

The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham

Rector: Rev'd Philip Merry 01359 258806
07526 271784
(philipmerry@hotmail.co.uk)

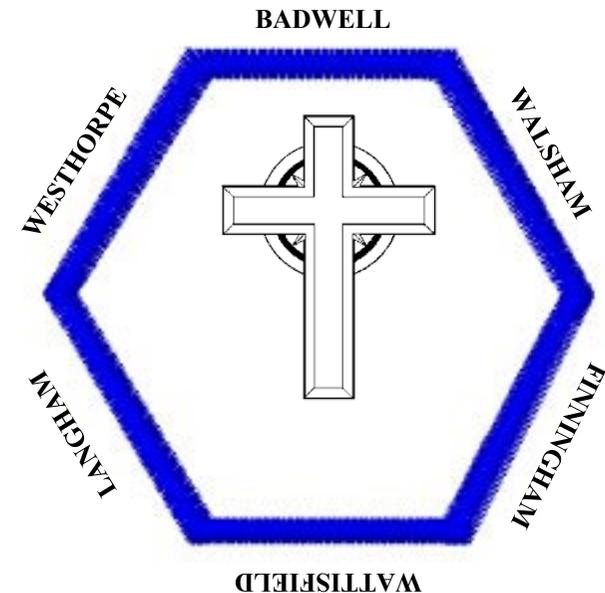
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(robsonpam@btinternet.com)

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Freddie Montgomery 01359 240271
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Benefice Safeguarding Officer:
Tracey Gorzelak 01359 258529

*The Benefice of
Badwell & Walsham*



*Hexagon
April – May 2021*

HEXAGON

Please send your articles, jokes, fundraising event reports, puzzles, recipes and Church announcements for inclusion in this magazine to the Editor: Debbie @ debbiewatson2916@gmail.com or ring 01359 259686

COPY DEADLINE Last date for items for inclusion in the next issue is
Fri 7th May 2021

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FULL PAGE	single issue £30	3 issues £60	6 issues £120
HALF PAGE	single issue £20	3 issues £40	6 issues £80
QUARTER PAGE	single issue £15	3 issues £30	6 issues £50

Contact Judith on 01359 258251 or judith@gharlow.plus.com

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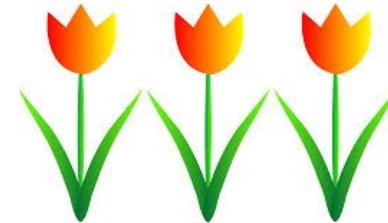
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ROGATION

The fifth Sunday after Easter is traditionally known within the Churches calendar as Rogation Sunday, (this year May 9th), with the following Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday classed as Rogation Days; the Thursday after is always Ascension Day. Probably originating in France in the 5th Century, it was introduced to England in the 7th Century.

These were days when the population of villages would process around their fields, asking God's protection and Blessing upon the crops that were just beginning to sprout. The Priest would lead the procession, 'beating the bounds' of the Parish, whilst at the same time praying and reciting the psalms and litany. The Latin word 'rogare' means 'to ask,' and so these became 'Rogation' processions. In an agricultural society, closely connected with the soil, and highly vulnerable to the uncertainties of nature, this was an idea that took root quickly. Its' popularity grew in the 13th Century, and although it waned at times, both King Henry VIII, and Queen Elizabeth I promoted the celebrations, explicitly mentioning them in the Royal Reformations.

Equally important, the annual beating of the bounds provided an opportunity to resolve boundary disputes; leading to the tradition of seeking reconciliation in personal relationships during Rogationtide. The sharing of a specially brewed ale called Ganging Beer, was a good way of sealing the reconciliation! However, this did lead to the Bishops urging their Priests to invite only the more pious men; to put a stop to the drunken revelry!

Much of modern society has of course lost its direct connection with the soil, but that does not lessen the actual dependence of all people on the gifts of nature. In today's world, responsible stewardship of all these gifts is increasingly being recognised as the concern of all people. Whether we are young or old, landowners, home owners or property renters, we are all alike, tenants here on earth. These days in the sophisticated world in which we live, many of us are cushioned from direct dependence on the seasonal cycles of the natural world. In our shops, or on-line, we can find almost anything, anytime, often far beyond our 'bounds.'

cont>

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In many of our rural churches, prayer and thanksgiving are still offered in celebration of Creation, especially at Harvest time. Even in urban churches there is most often an awareness of our dependence upon the fruits and resources of the earth, of the ways in which resources are wasted, of the dangers of pollution, and of our responsibility for honest labour and industry.

Christianity acknowledges '5 Marks of Mission,' one of which states; 'to strive to safeguard the integrity of Creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.' This is not Green politics, but a basic tenet of Christian belief and commitment, equally shared by those who would say they have little or no belief; but have an honest concern for the world we all inhabit. On Rogation Sunday we do our asking of God, not just for our own well-being and salvation, but for all His Creation.

Philip
Benefice Rector

CONFIRMATIONS

Later in the summer of this year it is hoped to hold another all-age Confirmation service. If you or anyone you know feel that being Confirmed is something you would like to consider, please, do get in touch for an informal chat. Philip Benefice Rector

FROM THE REGISTERS

Wedding

John Robert Williams / Vicki Margaret Williams 6th February 2021 Walsham

Funeral

Iris Heather Rumsby 9th February 2021 Finningham Burial

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EASTER

Services at St.Mary's

Badwell Ash at 8.00am

Langham at 9.30am

Walsham at 11.00am

WESTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

Westhorpe Village Hall is a Covid Secure venue which is available for hire. Activities which have restarted include art club, craft group, film night, singing for fun and yoga.

Please check the village website at westhorpe.onesuffolk.net for details, or contact Alison Weston on 07972 415205 or wvhbooking@hotmail.com.

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Caroline Morris: 07843 248 411
cdv_11@hotmail.com

Web address: pawfectmoments.co.uk
Facebook: Pawfect Moments Pet Care

GENERAL APPEAL

**St Mary's Church, Walsham has suffered a
50% loss of donations in 2020 due to the Covid 19
Pandemic.**

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE CHURCH.

If you wish to **become a new regular giver**, there are Standing Order and Gift Aid forms* in the Church or contact the Treasurer.

If you would like to make a **one-off donation**, there is a **contactless giving terminal** in the church.

You can also visit the **online giving page** at:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/889d6e4a-754c-491a-bf71-55bd03a572c8>



THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT

St Mary's Parochial Church Council, Walsham le Willows

**PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL PCC TO DONATE TO THE
OTHER CHURCHES IN THE PARISH.**

*** Please send completed forms to:**

Garth Harlow, Treasurer, St Mary's PCC, The Rookery,
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**Haughley Hoofers North West
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***** COVID 19 *****

Our practice season has now finished and because of Covid -19 we have had to cancel all events for the summer. Depending on health advice, we hope to start our practice sessions again in September/October on Sunday evenings 7.30-9.30pm in Haughley Village Hall, near Stowmarket.

Ring Sue on 01449 766747 to find out more nearer the time.

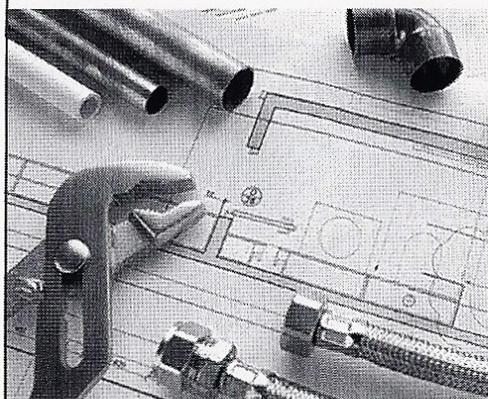
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COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOOD BANK

Since opening in November 2020, the food bank, working with local organisations and Suffolk County Council, has to date delivered 375.38kg of food and hygiene products to families and individuals in the Benefice of Walsham le Willows.

Your support and kindness for others is really making a difference and is greatly appreciated by those receiving the parcels. A massive thank you to all our supporters, big and small, who have generously given food at Badwell Ash village shop and Walsham church as well those who have donated money directly to the charity. We could not manage without you.

If you or any one you know is struggling in these unprecedented times, please make contact. Referrals are confidential and can be gained from a wide range of agencies including Citizen Advice Bureau, Local GP surgeries (via their Social Prescribers), schools and the Rev'd Philip Merry.

Amanda Ellis, Honorary Chair
Walsham le Willows Community Council.
Reg. No. 278321



WATTISFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

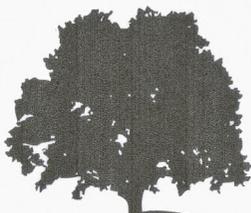
Although Wattisfield Village Hall and play area are currently closed, the recreation ground is still open for you to enjoy, relax and exercise – whether gently or energetically!

The committee sends you all best wishes to keep safe and well.

We are really looking forward to being able to get back together again.

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IPSWICH AND SUFFOLK CREDIT UNION

The Parish of Walsham-le-Willows has joined with the Archbishop of Canterbury in his initiative to offer an alternative to Pay Day Loan Companies.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has endorsed and promotes Credit Unions nationwide. We had visits from the Ipswich and Suffolk Credit Union during the year 2014. As a result we now have two Walsham-le-Willows Parish members as Credit Union Representatives for anyone in the Benefice with any interests.

They are as follows:

Fred Bloomfield
1 Church View Cottage
The Causeway
Walsham-le-Willows
Bury St Edmunds IP31 3AB

Ann James
The Thumbit
Walsham-le-Willows
Bury St Edmunds IP31 3BT
Tel: 01359 259414

HEDGEHOG AWARENESS WEEK 2021

Hedgehog Awareness Week runs from 2nd-8th May 2021, it is organised by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) and take place every year. It aims to highlight the problems hedgehogs face and how you can help them.

This year the Charity is asking people to create their very own hedgehog haven! Gardens are a stronghold for hedgehogs, and we can make their lives so much easier with very little effort!

There are many things we can all do to help hedgehogs; here are just a few:

Make sure hedgehogs can access your garden with a 'Hedgehog Highway' a 5" x 5" (13 x 13cm) square gap in the bottom of fences or walls should do it! Once created you can log these on the Big Hedgehog Map at www.bighedgehogmap.org

Create a log pile that will offer shelter and food

Build a Hedgehog Home (see plans at www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/hedgehog-homes)

Move piles of rubbish to a new site on the day you are burning it.

Check areas carefully before mowing or strimming.

Ensure netting is kept at a safe height.

Check compost heaps before digging the fork in.

Stop using pesticides and poisons.

Cover drains or deep holes.

Ensure there is an easy route out of ponds and pools.

The recent news that hedgehogs have been added to the Red List for British Mammals as 'vulnerable to extinction' is shocking and BHPS is petitioning the government to provide more legal protection for hedgehogs before it is too late. The petition can be found at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/550379> 100,000 signatures are needed by 1st April 2021.



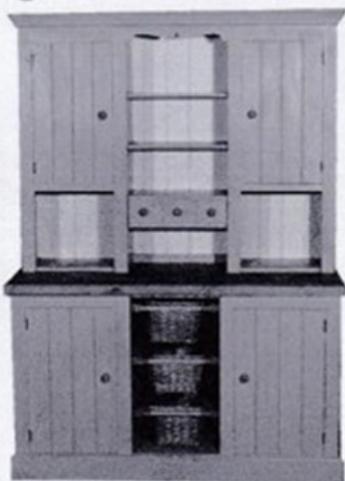
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Community Council Food Bank



This facility is now open to provide emergency supplies to residents in Walsham le Willows, Badwell Ash, Finningham, Langham, Wattisfield and Westhorpe who need help during these difficult times

Please donate long life foods and personal hygiene products to our collection point in the Memorial Hall 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

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Also available on <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/whats-on> you will find various activities from Tot Rock, Family Crafts and Activities. Exercise classes including Dance, Yoga, Pilates, Mindfulness, Getting Active in Suffolk and Where to Walk in Suffolk.

All are free on-line events.



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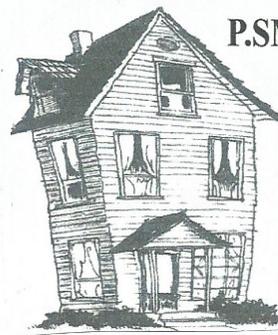


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Walsham le Willows and District WI



Six hundred and sixty-five WI members sitting in front of their computers together, all round the country. All ready for a virtual NFWI business meeting called to confirm changes to the WI constitution, borne of the pandemic, which will allow meetings to be conducted many ways in the virtual sphere. Every WI was represented to deliver their vote. When the time came it was but a click of a switch and Walsham le Willows' vote – an affirmative one – was duly delivered along with the seven other WIs that I was representing. What changes the pandemic has brought!

Votes figured large this month with the results of the resolution choice being announced. The chosen topic, which is to raise the awareness of the symptoms of ovarian cancer, secured 30,240 votes, almost more than twice the number of the next most popular item. So a clear winner there!

We are reminded however that several popular key campaigns are still active including 'Make time for mental health', 'Link together to alleviate loneliness', 'Stop modern slavery' and 'No more violence against women'.

Sad to see some other good ideas put aside this year but maybe they will re-emerge perhaps with local initiatives. A boycott of peat-based compost anyone?

NB. The WI subscription year is about to get underway. From May we hope to move forward with a carefully flexible programme of meetings as lockdown eases. Come and join us! For this year only, with a reduction to acknowledge the effects of the pandemic disruption, the subscription for Walsham le Willows and District WI will be £22.40. (April 2021-April 2022) This is the year to join!

Jill Newell

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NO MOW MAY - EVERY FLOWER COUNTS

Many of us noticed the wildlife in our gardens more during lockdown than ever before. Having the time, the good weather and not going anywhere resulted in many mindful moments watching bees visiting early flowering dandelions and cherry blossom. Together our gardens make up more area than all the nature reserves put together. This land we tend and enjoy is now an essential life line to the struggling insect populations. Literally every flower counts.

Plant life is a charity that monitors the native plants of Britain and the wildlife they support. It started a Citizen Science project looking at the number of flowers in your lawn. 5 daisies, 2 dandelions and 6 buttercups will provide enough nectar one bee for a day. Taking part in Plantlife's Every Flower Counts is easy: leave your mower in the shed for No Mow May and let the flowers grow.

From 23rd to 31st May take part in Every Flower Counts by counting the number of flowers in a random square metre of your lawn. Enter your counts on the website and instantly receive your very own Personal Nectar Score, showing how much nectar is being produced by the flowers on your lawn and how many bees it can support.

The results from last year's survey show mowing once every 4 weeks will encourage reflowering of some low growing lawn flowers such as red clover, dandelions, daisies and self-heal. Leaving your lawn long encourages the most diverse number of flowers but they flower over a shorter period. So a Mohican style mowing regime is recommended to provide as much nectar over the longest period.

Why not try it and see how many flowers are living amongst the grasses and relax watching the bees.

More info at <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/everyflowercounts/2019-results/>





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Block Paving
Patis
Fencing
Decking
Firewood

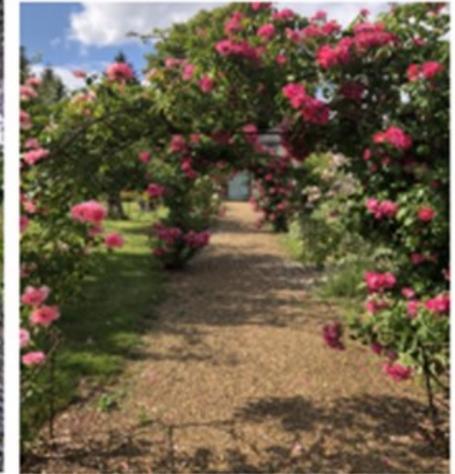
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Benefice Services April-May 2021

1st April 7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Said Communion	Finningham
2nd April 12.00pm	Good Friday Meditation music/prayers/ reading	Walsham
4th April 8.00am 9.30am 11.00am	Easter Sunday Said Communion Said Communion Said Communion	Badwell Ash Langham Walsham
11th April 8.00am 9.30am	2nd of Easter Said Communion Said Communion	Walsham Finningham
18th April 9.30am 3.00pm	3rd of Easter Said Communion Evensong	Walsham Westhorpe
25th April 8.00am 9.30am	4th of Easter Said Communion Said Communion	Walsham Badwell Ash
2nd May 8.00am 9.30am	5th of Easter Said Communion Said Communion	Walsham Westhorpe

Wattisfield URC Services

We are hoping and planning for services to resume at Wattisfield URC on Easter Day

28th March **10.45am** Palm Sunday service at Diss URC

4th April 11am Easter Day Service with Holy Communion

11th April 11am Morning worship

18th April 11am Morning worship

25th April **10.45am** Morning worship at Diss URC

2nd May 11am Service of Holy Communion

9th May 11am Morning worship

16th May 11am Morning worship

23rd May 11am Morning worship

30th May 11am Morning worship

Please continue to bring your own elements for Communion and the guidelines we used previously will apply until further restrictions are lifted by the government.

We are reliant on preachers still being happy to visit, but should guidelines change, then we will let you know.



Holy Week



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APRIL

22nd EARTH DAY

Three days of climate action
<https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

27th NATIONAL GARDENING WEEK

Run by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) to raise awareness of gardening and horticulture, and to encourage more people to take part in the healthy and productive outdoor activity of gardening.
<https://www.rhs.org.uk/get-involved/national-gardening-week/>

MAY

1st NO MOW MAY

How to encourage bees to your lawn
<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/about-us/news/no-mow-may-how-to-get-ten-times-more-bees-on-your-lockdown-lawn>

2nd INTERNATIONAL DAWN CHORUS DAY

All across the world people rise early to revel in the sweet sound of birdsong
<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/dawn-chorus-day>

2nd-8th HEDGEHOG AWARENESS WEEK

Organised by the British Hedgehog preservation Society (BHPS), it aims to highlight the problems hedgehogs face and how you can help them.
<https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/hedgehog-awareness-week-2021/#:~:text=Hedgehog%20Awareness%20Week%20runs%20from,how%20you%20can%20help%20them.>

8th INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

Awareness raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. Drawing attention to the threats faced by birds, their ecological importance and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.
<https://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/about>

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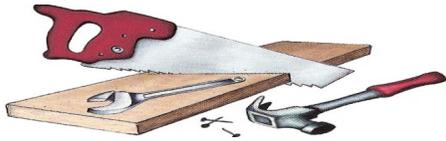
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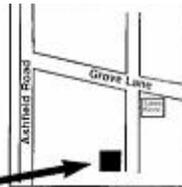
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