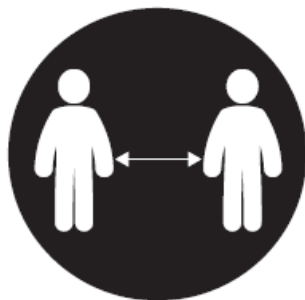


FOOD BANK
DETAILS
SEE PAGE 7

LSHAM OBSERVER



DECEMBER 2020

Walsham-le-Willows Memorial Village Hall

Current Hire Charges

USERS	ALL DAY	HOURLY
Walsham Villagers	£100	£10
Other Bookings	£125	£15

There is a £5 Covid surcharge per hire

**All Enquires & Bookings through
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Automated External DEFfibrillator (AED)

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



THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

DECEMBER 2020

No 621

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

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Volunteers

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These should be dropped by **FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER** into the box provided in Rolfes or emailed to the above address.

Advertisements should reach the
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ADVERTISING MANAGER Cheryl Bartholomew
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WHEN WALKING IN THE VILLAGE

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



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

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EDITORIAL

Just over a month ago Penelope Robbins suggested an art competition to provide a picture for the front of the December edition of the Observer and generously provided the prizes. The winner was Tilly Morley whose picture appears on this month's cover. The runners up were April Challenor and Amelie Nichol. This might well become an annual event.

With Christmas in mind, Philip Merry has provided an article on Christmas Carols. Some streets in the country are going to sing carols from their front doors, I therefore thought that I could provide carols as space fillers in case any groups of households thought of taking up the idea.

This Christmas will be one that we shall all remember for the restriction that we are living under. Some will be seriously affected by the resulting problems. With this in mind the Community Council has started up a **Food Bank** for those in the village who, for no fault of their own, are finding it hard to make ends meet. If you can help with donations of food or money do take a look at **page 7** for details of how you can do so.

In the past few years anniversaries of war have been remembered. It seems almost as if there is a re-enactment of trench warfare along the Wattisfield Road. Many questions have been raised, the main concern has been over the narrowness of the road. This has resulted in an article being presented by Trevor Pollard to try and give some detail. There was also considerable discussion at the latest Parish Council meeting, and it seems that they haven't heard the end of the matter.

My thanks to those who have contributed to this and also to previous editions and so helped to produce a publication which quite a number of people in the village enjoy receiving. Do please continue to contribute. All contributions gratefully received. Thanks also to those who have helped to collate and deliver.

A little plug for my efforts to raise money for St Mary's; I have still got copies of **A Thinker's Diary** for sale. If you would like a copy for yourself or friends and relations do contact me and I will get copies to you.

Last of all may I take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy and Safe Christmas, for both yourselves and members of your families, and trust that we will keep the R Number down so that life - with the hoped for vaccine - will be nearer to normal than has been 2021.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Between January 2020 and September 2020, 21,349 crime reports were made to Action Fraud about fake **PayPal** emails. Victims reported losing a total of £7,891,077.44 during this time. Those targeted included people selling jewellery, furniture and electronics via online marketplaces. Reports of fake PayPal emails to Action Fraud made up a third of all reports of online shopping and auction fraud during this period. Criminals have been targeting people selling items online, by sending them emails purporting to be from PayPal. The emails trick victims into believing they have received payment for the items they're selling on the platform. Typically, after receiving these emails, victims will then send the item to the criminal. This leaves them at a further disadvantage having not received any payment for the item and also no longer being in possession of it.

Sellers beware: If you're selling items on an online marketplace, be aware of the warning signs that your buyer is a scammer. Scammers may have negative feedback history, or may have recently set up a new account to avoid getting poor feedback. Don't be persuaded into sending anything until you can verify you've received the payment.

Scam messages: Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails, and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.

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.

PayPal offer the following advice:

Log into PayPal: If you receive a suspicious email, don't act on the message or click on any links. Instead, open your browser, log into PayPal and check for any new activity. PayPal will also email or notify you in the app if you've received any payments.

Check the basics: Look out for misspellings and grammatical errors, which can be a tell-tale sign of a scam.

Easiest of all, use common sense: If a deal seems too good to be true, it probably is! Stay clear of exceptional deals or anything that is significantly reduced in price from what you would expect to pay.

If you think that you've received a suspicious email, you can forward it to spoof@paypal.com without changing the subject line. PayPal will let you know whether it is fraudulent.

David Murray.



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VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

I had hoped to be writing about all the Christmas events that were planned for December at the hall. With the new Kitchen finished we were looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

Unfortunately in light of the Government announcement on the 26th of November, that Suffolk from 00:01 GMT on Wednesday 2nd December will be under Covid restrictions in the tier two (high alert) category for England, the village hall will have to remain closed. This is due to the, “you will not be allowed to mix with anyone from outside your household or support bubble indoors, either in a private home or a public place” rule.

While we are deeply saddened by this, the health and safety of everyone remains our highest priority. The committee are waiting for the finer details to be announced and if possible are considering holding the coffee shop outside again on a Thursday morning next to the Post Office van.

In response to one of the often hidden impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic, the committee has worked hard, with support and guidance from Stowmarket Foodbank, to set up the Walsham Food Bank. Our food bank will cover the Benefice of Walsham to provide individuals and families from Walsham and the surrounding areas who are in crisis with emergency food parcels in complete confidentiality. We work with local organisations, schools, Local GP surgeries (via their Social Prescribers), MacMillan, Citizen Advice Bureau etc. to identify individuals and families who can benefit from our services. The committee would like to thank all those who have already given their time and donations to making this possible.

Looking forward to the new year, working with Active Suffolk and Fit Villages, we have secured a dance instructor to start lessons at the hall. There are so many different types of dance that a very short survey (one question) has been set up online to find out which one would be best attended. If you are interested in taking dance lessons please could you go to the link

www.activesuffolk.org/forms/view/walshamlewillowsdance

and vote for the type you would like.

May we, the Community Council, wish you all a peaceful and safe Christmas.

Amanda Ellis



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The Mobile Post Office will still be coming to the
Village Hall Car Park on Thursday mornings
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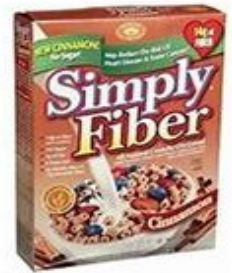
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Please donate long life foods and personal hygiene products to our collection point in St. Mary's Church (just inside the main doors on the right or in the porch if the doors are locked) or contact us to arrange a collection.



If you're struggling for whatever reason please contact us for some supplies. All contact will be confidential so no one will know that you've asked.



To help, get involved or to discuss your needs please contact Amanda on 01359 258646 or email wlwcommunitycouncil@outlook.com

MARY CLARKE

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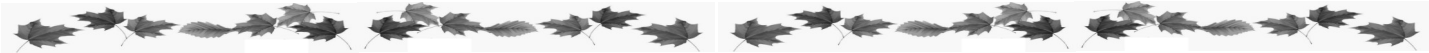
VILLAGE MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED



Following the receipt by the Parish Council of this year's ROSPA report (inspection of Play Area Safety) Cllr Paul Arbon has suggested the Parish Council asks volunteers to come forward to assist with minor maintenance jobs that crop up at the Play Area and elsewhere around the village.

Cllr Arbon will co-ordinate these volunteers along with existing volunteers who led the consultation exercises which aim to ensure that the future development of the play area meets the expectations of local people.

If you feel you might be able to assist and have a little spare time, please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance at clerk@walshampc.myzen.co.uk or 01359 259 794



PAVEMENT SWEEPER REQUIRED



This role is for sweeping the pavements around the village on a rotational basis, collecting up any litter and, at this time of year, leaves.

The role may include additional hours for similar maintenance to the Play Area on Townhouse Road.

The role is offered on a self-employed basis, currently paid at £8.72 an hour for 3.5 hours per week possibly a little more if the Play Area is included and depending on what is agreed.

If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk for further details.

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

SEARCHING FOR WORDS

C	R	E
O	S	A
N	I	T

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

There should be one nine letter word that might bring designs to mind.

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WATTISFIELD ROAD DEVELOPMENT

With the site now well under construction and the new footpath being constructed, it appears many residents of Walsham le Willows are amazed how this has ever been allowed.

I thought now would be a good time to give a brief of the objections raised at the time, and how many people gave time and money to ensure everything possible was considered for the safety of local residents. The original application for Planning Permission was for 60 houses and was rejected by SCC Highways as the road was not wide enough to enable a footpath as well, the pinch point being between Mill Close and Postmill Gardens.

The agent re-applied by stating the boundary line of Millfield was incorrect and by being in the correct position the road width would be sufficient at 4.80m wide.

As the owner of Millfield, I employed a lawyer and surveyor, at great expense, to prove our boundary was in the correct position, which they did. However, in the meantime, the new application was approved by Mid Suffolk Planning for Outline Planning Permission for 60 houses using the incorrect information. Surely the boundary question should have been settled, at their expense before progressing further.

At this point many residents of Wattisfield Road gave a lot of time and money in trying to ensure a safe road. We engaged a Chartered Civil Engineer with 40 years experience in the design and construction of highways, who gave independent advice to ourselves and Mid Suffolk Council on highways standard and criteria. By Suffolk County Council's own standards that Wattisfield Road should be a road 5.50m wide; at outline stage this was reduced by Suffolk County Council to 4.80m width, Then with the Millfield boundary being proved to be correct the road was reduced to a width of 4.10m! and we were all aware that without a movement of the boundary a safe highway/footpath could not be achieved.

All this hard work only for the Highways to approve an inadequate and unsafe road and footpath, with this the Mid Suffolk Planning Officer issued approval for the discharge of condition for the footway.

It is my opinion that approval was granted as SCC Highways and Mid Suffolk Council cannot afford an appeal, even with all the facts of minimum road width etc.

This whole scenario has revolved around money and no consideration for the impact on Walsham le Willows residents, there will be accidents on this road and I hope the people responsible for allowing such dangers can sleep at night.

The Planning Officer wrote in his final email to us all "I freely admit that I would be more comfortable if Postmill Gardens junction and Mill Close had been better junctions".

We all know that we had a very good case for refusal, but the reality is local people have no say against aggressive, arrogant agents and no say against the developers.

I would fight for my rights regarding boundaries but not sure it is worth the effort against developers.

I sincerely hope nobody gets injured or even worse, but if this does then please remind SCC Highways of what they approved.

My wish for the future is that any future developments in Walsham le Willows that the landowners use honest, sympathetic agents/architects to consider the impact on our village.

Trevor Pollard

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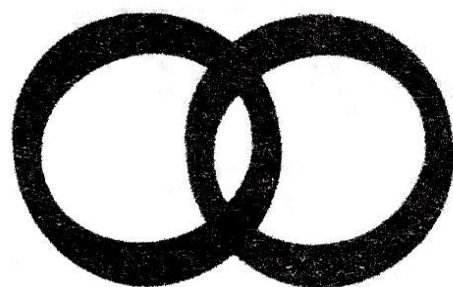
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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

STREETLIGHTING

The Parish Council owns 49 streetlamps in the village and pays from its budget for the power and maintenance. This, together, currently costs in the region of £2500 annually. Some of the older units are still drawing 90 watts! The costs are charged to the Parish Council and is effectively paid for through a levy on your Council Tax.

In 2019 the Parish Council embarked on the process of upgrading all these lamps to LEDs that generally run for 15 years, connected to what are known as 'telecells'. Making sure that all the lamps are running the most efficient LEDs will help to reduce the electricity bill and hopefully, some of the maintenance costs too.

Making sure that all the lamps have telecells means that they are 'networked' directly to the SCC system. This allows SCC to remotely, and therefore more cost effectively, make any changes to the lighting hours as requested by the Parish Council and this system also alerts them immediately if any lamp stops working. Works to replace or repair can then be scheduled immediately hopefully with no need for anyone intervention from anyone in the village.

Additionally the new telecells can be dimmed by up to 50% to a schedule we can specify and we are told that there is little noticeable difference in lighting effect but a substantial saving on electricity costs.

After a stuttering start with Phase 1 of the upgrades relating to the ability of SCC to get UK Power Networks to assist with lamps that are in close proximity to overhead power cables, things now seem to be going more smoothly. Phase 1 was completed and paid for early this year. Phase 2 is complete apart from one lamp which hopefully will soon be finished and then the Parish Council will pay for that work very soon. Phase 3 is just about to be costed and will, hopefully then commence as soon as the budget allows. Phases 1 and 2 have replaced 16 lamps including a one-off added recently which had totally failed. There are 33 to go.

Phase 1 cost just over £10,000 and Phase 2 nearly £5,000. The whole programme was estimated at just under £45,000 when first costed in 2018.

DING DONG MERRILY ON HIGH

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Ding dong! Merrily on high
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel-singing.
Glo-----ria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Glo-----ria, Hosanna in excelsis! | By priest and people sungen:
Glo-----ria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Glo-----ria, Hosanna in excelsis! |
| 2. E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io, | 3. Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rhyme
Your e'entime song, ye singers.
Glo-----ria, Hosanna in excelsis!
Glo-----ria, Hosanna in excelsis! |



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LITTLE WILLOWS PRESCHOOL NEWS



We don't normally contribute to the Observer but feel under the circumstances you might like to read about some of the things we get up to.

After what was one of the strangest end of school years we have ever had we are now back in the setting for a new academic year, and although life has changed as we know it, we have at Little Willows tried to keep things as positive and normal for our children as possible and they appear to coping extremely well with all the necessary changes that we have made. We have noticed they are now very independent. Even though they are young they all appreciate the need to wash their hands regularly (with some encouragement) and can now count from 1 to 20 very well as they do so.

Social distancing can be a challenge (hugs are necessary and still very much available) but again with some small changes, including lots of hand and toy washing and the occasional wearing of visors or facemasks by the adults, we are keeping everyone as safe as possible.

We are spending lots of time out in our garden, exploring the world around us as well as planning many of our activities to be carried out outside. The experiences that the children have when attending our sessions are of the utmost importance to us and during this term, we have been looking at the changes the season brings, farming, wild animals, along with festivals and special days that come around at this time, introducing the children to lots of new vocabulary.

The activities have included visits to the Wild Wood where we explored the area in search of different coloured leaves, hunted for minibeasts under the logs, spotted lots of fruits and berries and listened to the sounds in our environment. We also splashed in muddy puddles with our wellies on. We have also had lots of fun using the natural objects we have accumulated creating pictures, counting and sorting them.

We have explored and carved pumpkins, planted some winter pansies and coloured heathers to brighten up the garden and have now put up our bird feeders. We have made our own simple feeders using fir cones, lard and seeds which is an activity that can be done at home. Simply tie some string on the fire cone, coat it with lard and then roll it in the seed. It can be a bit messy but the children and the birds love it.

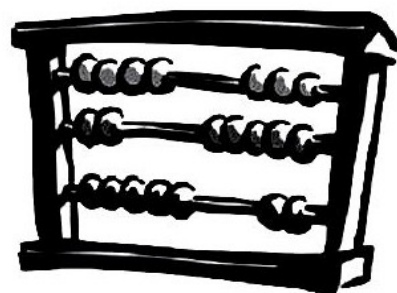
As we start the festive season, we will be involved in many traditional Christmas activities along with festivals from other cultures such as Diwali, Thanksgiving and Hanukkah.

We hope this gives you an insight into all the fun we have at Little Willows and we will continue to keep the village updated with how these activities go in next month's Observer.

The Staff and Children at Little Willows

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says Ian Campbell (Treasurer)



LIGHT UP OUR VILLAGE FOR CHRISTMAS



Christmas this year may not be quite the Christmas that most of us had planned and we may not be able to spend it with our nearest and dearest. I am most probably going to be one of those people, so I have decided that I am still going to make it as festive as possible with decorations and lights outside, not just for our benefit but for other people to enjoy as well. If as many as possible did this Walsham would razzle dazzle during the festive season.

Candles and lights have always been lit as a symbol of hope in uncertain times such as we are all going through now. If we all make an effort it would give people a purpose to go out for an evening walk to look at and enjoy other people's lights, I always do this every year. So, it doesn't matter if you like your house to look like the Blackpool Illuminations or you prefer a more conservative approach of a Christmas Tree or lantern in the window. Any lights will be beautiful so let's go for it and light up Walsham this Christmas.



BRITISH LEGION STANTON & DISTRICT BRANCH



I wish to thank those who donated to the Poppy Appeal which amounted to £ 167 this was passed on to our organiser, also thanks to Jan Hall for the poppy display on the War Memorial.

The Sunday Remembrance service at the Memorial was well supported our branch standard was paraded by Ivor Bowden , branch president Sidney Kent laid the wreath on behalf of the RBL.

Three other wreaths which would have been laid VE Day were placed in memory of Douglas Kerry, Amos Largent and Ralph Kerridge who died during WW2.

The service at Stanton was also well supported where eight wreaths were placed on the Memorial from the RBL, The Parish Council, Woman's Institute, All Saints Church, RAF Honington and families of loved ones also one in memory of those that died when their Wellington Bomber crashed at Wrens Hall.

We welcomed the school children to the Memorial on Wednesday 11th to commemorate the Armistice anniversary. Rev Philip Merry spoke to the children prior to the service, it was remarkable what they had learnt about the significance of this day and the reason they were there, which was a credit to them and the teaching staff.

Take care and stay safe

Hubby Frost (Branch vice president)

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SUFFOLK WEST WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



The Suffolk West Federation of WIs annual meeting this year was like no other thanks to the restrictions imposed by the corona virus. As usual delegates from all WIs were invited to attend but this year they met in the virtual sphere at the appointed time. Walsham's delegate was Julia Dunncliffe and WI Adviser Jill Newell, also a Walsham member, also attended. The business of minutes, standing orders, adoption of accounts and reports from the Board of Trustees had to be read by Chairman Julie Higgins and Treasurer Brenda Last, before being approved, as did reports from the various sub-committees. In other years, speakers, often well known personalities, would be the entertainment of the day. Alas that will now be postponed until next spring when it is hoped the annual meeting may be returning to its usual venue The Apex.. An ability to adapt and change has kept the WI alive for a hundred years in Suffolk West and this meeting illustrated that resilience. The meeting concluded with a lively round of questions and comments where members expressed their thanks to the Federation for supporting WIs in these difficult times.

Jill Newell

POPPY APPEAL 2020

I'd like to say a really big Thank You to all of you who gave so generously to the Poppy Appeal this year.

When you consider that we had no door to door collecting this year, no Blue Boar, no Café, and no Church Service we did remarkably well. We raised an amazing £1,039.

Thank you so much on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

Fiona Glover

WALSHAM OBSERVER SU-DOKU

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

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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VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS

This year the village Christmas Tree will once again stand lit in St Mary's Churchyard. Unfortunately, due to the current restrictions we will not be able to have the usual light-up service with carol singing around the tree or the welcoming refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies in the Priory Room. With this in mind we therefore need to make the tree look really beautiful for everybody, so if you have any unwanted tree decorations we would love to have them for the village tree. They would need to be waterproof and probably every other weather element you can think of proof, so no fabric please.

If you have any tree decorations going spare they would be gratefully received. Please either contact Frances Jenner on 01359 259242 or frances.jenner@hotmail.com or leave them in a bag outside Ash Cottage, Wattisfield Road or with Steve Colby, Top Shop, The Street. For the latter they can be left outside the wooden door under the arch between Moriarty's and Clematis House. Thank you.



OH CHRISTMAS TREE

O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy leaves are so unchanging;
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy leaves are so unchanging;
Not only green when summer's here,
But also when 'tis cold and drear.
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy leaves are so unchanging!

O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Much pleasure thou can'st give me;
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Much pleasure thou can'st give me;
How often has the Christmas tree
Afforded me the greatest glee!
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Much pleasure thou can'st give me.

O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy candles shine so brightly!
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy candles shine so brightly!
From base to summit, gay and bright,
There's only splendor for the sight.
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
Thy candles shine so brightly!

O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
How richly God has decked thee!
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
How richly God has decked thee!
Thou bidst us true and faithful be,
And trust in God unchangingly.
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!
How richly God has decked thee! !"

Stuart Walker



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Past grants have provided: Cookers Washing machines Beds Stairlifts
Carpets and flooring Boiler repairs or replacement Roof repairs Spectacles
Lifeline pendant systems Mobility aids

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To apply for a grant, you will need to be a past or present volunteer or staff member of Royal Voluntary Service, WRVS or WVS with at least one year's service, and have a fairly limited income.

- Complete an application form (or get someone to do it for you)
- Application forms are available on our website www.wrvsbt.org.u
- Submit it to the Trust either by email or post (the address is on the form)
- The Trustees meet three times a year, but applications are considered in between meetings so there is no delay in responding to applicants

Tens of thousands of people have volunteered or worked for us over the years, maybe you, maybe your grandparent, parent, aunt, uncle, friend or neighbour. The Trust is here to help eligible applicants. Please help us to spread the word about our grants.



DECK THE HALL

Sing Fa la la la la la la la. after each line

Deck the hall with boughs of holly,

Fa la la la la la la la.

'Tis the season to be jolly,

Fa la la la la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,

Fa la la la la la la la.

Troll the ancient Christmas carol,

Fa la la la la la la la.

See the blazing yule before us,

Strike the harp and join the chorus.

Follow me in merry measure,

While I tell of Christmas treasure,

Fast away the old year passes,

Hail the new, ye lads and lasses!

Sing we joyous all together,

Heedless of the wind and weather,

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WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th November 2020 commencing at 7.00 p.m. Online via Zoom due to Coronavirus restrictions. Members of the public were able to join the meeting to observe or make representations

PRESENT Cllrs. Arbon, Bartholomew, Belson, Ellis, Kinnair, Mecrow & Roberts. Cllr Meyer for the District. [Cllr Arbon joined just after the start of the meeting]. Three members of the public present.

1 FIRST BUSINESS

- 1.1 **Acceptance of apologies** – none received
- 1.2 The minutes of the meetings held on 13th October 2020 and 28th October 2020 (special meeting) were unanimously approved with one adjustment to the wording on those for the 28th to remove the name of a parishioner.
- 1.3 **To receive pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests** Cllrs Bartholomew and Ellis declared a non-pecuniary interest about agenda item 4.1.
- 1.4 **To consider applications for dispensation** – dispensations were granted for Cllrs Bartholomew and Ellis.
- 1.5 **Public Open Forum**

Wattisfield Road development

Parishioner Michael Wild noted a difficult conversation with Paul Scarff, Planning Compliance Officer at MSDC, re the blocking of access to residences by site vehicles to the Wattisfield Road development where contractors are competing for parking space and there appears to be no co-ordination by the site manager of contractors who are arriving at site seemingly not knowing who the site manager is. Mr Wild also noted six attempts to call planning at MSDC about this, which were cut off, a call to the MSDC helpdesk which was cut off and to whom he got through to on the second attempt and was put through to Paul Scarff. Mr Wild was told that the situation was not helped because contractors (instructed by Lovell's) had erected signage in the wrong places, causing site traffic to take the incorrect route, something Mr Scarff had by this point been aware of for some weeks after complaints were submitted from residents, Parish Councillors, district councillor and the clerk.

Simon Bailey for MSDC Planning kindly attended the meeting to discuss and firstly apologised for the lack of timely responses from planning enforcement. He advised that he would be speaking with the compliance officer, Paul Scarff, first thing in the morning and that the red signage that should have been erected to direct traffic away from the non-approved route, but was erected to do exactly the opposite, had been removed. He advised the yellow signage directing traffic to the

site was being dealt with.

With regard to issues raised about the general management of the route traffic takes to the site in the light of the road closure and other site related works taking place, Simon Baily acknowledged that this needed better co-ordination by Lovell's who should be ensuring compliance with the transport plan.

Cllr Mecrow asked if these issues constituted a breach of the transport plan and was advised by Mr Bailey that evidence is needed for any breaches before MSDC can act. The Clerk noted that when he spoke with Mr Scarff and evidence was mentioned, rather unhelpfully the precise requirement regarding admissible evidence was not communicated. This is for a dated photograph showing company name on the vehicle and/or number plate. The Clerk clarified further, and it was advised that ideally the date should be embedded within the image (not something many people will manage even if their camera offers this feature). The point was made that the date of capture is embedded in the file data for captured images on any camera.

The Clerk also noted as feedback for Simon Bailey to planning enforcement that sending out emails that clearly raise expectations that enforcement action will be taken, only to experience fast back pedalling on this when issues are pursued, is not helpful to the Parish Council in managing complaints from residents as it is clearly misleading.

Mr Wild noted that the new path had been built around an existing telegraph pole which should have been removed. Simon Bailey advised that this is matter of co-ordination between BT and the developers and that it would be removed at some point and the path made good.

Cllr Mecrow asked if there would be any check that the widths of pavements and road have been correctly installed as per the plan as parts of the road were unquestionably dangerous, especially opposite Post Mill gardens where these are particularly narrow. Cllr Meyer noted that he was aware that there is a requirement for a Level 3 safety inspection so would also be expecting Highways to do this.

In terms of enforcement Simon Bailey advised that the enforcement team has increasingly limited resources and are dealing with large numbers of cases at any one time so must prioritise their responses.

Neighbourhood Plan

Suzi Martineau spoke about the progress the Neighbourhood Plan group have been making over the last year and thanked the Parish Council for their support and for funding of costs for the meeting venue. And that the housing consultation had provided some good data that would feed in directly into the Neighbourhood Plans as they may work in future under the recent changes proposed by central government. The group is strategising in the light of the recent government proposals and information from the housing consultation mapping where residents

would like to see development and where not, will be key and will inform us on what may become the potentially revised quota requirements. It is planned to co-ordinate the finalisation of the Neighbourhood Plan so that it links in with the finalisation of the Local Plan. This will deliver the greatest longevity before review is required.

Cllr Meyer cautioned that under the current Local Plan, Walsham le Willows escaped relatively lightly compared to villages like Thurston. It is looking like the 90 units of housing required by the current plan over the next 16 years are largely fulfilled by the existing two developments on Wattisfield Road but that the recent central government proposed changes to the rules, if they are implemented, will require an extra 200 units per annum across the district, part of which Walsham may be expected to accommodate.

Cllr Meyer again reiterated the importance of getting an effective Neighbourhood Plan in place as proposed developments in Mendlesham, amongst others, have been successfully rejected on the basis of accepted Neighbourhood Plans. This again is of course subject to any changes in the law around this.

Suzi Martineau noted the impact of the pandemic on housing need and how this might impact the development of the Neighbourhood Plan and that Cllr Ellis is involved in joint discreet consultations with the Neighbourhood Plan group. Looking forward to the lifting of lockdown, advice and support from the Parish Council on this would be most welcome.

Wildlife Corridors

In a not unrelated point about the consultation on Wildlife Corridors Cllr Belson made the point the consultation was difficult to respond to as it was not clear of the scale that was envisaged, whether between one wood and another right up to between one valley and another. ACTION Cllr Meyer was unable to advise but said that he will ask the questions. His impression was that this was seen as a cumulative effort with lots of small initiatives cumulatively contributing.

Cllr Mecrow made the point that with the end of EU membership the payments farmers receive will change significantly. With the emphasis progressively moving toward the support of environmental schemes and away from "production led payments". The changes represent a huge change in emphasis for UK agriculture, they may well drive the change in policy surrounding wildlife corridors.

Suzi Martineau noted the efforts of Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Wild East in this regard which are aiming to get landowners, including households, to dedicate 20-30% of their land to re-wilding. Also the intent to explore this within the new Neighbourhood Plan model not only to share across NP areas to assist in creating a patchwork of re-wilded areas but also to focus on food resilience with land managers.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/rewilding-east-anglia-wildeast->

- 1.6 **County and District Reports** – Cllr Fleming was not in attendance. Cllr Meyer referred to his report which had been circulated and highlighted the resumption of the Home But Not Alone support number and the imminent finalisation of the Local Plan which is being reviewed in committee this month and hopefully be out for consultation in December. The full report can be found on the village website at: <https://www.walsham-le-willows.org/explore/governance-community/parish-council/>

Cllr Meyer advised that on application DC/20/02434 his understanding was that the space for parking was considered to be adequate.

Cllr Belson asked if the changes to requirements on ecology since the Broad Meadow site was given planning permission would have any impact on the number of houses deemed appropriate. Cllr Meyer noted that given the stage the application is at in the process that there should be space to consider this.

Cllr Mecrow referred to his email re the position of the 30mph zone in relation the Wattisfield Road development site entrance given that part of the northern end of the development lies outside the zone although the entrance is inside but within 200 meters. **Cllr Meyer advised he would raise with SCC Highways.**

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. 3bed two-storey dwelling including parking areas for two spaces and landscaping **Location:** Land To Rear Of Holmwood, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk **Reason(s) for re-consultation:** Plans submitted 26/10/20 **The Parish Council Objected** based on comments previously made on 22nd and 29th September which are still valid. In addition, the Parish Council questions the scale on the drawing indicating enough space for the parking for two cars and the fact that using this space for parking would block resident access to the proposed dwelling.

APPLICATION. NO: DC/20/04541 For works to trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce canopy by 3m to 1No Beech Tree due to close proximity to dwelling and driveways. **Location:** Riverside Cottage The Street Walsham Le Willows Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **The Parish Council Made No Comment**

PLANNING APPLICATION: DC/20/04630 Land West Of Wattisfield Road Walsham Le Willows Suffolk x 2

- **APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/20/04630** **Proposal:** Application under S73 of Town and County Planning Act for approved DC/19/04273 dated 19/02/2020 - to vary Condition 2 (approved plans and documents) to facilitate increase in affordable provision from 21 to 31. Twin garage omitted and provision of sheds in rear gardens with amended fence/gate positions to plots 29

and 30. Updated site plan to show omission of twin garage and the alteration of tenure types from Market to Affordable to plots 27, 28 , 29, 30, 37, 38, 54, 55, 56 and 57. As per drawings and documents submitted 17/10/2020. **Location:** Land West Of, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk **The Parish Council Noted**

- **Application 1357/17 – Wattisfield Road Development** – Non-adherence to agreed transport plan despite previous complaints from Parish Councillors, District Councillor, Clerk and parishioners. Decide next steps regarding outcome of discussion with Paul Scarff and Clerk’s summary of that discussion circulated by email. **See Above Under 1.5**

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/20/04960 Proposal: Householder Planning Application - Erection of 4bay cartlodge, 4 bay garage and storage outbuilding.

Location: Sunnyside House, Finningham Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BJ **The Parish Council Supported This Application**

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/20/05031

Proposal: Notification for works to trees in a Conservation Area - 1no Willow - Reduce by 50% 2no Beech - Reduce by up to 25% cutting to growth points.

Location: Fernside, Finningham Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BQ **The Parish Council Supported This Application**

APPLICATION DC/20/03342 Address Porters House Farm West Hall Road Rickingham Inferior Diss Suffolk IP22 1LY **Proposal Full Planning Application** - Erection of 1No dwelling (following demolition of existing) including sewage treatment plant; Erection of detached cartlodge with room over and improved vehicular access to highway. **The Parish Council Previously 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 Condition Application for 1352/17- Condition 4 (Materials) **Location:** Land West Of, Wattisfield Road, Walsham Le Willows, Suffolk **Approved Conditions By MSDC Were Noted By The Parish Council**

4 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 **Development & Neighbourhood Plan** - Cllr Belson reported ongoing difficulties with attendance due to the commitments all involved have although agreed with the Clerk that everyone is doing their absolute best as per Suzi Martineau’s report under 1.5 above. Cllr Belson also reported on the obvious issues arising from the government’s proposals for changes to planning law and how Neighbourhood Plans are constituted. See the minutes above under 1.5. The issue of cancelled

room bookings was raised by the Clerk and the fact that these still must be paid for under the hire agreement, unlike the Priory Room (which has been closed throughout the pandemic). Cllrs Bartholomew and Ellis confirmed and made the point that the hall was reserved for use as requested from the NP group but that there were others who wanted to hire the hall on Thursday evenings and that the committee must be mindful of the fact that the hall has to cover its costs with the help of income from hire fees. The Parish Council noted the cost was approx. £625 pa on basis of two meetings a week whilst also noting that using Parish Council funds for meetings that do not happen must be monitored. Cllr Ellis confirmed that charges during the lockdown period will be waived. It was decided to review the situation after lockdown is lifted.

- 4.2 **Streetlighting conversion update** – The Clerk advised that following notification from Highways of an unsuccessful repair to lamp 22 on The Street, the replacement of this had been requested at a cost of £531.28 +vat as was agreed by email prior to the meeting. The Clerk was unable to report on the status of upgrade to the final lamp in phase II. Cllr Ellis put forward a schedule for phase III lamp upgrades. **Clerk to submit for cost estimates.**
- 4.3 **Community Council** - Cllrs. Ellis and Bartholomew advised Memorial Hall is now shut again for the period of the lockdown. Another community lunch had been planned but lockdown intervened. The kitchen and electrics are complete the kitchen is looking good. Talks are taking place with ‘Fit Villages’ to see if more classes can be hosted at the Hall after lockdown. The possibility of a new front main door is being considered as the existing arrangement is very draughty when the external doors have to be left open in winter. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Meyer for funding from the Locality Grant towards the cost of a new dishwasher. More applications for funding are being prepared and a large refund for over-payment on electricity charges is expected from E.ON. Cllr Meyer advised that there is not much Locality Grant left for this year. Cllr Ellis reported that the latent need for a local foodbank has been identified and thought is being given to how this might be achieved. Cllr Ellis spoke of the hidden rural poverty and the nearest foodbank currently being in Bury St Edmunds. Cllr Meyer will enquire on behalf of the Community Council.
- 4.4 **200 Club** Update Cllr Meyer reported that he had heard nothing from David Price at MSDC licencing, and he will chase to try and get a definitive answer. Cllr Bartholomew reported further developments in the form of another draw having taken place. Cllr Meyer to
- 4.5 **Finningham Road blind bend – traffic speed** – Clerk advised no response from Cllr Fleming since last meeting about her offer to help arrange a site visit with Highways. Traffic survey has been postponed due to lockdown. **Clerk to chase with Cllr Fleming and to extract data from SIDs at earliest opportunity.**
- 4.6 **Hedge and debris on The Causeway** - Clerk advised no response from Cllr Fleming since last meeting about offer to help arrange clearance by Highways.

Clerk to chase with Cllr Fleming.

- 4.7 **Fishponds Lane Footpath** – Clerk advised that nothing more has been heard from the Rights of Way team since they sent through options open to us. Cllrs Ellis & Belson also pushed the idea again of a bar between two posts to prevent horse-riding as well but still allow pedestrian traffic unhindered. **Clerk to chase on costs and if it is possible for us to do the installation ourselves as well as the idea about a bar between posts at either side with a separate opening for people on foot.**

On a similar note but re the Betty's Bridge Footpath which runs through the wood alongside the river, Cllr Belson again noted the same issue with horse riders using the path since the gate that used to be there has deteriorated and disappeared. **Clerk to contact Mr Martineau to ask if he has given permission to horse - riders to use the footpath.**

4.8 **Maintenance of Assets: Actions**

- Clerk **Parish Council Shed** Clerk will apply woodworm treatment at earliest opportunity.
- **Village sign** Cllr Roberts/Arbon/Ellis will liaise, hopefully taking it down on Saturday week if not before. Cllr Ellis will then take it from there. Cllr Ellis advised that the tree had been cut back to make this
- Cllr Roberts/Ellis **Bus Shelter** Cllr Ellis offered to do this if she could have loan of pressure washer from Cllr Roberts.
- Cllr Roberts SIDs extra batteries and costing for upgrade to solar

- 4.9 **Establishing / Improving Wildlife Corridors** – Clerk advised that interest has been registered and that Cllr Belson has suggested a few trees at the road end of the green at Staples Close and maybe one in front of the houses on the greenspace to the right.

- 4.10 **Village Maintenance volunteers** Clerk advised that no responses received. Consensus was to place ad again and review at next meeting.

- 4.12 **Streetsweeper role** this was discussed, and it was decided to place the ad to see what interest there is.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1 The email from John Stebbing updating on an 'agreement' between Lovell's and Wildwood was noted. It appears this is another developer 'promise' that will not be fulfilled.

6 REPORTS

- 6.1 Clerk's report & financial report to 31st October 2020 & request for payments. The summary of payments has been signed digitally against invoices, or otherwise authorised, by Councillors Bartholomew & Kinnair pending wet signature at later date.
- 6.2 Request from PCC to upload Hexagon to web site – It was agreed that links to the

Hexagon can be uploaded to the St Mary's page. **Clerk to advise the PCC.**

#	Payee	Amount	Description
1	Kevin Boardley	£14.39	Reimbursement for online conferencing subscription
2	Trevor Jackson (M&TJ's)	£96.00	Play Area Hedge cutting
3	Memorial Village Hall	£50.00	NP meetings
4	Parish Council Employee	£539.52	Wages
5	Les Fulcher	£125.00	Parish Council Shed Roof
6	Information Commissioner's Office	£35.00	Required ICO registration for data protection compliance Notification of DDR payment
#	Payments In	Amount	Description
1	Street cleaning Grant DUE	£376.96	Q2 20/21

6.1.1 **Problem Reports SCC** update – nothing to report

6.1.2 **Projected budget to year end 2021** – the Clerk asked if there were any questions ahead of the budget meeting on 24th. There was a brief discussion about the news that we will receive some CIL monies in April. **Clerk to check if there is any process to obtain his funding or if it is just paid over.**

6.1.3 **Next subject for 'Parish Council News'** – it was decided to highlight the phased streetlighting upgrades for the next edition.

6.1.4 **Web site** – Clerk advised that the hosting provider seems to have relented on the issue of charging for what was previously a free SSL certificate following the advice to upgrade the platform.

6.1.5 **Lockdown volunteers** – Clerk advised that an email had been sent to all registered volunteers to thank them for continued support and clarify current status.

6.2 **Play Area**

- **Play Council/Parish Council governance relationship** – Clerk advised that unfortunately the firm of solicitor's we were hoping would take on the legal side for the Parish Council at a very reasonable rate are now not in a position to do so due to the workload the housing market is currently generating. Ellison's solicitors who advised pro bono that the Parish Council has no obligations re 'disposals' under charity law. They will act for the Parish Council regarding the new lease but have quoted a remarkably high rate for this. It was decided to pause until we

have a new lease before deciding what to do. The Old Town Trust has been asked to draw up a new lease as this will move things a bit further forward. It was agreed that it is requested that the lease is drawn up with a term of 30 years.

- **Regular Maintenance & call for volunteers** – Duplicated agenda item.
- **Overhanging Trees** – Following a complaint to Cllr Bartholomew from a parishioner the Clerk asked David Brown to look and his quote has been circulated. Cllr Belson offered to meet with David on site to discuss exactly which trees David assesses need some work. **Clerk to email David copying in Cllr Belson. The 6th January has been pencilled in pending the exact work being agreed.**

6.3 **Footpath Warden** - Cllr Belson reported that a national footpath survey is taking place to identify all footpaths those that have been used in the past but are no longer maintained and used. **Cllr Belson to draft a piece for the Observer asking people to identify any they know of. Cllr Ellis will also ask her friends and family who she feels might have some of this knowledge.**

6.4 **Tree Warden** – Cllr Belson – Nothing to report.

7 OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

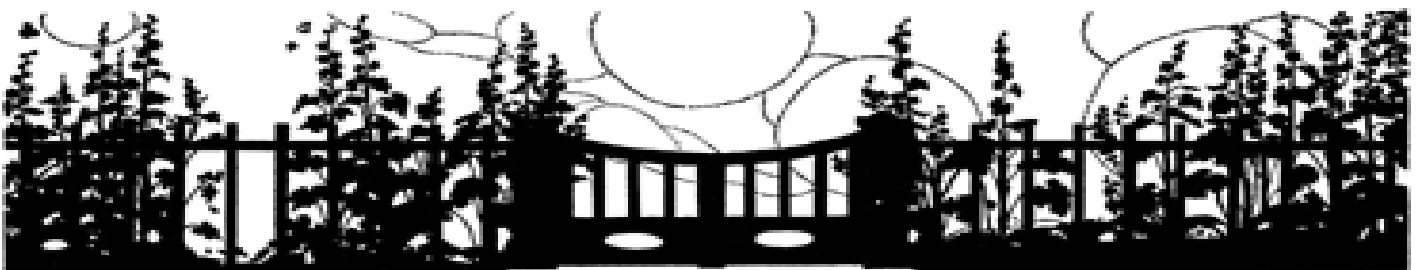
None

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

8.1 **Letter received after publication of agenda from parishioner making observations on stream clearance.** Cllr Ellis reported observing both sides of the stream being cleared near Swan path. An approach was made to make the observation that clearing both sides at the same time breaks the law as set out in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, schedule 5 about endangering protected species. It is known that advice on this has been received in the past by the organiser who earlier in the year asked for the support of the Parish Council in this endeavour and assured that this exercise would be properly supervised and the relevant law would be observed. **Clerk to write to the organiser to advise of this breach. [Subsequent to the meeting it has been reported that it appears that the clearance was stopped].**

Meeting ended at 22:20

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





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CHRISTMAS CAROLS

As I write this towards the end of November, it is appearing more likely that carols will not be sung inside our churches this year. Perhaps the coming Season gives us all an opportunity instead to more closely reflect upon the history and meaning of some of the more popular carols.

‘Good King Wenceslas looked out on the feast of Stephen....’

King Wenceslas was a 10th century Duke of Bohemia (now the western portion of the Czech Republic). His grandfather and father had turned from paganism to Christianity. His mother, however, was the daughter of a pagan tribal chief. When Wenceslas was 13, his father died, and his mother, having embraced paganism once more, tried to turn him away from Christianity. But when Wenceslas was 18, he gained the throne, had his mother exiled, and reigned over his people with mercy and justice as a truly Christian monarch. He became well known for his acts of kindness; as immortalised in the carol we sing. An early biographer wrote this;

‘Rising every night from his noble bed, with bare feet and only one chamberlain, he (Wenceslas) went around to God’s churches and gave alms generously to widows, orphans, those in prison and afflicted by every difficulty, so much so that he was considered, not a prince, but the father of all the wretched.’

At the age of 28, Wenceslas was assassinated on his way to church by his brother. He was considered a martyr, canonised by the Catholic Church, and today is the patron saint of the Czech Republic.

The carol was written in 1853 by John Neale, and is a carol designed to teach Christian values.

‘Silent Night, Holy Night’ is the first line of a poem written by Father Joseph Mohr, a young Austrian, Parish Priest of St Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, north of Salzburg. The poem itself was written in 1816, and two years later, on Christmas Eve, Father Joseph asked his organist to put the words to music in time for that evenings Midnight Mass. The carol was sung that night, and again and again each Christmas.

It was an organ builder who spotted the music and lyrics of the carol, and passed it on to two local families of travelling folk singers. Three years later the singers were to perform the carol to Emperor Francis I of Austria, and Tzar Alexander I of Russia. The carol was to spread across Europe and the rest of the world, being translated into English in 1863 by another Priest, Reverend John Young. The carol has now been translated into over 300 languages.

‘Silent Night’ is neither a fast paced carol, nor complex and theologically rich. Rather, ‘Silent Night’ is quiet and reflective, inviting us to meditate upon the stable scene;

‘Round yon Virgin, mother and child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.’

I wish you all a very Blessed Christmas from the Rectory.

Philip (Benefice Priest)

DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES

2nd December	Wednesday	
7.00pm	Compline	Walsham
6th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	
8.00am	Said Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Said Communion	Westhorpe
9th December	Wednesday	
7.00pm	Compline	Finningham
13th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	
8.00am	Said Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Christmas Lessons	Badwell Ash
20th December	4th Sunday of Advent	
8.00am	Said Communion	Walsham
11.00am	Christmas Lessons	Wattisfield
3.00pm	Christmas Lessons	Walsham
6.00pm	Christmas Lessons	Westhorpe
21st December	Monday	
6.00pm	Christmas Lessons	Finningham
24th December	Christmas Eve	
9.30am	Said Communion	Walsham
25th December	Christmas Day	
8.00am	Said Communion	Badwell Ash
9.30am	Said Communion	Walsham
10.30am	Said Communion	Finningham
27th December	1st after Christmas St John	
8.00am	Said Communion	Walsham
3rd January	2nd after Christmas	
9.30am	Said Communion	Walsham
3.00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe

EPIPHANY SINGERS 2021

I am sure you will have guessed by now that this event will not be taking place in January.

The Epiphany Singers have been coming to Walsham for the last 50 years, and it is very sad that due to the awful Covid virus they will not be able to sing for us in 2021.

The Singers were all very keen to return to Walsham, and are very disappointed that we have had to cancel.

We are so privileged to have these amazing singers visiting each year, and it would be incredibly sad if this wonderful tradition didn't continue. However, I have received the following communications, which give us hope for their return for Epiphany 2022.

From Colin Howard who organises the singers

The Epiphany Singers send fond greetings to their many friends in Walsham. We are as disappointed as you will be not to be able to share the Feast of Epiphany as we have done now for fifty years. There was a wonderful spirit of optimism at large up until this week, when the national situation with Covid developed to the point where caution prevailed. Thank you to those who were prepared to welcome the ten young singers who would have made up the Epiphany Consort in 2021. I know Simon Carrington and David Hill would join me in passing on our confidence that all shall be well in 2022. Please listen to the latter part of the second movement of 'Ein deutsches Requiem' by Brahms, taking note of Isaiah 35:10: Die erlöseten des Herrn werden wieder kommen, und gen Walsham mit Jauchzen; ewige Freude wird über ihrem Haupte sein / 'And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Walsham/Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads.' These same, uplifting words come also at the end of S.S. Wesley's great anthem, 'The Wilderness'.

The ransomed Epiphany Singers will come forth out of the Wilderness and sing for you again.

From Simon Carrington who had kindly agreed to Conduct again this year.

This is just to add my disappointment to Colin's and thank you for being so positive and helpful in your earlier responses.

Colin has been working hard to gather a fine group of young singers and, who knows, the situation may be very different by the time we get to January.

However we will all be looking forward to the chance to return to wonderful Walsham for Epiphany 2022.

From David Hill who, as always, had kindly agreed to be our Organist.

I am just adding my disappointment and thanks to everyone who has tried to make things possible.

I look forward to 2022 and meanwhile send you warmest good wishes,

What more can I say?

Fiona Glover



Walsham Congregational Church

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

Services in December

God willing, and the law permitting, we will be open again for worship each Sunday at 11.00 & 6.30 from December 6th. We also hope to hold a service, as usual, on Christmas Morning from 10.00 – 10.45am. Please be assured of a warm welcome; we would be pleased to see you.

A Star in the Window

Sir Harry Lauder was one of Scotland's most famous singers and entertainers. He was described by Sir Winston Churchill as, "Scotland's greatest ever Ambassador". Although he was known for giving joy and laughter to multitudes he had experienced the deep pain of grief because he lost a son in the fighting in France during the First World War.

A friend from America once told Sir Harry that one night during the First World War he was walking down the street in New York with his young son. As they walked the boy noticed a star in the window of a house and a little further along the street they came to a house with two stars in the window. The boy eagerly asked his father what the stars meant. The father patiently explained that every star in the window represented a son which that family had given to fight in the war; some families had given one son but others had given more. As they passed house after house the little boy would turn to every window to see how many stars it had in it. Then they came to a break in the houses and through the gap they could see a lone star shining brightly in the night sky. The little boy shouted excitedly, "Look Daddy, God must have given His Son as well, because He has got a star in His window".

Those simple words really sum up the message of Christmas because at this season of the year we remember that God gave His Son to be our Saviour. Ponder carefully again the words of the greatest verse in all the Bible, 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3:16). As all the busy preparations are being made and thoughts turn to presents or the possibility of meeting again with family and friends at this difficult and uncertain time, please remember that it is possible to miss the real message of Christmas. So, let us ask you to stop and think for a moment of what God has given you. The reality is that God could not have given any more than when He sent His Son into the world just over two thousand years ago; God gave His Son so that He might go to the Cross and die for your sins. The good news this Christmas time is that if you will come unto the Lord Jesus Christ in repentance of sin and faith in Him as your Saviour, He will give to you the greatest gifts that ever were given; the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life.

**For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23)**

REMEMBRANCE

It was not a sudden calling up to arms
that slow tolling of the church's tenor bell,
rather a bidding, "Come remember those
who gave their last and dying day defending
fundamental freedoms which we now share",
all of us countrywide now called to prayer.
As required under governmental rules
to halt corona virus, its pandemic spread,
we made our cautious way to church, well distanced,
bright smiles and waved acknowledgements
twixt neighbours, friends, our nervous shared response.
Our dark and somber dress enlivened
by those individual coverings
which masked the face, made aliens of us,
while scarlet poppies
remind us of those Flanders Fields
where so much warring
wrought such wretched ruin.
Our silent thoughts upon the eleventh hour,
broken by the intrusive noise of passing cars,
take in the ancient trees and buildings roundabout,
the glint of sun on autumn leaves,
the familiar never fading scenes of life
which root us so within our village home,
denied to those whose names are etched
upon the poppy wreathed memorial stone
and read aloud once more "lest we forget".
But the mellow tones of organ music that we love,
the singing of the old familiar hymns
are not permitted in these Covid times,
the Remembrance Act foreshortened and made spare
as if, so many years gone by, we now no longer care.
And so our priest delivers blessings in a final prayer,
the Act of Remembrance is over now until next year.
Yet many hover where they stood, as if unsure,
then turn instead to those nearby some thoughts to share
anxious that the opportunity should not be lost
before returning indoors under Covid's clutch.

Rob Barber

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WALSHAM LE WILLOW VILLAGE HALL

The Community Council committee welcome you to the

MVH Coffee Shop.

Reopened under government guidelines for
village halls and COVID 19.

Open every Thursday (But not for now!!)

New Time of 10.30am to 12.00pm

Pricing remains the same for 2020 as 2019.

Please come along and enjoy the company.



Who was the last active pharaoh of Ancient Egypt?

AUTUMN FUNGI

This autumn seems to have lent itself to a plethora of fungi varieties. Almost all can be found in dappled woodland or under hedges in loamy soils rich in humus and on mature pasture land.

Fungi usually grow from spores shed from between the gills or pores underneath the parasol shaped top and also from the stem base in the ground that sends out fine thread like structures called mycelium.

Some are quite particular about the plants or trees they grow on or near. Dryad's saddle, a bracket fungus, grows on oak trees; while Spindlesbank and Blusher grow around it and Sulphur Tuft and Mazegill grow on the Oak's dead wood. Antler shaped Candle Snuff grow on most dead wood.

Many wild fungi are edible like the Giant Puff Ball found on meadows and grazed land, anything in size from a golf ball to a small football - very nice fried for breakfast.

The field mushroom and hedge mushroom are almost identical to those one can purchase from a shop but are very prone to maggot attack.

Unfortunately many fungi look very similar and some are dangerous. Short stems, parasol type tops with gills beneath.

The Cep, Parasol mushroom and Bleuit are very alike and edible. The Yellow Staining mushroom, its top goes yellow if rubbed, is poisonous. The Panther Cap is extremely poisonous, while the Death Cap and Destroying Angel are deadly. All the above four look very similar ordinary shop bought mushrooms. Be safe don't even touch!

Many of the colourful fungi are very pretty, often shades of orange or red on the top - you guessed it poisonous too. Woody Milk Cap, Sickeners, Devil's Boletus is orange underneath and the red and white Spotted Fly Agaric (the one the caterpillar in Alice in Wonderland sits on) are all poisonous, as is the small and delicate Earthy Inocybe. Fungi like the Oyster Mushroom, Beefsteak and Chantarell often grow on trees and are edible. The Shaggy Ink Cap is mushroom like and edible, **but no alcohol for 72 hours!** One rather suggestive fungi is the Stink Horn - not poisonous but you can usually smell it before you see it!

All of the fungi mentioned can be found locally, with a bit of effort. There is usually a good showing of Fly Agaric in the Silver Birch woods at Redgrave Fen.

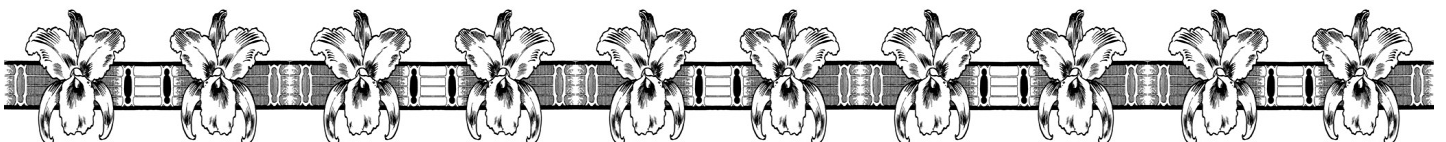
(A toxin can be either ingested or infected - both methods can cause poisoning.)

Many fungi toxins are neurotoxic, hallucinogenic and haemolytic.

Amatoxins: Almost always deadly, with a long latent period, 5 - 24 hours. In some cases as little as half a mushroom is required to be fatal.

Fungi are in many ways beautiful and a joy to see, but like tigers **take care.**

Stephanie Folkard



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



*There are ten differences between these two pictures;
see if you can find them all before the donkey has the courage to, 'Walk on!'.*

SPEEDY CLEANING TIPS TO FRESHEN YOUR HOME

Here at Time For You we understand that when you've had a long week at work the last thing you want to do with your weekend is spend it cleaning up after everyone else.

We want to let you know some cleaning hints to make the cleaning a little easier to manage.

Sanitise Top of the list at the moment, with the Coronavirus pandemic, is how to ensure your home remains safe and sanitised from any germs which may be lingering. Allowing fresh air to circulate is extremely important. Cleaning should include high touch points; light switches, door handles, toilet handles, remote controls and keyboards. Even if they are not visibly dirty, these places house the most unseen germs and bacteria. These areas should be cleaned daily, with a normal cleaning product and then a disinfectant over the top which is left to air dry.

Cleaning Top to Bottom This phrase came about for a good reason! Starting at the top and working down means any dirt or dust you dislodge does not fall on somewhere already cleaned. Apply the same rule to every room – start with cobwebs and work down to the floor.

Getting in the Zone Break home cleaning into smaller tasks – spending an hour a day in a different zone is a great way to deep clean areas not normally covered in a general clean.

Cut the Clutter Those ornaments, books and magazines just get in the way so have a clear out and then make sure everything has a place.

Keep your cleaning caddy close by Having your cleaning kit to hand cuts down running up and down stairs every few minutes making the clean easier.

Sweet smell of success Make your home smell fresh as well as looking clean and tidy. Open the windows for some fresh air, sprinkle bicarbonate of soda in the bin or on carpets and leave overnight to absorb smells and use Citrus fruits like lemons and grapefruits are a fantastic way to keep your home clean, smelling nice and free of germs. Even the peels can be left in your rubbish bin to remove nasty smells and eventually used as kindling in your fireplace!

SILENT NIGHT

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace!
Sleep in heavenly peace!

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,

Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!



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HALLOWEEN AND PUMPKINS

At the Walsham Wild Wood 2020

We set up the quiz trail and the carved pumpkins early in Halloween week and people were able to take part in the quiz and enjoy all the excellent carving work. On Halloween Saturday we decorated the quiz trail trees with lights and put lights into the pumpkins.

Darkness fell and the Wood looked wonderful with the twinkle of lights and there was a huge blue moon in the clear sky – a great mix of light and dark.

We were delighted that people were able to come along both during the week and on the Saturday evening.

Thank you to everyone involved with putting the quiz together, providing all the lights and doing the carving.

These are, indeed, tough times and having the Wood as a space for everyone, whether for exercise or quiet contemplation or to watch the birds – whatever, please enjoy the Wood.

Do get in touch if you would like to get involved - Lorna is the contact at mackinnonlorna@gmail.com

Wildwood Halloween Quiz Answers

1. Rowan 2. Silver Birch 3. Hazel 4. Alder 5. Field Maple
6. Beech 7. Oak 8. Holly 9. Hawthorn 10. Aspen
11. Guelder Rose 12. Hornbeam 13. Yew 14. Pine



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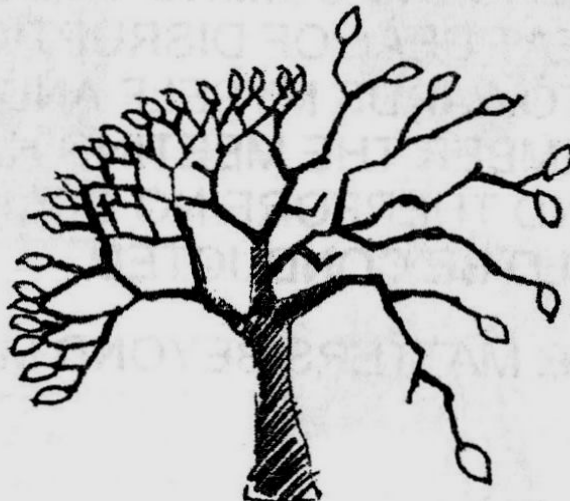


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WALSHAM HISTORY GROUP

Walsham History Group is pleased to let you know that two of its most popular publications are once again back in print.

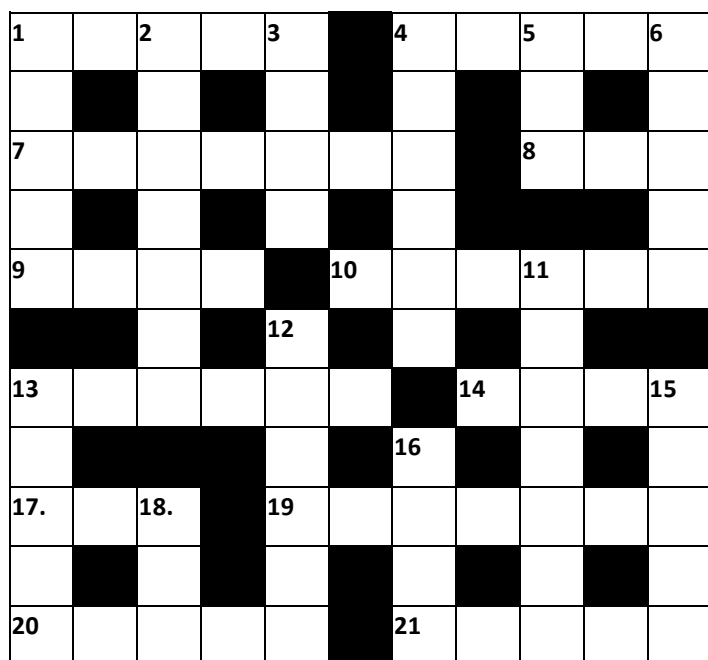
With Deep Regret by James Turner – This is a new colour edition and tells the stories of the men of Walsham le Willows who gave their lives in the Great War 1914 – 1918.

Price £6.00

Who Lived in Your House? by Audrey McLaughlin. An exceptional number of medieval and 17th century timber framed houses are still standing in the parish of Walsham. This book looks at the history of 57 of these houses and the lives of those who lived in them during these times. Price £15.00

The History Group has a number of other publications for sale which would make great Christmas presents, especially if you or someone you know would like to find out more about the history of this village and those who have lived here. For a full list and prices of books available access the parish website www.walsham-le-willows.org and click on the 'History' tab and then 'Publications'. If you would like to purchase anything then please contact Frances Jenner on 01359 259242 or frances.jenner@hotmail.com.

WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



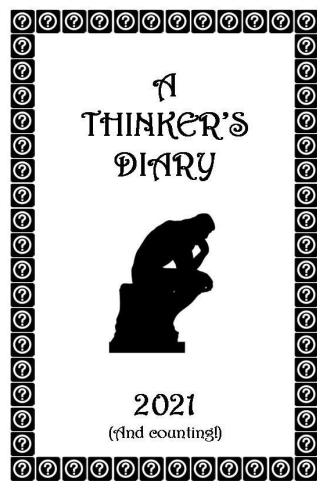
- 10, Lose control and harden steel. (6)
 13. Ceases to move seating in the theatre. (6)
 14. God feels uncomfortable going back. (4)
 17. Draw a bead on ambition. (3)
 19. Crave for the little devils know-how. (7)
 20, Safer change for travel costs. (5)
 21. Heavenly body joined with small company. (5)

DOWN

1. Look back and forwards it appears. (5)
 2. The colour a magnet changes. (7)
 3, It's close to in one arrangement. (4)
 4. It's great to have a quiet meal. (6)
 5. She returns A1 in France. (3)
 6. Genius shown by student in reasonable surroundings. (5)
 11. Act to do one's duty. (7)
 12. Al Pacino tells porkies to his friends. (6)
 13. Stick for the workforce. (5)
 15. Warn out in such crisp entertainment. (5)
 16. Long record in charge initially. (4)
 18. Spoil the retreating ram. (3)

ACROSS

1. Italian in CD ROM and other media. (6)
 4, Is this 'sneezing powder' to put out the candle? (5)
 7, Such a glam fop might arrange to guide one through the mist. (3,4)
 8, There's a cooker for Eastern leader. (3)
 9, Torn in the parent's bedroom. (4)



A THINKER'S DIARY 2021

The third incarnation of this diary/puzzle book is now available for a 'suggested' minimum donation of £5. As a small Christmas Gift for a friend or a 'time passer' for the next lockdown it's perfect.

Puzzles and limericks all through the year.
Copies are now obtainable from Ian Toulson (259646)
All profits will go to St Mary's Church



Your Christmas Tree.
at
Four Ashes Farm entrance
Walsham Le Willows



'Real' trees can be left at this site from 7am Tue.
12th January, until 7pm on Tuesday 19th January.

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OID AMONG THE SCYTHIANS

During the last few months your editor, like a stylish Cole Porter character, has urged “Brush up your Shakespeare”. We have duly investigated the Bard. Furthermore, in these dreary ‘Covid’ times we have removed the ‘C’ from that modern contrived word. This brings us to the name that, by coincidence, remains: Ovid. He was a Roman poet who inspired much of Shakespeare’s work. Some passages in the plays are direct translations from Ovid’s Latin.

Ovid tells us that in the reign of Augustus (around AD 8) he was ordered to leave Rome and live in a remote town on the Black Sea coast. He died there ten years later. That town is now the booming port of Constanta in Romania, and there is a statue to ‘Ovidius’.

London’s National Gallery has a painting by Eugene Delacroix entitled ‘Ovid among the Scythians’ (originally ‘Ovide chez les Scythes’). Delacroix, like Ovid, felt that he had been misunderstood by the ‘establishment’ of his time. He painted the picture in 1859, aged 61, towards the end of his life. Ovid, also in his fifties, near the gloomy sea, is comforted by the local Scythian people. Delacroix, like Ovid, decided to make the best of things in a difficult world.

Publius



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

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

CHRISTMAS

The bells of waiting Advent ring,
The Tortoise stove is lit again
And lamp-oil light across the night
Has caught the streaks of winter rain
In many a stained-glass window sheen
From Crimson Lake to Hookers Green.

The holly in the windy hedge
And round the Manor House the yew
Will soon be stripped to deck the ledge,
The altar, font and arch and pew,
So that the villagers can say
'The church looks nice' on Christmas Day.

Provincial Public Houses blaze,
Corporation tramcars clang,
On lighted tenements I gaze,
Where paper decorations hang,
And bunting in the red Town Hall
Says 'Merry Christmas to you all'.

And London shops on Christmas Eve
Are strung with silver bells and flowers
As hurrying clerks the City leave
To pigeon-haunted classic towers,
And marbled clouds go scudding by
The many-steepled London sky.

And girls in slacks remember Dad,
And oafish louts remember Mum,
And sleepless children's hearts are glad.
And Christmas-morning bells say 'Come!'
Even to shining ones who dwell
Safe in the Dorchester Hotel.

And is it true,
This most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass windows hue,
A Baby in an ox's stall?
The Maker of the stars and sea
Become a Child on earth for me?

And is it true? For if it is,
No loving fingers tying strings
Around those tissueed fripperies,
The sweet and silly Christmas things,
Bath salts and inexpensive scent
And hideous tie so kindly meant,

No love that in a family dwells,
No carolling in frosty air,
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells
Can with this single Truth compare -
That God was man in Palestine
And lives today in Bread and Wine.

John Betjeman



HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail! the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail! the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"

ALL THE ANSWERS

1. Suicide is Painless 2. 36 3. Into The Groove 4. Tina Turner 5. Bette
6. Tiddlywinks 7. Fijian 8. Stanley Matthews 9. Mark Ramprakash
10. Gunnersaurus Rex 11. Martin Freeman 12. Steptoe and Son 13. Casablanca
14. The Graduate 15. Rose 16. Alexander Fleming 17. 4 18. Camels
19. Snapdragon 20. Horses 21. Ecuador 22. Wiltshire 23. Agra 24. Nassau
25. Pampas 26. Juniper 27. A 28. Wimpey 29. Japan 30. Colonel Sanders
31. Pre-Raphaelites 32. Latin 33. Belgian 34. Lewis Carroll 35. Thomas Hardy
36. The Crown Jewels 37. Hannibal 38. Hot-air Balloon 39. Richard Nixon
40. Cleopatra 41. Yuri Gagarin 1961 42. Thomas Edison
43. The Iliad and The Odyssey 44. Seven 45. The Amazon
46. Don Mclean an Madonna 47. Georges Bizet 48. Four 49. Dick Turpin
50. Matthew Webb

More or Less

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

Su-Doku

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

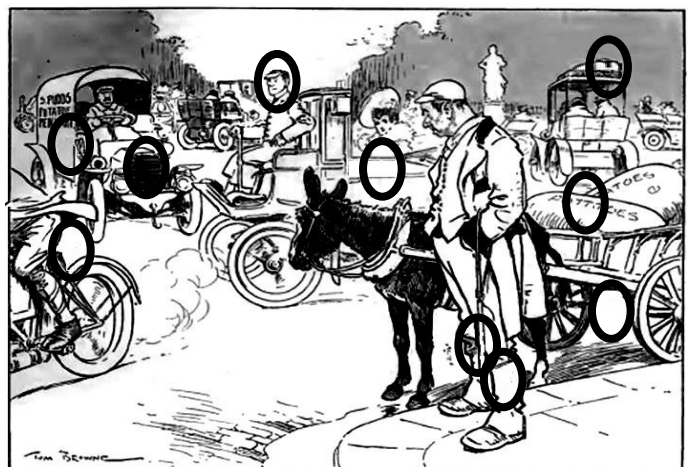
Crossword

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

Searching for Words

Ain	Arc	Arcs	Are
Arose	Arse	Arson	Coin
Coins	Con	Cons	Core
Cores	Cost	Crest	Ear
Ears	East	Eat	Eats
Ion	Ions	Its	Nit
Nits	Nor	Nose	Ore
Ores	Rain	Rains	Raise
Rat	Rats	Resit	Rest
Rose	Rosin	Sat	Satin
Score	Sear	Seat	Sin
Snore	Son	Sore	Stain
Star	Stare	Tar	Tare
Tares	Tars	Tin	Tins
Tsar	Creations (58)		

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.