Parish Council for day to day maintenance.

The Parish Council believes that there are only two other suitable charities in the village who could formally take on the development and maintenance of the Play Area: The Old Town Trust and the Sports Club. Informal approaches by the Parish Council indicate that neither are likely to be willing to take on responsibility for the Play Area. Transfer of the assets to other charities in Suffolk would leave the children of the Parish worse-off and potentially leave a wasting asset (land and play equipment) at Townhouse Road that would need to be dismantled to comply with Health and Safety.

The Parish Council is not, and cannot be, a charity but has the same objective as the Play Council which is to continue to provide opportunities for play to the children of the village. Therefore, consent has been sought from the Charity Commission to change the constitution so that the remaining funds can be transferred and managed by the Parish Council for the benefit of the Play Area and to dissolve the Play Council charity. This will make administration much easier and allow our fantastic volunteers to focus on what they do best which is helping to improve the Play Area with the full support of the Parish Council.

Notice is hereby given
Virtual Annual General Meeting
(using the Zoom conferencing app)
of the Play Council
Friday 29th May at 10am

An electronic invitation will be sent out just prior to the meeting. If you wish to take part, please contact the Parish Clerk **before the day of the meeting**:

clerk@walshampc.myzen.co.uk | 01359 259 794

The AGM will consider the following resolutions:

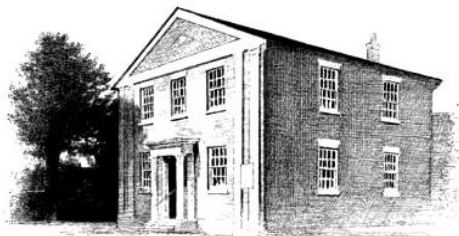
1. To elect Executive Committee members, Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary
2. To approve the minutes of the last AGM held 23rd May 2018
3. To approve year end accounts to 31st March 2020
4. To note the consent of the Charity Commission to the transfer of all assets to the Parish Council and the dissolution of the Play Council Charity [293364].
5. To instruct the Secretary of the Play Council (or Walsham le Willows Parish Clerk) to draw up a mandate authorising Santander Bank to close and transfer the balance of account Walsham Adventure Playground Fund [090154 – 716460863] to the account Walsham le Willows Parish Council [608301 – 20417932] for signature by former Committee members and current bank signatories, Quentin Cass and Kate Daly.
6. To formally dissolve the Walsham le Willows Play Council Charity [293364] forthwith.
7. To instruct the Secretary of the Play Council (or Walsham le Willows Parish Clerk) to execute a mandate authorising Santander Bank to close and transfer the balance of account Walsham Adventure Playground Fund to the account of Walsham le Willows Parish Council (for signature by former Committee members and current bank signatories).
8. To dissolve the Walsham le Willows Play Council charity [293364] forthwith.
9. To authorise the Parish Clerk to deal with The Walsham Old Town Trust to amend the lease of the land dated 1st September 1986 and as later extended, to remove references to the Play Council and to regularise the extension the lease extension for the Parish Council until 31st August 2035 and do anything else necessary to formalise the dissolution of the Play Council charity .

ST MARY'S CHURCH FETE

It is with regret that the Church Fete to be held this year at The Beeches on June 7th has had to be postponed.

However, St Mary's Church will instead this year be hosting a 'mini Christmas Market,' to be held within the church itself and in the adjacent Churchyard, on the afternoon/early evening of Saturday 5th December; social distancing permitting! It is hoped that the event will incorporate the annual switching on of the Christmas Tree lights in the Churchyard, along with the seasonal singing of carols.

Philip (Rector)



Walsham Congregational Church

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Forthcoming Services:

It is a great sadness that our building remains closed this month, and for the foreseeable future, due to the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) social distancing regulations. We are mindful however that the Church of God is not confined to a building but is the body of believers - that innumerable number from all of history who have come to saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Although we long for the day when we are once more open for public worship, we will continue to obey the command of Scripture to "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8) and, as families in our own homes, read the Bible, pray and listen to online preaching via reputable sources, such as our friends below, and would urge all to do the same at this time. Over the past few weeks of lockdown, we have found this online ministry helpful, encouraging and food for our souls at this difficult time and would recommend the links below to any who seek the help, guidance and comfort of God.

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Psalm 46 (vs. 1-3 & 10-11)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

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LOCAL ARTISTS EXHIBITION AND SALE IN THE CHURCH OVER GARDENS WEEKEND

Lorna and I have been running the Local Artists Exhibition and Sale in the Church over the annual Walsham Gardens Weekend since 2013. It has been both fun and rewarding; we have raised just over £ 2,500 for Gardens Weekend in those seven years (we take 25% of the sale price of each piece we sell ie we have taken just over £ 10,000 in sales).

It is now time to hand on to someone new who could bring fresh energy to the exhibition. We will be doing it for the last time this year so it would be ideal if our successors could join us this year to see how it is done before ‘going solo’, next year.

Apart from the initial contact to the artists at the beginning of July, 90% of the work is in the week before and the week after the event, both of which are quite busy. On the weekend itself the sales desk needs manning (4 half-day shifts) and we have a super band of volunteers who act as stewards doing one hour shifts while the exhibition is open (11am to 6pm). Payments are made by cash, cheque or, for the first time last year, a card reader.

If you might be interested or know of someone else to suggest please contact us.

Ian and Lorna
igghar@btinternet.com
01359-259140

“WHAT, WILL THESE HANDS NE’ER BE CLEAN?”

So says Lady Macbeth in the sleepwalking scene near the end of the Scottish play. As for us, our hands are red raw with all this washing. Shakespeare’s murderous lady seeks to escape the consequences of her previous actions. The Jerusalem governor Pontius Pilate in Matthew’s gospel washes his hands in public. This is a ritual gesture, like Lady Macbeth’s. Ultimately it means that the Romans are not responsible for the death of an innocent person. Pontius Pilate represents Roman law. Dickens readers will remember that the lawyer, Jaggers, in ‘Great Expectations’ frequently washes his hands. The first description of Jaggers mentions the smell of ‘scented soap’. The lawyer is presumably washing away his own guilt together with that of the criminals he has to deal with. Though written in 1860, the novel is set in the early 19th century when people were beginning to understand the dangers of contagion. We must be on our guard. Hand-washing is still the best policy.

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FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

Although our churches are closed at this present time, the Church with a capital 'C' is certainly not. Services are no longer of course taking place in our buildings, but daily they are streamlined by the Diocese and can be found on the 'A Church Near You' website.

Along with this my own personal communication details are posted outside all of the Benefice churches, and I am always available for practical help or merely a listening ear.

Judging by the communications I have received, along with conversations had with other Ordained colleagues, not to mention letters to the Church Times; there is some disquiet and obvious upset that our churches remain closed. As a Priest who 'says' the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer in church, my personal disappointment is immense.

However, our Bishops and Archbishops have not made these decisions lightly, and I fully accept and support their actions. Our church leaders are simply attempting to work alongside other faith leaders and to assist the Government in its work to 'defeat' Coronavirus.

I fully realise that all of this is even more distressing to those who have had to postpone weddings, and those left unsure of when their marriages will take place in the future, certainly in the format they would hope for; I am deeply sorry that I have no answer at the moment. Sadly funerals are not taking place in church, but at the graveside or Crematorium, with restricted numbers. Baptisms, unless emergencies, are also postponed.

Times of crisis traditionally bring out the best in people, and the present troubles have proved to be no exception. We read and hear daily of those who give so much towards their fellow brothers and sisters, for some sadly the ultimate sacrifice. As a Benefice we can all be immensely grateful and proud for all across our Parishes who are acting as 'Good Neighbours' to others within our Communities.

It may well be of little consolation, but this is not the first time our churches have been closed. Eight hundred years ago, when our churches were governed from Rome (The Church of England was yet to be 'invented!'), in a bitter dispute with King John, Pope Innocent III, arguably the most powerful person in Europe at the time, issued an 'Interdict' across England and Wales closing all churches. No one was allowed to attend Mass (Communion), anointing the sick was banned, and whilst burials could take place, no religious ceremony was permitted at the funeral.

By a strange coincidence, which you couldn't make up, the Pope issued his 'Interdict' on the same day as Boris Johnson issued the Lockdown; March 23rd, albeit in the year 1208! We hope that our Lockdown lasts weeks/months, the Popes' 'Interdict' lasted 6 years!!

Finally, I read recently that Christian thinkers are divided as to whether the present crisis will lead to a religious revival, or hasten the demise of organised religion.

Historically, major disasters, such as World Wars, have led to a spiritual revival. Already the amount of people seeking websites relating to prayer and livestream church services are reporting record figures like never before.

As St Paul said all those years ago; 'neither death, nor life, nor things present, nor things to come, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

*Keep well,
Easter Blessings,
Philip
Rector*



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The Brits are well known for their ability to queue, oh how they've been queuing outside Rolfes!

When you hear the expression "Emergency / Key workers on the frontline", one – rightly so - thinks of those working in the healthcare system who are doing a tremendous job. Please however also spare a thought for all those non-emergency workers in retail positions who have direct contact with others on a daily basis.

Working at Rolfes over the last month has been very challenging as we adapt to new processes to be able to provide online and grocery deliveries. It has also been very tiring, stressful, but also very rewarding.

So, in these uncertain times, what can I – a shop worker - actually do?

- Easiest answer to that is to make my interaction with customers as pleasurable as possible. To always have a smile (my colleagues would probably disagree with this!), to ask them about their day, about how they are and about their families
- Deliver the occasional newspaper / medicine
- Ensure regular customers have their little treats with their grocery deliveries
- Sanitise the card machine and door handles in the shop
- Ensure there are only 2 customers in the shop at any one time (as politely as we can, we have asked the occasional person to wait outside)

Experiencing the joy of someone discovering we have Ribena in stock can be quite heart-warming in contrast to disappointing all those who request yeast. Last year we probably sold 3 packs in the whole year, in the last few weeks, we could have sold this amount 20 times over!

Do I worry that I will catch Covid-19? Possibly, but I cannot linger with this thought too long. I think of myself as quite 'hardy' for which some may consider me blasé but my worry is for my family. My eldest son works in retail too and we come in to contact with many people. Is my husband happy for me to work so many hours? To be brutally honest - No, he isn't - but he knows I love my work, I love interacting with customers and providing them with some sense of "normality", even if it is for those few minutes they are in the shop.

Sometimes it can be extremely difficult to remain positive with the uncertainty for peoples' futures. However, in the current situation whereby people are losing their lives, their livelihood, their jobs, their income, my worries are insignificant.

When all this is over and a vaccination is readily available to all, my wish for society as a whole is to become far more tolerant with each other and to remember how, in 2020, we all helped our neighbours and friends (old and new) and how this should continue.

And for those who have discovered there is a village shop which has supported you in difficult times, we look forward to continuing to welcome you and long may you support us, in the future.

Finally, please remember in these very uncertain times, when you are out shopping, a little thank you goes a very, very long way.

Stay safe

Tracey.



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What is wrong with this picture? Is anyone doing anything right?

37 *If you think there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody.*

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sarah.littlewillows@googlemail.com

Book your place for (hopefully!)

September 2020



PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO FUNDED CHILDREN

BOWLS

(By a Buffer)

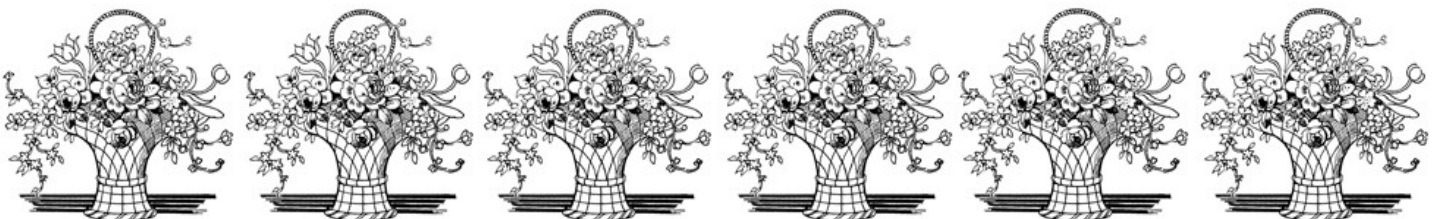
Yes, my dear Bob, you are right - as you commonly are -
The vertebrae creak and the ribs seem to jar,
 When a man bends his back - after fifty -
If only to pull off his boots; he at length
Finds that curve in his spine is a strain on the strength
 Of which middle-age must be thrifty.

But Bowls! Yes my boy, it's a jolly old game,
Though athletic fanatics might vote it too tame,
 But sense is not baffled by bogies.
The Emerald Green and the "bowls" and the "jack,"
Are beautiful - but for that bend in the back -
 To those the young furies call "fogies."

You have not to "sprint" o'er some acres of grass,
Or to scamper, to "scrimmage" or "pass,"
 At the risk of your ribs, or "rheumatics";
You have not to treat your opponents like foes,
Or "go for" your rival's shin-bone or his nose
 As do the aforesaid fanatics.

But how pleasant the "green" in the cool of the day,
The tankard of stingo, the yard of white clay,
 And the play and the chaff of good fellows!
Although not a betting man howls out the odds,
And no ring of mad backers - like gallery "gods" -
 About us insensately bellows.

Yes, my dear Jane, the "crank in," and the "kiss of the Jack,"
All - save, as you say, that darned bend in the back -
 About the old game is delightful.
We thank you for "trolling the bowl" once again,
Ah! It were a pleasure to play it with Bob???? -
 (By Jove, though - that loin-twinge was frightful!)





Strands



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REMEMBERING JUMBO

Back in the mid-Seventies, when I moved to Walsham, I was still playing cricket for Haughley, but I followed the fortunes of Walsham cricket team in the Bury Free, who at that time published the score details of the local village teams. Two names which cropped up regularly were those of Ian Campbell and John Folkard, who seemed to have the bowling tied up between them.

With the demise of Haughley Cricket Club, whose pitch had been described as 'little better than a cabbage patch' by the Wright Brothers of Wattisfield, and the persuasive talk of Ray Rudderham - at that time a near neighbour - I plucked up the courage to offer my services, as a somewhat wayward bowler, to the Walsham team. Little did I know that John Folkard had had to quit playing cricket as he had damaged his ankle quite badly. So I found myself partnering Mr Campbell in the bowling department. As an astute player he took the slightly downhill run up, leaving me to trundle uphill.

It was shortly after joining the team that I discovered that John's nickname was Jumbo, when I went to see a physio in Bury to whom John had gone to try and get his ankle fixed. She said that she had been somewhat worried about her DIY examination table when the rotund figure of Jumbo had appeared at her clinic. Thankfully a reasonable safety factor must have been built in as no further damage was done to John's body as a result of the visit.

John, for some time, continued his association with the cricket section of the sports club through his ground-keeping skills, which consisted of ensuring that the square was kept neatly trimmed, leaving the rolling to the members of the day's team - pulling an agricultural roller back and forth. In due course, though, the club managed to acquire a heavy mechanical roller.

On one of the first times that it was used, by John on a slightly damp day, he went up and down covering the whole square in double-quick time. Looking back at his handiwork he was surprised to see a very uniform set of parallel lines running across the pitch, until it was pointed out that, even though the roller was quite a bit heavier than he, his standing at one side of the driver's platform would produce a distinct list, thus producing his wonderful orderly pattern.

There have been many other characters who have wielded the willow or leather in years gone by and it is hoped that players past and present might like to record their contributions to the club, either through the pages of the Observer or through the pages of a history of Walsham Sports Club which it is hoped to be produced in the not too distant future.



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A TIME FOR INTROSPECTION

After 50 years in Walsham

Well, not quite 50 years as we arrived on 11th December 1970 to find a power cut in place and our first night's sleep in Walsham was started by first blowing out the candles. I had warned Mrs C, having bought Clay Cottage without consulting her, that the water pump on the corner of Clay St was an indication of a different life to that which she was to leave in the south of London but the absence of electricity was possibly an early test of our marriage. Next day the lights were back on and, of course, there was water in the tap; just an example of what I call humour, but she calls something else!

I am starting to write this article as we enter our third week of isolation being at the wrong age range of the 70s and having used the dry weather to sort out most of the garden needs. The editor suggested I might provide some personal background to my time being involved with the Sports Club and having re-read the book by John Hatcher, a fictional story of the Black Death in Walsham 1349, it is clearly time to put something on paper for my benefit if not yours as that epidemic arrived to the east of the village and headed past Clay St as it climbed to a peak on Easter Sunday 12th April. The disease successfully wiped out many of the older members of the Parish and much of the knowledge and information that the passing years provide.

In my first season's cricket with the Club, our base was the old pavilion on the western boundary of the ground. It had been in use since the 19th century although now the roof was tiled instead of its original thatch but the interior still features roof supports with original tree trunks and branches. The evolution since those days to what we now have, is a tribute to all the volunteers who have given of their time and sometimes money to provide the village with sporting facilities of which they can be proud.

I headed the article an introspection because I think when Covid 19 has passed through and life can return to normal, it won't necessarily be the 'normal' as we know it now. I had already started thinking about the future for the Club and how long it could continue to be managed by volunteers given the complexity of what is now a small business so given this period of limited activity, a strategic review is called for. I would like to involve members of the wider community beyond Sports Club membership to tap into expertise that I am sure exists as we try to put together a business plan to take the Club forward and secure its role in village life.

In a subsequent edition of the Observer, questions can be asked of what you, the readers, believe should be our way forward ; in what ways should we seek to improve what is on offer for the whole community in terms of sport and recreation and how do we manage and maintain the Sports Club. The traditional funding stream from bar takings has flatlined at best and may well shrink so our business model for the future will need fresh thinking.

Ian Campbell
Treasurer

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**Automated External
DEFfibrillator (AED)**

Located in the refurbished red telephone kiosk outside the Memorial Hall this AED has been registered with the East of England Ambulance Service and can be accessed via a digital keypad. The access code can be obtained by simply dialling 999 and asking the Ambulance Service. For reference purposes the location postcode is IP31 3AA.



BANANA LOAF

This is one of my favourite recipes as it's easy to make, always turns out well and is very yummy. This recipe will also make you feel very thrifty and virtuous as it uses bananas that are past their best, that is, of course, if they survive that long in your house at present. In my experience once banana skins have a few brown marks on them children refuse to eat them to cries of 'gross' or 'this banana is yuck!'. The only downside of this recipe is if you don't like bananas!

If you have managed to get hold of some basic baking ingredients, which I know is not that easy at present then simple loaf cakes use less eggs and ingredients than more elaborate cakes with fillings and toppings. So, loaf cakes are what I'm baking at present to make what ingredients I have go further.

This is also a cake that you can bake with your children. Most children love to bake, mostly because there is something to eat at the end of all their hard work. During difficult times when you may be trying to work from home as well as help your children with their online school-work, making time to bake together can be a lovely shared time as well as great fun. Baking is also a wonderful vehicle for a variety of learning opportunities and building life skills such as:

Mathematics: weighing, measuring, timing, counting, estimating

Literacy: reading and understanding recipes, following instructions, ordering actions.

Science: learning about combining ingredients, process changes, chemical reactions such as cakes and bread rising.

Food Technology: exploring new tastes and textures before and after cooking, exploring ingredients in their raw state and finding out about the processes that they go through to get to our tables.

Hygiene and safety: hands- on experience of practising good hygiene and identifying and understanding the need for safety in the kitchen.

All that sneaky learning from baking a simple banana loaf. Amazing!

Recipe for Banana Loaf

Ingredients

- 175g caster sugar
- 100g softened butter/margarine
- 2 large eggs
- 225g self-raising flour
- 1 teaspoon of baking powder
- 2 tablespoons of milk
- 2 ripe bananas roughly mashed

Method

- Pre-heat your oven to 180C/Fan 160C/Gas 4

- Lightly grease a 2lb loaf tin. Line the bottom only of the tin with greaseproof/ baking parchment. This will stop the cake from sticking to the bottom of the tin and make it easier to turn out.
- If you are going to use a food mixer then put all the ingredients into the bowl and whisk well. However, if you are making this cake with children then the hand-baking method is best so that they can see how the mix changes when ingredients are added, also they can get more involved in the process.


Hand-baking Method

- Mix the weighed caster sugar and butter/margarine together and beat until light and fluffy.
- Break the two eggs into a separate bowl and whisk well.
- Weigh out the flour and add the baking powder to the flour, making sure the flour and baking powder are well mixed.
- Gradually beat the eggs, flour and milk into the caster sugar and butter. Beat well until the mixture is smooth.
- Mix in the mashed bananas.
- Pour the mixture into the loaf tin and bake in a preheated oven for one hour (60 minutes).
- You can test if the cake is cooked through by inserting a skewer in the centre. If the skewer comes out clean, then the cake is cooked.
- Leave the cake to cool on a wire rack.

Banana Loaf will keep fresh for up to three or four days if wrapped in foil and stored in an airtight container (that's if it lasts that long!). It also freezes beautifully and is delicious spread with butter.

Happy Baking!



	<h2 style="text-align: center;">TJM Frames</h2> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Windows, Doors and Conservatories</p> <p>City & Guilds Trained Carpenter</p> <p>Installing windows since 1985</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>No showroom</p> <p>No gimmicks</p> <p>Quality craftsmanship at low prices</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Rowan House Palmer Street Walsham-le-Willows IP31 3DA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Telephone: 01359 259658</p>
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Don't use a big word when a diminutive will suffice.

NETTLE SOUP

Find a patch of nice clean young nettles.

With thick gloves and secateurs cut nettle tops to get a good basketful.

Ingredients

1 basket of nettle tops

Nob of butter or oil

1 litre of hot water

Grated nutmeg

1 onion and garlic clove (chopped)

1 or 2 Stock cubes

Salt and pepper

Single cream

In April and early May, pick young nettle tops.

Melt the butter or oil and add the chopped onion for 6 minutes, add chopped up nettle stalks for 3 to 4 minutes. Cover with hot water and stock cube, boil gently for 20 minutes. Blitz or blend and serve with a dash of cream and grated nutmeg.

Nettle quiche is nice too!

No Sting!

THE WEDDING

‘Amazing wedding! All those flowers!’

‘And Krug and caviar for hours!’

‘And what a castle! What a lake!’

All floodlit, too, for heaven’s sake!’

‘And what a crowd - in three marquees!’

‘Plus ice-cream parlour, if you please!’

‘And what a ball! And what a band!’

It must have cost a hundred grand!’

‘And what a super springy floor!’

That must have cost four thousand more!’

‘And what a gift for every guest!’

Bulgari, Asprey, and the rest!’

‘And what a dress! And what a ring!’

And, wow, Oasis there to sing!’

‘And what a car! And what a plane

To fly them - privately - to Spain!’

‘And what a shame they split so fast!’

When was the wedding? Tuesday last?’

Liz Cowley

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SUNFLOWERS

The primary school children who are still at school have been busy making seed packets to share sunflowers to Walsham folk to grow in their front gardens as a way of cheering us up in this time of social distancing.

This all started as I found a large packet of sunflower seeds called "Smile" and thought it would be lovely to share and grow them around the village - to make people smile as they walked around the village for their daily exercise. this is a short variety suitable fro growing in pots.

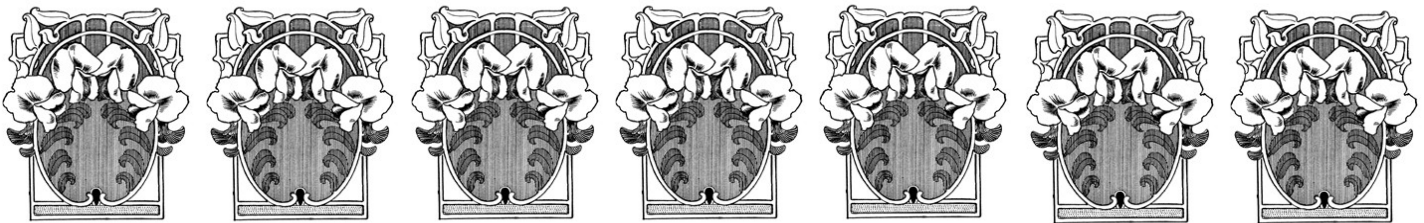
I provided the school with a seed packet template and with Tracey Gorslak's support the children have been busy making seed packets - all hygienically made with stringent hand washing.

The seed packets can be collected from collection pots around the village (at the moment outside the school, my house near allotments, Louise's house Reading rooms along The Street, and Tracey Gorslak's house in Elmside Lea.

I have now received another 1000 seeds of Sunflower Giant Yellow Single - this is a tall variety - up to 300 cms. The children are now making more seed packets to share and these will be in the collection pots shortly

All Walsham folk are invited to can join in if they wish - it would be great to have lots of sunflowers visible in peoples front gardens in a few months time

Alison Findlay



MORE OR LESS

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The numbers 1 to 5 should appear in each row and column.

The greater and less signs indicate the relative size of adjacent numbers.



There are apparently 27 figures of speech in the above picture. See how many you can find. I suspect that digital travel might have obscured one or two.

ON THE BIKE IN DAYS OF CORVID

Thankfully, in these days of 'lockdown', we are privileged, in this area, to be able to get out to enjoy the fresh air without running into the danger of 'overcrowding' or disobeying the social distancing requirements.

With the request that we leave our houses just once during the day I try to combine a shopping trip with a cycle ride. The challenge is to try and steer clear of centres of villages - if possible - so planning a ride presents just a small challenge.

Last week I set out from Rolfes, with my newspaper, bread and lunchtime food in my panniers and set off in the direction of that 'everlasting' building site - Sunnyside, where I took a right turn and pedalled uphill to the completed building of Bribery and on to 'Reeves' corner. Here, taking a right and left I was on my way to Long Thurlow, via Badwell Green. At Long Thurlow I turned right and, after riding along the village street, took a left-hand turn to take me along the quiet road through Daisy Green. At the next junction I turned left, and headed towards Weatherden Hightown - on the way having the luxury of a downhill swoop, at the bottom of which a right-hander took me past the Elmswell storage warehousing and on to the Elmswell - Ashfield road. A short distance, after passing the water tower I turned left, heading towards Norton and, having passed the entrance to Miles Drainage, took the next right-hand turning and headed towards Hunston, along a narrow, twisting switchback road. At the small duck pond in Hunston I took a left and right to ride with care across the ford and uphill to Langham. Turning right, at the post box and then left, after riding a quiet narrow lane, I found myself at the T-junction on the Ixworth - Walsham road. Then it was just over a mile before I was back in Walsham, having cycled just over fourteen miles. As this is approximately a circular route I was as much wind assisted as wind challenged and the rises either way were almost equivalent.

On other rides that I have been on, during the 'lockdown', I have been able to enjoy riding far more than usual as a result of there being far less motorised traffic on the roads; at times when I have had to cross the A143 I have frequently been able to ride straight across without having to watch long snakes of traffic going past. I have also noticed far more family groups out on their bikes, and horse riders must feel far safer themselves.

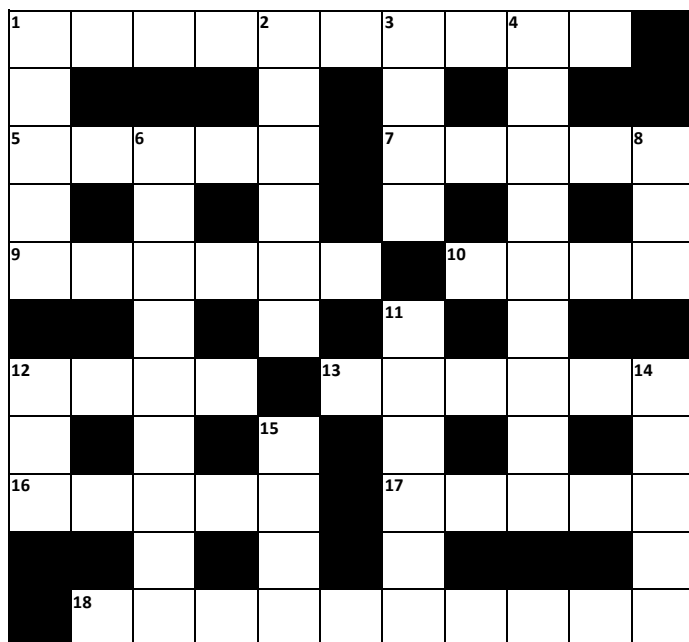
Hopefully those people who have found themselves more frequently on two wheels will feel confident enough to use the same form of transport once the movement restrictions have been relaxed.



THE MOBILE POST OFFICE

The Mobile Post Office will still be coming to the
Village Hall Car Park on Thursday mornings
from 11:00am till Noon till further notice.

OBSERVER CROSSWORD



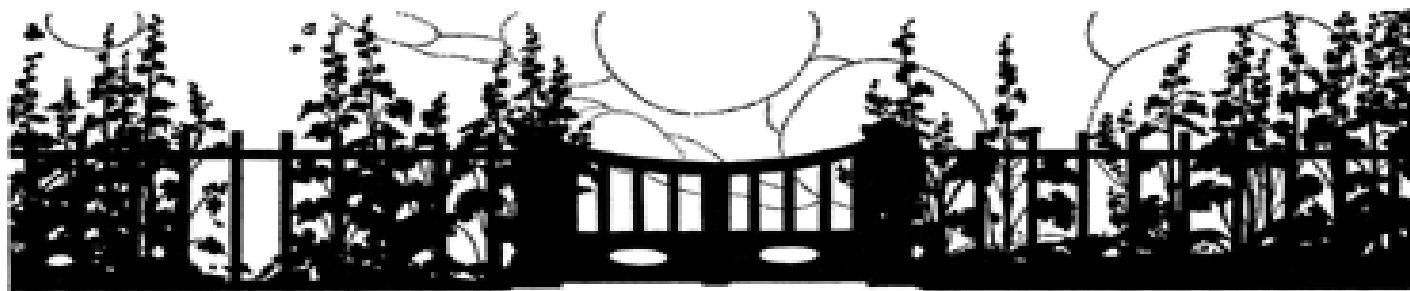
ACROSS

1. Parent has mail returned for the talking shop. (10)
5. Typically a judge with robes in disarray. (5)
7. I've an awful cream. (5)
9. Take on in the greengage harvest. (6)
10. Stumble on an outing. (4)

12. Stay for the carol singer we hear. (4)
13. Comes before down in this puzzle. (6)
16. Wonderful purse found in a jumble. (5)
17. Her aunt's a bit more than nice. (5)
18. My forecast changes the code I print. (10)

DOWN

1. Stick as being in private in short. (5)
2. Rings a change when being poorly clothed. (2,4)
3. Excellent condition of a sweet. (4)
4. It won't happen again says the raven. (9)
6. Is this such a thrill for a large diving bird? (3,6)
8. Cleopatra's nemesis. (3)
11. Have you seen Nicholas in pleasant surroundings? (6) ???
12. Once looked in the mirror. (3)
14. Mug found in the waste incinerator. (5)
15. Shove and drop in pieces. (4)



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VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

For almost two decades the format of this Book Club has stayed unchanged. Roughly once a month on a Friday a Book Club meeting is hosted at the home of one of the members, just as the campanologists begin their chimes. The format is a glass of wine or two, a meandering discussion of the book and some general chat.

March was all change. We discussed *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. We had patiently waited until it was available in paperback. Little did we know when the title was selected, that all comfortable and familiar routines were about to be upended. This month's meeting involved everyone who was "attending" using their laptop or phone to join an on-line meeting. Some members were unable to join either because they didn't have the necessary computer equipment or they felt this just wasn't a format they were ever going to like.

We used an app called House Party which has outrageous Ts and Cs and very poor security but is free and it displays all participants in their own frame on the screen so you can see everyone at the same time. The meeting still involved a glass of wine, a meandering discussion of the book but maybe less general chat. Breaks in signal, the social norms of online turn-taking and restricted broadband capability all took their toll on the flow of discussion. Even, the usual crib sheet of questions could not compensate for the chemistry of face to face discussion and some members seemed to "disappear" for a refill more regularly than others.

Highlights of the new format included a constant message saying "Poor internet connection" across one of the participants heads, one person whose presence seemed completely frozen and another who seemed to only have the top part of their head on view. It seemed that having multiple video screens at the same time and at a peak time of day was causing issues.

However, over-all we all felt the meeting and discussion were worthwhile and we are planning the same format next time maybe earlier in the day or at a less busy time for internet traffic. We are already looking forward to returning to the old ways !

TROUBLE WITH LOCKDOWN?

Just be careful because people are going crazy from being in lock down! Actually I've just been talking about this with the microwave and toaster while drinking coffee and all of us agreed that things are getting bad. I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she puts a different spin on everything. Certainly not to the fridge as he is acting cold and distant. In the end the iron straightened me out as she said everything will be fine, no situation is too pressing. The Hoover was very unsympathetic... told me to just suck it up, but the fan was more optimistic and hoped it would all soon blow over! The toilet looked a bit flushed when I asked its opinion and didn't say anything but the door knob told me to get a grip. The front door said I was unhinged and so the curtains told me toyes, you guessed it.....pull myself together.

ALL THE ANSWERS

OBSERVER CROSSWORD

P	A	R	L	I	A	M	E	N	T	
A				N		I		E		
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E	N	G	A	G	E		T	R	I	P
	D		S		S		M			
W	A	I	T		A	C	R	O	S	S
A		P		P		E		R		T
S	U	P	E	R		N	I	E	C	E
		E		O		I				I
	P	R	E	D	I	C	T	I	O	N

MORE OR LESS

5	3	4	1	2
3	5	1	2	4
1	2	3	4	5
2	4	5	3	1
4	1	2	5	3

OBSERVER SU-DOKU

4	5	1	6	3	2	7	9	8
8	9	6	5	7	1	2	3	4
3	2	7	4	8	9	6	1	5
7	6	8	9	1	3	5	4	2
5	3	2	7	4	8	1	6	9
9	1	4	2	6	5	3	8	7
6	8	5	1	9	7	4	2	3
1	7	9	3	2	4	8	5	6
2	4	3	8	5	6	9	7	1

FIGURES OF SPEECH

Knock your socks off

Cat got your tongue

Born with a silver spoon in the mouth

Don't carry all your eggs in one basket

Wear your heart on your sleeve

Keep your cards close to your chest

Living in your shadow

An ace up your sleeve

Got the cat by the tail

Nail on the head

Cold feet

Fish out of water

Chalk & cheese

On a silver platter

Spill the beans

Kick the bucket

Loose screw

Bird brain

Red herring (b&w?)

In a nutshell

On the wings of time

Something fishy

Tie the knot

Piece of cake

Cherry on top

An earworm

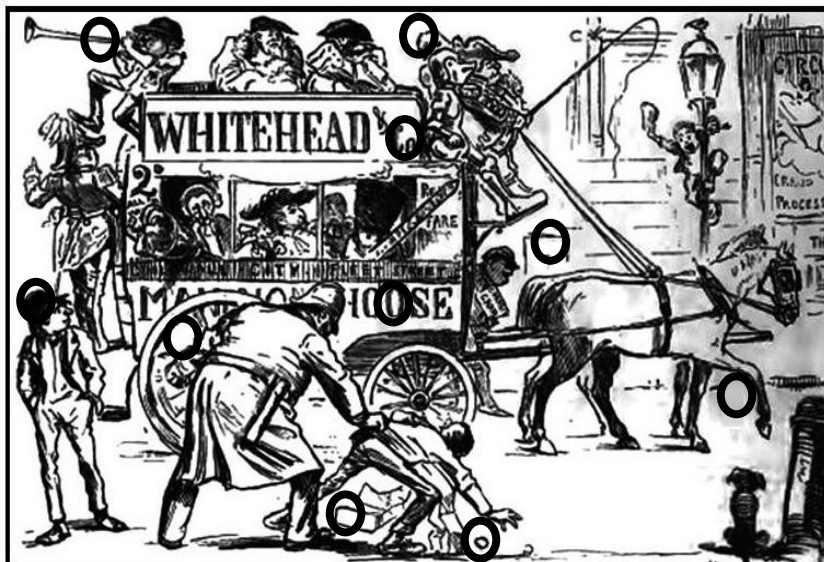
Time flies

SEARCHING FOR WORDS

Ant	Ante	Ape	Apt	Arm	Art	Ate	Eta	Gat
Gate	Gram	Gran	Grant	Grape	Grate	Map	Mar	Mart
Mate	Nag	Near	Neat	Net	Par	Part	Pat	Pate
Pea	Pear	Peat	Pen	Pent	Pet	Rag	Rage	Ram
Ran	Rant	Rape	Rapt	Rat	Rate	Tag	Tan	Tap
Tape	Tar	Tea	Team	Tear	Ten	Tram	Trap	

Pentagram (54)

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



AN UNASHAMED PAGE FILLER

No one is practicing social distancing apart from the man in the top left-hand corner



Just remember; life isn't always quite as it seems!!

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Community Council Secretary		Surgeries	
Ian Bartholomew	01359-258349	Ixworth	01359-230252
		Stanton	01359-251192
Police		Botesdale	01379-898295
Suffolk Police	01473-613500	Woolpit	01359-240298
Stowmarket	01473-383400	Parish Council Chair	
Neighbourhood Watch		Trevor Roberts	01359-251144
wlwnhw@gmail.com		Parish Council Clerk	clerk@
David Murray	07740 123585	Kevin Boardley	walshampc.
Rev. Phillip Merry	01359-258806		myzen.co.uk
	07526 271784	District Councillor	
		Richard Meyer	01359-251760
Anglian Water			07771 703668
Emergencies (24hr)	0845 7145145	County Councillor	
Accounts	0800 919155	Mrs Jessica Flemming	01449-711065
Eastern Electricity	0800 7838838	Suffolk County Council	03456-066067
British Telecom		Member of Parliament	
Customer Service	150	Jo Churchill	0207-2198487
Line Faults	151		

VILLAGE ORGANISATION CONTACTS

Allotments Group

Alison Findlay 07704311468

millcroft66@gmail.com

History Group

Frances Jenner 259242 frances.jenner@hotmail.com

Horticultural Show

Judith Harlow 258251 Judith@gharlow.plus.com

Mothers & Toddlers

Jasmine Cunningham 07462971568

Sports Club

Mike Powles 07379089890 mike.powles@btconnect.com

Walsham Wild Wood

Lorna MacKinnon 259140 mackinnonlorna@gmail.com

Women's Institute

Pearl Cobbold 259729 cobboldpearl@aol.com

If your group has not been included and you would like it to be please contact Ian

Notice from Walsham le Willows Parish Council

CORONAVIRUS

Register for Vulnerable People & Volunteers

The Parish Council are in the process of building confidential registers of vulnerable people in the village and of volunteers who will make themselves available to assist where required. Obviously information from these registers will need to be shared appropriately but with due regard to General Data Protection Regulations.

Priority will be given to those older people who are living alone (or elderly couples) without nearby family support. The aim is simply to ensure that no-one in the village is left alone without support as evolving government advice (or orders) are put into practice.

Please contact the Clerk preferably by email (see below) to advise any of the following:

If you need support

If you know someone who needs support

If you are willing to volunteer to support someone

If you are already supporting someone

This information will greatly assist the Parish Council with co-ordination of responses and is especially important if someone is living alone even if the only requirement is to keep a close eye.

Kevin Boardley | Clerk to Parish Council | Walsham le Willows

Send email to | clerk@walshampc.myzen.co.uk

Or telephone | 01359 259 794 (please leave a message with name and number)

If you do not have an email account or need help, do ask someone to make contact on your behalf.