

The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham

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(robsonpam@btinternet.com)

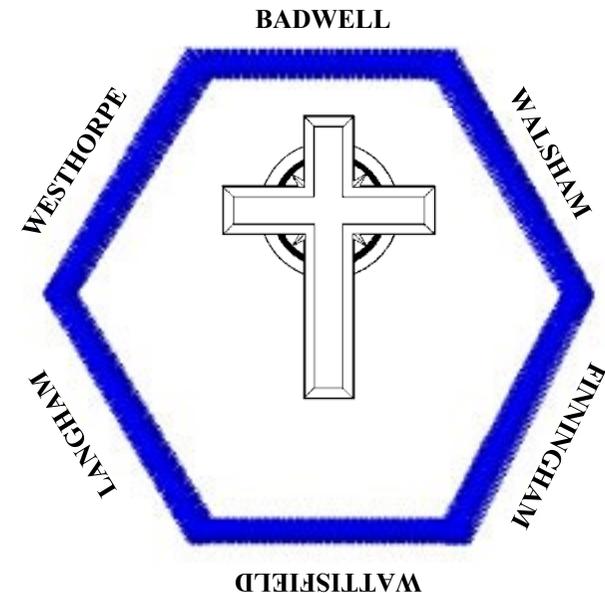
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*The Benefice of
Badwell & Walsham*



*Hexagon
June – July 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 **9th July 2021**

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QUARTER PAGE	single issue £15	3 issues £30	6 issues £50

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WEDDINGS and OCCASIONAL OFFICES

By the time this article is read at the start of June, it is to be both hoped and expected that some large degree of 'normality' will have returned to our lives. As I write this, everything which we hear and read, certainly indicates that we are moving in the right direction, and that the light at the end of the tunnel is growing brighter by the day. From the churches viewpoint, it is expected that more will be able to attend not just Sunday services (as well as weekday services), but all the 'Occasional Offices' as well.

Funerals will move from a maximum of 30 mourners to unlimited, Weddings will increase from 15 to 30 guests, and Baptisms unlimited in number; all of these services will of course be subject to Social Distancing. It is widely predicted that by the end of the month of June, weddings too will have unlimited numbers. It is not known at this time whether Social Distancing will still apply; I suspect not. However, should that still be the case then for many of our churches in England, limitations will unfortunately still be in place. At the present time there is no indication of when singing may return to our churches, but I suspect this will be from the end of June.

For many couples it has been a much longer wait to make their Wedding Vows than they had previously envisaged. Although a few weddings have taken place across the Benefice these last 15 months, most have been postponed until July/August/September of this year.

For those soon to be married, one very noticeable change has come into force at the start of May this year. Having been a legal requirement since 1837, no longer will churches record weddings in Church Registers, indeed all registers have now had to be given up to their respective County archives. St Margaret's Church Wattisfield still held and used the original 1837 Registers; this must be quite rare!

At the wedding ceremony in church, the couple, Priest and witnesses will now sign a form to record the marriage, and it will be the

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No order to small

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responsibility of the Priest to take the copy to the local Registrar within 21 days of the wedding; only then will the newly weds be able to 'claim' their wedding certificate. It has been muted that failure to comply on time may result in the guilty Priest incurring a monetary 'fine!' I assume that the title 'Signing of the Registers' will now change to 'Registration!'

On the new 'document or form,' couples will be able to include the names of their mothers, as well as step-parents. Until now only fathers names were recorded. Instead of having two witnesses at the wedding ceremony, this number can now increase to six should the couple so wish, but there is no compulsion.

Across the six churches within the Benefice, for the sake of posterity, I still intend to keep a record of the wedding in a suitable 'Register.'

For anyone who is uncertain or needs further advice/information do please get in touch.

Every Blessing
Philip Benefice Priest.



FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

Donald Marper	18 th March 2021	Westhorpe	Cremation
Donald Hunter Shield	6 th April 2021	Wattisfield	Cremation
George Robert Woolston	30 th April 2021	Finningham	Cremation

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BAPTISMS and CONFIRMATIONS

For anyone interested in Baptisms or/and Confirmations across the Benefice churches please do contact the Benefice Rector.

CHURCH WARDENS

At the recent Church Annual General Meetings the following were voted in as Churchwardens; many thanks to them all for offering their services.

Badwell Ash Stephen Rose

Finningham Andrew Strickland

Langham Sue Murray and Mandy Smart

Walsham Collen Baker and Howard Gilbert

Westhorpe Rosemary Mees

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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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.

Do you know the legend of the Cherokee Indian youth's rite of Passage?

His father takes him into the forest, blindfolds him and leaves him alone. He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of the morning sun shine through it. He cannot cry out for help to anyone.

Once he survives the night, he is a MAN.

He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each lad must come into manhood on his own.

The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beasts must surely be all around him. Maybe even some human might do him harm. The wind blew the grass and earth, and shook his stump, but he sat stoically, never removing the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man!

Finally, after a horrific night the sun appeared and he removed his blindfold. It was then that he discovered his father sitting on the stump next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.

We, too, are never alone. Even when we don't know it, God is watching over us, sitting on the stump beside us. When trouble comes, all we have to do is reach out to Him.

Moral of the story:

Just because you can't see God,
Doesn't mean He is not there.

"For we walk by faith, not by sight."

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WALSHAM LE WILLOWS & DISTRICT W I PROGRAMME FOR 2021 - 2022

2021

June 9

Garden Meeting at Maltings, Palmer Street - due to restrictions a maximum of 30 people. Will be cancelled if wet.

July 14

ANNUAL MEETING plus Janet Brown - Living on a Narrowboat

August 11

Visit to the Wild Wood, Walsham. With picnic.

September 8

Margaret Brackenbury - Decorating recycled bottles and jars

October 13

Sally Daniels - My Wish Charity

November 10

Christmas Workshop Further information later.

December 8

SPECIAL "50th" Anniversary Meeting in Walsham Church 7 p.m.

2022

January 12.

Birthday Party

February 9

Graham Higgins Confessions of a Factory Worker

March 9

Brenda Last South American Holiday.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE VERY WELCOME.
WE MEET ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH AT 7.45PM



Haughley Hoofers North West Morris Dancers

*** COVID 19 ***

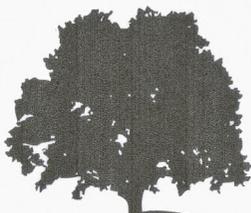
Our practice season has now finished and because of Covid -19 we have had to cancel all events for the summer. Depending on health advice, we hope to start our practice sessions again in September/October on Sunday evenings 7.30-9.30pm in Haughley Village Hall, near Stowmarket.

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

www.haughleyhoofers.org.uk or see Haughley Hoofers
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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
Tel: 01359 258 596
E:mail: bloomfield644@btinternet.com

Ann James
The Thumbit
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Tel: 01359 259414
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CONSERVATION DATES

JUNE

5th World Environment Day

World Environment Day is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. The theme for this year will be ecosystem restoration, with a special focus on creating a good relationship with nature. This year's event will also mark the launch of the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. Visit <https://www.cleanairday.org.uk/>

18th World Ocean Day

The ocean covers over 70% of the planet. It is our life source, supporting humanity's sustenance and that of every other organism on earth. The ocean produces at least 50% of the plant's oxygen, it is home to most of earth's biodiversity and is the main source of protein for more than a billion people around the world. The ocean is now in need of support. To protect and preserve the ocean and all it sustains we must create a new balance. We must build a connection to the ocean that is inclusive, innovative and informed by lessons from the past. Visit <https://oceanic.global/projects/united-nations-world-oceans-day-2021/>

17th National Clean Air Day

Every year, air pollution causes up to 36,000 deaths in the UK. The World Health Organisation and the UK Government recognise that air pollution is the largest environmental health risk we face today. Poor air quality causes heart and lung diseases, is linked to low birth weight and children's lung development and may even contribute to mental health issues. Led by Global Action Plan, Clean Air Day brings together communities, businesses, schools and the health sector to:

- Improve public understanding of air pollution
- Build awareness of how air pollutin affects our health
- Explain the easy actions we can all do to tackle air pollution, helping to protect the environment and our health.

Visit <https://www.cleanairday.org.uk/>

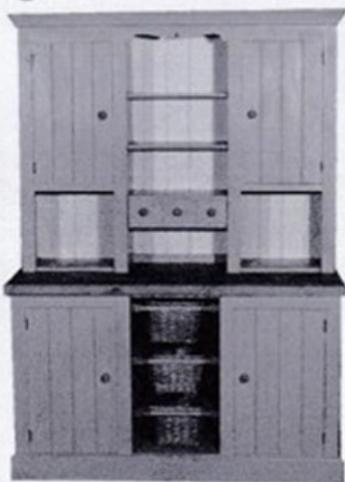
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JULY

1st Plastic Free July

World wide campaign which aims to reduce single plastic use.

How to get started –

Takeaway coffee cups – Bring a reusable coffee cup.

Buy your own refillable water bottle instead of buying plastic ones.

Food shopping - find plastic free alternatives when buying fruit and vegetables.

Avoid plastic trays used for meal, fish and deli items Plan ahead and avoid pre-packed bread, cakes and baked goods by taking your own containers.

Bring your own reusable shopping bag to help reduce plastic waste.

There are so many alternatives to plastic. For more information go to

<https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do/category/at-events/>

8th Moth Night

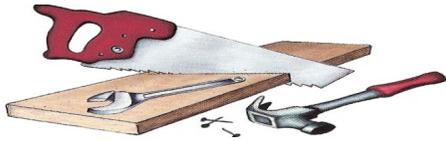
Moth Night was founded in 1998 by Atropos and is now organised in collaboration with Butterfly Conservation and The UK Centre of Ecology & Hydrology. It is the annual celebration of moth recording throughout Britain and Ireland by moth recording enthusiasts. Each year a theme is chosen with one or more target species to look out for, but Moth Night is about all moths and participants are encourage to find and record as many different species as they can.

For more information go to <https://www.mothnight.info/>

25th National Marine Week

National Marine week is The Wildlife Trusts' nationwide celebration of all things marine. Despite the name it last 15 fun-filled days to allow for the variation in tide times around the country. This year is slightly different, due to Covid 19, but there is still lots to do.

For more information go to



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QUIZ

1. Which parade takes place on the sovereign's official birthday?
2. Which German city is associated with the legend of the Pied Piper?
3. Which London park contains Rotten Row, and the Serpentine?
4. Which eye disease is marked by increased pressure within the eye?
5. Which race goes from Putney to Mortlake?
6. In the Bible, who did God speak to from within the burning bush?
7. Alphabetically, what is the last sign of the Zodiac?
8. What are male honeybees called?
9. What was the name of Robbie Jackson's dog in Eastenders?
10. Who did Bill Clinton replace as President of the USA? (full name please)
11. Which Bible character had a made of camel hair?
12. What material is made from flax?
13. Who was the first commoner to be given a state funeral, and when?
14. Who married Margaret Hilda Roberts in 1951?
15. By what name is the currency of the UK known?
16. Richmal Compton is famous for writing which series of books?
17. And what was the hero's surname?
18. Who was Prime Minister on 3rd September 1939?
19. Old Faithful is in Yellowstone Park. What is it?
20. The Groat was an old coin. How many old pennies was it worth?

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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.

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SPRING COMES LATE TO THE ALLOTMENTS

What a cold spring – the coldest April on record – more ground frosts than January and little to no rain. This variability in our weather is what makes gardening so different each year. It feels like we are weeks behind in the allotment. Sprouting broccoli has done well and provided some tasty fresh greens over the last few weeks in March and April – the stalks are loved by the chickens too. I did manage to set onions and shallots in March and they are beginning to look lively. But broad beans and sweet peas have sulked in the cold and are not looking too good at all! Thankfully I have only just planted potatoes so they are snuggling underground still – just as well as frosts are still about.

In the poly tunnel it is a different world! I have been eating salad leaves and spinach, from autumn sowings, and radish are ready to harvest from early spring sowings. Dill seedlings are appearing everywhere and the one pot of supermarket coriander that I divided and lined out to make 2 rows about 4 metres long are now green and leafy. Mangetout are 4 foot high just coming into flower.

Our restored communal pond has provided a home to over 20 newts in early spring. Water levels have remained high thanks to a clever top up system – a hose that leads from the nearest shed 1000 litre water butt - luckily full of winter rainfall. We hope to plant up the pond with more water plants - using funds from our June plant sale (come along on 5th June 10 – 12pm).

Usually late spring time is when weeds begin to grow with gusto and the allotment becomes a battle ground between the vegetable seedlings sown and the resident weed seeds that spurt into action. Often the vegetable seedling are left behind.

This year the dry spring and the cold have kept the weeds at bay but as temperatures rise they will be making their presence known. There are 2 main types of weed in the allotment – annual weeds – these grow from seed buries in the soil and form flowers quickly - and then die – to start this cycle all over again. Common ones we have are fat hen (so called as the leaf looks like a hen's foot), Groundsel – with its nodding yellow flowers and seeds loved by goldfinches and red dead nettle – loved by early foraging bumble bees, chickweed (the chickens favourite) and spurge. If these are caught early in their small seedling phase they are easy to remove with a hand fork or with a hoe – especially on a windy day – they will shrivel and die once they are cut off at the soil surface. I like to leave some red dead nettle for the bees on areas I have not planted up with crops yet.

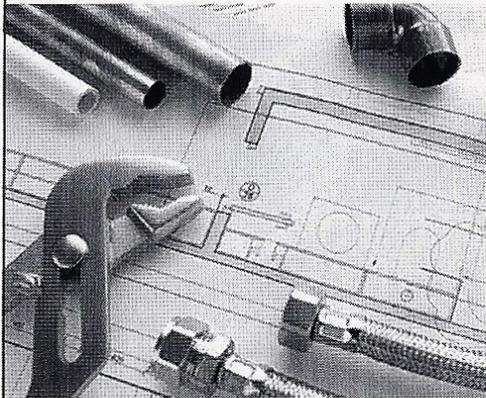
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Perennial weeds are a different matter –these have roots that allow them to spread and overwinter to regrow each year. Horsetail is my nightmare weed with black bootlace roots that go down to the centre of the earth! Others like creeping buttercup creep over the surface, rooting at intervals as their stems touch the soil surface. I am trying the no dig technique of covering them with cardboard and a layer of compost. This excludes the light they need to grow.

Many weeds have great wildlife value – nettles provide food plant for 2 of our better known butterfly larvae Tortoiseshell and Peacock and then the aphids that live on the nettles provide food for young birds – even the nettle seeds are a food source for birds. Having a nettle patch somewhere in your garden or allotment can be of benefit to your gardening too – you can also make your own plant food by stepping young leaves in water.



Quiz Answers

1. Trooping the Colour
2. Hamelin
3. Hyde Park
4. Glaucoma
5. University Boat Race
6. Moses
7. Virgo
8. Drones
9. Wellard
10. George Herbert Walker Bush
11. John the Baptist
12. Linen
13. Winston Churchill, 1965
14. Dennis Thatcher
15. Pound sterling
16. Just William
17. Brown
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April / May 2021

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

The Easter Bunny was, it seems, alive and at work in Walsham in the run up to the holiday weekend. Each WI member found a decorative "WI Meeting in a bag" delivered to their doorstep.

Further inspection will have revealed the contents to include a teabag or two (*something to drink*), a decorative cup- cake (*something to nibble*), chocolate egg (*something to celebrate Easter*), a Quiz (*something to think about*), and more importantly a copy of the draft programme for future meetings likely to be in face-to-face format.

Whilst the contents indicated a little of what might be enjoyed at a WI meeting, it could not quite deliver the essential element of fun and friendship that we have been missing.

Never-the-less meetings go on in the virtual sphere. Suffolk West Federation of WIs plan to hold their Annual Meeting on Saturday 10th April which will be attended by a delegate from Walsham. Speakers at the meeting will be Dr Chris Smith, a well-known expert face from T.V. bulletins about the coronavirus and tour guide and historian Simon Gregor. On the appointed day two hundred and seventeen WI members tuned in from all over parts of England and Wales by the magic of Zoom.

Jill Newell

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Benefice Services June 2021

6th June	1st after Trinity	
9.30am	Said Communion	Walsham
3.00pm	Evensong	Langham
9th June	Wednesday	
9.30am	Said Communion	Finningham
13th June	2nd after Trinity	
8.00am	Said Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Said Communion	Westhorpe
20th June	3rd after Trinity	
8.00am	Said Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Said Communion	Badwell Ash
27th June	4th after Trinity	
9.30am	Said Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Morning Prayer	Finningham
3.00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Benefice Church Services have only been printed out to the end of June. Hopefully it will be much clearer by then as to the type/format of services which can be held. A list of services for July will be placed upon the notice boards at all 6 Benefice churches nearer the time.

Wattisfield URC Services 2021

JUNE	6 th	11 am	Morning worship – speaker from the Fishermen’s Mission
	13 th	11 am	Holy Communion
	20 th	11 am	Morning worship
	27 th	11 am	Morning worship
JULY	4 th	11 am	Holy Communion
	11 th	11 am	Morning worship
	18 th	11 am	Morning worship
	25 th	11 am	Morning worship
AUGUST	1 st	11 am	Holy Communion

Everyone is very welcome at our services, and please continue to bring your own elements for Communion. Mask wearing and social distancing will still apply until restrictions are further eased by the government and, weather permitting, we shall be worshipping outside the Church as soon as possible. Please contact Mrs Jo Patel (01359 251789 or 07808 487844) for more information or to let her know if you are planning to come.



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