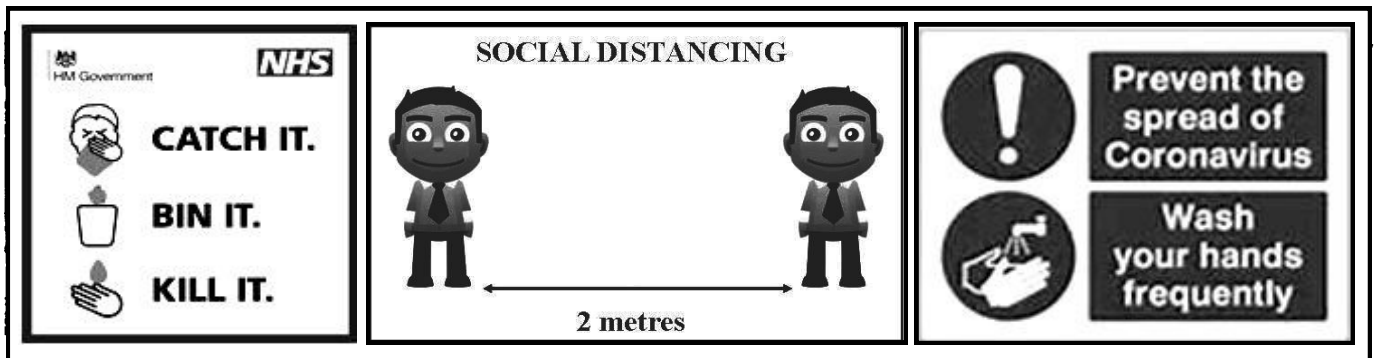


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OCTOBER 2020

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THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

OCTOBER 2020

No 619

Published and distributed by the Walsham Community Council.

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

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Volunteers

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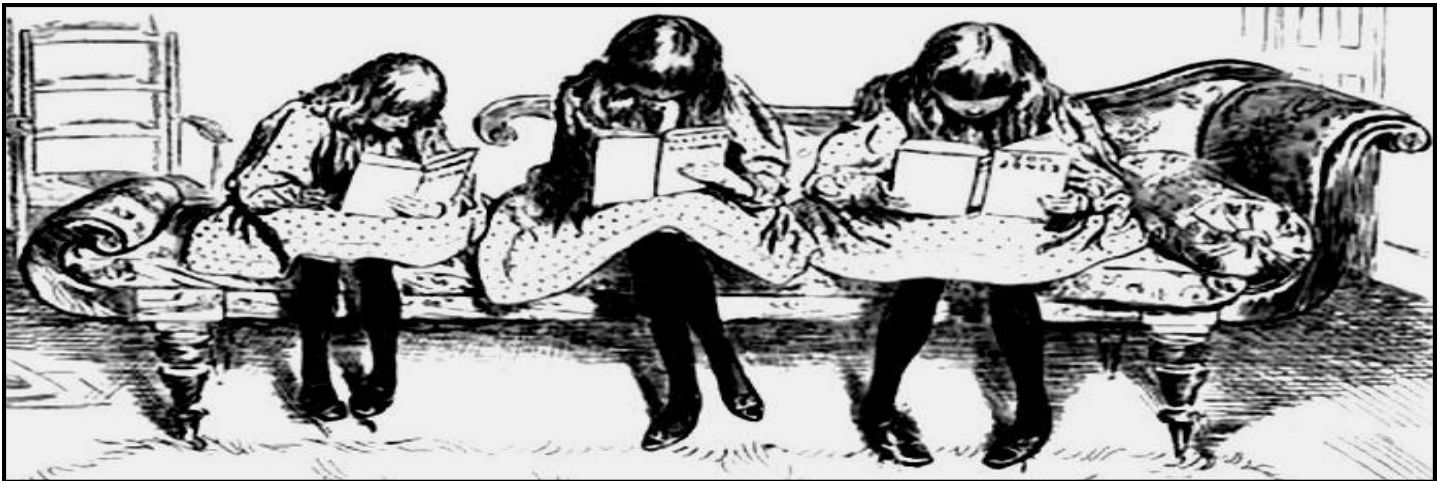
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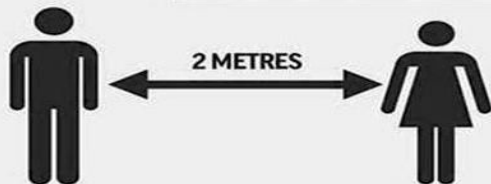
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EDITORIAL

I trust that you have had the option of reading this issue of the Observer as a hard copy rather than online, and so long as the restrictions do not get any tougher I shall continue to provide hard copies for all. If though matters get worse I shall produce a few hard copies 'single-handedly' and put those copies in Rolfes so that those who have found it difficult or impossible to access the magazine online can get a copy, but please do not take a copy just for the convenience - others more deserving might then miss out!!

I must, once again, thank those who have taken the trouble to provide copy and by so doing enabling me to produce what I hope you will find is a good read. Any contributions will be most gratefully accepted.

Cycling past St Mary's, a few weeks ago, I was surprised to see that the church clock had disappeared. 'Whoops! Has lead lost its value?' I thought. It seemed that it might have been being repaired. Others seemed to have failed to notice any change in the features. I certainly failed to notice the restored clock face, when passing the church on my return from Salisbury - keeping Covid and Novichok free, by masking up and avoiding door handles. Then I received an email from John Stebbing, and all was made clear. So thanks to the Gardens Weekend for getting that organised. A little brightness in the present 'gloom'.

Sad to find that very few rose to the challenge of the Historic Churches Ride. It really is an excellent day out on the bike. Hopefully more of those who have managed to obtain bikes, during the pandemic, will have a go next year.

If you would like to help the finances of St Mary's, as well as providing a little 'entertainment' for yourself and maybe even friends and relations, there is another Thinkers Diary on the market. More details are included towards the end of this issue. It's the best yet - but I would say that wouldn't I! So hurry whilst stocks last!

As restrictions continue people will undoubtedly find more avenues to explore. Autobiographies seem to be 'flavour of the month' at the moment. Two cousins and my sister are hard at it, and I am frequently being asked to validate certain of their memories. For my own part, mastering the smart phone - very late to that technology, but it came in useful whilst away needing to use apps to order food - if out - and of course download the NHS Track & Trace app; also, I have at last found out what those meaningless Op Art squares are all about and how to use them. 'Never too old to learn!'



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Police: At some point between 9pm Saturday 12th and 6.45am Sunday 13th September, a single axle trailer was stolen from nearby Hepworth. The trailer is described as being black

metal with wooden sides, measuring 8ft x 4ft. It was displaying the registration S241RGV at the time. If you saw the trailer being taken or know where it is now, please contact Suffolk Police quoting crime reference 37/53585/20.

Advice regarding trailer security can be found on the Suffolk Constabulary website. Primarily it is to lock the coupling head using a good quality hitch lock which will give a reasonable degree of protection from an opportunist thief. Also, use locking wheel nuts and a good quality clamp on the wheels.

Did you know? *The following article appeared in the August edition of Constable's County, published by Suffolk Constabulary.*

Suffolk Constabulary have been in partnership with Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) for 2 and a half years now. We are sharing the knowledge, equipment and staffing to provide an effective and cost-efficient drone capability for the population of Suffolk and support to Norfolk Constabulary. There are a number of trained pilots throughout both organisations that are able to provide 24/7 cover as part of their existing duties. As a partnership we operate drones for a wide and varied number of tasks, although the primary use is and always has been to preserve life. Whether it is to search for a missing person or scan the scene of an accident to locate the injured a drone can be used to quickly and efficiently search large open spaces within minutes. It also enables us to search open marshland and coastlines where access may be an issue or pose a risk to the emergency services. SFRS will often use the drones for identifying hotspots in large fires using the thermal imaging camera, or to identify the spread of field fires. Additionally, it provides an immediate response to the police when required for high risk missing person searches or other urgent requirements.

The Constabulary uses these drones for a number of different tasks, although investigating criminality is a large part of the work, there is also a considerable amount of time spent on intelligence gathering and large public events. The thermal imaging camera on a drone is an ideal tool for confirming the intelligence relating to addresses that may be used for cannabis cultivation. A difference in colour of the thermal imaging indicates a significant difference in temperature. Although this does not prove there's a cultivation, that along with an intelligence submission, provides the police with enough data to request a search warrant on that address. Historically, the police would have used a helicopter for this purpose, a drone is a far more cost-effective option.

For large public events the police will often use the drones to generate a complete overview of an area so that the images of the locations are as up to date and accurate as possible. For instance, the Latitude Festival site for the majority of the year is open fields with live stock, but for a few weeks of the year it is converted into a music festival visited by 50,000 guests. Therefore, on the day prior to opening the entire site is

mapped and overlaid onto satellite imagery, giving an accurate overview to assist the festival organisers and emergency services. The same process was followed for the Ed Sheeran concerts in 2019, as well as the mapping the drone was used each day to monitor the flow of guests and traffic. From a criminality perspective the drones can be used to search for stolen property or to assist when conducting a search warrant on an address. A drone is also an exceptional tool in searching for people who wish to avoid the police.

So, here are the basics:

On average a drone can stay airborne for approximately 25 minutes before a battery change, and yes, we have plenty of batteries. Our maximum height we can fly at is 120m, this is a requirement of the Civil Aviation Authority rather than an equipment limitation. Providing we can maintain a line of sight to the aircraft (which is another CAA requirement) we can operate up to 1km away from the pilot. We need a clear area around us to take off and land and must not fly within 50m of any person, building or vehicle that we do not have control over. As an emergency service we hold an exemption that allows us work outside of these parameters providing it is justifiable, i.e. an immediate risk to life. on each of these occasions we report the use of the exemption to the CAA.

One question we are often asked is “Was it expensive?”, and the best response to give is “Not compared to a helicopter”.

David Murray

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VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The hall upgrade is almost completed, the new anti-slip flooring is down, the second fix to the electrics are done, with the cooker wired in and extra sockets and the stainless kitchen units have been delivered.

The back log of maintenance is getting shorter with new vent covers fitted to the outside of the vents from the male toilets and the broken concrete over the old cesspit to the back of the hall assessed, removed and area made good.

The coffee shop held every Thursday morning 10.30 -12 noon, continues to be a great success, in fact this weeks , 24th September, was a special one and raised a staggering £271.88, every penny going to Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you so much to all who came along and gave so generously and to those who baked and gave prizes for the tombola. As the weather turns we will aim to bring the coffee shop back into the hall, in line with COVID laws and guidelines.

Every Wednesday evenings 7.15 to 9.15 pm. there are classes for Hath yoga, for healthy breathing, stretching and relaxation. No previous experience required and all abilities welcome. Further details from Julia (British Wheel of Yoga) 07980476140 or dunnicliffe@hotmail.com". With plenty of space for social distancing in a COVID secure building with plenty of room for social distancing.

As you are all aware the Government are continuously updating rules regarding COVID, the committee will keep up to date with current COVID laws and guidelines via the Government web sites and CAS (Community Action Suffolk) for safe use of multi purpose community facilities and will implement them as necessary.

Amanda Ellis



VOLUNTEER COLLATOR REQUIRED

The Community Council is looking to appoint a new collator to oversee the monthly production of the printed version of the Walsham Observer.

This role will require a regular monthly time commitment of half a day co-ordinating a small team of fellow volunteers in the Memorial Hall.

Our aim is to engage a new person to this role from 1st January 2021.

If you are interested, please contact the Editor or Community Council Secretary for further details.

	<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 OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

Many people in the village will, like us, have been saddened that this wretched pandemic scuppered our plans for 40th anniversary celebrations and that the August Bank Holiday passed by without the traditional fun that many of us enjoy. A chance to welcome hundreds of visitors and let them share in the things that make Walsham a very special place indeed. Lets hope that 2021 will be the year for us to bring the event back even bigger and even better than before. Some points to note...:

- The stream clearance this coming autumn, flagged up in the previous Observer, is really a 'one off' given the fact that it has become so overgrown over recent times. The plan is to clear the bed of the stream and trim back the banks in the stretch between the bridge at Rolfes, eastwards to the stretch in front of Millars Close. We just wanted to clarify this.
- This autumn we are intending to plant a thousand daffodil bulbs around the road signs on the entrances to the village to cheer us up in the spring and as a sign of hope for the future. Anyone who would like to help one Sunday morning then please get in touch.
- Over the coming year we are looking to refresh the committee with new young blood given that many of us are getting on a bit and with that in mind we wonder if there are any volunteers to take a part in the planning and then the implementation of next years event. It's not that onerous (it's good fun actually) with probably 5 or 6 evening meetings during the year and then 'full on' involvement over the three days of the August Bank holiday. You will be exhausted but you will love it. Don't be shy put yourselves forward and come on board.

John Stebbing secretary to the Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust committee
john@architectatwork.co.uk 01359 259061 07831 325610



SEARCHING FOR WORDS

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E	S	E
S	I	D

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.

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TOWN FARM CHARITY

A message at the time of Covid 19

It is a joy to have the Walsham Observer back on paper again and thanks go to all the volunteers who make this possible.

As the Covid 19 has impacted so heavily on the fund raising activities in the Village this year, it is an opportunity for the Town Farm Charity (TFC) to advertise its purpose.

It aims to make funds available for Charities and Causes that benefit the inhabitants of Walsham -le-Willows.

So far, it has been able to donate to the Village Hall and Priory Room for their urgent repairs.

At our recent meeting, the Trustees were very mindful of the organisations that would normally benefit from the tremendously successful Gardens Weekend, so they wish to let it be known that donations can also be made through the TFC.

If any organisation feels it comes within the orbit of the TFC's aims, please do make your request to one of the Trustees:- Tracey Gorzelak, Richard Martineau, Howard Gilbert, Maggie Barber, Paul Hubbard (Chairman) at Rolles of Walsham, or to Judith Johnston, (Clerk) at Cranmer Farm, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3BJ.

The Trustees also sent their best wishes to the retiring Primary School Head Teacher, Mrs Hunter. It had been a special pleasure to support her and the school over these years.



BRITISH LEGION STANTON & DISTRICT BRANCH



Due to the Covid 19 pandemic , sadly there will be no house to house collection this year, it is hoped we may be able to collect at supermarket entrances, the RBL is desperate for funds and would be grateful for any donations which may be handed to the village poppy organizer or to the person who usually comes to your door.

The Festival of Remembrance which was planned at the Apex in November to support the Poppy Appeal has now been cancelled .

Remembrance Sunday will be on the 8th November at 10 50 am at the village War Memorial ,but due to the current restrictions we may not be able to continue the service in Church , I will however pass on final information regarding this in my November notes.

Hubby Frost
(Branch Vice Chairman)

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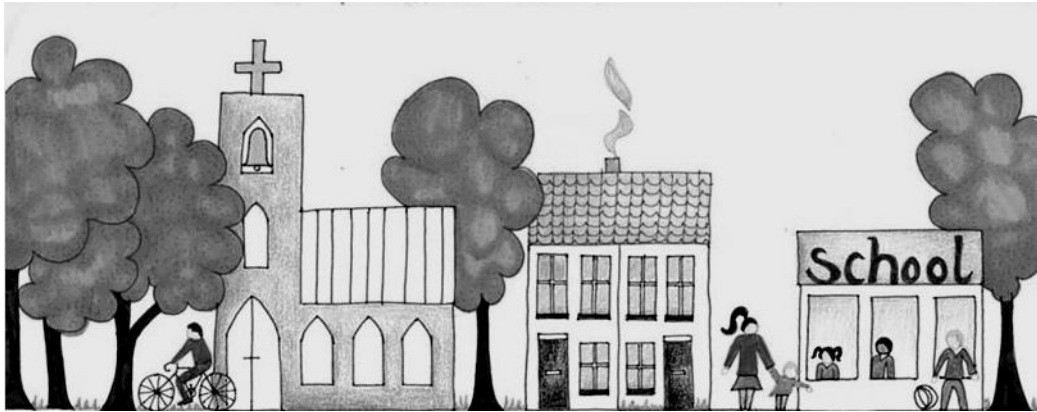
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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP

Looking For a Secretary



The Neighbourhood Plan Group is looking for someone to step forward to the role of Secretary for its meetings. It involves taking notes in a one page format at two meetings a month at 7-8pm on a Thursday, typing them up, circulating to the group via email and, once approved, distributing for publication on the Parish Council website and in The Observer.

Sometimes there are additional events and presence at those would be according to availability and agreement, the role otherwise being limited as specified.

This role enormously supports communication about the work of the group and is crucial to stimulating the engagement of a diverse mix of people with that work and hopefully at the meetings. It is a voluntary position which will be hugely appreciated by the group.

Expressions of interest to plan@walsham-le-willows.org

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Due to the current climate the Macmillan Coffee Morning, that usually takes place in September, has now been rescheduled for March 2021 when hopefully we will be in a better position for it to be well supported. Further details will be published nearer the date.

Jeannie Bloomfield

200 CLUB

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 200 Club.

The remaining monies will be distributed to:-

The Church, The School, The Local Food Bank and The Horticultural Show.

There will be three draws, details of which will be published in The Observer.

Jeannie Bloomfield

WALSHAM OBSERVER SU-DOKU

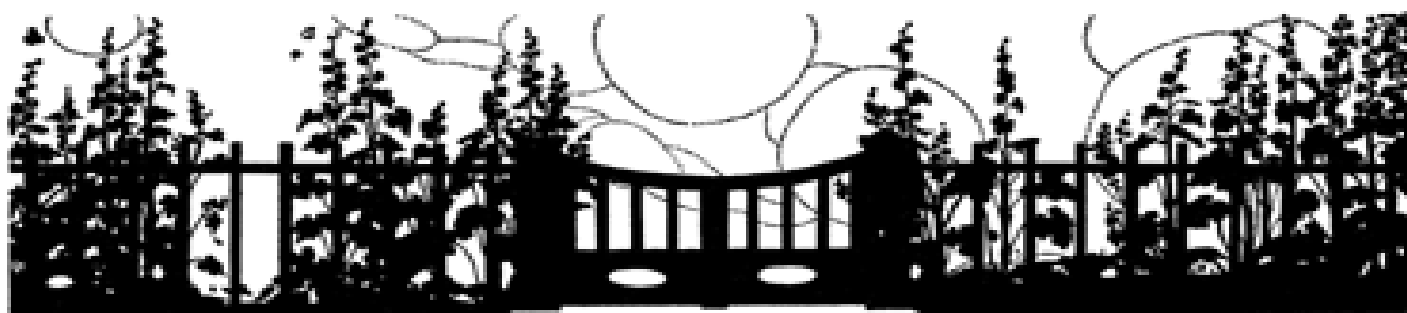
2	7			4	9		3	
1							9	
				5			2	
					2	3		
9		6	5		3	1		7
		5	1					
	4			2				
	1							5
	9		8	1			7	2

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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WALSHAM & DISTRICT WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Lights on in the church at 7.30pm on a Wednesday. .. What's up? Fifteen masked ladies seeking a Covid19 friendly space in which to meet. Suitably gloved, sanitised and distanced, it was refreshing for WI members to gather face to face.

Business matters were brief with the committee presenting the approved accounts for last year and explaining their advice to postpone the Annual Meeting until April/May 2021 in the light of the impact of Corona Virus rules.

The Quiz questions were a source of much merry exasperation with many of the answers being on the tip of tongues! Local knowledge was required but we later learned what a Norfolk swimmer was and a Bishy Barnabee! Who knew Lowestoft made porcelain and that Benjamin Britten wasn't actually born in Aldeburgh. Well, it seems maybe Maggie Barber did, as she emerged victorious!

Whether we are able to meet again in the next few months remains in question. Much of WI Life is now online on web sites loaded with entertainment and activities for all members. West Suffolk Federation have a programme of their own virtual talks open to non-members too.

Jill Newell

UPCOMING STREET-SWEEPER VACANCY



The Parish Council will soon have a vacancy for the paid (self-employed) role of street-sweeper and play area maintenance person.

Now that the Parish Council has assumed full control of the Play Area it is an appropriate time to review the Statement of Particulars for both roles before advertising.

If you might be interested, please 'keep an eye' out in the Observer for the advertisement.

LEEK & POTATO SOUP

1lb leeks	1lb potatoes	1oz butter or oil	1½ pts stock
½ pt milk	½tsp celery salt	pepper & salt	1bsp chopped parsley
½ clove of garlic	1tbs flour		

Clean the leeks and chop into small pieces, Sauté together with the garlic and butter. Peel the potatoes and add with stock before the leeks begin to brown. Cook until the potatoes are soft and then stir in the blended milk and flour and bring back to the boil. Liquidise or sieve and season to taste. Stir in the freshly chopped parsley before serving.



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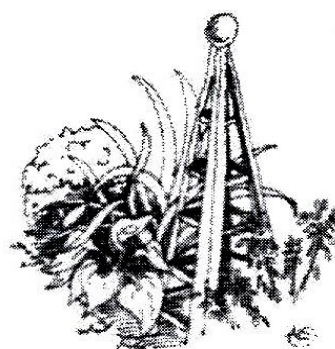
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WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

of meeting Tuesday 8th September 2020 online via Zoom due to Coronavirus restrictions. Members of the public were able to join the meeting via Zoom.

PRESENT Cllrs. Arbon, Bartholomew, Belson, Ellis, Kinnair, Mecrow & Roberts. Cllrs Fleming & Meyer.

[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 11th August 2020 were proposed as true and accurate record and unanimously approved as such.
- 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 and Meyer spoke to their respective reports and took questions. Full report can be found on the village website at: <https://www.walsham-le-willows.org/explore/governance-community/parish-council/>

Long discussion with Cllrs Meyer and Fleming on the 'Planning for the Future' White Paper Consultation with questions to Cllrs Fleming and Meyer. Cllr Fleming suggested passing back Parish Council questions to feed back into the consultation by the end of this week. **Cllr Belson** to send summary to Clerk **Clerk** to put up pdf consultation files for use of Parish Councillors and solicit responses from Parish Councillors asap.

Cllr Fleming left meeting at 19:26

Cllr Meyer added three items:

- Another white paper looking at enlarging and consolidating local government. Mid Suffolk may be merged into a unitary authority in any such re-organisation if it goes ahead.
- Mid Suffolk review of Sport and Leisure facilities. Parish Councils and Sports Clubs will be consulted before the deadline in December. Cllr Meyer suggests Parish Council liaises with to Sports Club to present a co-ordinated response. Action Clerk to contact Sports Club.
- More locality grant available. Cllr Meyer invited the Parish Council to let any local groups know. Applications need to be in by the end of December.

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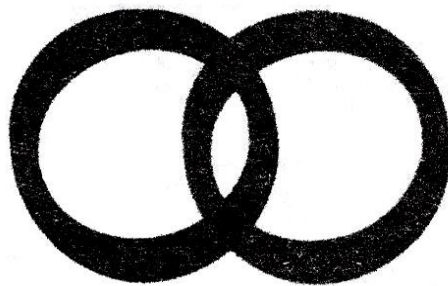
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2 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED (plus any received after the publication of this agenda)

Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval DC/19/01250 and subsequent appeal APP/W3520/W/19/3242243. Location Rookery Barn Rookery Lane Walsham Le Willows Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BD **Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for the erection of 1No dwelling.. Environment Impact Assessment Application was not submitted. Parish Council noted**

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/20/03507

Proposal: Notification for works to trees in a Conservation Area - 2no Italian Cypress – Fell **Location:** The Priory, The Causeway, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AB **Parish Council Made No Comment**

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN CONSERVATION AREA - DC/20/03554

Proposal: Notification for works to trees in a Conservation Area - 1no Walnut - Fell (Moribund, safety reasons) 1no Western Red Cedar - Fell (Moribund, safety reasons) 1no Ash - Remove (Dead) **Location:** 6 The Causeway, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 3AB **Parish Council Made No Comment**

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

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

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for 1352/17- Condition 10 (Manoeuvring and Parking of Vehicles), Condition 20 (Construction Surface Water Management Plan),

Condition 21 (Construction Management) and Condition 26 (Lighting and Design Scheme) **Location:** Land West Of, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/20/02824 **Proposal:** Planning Application. Erection of a new dwelling **Location:** Land Rear Of Avenue House, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **MSDC Have Refused Planning Permission**

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

Proposal: Application for works to tree in a Conservation Area - 1no Ash - Fell (excessive shading on thatch) 1no Oak - Pollard leaving height at approximately 2.5 -3 metres

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



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cdv_11@hotmail.com

End, Palmer Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BZ

MSDC Does Not Wish To Object

Application Reference: DC/20/02824 Proposal of Development:

Planning Application. Erection of a new dwelling **Location** Land Rear Of Avenue House, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **MSDC Refusal Of Planning Permission**

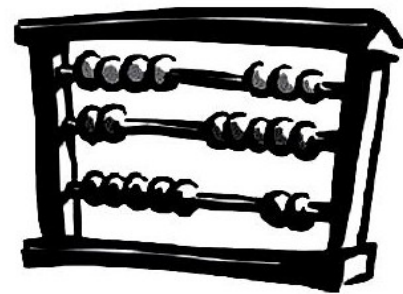
Cllr Meyer left the meeting.

4 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 **Development & Neighbourhood Plan** - update Cllr Belson. Discussion about progress, where the plan is at and how it will be impacted by the new planning proposals; additional communication between Parish Council and the NP group to be initiated. Action Clerk to write to Chair of NP to invite to November meeting.
- 4.2 **Street lighting conversion update** – Clerk advised that Pearce & Kemp had agreed to the release from any implied contract with them for the Phase II works and SCC had been instructed immediately following the last meeting. Clerk has been advised that some of the phase II works may already have been done. Awaiting an update.
- 4.3 **Community Council** - update Clerk, Cllrs. Ellis and Bartholomew. New kitchen floor is laid, kitchen is in and wiring completed. Equipment should arrive next week. Groups starting to use the hall again. Finances cannot be audited but are being independently examined. Still cannot hold an AGM because of Covid restrictions but there will be an open day to allow people to see what has happened since the new committee took over.
- 4.4 **Finningham Road blind bend – traffic speed and parking issues** - Cllr Bartholomew reported negative response from Flagship on proposals re the proposals for reconfiguration of the car park. **Clerk** to contact SCC re possibility of a proposal to provide a cut out for additional parking. **Clerk** to request information from SCC Highways on boundary to highway Opposite Oak Tree Cottages as it is thought that the road has narrowed as a result of overgrowth and debris from same.
- 4.5 **Hedge and debris on The Causeway** – Clerk reported that no response received from Highways on this incident reported 4 weeks ago. When contacted, Highways had offered write to landowner. Highways do have powers to request clearing of green growth and debris from public footpaths/highways. There is a question of where the boundary is between this land and the pavement and Highways will send through maps. **Clerk** to request additional mapping information from SCC Highways on boundaries to highway/public footpath in Grove Park, Wattisfield Road, **Cllr Roberts** to create map and send to Clerk.
- 4.6 **Fishponds Lane Footpath** – Clerk advised that the referral West Area Rights of Way Team has been made on our behalf and a response is awaited. **Clerk** to chase
- 4.7 **Traffic speed Finningham Road approach** – Clerk reprised options and costs.

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says Ian Campbell (Treasurer)

Clerk to check speed survey has been requested and seek confirmation of dates; Enquire of Cllr Fleming as to next steps and how she will be replying to the complainants.

- 4.8 **Churchyard chipping slippage** – Discussion about proposal from Cllr Arbon to use cellular paving matting, but before that is tried it was agreed to pull back all the loose chipping from the gate up to the top of the path near the church door as it used to be before the chipping were laid. **Cllrs Roberts and Arbon** to take action.
- 4.9 **Email re stream clearance** – Clerk reported that advice had been sought from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, and the contact was introduced to John Stebbing as organiser who will liaise going forward for the autumn stream clearance. Volunteer also put in touch with John. Item to be removed from agenda.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 Planning system changes Consultation – decide if a Parish Council view is to be submitted. Discussed under 1.6 highlighting impact concerned that proposals seem to make it less and less likely that the provision of affordable housing will be part of planning strategies except on very large developments; irrespective of this will the district carry on expecting 35% affordable housing. RB to note send to Clerk
- 5.2 Email from parishioner re tree felling (already authorised by David Pizzey) – to be noted
- 5.3 Email re listing assessment of War Memorial consultation – any special architectural or historic interest. **Clerk** to respond that it already sits within the curtilage of a grade I or II listed building.

6 REPORTS

- 6.1 Clerk's report & financial report to 31st August 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	Community Action Suffolk	£763.43	Parish Protect Insurance
2	Ladywell Accountancy Service	£51.00	Payroll services
3	HMRC Cumbernauld	£41.40	PAYE
4	H Reeve	£24.22	Disbursement 1 st Cut Footpaths 2020
5	H Reeve	£24.22	Disbursement 2 nd Cut Footpaths 2020
6	H Reeve	£147.15	Disbursement 2 nd Cut Footpaths 2020
7	H Reeve	£147.15	Disbursement 1 st Cut Footpaths 2020

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#	Payee	Amount	Description
8	PFK Littlejohn	£240.00	External Audit Fee
9	K Boardley	£4.88	Reimbursement balance on website hosting migration
10	K Boardley	£17.99	Reimbursement alternative domain name retained
11	P Dryden	£40.00	Disbursement 2 nd Cut Footpaths 2020
12	G Pollard	£38.65	Disbursement 2 nd Cut Footpaths 2020
13	Tom Hunter	£56.00	Street Cleaning
14	Martineau Farms LLP	£153.95	Disbursement 2 nd Cut Footpaths 2020
15	M Hawes	£62.25	Disbursement 2 nd Cut Footpaths 2020
16	K Boardley	£13.20	Reimbursement of website domain name renewal for 1 year
17	Tom Hunter	£122.08	Street Cleaning
18	Zoom	£14.39	Reimbursement of subscription for Video Conferencing Software
19	Hollis Flooring	£2829.84	Memorial Hall Kitchen Flooring
20	CGM Group	£180.00	Play Area Grass Cutting
21	Parish Council Employee	£333.24	Wages
22	St Mary's PCC	£10.00	Donation for use of Widows Room printing facilities

#	Payments In	Ref	Amount	Description
1	SCC Received		£466.22	Footpaths Cutting Grant 2 nd Payment 2020
2	MSDC Received		£396.76	Street cleaning grant Q1 2020/21
3	Santander		£7937.75	Balance from closed Play Council Charity Account
4	Santander		£100.00	Goodwill payment

6.1.1 **Problem Reports SCC** nothing to report other than that already discussed.

6.1.2 **External Audit** - The Clerk advised that the report has been received with no comments. The report and Annual Return have been published on website and



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The eruption of which volcano destroyed Pompeii?

notice board and will be submitted for publication in the Observer.

6.1.3 Website domain ownership & migration of hosting platform Clerk reported that this has completed and balance due was £4.88 not £75. Saving result of ensuring they only put us on the subscription which we required rather than a 'professional' subscription which was not needed. The new platform does not support free auto renewable security certificates. The cPanel platform itself is capable of this but Namesco choose not to implement it and instead make an additional charge of £60 per annum to sell their own certificate. This extra cost was not advised at the time of being advised to upgrade the platform. **Clerk** to investigate possibilities for moving to a hosting provider but in meantime the extra subscription for a security certificate will have to be paid from November.

6.1.4 Pay Increase - The Parish Council resolved to increase Clerk's pay as per 20/21 National Salary Award scale backdated to 1st April 2020. Proposed by Cllr Bartholomew and seconded by Cllr Ellis, carried unanimously.

6.1.5 Internal Control Check – the Clerk reprised the items agreed for action at last meeting and noted progress on the asset register. **Cllr Ellis** to engage a local farmer to assist with getting the sign down which will then be sandblasted and repainted (after birds that are nesting in the tree have flown the nest). **Clerk** to deal with woodworm in Parish Council Shed and get someone to re-felt the roof; to check grit bins. **Clls Roberts/Ellis** to attend to the Bus Shelter. Strimmer needs no maintenance (not being used). **Cllr Roberts** to procure extra batteries and housings for SIDs, Cllr Mecrow reported Litter/Dog Litter Bins all ok but need to change location recorded against the one what was recorded as near the phone box.

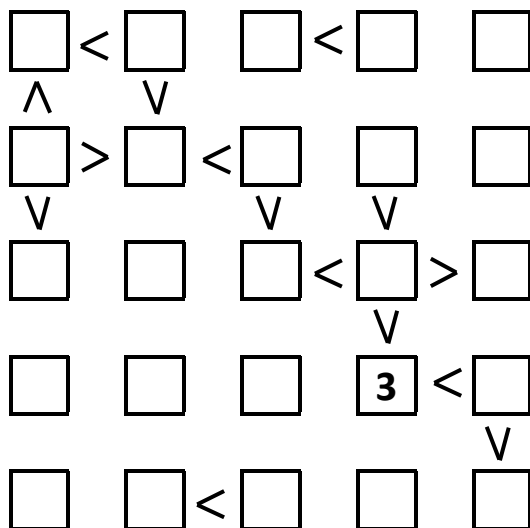
6.2 Play Area

- **Play Council/Parish Council governance relationship** – update Clerk & Cllr Kinnair Clerk advised that balance having been received from Santander along with £100 compensation (all marked as ring fenced to Play Area in accounts), Charity Commission confirmation of closure of the Play Council Charity that Council now had to decide on progressing the renewal of the lease. Costing received from OTT and Parish Clerk Solicitors come to approx. 1800 + vat. Discussion resulted in resolution to go ahead. **Clerk** to inform OTT and ask them to instruct their solicitors confirming solicitor acting for the Parish Council will be Mark Beaton at Charles Fraser & Co.
- **Play Area re-opened with strict guidelines** - noted
- **Hedge cutting** clerk advised that this has been booked with Trevor Jackson, but he has not come back to me with a date. **Clerk** to chase.

Cllr Arbon noted that there were broken wine bottles in the Play Area that have not been cleared. **Clerk** to contact Tom Hunter to ask him to clear these.

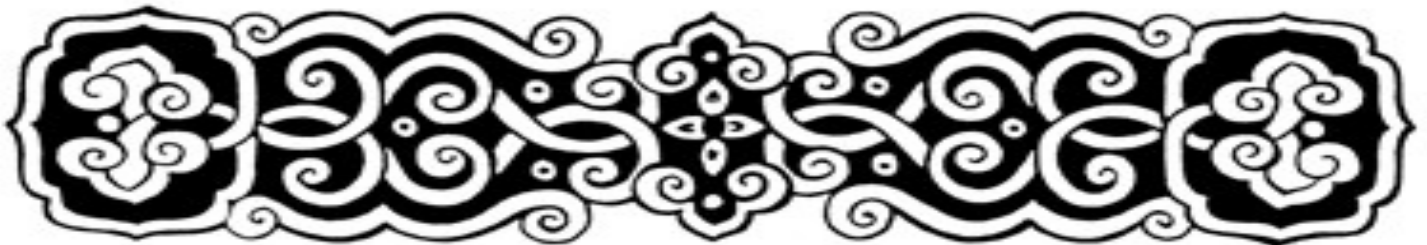
Cllr Kinnair advised that now that the Play Council has been dissolved and the charity closed that he should pass all the paperwork he has to the Clerk for storage / destruction in line with guidelines for Parish Council document retention

MORE OR LESS



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



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policy. Clerk & Cllr Kinnair to take action.

6.3 **Footpath Warden - Cllr Belson** nothing to report other than horses seen using footpath 9 again. There used to be a five-bar gate at the Betty's Bridge end into the wood which is part of the Martineau estate. **Clerk** to contact Richard Martineau to ask if he is aware of this or if he has authorised it.

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 Street cleaner – bin used to deposit debris outside village hall full to overflowing; lack of social distancing has been observed. Add to next agenda. **Clerk** to contact in the meantime.

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



Mama: *Rufus, we spent all that money on a smart phone for your birthday so you don't have to signal to the waiter, just give your order using the marvellous app that this restaurant has.*

FROM LITTLE ACORNS...

Some of our Walsham friends will know that when our daughter Lydia was planning her wedding, she and Ed really wanted to plant locally gathered acorns, to give as wedding favours for guests to take away with them to plant in any green space that they chose. In anticipation, 100 acorns were planted, in the hope that there would be 50 healthy saplings to pot up and label for the big day. Lydia is not sure if her fingers are very green, or whether Walsham oak trees produce very determined acorns, but we had a 100% success rate, leaving us with a miniature forest of surplus baby oak trees, which have been tended to and nurtured, during this, their second summer.

Lydia and Ed have just celebrated their 1st wedding anniversary, and they have received photos of young trees planted in their honour from all across the country.

Now as winter approaches, the time is right for the remaining saplings to find their own spaces, so they are available to anyone who would like to plant one, (or more). The plants are in a variety of pots, from 4" - 8" diameter, and range in size from 6' - 12" inches tall.

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Donna Lockyer

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SOCIAL REFORMERS

Whatever the blemishes of the Church in its tangled history, it remains true that so very much of the relieving of injustice and misery has been the work of Christian disciples in direct response to the call of Christ, to love and serve the neighbour in need. It was precisely Christianity's message of charity that made it one of the most revolutionary movements in the history of Western Europe.

I have pointed out before that we all know that Christianity has never had the monopoly on all that is good in this world, but has down the centuries so often been at the forefront of changes in our society which have left their mark for the good of all. Think no further than the Social Reformers of the Victorian era who were invariably inspired by their Christian Faith.

On October 12th the Worldwide Church remembers two of those from the 19th century who fall into this category. Both are of interest to me in that they were born close to the two places where I grew up.

Elizabeth Fry was born in Norwich, in what is now Earlham Park, and being made aware of the appalling state of the countries prisons, devoted much of her time to the welfare of the female prisoners at Newgate in London. In 1820 she took part in the formation of a night shelter for the homeless in London. Elizabeth then travelled across much of Europe in the cause of prison reform. She was a woman of strong Christian and Evangelistic impulse, and all of this both inspired and shaped her work.

Edith Cavell will need little introduction. Born into a clergy family in Swardeston, Norfolk in 1865. Edith trained as a nurse and eventually ended up working for the Red Cross in Belgium in 1907. At the outbreak of the 1st World War she became involved in caring for the wounded from all sides, and then eventually smuggling British soldiers from Belgium to Holland. In 1915 she was arrested by the Germans and brought to trial. Protecting those who worked with her she was sentenced to death and executed by firing squad. Her death caused outrage across the world, and it is said that there are more memorials to her name than anyone else in the history of the world. Edith is buried in Norwich Cathedral.

Just before her death she remarked; 'Standing, as I do, in view of God and eternity, I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness to anyone.'

It is good for us all to sometimes take the time to reflect and give thanks for those who down the ages, whether of faith or none at all, have given so much to make our world that much better than it otherwise might have been.

*Philip
Benefice Rector*



OCTOBER CHURCH SERVICES

4th October	17th Sunday after Trinity	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
7th October	Wednesday	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Finningham
11th October	18th Sunday after Trinity	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
9.30am	Holy Communion	Walsham
18th October	St Luke	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Walsham
3.00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
21st October	Wednesday	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Finningham
25th October	Bible Sunday	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
1st November	All Saints Day	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
2nd November	All Souls Day	
7.00pm	Remembering the Departed	Walsham



This family have been thrown into absolute confusion by the news of The Rule of Six, Track & Trace, Living in a Bubble and the likelihood of their young offspring having to stay at university for Christmas.

Even worse, for the men, is having to leave their club at ten o'clock!!

SPORTS CLUB

We are going to need your help, everyone !

By the time this Observer reaches you most of the work on restructuring the inside of the Club will have been completed and setting up the Crowdfunding page seeking contributions to help pay for it may also have been completed. Once again we have been helped by Football Foundation with a grant of £24,000 to give us the courage to do the work at a time when our normal income is being seriously handicapped BUT we think we are going to need at least a further £15,000 to complete things.

Covid 19 was perhaps the biggest trigger for the project to reduce the Club to just one snooker table and to use the space created to allow much more room in the bar/lounge area permitting social distancing whilst still being able to operate the bar during the winter months. We knew the flat roof was well past its best but didn't realise it was actually leaking until the old ceiling was taken off so that task of renewing it, was combined with knocking a wall out to create the much bigger area needed in this new 'normal' we are going to face.

In my fifty years in the village, I have both benefited from and seen the value to the local community grow as we have been able add features to the Club for both young and old. The youth sections of the Club in both football and cricket are keeping children active and occupied in sport to the benefit of all of us who value the place we live in whilst at the same time walking football/ netball, yoga does its bit to provide physical and mental at the other end of the spectrum.

Please take a look at our crowdfunding page on Just Giving when it is available and see if you would like to help us raise the money we need. It would be really good to complete our 'gold brick' wall in front of the bar at £30 a piece; I have to say it gives me great pleasure to see members of my extended family listed there even if they have passed on long before Covid 19 could get them.

We are also going to offer a limited number of 'Infinity Memberships' at £250 per family and £150 single that will give lifetime membership and avoid those whose memory to renew is sometime faulty.

Even if your use of the club facilities is very limited, remember the role it plays is giving our community one of the key ingredients that makes Walsham le Willows a special place to live.

On the sports field with cricket and football overlapping even more than usual, our Saturday cricket team made it to the final on Sat 26th September of the local inter-club matches arranged in lieu of the cancelled leagues they normally play in but sadly our lovely British weather decided we had had it too good and the match was rained off after just 11 overs. On the football the Club's first eleven lost 2-1 away to Wroxham on 26th Sept after two fine victories, away against Godmanchester 3-2 on the previous Saturday and Thetford Town 1-0 at home on Wed 23rd September.

Ian Campbell



WALSHAM LE WILLOW VILLAGE HALL

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WALSHAM DRAMA GROUP TAKES A BOW

Listeners to BBC Radio Suffolk may have tuned in to the Breakfast Show on 31st August, and heard Matthew Lockyer, co-founder of the Walsham Drama Group, being interviewed by Mark Murphy. Radio Suffolk were aware that the Drama Group had donated £5,000 to the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds, and Mark was keen to give Matthew the opportunity to talk about how the money had been raised, and why the group had chosen the Theatre Royal as beneficiary.

If you missed the radio show, and in particular for those of you who are new to the village, and possibly not aware of the Walsham Drama Group, here's a little re-cap:

Walsham Drama Group was founded by the Hall and Lockyer families in 1994. Funded by proceeds of a jumble sale, a troupe of 24 villagers presented a homespun version of Cinderella in the Memorial Hall. This proved so popular, with both the group and the audience, that they went on to perform annual productions of original or adapted pantomimes until 2016. Characters such as the Wise Woman of Walsham, the haplessly wicked Ron and Reg, Daisy the Cow, Flash the Tortoise, and Walsham's very own Elvis, appeared in many adventures set in the sleepy hamlet of Walsham le Pillows.

With up to sixty members aged from five to seventy-five, the Drama Group also performed variety shows, music hall, Christmas entertainments and a murder mystery evening, to keen and appreciative audiences. They were blessed in every support department from costumes to artists and, of course, being Walsham, refreshments. The acting was elevated by the fact that the team created a real little theatre in Walsham.

The group has never been a charity, and has no constitution. It has always been open to anyone who wanted to join in, on stage or off. Auditions were never held; anyone who wanted a part was given one. Over the years, many people have been introduced to the heart-stopping but oh-so-addictive moment of stepping out in front of a live audience. The group believe strongly in the ability of drama to enhance confidence, and to bring people together. Young children were first given the role of "curtain-raisers" who were whisked off to bed once the show had started. They progressed to their first few lines, and then, as they gained in confidence, helping with choreography, leading roles, or as sound and lighting technicians. Several members have since gone on to pursue careers in the performing arts. Over the years, strong, multi-generational friendships were cemented, memories created, good times had by all, and much laughter generated.

The group used profits from performances to buy or make equipment. Costumes, sets, lighting, curtains and even a stage have all been added to our collection, acquired as surplus goods from other theatre groups, or made by members of the team. After each production, enough money was always kept back to cover the next show. Surplus funds were donated to village causes: benches for the school, equipment for the play area and crockery for the Memorial Hall.

In recent years the Drama Group has been, like the Norwegian Blue, not dead, but

resting. Members of the group have come together for evenings of Letter Readings and other events, raising significant funds for charities such as Alzheimers Research, the Epilepsy Society and the Poppy Appeal.

To put on another major show, the Drama Group needs to attract some fresh faces (we have too many pensioners for a panto) and new inspiration.

With the outbreak of Covid-19, and the devastating impact it has had on the performing arts, it will be some time before the Group meets again. The difficulties being faced by the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds have been well-reported, and so it was decided that money from the Drama Group's funds should be used to support this worthy and appropriate cause.

Needless to say, the Theatre Royal were delighted to receive this donation, and as a grateful gesture, plan to lay (not throw) a brick in the Theatre with the Drama Group's name on it.

Enough money has been kept in reserve should anyone wish to take the reins for a new show, and for now, all staging and equipment is safely stored.

Following the interview on Radio Suffolk, the Group have been presented with a 'Making a Difference' certificate; fitting reward for a group whose aim always has been... 'to make a difference'.

There are still a long list of names on the Drama Group's mailing list, some of whom have been members since day one (including the Editor), and others who have joined us along the way. Anyone interested in finding out more, should alert the Observer, who will contact Ron and Reg at HMP Slade.

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MANAGING THE WILD WOOD

Although our intention is to create a woodland which both villagers and wildlife will see as a “wild wood” this does not mean that the area can just be left to its own devices. Any useful habitat needs to be carefully managed and it is surprising how much work has to go into maintaining and developing most nature reserves. The Wild Wood group carries out roughly the same pattern of work each year:

Cutting the Paths : usually starts in May but because this area has never been very good for growing grass it will probably only be done 3 or 4 times each year. These paths mean that people can walk through without getting wet feet, but it also has the effect of encouraging people not to wander into those areas which we, (and the wildlife), would prefer to keep undisturbed.

Controlling “Weeds” : we have welcomed most wild flowers to the Wood but we do have problems with two visitors. Bristly Ox Tongue appears in huge numbers in late summer and can appear to swamp the area; fortunately it is a biennial and as the trees get bigger and the sward thicker it should become more difficult for the BOT to survive. Creeping Thistle is more of a problem; it can spread quite quickly and although it's good for some insects and seed eating birds it is pretty unpleasant and does not go well with children. We therefore have to spray thistles which are next to the paths and the entrance.

Autumn Mowing : if wild flowers and insects are going to thrive we must not allow the flowers to get swamped and crowded out by grasses. Therefore every autumn after the flowers have seeded we hire a mowing machine and cut all the paths, the rides and the various clearings. Most wild flowers thrive in poor soils and so we then rake off the grass cuttings to stop any nutrients going back into the ground; the grass is piled into heaps which can hopefully provide some shelter for insects, reptiles and small mammals.

Winter Maintenance : this is the planting season, but we have now put in over one thousand eight hundred trees and shrubs and the task is virtually finished. We need to prune trees to improve their shape, to trim some shrubs, and to manage the tree guards. Lightly trimming shrubs gives a denser growth which is more attractive to birds in that it provides better shelter and more nesting sites. Originally we put guards on everything we planted but there have thankfully been no problems with rabbits and so many spirals were removed to encourage more outward growth and cover low down. Our problem animal is the muntjac: they sometimes bite the ends of shoots, but fortunately tend to go for shrubs that actually benefit from random pruning; the more serious problem is territorial marking – the deer have scent glands on their heads and mark by thrashing saplings at a height of about 60cm. - tree guards are then needed to avoid further damage.

***Please help us in our work: take any litter home - clean up after your dog
but most of all . . . enjoy Walsham Wild Wood***

Problems or Comments : contact Richard Belson – 01359 258868



Walsham Congregational Church

The Street, Walsham-le-Willows, Suffolk. IP31 3AZ
Church Secretary (John Landymore) 01359 - 258986

Preachers for October

Services each Sunday at 11.00 & 6.30

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|--|
| 4 | Mr. Marco Reale | (Protestant Alliance) |
| 11 | Mr. David Allen | (Walsham-le-Willows Congregational Church) |
| 18 | Rev. Chalan Hetherington | (Bennetts End, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire) |
| 25 | Mr. Daniel Biddle | (Calvary Baptist Church, Feltham, Middlesex) |

Nothing but Money

John D. Rockefeller, the multimillionaire oil magnate once said, "The poorest man I know is the man with nothing but money". Those words sum up the lives of many people in our society today where the emphasis is upon what you possess; they have money, sometimes a lot of it, but that is all they have as they have no peace, no satisfaction and most important of all, no hope for eternity. Most people think that if they just had a little more money, then they would be happy, but the Bible gives many warnings of the danger of being taken up with money. The Lord Jesus Christ said, "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15). This warning is timely in these days of pandemic and global economic uncertainty.

It is interesting to note that the first mention of money in the Bible is in connection to slavery (Genesis 7:12) and it is certainly true that a person can become a slave to money – and many have. Just think of the many that have ruined their lives and lost their souls because of their love for money. Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus Christ for money – how tragic that he gained thirty pieces of silver and lost his soul.

Stop for a moment and ask yourself the question, how much of the money and possessions that you are amassing will you take with you when you die? The answer is nothing! The Bible makes it clear, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out" (1 Timothy 6:7). There is only one thing you possess that you will take with you when you die and that is your soul, so it is vital you know that all is well with your soul. Money can buy a nice home, a new car or beautiful clothes, but it cannot buy God's Salvation or a place in Heaven. Money can buy you entertainment but not happiness, a crucifix but not a Saviour, a church pew but not a place in Heaven. Salvation is not obtained by buying but by believing – by putting your trust completely in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ, because He alone bought Salvation for you when he shed His precious blood on the cross. Come to Him in repentance and faith.

**For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world,
and lose his own soul?**

(Mark 8:36)

ST MARY'S CLOCK

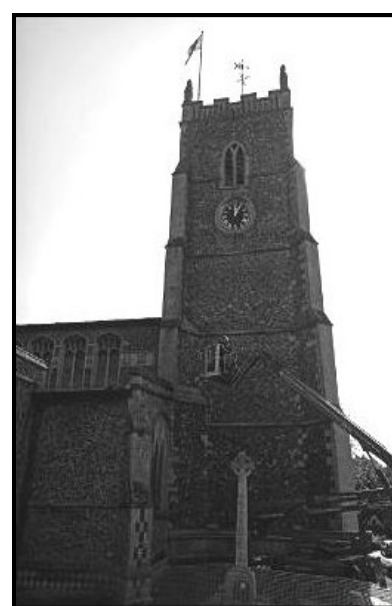
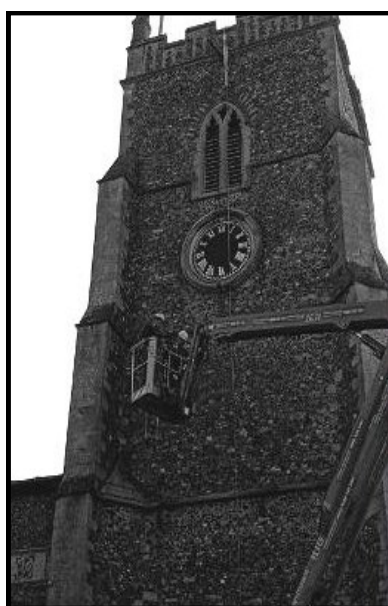
A **good news story** in these difficult times is the restoration of the magnificent clock dial for St Mary's church in Walsham-le-Willows, Suffolk. The work was carried out by S Michlmayr & Co Ltd., clock and watchmakers of Norwich, and financed by the Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust from funds raised in the past from its August Bank Holiday event. This year was to have been its 40th year, with a very special weekend, but that was sadly put on hold until the pandemic is under control.

The church sits at the centre of Walsham and is impressive by any standards, with a large clerestory and an interesting chequerwork flint porch. It was gifted to Ixworth Priory around 1540 and, as is the case with many English Churches, was lavishly restored by the Victorians, although many of the medieval features have been retained. It is unusual for a village church to feature a clock; in fact St Mary's sheer scale and grandeur puts it on the map as one of the stand-out village churches in the county.

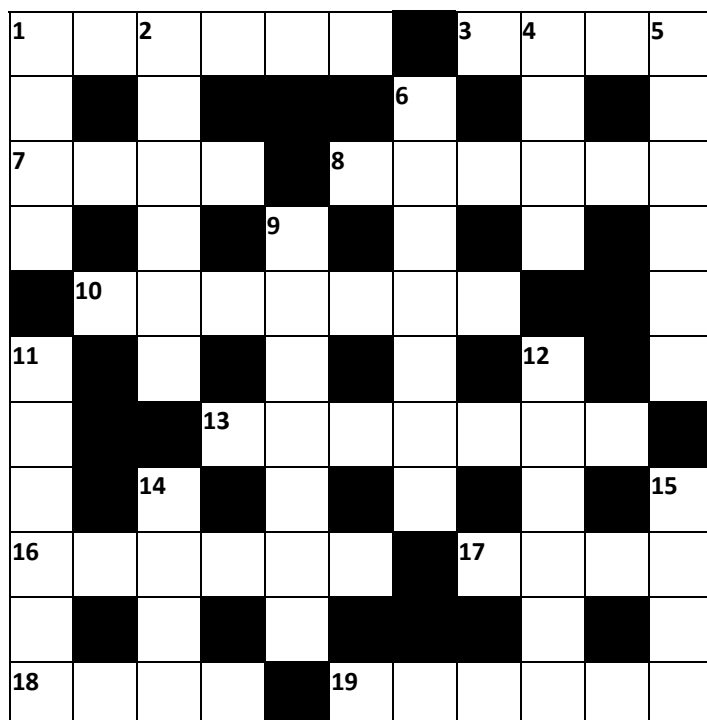
According to a Bury Free Press article in 1877, the clock appears to have been a gift from Hopper Jnr. Wilkinson Esq, quoted to be an "esteemed and venerable gentleman of the parish". It was noted that it was "Set Going November 13th 1877 by the Donor". The stone surround was, according to the report, gifted by another local gentleman; "A very elaborate massive stonework moulding has been constructed for the new dial that is the gift of Thomas Golding Esq., Churchwarden"

The dial was requiring some attention, due to weathering and inevitable general wear and tear, reflective of its long-term positioning on the church's tower. The original copper dial has a 5' diameter, so the first challenge was to remove the dial with care, to prevent any damage to the surround and mechanisms. Back in the Michlmayr workshop the dial was stripped back and repainted, with special attention given to the large golden, roman numerals that adorn its face. The company are delighted to have played a part in preserving this dial and reinstalling it to its rightful place, atop St Mary's Church so that it can be used and enjoyed for many years to come!

John Stebbing



WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Almost argue about the projectile. (6)
3. Went fast in this season's pedalo. (4)
7. Cardinal leaves the stadium for the

region. (4)

8. Average offspring for the churchman. (6)
10. A nuisance might become a knife wielding menace. (7)
13. Maybe the monk is my relation. (7)
16. Pace out as a short way to travel. (6)
17. Singular like the Ranger. (4)
18. She achieved nothing. (4)
19. The disease of the crab. (4)

DOWN

1. Lead about an agreement. (4)
2. Pinches broken slates. (6)
4. This passenger has a permit. (4)
5. There's no date organised for giving. (6)
6. Get authority for the bright ideas. (7)
9. As experimented with legs apart. (7)
11. Gone by but not in days gone by. (6)
12. Brave revolutionary becomes confused about the French king. (6)
14. Brought up on a loaf seemingly. (4)
15. Be afraid of the loud listener. (4)



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TWENTY-TWENTY-ONE DIARY

In the July edition of the Observer I put in an article about a Twenty-Twenty-One Thinkers Diary which I had produced to raise money for St Mary's. Just as with the previous two, this one might be thought more of as a puzzle book rather than a diary, and if matters continue as they are at present it might just be a puzzle book with pages for jottings - but let's hope not.

For each week there is a puzzle, of which there are ten different varieties. Codewords, Su-Doku, Countdown, Anagrams, Arithmetic, Crosswords, More or Less, Dingbats, Searching for Words and Connections. Only three of these have been culled from other sources than my own 'twisted' imaginings. Dingbats were the greatest fun to produce - even sitting through a local concert coming up with quite a number of possibilities.

The 2019 diary had Lives in Six Words as the page bottoms, the 2020 diary had the rhyming couplets, and for the 2021 diary I came up with the idea of limericks, so each puzzle has a related limerick beneath it.

As you will be all too aware the Church Fete and Gardens Weekend - both money raisers for the St Mary's - had to be cancelled meaning that there has been a severe shortfall in the vital income to keep the church running. I shall once again be selling copies of the diary outside Rolfes and also buying copies, myself, to send to friends and relations as small Christmas presents. I am hoping that you might feel like buying a few copies for your friends and relations and so spread a little Christmas cheer as well as helping to support the church at this difficult time.

If you would like to order a copy - or even maybe a few - then please email your order to me. I am again asking for a suggested minimum donation of £5 per copy.

*With this diary I hope you'll have fun
Right through from week number one;
With a puzzle each week -
But don't have a peek
At answers till each puzzle's been done.*

Ian Toulson



WALSHAM WILD WOOD



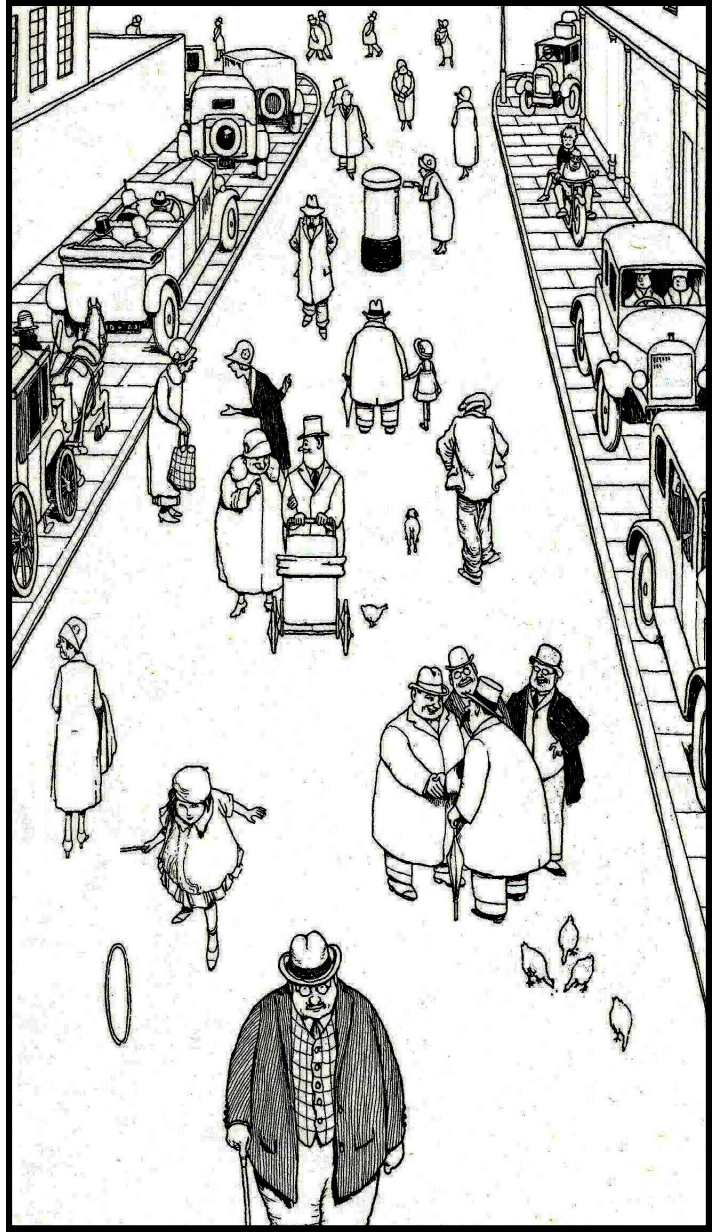
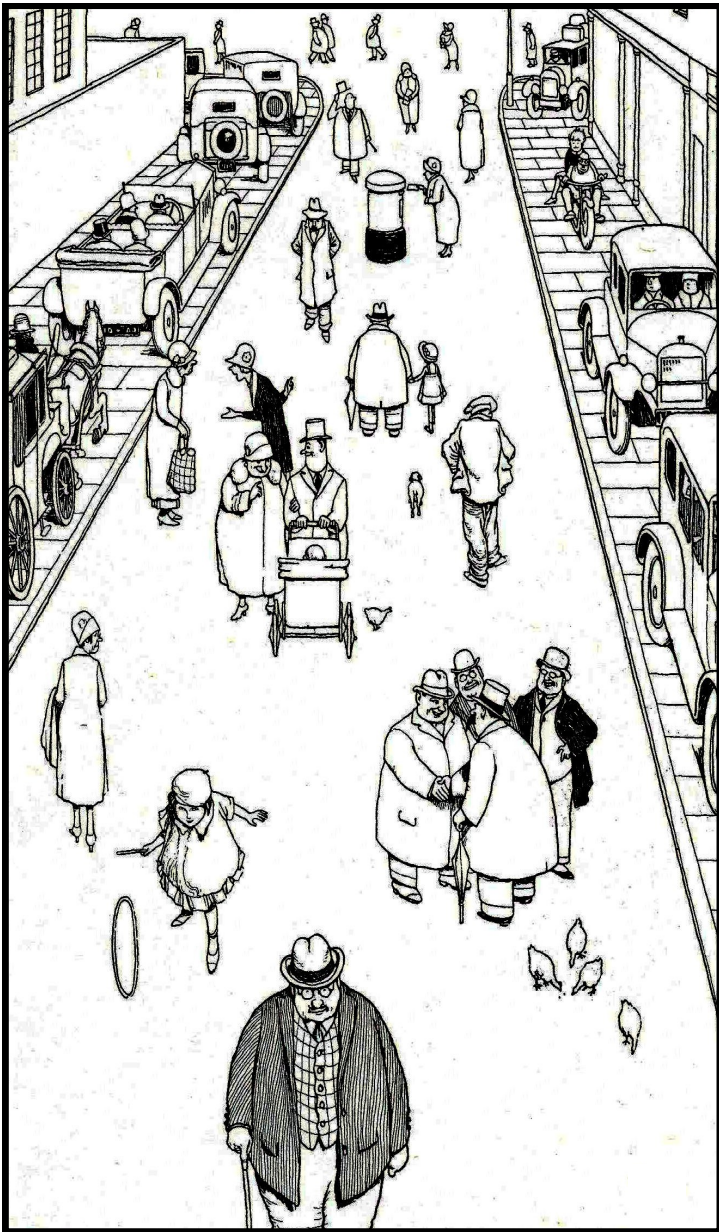
Please come along for our pumpkin trail at the Wild Wood on
Saturday 31st October 10.30am – 12.30pm. and
see some scary stone painting as well.



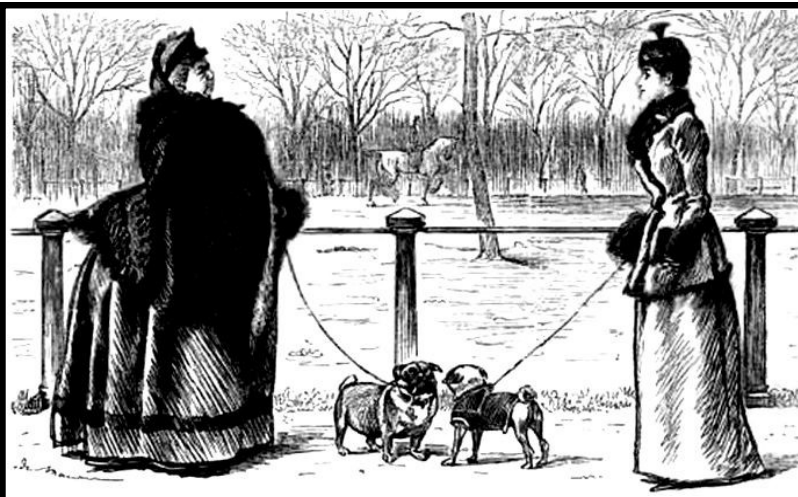
Contact Lorna 01359 259140/mackinnonlorna@gmail.com



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Can you find ten differences between these two pictures of an apparently Covid-free street scene?



Esmeralda and Edith found that by letting their dogs get close, when they met, that they were automatically 2m apart! One day they realised that they should mask-up as well!

What was the name of the holiday camp in Hi-de-Hi!?"

THWARTED AMBITION

For this year's Historic Churches Ride I had intended to ride to the sea and back - Aldeburgh or Southwold would be nice lunch break destinations, but then my sister decided that she would like a Zoom session at 3:30pm. Maybe 4:30pm or even noon the next day? But no it had to be 3:30pm. 'Well talk to our brother and I hope that I might get back by 4:15pm' I suggested. The seaside was immediately out of the question!

Well maybe I could make it as far as Bungay and back and call in briefly on one or two friends.

With the seaside being my original aim, I was going to set off at seven-thirty or eight, signing myself in at the first few churches, but with the reduced target I decided that a nine o'clock start from St Mary's was rather more fitting. So I was duly signed in by Jill Scarf, at just about nine, and then set off on my merry way.

At just a few of the churches - Gislingham, Yaxley, Hoxne, Stradbroke and Occold - I had my arrival registered, but at the other ten, which I visited, I had to self-register. Just recently I had equipped myself with a smart phone - 'How could you', some people might ask, 'have existed without one for so long?' Well I had, but had deprived myself of the 'pleasure' of the 'selfie'! Woops! If I was going to be able to pass my pathetic efforts as photographic proof I would have had to get some other church visitors to take the pictures, but there were very few about!

It was a pleasant day - sunshine and a helpful light breeze. So by a little after mid-day I had arrived at Wortwell where I dropped in on a friend for a quick cuppa before moving on to Bungay; I had hoped!

Callie has been obsessed by computers, which she uses in conjunction with her elaborate craftwork. After having seen a number of examples of her computer projects we got on to the production of videos. Now I was hooked, so the quick cuppa turned into draining the teapot and leaving hers at some time after one - Bungay was now out of the reckoning and I turned for home.

I had with me a copy of Bar Bag Suffolk so I was able to negotiate my way through the backroads to Occold and thence home. However at Stradbroke I was signed in by a charming elderly couple, the husband talking at length about his organ playing - ever since the age of sixteen. He was well into his eighties, and I wondered how our octogenarian organist was passing his time now that no music is taking place in church. By three-thirty I was leaving Occold and heading into the gentle breeze. I just hoped that conversation between brother and sister could be maintained till I was able to provide my own disjointed vision and sound.

Yes! At four-twenty I flopped down in front of the screen and held forth on the continued joys of cycling in Suffolk.

It had been a joyous day, but all too few cyclists seemed to have bothered into this much needed money raiser.

If you didn't take part this year, come and enjoy the 'party' next time. Hopefully by then life will be more relaxed and visiting the churches will be half the pleasure!

BACK IN THE DAY

Back in the day; let's say fifty years ago in the early 1970s, an Olivetti typewriter and a portable hand-cranked printing drum were the only aids to printing village based information sheets for the benefit of our community. Producing the monthly Walsham Observer from its inception in 1968 was a very different operation to the sophisticated, technologically advanced methods of today where computers, automated printing machines and colour photocopiers enable 'Red Socks' to create an eye pleasing, informative, entertaining, diverting read with challenging puzzles every month.

Then, as now, the Editor – I remember Hugh Greany, Shelley Choat, Stanley West, Douglas Blythe – relied on hand written information, club reports, dates of events, which they checked before passing them on to the typist. In my own time as Editor, I remember contributors who were excessively protective of their each and every word which could be on small, almost scraps of paper.

The job of the typist, and Jenny Goodson was an early stalwart, was to transfer the script on to specially prepared skins which were then passed to the volunteer printer of the month. June Bryant, another stalwart, would have previously collected the printing drum from Jerry and Cherry Chataway at Sideways Garage where, incidentally, you could also get your car repaired with the help of Joe Hubbard and purchase your petrol. The typed skins were thin, delicate, and could tear while being wrapped around the drum, allowing excess ink to escape on to each sheet of paper as it passed over the skin lined drum with each crank of the handle. It was a slow process with always the temptation to up the cranking speed; not a good idea as it could result in a dreaded tear!

Like the printing, collating, or the arrangement of the sheets in their correct order for reading, followed by the stapling of sheets together to form a pamphlet were also laborious hand operated processes. Later, in the hands of Douglas and Lucy Blyth at Crownland Hall and aided perhaps by some liquid refreshment these tasks took on a sense of fun, gay abandon even, with volunteers finding themselves amid a litter of discarded sheets, the floor taking on the look of leaves in the autumn fall.

The stapled copies were then delivered to Walsham Post Office where you could purchase one of the just one hundred print run for a few pence from Rita and Guido Cecchini. Were these few copies then shared between those many others who did not purchase their own?

Whatever, the decision was made in 1997 that the Walsham Observer should be made available to every household in the village, free of charge. 'Red Socks', Ian Toulson, devised the new format, inviting businesses and individuals to advertise. This advertisement income paid the cost of materials, new equipment, and the rent of the Widow's Room in one of the Martineau Cottages. This excellent village facility is shared with the Parochial Church Council.

Today there are close on six hundred households and more being created, making the role of the volunteers who deliver the magazines in their area, a most important one. While the process of producing the Walsham Observer becomes ever more sophisticated, the role of the many volunteers in its production and distribution is of prime importance. While the pandemic forced the publication to go on-line, it has been made abundantly clear that the copy in the hand is still highly valued.

Rob Barber

ALL THE ANSWERS

- 1.Scotland 2. The Chancellor of the Exchequer 3.Ben Nevis 4. Arundel
 5. Bournville 6. Pat Barker 7. Henry Higgins 8. Noel Coward 9. The Mikado
 10. Isaac Asimov 11. Steven Spielberg 12. The American Civil War
 13. Danny Kaye 14. Hungary 15. Moussaka 16. New Zealand
 17. Spring onions 18. Pimento 19. Tuna 20. Steve Jobs 21. Saddam Hussein
 22. Northern Rock 23. Brookside 24.Mount Vesuvius 25. The Crystal Palace
 26. 5,000 27. Spain 28. Edward I 29. 1605 30. David Blunkett
 31. Elton John 32. David Bowie 33. The Sound of Music 34. Abbey Road
 35. Montserrat Caballé 36. 2 37. Watergate Bay, Cornwall
 38. (Michael) Colin Cowdrey 39. 2,000m 40. Maplins 41. Slough
 42. Yorkshire Dales National Park 43. Ronnie Barker 44. Bamboo

More or Less

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

Su-Doku

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

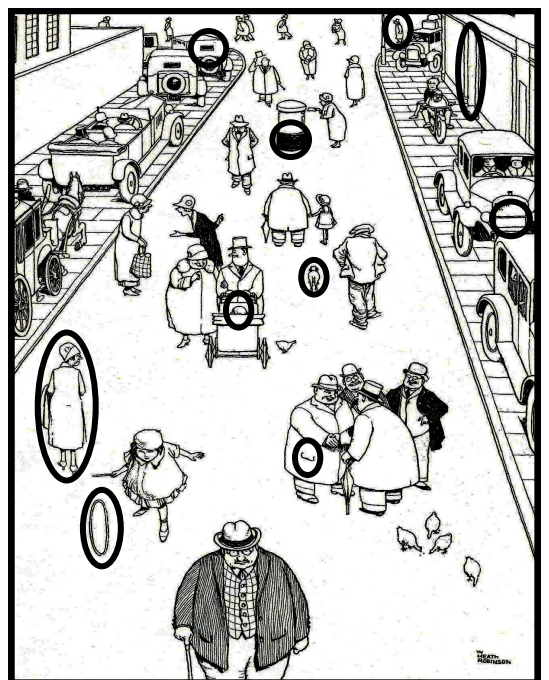
Crossword

D	I	S	C	U	S		S	P	E	D
E		T				P		A		D
A	R	E	A			P	A	R	S	O
L		A		A			R	S		A
	S	L	A	S	H	E	R			T
P		S		T		N		H		E
A				B	R	O	T	H	E	R
S		B		I		S		R		F
S	T	R	I	D	E			L	O	N
E		E		E				I		A
D	U	D	E				C	A	N	C

Searching for Words

Aside	Ass	Asset	Ate	Die
Dies	Diet	Diets	Disease	Ease
Eased	Eases	East	Eat	Eats
Estate	Estates	Eta	Etas	Idea
Ideas	Ides	Sat	Sate	Sated
Sea	Seas	Seat	Seats	Seated
Set	Side	Sides	Siesta	State
Stated	States	Taste	Tasted	Tastes
Tat	Tats	Tea	Teas	Tease
Teased	Teat	Teats	Ted	Teds
Test	Tested	Stateside (53)		

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		Suffolk County Council	03456-066067
	0800 7838838	Member of Parliament	
British Telecom		Jo Churchill	0207-2198487
Customer Service	150		
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.