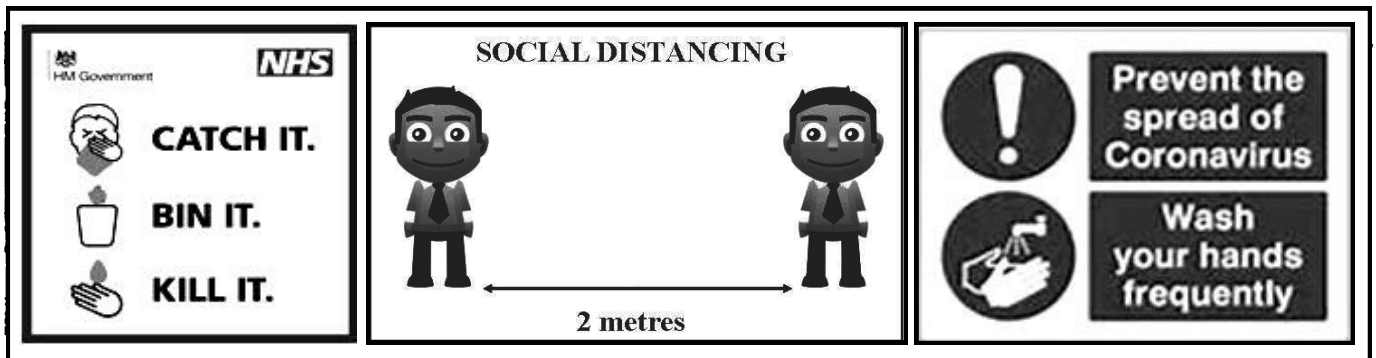


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SEPTEMBER 2020

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THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

SEPTEMBER 2020

No 618

Published and distributed by the Walsham Community Council.

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

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www.walsham-le-willows.org

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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

Many thanks to those who expressed their delight at having a paper version of the Observer last month, and trust that no further spikes of the Corvid pandemic force me to have to return exclusively to the online version.

It is heartening to see that there is some slight movement back to 'normality' with the Coffee Shop opening again - albeit Al Fresco in the Freebourn Garden for the moment, church services starting up again - minus the singing - and it appears that the WI had a get together courtesy of the Sports Club, who in turn are staging cricket fixtures - minus the traditional teas. It would have been wonderful to celebrate the Fortieth Open Gardens Weekend, but that will now have to wait until next year at least - but in the meantime there is a 'virtual' alternative on the Walsham-le-Willows website.

There is the possibility that a few activities may return to the Village Hall - as long as they can comply with Corvid restrictions. There may well be other stirrings, so look out, in case notifications are put out around the village. Hopefully the Diary of Events may soon make a reappearance in the pages of the Observer. Whatever happens do Stay Safe, not only for yourself but also for others - negligible symptoms in one can be extremely serious when passed on to others.

I trust that the varied contributions, for this edition, will be of interest to many in village, and please do keep the articles coming in. I am very grateful to those who have contributed to this edition, without your help this month's edition would have been very 'slim pickings'.

Including photographs in the magazine is always a little fraught as there is no real chance to rectify any lack of clarity once printing has started. I just hope that the two collections of photographs, toward the end of this edition will be acceptable. I shall be happy enough to take further photographs, but their inclusion may rely upon space being available and there being a reasonable possibility of the end result being acceptable.

Hopefully you won't fail to notice that there is quite a number of cycle pictures in this edition, prompted by the Historic Churches Ride taking place on Saturday 12th September. If you haven't taken part before try it this year; it provides great exercise and results in much needed money being raised for our churches which, despite our Sunday arrangements, are expected to be their for our 'special' days.



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS.



Action Fraud UK have received a surge of reports where victims have received messages through Facebook Messenger from friends and family requesting to use their Pay Pal account to receive funds from the sale of items on E Bay.

Overall, between 1st June 2020 and 31st July 2020 a total of 95 reports have been made with total losses amounting to £44,035.

Messages are sent by fraudsters purporting to be friends and family stating that they have sold a camera on eBay but that they are unable to process the payment as they either do not have a Pay Pal account or because their Pay Pal account is not working.

The request is that the message recipient receives the funds into their own Pay Pal account, then, after transferring it into their own bank account, they forward it onto an account controlled by the fraudster.

If the victim agrees the payment is transferred into their Pay Pal account but, after the money is transferred out, the initial transaction is reversed leaving the account in negative balance.

Multiple reports have also been received from victims stating that their Facebook Messenger accounts have been hacked and that these fraudulent messages have been sent to all their contacts on their behalf.

If you think you've been a victim of fraud, report it to Action Fraud online at actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Police are appealing for witnesses to a public order incident that took place in Woolpit. It happened on Broomhill Lane on Tuesday 11 August at about 1:45pm when a male cyclist collided with a woman, aged in her 70s, who was watering her plants outside. She sustained bruising in the process and had damage to her clothes. After the cyclist apologised and the victim had reminded him of the highway code, he left the scene only to return a short time later with an older male. Both males then started shouting abusive words and swearing aggressively at the victim and were physically intimidating.

One suspect was described as aged about 15 years old, of slim build, with blonde hair, and dark clothing and riding a black racing bike. The older male was aged in his 40s, with short hair and was driving a white van.

Anyone who has knowledge as to who the two males were should contact Suffolk police, quoting crime number 37/46684/20.

Are you aware of the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** ?

An incident occurred in June at a property in Stowmarket when a nest containing House Sparrow chicks was removed and almost destroyed following routine maintenance.

After the nest had been removed, the occupant decided to take the chicks to Stowe Vets, where they were hand-reared and later released back into the wild.

The incident was reported to the police and a 60-year-old man was interviewed and given a caution in relation to three offences under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (protection of nests/eggs of wild birds)

David Murray.



WALSHAM OBSERVER SU-DOKU

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

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

Each row, column and 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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COMMUNITY COUNCIL & MEMORIAL HALL

Annual General Meeting

Following the article in the July Observer the trustees have now agreed that this year's AGM cannot be held in September as was previously hoped as the ongoing COVID19 social distancing restrictions will severely limit the number of people that could attend. The position will however be kept under constant review and as soon as it is practically possible to hold an unrestricted open public meeting in the Memorial Hall then the required 21 days' notice will be published and the necessary arrangements put in place. In the meantime, the trustees will endeavour to ensure that the 2019 annual reports and accounts for both charities are finalised and reported to the Charity Commission by the deadline of 30th September 2020.

Ian Bartholomew
Honorary Secretary & Trustee
Walsham le Willows Community Council
Registered Charity no. 278321

VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The hall kitchen upgrade is progressing. The walls in the kitchen have been made good and painted a fresh white. As I write this for the Observer the anti-slip flooring is being laid, the committee thank the Parish Council for paying for the flooring and helping to maintain a valuable village asset. The new kitchen units are on order and hopefully will be delivered the beginning of September.

The coffee shop continues to be held in the garden and is proving a great success on Thursday mornings, another thank you to all those that attend and those who bake for us.

With the continuing easing of lock-down, I am now back in contact with Fit Villages Suffolk in the hope that as soon as the hall is ready we can start opening up for some activities, in line with COVID 19 guideline and best practises.

Amanda Ellis



	<p>THE MOBILE POST OFFICE</p> <p>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.</p>
--	--



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WALSHAM AND DISTRICT WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



I wish we had taken a picture!

There are signs that the village and its people are tentatively returning to a few of the activities that have been absent for the last few months. Wednesday saw a group of intrepid WI members, dutifully socially distanced, sitting beneath some very useful canvas cover on the sports field. Drab weather maybe but lively chat in that party, as friends who had not met since lockdown greeted one another with smiles and laughter. No business, no speaker but a real warm enjoyment of each other's company. The rain dripped steadily as news was exchanged and plans suggested for a repeat meeting if a suitable site and reliable weather could be forecast.

Oh and yes if you must ask...there was cake!

All WI members are staying touch with The Hive, the on-line fortnightly WI magazine. This month it details a list of new virtual talks available on line through the Suffolk West Federation. These are available to non-members also.

Jill Newell



WALSHAM LE WILLOW VILLAGE HALL

The Community Council committee
would like to welcome back everyone to the

MVH Al Fresco Coffee Shop.

Reopened under government guidelines for
village halls and COVID 19.

Teas, coffee and homemade cake is served in the

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STANTON AND DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



I would like to thank those that attended the service at the village War Memorial Saturday 15th August to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day and to remember those that did not return, we also remembered those who died in Europe. John Cummings placed a wreath on behalf of the RBL.

Branch members from Stanton were in attendance at their memorial. At the time of writing these notes no decision has been made regarding the Festival of Remembrance planned for the Apex in November.

The last meeting was held in February, although we are desperate to get back to normal we realise it is still vital to proceed with caution.

Take care ,stay safe

Hubby Frost (Vice Chairman)

STREAM CLEARING

“Every year the banks of the village stream are cleared and tidied to keep our village looking cared for and to present a good image to the many visitors who come to Walsham over the August bank holiday weekend for the Open Gardens Weekend. The Parish Council are fully supportive of this work and are grateful to the Gardens Weekend Committee for taking on this role and funding the work.

This year the work will be carried out in the Autumn. Please direct any queries or offers of help to either the Parish Clerk (clerk@walshampc.myzen.co.uk) or John Stebbing (John@architectatwork.co.uk), the Secretary of the Gardens Weekend Committee.”

SEPTEMBER BENEFICE SERVICES

Date	Time	Service	Church
6th Sept	8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
9th Sept	9.30am	Holy Communion	Finningham
13th Sept	8.00am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Walsham
	3.00pm	Evensong	Langham
20th Sept	9.30am	Holy Communion	Walsham
	3.00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
23rd Sept	7.00pm	Compline	Finningham
27th Sept	8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash

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HEALTHWATCH SUFFOLK

Digital health and care survey

I trust you are all keeping safe and well. I am getting in touch because we have just launched a new project, with Healthwatch Essex, that aims to gather feedback from the public and also our local NHS and care workforce about use of digital services (appointment systems, online consultations, phone triage, remote visiting etc).

We help get the best out of health and social care services in Suffolk; improving them today and helping to shape them for tomorrow by engaging with people living here. We use the things you tell us about local care to influence the delivery and design of services in the county – not just for people who use them now, but for anyone who might need to use them in the future.

The aim of this project is to understand how the sudden increase in the use of technology during the pandemic has impacted upon people's experiences of receiving, or providing, both NHS or social care. This is particularly important as we know many of these new means of access are here to stay, so we need to make sure they will work for those who will need and rely on them.

All of the information about the survey (including all survey formats) can be found on:

<https://healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk/digitalhealthandcaresurvey/>

Here is a news item including quotes from us, HW Essex and Dr. Ed Garratt:

<https://healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk/news/digitalhealthandcaresurvey/>

I'd really appreciate any help to circulate the survey widely, either digitally or in your local newsletter. We are also keen to reach people from BAME communities and also those who may be 'digitally excluded', so any help to reach communities will really give us the best chance of achieving a diverse response.

If you need any further information about the survey, please get in touch. Lastly, if possible, I'd really appreciate it if you can let me know how you have shared the survey as that will help us to track reach and to report that to the ICS Board in our updates.

Many thanks



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WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

of meeting Tuesday 11th August 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, Ellis, Kinnair, Mecrow & Roberts.

[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 **Apologies** – None
- 1.2 **Minutes** for the meeting held on 14th July 2020 were proposed as true and accurate record by Cllr Kinnair, seconded by Cllr Mecrow and unanimously approved.
- 1.3 **To receive pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests of members** – None
- 1.4 **To consider applications for dispensation** – None
- 1.5 **Public Open Forum** – No members of the public were present.
- 1.6 **County and District Reports** – Cllrs Fleming & Meyer were not able to attend. Report for the District included, Discretionary Business Grants, Stick with it Suffolk (re covid-19, Leisure Centre re-opening, Modification to planning conditions re construction working hours, funding for installation of solar car ports, Wheels in Motion transport action plan, BMSDC Advance Vision for communities, CIFCO property investment, Electoral roll registration, and BMSDC blueprint for the future. Full report can be found on the village website at: <https://www.walsham-le-willows.org/explore/governance-community/parish-council/>

Cllr Bartholomew reported that following funding enquiry last month, Cllr Meyer had contacted the Little Willows Pre-school directly and £1000 is due to be paid from his Locality Budget.

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

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/20/02434

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection of 1no. two-storey dwelling including parking areas and landscaping **Location:** Land to rear of

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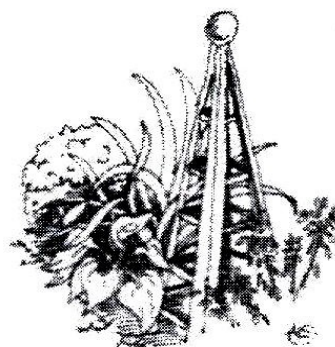
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Holmwood, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk **Parish Council Objected**

We would like to lodge our strong objections to this application.

The Parish Council has attempted to arrange a site meeting to discuss this application with the applicant and with the applicant's agent, but both have as yet, been unwilling to agree to such a meeting. In assessing our objections, it may be beneficial to refer to the website of HM Land Registry, Title Plans: SK 157972 (Stephen Colby of Topshop, Walsham) and SK 327981 (Thomas Moriarty and Suzanna Freeborn of Holmwood).

The Parish Council objected for the following reasons:

- The site does not have the capacity to provide even the bare minimum of two off-road parking spaces which might be accepted as sufficient for the development of a four-bedroom house. Each of the spaces indicated on the application is unrealistic: the space behind “Clematis” is used, and has been used for many years, by the owner of this cottage and the applicant has no right whatsoever to expect to make use of this space; if the second space were to be used it would largely block the pedestrian entrance to the proposed house and as such would probably not be used; cars could not be parked in the driveway because this would block the rights of way of other residents and so would probably end up parked on the road.
- Access to the site is inadequate. The existing driveway is narrow, gives very poor visibility, and enters The Street at a point where the road itself is narrow and is typically obstructed by parked vehicles. Access from the driveway into the main site is also painfully inadequate; there is particular concern over access during an emergency; fire would be an enormous worry as so many of the neighbouring buildings are constructed largely of wood.
- The building plot is outside the village Settlement Boundary. It would be extremely difficult to justify allowing this development of a residential unit which is unnecessary, and which would create serious problems in this part of the village.

We ask that this application be rejected.

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/20/03360

Proposal: Application for works to tree in a Conservation Area - one Ash - Fell (excessive shading on thatch) one Oak - Pollard leaving height at approximately 2.5 -3 metres

(Due to close proximity to roof and causing shade/dampness) Location:

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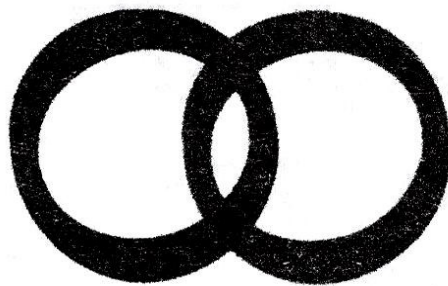
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Hunts End, Palmer Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BZ **The Parish Council made no comment.**

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

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/20/02071

Proposal: Householder Planning Application - Works to fenestration and render. **Location:** Appletree Cottage, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AA **Application withdrawn.**

Reference DC/20/02541 Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for DC/19/04146 for variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents)

Location Namaste Wattisfield Road Walsham Le Willows Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BD **Permission granted by MSDC**

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 **Advised by applicant that work is going ahead without permission.**

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/20/02541

Proposal: Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act for DC/19/04146 for variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents)

Location: Namaste, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BD **Permission granted by MSDC.**

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/20/02657

Proposal: Notification for works to tree/s in a Conservation Area - Fell 1 No Conifer (T1) and Crown reduce one Beech (T2) by 25%. **Location:** The Priory, The Causeway, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AB **MSDC raised no objection.**

4 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 Development & Neighbourhood Plan** Cllr Belson reported a very successful exhibition on housing in Walsham held on 23rd July. The exercise was very useful in soliciting opinions of residents as to where development should and should not happen in the village. The Clerk proposed a payment of £10 to the PCC for the use of the printing facilities in the Widows Room. It is understood that costs are shared equally with the Community Council. The Clerk advised that Neighbourhood Plan Group is now using Clerk's address for correspondence.



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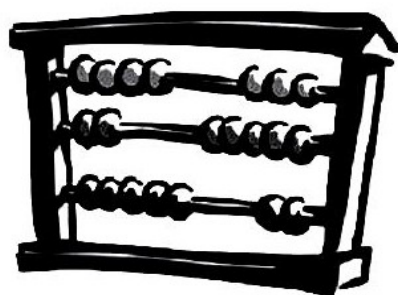
Caroline Morris 07843 248 411

cdv_11@hotmail.com

- 4.2 **Streetlighting conversion update** Following exhaustive enquiries, the Clerk updated further in developments with the specifications for the quotes received on new information which puts the quotes received into a different light. It was agreed that in the light of this new information that the Parish Council should engage SCC to do these upgrades providing that Pearce and Kemp agree to the withdrawal of the instruction from them.
- 4.3 **Community Council - update Cllrs. Ellis and Bartholomew** – Cllr Ellis thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the Memorial Hall Charity for the funding for the new kitchen floor which has been ordered and will be completed very soon. Kitchen units are being sourced to be fitted asap. Coffee mornings in the garden are well attended and very well received. The point was made, re the payment to the PCC for neighbourhood plan printing, that the costs of the Widows Room are shared between the Community Council and the PCC. Cllr Mecrow noted that it was welcome to see the Observer back in print.
- 4.4 **Parking Finningham Road blind bend** - Cllr Bartholomew advised that he had contacted Andrew Long at Flagship Housing again but had received no response. Cllr Arbon made the point that it has been noticed when parked cars are moved from the bend that the traffic speed increases noticeably. Cllr Mecrow agreed with Cllr Arbon that there appear to be two younger male drivers in the village at the moment who are breaking speed limits by a significant margin one of whom can be identified as driver of a white car with a faulty exhaust system. The point was made that pending the outcome of discussions re this situation residents could be encouraged to make use of the Parish Council speed gun. However, it is known that the police will not grant permission for this to be used at sites that are considered unsuitable for reasons of safety. This would include the Finningham Road blind bends and approach.
- 4.5 **Street Cleaning** – statement of particulars (contract) pending on Clerk's to do list and it was agreed this should be removed from matters arising.
- 4.6 **Parish Council Risk Assessment** – pending on Clerk's to do list and it was agreed this should be removed from matters arising.
- 4.7 **Hedge and debris The Causeway** – The Clerk reported that a letter of thanks had been sent to the owner of the hedge along The Causeway following its being thoroughly cut back from the pavement. The clearance of debris from the pavement has been reported to SCC and a response is awaited.
- 4.8 **Fishponds Lane Footpath** – Cllr Mecrow reported that the fly tipping had been removed. Clerk noted that contact at SCC had intimated that they

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might be able to help with some sort of barrier as Fishponds Lane is a public right of way. Action Clerk to follow up with SCC contact.

- 4.9 **Letter from Woolpit Surgery re ongoing volunteering after shielding ends, request for volunteers prepared to provide ongoing support with correspondence amongst other things, and specific request of one off help for an individual with dementia** - Clerk advised no responses received from volunteers. This was communicated to Woolpit Surgery and the agency who enquired about ongoing support. After discussion with the agency requesting support for an individual with dementia who already has carer support going in advised that another source of support would be found. Agreed that this should be removed from matters arising.
- 4.10 **Website Accessibility** – Clerk reprised the issue from AOB of last meeting and the approach suggested was agreed, namely that this is another exercise that is disproportionate for a small Parish Council with limited resources. Clerk to follow up and produce a site assessment by the deadline. To be removed from matters arising.
- 4.11 **Traffic speed** - Clerk advised unsatisfactory response from SCC highways and intention to follow up. See also 4.4 above.
- 4.12 **Bench seat outside Rolfe's** – The bench outside Rolfe's was donated many years ago and was originally sited on The Avenue until it was requested that it be removed. It was disintegrating to such an extent that it had become a potential hazard and the Parish Council have therefore assumed responsibility for removing it after complaints. At this time, the Parish Council do not have any plans to replace the bench, especially as it is also now located on commercial premises. To be removed from matters arising.
- 4.13 **Churchyard chipping slippage** – The issue of the pea shingle that was laid to the sloping access to the Churchyard from The Causeway and the accidents that have been reported were discussed. None of the options to rectify this are bound to resolve the issue and those that would properly resolve would require considerable expenditure because there is a long sloping area down to the gate. In the first instance it was agreed to push the shingle back as far as possible up the slope (it will migrate downwards again) and to install a cast step to match the one under the larger gate with a slight lip that *may* help to retain the pea shingle. To be reviewed in 6 months' time. Clerk to ascertain under whose instruction the pea shingle was laid.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 Email re stream clearance from riparian owners – Clerk advised that the piece outside Millar's Close can be included. Clerk to pass on details of new

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volunteer and thanks to the Riparian owners for the proposal to action this.

6 REPORTS

- 6.1 Clerk's report & financial report to 31st July 2020 & request for payments. The summary of payments has been signed digitally against invoices, or otherwise authorised, by Councillors Bartholomew and Kinnair pending wet signature at later date.

#	Payee	Amount	Description
1	Tom Hunter	£70.00	Play Area Maintenance
2	Tom Hunter	£152.60	Street Cleaning
3	SCC	£10,068.50	Phase 1 streetlighting upgrades
4	Clarkes of Walsham	£98.03	A Frame displays for Neighbourhood Plan Drop in.
5	Clarkes of Walsham	£115.01	A Frame displays for Neighbourhood Plan Drop in.
6	Zoom	£14.39	Subscription for Video Conferencing Software
7	P Dryden	£40.00	1st Cut footpaths disbursement
8	Parish Council Employee	£430.59	Wages

#	Payments In	Ref	Amount	Description
1	SCC		£466.22	Footpaths Cutting Grant
2	MSDC		£396.76	Street cleaning grant

- 6.1.1 Problem Reports** SCC update – Fly tipping and Grove Road sign both reported. Both resolved or in process of being resolved. Noted.

- 6.1.2 Audit** - Still waiting to hear from external auditors. Noted.

- 6.1.3 Exercise of Public Rights (period when accounts can be inspected)** – the Clerk advised that the external auditor this period was extended to 11th July. Noted.

- 6.1.4 Website domain ownership & migration of hosting platform** – Clerk reported that the website domain has been successfully transferred from the Community Council to the Parish Council. Clerk requested the migration of the site from an Apache server to cPanel for the reasoned noted in the previously circulated documents. This was unanimously agreed.



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6.1.5 Internal Control Check – The meeting considered all assets on the register and actions appropriate for each about maintenance. Clerk (Parish Council shed), Cllr Mecrow (Litter Bins) Cllr Roberts (SIDs and Bus Shelter), ACTION clerk and Cllr Ellis (Village sign and tree)

6.2 Play Area

- **Play Council/Parish Council governance relationship** – At last the balance lying dormant in the Play Council account has been received from Santander in the past few days and the account closed. The Old Town Trust (OTT) have responded informally to initial proposals as to the way forward. Discussion on next steps, requirement for lease and to retain a level of funds that will facilitate further fundraising. ACTION Clerk to draft email to OTT in first instance for review.
- **Play Area– consider re-opening** –Clerk updated Councillors on discussion with the insurance company and the previously circulated risk assessment now on file. Cllr Roberts to print the signage for reopening. Clerk to publicise on website, in Observer and on notice board.
- **Hedge cutting** – Two quotes received. The only hedge to be cut bounds Townhouse Road. Clerk to instruct contractor.
- **ROSPA inspection booked with Play Safety for reduced September rate** – noted

6.3 Footpath Warden - Cllr Belson reported that footpath 4 known as Nether Way is now clear and passable. There has been a report from a member for the public that horses are using the footpath along the river in West Street. Cllr Belson to arrange for the erection of signage.

6.4 Tree Warden – Cllr Belson – nothing to report

7 OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION - None

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

8.1 Consultation on changes to the planning system Clerk noted the circulation of the information should the Parish Council wish to agree at the next meeting to submit comments.

8.2 Request for guidance from Parishioner – on a sensitive matter. Clerk advised how it was proposed to respond – noted.

Meeting Closed 22:06

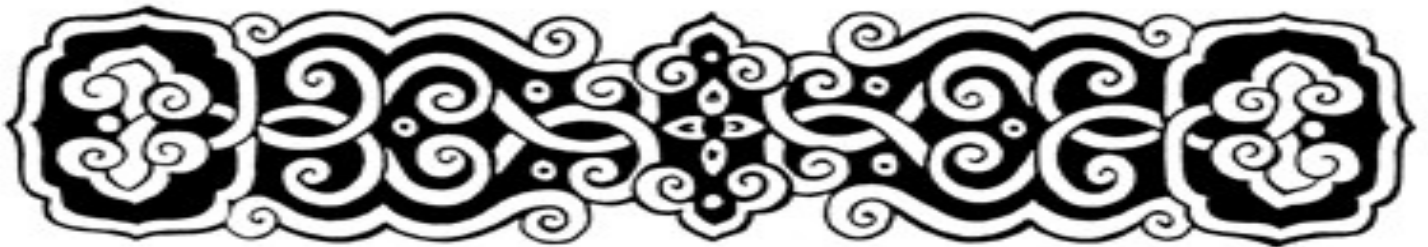
Kevin Boardley, Proper Officer, Clerk to Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council

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CLARKSON REVISTED

I was most interested to read of the annual memorial service held in Playford church in memory of Thomas Clarkson who worked so hard to abolish the slave trade. He was helped at the start of his mission by an ancestor of mine, James Ramsay. He was born in 1733, the son of a ship's carpenter. His father died when he was young but he received a good education and after being apprenticed to local doctor, went on to qualify as a surgeon. In 1757 he entered the Royal Navy as a junior surgeon.

In 1759 he was surgeon on HMS Arundel under captain Charles Middleton when they were approached by a British ship flying a yellow flag, signifying there was fever on board. Ramsay volunteered to transfer to the ship to try to help. What he found was to change the course of his whole life. It was a slave ship holding over 100 slaves in the most horrific conditions.

Two years later, invalided out of the Navy, wishing to help slaves, he trained as an Anglican priest and was ordained by the Bishop of London whose diocese included the West Indies. He was sent to a parish in the Caribbean island of St Kitts, where he welcomed both black and white parishioners to his church and provided free surgery and medicine to the poor. His chief objective seems to improve the lot of the slaves rather than to abolish slavery. He owned 15 slaves and insisted they should attend his family prayers every morning. He became friends with those planters who treated their slaves well but also saw the appalling suffering inflicted by some slave owners. He sent regular reports to the Bishop of London but was subjected to continuous attacks from some in the slave trade. After sixteen years worn down by the abuse he returned exhausted to England, having freed his slaves before he left.

In 1780 Sir Charles Middleton, now Comptroller of the Navy, offered him the living of Teston a parish in Kent. The Middletons had become ardent abolitionists and Lady Middleton encouraged Ramsay to publish his notes on the West Indian slave trade. In 1784 he published a 300 page *Essay on the Treatment and Conversion of African Slaves in the British Sugar Colonies*. For the first time the British public could read a first-hand account of the everyday life of slaves and of the appalling suffering inflicted on some of them.

The following year, possibly influenced by this publication, the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge set as a subject for a Latin essay competition *Is it lawful to make a slave of others against their will?* The competition was won by Thomas Clarkson who on his journey home was suddenly struck by a moment of enlightenment, like Paul on the road to Damascus. He realised that if what he had written was true, then he was the one who 'had to see these calamities to their end'.

He started by translating his essay into English. By chance he took it to the same publisher in London as James Ramsay used and who arranged for them to meet. Ramsay was impressed by the essay and invited Clarkson to stay for a month. He introduced him to the Middletons and other abolitionists including Grenville Sharp and the Bishop of London. They formed a group, known as The Testonites, and planned a

campaign to persuade Parliament to make the slave trade illegal. Clarkson was to act as its public face and they hoped to persuade Wilberforce see it through Parliament. They encountered fierce opposition with pamphlets often directed against Ramsay who continued to provide evidence. The Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade was finally passed in 1807. It was not until 1833 that my wife's ancestor Thomas Fowell Buxton presented The Slavery Abolition Act to Parliament which made the ownership of slaves illegal in the British Empire. Ramsay had died in 1789, five years after the publication of his 'Essay' which had inspired Clarkson and many others.

Richard Martineau

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SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST

Hubby Frost's book relating his life in the village captured the past in a way no official records can – it was personal. It set me thinking of bits I have picked up about the past albeit in a second-hand fashion which are never as good as first-hand but still maybe interesting.

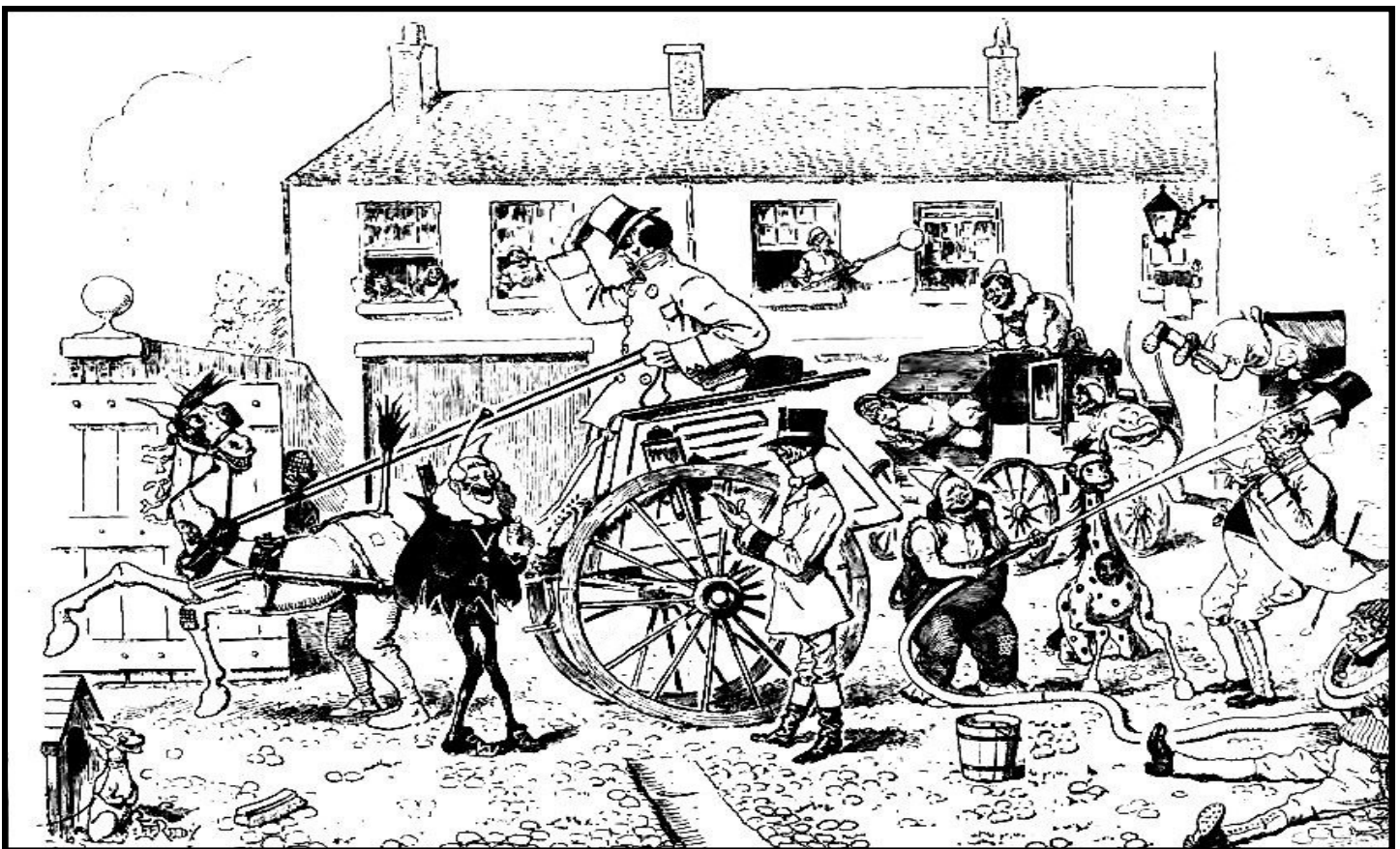
I wrote in the Observer a couple of months ago about Neil Debenham and his pig farm at Elmside thinking it might be interesting for householders on that land to know what had gone before where they now lived. The history of my house, Clay Cottage, had a link with Neil in that he lived from an early age in one half of it with his parents and five sisters. His father, Joe, originally came from Hartest where he was the youngest of fourteen children and whose father was a shoemaker. Joe himself was the village postman collecting the mail from Elmswell on shanks pony and whilst doing his rounds would perform basic veterinary roles such as castrating piglets and cats for the villagers. Neil reported that he rarely got paid for such services other than with a drink but there must have been a lot of them as at times his return to the house came in a far from sober state. Sad to relate, Joe finished his life in the pond (as was) in our garden; he was found without anyone knowing the precise cause of why he drowned but perhaps it was the fault of those cats!

Neil was too young for the first world war but did find himself in Egypt in the 1920s whilst doing National Service. When he came home from that, work was extremely hard to find and he told of having to fill in the trenches that had been dug to defend against a possible German invasion. I presume they linked up with the pillboxes in the area, one of which sits in the hedge at the top of a Sunnyside Farm field to the east of the village.

Another character who recently passed away near Perth in Australia aged 94 was Oscar Dixon, a past policeman of the village who ruled the village in the fifties as police used to i.e. at times with his fist. Stories tell of Oscar drinking in the Six Bells until closing time at which point, he would go outside, put his uniform on and come back in order to close things down. At other times if there was trouble and the law was not respected, he could take off his uniform and invite the troublemaker across the road to the churchyard to sort the matter out. He was a keen cricketer and dealt with some youthful misdemeanours by a penance of an hour on the heavy roller getting the pitch ready for a match. By the time I arrived in the village he had left the police force and was working as a security guard at Haverhill Meat Products but continued playing cricket for Horringer where he could be a cantankerous foe. Once he had moved to Australia to be near his daughter, we only had the pleasure of Oscar and his wife Flo every few years when he would be back in Suffolk for the summer and passed his time watching cricket with Bryan Garrard up at the Club.

Finally a story of another policeman, PC Prentice, who so the story goes was on patrol in the village when a couple of chaps came past him without lights on their bikes, one of them being Neil Debenham. Prentice enquired who they were as it was too dark for him to see; a loud noise of a particular nature was heard to which PC Prentice said “Now I know who you are Tom Plummer, see me in the morning”.

Ian Campbell

[illegible]

In which decade did Joseph Stain die?

EDUCATION SUNDAY

For well over 100 years the Christian Church has set aside one day in the year when it celebrates all that is good about Education. Down the centuries our churches and monasteries have been influential in the field of education, often financing schools, as well as colleges to train and equip teachers.

This year Education Sunday falls upon the 13th September, and for many it will be celebrated with mixed feelings; but for all it will be an opportunity to reflect upon these past months, and the challenges those in education face in the immediate future.

As places of learning re-open for a new academic year, many young people will return with a degree of apprehension, as like my own grandchildren they will not have attended for the best part of 6 months. For the education leaders there will be the added difficulties of organising social-distancing and all the strategic implications which that throws up.

Many students who have received exam results during August may well feel a sense of grievance at the grades which they have been awarded; leading to a sense of uncertainty for the future.

All in all 2020 will have been a bit of a roller-coaster for our children and young people. Many may well have enjoyed the period of lockdown and the opportunities which were enabled. But for some there may well have been dark moments. Statistics about the mental health of children through lockdown and the impact upon safeguarding services are now beginning to emerge. Some children will even have experienced bereavement. Nor are our young people immune from the economic fall-out from the present pandemic; the surge in demand at our local foodbank in Stowmarket bears witness to that.

We know that not all young people have been able, or willing to learn away from the resources and discipline of the classroom. The social and relational aspects of education have been largely missing. Many will have struggled to have been away and many will struggle to go back.

Education Sunday offers us an opportunity to celebrate all that is good in education; to give thanks for teachers and learners, educational leaders and support staff. A time to rejoice with those who succeed and provide reassurance to those who struggle.

As we are educated, we discover who we are, our unique gifts and skills, and our role within our community, our country and our world. We give thanks this Education Sunday for all our places of learning, for their growth, change and flexibility; and our churches will pray that all who study and work in our schools, colleges and universities will flourish in all areas of their educational formation.

Philip Merry



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Calm, Stretch and Breathe

10 am – 11 am 12th September

A wonderful one off chance to try some very simple yoga outdoors with Julia - Walsham's local yoga teacher - who is very kindly donating a free hour's yoga session up at the Walsham Wild Wood. Bring a mat or towel to lie on and wear soft clothes so you can move and bend easily!



‘IN FAIR VERONA where we lay our scene’

Your editor has asked for more of the Bard. ‘More, more, I prithee, more,’ he begged, leaning from his trusty metal steed, ‘I can suck melancholy out of a song as a weasel sucks eggs’. And so we travel to Italy. We pick out Verona, where before lockdown we could still visit the ancient grey mansion of the Capulets. High on the outer wall is perched a small stone balcony where, we are told, thirteen-year-old Juliet sighed ‘O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?’ But stay awhile, that little balcony was tacked on to the venerable building in the Mussolini era to satisfy the tourists. It fools most people.

The story of the star-cross’d lovers is not entirely Shakespeare’s. Following an older legend, young Romeo escaped a charge of murder by fleeing to Mantua, Italian Mantova, now a long bus-ride away. A vital message was sent to him, but the city, like many others in the 15th/16th centuries, was visited by the Plague. The Mantuan authorities, suspecting that the messengers were ‘in a house where the infectious pestilence did reign,/seal’d up the doors’. The message for Romeo didn’t get through, with disastrous consequences.

Friar John



Drucilla: *Before lockdown I quite often found it hard to get through the ‘book of the month’ before the book group meeting, but I’m flying through this one!*

Emmeline: *I know! I’ve raced through the next few books. I’m now on to November’s title and fear that I shan’t remember September’s when we meet in three weeks.*



Coronavirus
COVID-19



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

**The Play Area officially re-opened from 20th August 2020
BUT with the following guidelines in place:**

**CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED BY A PARENT OR
GUARDIAN AT ALL TIMES**

PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT IS USED AT OWN RISK

PARENTS/GUARDIAN ARE REQUIRED TO:-

Bring hand sanitiser for the cleaning of their children's hands and play equipment **BEFORE, AT REGULAR INTERVALS DURING, AND AFTER** use of the playground equipment. In the absence of such sanitation parents or guardians are requested to ensure the equipment is **NOT** used.

Ensure play equipment is cleaned before use by any clinically vulnerable family members.

Ensure physical distancing between children at the current distance of 1 metre plus. If possible only one child to use each piece of equipment at any one time.

Advise children to avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth.

Ensure children under their care have regard to the safe use of equipment and to the safety of others at all times.

Use litter bins **BUT** please take PPE home with you for disposal.

Adhere to the most up to date health advice.

Ensure clothes are washed after use of the Play Area equipment.

**THE CONSUMPTION OF FOOD OR DRINK IN THE
PLAY AREA IS BANNED**

HISTORIC CHURCHES RIDE

Saturday 12th September
from 9.00am and 5.00pm

If you are a new recruit to the cycling fraternity, or even an *age-old* cyclist, you will find that this is an excellent event, enabling you to take a pleasant leisurely ride around the area, visit a number of the local churches, meet other cyclists and just possibly find somewhere to have a drink and a bite to eat - as long as you socially distance of course. You might even decide to ride a little further and explore some other area of Suffolk - or maybe venture into South Norfolk and even take a packed lunch with you. Some churches may provide some refreshment, but don't bank on it in these very different times.

It's all for a good cause; half the money raised will go to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and the other half to the church of your choice. Sponsor forms can be found in St Mary's, or you can download one from the internet. <https://shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/> although you will have to scroll down some way before seeing the point where you can download the sponsor form and list of churches that should be open.

At a number of churches you may find that there is no one there to sign your sponsorship form and you will have to *self-register*. So why not pack your camera, or smart-phone, and make a photographic record of your day out on two wheels; you will then be able to provide evidence to those *Doubting Thomases* of your 50 mile ride and 36 churches visited!! Do remember to take something to write with for those places where you have to *self-register*.

Although the ride is scheduled for 9:00am till 5:00pm there is nothing to stop you starting early and finishing late - for a really long ride - but in any event do cycle with care and be consideration toward other road users - walkers, cyclists, horse-riders and motorists. If you are driving in the area on that day do apply the same care and consideration, and be aware that there may well be a cyclist around the next corner.

Do seriously consider taking part, your contribution will be much appreciated in these Corvid strapped times (no Church Fete or Open Gardens Weekend!!).

Here's hoping that you have a very rewarding and enjoyable day out!

Ian Toulson





Walsham Congregational Church

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Preachers September

Services each Sunday at 11.00 & 6.30

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|--|
| 7 | Rev. Stephen Holland | (Westhoughton Evangelical Church, Lancashire) |
| 14 | Mr. David Butler | (Ebenezer Baptist Church, Old Hill, West Midlands) |
| 21 | Rev. Timothy Martin. | (Wolverton, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire) |
| 28 | Rev. Kyle Paisley | (Oulton Broad Free Presbyterian Church, Suffolk) |

September 1620

September 16th marks the 400th Anniversary of the departure from Plymouth of those who would later become known as the Pilgrims, whose historic voyage crossed the Atlantic seeking a new life in America in a ship called the Mayflower. The voyage was hard – very hard and very dangerous. The ship was tiny: the QE2 for example, is 66,000 tons but the Mayflower was only 180 tons. If you can imagine 6 or 7 family cars parked nose to tail – that is how long (or short) she was and only about 4 cars wide, yet she managed to carry 102 passengers and about 30 crew. A crossing of the Atlantic in recent times would only take a few days – the Mayflower took 9 weeks! The passengers were crammed into a tiny sailing ship without proper rooms, food, beds, ventilation or sanitation. It must have been horrible! They passed through storms, were blown off course, they were cheated and abused. Nor must we forget that it was a tremendous risk to take. They left their familiar and friendly homes and crossed the ocean to a new, unknown, and dangerous land. Remember the longest journey most people undertook in those days as less than 30 miles – and at the speed of a horse. The Pilgrims sailed 3000 miles.

Why did they do it? The Pilgrims were Puritans. They wished to worship God simply – no fancy buildings – no special robes – no candles – no alters and no prayer books. They wished to worship God according to the way laid out in his word, the Bible. To do this, they had to leave England as, at that time, the laws of the land would not let them worship God according to the Bible and their conscience – they put God first in their lives, before their comfort and safety; they would endure anything and everything to obey the laws of God. God did not fail them; he protected them during the voyage and took them to their new home and, although some passengers died, none of the Pilgrims were lost – in fact one child (Oceanus) was born during the crossing and another shortly after arriving in the new colony (He was named Peregrine, derived from the Latin for ‘pilgrim’).

We trust that you will learn of the God that they trusted and be true Pilgrims.

**It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.
It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.**

(Psalm 118:7-8)

FACILIS DESCENSUS

Our dear little Bishop has bought a new bike,
Nor reeks what the world might say,
Over hill and down dale, past hedgerow and dyke,
He merrily pedals his way.

When to visit his vicars on Sundays he goes,
To appearance he tries to take heed,
But the one thing he loves is to pick up his toes
And fly down a hill at full speed.

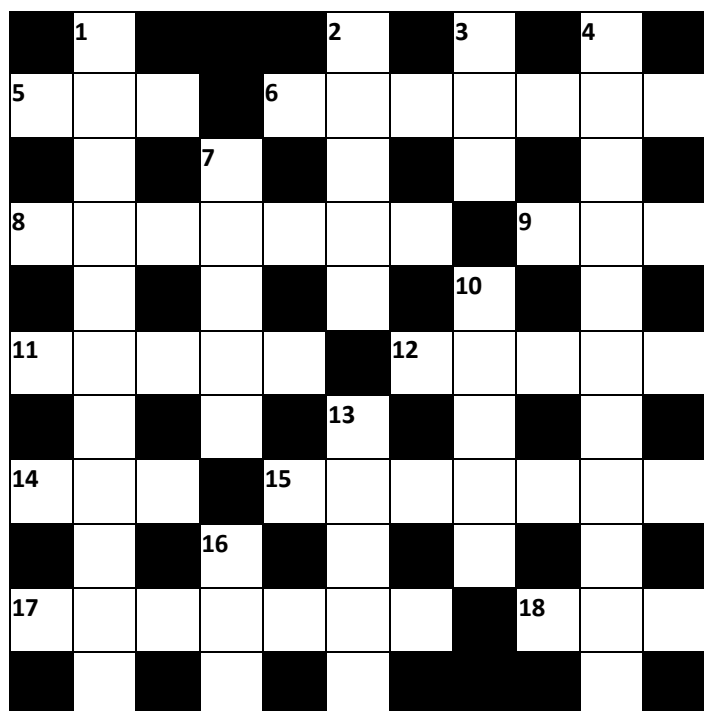
He can do thirty miles without turning a hair,
Yet he isn't much given to boasting,
"In the joys of the wheel," he will often declare,
"There is *nothing* can come up to coasting!"

And all of his clergy are going in now
To follow "his lordship's" lead;
They're biking and triking, but none I avow,
Can develop the same turn of speed.

Some day, I've no doubt - his limbs are so supple -
He'll go for some record or race;
I'll be bound that he'll win, if he gets a fast couple
Of curates for making the pace.



WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



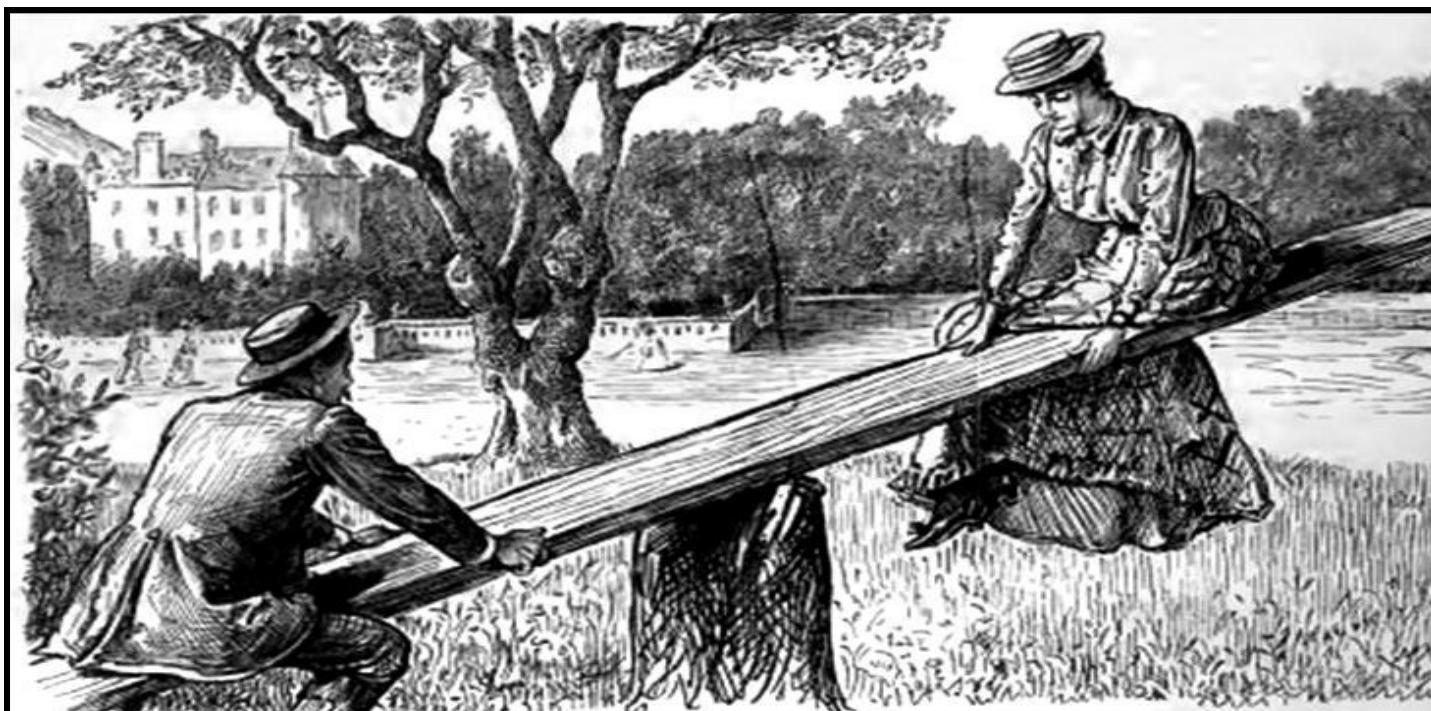
ACROSS

5. Idiot gets stuck on reflection. (3)
 6. Oh deer, it's found in the car I bought. (7)
 8. Being praised can turn to regret. (7)
 9. It's just not on! (3)

11. Bright transport returning. (5)
 12. Able to read the brief question. (5)
 14. Is he an army. (3)
 15. Corrects brief theatrical songs. (7)
 17. Note to the untidy era. (7)
 18. Expect this character to arrive. (3)

DOWN

1. Emporium is a great trading area. (11)
 2. Obsessive fellow in charge. (5)
 3. Mine goes down and the point goes up. (3)
 4. Decorate fen construction for the grey southerner. (11)
 7. Game wear. (5)
 10. Ruin for the European Community in a day. (5)
 13. Sounds like a race for the cloth. (5)
 16. Strange resort for Cleo's nemesis. (3)



The seesaw provided Esmeralda with a delightful excuse for practicing 'social distancing' from the over-attentive Algernon.

VIRTUAL GARDENS WEEKEND

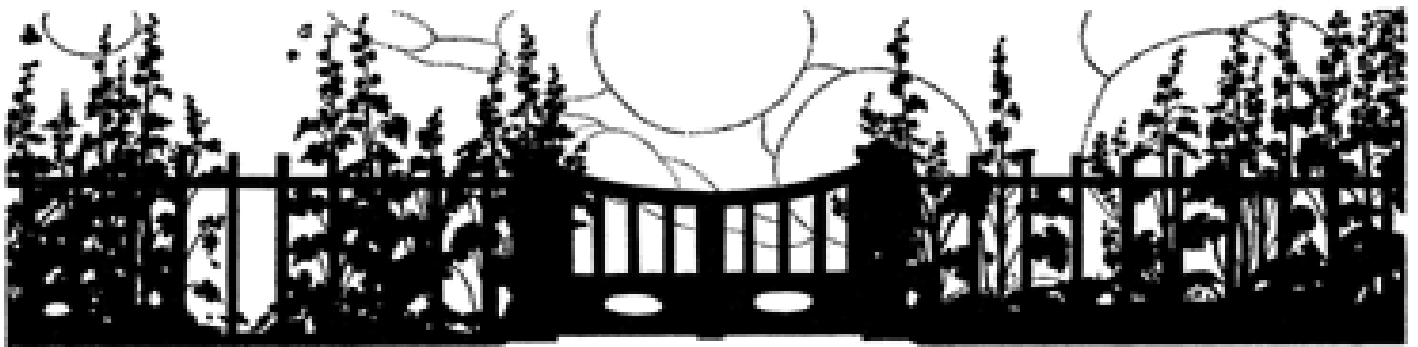
It is with great regret that, owing to Corvid-19, the Gardens Weekend Committee had to cancel the 40th Walsham Gardens Weekend.

The event has been cancelled only once before in its history, again due to circumstances beyond the control of the committee.

It is hoped that the 'virtual' substitute on the Walsham-le-Willows website will give some pleasure not only to residents of the village, but also to those from further away, who might visit the site to see if this year's event is taking place.

The collection of pictures on the facing page are from some of the gardens included - regrettably it was not really possible to include all thirty gardens opened last year.

To get the full colour of this small presentation go to walsham-le-willows.org and look for the Open Gardens.



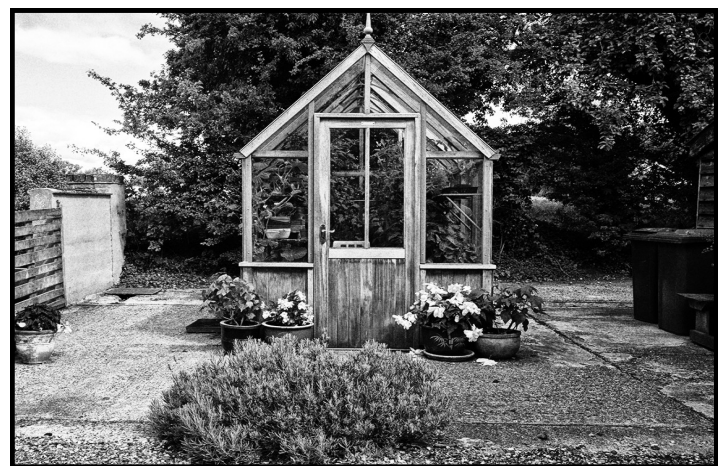
DEBUTANTES



Side by side they stand,
Tall and graceful
In bright and youthful innocence
Under the morning sun,
Their dress, in shades of cream and pink
Riffling, ruffling in a freshening breeze,
Bodies gently swaying, this way, that,
Looking, craning you would think
To see distinguished visitors arrive,
To comment on the sight,
Appraise the individuals in the frame,
The array of dressy colours on display.
But none appear.
So, all alone in their bright attire
With only the gardener there who will admire, and,
Holding their heads a little higher
The hollyhocks regard each other.



Rob Barber



In which sport do you hear the terms coule, piste and parry?

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Can You Help?

The History Group has been contacted by Yvonne Kay, and here is what she wrote to them recently.

As promised some photos of a wartime visit to Walsham by my Aunt whose Grandmother Angelina Woods (Lawrence) was born and spent her early days in the village.

I think they will be of interest to your archives. My Aunt Joyce Scott nee Lawrence, appears in some of them as a young woman in her 30s. However I have picked them for the places, houses and farms they show. This in wartime was obviously a working holiday as she is featured in haymaking etc. Were such holidays a common occurrence?

My interest is if possible to identify some of the places and maybe any of the local people associated with the holiday. It is not possible for me to get anymore information from the family as all are deceased from that generation.

The album in which the photos appear has only recently come to light by my cousin, Joyce's son. We are of course direct descendants of the Woods and Hubbard Clarke's of the village.

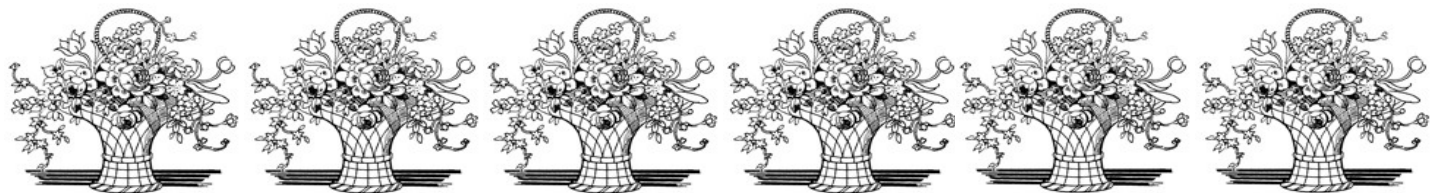
Any information will be of interest of course whether or not it helps to shed light on our own family. Any photos which show similar groups during WW2 on such holidays would also be of interest to me.

With my best wishes

Yvonne Kay(nee Lawrence)

If you have any information then please contact Yvonne Kay (y.kay@ntlworld.com) direct and copy in Frances Jenner (frances.jenner@hotmail.com) or Shirley Luscombe (shirley65801@outlook.com).





Name the only English horse racing venue to start with an M

ALL THE ANSWERS

1. Blackpool 2. Anglesey 3. Gloucestershire 4. Staffa 5. The Greta
 6. On a bow 7. Samuel Pepys 8. Gerald Durrell 9. Libretto 10. Karl Marx
 11. Mowgli 12. Toto 13. James Cameron 14. Daisy, Huey, Dewey & Louie
 15. Bullseye 16. Two 17. Rice and Fish 18. Jamie Oliver 19. Cheese
 20. The Netherlands 21. Fish & Chips 22. Geneva 23. Smoking in public places
 24. The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy 25. Julian Assange
 26. Joe Strummer 27. Captain Robert Scott 28. Peter Philips
 29. Robert Catesby 30. 1950s 31. The Bible 32. Julius Caesar
 33. From Me To You 34. Neil Diamond 35. Sid Vicious
 36. The Pet Shop Boys 37. Wet Wet Wet 38. 50 39. Doncaster 40. Fencing
 41. Brett Lee 42. Market Rasen 43. Airshot

More or Less

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

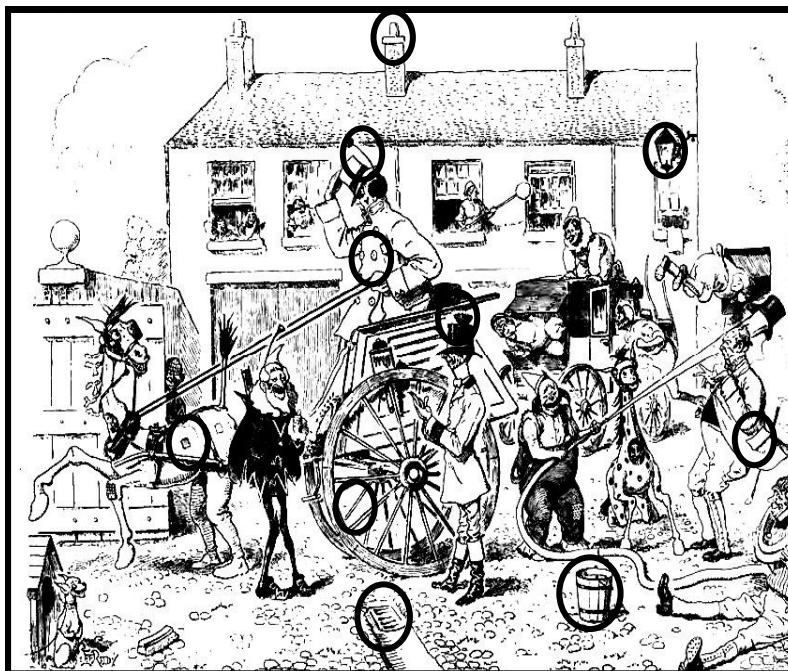
Su-Doku

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

Crossword

S				M	P		C		
M	U	G		C	A	R	I	B	O
P		S		N		T		N	
D	E	S	P	A	I	R		A	F
R		O		C		D		E	
S	M	A	R	T		R	E	A	D
A		T		S		C		E	
I	R	E		R	E	P	A	I	R
K		A		R		Y		A	
M	E	S	S	A	G	E		E	T
T		P		E				E	

Spot The Difference



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			myzen.co.uk
	01359-258806	District Councillor	
	07526 271784	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.