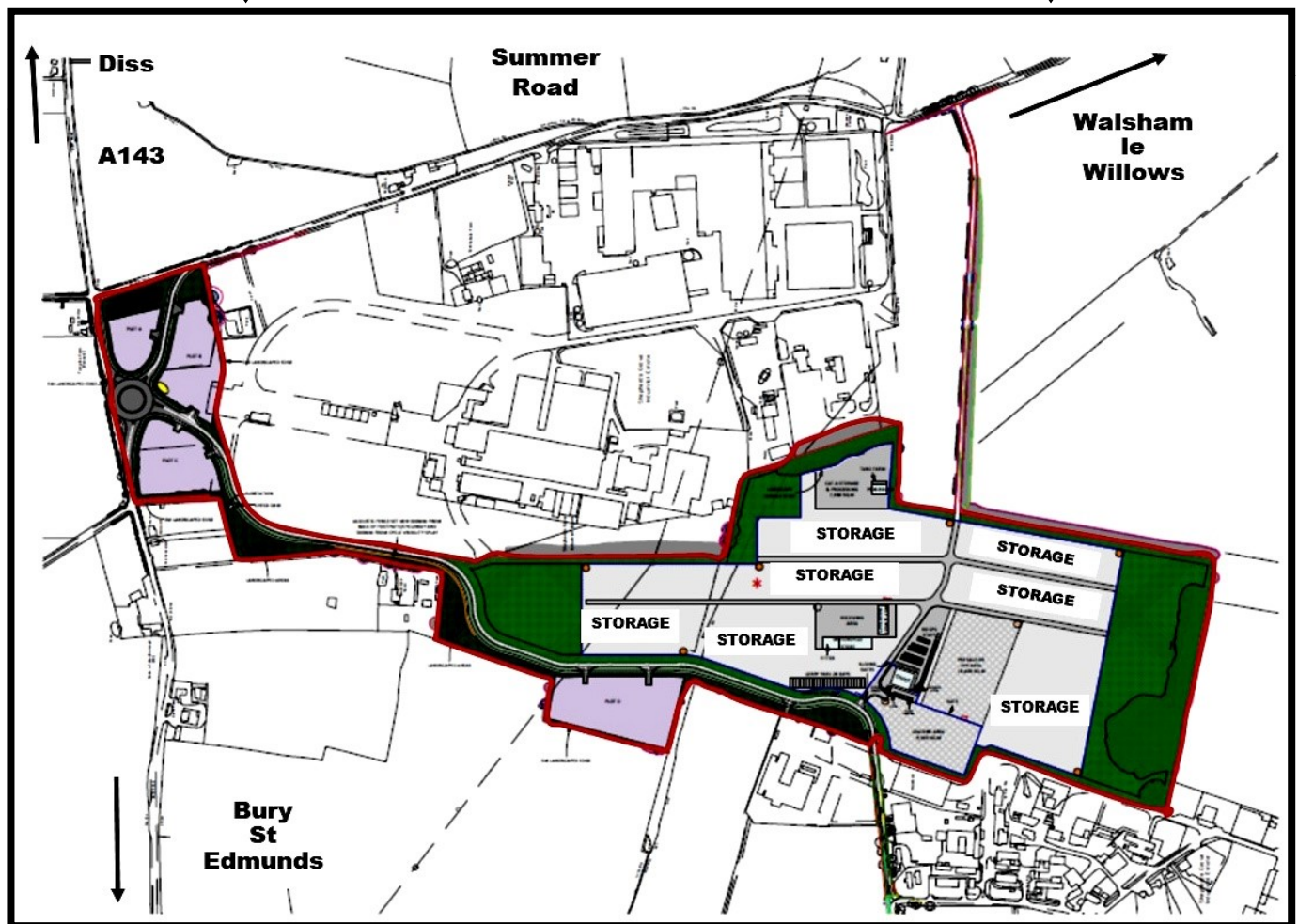


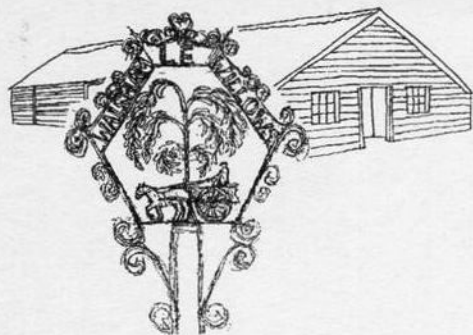
WALSHAM OBSERVER

For planning
application
details see pages
28 and 43

Details of NHS
Health Check
Team visit see
pages 2 and 5



FEBRUARY 2023



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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

FEBRUARY 2023

No 647

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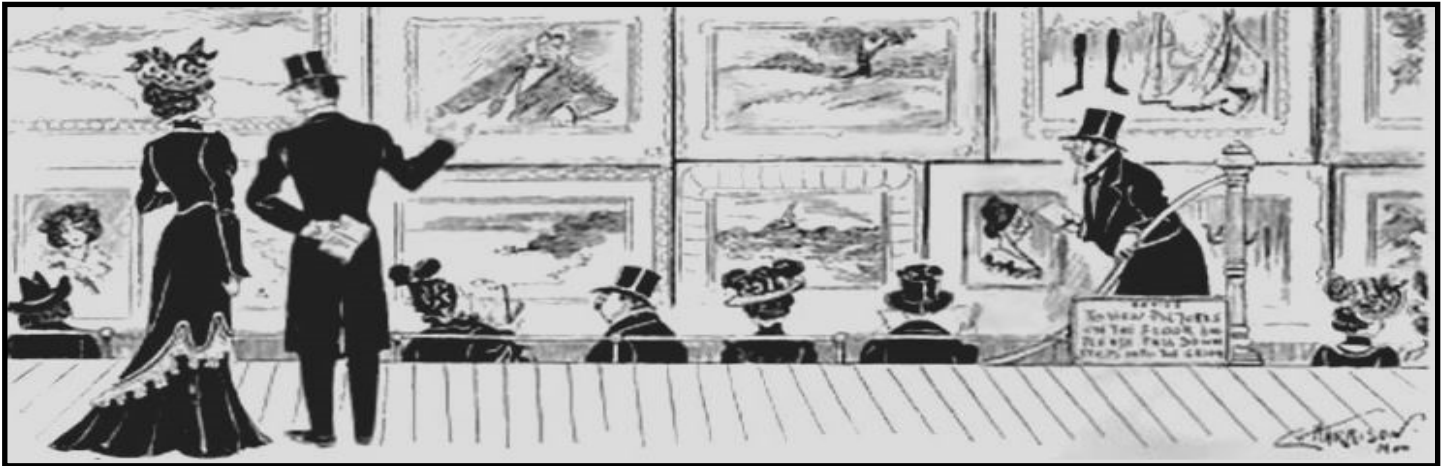
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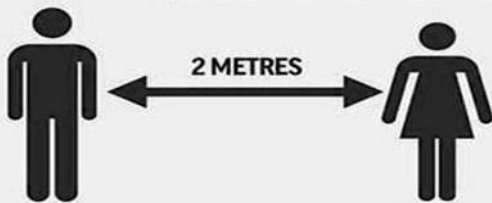
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WHEN WALKING IN THE VILLAGE

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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

Firstly may I thank all those people who have congratulated me upon receiving a New Year's honour, and even more to those people who must have got together to persuade those who make such awards that I was deemed worthy of such an honour. As the postal strikes have played havoc with the post I had not received a letter by the time that The Cabinet Office phoned me, at half-past-six in the evening to tell me. Of course I thought it might be some hoax and was about to put the phone down when the man at the other end of the line persuaded me that he was genuine. Since then I have received letters concerning what happens now, so maybe more of that later.

So now down to the affairs of the village. You will notice that there is, once again, a colour cover, but this time not in 'celebration' but to bring to your attention the fact that a development may well be taking place on the 'airfield'. You will find details of this in the Parish Council Minutes (**page 28**) as well as in the Parish Council Notes (**page 43**). Do have a look and make sure that if you wish to make comments upon the application that you get them in by the due date.

Whilst considering planning, there is a small matter of the **Coronation on Saturday 6th May**. As yet it would appear that nothing is being organised within the village to commemorate this event. If there is someone within the village who would like to organise a meeting or even to organise such an event then do let me know so that I can publicise it in the next issue of The Observer. It doesn't need to be an extravaganza, just a Street Party of some kind.

It would seem that Walsham never does things by halves, as is exemplified by the desire to hold quizzes. There are two this month, the first is at **The Sports Club on Friday 17th February** and the second on **Friday 24th in the Village Hall**; see details on page 15. Don't forget, though, that the W.I. are holding their quiz on Friday 24th March - with all the pre-training that should be a very fiercely contested quiz.

Music returns to St Mary's this month with a recital on Thursday 9th February, starting at 12.15pm. Admission is free. But there will be a retiring collection.

You will find a centrespread pull-out giving details of this year's **Horticultural Show**, to be held on **Saturday 12th August**. So get ordering seeds, planting and honing your skills.

And just a little bit more below!!!



Alfred: I understand that the **NHS Health Checks Team** is coming to the **Village Hall** again as there was such a big response last time.

Percival: Are you going to go?

Alfred: You bet! I want to be sure that I'm O.K. and if not what needs to be done! And what's more, **It's Free**

Percival: So how do I get an appointment.

Alfred: Easy! You just call **07788958580** for an appointment. The team will be in the **Village Hall** from **10.30am till 2.00pm on Thursday 16th February**.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS



Police are appealing for information after five goshawks were found dead, having been shot. The five birds of prey were found on Monday 16th January, having been left in a parking area just off from the B1106 in Kings Forest, near Wordwell. X-rays were undertaken which showed all five birds had suffered injuries from multiple pieces of shot. All birds of prey are protected by law, and to kill or injure one could result in jail and/or an unlimited fine.

Sergeant Brian Calver of Suffolk Constabulary's Rural Crime team said: "This is a serious wildlife crime against an amazing schedule one bird of prey that was once driven to extinction in Britain. There is no place for such activity in modern times. Whoever is responsible for this needs to be brought to justice and I'd urge anybody with any information whatsoever to let us know."

The RSPB is working with Suffolk Constabulary to help identify the culprit and has offered a £5,000 reward to anyone who comes forward with information which leads to a conviction.

Police in Suffolk made 157 arrests during the annual Christmas campaign highlighting the dangers of driving whilst under the influence of drink or drugs. The month long initiative ran from Thursday 1st December until Sunday 1st January.

This year the Constabulary combined with a number of other forces across the country to speak with one voice, promoting the message: 'Drink Driving - Together We Can Stop It' The campaign involved officers carrying out roadside checks throughout the day and night, as well as intelligence led enforcement activity. Alongside this, social media messaging was used to urge the public to 'help prevent, persuade and call police' on drink drivers.

A total of 907 motorists were stopped or dealt with by officers in Suffolk, 17% of whom were arrested as follows:

- 82 on suspicion of drink-driving (800 people breathalysed in total, with 718 providing negative tests)
- 62 on suspicion of drug-driving (94 people tested in total, with 32 providing negative tests)
- In addition, seven people were arrested for failing to provide a specimen; and six people were arrested for being unfit through drink or drugs

Of the people who failed a test, 85% were male and 20% were under the age of 25 years old.

David Murray



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VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

In January the hall coffee shop saw visits from two members of Mid-Suffolk Citizen Advice Bureau and the One Life Suffolk Health Team.

The N.H.S. free health checks at the village hall in January proved very popular and not everyone who wanted one was able to book an appointment. For those of you who were unable to book with the N.H.S. team at the hall in January, we have been able to secure another date for them to visit in February. **The free N.H.S. health checks team** will be at the village hall again on **Thursday the 16th of February**, between **10.30am and 2.00p.m.** To book an appointment call **07788958580**.

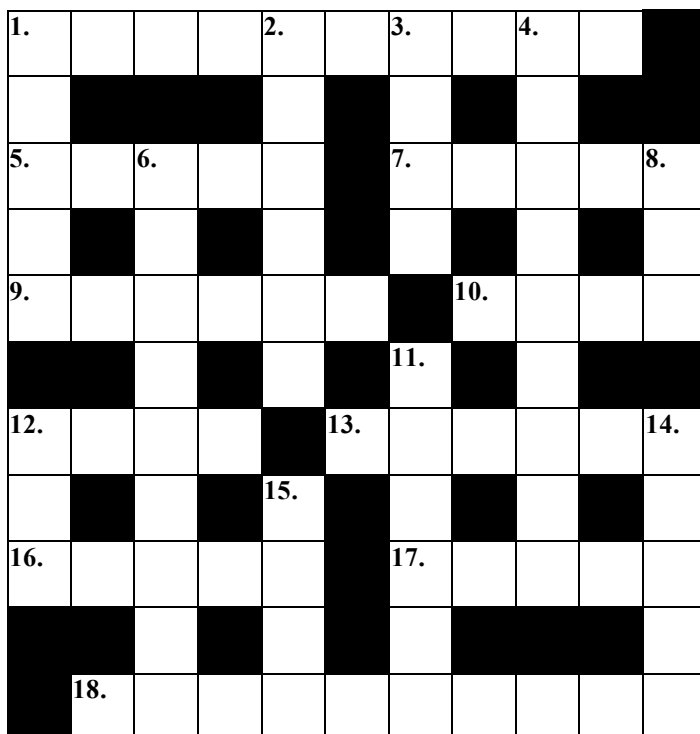
Elizabeth Storer, Community Development Officer for Healthwatch Suffolk will be at the community Coffee Shop on the 23rd of February. She will be at the hall to hear your views on health and social care services, so why not pop in, have a cup of tea and a chat with Elizabeth.

The Village Quiz was great fun and well attended last time, with much laughter and groans. There is still time to get your team entered by contacting Ian at ibarh2@aol.com before the quiz on Friday the 24th of February at the hall.

Looking forward, we are hoping to once again bring theatre to the village, with the Eastern Angles coming to perform in the Hall at the end of March. Keep an eye out for more information in the Observer, posters and on the Walsham village Facebook Hub page.

Amanda Ellis

WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



- higher education connections. (5)
 7. Perchance to dream as a follower. (5)
 9. Such a response to a large angle. (6)
 10. Quiet drink for the not so bright. (4)
 12. Move quickly for the signaller's stroke. (4)
 13. Season with such an onion. (6)
 16. Dot has four to be put back after the chip shot. (5)
 17. A group without fishing gear. (5)
 18. Becomes known as a sprinter's organisation. (10)

DOWN

1. Mention of a freer arrangement. (5)
 2. Time for the team to have a morning break. (6)
 3. Trial found in late starters result. (4)
 4. Undertaking in a surgical procedure. (9)
 6. Order to Eve's frail rescuer. (9)
 8. Maybe the character is edible! (3)
 11. Reveal that one pup is a mongrel. (4,2)
 12. Executed up and down. (3)
 14. Did Bill dismantle the stage? (5)
 15. Privileged institution of rising note. (4)

ACROSS

1. On consideration my character comes back to me. (10)
 5. Untrue that a football organisation has



Shine n Clean

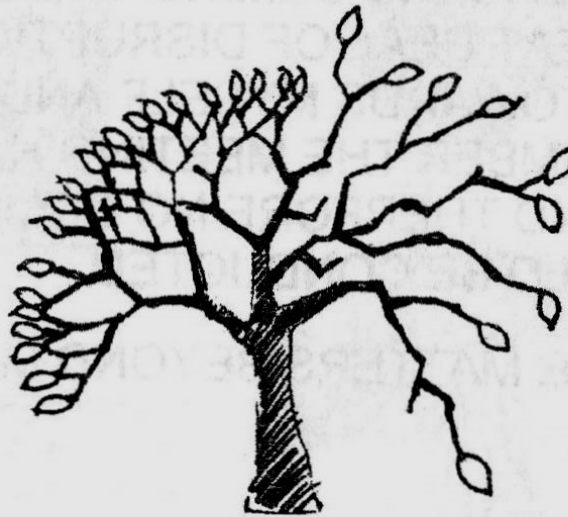
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WALSHAM –LE-WILLOWS CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

We returned back to school with a trip to the pantomime ‘Robin Hood’ in Bury St Edmunds which we all thoroughly enjoyed. The children have then written different types of genres in their English lessons including letters of thanks for putting on such a good show and creating our own play scripts.

The children in Caterpillar’s are looking at the story of the first Chinese New Year and acting it out as different characters. They will then be exploring “Why Don’t Snakes Have Legs?” and will be looking into reptiles and writing their own information books. They will be using different patterns and textures in art.

The topic in Ladybird Class is Muck, Mess and Mixtures. They are looking at different textures and mixing them with different materials. In maths they are looking at multiplication. In English they are looking at different time words and adjectives.

Dragonfly Class started their topic of ‘Scrumdiddlyumptious’ by tasting different fruits and will be creating their own bread by designing different flavour combinations. They are working hard on division and multiplication in maths and writing letters and then writing instructions for their bread recipes.

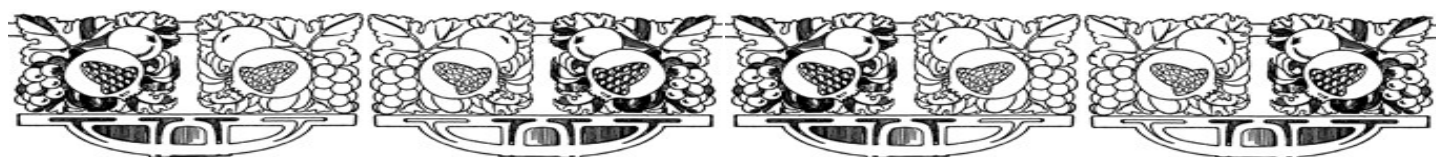
In science, Grasshopper class are looking at properties and changing materials. As part of their geography learning they are investigating a fantasy island and looking at different geographical features. They are writing fantasy stories about visiting the island and designing torches in DT for their nighttime visit to the island.

The children in Cricket class are taking a journey into Mexico and have been tasting different foods from the country and learning a Mexican dance. They will also be learning about myths and legends and non-chronological reports.

Our theme for Collective Worship this half term is Wisdom and Reverend Merry continues to visit us weekly and the children all look forward to seeing him.

If you wish to make an appointment to visit or would like more information about our school, please contact Mrs McGarr or Mrs Pascoe, on 01359 259319 or by e-mail admin@walsham-le-willows.suffolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!

Maxine McGarr



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WELL DONE MR RED SOX

An Appreciation



Many of us who have lived in Walsham for a while will be aware of the gentleman in 'red socks' who can be seen at all times in all weathers cycling in the village and often a very long way out of the village/

This is not unusual, but not so many of us are aware of the large amount of monies raised by said gentleman over many years for good causes in our village.

During the pandemic he succeeded in producing the village magazine every single month, combined with all the other things he was still able to do for the village.

This constant dedication to our village has been recognised by the very well deserved award of the BEM (British Empire Medal).

Congratulations Mr Ian Toulson



COMMUNITY LUNCH



Good morning to you all on this cold and frosty February morning. Valentine's day this month so we hope you enjoy the menu.

The Memorial Village Hall will be open from 12.30pm on Monday 13th February 2023. Lunch will be Normandy Pork, (pork in cream & Cider sauce) with Bubble & squeak, braised red cabbage & green beans, served at 12.45pm - 1pm, followed by Lemon Possett with Shortbread Heart biscuits. Tea and coffee will follow.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please book a place, at £7.50, with Shirley on 01359 258532 by 5pm on Thursday 9th February 2023.

Shirley White



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As the weather has turned colder, I've noticed mould and damp in our flat. It's mainly in our bedroom, including some black mould on the carpet. I've been chasing our letting agency, who say they'll speak to our landlord. I'm really worried about how this might affect our health. Our tenancy agreement isn't up for eight months, what can I do?

It's good that you've already raised the issue with your letting agency. Unfortunately, it isn't always easy to work out the cause of mould or damp. This can make it difficult to work out if your landlord is responsible, unless there's an obvious cause, like a leaking roof.

There are many causes of damp that properties can get. The most common are rising, penetrating, construction and condensation damp. On our website there is information that may help you work out what type of damp you have, who is responsible and what you can do. Check your tenancy agreement too for mentions of repairs and damp, and reach out to Citizens Advice on anything you're unsure about.

A landlord will have to act in relation to damp if it makes the property unsafe for someone to live in. This could be for example, if it is making the tenant or a member of their family ill. The landlord will also be responsible if the damp is related to repairs they should have carried out, like if heaters are broken. If the damp has damaged items that the landlord is responsible for, such as carpets and window frames, they'll likely have to cover the cost of repairs.

One of the most common causes of damp is condensation. To prevent this, it's important to keep homes well-heated and well-ventilated, but for a lot of people this will be trickier to do given the colder weather and higher heating costs. You may be eligible for help to insulate and heat your home, and should visit our website to find out more.

On our website we also have advice on things that can make damp worse and may impact the landlord taking responsibility for repairs. These include drying clothes on heaters or blocking air vents.

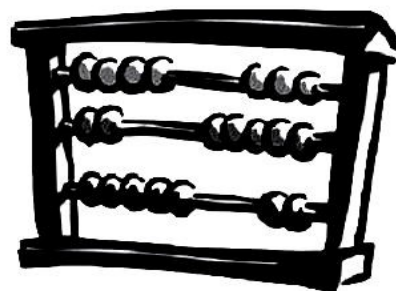
If your landlord is responsible for the damp in your property but doesn't act, there are steps you can take, such as reporting them to the local authority. If you're in social housing you might also be able to use the landlord's formal complaints procedure. There is more information about this on our website. If it reaches the point where you want to get out of a fixed term tenancy agreement early, speak to Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk first, as there might be better ways to approach the issue. You may also find helpful information on <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/renting-privately/during-your-tenancy/dealing-with-repairs/>

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this and other issues, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. More information and our opening hours can also be found at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us.



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WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND DISTRICT WI



The Priory Room was all dressed up for our annual celebration of the reforming of our WI and from the familiar kitchen came a series of especially appetising and tasty scents. Turkey, roast pork and vegetables of every kind. Jugs of delicious gravy and Yorkshire puddings were piled on heated trays. Val's buffet had something for everyone!

Standing quietly in the corner was our screen and on it the first showing from our newly acquired high tech projector. Capable of storing all the photos of our activities, we finally have moved on from the magic lantern slides of yesteryear.

After a mammoth raspberry meringue was demolished together with a number of other delights it was entertainment time. Talented members whipped quickly through Charades and Pictionary amid much laughter. A secret vote was taken to choose one resolution from the list of four for debate in Cardiff at the NFWI Annual Meeting in May.

We had begun with our usual Jerusalem and to end we formed a circle for a rousing Auld Lang Syne. Fun and friendship there was a-plenty.

Next month's meeting February 8th is an open meeting at which we hope everyone (**ladies and gentlemen too**), will enjoy a talk on the history of Shepherds Grove Airfield from 1941 by Peter Palmer.

Jill Newell



STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



As a result of our Festival of Remembrance and Drumhead Service held in November we have been able to donate £3127- 19 to the Poppy Appeal, the main income being from ticket sales £4884 -50, raffle £831- 50 and donations of £895- 65, while expenses included £2279 for the hire of the Apex and equipment, also commission for ticket sales £284 70 plus Vat which was £563 44.

Representatives of five branches attended the "C" Group meeting held in Felsham 5th January, the committee will hold their first meeting in April to commence planning this year's Festival of Remembrance.

Our branch accounts at time of going to press was £1562 26

The next branch meeting will be held Tuesday 14th February in the Cock Inn Stanton at 8pm

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ANNUAL VILLAGE QUIZ



Friday 24th February

This is an open invitation to enter a team in this year's Village Quiz which is to be held on **Friday 24th February at the Memorial Hall, starting at 8.00pm.**

The main purpose is to have a fun evening with a bit of competition thrown in. Any funds raised will go towards the upkeep of the Memorial Hall and the victors will be presented with the prestigious Rowbotham Shield.

All you need is a team of **four**. The **entry fee is £5 per person** which will include light refreshments during the interval. There will also be a bar serving beers, wine and soft drinks throughout the evening plus a raffle.

Doors open at **7.30pm** and the quiz will begin at 8.00pm.

If you are interested in entering a team, please email Ian Bartholomew (ibarth2@aol.com) by **close on Friday 17th February.**



HISTORY GROUP TALK AND AGM

Coming Soon

We start our programme of events for 2023 with a talk from Pip Wright on 'The Amazing Story of Rev. John Heigham Steggall, the Suffolk Gypsy'. He was a remarkable character. Born the son of a parson and educated unhappily in Walsham le Willows, he ran away and lived with the gypsies. This fascinating character went on to become a surgeon, sailor and soldier, ending up as Parish Priest of Great Ashfield. He also enjoyed cricket and the Cricket Club minutes record him as being appointed treasurer of Walsham Cricket Club in 1890. So why not come along on Wednesday 15th March at 7.30pm to the Priory Room to hear the full and amazing story of the Rev. Heigham Steggall, which spans a period of over 90 years.

This is also our AGM, but we promise to keep it very short. Membership fees are due at this meeting so please come prepared. The membership remains at £10.00 per annum, which is very good value.

The committee is always keen to welcome new committee members, as most of us carry out several roles and more help would be welcomed and appreciated. If you would like to join us, then please let us know before the 28th February by contacting Frances Jenner on either 01359 259242 or frances.jenner@hotmail.com.

Walsham History Group



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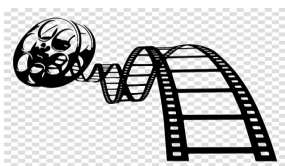
Tel: Gigi Wadham-Smith

on 07580314010

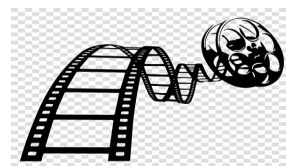
or email: gigi@upstairsdownstairs.biz

Rookery Barn Rookery Lane Walsham-le-Willows Suffolk IP31 3BD

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STANTON FILMS



The Railway Children PG February

Director: Morgan Matthews With Jenny Agutter, Tom Courtenay
It's 1944 and World War 2 is raging. Bobbie (Jenny Agutter), one of the original Railway Children but by now a grandmother, welcomes a group of evacuees from Salford to her home in Yorkshire. One day they encounter a young African American GI (Kenneth Aikens) who, like them, is far away from home, and who is hiding from the authorities.

Fisherman's Friends One And All 12A March

Directors: Meg Leonard, Nick Moorcroft With James Purefoy, Imelda May
After achieving major-label success, shanty-singing group Fisherman's Friends should be riding high. But leader Jim (James Purefoy) is sinking into drink and depression after the death of his father, the label is unconvinced by their second album, and new arrival in town Aubrey (Imelda May) is a sign of changing times. Can the band clean up and make it to the Pyramid Stage at Glasto?

WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL **Vacancy For A Parish Clerk**

Wattisfield Parish Council is looking for an enthusiastic and self-motivated person who is community minded and enjoys working with the public, to take on the role of Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

The post is for a 5 hours per week, home based and includes attendance at all Parish Council meetings which are usually one a month.

Duties include:

- Organising and attending council meetings, preparing agendas and writing minutes
- Maintaining the village website and noticeboard
- Maintaining files and documents
- Implementing the Council's decisions
- Attending to email correspondence
- Managing the finances, preparing the annual budget, requesting the precept and reporting finances to the Council
- Advise the Council
- Be the first point of contact for the public.

Pay will be in line with NALC guidelines and according to experience and qualifications. A Certificate in Local Council Administration would be an advantage as would experience of being a Parish Clerk, but support and training will be available for someone new to parish councils and who is willing to learn.

If you wish to apply then please send an email expressing your interest together with your CV to the current Parish Clerk at wattisfieldpc@outlook.com

Closing date for applications is 15 February 2023



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FUNDING FOR THE COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTRE

Can you help?

The Sports Club has turned to crowdfunding to try and raise £10,000 towards a cabin to house the community gym. The club has teamed up with Neil Evans Fitness to get the state-of-the-art facility up and running as part of its ethos to serve the community and not just those involved in one of its many other sporting sections. It is hoped the gym will be of help to those in our rural area who for whom travel is both costly and impractical although investments like this at a time when clubs like ours are being severely squeezed financially, may seem surprising.

So far just over £8,000 of crowdfunding has been raised and sports club chairman Mike Powles is urging people to get behind the scheme. The initial request for grants towards the building has so far yielded commitments of £8,000 in CIL monies from the Parish coffers and £25,000 from MSDC resources with a further grant application submitted Mike says :- "Being in such a rural area with poor transport connections many local people just simply cannot access a gym The community gym will change this, allowing locals of all ages to have access to a state of the art, clean and safe area to exercise and socialise.

We want to inspire, engage and connect with the community to realise their full potential and live happier, healthier lives plus we believe this can be so much more than just a gym. It will be a hub to get parishioners physically fit, healthy, combat loneliness, improve mental and emotional wellbeing, bring people of all ages across the community together and give local people access to a site that they can be proud of and call their own.

The Club believe this is especially important having come through the Covid pandemic and now that we all understand even more fully the importance of social interactions and the benefits of exercise on our physical and mental health.

The club says the facility chimes with its ethos of providing facilities and activities for people of all ages and abilities, from its Little Willows football for children as young as 4 years old to Walking Football, Walking Netball and chair-based fitness, in which older people, some in their eighties, take part. Not only will the gym have membership for the community, it will also engage with other local villages and the school, for them to use in providing much needed specialist equipment and training facilities. It will also be available to hire for other local professionals, such as Yoga and Pilates instructors. The club is crowdfunding to enable it to complete the purchase of the cabin unit, which will be the self-contained, gym building and for its outreach work. Neil Evans Fitness has been running for 4 years. He is a freelance Personal Trainer based out of Unit 1 gym in Bury St Edmunds. He holds three bootcamps per week at Walsham le Willows sports club. He will be the community gym manager and first person to contact regarding membership enquiries. The goal is to have 24/7 access to the gym via a secure card/fob entry system.

Please take a look at the website set up to stimulate interest and contributions :-

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/walsham-le-willows-community-gym>

For more info contact Mike Powles mobile 07379 089890.



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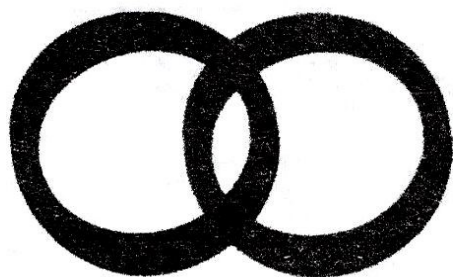


They will make a contribution to the Sports Club of
£10 per 1000 litres or £5 per 500 litres

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DIARY OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY		Wed 12th	W.I. Pot Luck Supper	
Wed 8th	W.I. Shepherds Grove		Priory Room	7:45pm
Thu 9th	Music Recital		MAY	
	St Mary's	Wed 10th	W.I. Annual Meeting	
Fri 17th	Sports Club Quiz		Priory Room	7.45pm
	Sports Club		JUNE	
Fri 24th	Village Quiz	Wed 14th	W.I. Women's Health	
	Village Hall		Priory Room	7.45pm
MARCH			JULY	
Wed 8th	W.I. Fire Safety	Wed 12th	W.I. Visit to St Mary's	
	Priory Room		Church	7.45pm
Wed 15th	History Group		AUGUST	
	Priory Room	Wed 9th	W.I. Garden Party	
Sat 18th	Irish Night		Westhorpe	6.30pm
	Sports Club	Sun 27th	Open Gardens	All
Fri 24th	W.I. Quiz	Mon 28th	Weekend	Day
	Priory Room		SEPTEMBER	
APRIL		Wed 13th	W.I. Garden Wildlife	
Wed 5th	Music Recital		Priory Room	7.45pm
	St Mary's		OCTOBER	
	12.15pm	Wed 11th	W.I. Bomb Disposal	

WALSHAM & DISTRICT W.I.

OPEN MEETING - EVERYONE (Men as well) WELCOME

HISTORY OF SHEPHERDS GROVE FROM 1941

by Peter Palmer

Competition (for members only)
An old family photograph

Wednesday 8th February at 7.45pm

The Priory Room

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Ladies are able to attend 2 meetings free of charge before joining.



St Mary's Church Walsham le Willows



LUNCHTIME RECITAL

Thursday 9th February

12.15 to 1.00pm

Piano: James Thomas

Oboe: Neil Carlson



Free entry Refreshments
Donations for church funds



WALSHAM SPORTS CLUB EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH

Sunday Night Bingo

5th & 19th February 5th & 19th March 7pm start

Cheryl's Quiz Night

Friday 17th February entry £10 per team 7.30pm start

Saturday 18th March Irish Night

Disco with Bertie Bassett. Tickets in advance £5 or £7 on the night. Irish themed food included with admission. Raffle First prize £500 cash additional prizes. Tickets available from JJ's Beautique Walsham or contact Gordon 07790564674

Darts Competition

Friday 3rd February and 3rd March open to all 7.30pm start.

For further information and to check for any date/ time changes for events please visit our website <https://walshamsportsclub.co.uk> or contact Jan 07874898825



WALSHAM *History Group*
presents



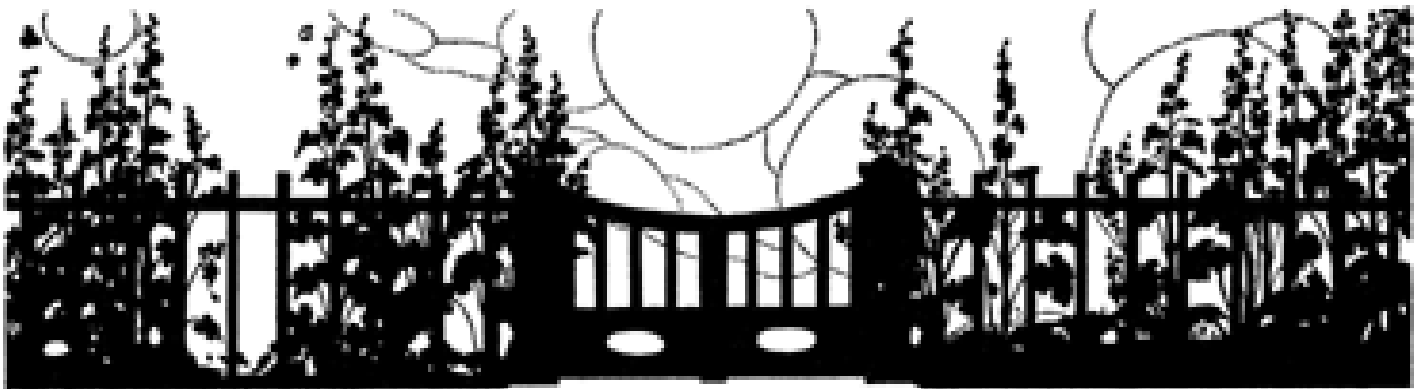
THE AMAZING STORY OF
REV. JOHN HEIGHAM STEGGLE,
THE SUFFOLK GYPSY
~ AND AGM ~

A talk by Pip Wright

Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 7.30pm

The Priory Room, Walsham-le-Willows.

Members Free Visitors £5.00 Refreshments



HORTICULTURAL SHOW 2023

This year's Show will be held on the 12 August 2023. We are hoping for better weather after the drought of last year which made growing vegetables and flowers so difficult. Please look at the classes printed in this copy of the Observer and also to be found on the village website.

There is something for everyone; if you do not grow vegetables, fruit or flowers why not try the Flower arranging, Baking, Photography or Handicrafts section.

*Debbie Watson
(Secretary)*



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WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th January 2023 commencing at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall.

[Pending formal approval, these minutes have been informally approved. Any further corrections will be proposed & minuted at the next meeting]

PRESENT: Cllrs. Bartholomew, Belson, Kinnair, Mecrow, Roberts and Winch.

ALSO PRESENT: County Councillor Jessica Fleming

1 OPENING – The meeting commenced at 19:00

2 APOLOGIES

- a) Apologies had been received from Cllr Arbon due to work commitments.
- b) Council gave consent to apologies as received.

3 DECLARATIONS of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests

- a) To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interest(s) incl. personal interests in items on the agenda and to include declarations of any gifts of hospitality – None received.
- b) To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda - none were requested.
- c) To receive requests for dispensations – None requested.

4 MINUTES

Minutes for meeting of 14th December 2022, as previously circulated, were approved along with consent for the Chair to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record

5 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION - to receive written reports for information only:

- The Chair invited questions to District Councillor Rick Meyer on his report. There were no questions. Cllr Meyer added a note that the District Council is in a strong financial position, has levied no council tax increase and has a surplus of 2 million.
- The Chair invited questions to County Councillor Jessica Fleming on her report. There were none. Cllr Belson asked about the progress with the County Council re the Parish Council's proposals re road safety improvements for Palmer Street. He also asked that Cllr Fleming note the fact that the Walsham Neighbourhood Plan contains a policy supporting such improvements, Highways have responded favorably as a consultee on the plan and have even gone as far as suggesting that they would support the use of CIL funding for such a project. Cllr Fleming welcomed this and will take it back to her colleagues. Cllr Fleming also noted that she had submitted the claim for the Locality award for the play area refurbishment and that two fallen finger posts would also be replaced. The Clerk confirmed that an image of that on Crownland Road has been submitted on 19th December.

2023 HORTICULTURAL SHOW SCHEDULE

The Horticultural Show will take place on Saturday 12th August 2023

The fruit and vegetable and floral classes are listed below. We have several new recipes for you to try in the domestic classes, they will all appear in the July Observer, but if you want to start practising, they will be on the Walsham website soon. **NB Class 82 the chutney, has a set recipe and needs to be made at least 3 months in advance**, the recipe for that is in this month's Observer, and will also be on the website.

Have a look at the Photographic Classes and start looking out early for great photos; download the knitting pattern or ring Debbie Watson 259686 for a copy and start knitting right away.

HORTICULTURAL SHOW CLASSES 2023

FLORAL CLASS

1. PANSY or VIOLA One flower in a vase.
2. CLEMATIS One flower in a vase.
3. SWEET PEAS (Annual) Six stalks in a vase
4. ROSES Hybrid tea with own foliage – one bloom in a vase.
5. ROSES Spray – one stem in a vase.
6. HERBS Two or more culinary varieties, five stalks in a vase.
7. MIXED ANNUALS Two or more varieties – five stalks in one vase.
8. PERENNIALS Two or more varieties – five blooms in one vase.
9. DAHLIAS Ball or Pompom – any size – five blooms in a vase.
10. DAHLIAS Small or large cactus and/or semi-cactus. Assorted or same variety – three blooms in a vase.
11. DAHLIAS Decorative, small or large, assorted or same variety. Three blooms in a vase.
12. LILIES One stem.
13. GLADIOLI Giant, large or medium flowers
assorted or same variety. Three stalks in a vase.
14. HYDRANGEAS Three heads in a vase.
15. HOUSE PLANT Flower type – any variety in a pot. (Max 12² pot)
16. HOUSE PLANT Foliage type – any variety in a pot. (Max 12² pot)
17. CACTI or SUCCULENTS (Max 8² pot)
18. FLOWERING TREE OR SHRUB Three sprays of flowering tree or shrub in a vase
– assorted or same variety, other than Hydrangeas.
19. GERANIUM or PELARGONIUM One plant in a pot. (Max 10² pot)
20. FUCHSIA Upright – any variety. (max 10² pot)
21. FUCHSIA Trailing – any variety. (max 10² pot)
22. HOSTA One plant in a pot (max 12” pot)
23. FRAGRANCE - A Fragrant flower, single stem (any variety)

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CLASS

30. BEANS Dwarf French – five on a plate.
31. BEANS Runner – five on a plate.
32. PEAS - Five pods on a plate.
33. BEETROOT Red - three round. (tops on and tied)
34. CABBAGE Any variety - one cabbage 3” stalk.
35. CARROTS Three, (tops cut to 4” and tied individually)
36. COURGETTES Long type, any colour less than 8” – three on a plate.
37. CUCUMBER Outdoor Grown, any variety, one only

38. CUCUMBER Grown under protection, any variety, one only.
39. LETTUCE Any variety – one on a plate.
40. MARROW Any variety – one only.
41. SQUASH Any variety winter or summer – one only
42. ONIONS: LARGE (over 8oz) Any variety – three only – tops tied.
43. ONIONS: SMALL (under 8oz) Any variety – three only– tops tied.
44. SHALLOTS Any type – six only – tops tied.
45. GARLIC Any variety – three only, 3” stem, remove roots
46. POTATOES White – one variety – five only.
47. POTATOES Coloured – one variety – five only.
48. TOMATOES Red - any variety, five on a plate.
49. TOMATOES Other than red, five on a plate.
50. TOMATOES Cherry - red or coloured, seven on a small plate.
51. PEPPERS Any variety – three on a plate
52. ANY OTHER VEGETABLE Matching pair of any vegetable not otherwise in schedule.
53. APPLES Eating – three on a plate.
54. APPLES Cooking – three on a plate.
55. BERRIES Nine on a small plate – other than raspberries. One or more varieties.
56. PLUMS or GAGES Any one variety – five on a small plate.
57. RASPBERRIES Nine on a small plate.
58. ANY OTHER FRUIT Any fruit not otherwise on schedule, three on a plate **or** grapes one bunch.
59. TRAY OF VEGETABLES Four varieties of vegetables arranged decoratively within an 18”x12” box or tea tray selected from classes 30 – 51 (**Double points for class 59**)

DECORATIVE CLASS *Flowers do not have to be grown by arranger. No height limits. Table depth 65cm.*

60. EXHIBIT: ARRANGEMENT IN A TERRACOTTA POT no bigger than 6”/15.5cm
61. EXHIBIT: SHADES OF GREEN *up to 45cm width.*

DOMESTIC CLASS

70. CHEESE SCONES - Six on plate – own recipe.
71. COFFEE AND WALNUT CAKE 8”/20cm - own recipe.
72. COTTAGE LOAF - own recipe.
73. VIENNESE FINGERS - Six on a plate - **Recipe given**
74. BLUEBERRY MUFFINS – 6 on a plate – own recipe
75. ROASTED VEGETABLE QUICHE 8”/20cm – own recipe.
76. ICED CARROT CAKE – **Recipe given**
77. MEN’S CLASS – FOCACCIA - **Recipe given**
78. EGGS - Six displayed in a plain egg carton.
79. FRUIT MARMALADE - One Jar.
80. FRUIT JELLY - One Jar.
81. FRUIT JAM - One Jar.
82. CHUTNEY - Onion Marmalade - One Jar (minimum 3 months old). **Recipe given**
83. HONEY – One Jar.

No points awarded for the following classes

90. **SUNFLOWER CUP** For the tallest sunflower growing in Walsham: measured *in situ* the week of the show. Open to all ages.

91. **HANGING BASKET / GARDEN TUB COMPETITION** for the best display viewed *in situ* the week of the show.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLASSES - *No larger than 5"x 7", a small mount is permitted; all photos must be taken in the Walsham area.*

92. CHIMNEYS

93. A CELEBRATION

94. GLASS

HANDICRAFTS CLASSES

96. KNITTING – Premature baby jacket. Pattern available from Debbie Watson (259686)

or on village website.

97. WOODWORK – Walking stick (hand-carved no lathe).

NOVELTY CLASSES

99. Heaviest Potato.

100. An animal carved out of vegetables.

(The vegetables for Class 100 do not have to be grown by the exhibitor)

Recipe Class 82 – Onion Marmalade

INGREDIENTS

1 kg onion, red or yellow, peeled & cut in half & sliced thinly

100 ml olive oil, 1 teaspoon sea salt

½ teaspoon ground black pepper, 2 bay leaves

2 rosemary sprigs, 150 g soft brown sugar

75 ml dry white wine, 75 ml red wine vinegar

25 ml balsamic vinegar

METHOD

In a heavy frying pan, heat up the olive oil and add the finely sliced onions – toss around to make sure they all have a coating of oil.

Cover & cook over a gentle heat until they start to colour. Add the salt, pepper, bay leaves & rosemary sprigs & cook for a further 20 to 30 minutes, until the herbs have wilted. Take off the lid and add the sugar, wine & vinegars. Bring them to the boil and keep stirring all the time; then lower the heat and simmer for about 20 to 30 minutes until the liquid is all dissolved and the onions are soft & sticky.

You will need to be very vigilant towards the end of the cooking - stirring all the time so the onions do not stick and become burnt and scorched. Pick out the rosemary & bay leaves and spoon the confit into a clean, dry, sterilised jar & seal straight away. Ready to eat after 2 weeks, but better if kept for at least 1-2 months. Makes one x 300ml jar - the recipe can easily be increased - use a large preserving pan if necessary.

6 PUBLIC FORUM – no members of the public were present.

Stuart Rowland from Anglian Water had been invited to attend via the Clerk to appraise Parish Councillors of the work that Anglian Water are to carry out on the Badwell Ash Road at the end of February which will require a complete closure of the 285 meter section between the Four Ashes corner and the end of the 30mph zone (apart from access to properties). Anglian Water is liaising with the residents whose access to their properties is directly affected.

7 PLANNING MATTERS

a) SHEPHERD'S GROVE (WEST SUFFOLK) – DC/222190/HYB

It was agreed that the Parish Council would seek professional help in referencing its outline objections, to the development, against the National planning framework. The Clerk was tasked to contact the council's contacts with specialist knowledge and revert with any associated costs a limit of £1500 was indicated. It was also agreed the Clerk would contact other interested groups and local Parish Councils. Initial objections are detailed in Appendix 2.

a) APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/22/06056 Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection of 1.8m high rear fencing, including gate. (retention of) Location: The Blue Boar, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AA **The Parish Council Made No Comment**

b) APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/23/00046 Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Re-Pollard 1No. Horse Chestnut (T1) to previous pollard points. Pollard 1No. Horse chestnut (T2) to match neighbouring trees. **The Parish Council Made No Comment**

8 PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning Authority) for noting only

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION AND RELATED LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - DC/22/05048 and DC/22/05049 Proposal: Full Planning Application - Conversion and extension of existing outbuilding to form residential annex. External alterations to existing garage to re-orientate the garage doors. Location: The Beeches, Grove Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AD **Application Withdrawn.**

9 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Belson noted that all responses from consultation, the majority of which were very positive, had been received and collated. The group will now consider all the responses at next meeting on 19th January and decide on any amendments that need to be made to the draft plan.

10 PLAY AREA DEVELOPMENT

- Action plan collated at request of Cllr Bartholomew was reviewed and discussed.
- Cllr Winch will check on the quotes for bench seats re VAT and ground fasteners. But it was decided that in principle, 3 benches at cost of approximately £510 each should be purchased. Cllr Winch to circulate results of her enquiries before next meeting.

- It was decided that Cllrs Belson and Mecrow would meet at the Play Area on Saturday 21st January at 09:30 to look at work required against the action plan so that a decision can be made at next meeting as to who best tackles each job.
- It was decided that the Clerk should check volunteers for proposed date of Saturday 18th March for a work party to attend to some of the minor jobs.
- It was proposed that a celebration should be held at the Play Area on Saturday 22nd April after most of the remaining minor tasks have been completed. Planning to continue at next meeting.

11 FINANCE & AUDIT

- a) The bank reconciliation for period ending 31st December 2022 was approved and signed.
- b) Accounts awaiting payment (Appendix 1) were approved and signed for submission.
- c) The proposal from Clerk to transfer £25,000 from current to deposit account was unanimously approved.

12 CLERK & COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- a) To consider and receive the updated action log for any matters of concern/note. – Nothing of concern or note.
- b) The Parish Council unanimously approved the implementation of the 2022/23 pay award for the Clerk. Clerk to advise SALC payroll.
- c) To consider and receive cost estimate for alternative arrangements for Fishponds Lane access (Cllr Arbon will supply). This was postponed until next meeting when Cllr Arbon is present.
- d) It was decided to request that the Community Council agree to the siting of a small shed for Parish Council use on the Memorial Hall grounds. If this is accepted a decision will be made on the proposals by Gardens Weekend Committee re the marquees at the next meeting. Clerk was also asked to contact the Community Speed watch Team at Suffolk Constabulary to ask if they might know of anyone who may require a spare speed gun.
- e) With regard to the email from BMSDC re Community Governance Review and the proposal to move the boundary so that 3 properties are moved into Rickingham Inferior from Walsham, the Parish Council decided that no response would be made.
- f) To consider and receive any other matters of concern/note. Any requiring a decision to be added agenda for next meeting.
 - The Clerk requested that September meeting be moved forward by one week due to annual leave commitments. Clerk to contact Community Council to see if it might be possible to swap the dates for PC and CC meetings. To report back to next meeting for decision.
- g) Monthly Meetings – 8th February 2023, 7pm in Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 21:00

APPENDIX 1

Payments for Authorisation December 2022

#	Payments OUT	Amount	Description
1	Kevin Boardley	£357.04	Parish Council Employee
2	Ian Campbell	£90.00	Reimbursement for NP group open day refreshments
3	Turner Tool Hire	£260.06	Last two weeks hire of Billy Goat incl collection charges
4	Memorial Village Hall	£25.00	Hall Hire
5	InExpress	£135.12	Import duty & taxes - SID solar panel
6	InExpress	£72.50	Shipment taxes - SID solar panel
7	David Murray	£350.00	Churchyard grass cutting July to September
8	David Murray	£75.00	Leaf Clearing
#	Payments IN & Other Payments/ Transfers	Amount	Description

APPENDIX 2

WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

INITIAL OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION REFERENCE DC/22/2190/HYB

Consultation Expiry: 4 February 2023

Location Land at Shepherds Grove Bury Road Stanton Suffolk

Proposal Hybrid planning application - (A) (i) Full application on

27.56 ha of the site for the storage, distribution and processing of accident damaged and non-damaged motor vehicles, together with the erection of ancillary buildings (B8 Use Class), perimeter fencing and landscaping works (ii) Full application for a new roundabout /road and additional landscaping on circa 5.37 ha of the application site - (B) (I) Outline application for commercial/roadside uses (Use Classes B2, B8, C1, E (excluding E(a)), and a hot food takeaway and pub/restaurant) on circa 2.7 ha of the application site (Plots A, B and C) (i) Outline application for general employment uses (Use Classes B2, B8 and E(g)) on circa 1.37ha of the application site (Plot D)

Walsham le Willows Parish Council object to the application for this development in this location for the following reasons:

IN PRINCIPLE OBJECTIONS

- that the development is an urbanisation of the countryside on a scale which is inappropriate for the rural area.
- The development would detract from a largely agricultural landscape.
- The development of Plots A to C for the proposed use would be out of keeping with their surroundings.
- The development of a centralised facility to gather many vehicles will add road miles to the recycling process and create unnecessary carbon emissions.
- That the local road infrastructure is not suitable to support the development.
- The type of development is better suited in much closer proximity to a major trunk road (as with other Copart sites). Were other sites considered as is a requirement under

the Environmental Impact Assessment?

GENERAL OBJECTIONS IN OPERATION & DEVELOPMENT

A. The increase in traffic

- The movement off site of Soil and debris and the movement onto site of aggregates. The application does not give an estimate as to the total number of movements but we estimate that it is likely to be several thousands.
- The considerable increase in traffic movements that will result both during and after construction, on roads not designed for such volumes.
- The strong likelihood that the resulting increased traffic will use inappropriate roads and access routes rather than the A143 both during and after construction.
- The application makes a virtue of proximity to the M1 which is approximately 100 miles away. None of the other CoPart sites are this far from such a major transport route. The A143 is not a major road anything like those that support other CoPart sites.

B. The creation of nuisance

Through the noise, dust and light emitted from the site.

C. Methodology for measurement of net gain in Biodiversity & target.

A net gain for bio-diversity is not possible due to the scale and location.

D. The further loss of Dark Skies

It is likely that planning policies with regard to light and dark skies cannot be adhered to.

If, despite objections, the application were to be approved the Parish Council requests that conditions are applied and robustly enforced in order to protect the quality of life of local residents, specifically:

1. Development work on the site should not start until the roundabout is in place and fully operational to avoid the inappropriate use of local village roads during construction. In particular, the locally known concrete road which joins Summer Road and is cited in the application to be used for access during construction.
2. The new roundabout must be in place prior to the commencement of the development otherwise the significantly increased lorry movements through the accident Blackspot at the junction of the Summer Road / A143 would be unsafe.
3. A clear and unambiguous transport plan should be drawn up and strictly enforced on the basis of the category appropriate to the volumes involved.
4. Clear and unambiguous conditions should be applied to minimise impacts of light and noise pollution during construction and operation should be applied.
5. Clear and unambiguous conditions should be applied to control the generation of dust during the period of the construction.
6. It should be demonstrated that other locations for this sort of enterprise are thoroughly investigated under the Environmental Impact Assessment in order to identify more appropriate locations (particularly with regard to proximity to major roads like the M1).



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FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

Monasticism

During January the Christian Church remembered Saint Antony of Egypt, who in the 3rd Century became a desert hermit and is considered the 'founder' of the monastic ideal. A rich man, who on hearing the teaching of Jesus, gave away all He had and took up the habit of an ascetic within the caves of the Egyptian desert: and so monasticism was born.

It was King Henry the Eighth who began the dissolution of the monasteries, convents and major religious houses in the period between 1536 and 1540. The buildings were ransacked and the lands sold off in the wake of Henry's split from the Roman Catholic Church, following his falling out with the Pope when Henry was denied a divorce from his wife, Katherine of Aragon.

In destroying the monastic system Henry was able to reap both the wealth of the Church and suppress any political opposition. It is estimated that Henry's coffers benefited by several hundred million pounds by today's reckoning.

A few buildings survived and became churches for the local inhabitants, such as Durham Cathedral. Of the monks, those who resisted the change were brutally executed, whilst others were either pensioned off or offered positions as Priests within the newly founded Church of England. King Henry took upon himself the title of Supreme Head on Earth of the Church of England. Today King Charles III bears the title of Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

The destruction of the monasteries was to end a religious way of life in England which had been in existence for nearly 1000 years, since the first monastery was built at Canterbury in the 6th Century.

Through the following centuries there were to be many Orders of monks, friars and nuns, and with all but one exception they were founded overseas; Benedictines, Cistercians, Augustinians to name but a few.

Just one Order was a purely English monastic order; The Gilbertine Order, celebrated by the Christian Church every year on the 4th February. As an English monastic order they were given much support and financial assistance, ironically from the Crown, to the extent that by the time of the dissolution there were 26 communities throughout England.

The founder was Gilbert, the son of a wealthy Norman knight who had extensive lands at Sempringham in Lincolnshire. Gilbert was to be Ordained as a Priest and upon the death of his father gave much of the family wealth away, and used a considerable amount more to found monastic communities and various religious houses. In his lifetime alone there were 13 religious communities; male, female, as well as mixed.

Today all that is left of the original Sempringham Priory is a marking on the ground where the walls stood, the only witness being the 12th Century St Andrews Church standing isolated next to where was once the Priory.

Rev Philip Merry



FEBRUARY CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Service	Church
5th February	3rd before Lent	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Finningham
11.00am	Songs of Praise	Walsham
12th February	2nd before Lent	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
19th February	Sunday before Lent	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Family Communion	Badwell Ash
11.00am	Holy Communion	Finningham
22nd February	Ash Wednesday	
9.30am	Holy Communion	Walsham
26th February	1st of Lent	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
3.00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
5th March	2nd of Lent	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9.30am	Holy Communion	Finningham



EPIPHANY CAROL CONCERT 2023

For over 50 years the Epiphany Singers have performed a traditional carol concert and the Epiphany Eucharist in St Mary's Church, Walsham le Willows.

Covid put pay to the last two years, and we haven't seen them since 2019, so it was wonderful to be able to welcome them back again this year. Many old faces, who have become friends to many in Walsham, two of whom told me they have been coming since 1980, and some new faces too, the youngest only 19.

The concert was the brain-child of Mrs Norah Ross, whose father, the Revd John Douglas, was for some years Priest-in-charge of the parishes of Badwell Ash and Great Ashfield, and whose two sons, David and Keith, were choristers at King's College, Cambridge.

In 1971, when Badwell Ash church was recruiting a choir and needed money for robes and such, Mrs Ross suggested that Keith might gather some of his former King's choral scholar friends together to give a concert in the church. This they did, and the concert took place over the Epiphany weekend in January 1971, with six singers and an organist/conductor. A Sunday service was added in 1973, sung in Woolpit church, as it was also in 1974.

The first Carol Concert held in Walsham le Willows was in 1975, and from 1977 onwards both the Carol Concert and the Sunday Service have taken place in Walsham, which (in Keith's words), *"the Singers decided that they preferred for many reasons: it was always warm, there was an organ which did not have to be pumped by hand, and a good pub, and the welcome and hospitality of the Walsham folk were, and remain, above praise"*.

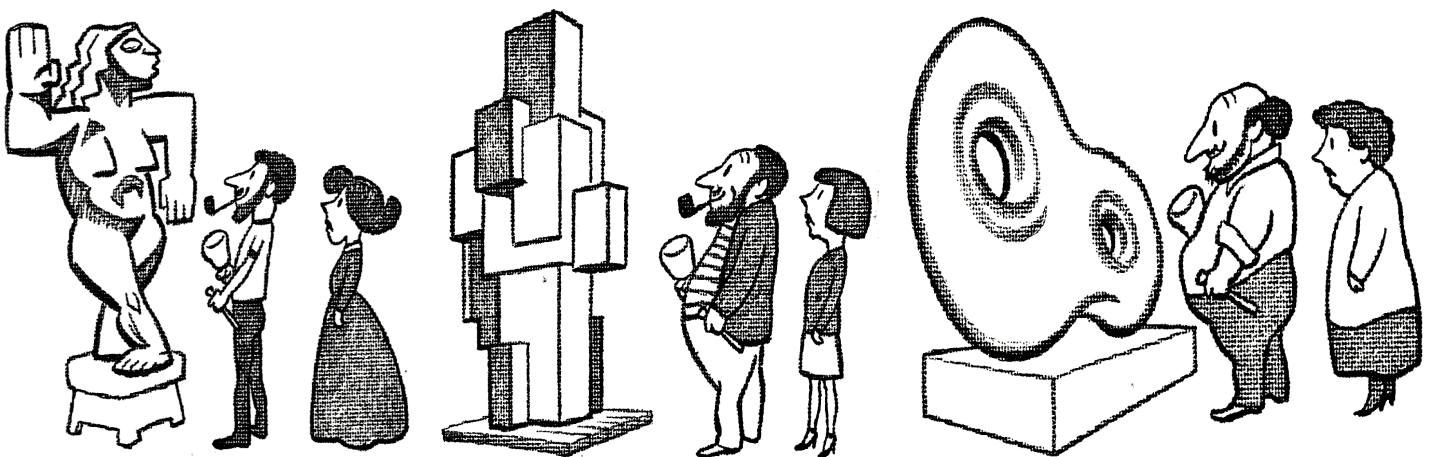
More than 120 singers have been recruited over the years – the ladies tend to sing with professional choirs in London and elsewhere, while the men are from various generations of King's Choral Scholars, or from cathedral or college choirs.

The 2023 Concert was, as always, wonderful – there were 20 singers, Simon Carrington was the conductor, and David Hill was the organist. Google them if you don't know of them – we are very honoured to have them.

There are so many good people in Walsham who get involved in this wonderful event – far too many to name, but without whom the weekend simply would not happen.

I would like to take this opportunity to send them all my grateful thanks.

Fiona Glover



Stuart Walker

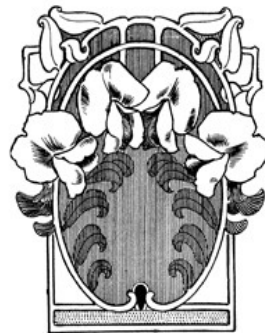
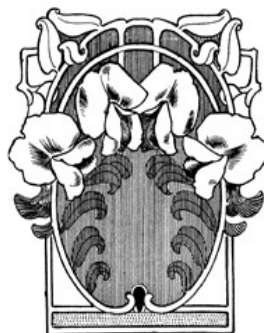
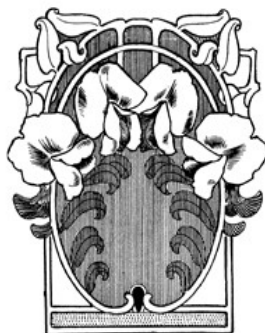
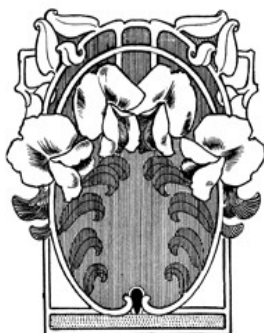
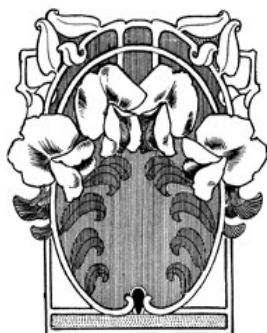


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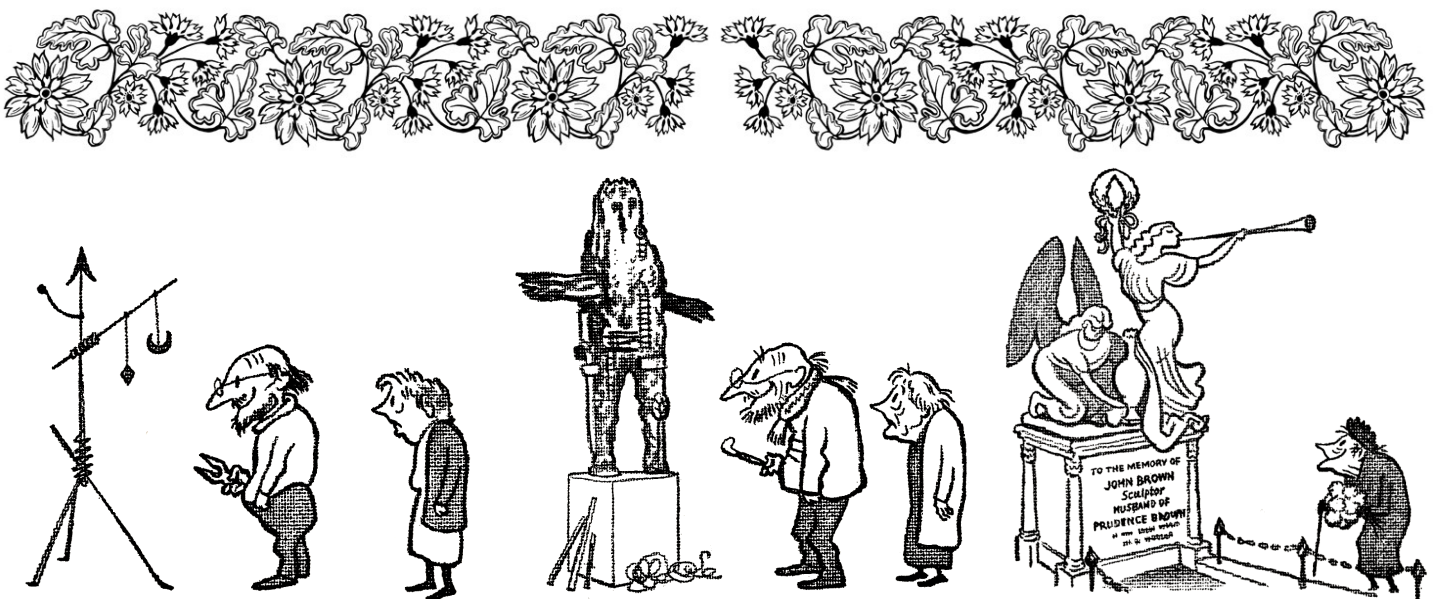
WILDLIFE IN FEBRUARY

Long before the Winter ends there is still life about amongst the trees. Birds are in song, Woodpeckers are drumming on dead wood to establish territories, and the Rooks are making the treetops look alive. Rooks are building nests this time of year but can be as early as January due to milder weather, their rookeries are in the tops of tall Oak or Ash trees, although Elm trees used to be the favourite. Rooks mate for life which is rare for our British birds, and they are devoted to one another. They will sit by the other on the nest and groom their partner and also gather twigs for building nests or for repair. They will usually lay their eggs in the Spring with 3-4 eggs being laid, these will hatch in around two weeks time and the chicks typically leave the nest in just after a month. These birds are known for their social intelligence and are able to recognise individual birds in their colony, as well as being socially intelligent they have also demonstrated the ability to use tools and solve problems. There can be thousands of birds to one colony so we will soon here their noisy calls once again!

While you are out in the woods for a walk you may come across a plant called the Stinking Hellebore! Although it does have a much nicer name which people prefer of 'Winter Rose'. This plant gets the name of Stinking Hellebore from the unpleasant meaty smell the leaves produce when they are crushed up, wonderful! While we have many Hellebore varieties in our gardens this variety is wholly wild and you can find it growing in woodlands mainly in limestone areas. Another very interesting fact about this plant, which was only discovered ten years ago, is that it deploys heat to attract pollinators. The warmth is generated by a yeast that grows and lives in the Hellebore's nectar. This is called Floral warming which may be a way of offering an additional reward for visiting insects.

With Birds visiting our gardens and out of the fields in search of food, have you ever looked closely enough at Pigeons? There is another species of bird that is among them hiding in plain sight, these birds are called Stock Doves. The Stock Dove is a slightly prettier bird looking like a cross between a Dove and a Pigeon. This bird does have a identifiable appearance though, with two black wing bars and round black button eyes for a cute appearance. Look closely enough and you may spot one!

Angie Bennington





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GREEN DILEMMAS - COP 15

Biodiversity Agreement

In addition to the COP conferences on climate change there is a parallel set of conferences focused on biodiversity. They don't usually attract as much publicity as the climate change conferences, but they are still incredibly important if we really want to protect the living planet.

Globally, wildlife populations are in significant decline, plunging by two-thirds over the past 50 years, because of human overconsumption, population growth and intensive agriculture. (Living Planet Report 2020). As well as what we normally think of as "wildlife", the decline is impacting complex ecosystems like soil organisms and the pollination process.

The recent COP15 Biodiversity Conference at the end of 2022, included amongst its targets the eye-catching agreement to protect 30% of the planet for nature by 2030 (30 by 30). This was cited as an historic agreement and was strongly supported by the UK with only the US and the Vatican failing to sign up for this target.

Of course, the devil is in the details. Is it a global target or a country target? If it's a global target, are richer countries with less biodiversity going to pay poorer countries sufficiently to preserve their nature?

There is also a lot of disagreement around what "protected for nature" means. The Government would argue that the existing National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and other protected areas comprise more than 25% of land in England. However, the Wildlife & Countryside Link (the umbrella organisation for the leading wildlife and countryside organisations) argues that only about 5% of land is well protected and managed for nature.

Devoting 30% of the land and sea to wildlife does seem like a good way forward. In order to make this work there needs to be a common agreement on the management, monitoring and condition of land and sea that counts against the 30% target.

The UK has one of the most detailed understandings of the state of nature in their own country. We have a very strong scientific community. We have amazing organisations that support and campaign for nature such as the National Trust (5.4 million members), the RSPB (1.2 million members) and the various Wildlife Trusts (over 900k members). We also have some of the largest citizen science exercises in the world such as the Big Garden Birdwatch in January and the Big Butterfly Count in July.

Unfortunately, of the G7 countries, the UK also has the lowest level of biodiversity as we had already lost many species by the 1970s. Roughly 15% of remaining species have been threatened with extinction since then. The picture is of course mixed: 26% of species have increased since 1970 whilst 41% have decreased (State of Nature Report 2019).

Several long-term targets for species abundance were recently announced as part of the commitment laid down in the Environment Act of 2021. Most commentators feel these targets lack ambition and an understanding of the jeopardy of the current situation.

As the RSPB puts it: the question we must ask ourselves is are we going to ensure that we keep once common species, like Song Thrushes, common and protect our most threatened wildlife, like Turtle Doves, from extinction.

Richard Winch



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SPORTS CLUB REPORT

Football.

The First Team lost 4-3 to Mildenhall Town on Boxing Day and ended up with nine men on the field although I felt that Jack Brame was incredibly unlucky to be shown a red and the first incident should have resulted in a player from each side getting their marching orders. As it was, we ended up losing 4-3. The following Monday we played hosts to second placed Harleston Town and deserved our 2-1 win. Then it was Long Melford Away. Jordan Southgate received two yellow cards, within two minutes of each other, in the first half and this cost us dearly and we ended up losing 3-1. Matt Glover scored our goal. We then had a midweek fixture at home to second bottom Whitton United. We played some excellent football and ended up winning 9-0. We then hosted bottom club Haverhill Rovers and we ran out comfortable 4-1 winners.

The Reserves thumped their Whitton counterparts 6-0. They remain top of the League The A team are through to the next round of the Suffolk Primary Cup following a fine 2 -1 victory at Sporting 87 Reserves. The Vets lost both their games since Christmas.3 -1, firstly to the league leaders Ipswich Vale Exiles and secondly 5-1, at home, to second placed Trimley.

Forthcoming Home Fixtures for February.

First Team

Sat 11th v Mulbarton 3.00pm

A Team

Sat 4th v Cockfield Reserves. 2.00pm

Sat 11th v Lakenheath Casuals 1.30pm

Sat 25th v Westerfield Reserves 2.00pm

Reserves

Sat 4th Feb v Stowmarket Town 3.00pm

Sat 25th Feb v Framlingham Town Res 3.00pm

Under 18s

Thu 9th v Ely City 7.45pm

Thu 23rd v Bury Under 18s 7.45pm

Gordon Ross

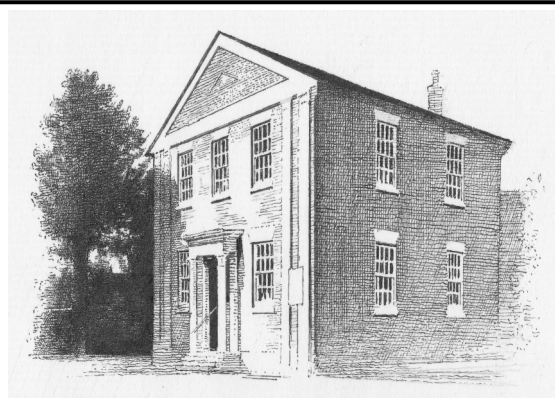


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Walsham Congregational Church

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

Services for February

We are open for worship each Sunday at 11.00 & 6.30 so why not come along? Please be assured of a warm welcome; it would be lovely to see you.

5th	Rev. Peter Kinley	<i>(Needham Market Evangelical Church, Suffolk)</i>
12th	Rev. Edward Malcolm	<i>(St. Mary's C of E Continuing, Reading, Berks)</i>
19th	Pastor Jonathan Davey	<i>(Evington Chapel, Evington, Leicestershire)</i>
26th	Rev. Trevor Carlisle	<i>(Whitley Wood Baptist Church, Reading, Berks)</i>

Archias Continued to Party!

Archias was a wealthy Greek King, but sadly he was a selfish man, who cared little for the poor people of his kingdom. Because of his thoughtless attitude, the common people of Greece despised their king and longed to see him overthrown. As time went by, and the resentment of the people grew stronger, a band of men came together and plotted to assassinate the king.

Because Archias was so out of touch with the feelings of his people, he knew nothing of what was being planned; however, he had a friend in Athens who had discovered the plot, and that friend immediately wrote to Archias, warning the king of the murderous conspiracy and giving the names of the conspirators.

The messenger who was to carry the letter was given strict instruction not to rest until the king had the warning in his hand, as it was a matter of life and death. When the messenger arrived at the royal palace, the king was in the middle of one of his drunken feasts; there was music, dancing, and an abundance of wine. The faithful messenger stood before the king and began by saying, "My lord, the one who sends this letter earnestly begs you to read it at once as it speaks of serious things". Archias, merry with wine, was in no mood to read a letter and, never thinking of the warning within, cast it aside and declared, "Serious things tomorrow!". However, for Archias, tomorrow never came, because that very night, while the king drank wine the assassins ran into the palace and plunged a dagger deep into his breast.

Sadly, the 'serious things tomorrow' attitude of Archias still lives on in the hearts of so many in our day and age; the weighty matters of life, death, eternity, and the Salvation of the never dying soul are deferred for another day, so as not to disturb the pleasures of the present. Tempting though it may be to put things off until tomorrow, it must be remembered that for all of us, whether it be soon or afar off, our tomorrows will eventually run out and the opportunity to be saved from the just consequences of our individual sin will have passed. Furthermore, even if we live to see thousands of tomorrows, there is no guarantee that the door of Salvation will remain open. A person can only be saved and reconciled to God when the Holy Spirit is drawing them, not at a time of their own choosing; at some point, the Holy Spirit can and will stop speaking and striving with the unsaved person (Genesis 6:3). It is essential therefore to immediately settle this, whilst God still speaks, and opportunity remains. Repent, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and be saved today.

**Seek ye the LORD while he may be found,
call ye upon him while he is near. (Isaiah 55:6)**

SOME SIMPLE RECIPES

Carrot and Potato Soup

700gm carrots, cut into chunks	1 clove garlic, crushed
2 large potatoes, cut into chunks	570ml vegetable stock
2 medium onions chopped	150ml milk
30gm butter	1 tsp medium curry paste
1 tbsp oil	Salt and pepper

Peel the carrots and potatoes and cut into chunks. Peel and chop the onions and crush the garlic. Heat the butter and oil in a large saucepan, put in the vegetables and stir well. Add the crushed garlic and stock and season well. Bring to the boil, cover and simmer for about 35 minutes or until the vegetables are quite soft. When slightly cooled, rub through a sieve into a clean saucepan, mix in the milk and curry paste, stir well, adjust the seasoning and reheat. Serves 4 to 6.

Potato Layer Cake

4 to 6 large potatoes, sliced	3 cloves garlic, chopped
550 to 850ml milk	30gm butter
2 large onions, chopped	Salt and pepper

Set oven to 190°C or Mark 5. Well butter a large ovenproof dish. Crush a garlic with a good pinch of salt. Peel the potatoes, wash and pat dry and cut into fairly thin slices. Place a layer of potatoes in the bottom of the dish and sprinkle over a layer of garlic and onion. Season well with black pepper and a little more salt if preferred. Continue in layers, finishing with a layer of potatoes. Pour the milk over and dot with butter. Cover with kitchen foil and cook for about one hour, removing the covering about ten minutes before the end of the cooking time to brown the top. Serves 4 to 6.

Sausage Casserole

900gm pork sausages	1 tsp mixed herbs
1 medium onion, chopped	1 tsp sugar
2 cloves garlic, chopped	Salt pepper
420gm tin of tomatoes, roughly chopped	1 dstsp cornflour
1 tbsp tomato purée	280ml vegetable stock
	2 cups frozen peas

Oil for frying

Cut the sausages in half. Heat 1 tablespoon of oil in a large saucepan and fry the sausages slowly, until browned. Remove and set aside. Add another tablespoon of oil and fry the onion and garlic until soft but not brown. Replace the sausages and add the chopped tomatoes, tomato puree, herbs and sugar and stir. Mix the cornflour with a tablespoon of stock in a bowl then stir in the remainder of the stock and mix well. Add to the casserole, stir and season well. Bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 35 to 40 minutes, adding more boiling water if required during cooking. Add the peas 5 minutes before the end of the cooking time. Serves 4 to 6.



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PARISH COUNCIL NOTICES

Shepherd's Grove, Stanton

The application has been submitted and this is the sort of development that is coming to the Stanton site. See Copart's website:

<https://www.copart.co.uk/locations/sandy-gb-401>

The Parish Council objects to this proposal in principle. The negative impact of such a large-scale development outweighs any possible benefits. This view is shared by other Parish Councils in the area including Hepworth.

The Parish Council is bringing this to your attention because individual parish council and individual resident objections carry little weight in the planning process. On the other hand, **large numbers** of objections **focused** on planning law, can have an impact. If you are concerned about the impact that the development of this site by Co-Part is going have on Walsham and villages around the A143 please submit objections in writing or online - details at the end.

See the Parish Council website for more information as it becomes available and also for more on what short and long term impacts are predicted should this development proceed.

The Parish Council is attempting some co-ordination of all potentially affected parishes and has drafted initial objections for Walsham. The full initial draft can be found in the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2023 on the website (appendix 2). <https://tinyurl.com/yck2meaa>

Find the application documents on the West Suffolk Planning website: <https://tinyurl.com/4vtxme47>

Closing date for responses is **4th February 2023 Unless You request An Extension** (28th February is suggested) - details at end.

Some background, summary of PC objections and what to do next if you are concerned

The land where Sumner Road joins the A143 owned by the property company Jaynic is now the subject of a planning application to create a Copart site for recovered and used vehicles which will be delivered to the site, stored and moved again once sold online. This Copart site will be one of the largest in the UK owned and operated by an American company. The development will involve the creation of a roundabout at the junction of Summer Road with the A143 and a link road to the industrial estate at Shepherd's Grove, Stanton. The proposal is also for an eatery or fast food outlet with additional commercial premises close to the roundabout.

Parish Council Objections in principle:

- A. The development is an urbanisation of the countryside on a scale which is inappropriate for the rural area.
- B. The development would detract from a largely agricultural landscape.
- C. The development of Plots A to C for the proposed use would be out of keeping with their surroundings.
- D. That the local road infrastructure is not suitable to support the development.

- E. The type of development is better suited in much closer proximity to a major trunk road (as with other Copart sites). The Parish Council wants to know that other were sites considered as is required as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment.
- F. The development of a centralised facility to gather many vehicles will add road miles to the recycling process and create unnecessary carbon emissions.
- G. The development would increase noise, light and air pollution in the environment.

Submit comments online at <https://tinyurl.com/4vtxme47> or by email to planning.help@westsuffolk.gov.uk quoting: **FAO Gary Hancox, DC/22/2190/HYB, Land At Shepherds Grove Bury Road Stanton Suffolk.**

If you intend to comment it is suggested that you:

- 1 Contact Gary Hancox by email now and request an extension to 28th February for the submission of your comments
- 2 Obtaining an extension for the submission of your comments would allow you to seek more information and, if you also object, maybe adjust your comments based on the final position of the Parish Council which will have been reviewed against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), hopefully to be reported to the Parish Council by 10th February. This will hopefully strengthen the objections. The most important thing is to submit something at some point before the advertised submission deadline (or any extended deadline you may have been individually granted).
- 3 If you object to this development please do try make the same points as those the Parish Council have put forward but in your own words as far as possible. As is always the case, 'unfocused', 'NIMBY' type objections are largely ignored in the planning process. Effective objections have to be based on planning law, hence step 2.



WALSHAM OBSERVER SU-DOKU

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

For the uninitiated, the rules of Su-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!

I PUT IT SOMEWHERE SAFE

Our holiday is imminent
But I am in despair
I've put the passports somewhere safe
But I can't remember where.
I put them somewhere sensible
Where they won't be disturbed
And no doubt ever seen again
(No wonder I'm perturbed!)
I've checked all normal places
The ones I'd tend to use
To keep all vital documents
That I don't want to lose.
The desk drawer in the study
The cupboard by my bed
I must have had a brainwave . . .
Picked a 'safer place' instead.
Some lateral thinking is required
To save me from the mess
(I feel the panic rising
And other signs of stress.)
My family is unaware
Of what might be our fate
(And barely bats an eyelid
As I hyper-ventilate.)
I'd have to break the news to them
Express my deep remorse
(My children will disown me
And he'll file for divorce.)
But suddenly I get a grip
Just in the nick of time;
I tell myself to 'just keep calm
And all will turn out fine.'
A plan of action is required
A search that's systematic
(And this said by a woman who
Is chronically erratic.)
The search is on in earnest
And with a flash of inspiration
Decide the bathroom cabinet
Is worth investigation

I've always found it useful
As a handy little 'nook' . . .
And so with heartbeat pounding
I proceed to take a look.
It looks as though I've used it as
A 'pending tray' of late
My pot of bronzing moisture cream
Is now a paper-weight.
Between my light-hold styling-mousse
And my evening primrose pills
I find a few bank statements
And Oh God, some unpaid bills.
But sadly passports, there are none
The search must move elsewhere
I'll try the kitchen dresser
For who knows? They might be there.
It's crammed with toys and cook books,
Letters, plasters, bits of string,
(It's just the sort of handy place
Where I put . . . everything.)
And though I'm really chuffed to find
My *Best of Wham* cassette
The fact the passports are not there
Does cause me deep regret.
Now I can think of one more place
That's maybe worth a try,
If they're not here, it looks as though
It's holiday bye-bye.
I have a little rummage
And to my great surprise
A little pile of passports
Just appear before my eyes.
I'm overwhelmed with great relief
My joy is unsurpassed
It's Gatwick Airport here we come
And sun and sea at last.
If only I had thought this through
And looked in here before
It's obvious I'd kept them
In my tights and nicker drawer..

*By Judy Rose from Fridge Over Troubled Water
Publishers Windrush Press ISBN 0 900075 39 2*



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THE MOBILE POST OFFICE

**The Mobile Post Office will still be coming to the
Village Hall Car Park on Thursday mornings
from 11:00am till Noon till further notice.**

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



There are ten differences between these two pictures, see if you can find them all before the lady starts knitting again or the man rides away!

TONY FISHER
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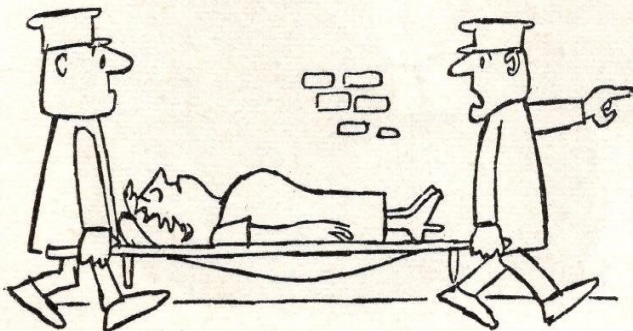


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The Priory Room

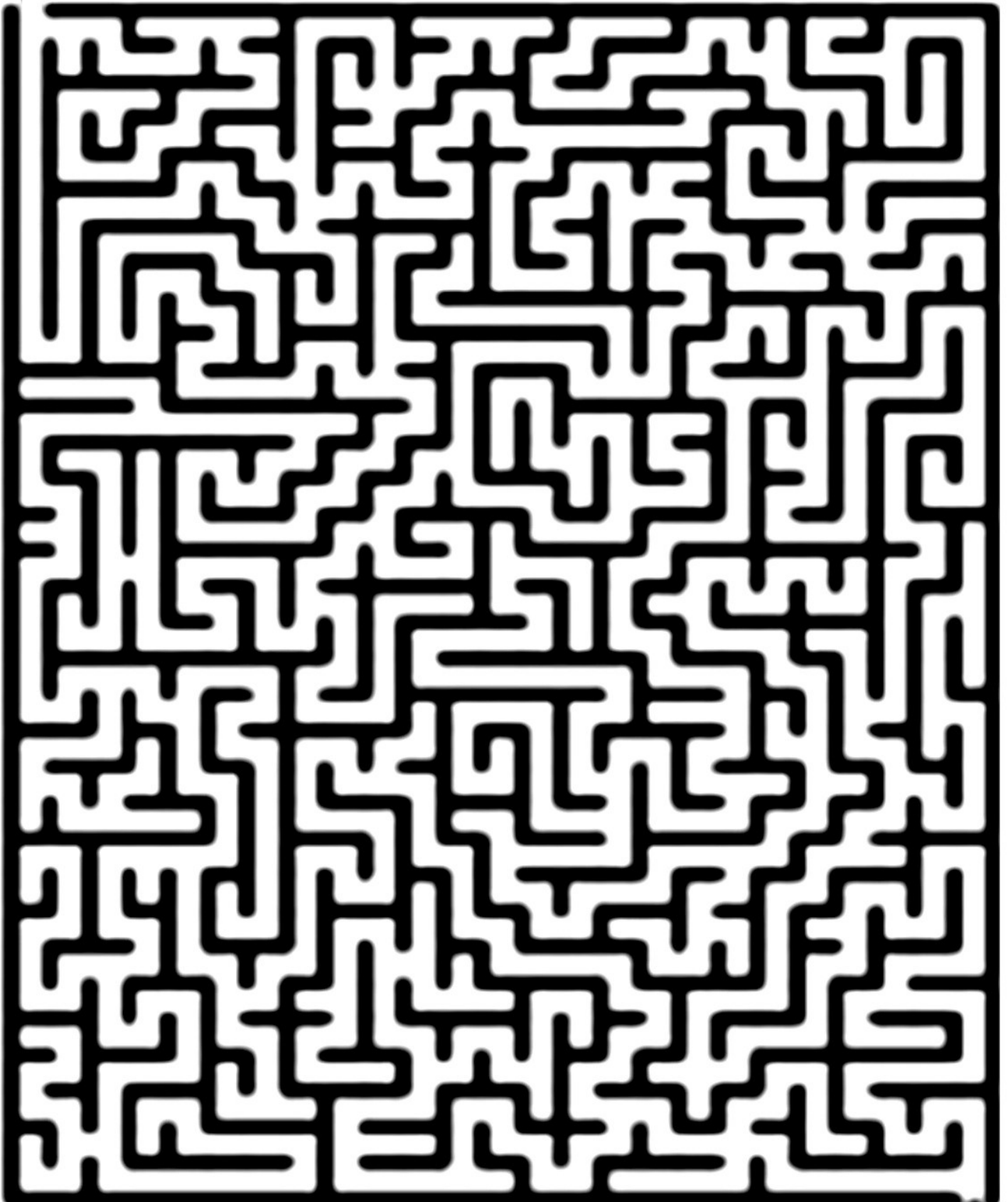
The Priory Room in Walsham
is available to hire for private functions.

For bookings or further information, please contact:

John Boulter 07908 010555 johnboulter@yahoo.com

AMAZING PUZZLE

IN



OUT

REGULAR

MONDAY

Community Lunch Village Hall
2nd Monday 12:45pm

Walking Football Sports Club
8:00pm till 9:00pm

TUESDAY

Walking Netball Sports Club
10:00am till 11:00am

Pilates Class Village Hall
1:30pm till 2:30pm

Walking Football Sports Club
2:00pm till 3:00pm

WEDNESDAY

Pilates Classes Village Hall
9:15am till 10:15am

Yoga Sports Club
10:00am till 11:30am

Positive Steps Sports Club
11:30am till 12:30pm

Wednesday Wanders Sports Club
11:30am till 12:30pm

Carpet Bowls Sports Club
2:30pm till 4:00pm

EVENTS

WI Meeting Priory Room
7:45pm Second Wed of the Month

THURSDAY

Coffee Shop Village Hall
10:30am till Noon

Post Office Van Village Hall
11:00am till Noon

Yoga Sports Club
1:15 pm till 2:15pm

Walking Football Sports Club
2:00pm till 3:00pm

Walking Netball Sports Club
6:00pm till 7:00pm

Community Yoga Priory Room
7:15 pm till 9:15pm

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Pop-up Shop Village Hall
Last Saturday in the month

SUNDAY



COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOOD BANK

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



ALL THE ANSWERS

Page Bottom Quiz

1. 'And so to bed', 2. About six pounds, 3. Turkey, 4. Lincolnshire, 5. A coffin,
6. Flakes of human skin, 7. Salt, 8. One, 9. Antipasti, 10. Greece, 11. Catcher,
12. Housey Housey, 13. In Capri, 14. The hermit crab, 15. The thirteenth, 16. Japan,
17. Thomas, 18. 'Son of', 19. Miss Jane Marple, 20. *The Mousetrap*,
21. 'A deer, a female deer', 22. Penguins, 23. The Peace Prize, 24. Julie Andrews,
25. The condor, 26. Venice's, 27. Gold, 28. *The Winter's Tale*,
29. The Flying Scotsman, 30. Gengis Khan, 31. Marie Stopes, 32. A conductor,
33. Ten years, 34. Captain James Cook, 35. White or Yellow, 36. Haydn,
37. Ultraviolet, 38. Boston Mass., 39. Cornwall, 40. Christopher Fry, 41. Mistress,
42. The British Empire, 43. Japan, 44. The Chelsea Flower Show, 45. Cheese,
46. By the volume of water it displaces, 47. Ireland, 48. Three,
49. H₂O (same as water), 50. An oral exam,

Su-Doku

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

Crossword

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

More or Less

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

Spot the Difference



Searching for Words

Act	Acted	Are	Art	Cad
Cadet	Car	Card	Carded	Cared
Caret	Cart	Carted	Cat	Cater
Catered	Crate	Crated	Create	Created
Dare	Dared	Dart	Darted	Dead
Dear	Detract	Drat	Dread	Ear
Era	Eta	Rat	Rate	Rated
Read	Red	Ret	Tad	Tar
Tare	Tea	Tear	Ted	Tract
Trad	Trade	Traded	Tread	Treat
Treated	Detracted (52)			

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Community Council Secretary
Shirley White 01359-258532

Police
Suffolk Police 01473-613500
Stowmarket 01473-383400

Neighbourhood Watch
wlmhw@gmail.com
David Murray 01359-258646

Rev. Philip Merry 01359-258806
07526-271784

Anglian Water
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Eastern Electricity 0800-7838838

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richardbelson@btinternet.com
Parish Council Clerk
Kevin Boardley parishclerk@walsham-le-willows.org

District Councillor
Richard Meyer 01359-251760
07771-703668

County Councillor
Mrs Jessica Flemming 01449-711065

Suffolk County Council 03456-066067

Member of Parliament
Jo Churchill 0207-2198487

VILLAGE ORGANISATION CONTACTS

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Alison Findlay 07704311468
milcroft66@gmail.com

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Frances Jenner 01359-259242
frances.jenner@hotmail.com

Horticultural Show
Debbie Watson 01359 259686
debbiewatson2916@gmail.com

Sports Club
Mike Powles 07379089890
mike.powles@btconnect.com

Walsham Wild Wood
Lorna MacKinnon 01359 259140
mackinnonlorna@gmail.com

Women's Institute
Pippa Baxter 01449781757
pippabaxter2@gmail.com

Community Yoga
Julia Dunncliffe 07980 476 140
dunncliffej@hotmail.com.



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS VILLAGE HALL

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From 11:00am till 12:00pm

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