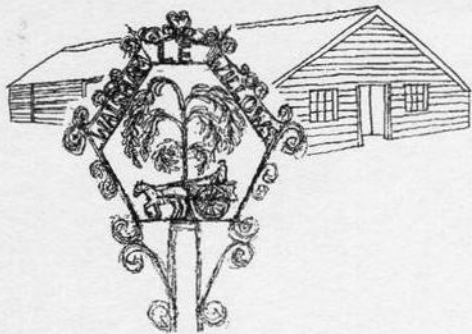


WALSHAM OBSERVER

*We wish you a very
Happy and Peaceful Christmas*



DECEMBER 2024



Walsham-le-Willows

Memorial Village Hall

Hire Charges for 2024

All Day £135
Hourly £13.50

For Bookings and Enquiries
Contact Number 01359 258698
(answerphone available)
or email
sarah@octopusadmin.co.uk



Automated External DEFfibrillator (AED)

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



THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

DECEMBER 2024

No 669

Published and distributed by the Walsham Community Council.

EDITOR Mr I R Toulson

Tel: 01359-259646 email: iandmj@outlook.com

PRINTED by Gipping Press of Needham Market

Tel: 01449 721599 email: enquiries@gippingpress.co.uk

& DISTRIBUTED BY Volunteers

ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION

These should be dropped by **FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER** into the box provided in Rolfe's or emailed to the editor.

Advertisements should reach the
Advertising Manager by **MONDAY 9 DECEMBER**

ADVERTISING MANAGER Cheryl Bartholomew
01359-258349 walshamobserveradverts@gmail.com

The Community Council takes no responsibility for the accuracy or otherwise of advertisements published in the Walsham Observer.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

Quarter-page £66 per year £16.50 per month

Half-page £110 per year £22 per month

WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

CHAIR Trevor Roberts

01359-251144 acorn-house@hotmail.co.uk

SECRETARY Rob Matthews

07564 906848 armat1950@gmail.com

TREASURER Ian Bartholomew

01359-258349 IBarth2@aol.com

www.walsham-le-willocks.org

Contact telephone number: 01359 258698
(answerphone available)

Contact email: sarah@octopusadmin.co.uk

CONTENTS

Editorial	2	December Church Services	32
Christmas Cover Competition	2	Green Dilemmas	33
Bus Update	3	Wildlife in December	35
Village Hall Update	3	The Walsham Woods' Year	37
Village Primary School	5	Home Thoughts from A Bed	39
Citizens Advice	7	More or Less	39
Royal British Legion	9	Sports Club Membership	41
I Love Christmas Carols	9	Only One Way Out!	42
Women's Institute	11	Sports Club Report	43
Community Lunch	11	Congregational Church	44
Improving Road Safety	13	Walsham History Group	45
Community Emergency Plan	15	Searching for Words	45
Christmas Unwrapped	17	Some Christmas Verses	47
2024 Pumpkin Trail	17	Spot the Difference	48
Diary of Events	19	Observer Crossword	49
Parish Council Minutes	21	Twelve Days of Christmas	49
Observer Sudoku	29	All the Answers	51
From St Mary's	31		



EDITORIAL

Those of you who study the Walsham Observer with great care will have noticed that there were **three events occurring on the evening of Friday 22nd November**. Undoubtedly there was a clash for some people. To avoid such occurrences in the future some member of an organising group might like to ask for their 'excellent' event to be put in the **Diary of Events** as soon as it has been decided to hold it, even if it is ten months ahead, by doing so it will warn other groups that it might not be wise to organise their 'wonderful' event on the same day.

Just another 'housekeeping' note, and that is the deadline for January's edition, which **Friday 13th** (Whoops! For those that way inclined!), so please make sure items are in by then, at the very latest!!

As I write this Storm Bert is blustering its way through and provides a timely reminder of what happened last spring, so hopefully you are finding the Emergency Plan articles of use. Let's hope that we don't have to put them into practice.

This coming month sees the traditional Christmas activity, with the **St Mary's Christmas Fayre**, on **Saturday 29th November** (for the benefit of early recipients) and the **History Group's Unwrapping of Christmas** on **Tuesday 10th December at 7.30pm in The Priory Room**. Then comes the carols, first at **The Congregational Church** on **Saturday 15th at 6.30pm**, and then at **St Mary's** on **Sunday 22nd at 4.00pm**.

Finally, I trust that many of you will enjoy this month's edition which, owing to the necessity to fill a multiple of four pages, has far more 'schoolboy humour'. You have been warned!! Hopefully it will find you chortling your way to Very Happy and Peaceful Christmas.



CHRISTMAS COVER COMPETITION

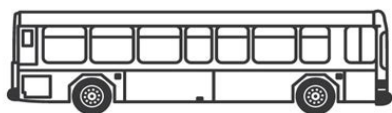
Hopefully, you will not have failed to see the lovely snow scene on the front cover. It's the work of Charlie, who was the overall winner of this year's Christmas Cover competition. The other winners are shown below. Their entries appear in colour in the online version of the Observer in the village website.



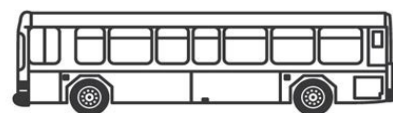
Lavinia KS2 Winner



Lennard KS1 Winner



BUSES UPDATE



Earlier this year Simonds a local company based in Diss were acquired by Vectare a large bus operator. The company locally still trades under the Simonds name.

Simonds have improved the frequency of the bus service along the A143. However, in August Simonds confirmed that they won't continue to run the service via Walsham le Willows and Badwell Ash to Bury St Edmunds without subsidy from Suffolk County Council.

A campaign has been running to save our local bus services.

A combined group representing the villages of Garboldisham, Hopton, Barningham, Bardwell, Walsham le Willows, Badwell Ash, Hunston and Stowlangtoft in conjunction with Simonds has now submitted a bid to Suffolk County Council.

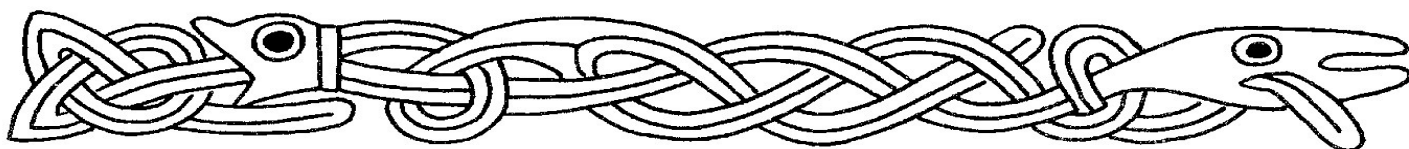
If successful, the proposal would be to provide a revised timetable for the 73 service. This would involve a slightly earlier first bus in the morning, an additional later bus service for workers returning from Bury St Edmunds and with the supplementary option for a Saturday service for workers and shoppers.

We are bidding against other bids, and we have had no indication at the moment of the likely success.

We have the support of the two local MPS Adrian Ramsay and Peter Prinsley as well as all the relevant County and District Councillors.

I will update the Facebook hub as soon as any new information emerges.

*Richard Winch – District Councillor
richard.winch@midsuffolk.gov.uk*



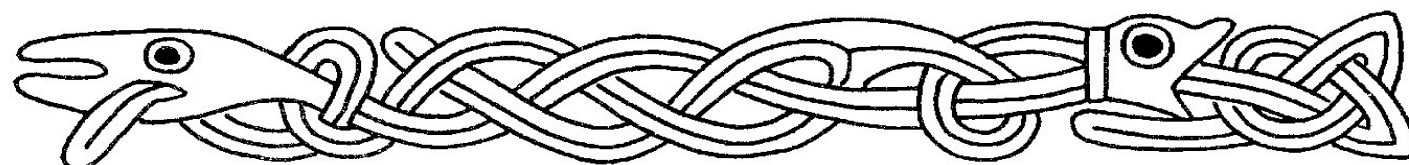
VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

December tends to be a little slower with activities in the Village Hall though all the usual fitness classes continue up to the Christmas/New Year break.

Our usual coffee mornings on a Thursday are getting busier every week and the pressures on the catering staff are increasing. In this respect we would very much appreciate it if we could find additional volunteers to help even if on a temporary basis. One point of note is that there will be no coffee morning on Thursday 26th December (Boxing Day) so after the New year we will resume on Thursday 2nd January.

The November Community Lunch took place on Monday 14th and was, as usual, well attended and we already have 40 booked in for the Christmas lunch on Monday 9th December with just a few places still available.

Rob Matthews



TIME FOR YOU™

DOMESTIC CLEANING

Are you tired of cleaning?



We have the
right cleaner
waiting
to help
you.

Regular - Weekly - Cleaner

01359 258991

Typically £16 per hour

www.timeforyousuffolk.co.uk



CHIMNEY SWEEP



ECO SWEEP

CHIMNEY SERVICES



- POWER SWEEP METHOD USED FOR A MORE THOROUGH CLEAN THAN A BRUSH
- FULLY INSURED
- INSURANCE RECOGNISED CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON EVERY SWEEP
- GOLD MASTER MEMBER OF GUILD OF MASTER CHIMNEY SWEEPS
- ALL CHIMNEYS, WOOD/MULTI FUEL BURNERS, AGA, BOILER FLUES SWEPT
- BIRD GUARDS FITTED

TEL: (01359) 232335

EMAIL: ecosweep@live.com

WILLOWSERVE LTD

plumbing & Heating Services

- ✓ Worcester Bosch Approved Installers with up to 12 Years Warranty on Worcester Bosh Boilers
- ✓ GASSAFE, OFTEC, C.I.P.H.E, CHECKATRADE, TRADING STANDARDS approved
- ✓ Replacement Boilers, Hot Water Cylinders, Underfloor Heating, Servicing, Repairs, General Plumbing, Bathrooms etc. FREE QUOTATIONS

For a Professional Reliable Service

Tel: 01359 259886 Mobile: 07771 557937

willowserv_ltd@hotmail.com





WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL



This half term has seen us discussing anti-bullying, our Remembrance Services where the children wrote poems and reflected on the past and, we have celebrated Children in Need by dressing up and wearing spots, stripes or anything bright. These events all demonstrate our values as we show respect, courage, and thankfulness.

We have welcomed parents and children in to see our school for those who are starting school in September 2025. If you were unable to make it, please do contact us if you would like to arrange a visit.

We have welcomed parents into the school to look at children's learning and share their books as part of parents' evening.

Caterpillar Class are continuing with their journey stories including the Christmas Story. They are looking at different materials used in Santa's workshop and in maths are working on addition and subtraction. They will then be looking forward to putting on the Nativity with Ladybird Class.

Ladybirds are learning about the Victorians and what their life was like when Queen Victoria was on the throne. In maths they will be working on place value to 100 and in PE are developing their ball skills.

Dragonfly Class have been looking at a local history study and using Bury St Edmunds as the focus. They are working on multiplication and division in maths and will be writing adventure narratives in English and the year three children continue to go swimming.

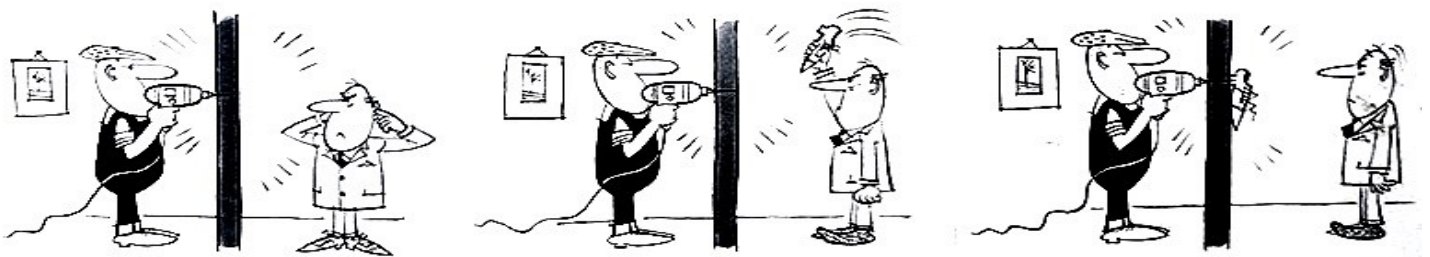
Grasshoppers are exploring what life was like in Medieval England and writing poetry with rhyming couplets. They will be looking at multiplication and division in maths and forces in science. In art, they are doing illuminated letters in the style of Medieval England manuscripts.

Crickets have started to explore Frozen Kingdoms and will be looking at the different reasons why the Titanic sunk. They have been writing Haiku poetry and are working on fraction in maths.

Our theme in collective worship continues with 'Courage' and we are so grateful that Vicar Cat continues to visit us weekly and, in the approach to Christmas, is talking to the children about Advent. We are looking forward to decorating the tree at the church with stars.

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



Professional Chimney Sweeping

Chimney Matters

Town and Country

Mobile : 07767 864127

Phone: 01284 789663

www.chimneymatters.co.uk

email: chimneymatters@hotmail.com

- Open fires, Wood burners swept and serviced for maximum efficiency.
- Certificates issued.
- Cowls and Bird guards fitted.
- Fully insured.




botesdaledental
PRACTICE & IMPLANT CLINIC

Your local,
family run

**Dental
Practice**



Find us on
www.botesdaledental.co.uk



Tel: 01379897176

Email: reception@botesdaledental.co.uk
Botesdale Dental Practice, Holly Close,
The Drift, Botesdale, Suffolk IP22 1DH



Shine n Clean



Residential and commercial window cleaning.
A reliable window cleaning service using the latest
pure water and reach & wash cleaning system,
leaving glass sparkling clean for weeks.
No mess, no smears and no harmful chemicals

01359 259376

email: shinenclean@mail.com

The festive season can be a financially challenging time, and often borrowing money or using a credit card to fund Christmas can seem like your only option. But there are steps you can take to keep your spending under control and avoid falling into debt.

The first thing to do is make a budget and stick to it.

Consider who you're buying gifts for, what other seasonal expenses you have, and how much you can realistically afford to spend. Always keep receipts, or ask for gift receipts, in case you overspend and need to return something. And remember that household bills may be higher during this period due to colder weather and spending more time indoors.

If you've built up debt, please don't ignore bills or letters. Speak to the organisation you owe money to, as they may let you pay smaller amounts.

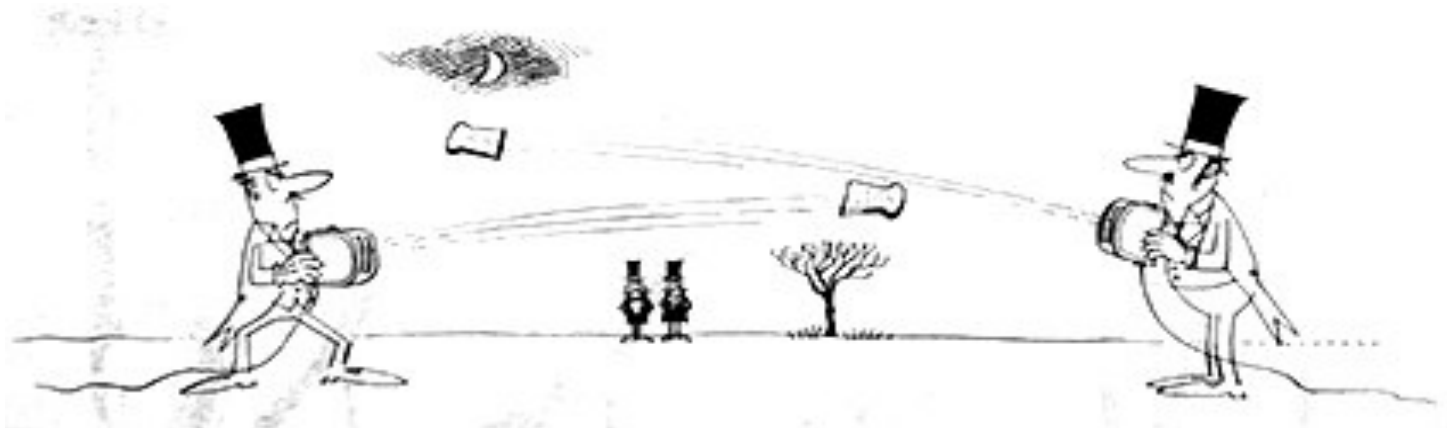
Pay 'priority debts' first, like rent, mortgage arrears, council tax, and energy bills. For other types of debt like credit cards or loans, gather all the information on what you owe, create a budget and contact your creditors to set up an affordable repayment plan. This might seem scary, but it's an important first step.

If your budget just doesn't add up and you need help to afford essentials like bills and food, see what cost of living support is available on the Citizens Advice website.

It's especially important to check if you're eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment, which will now only be paid to those who receive Pension Credit or other means-tested benefits. If you make a claim for Pension Credit by 21 December, you might still receive the Winter Fuel Payment.

If you do find yourself struggling financially during or after the holidays, don't panic. Support is out there, and Citizens Advice can help you understand what's available. We're here to help you find a way forward.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm. Our office will be closed between 24th and 27th December and the 1st January. Our Eye and Needham Market outreach services will also not be available on Friday 20th and Friday 27th December.



CLARKES

OF WALSHAM LIMITED

✓ TIMBER & BUILDING SUPPLIES ✓ GARDEN & FENCING ✓ COUNTRY STORES



SERVING TRADE AND PUBLIC SINCE 1908



www.clarkesofwalsham.co.uk | 01359 259 259

The Street, Walsham-le-Willows, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP31 3BA

**FREE
DELIVERY
FOR ORDERS OVER
£100**

*Oil Fired Pressure Jet Boiler
Servicing & Plumbing*



**ANDY'S
OIL BOILER
SERVICES**

ANDY BACOS



07775 751303



andy.bacos@ntlworld.com



Andy's Oil Boiler Services



What is the Australian wild-dog called?



STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



As a result of a quiz night, organised by Peter Palmer and a Table Top sale, we have been able to donate £512.00 to the Poppy Appeal.

On Wednesday 6th November members were at a Commonwealth War Graves cemetery in East Wretham. The branch standard was carried by Ivor Bowden. In all nine standards were paraded.

Among those present were Lady Kay Fisher, Deputy Lieutenant of Norfolk, the town mayors of Thetford, Watton and Swaffham and representatives of the regular forces, as well as ex-service Associations. Eighteen wreaths were laid at the memorial.

On Friday evening, 8th November we held our Festival of Remembrance in the Apex led by the Royal Air Force Honington Voluntary Band. This also featured the Honington Military Wives Choir by kind permission of the Station Commander, Wing Commander Max Hayward.

We would also like to thank L Fulcher, Funeral Directors for their continued support in generously printing the programmes and publicity material, also Herd Hire Van Rentals for providing the transport for the band's equipment and all those who kindly donated raffle prizes on the evening.

On Remembrance Sunday, Branch members paraded at St Mary's church Walsham le Willows. On Monday 11th we were joined by the local school children who placed a wreath and crosses at the War Memorial. Before the 11am Remembrance Little Willows Pre School also laid a wreath at the memorial.

Tuesday 3rd December members will meet for their Christmas lunch at the Cock inn Stanton. The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th December also at the Cock Inn Stanton commencing at 8pm.

Hubby Frost



I LOVE CHRISTMAS CAROLS

I was never happier than when my three children all had separate carol services, as well as our local service and probably some door-to-door carol singing as well. Singing the well-loved annual favourites never fails to make me feel ready for the Christmas festivities.

This year the Music at St Mary's team have joined with the PCC and the Rev. Catriona Brinkley to put on a traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols on the 22nd of December (the last Sunday before Christmas) at 4.00pm.

The church will look beautiful lit by candles, the lessons will be read by members of different village groups and clubs, and the singing will be accompanied by Brass by Candlelight.

Put on your winter coat and scarf and join us for what I hope will be a lovely seasonal treat!

Matthew Lockyer

GROUNDWORK & PLANT HIRE

- Mini Digger & Driver for Hire
- Block Paving & Patios
- Extension Bases
- Driveways & Pathways
- Drainage Work
- Footings & Oversites
- Gardens & Site Clearance

C.S. CONTRACTORS

01284 724048 / 07720843577

108 Horringer Road Bury St Edmunds
IP33 2DP

www.cs-contractors.co.uk



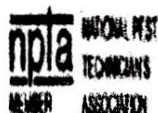
N & S PEST CONTROL — SERVICES —

**RATS! MICE! RABBITS! MOLES! BIRDS! WASPS!
FLIES! ANTS! SQUIRRELS! & MINK!**

All effectively controlled by

Norfolk & Suffolk Pest Control
Chris Earith, 2 Orchard Lane,
Pakenham, Nr. Bury St. Edmunds,
Suffolk. IP31 2LQ

Phone: 01359 232538 Mobile: 07885 745446



K D CARPENTRY Carpenter & Builder

With over 50 years
experience

Local, trustworthy
and reliable

Always happy to
provide a quote

Call Kevin

Mobile

07881 800750

Home

01359 259946

Email

kevindunstan@hotmail.co.uk

WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND DISTRICT W.I. REPORT

November: Sue Ryder. Talk by Barbara McElroy

This month's talk was fascinating. The life of Sue Ryder was full and eventful. Her father was a partner of the Tetley brewery business and Sue was the youngest of nine children. She lied about her age at the start of the Second World War as she had to be 17 years old to volunteer, so she added a year to her age. She spent the war years volunteering with the Red Cross Yeomanry and the SOE; working up from North Africa through Italy driving across snowy mountains at night, and helping send off agents on their missions.

After seeing the horrors of Bergen-Belsen aged just 21, she decided to help the young men who had been released from the camps but had nowhere to go as their homes had been destroyed and Europe was chaotic; she opened several homes in many countries, and later in life was made Baroness Ryder of Warsaw as the Polish nation were so grateful to her. Sue married Leonard Cheshire in 1959 and together they founded the Ryder Cheshire Foundation.

The talk was so well received by the members that we have suggested Barbara McElroy returns next year to speak about the life of Leonard Cheshire.

Next meeting is on 11th December at 7.45pm - a Christmas craft workshop.

New members are always very welcome to come along and visit.

Judith Harlow



COMMUNITY LUNCH

December and our Christmas Community Lunch. I hope you're more organised than me with food shopping & presents!!

The Memorial Village Hall will be open from 12.30pm on Monday 9th December 2024.

The menu will be:-

Bucks fizz or Soft Drink with nibbles to start

Traditional Turkey lunch with all the trimmings or Nut Roast (Vegetarian choice)

Christmas Pudding

Mince pies, Tea and Coffee to follow.

Your meal will be served at 12.45pm - 1pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please book a place at £12.50p, with Shirley on 01359 258532 by 5pm on Thursday 5th December 2024.

Shirley White



TONY FISHER
PLUMBING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

24Hr Emergency Callout Burst, Leaks, Blockage, etc Bathroom/shower installation
Tanks/cylinders/radiators Tiling floors/ walls Painting & Decorating
General DIY jobs Garden maintenance

Tel: 01359 242556 Mobile 07758 327743

Reliable & friendly service

Graeme Green
electrical services ltd



Local qualified electrician with 20 years
of experience, offering a friendly and
reliable service.

Residential • Commercial • Industrial

Fully Insured.

Available for any sized job.

For a free quote contact Graeme.

☎ 07950 335 966

✉ graemegreenelectrical@gmail.com

📍 Suffolk • Norfolk • Essex



**Special cakes
for
special celebrations**

Jean Barker 01359 241135

www.amazingcakesbyjean.co.uk



HEAT PUMP SERVICING & REPAIRS

§ Air Source & Ground Source Heat Pumps
§ Air Conditioning Units § Call Outs & Emergencies

Tel: 01359 256209

Email: servicing@letserve.co.uk



PLANS FOR IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY



Every 9 days there is a road fatality in Suffolk. In the UK overall, 47% of fatalities and 33% of collisions that cause injury occur on rural roads with only 5% of injuries suffered on motorways. These shocking statistics show that we urgently need to improve road safety in communities like ours. Road conditions on narrow rural roads with bends and poor visibility demand significantly lower speeds than wider, straighter main roads and dual carriageways.

In addition, traffic issues are reducing the quality of life in communities across the country. With ever increasing development comes ever increasing traffic and with Shepherd's Grove still to be developed on our boundary we need to pre-empt the negative impacts this could bring to our village.

The Parish Council's aim is to advocate to make speed limits lower where people and traffic mix and to make rural roads safer. We have been looking in detail at how reduced speed limits, enhanced signage, village gates and pedestrian crossings could help to promote road safety and improve the quality of life for residents of Walsham.

We have secured the backing of our County Councillor to go forward with a single Traffic Regulation Order application for several changes in and around the village. A Traffic Regulation Order changes the legal status of the specified roads.

We are looking to make 4 main changes:

- Extension of the 30mph limit on Wattisfield Road to beyond the Acorns development and the Fishponds Lane /Hatchmere Lane footpath crossing points
- Extension of the 30mph limit on the Finningham Road to the junction with Clay Lane
- Extension of the 30mph limit on the Ixworth Road through West Street
- The creation of a central 20mph limit by the school on Wattisfield Road, the playground on Townhouse Road, along the Street and to include the church crossroads

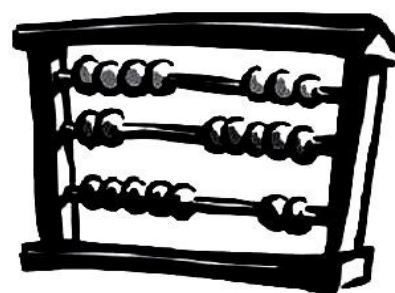
County Councillor Fleming and District Councillor Winch are funding four speed surveys to provide data to strengthen our case and Suffolk Highways Engineering will help to develop a feasible plan. The estimated cost of implementing a Traffic Regulation Order encompassing our plans is £8-10k and there would be some additional costs to put in place the physical signage etc. Suffolk County Council would not directly fund any part of the process but our County and District Councillors can make grants available and the Parish Council would have to set aside funds to cover these costs if the application were granted.

We are still working on the details of this application and on further community consultation but hope a flexible application of Suffolk's Speed Limit Policy would reflect the views and concerns of the community. Crucially, it would be in line with the emerging consensus on significantly reducing traffic speeds where people and traffic mix and on rural roads to improve road safety and quality of life in neighbourhoods.

Walsham le Willows Parish Council

TWINN ACCOUNTANTS LTD

We offer an **efficient and professional accountancy** service at a very competitive rate.



- ✓ Annual accounts and tax returns for Sole Traders, Partnerships and Limited Companies
- ✓ Preparation and assistance with VAT returns
- ✓ Payroll Services
- ✓ Construction Industry returns
- ✓ Management Accounts
- ✓ Tax Planning
- ✓ Company Secretarial Services

Tel: 01284 787616

Fax: 01284 787183

Email: info@twinnaccountants.co.uk

www.twinnaccountants.com

Suite 4, East Barton Barns,
Great Barton, IP31 2QY.

All accountants are not the same...we promise!

Langham Clinic®

Holistic Beauty & Complementary Therapies

Specialised treatments performed by highly trained & experienced therapists

Sports Massage - Pilates - Manicure & Pedicure
Electrolysis - Red Vein Treatment - Skin Tag Removal
Acupuncture - Oncology Massage - LaStone Therapy
Nutritional Medicine - Aromatherapy - Reflexology
Waxing - Mindfulness - Hypnotherapy - CBT

Dr. Hauschka Treatments (Holistic face & body treatments)

Everything possible at Langham Clinic is organic, sustainable & carbon neutral

www.langhamclinic.co.uk

Langham Grange, Stock Hill, Langham, IP31 3EE

Tel: 01359 258 700

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN

This month's report on flooding is focusing on a list of practical dos and don'ts to help us think about the actions we take to be prepared, keep everyone safe and reduce the impact of flooding events.

Do stay up to date with the latest flood information, listen to your local radio or call Floodline 0345 988 1188, Keep your mobile fully charged.

Do keep together and move your family and those around you to an upstairs room or to a safe place with a means of escape. Keep safe and keep warm. Move pets and animals to a safe place and ensure they have enough food and water.

Do protect your belongings, move important documents and valuable items upstairs or to a secure higher place. Make sure flood protection products are in place and working correctly. Sandbags are available at Clarkes of Walsham. Move vehicles out of the flood risk areas.

Do prepare an emergency 'grab bag' containing essential items for you and your family's individual needs. The grab bag should be waterproof and stored in a dry accessible place.

Do follow the advice of the emergency services and local authority and evacuate your home when told to do so. Take all warnings seriously and be prepared to respond quickly. Evacuated residents will be taken to the Emergency Rest Centre in the Memorial Village Hall, where shelter, support, food and bedding will be provided.

Do turn off your water, gas, and electricity supplies when flood water is about to enter your home, if safe to do so. Do not touch plugs or sources of electricity when standing in flood water.

Do check on your neighbours, to see if they are prepared, need assistance, help or support. Emergencies can make anyone vulnerable and make life more difficult for those in most need.

Don't enter flood water especially moving water, six inches of fast-flowing water can knock an adult over and there may be unseen hazards – uncovered manholes, sharp edges and unstable surfaces may be hidden beneath the surface. Don't swim through flood water.

Don't have any form of direct contact with flood water- it could be contaminated with sewage or other pollutants. After any contact with floodwater, thoroughly wash your hands and clothes. When clearing up after the flood wear rubber boots, waterproof gloves and protective clothing.

Don't attempt to drive through flood water, just two feet of water can float a car and beneath the water may be hidden hazards such as sudden drops, debris and fallen power lines. It's easy to underestimate the depth or power of fast-moving water. Be aware of the bow wave your vehicle may create which can cause further damage to flooded homes and businesses.

Don't enter properties that have been flooded unless you are sure they are structurally safe to do so –they should be professionally checked for signs of damage.

Don't turn electricity or gas supplies back on until advised by a registered electrician/engineer that it is safe to do so. Be aware of gas leaks – do not smoke, or use open flames. Check with water supplier that it is safe to use tap water.

The more resilient a community is the more prepared and efficient it can be in responding and minimising the impacts of flooding on the individual and community.

Walsham le Willows Parish Council

Stuart Walker

Decorating, Painting & Refurbishments

A locally based company offering
an honest and reliable service.

Painting - Decorating - Refurbishments - Repairs

All work considered indoors & out!
Fully Insured & free quotations provided.

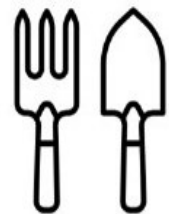


Please contact Stuart on Tel: 07711 606464 or Email: stuma1@hotmail.co.uk

POTTER'S

ALL SEASONS GARDENING SERVICES

Lawn Mowing & Edging
Hedge Cutting & Strimming
Planting, Pruning & Weeding
Border Maintenance
Vegetable Tending
Leaf Clearing



Call Gary on 07519 890179

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

CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED

Walsham History Group

On Tuesday 10th December at 7.30pm in the Priory Room, the History Group will be unwrapping the origins of our festive traditions and how they have shaped Christmas for us today. For example: did you know that the Romans, when in Britain, were the first to wear paper hats and decorate trees with baubles during their midwinter festival of Saturnalia? You will also hear about the legend of the 'Cutty Wren', a tradition that is still celebrated in Suffolk today. If you would like to know more about where these and other festive traditions have originated from and how they have shaped Christmas over the centuries, then why not come along to find out more?

I delighted to say that we will be joined by Ian and Michelle Wright for the evening, who will be entertaining us with traditional carols and Christmas songs to accompany our stories.

We hope you will join us after the talk for the History Group's own festive tradition of mulled wine and warm mince pies.

We look forward to seeing you.

Members: Free Visitors: £5.00

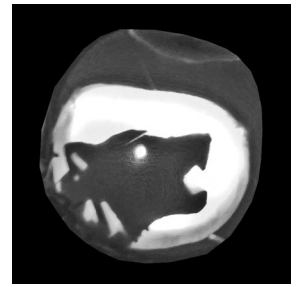
Please note a change of day to Tuesday, not our usual Wednesday.

Enquiries: Frances Jenner frances.jenner@hotmail.com 01359 259242



WALSHAM WILD WOODS

2024 Pumpkin Trail



We are very pleased to report that our Annual Pumpkin Trail was a great success. Once again the weather was kind and many local families came along to enjoy a spooky night out in the Wild Wood. Earlier in the day we had decorated many of the paths and trees in the Wood with strings of lights. At the entrance gateway, we gave out tea-lights for the children to light up their pumpkins which they then placed all along the pathway. There were some truly creative and also very scary pumpkins! At the Church Ride in the

heart of the Wood we had set up our gazebo where soft drinks were served for the children and an excellent mulled cider for the adults. Delicious freshly made pizzas were available from the mobile pizza van 'Wood & Smoke' - just perfect for an autumnal evening.

It was a delight to see all the children dressed in their spooky and magical outfits having such fun. At the Log Circle the children were able to sit around the fire whilst listening to storytelling and sharing reading. It was a quite magical atmosphere. At the end of the evening, the children were encouraged to take their pumpkins and tea lights home.

So, we hope you all enjoyed our event and look forward to welcoming you again next year.

Graham Portlock

1StopBlinds

Your Local Blind Maker

- Made to Measure **Window Blinds Specialists** in and around Bury St Edmunds for over 35 Years -

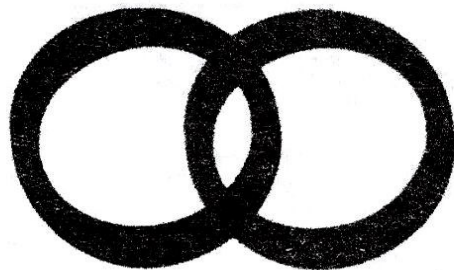
- ✓ Hassle-Free Measuring and Fitting Service
- ✓ Blinds Made Locally in Bury St Edmunds
- ✓ Bury St Edmunds Factory Showroom
- ✓ Local, Family Run Business
- ✓ Home and Workplace Blinds
- ✓ Over 35 Years of Experience

*For Advice and a Free, No-Obligation Quotation
Book an In-Home Appointment or Visit Our Factory Showroom at:*

📍 Unit 4, Brunel Business Court, Eastern Way, BSE, IP32 7AJ

Tel: 01284 761333

Email: info@1stopblinds.co.uk
Web: www.1stopblinds.co.uk



ROBINS ROW

Insurance Brokers Since 1867

AN INDIVIDUAL SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR COMMERCIAL AND PERSONAL INSURANCE

**SPECIALISING IN HIGH VALUE HOMES,
COUNTRY HOUSES, LISTED AND THATCHED PROPERTIES
AND ALL COMMERCIAL INSURANCE SOLUTIONS**

TEL: (01787) 378205

EMAIL: ADMIN@ROBINSROW.COM

HALL STREET, LONG MELFORD, SUDBURY CO10 9JB

AUTHORISED AND REGULATED BY THE FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY

DIARY OF EVENTS

DECEMBER		FEBRUARY	
Tues 10th	History Group		MARCH
	Priory Room 7.30pm		APRIL
Wed 11th	W.I. Meeting		MAY
	Priory Room 7.45pm		JUNE
Sun 22nd	Nine Lessons & Carols		JULY
	St Mary's 4.00pm		AUGUST
JANUARY		Sun 24th	Open Gardens
Sat 4th	Epiphany Singers	Mon 25th	Weekend
	St Mary's 7.30pm		SEPTEMBER



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.



WALSHAM SPORTSCLUB EVENTS FOR December & January

Sunday Night Bingo

1st and 15th (Christmas) December 7pm
5th and 19th January 7pm.

For further information phone Julian 07597340273

WALSHAM & DISTRICT W.I.

A Christmas Craft Workshop

in the Priory Room

Wednesday 11th December at 7.45pm

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

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

WALSHAM *History Group*
presents



CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED

*A celebratory history of the festive
season through carols, songs and
traditions, with Michelle & Ian Wright.*

TUESDAY 10TH DEC AT 7.30PM

Priory Room, Walsham-le-Willows.

Members Free Visitors £5.00 Refreshments



ST MARY'S CHURCH

NINE LESSONS

AND

CAROLS

**Accompanied by
The Brass Quintet**



Sunday 22nd

**December
at 4.00pm**

**Everyone
Welcome**





WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th November 2024 commencing at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall.

[Informally approved. Formal approval, at the next meeting with any corrections]

PRESENT: Cllrs. Bartholomew, Belson, Brookes, Mecrow, Winch.

ALSO PRESENT: District Councillor Richard Winch, County Councillor Fleming

1. OPENING STATEMENT (if any required)
None
2. APOLOGIES
 - a. Cllr Tuck for absence for reason of family commitment.
 - b. Cllr Roberts for reason of being away from the village.
3. DECLARATIONS of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests
 - a. To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interest(s) including personal interests in items on the agenda and to include declarations of any gifts of hospitality
 - i. Cllrs Belson and Winch – non pecuniary re agenda item 8 a (members of Wildwood group Steering Group.
 - ii. Cllr Mecrow trustee of Old Town Trust charity.
 - b. To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda – none received
 - c. To receive requests for dispensation – granted for Cllr Belson, Mecrow and Winch.
4. MINUTES - To receive and consider the minutes of the following meetings (as previously circulated)
 - a. Minutes of 9th October 2024 were approved as true and accurate record of the meeting for signing.
 - b. The Clerk confirmed review of actions outstanding from last meeting; all were covered in tonight's agenda, complete or otherwise in hand.
5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION & QUESTIONS - to receive written reports & put questions:
 - a. County Councillor Fleming
 - i. Cllr Winch asked if the Local Transport Plan Consultation 2025-2040 which includes the Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan and Local Transport Plan, would include a review of the County's speed limit policy from 2014 as part of this process. Cllr Fleming advised not but that this should be raised as part of the consultation on that plan.
 - ii. Cllr Belson asked about the response to enquiry made about SCC adherence to criteria for hedge cutting and responsibility for this along the bank outside Elmside. Cllr Fleming again said that she would follow up.



LECTEC LTD

T: 01359 342 538

M: 07377 153 954

E: contact@lectec Ltd.com

◀ RENEWABLE

◀ HEATING & COOLING

◀ ELECTRICAL

**CHECK WITH US
TODAY ABOUT
ZERO-RATED VAT
INSTALLATIONS
& GOVERNMENT
GRANTS**

- All Electrical Installations including Certification
- EICR (Property Testing)
- Solar PV Panel Installations, Clean & Maintenance
- Battery Storage Installations
- Electric Heating Installations, Service & Maintenance
- Air Conditioning Installations, Service & Maintenance
- Heat Pumps Installations, Service & Maintenance

Professional & Reliable Service



RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL

**Why do solar
panels never
get tired?**

...because they are
always recharging!

Call us on 0207 247 3650
info@mygreenenergy.co.uk



SOLAR PANELS › BATTERY STORAGE ›
CAR CHARGING POINTS



For an EXTRA 10% off your solar project
call now and quote code: GET10



Which flightless bird is remembered in a proverb?

22

b. District Councillor Winch

- i. District Cllr Winch highlighted that there would be a process for review of required housing allocations with changes to central government policy on this.
- ii. Cllr Belson asked about the progress on responses to planning enforcement decisions with regard to non-designated heritage assets. Cllr Winch said that the information he had so far was that there are no specific policies on this and that this will be defined going forward. Cllr Belson welcomed this for helping parishes make sense of decisions, particularly because these assets are specifically mentioned in the Neighbourhood Plan. District Cllr Winch following up.

6. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM (POF) - To receive questions and matters of concern from members of the public in attendance with regard to items on the agenda and any other matters.

Two members of public were present.

- i. Ian Campbell referred to report previously circulated re a forthcoming planning application for updating of flood lighting at the sports club with LED bulbs. Main point was that new lighting would be dimmable enabling appropriate adjustments to be made to ensure nuisance not caused to passing road users.
- ii. Ian Cambell referred to report previously circulated re planning application for proposed minor extension and alterations to internal spaces in the main clubhouse to facilitate a more flexible use of space and better catering facilities all to improve and secure income streams that will be needed going forward.
- iii. Ian Campbell also asked that the Parish Council give some thought to a response on idea for further growth at the sports club which is going to be needed as the club will be unable to continue to rely on volunteers in the future and will need reliable income streams to pay for staff. Inevitably this will attract more people from outside but it is felt that it is important that village residents are supportive and that any development is 'in balance' with the rest of the community. So, the informal view of the parish council is sought, in particular potential issues such as increased traffic and parking impacts before the sports club embarks on creating a strategic plan by internal consultation. The PC agreed that they would be keen to be part of the consultation. Clerk to add to agenda for December.
- iv. John Stebbing argued for using the opportunity of the proposed development of the footpath from opposite Clarks of Walsham to the sports club to create a new green laneway much like Fishponds Lane. Ian Campbell welcomed this as a desirable objective but noted that it had to be balanced with the ability for agricultural tenants to farm viably and efficiently.

7. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS (Flood, CEP, Traffic) & ACTION LOG REVIEWS

a. Traffic Group – The circulated report was noted.

- i. Three survey locations were approved, these being where the road bends by Rolfes, close to the primary school on Wattisfield Road, and rather than the



JUST A GARDENER

HONEST - HARDWORKING - RELIABLE

**LAWN CARE - GRASS CUTTING
BORDERS - PLANTING - WEEDING
HEDGING - SHRUB PRUNING
HEDGE TRIMMING - STRIMMING
EDGING - PA1/PA6
PESTICIDE APPLICATION
QUALIFIED**

**PLEASE CALL DEAN OR EMAIL TO
DISCUSS ANY GARDENING NEEDS
OR REQUIREMENTS**

**MOB: 07720971165
EMAIL: JUSTAGARDENER1965@GMAIL.COM
BASED IN WALSHAM LE WILLOWS
COMPETITIVE RATES/PRICES.**

BROWN'S



SERVICE

**All Types of
Tree Surgery
Undertaken**

**Thinning Reductions
Deadwooding Felling
Storm Damage**

**All types of hedges, shrubs
and fruit trees pruned.**

**Seasoned logs and
woodchip mulch delivered**

**For a Free Quote ring
01359 259149**

Mobile 07881 816761

**Chainsaw Certificate
City & Guilds Qualified
Public Liability Insurance**

TRADITIONALLY REARED FARM TURKEYS AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS



CONTACT

J M FARROW 01359259221

PRIORY FARM RICKINGHALL IP221LY

crossroads at the church, to suggest the top of The Causeway by The Priory before the location of the 'giveaway' sign. Cllr Fleming to make enquiries about the proposed change of location for the last. Cllr Winch advised that based on advice it was possible that a 4th could be ineffective but suggested that further options for West Street continue to be explored for which more data may be required. Cllr Bartholomew made the point that the Parish Council agrees that West Street is the most dangerous stretch of road in the village. This was discussed and it was agreed that a survey on West Street near the bends remains desired approach for now. Cllr Fleming agreed to enquire as to the location used for gathering the existing data for West Street which shows 37mph as the average speed. Also to ask for the data itself to be shared.

- ii. The purchase of 20's plenty bin stickers for distribution to residents was discussed including the style and how this would be managed with residents. The purchase of 100 stickers at cost of £102 was approved. Clerk to arrange.
- iii. The Clerk advised that the costs of speed indicator devices all seemed to be about the same from whichever supplier (in region of £4,500) but noted that one supplier currently had a two for one offer until end December which may be worth consideration by Council. The purchase of an additional speed indicator device was approved and subject to further enquiries by the Clerk on the means for extracting and analysing data to be circulated, along with already gathered references, before final decision is made.
- iv. Cllr Winch raised the correspondence received about parking outside residents' properties near to the new convenience store. It was correctly noted that this is not a problem that the parish council has the power to resolve and the traffic group is focusing on speed limits, signage and village gates currently. But in light of advice requested by councillors that Highways is the only authority allowed to place restrictions on the highway and the traffic jams that bollards placed on the road are causing it was decided that these should be reported to Highways for removal, along with those that have been placed on Wattisfield Road opposite the Maltings. The Highways authority will then come to its own decision.

b. Flood Group

- i. The response from SCC floods team that estimated timescale for publication of S19 report is mid-December was noted.
- ii. It was noted that the clerk advised that the floods team at SCC had confirmed that all four documents produced by the flood group had been received and would all be referred to as part of the S19 investigation.
- iii. It was noted that the SCC floods team had confirmed that S19 flood investigation for Walsham le Willows, had commenced in September and would probably take about two months.

c. CEP Group

- i. The circulated report was noted along with an update.
- ii. Clerk to provide updated information to group on flooded properties having obtained permissions from relevant residents/owners.



Y O G A

FOR EVERYONE

MONDAY Evenings ongoing

NEW!

TUESDAY Evenings Everyone welcome.
Nov. 12th, 19th, 26th, Dec. 3rd, 17th

At The Priory Room
IP31 3AB, 7:30pm-8:45pm
Cost £9.50 PAYG
or £8.50 advance book

EMPOWER YOUR DAILY MOVEMENT

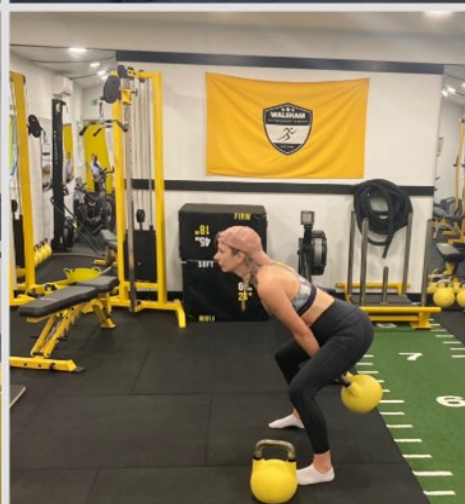
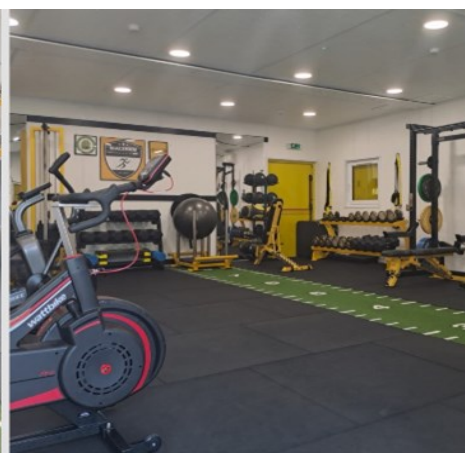
Lindsey's style is Gentle Hatha Yoga with mindful movement. Variations are offered for comfort and ease. Email to book. Lindsey is a trauma informed teacher available for 1:1 private sessions and kid's school groups.



Yoga Alliance Professionals accredited 200hr teacher, Insured with First Aid cert and DBS
E: hello@little-spoonful.co.uk Tel. 07944595098 www.little-spoonful.co.uk



- monthly membership
- personal Training
- bootcamps
- open 6am to 10pm everyday
- walshamgym@gmail.com



- iii. The group continues to try to identify free training in basic first aid and defibrillator use to instil confidence in our CEP volunteers.
- 8. PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTIVES 2024/25 (not covered under working groups - Footpaths, Shepherd's Grove, Bus Routes, Local Plan)
Correspondence from Ian Campbell for the Old Town Trust about plans for hedge replacement and landscaping along Public Footpath No. 7 (Allotment Lane) was noted along with remarks in public open forum about the proposal by Ian Campbell and John Stebbing. It was noted that the position advised is that the section of hedge next to the Jubilee Wood that can be replanted will be replanted. The section next to the other field cannot be replanted because access needs to be maintained to the ditch.
- 9. PLANNING, LICENCING & RELATED MATTERS
 - a. APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/24/04893 Proposal: Application under S73a for Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of Planning Permission DC/24/00034 dated 07.05.2024 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of detached single storey building to provide ancillary accommodation. - To vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) To move the position of the proposed building. Location: 2 Avenue Cottages, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **The Parish Council Made No Comment**
 - b. This agenda item was omitted as a duplication of item 8 a.
- 10. PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning Authority) for noting only - None received.
- 11. FINANCE & AUDIT
 - a. The bank reconciliation for period ending 31st October 2024 for was approved for signature.
 - b. Accounts awaiting payment were approved for processing. (Appendix 1).
 - c. It was noted that the Local Government Services Pay Award scales for 2024-25 had been advised and should be implemented as soon as possible. An increase in the Clerk's pay to £14.84ph (SCP 14 – 2024-25) was approved. Clerk to advise payroll services.
 - d. Quoted day rate with estimated time required for tree works to Memorial Hall boundary with The Beeches and the eastern boundary of the Play Area and the specification as revised by Cllr Bartholomew were considered and approved. The clerk noted that it had been advised that these works could not take place until January. Council was happy with that. Clerk to instruct contractor.
 - e. The quote for annual stream maintenance was considered and approved. Clerk to instruct contractors to go ahead.
 - f. It was noted that the clerk is reviewing advice from SALC that overtime and holiday entitlement should be calculated monthly in arrears on hours worked the previous month. Clerk will prepare report for a forthcoming meeting.
- 12. CLERK ACTION LOG, COUNCILLOR REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE (if not dealt with elsewhere)
 - a. To consider clerk's action log and any other matters of concern/note.



We provide independent financial advice in the following areas:

- **Savings and Investments**
- **Retirement Planning**
- **Long Term Care Plans**
- **Estate Planning and Family Wealth Preservation**
- **Mortgages**
- **Equity Release**
- **Financial Protection**

10 Forbes Business Centre, Kempson Way, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7AR

admin@metritawm.co.uk

01284 700619

Tax planning is not regulated by the FCA

Metritá Wealth Management is a trading name of Metritá Wealth Management Ltd which is an appointed representative of 2plan wealth management Ltd. It is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under no: 838586. Registered address: 10, Forbes Business Centre, Kempson Way, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7AR. Registered in England and Wales under no. 11832336.



The Old Tea Room Veterinary Surgery



For a professional caring service

Tel: 01359 241761

Station Road, Elmswell,
Bury St Edmunds,
IP30 9HA

A member of
Stowe Veterinary Group
www.stovevets.co.uk



- i. Following previous consideration of a more detailed specification for closed churchyard maintenance, Cllr Belson referred to the original, and current, specification and proposed that this is confirmed as the specification that will continue to be used as the basis for maintenance of the closed churchyard for existing or future contracts. To be added to next agenda for formal re-approval.
- ii. The draft ad for a 'village ranger' role was considered and approved. The Clerk was asked to follow up appropriately and report back to the next meeting.
- iii. Council considered the Sexual & General Harassment Policy, as drawn up by the Clerk on advice from SALC, for adoption by Council. This was approved for adoption.
- iv. The annual RoSPA report for the Play Area was considered. It was agreed that there were no specific actions to be taken other than for the report to be referenced when the spring working party is constituted.
- v. Meeting with Tim Passmore (Police and Crime Commissioner) and his team, at Badwell Ash Village Hall in January to hear concerns from representatives of local Parish Councils was noted. For next agenda to decide on attendees for the Parish Council and questions to be addressed.
- vi. A response to Suffolk's next Local Transport Plan to 2040 was considered the Clerk was asked to action to suggest that the A1088 is a much better route for lorries and the restriction on that route should be lifted to share the volume of lorry traffic more equitably.
- vii. Cllr Belson asked for his annual report re Closed Churchyard Tree Maintenance requirements be deferred until next meeting.
 - a. To consider and receive any other matters of concern/note for next agenda.
 - b. Next Parish Council Meeting (Budget Setting) – 27th November 2024 7pm – Memorial Hall

APPENDIX 1

Payments for Authorisation NOVEMBER 2024

WALSHAM OBSERVER SU-DOKU

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

For the uninitiated, the rules of Sudoku 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!



M.B PAINTING AND DECORATING

M.B Painting and Decorating

We are a professional, reliable, and trustworthy painting and decorating company based in Suffolk, specializing in both small and large domestic, residential, and commercial projects.

We pride ourselves on our quality finish and attention to detail and ensure that we invest time with our clients on all projects to make sure we have a good understanding of their requirements whilst working within budget constraints.

Please contact Max on 07805716359 or by email for a free quotation: maxboulterpainting@gmail.com



#	Payments OUT	Amount	Description
1	Nurture Landscapes	132.00	Play Area and Stream Verges grass cutting
2	Thurston Building Supplies	144.00	Play Area Hedge Cutting (formerly M&TJ's)
3	Ansvar	841.96	Annual Insurance <i>Premium (already paid as special payment on 23/10/2024)</i>
4	SALC	54.00	6 months payroll
5	Playsafety Limited	151.20	Play Area annual RoSPA report
6	Memorial Village Hall	27.00	Hall hire for PC meeting October
7	Parish Council Employee	704.57	Wages
#	Payments IN & Other Payments/Transfers	Amount	Description
1	MSDC	1,220.00	Locality Award

FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

December invites us into a season brimming with wonder and anticipation as we journey together towards the light of Christmas. This year, our theme is "Following the Star." Just as the wise men set their sights on a shining beacon in the night sky, guiding them to the Christ child, we too are called to be led by the promise of hope, peace, and love which we seem to need now more than ever.

By the time you are reading this we will have already begun our celebrations with our annual Christmas Fair and tree lighting festivities. If you have a keen eye, you will have noticed that all the children from our primary school have decorated stars for our Christmas Tree, following our theme. Many thanks go to all that made the Fair such a wonderful event, those who organised, sung, ran stalls, poured Mulled Wine...it is so special to be able to join together as a community and get in the festive mood.

Advent is a time for both stillness and celebration, and we invite you to embrace these rhythms with us at St Marys'. There will be moments of calmness, a time to pause during holiday busyness and find rest in prayer and reflection. Whether at our Advent services, in the quiet of your own prayers, or in stillness of the church, let us make room in our hearts to be filled with God's gentle presence.

Yet there is also space for joy and brightness! Our carol singing will lift our spirits with the timeless songs that proclaim Christ's birth. Together, we'll celebrate at our beloved services: the Crib Service, a joyful gathering for families to hear the story of Jesus' birth; the solemn beauty of Midnight Mass, where the holy night feels alive with wonder; and the radiant hope of Christmas morning, when we rejoice with thankful hearts for God's gift to us in Jesus. All of our services are listed in this magazine, and everyone is welcome not just at St Mary's but across the Benefice.

As we follow the star to the manger, may our journey be marked by moments of wonder and joy. Then as we turn our thoughts to the New Year, we continue our journey following the star all the way to Epiphany when we will celebrate the visits of the wise men. On Saturday the 4th of January we will again be hosting our Epiphany Singers concert followed by an Epiphany Service on the Sunday morning. It is such a special way to start the year together, surrounded by wonderful music and voices!

Loving God, we thank you for the year past and ask your blessing for 2025. Fill our lives and our world with your hope, peace, and love. May we carry the light of Christ into every moment and may your joy dwell within us always. Amen.

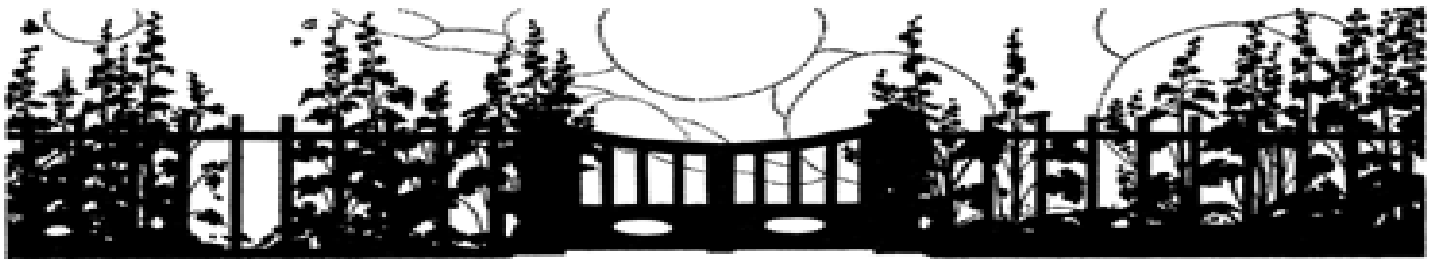
Wishing you a blessed and joyful Christmas,

Rev'd Catriona



DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES

1st Dec	The First of Advent		2:00pm	School Carol Service	Walsham
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham	19th Dec		
11:00am	Benefice Stir Up Sunday	Finningham	6:00pm	Carol Service	Westhorpe
8th Dec	The Second of Advent		22nd Dec	The Fourth of Advent	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham	4:00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash	24th Dec	Christmas Eve	
9:30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe	3:00pm	Crib Service	Walsham
11:00am	Songs of Praise	Walsham	5:00pm	Carol Service	Badwell Ash
2:00pm	Carol Service	Langham	11:30pm	Midnight Mass	Walsham
15th Dec	The Third of Advent		25th Dec	Christmas Day	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham	9:30am	Christmas Communion	Finningham
3:00pm	Carol Service	Finningham	11:00am	Christmas Communion	Walsham
3:00pm	Carol Service	Wattisfield	29th Dec	The First of Christmas	
3:00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
18th Dec			9:30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe



JAY NICHOLLS & CO.
SPECIALISTS IN
PERIOD PROPERTY
RESTORATION

renovation work.
all repairs, alterations,
conversions, roofing,
decoration etc.

Quality work guaranteed

01449 781375 or 07804957190

Complete Building Service



Ear We Go

Mobile Ear Wax Removal
Microsuction & Irrigation

My name is Georgie
Please call, text or email for
an appointment

07921550958

Earwegol2@gmail.com
Fully insured and DBS



GREEN DILEMMAS



Forever chemicals

The term “forever chemicals” was first coined in 2018. This refers to a group of man-made chemicals called PFAS which do not break down easily and will persist in the environment for decades.

There are now more than 15,000 variants of these chemicals and they have unique waterproof, durability and heat-resistant qualities. Forever chemicals are used for applications such as non-stick pans, grease resistant containers, stain resistant clothing, outdoor clothing, nappies, period products, carpets, pesticides, paint, cosmetics, dental floss and a whole range of personal care products.

Concerns about two specific forever chemicals (PFOA used for Teflon and PFOS used for Scotchgard) started to emerge in 1999 when stories started to circulate about contamination around the DuPont plant in Parkersburg, West Virginia. DuPont made every effort to cover this up but the company was eventually taken to court and had to pay significant damages and clean-up costs. The story is documented in the film *Dark Waters* starring Mark Ruffalo.

These early chemicals were linked to kidney cancer, testicular cancer, thyroid disease, high cholesterol, ulcerative colitis, and pregnancy-induced hypertension. These specific chemicals have now been withdrawn from use but have been replaced by a whole new generation of forever chemicals.

The remarkable thing about these PFAS chemicals is how they have spread around the environment. The chemicals are in our rivers, seas, soils, drinking water and rainwater. The chemicals are in animals all over the world and the higher up the food chain the higher concentrations; it is estimated that 98% of humans on the planet have traces of forever chemicals even in remote areas like the Faroe Islands. Studies have also shown that forever chemicals are transferred between generations by breast feeding.

It is fairly clear that any significant concentrations of the early forever chemicals have an impairing impact on the immune system. The concentrations of these phased out forever chemicals are now beginning to decline. However, the accumulation of the newer alternatives is growing and we really don't know much about them.

There is no doubt forever chemicals are useful but it feels like a mass experiment is going on and it's almost impossible to avoid being a participant. The regulation regime is weak and the Royal Society of Chemistry has called for much stricter regulation. Let's hope this comes about sooner rather than later.

Richard Winch





WEST SUFFOLK HORSEBOX SERVICES LTD



We are a local, family run garage in Walsham-le-Willows who deal in, Horsebox, Van, 4x4, Car and Lorry servicing and repairs.

**Welding - Air conditioning - Car and HGV Diagnostics - Tyres
HGV MoT Preparation and Presentation
Hybrid and Electrical Qualified Technician**

**NEW to 2022. Car, Van, minibus and 4x4 MoT bay. Classes 4,5 and 7
Vehicle Collection and Courtesy Car Available, Subject to availability.**

Unit 2, Old Bomb Store Summer Road IP31 3AJ

Telephone 01359-259994

Email wshorseboxservices@gmail.com



THIS Is your local Gardening Social Enterprise

We are pleased to offer high-quality services for Walsham

- **Mowing and hedge cutting**
- **General garden maintenance**
- **Weeding and Pruning**
- **Clearance and shed removal**
- **Unusual requests welcomed!**

Call/text Tim 07810 605233 or Georgina 07969 776077

Find us on Facebook

You'll like us!

WILDLIFE IN DECEMBER

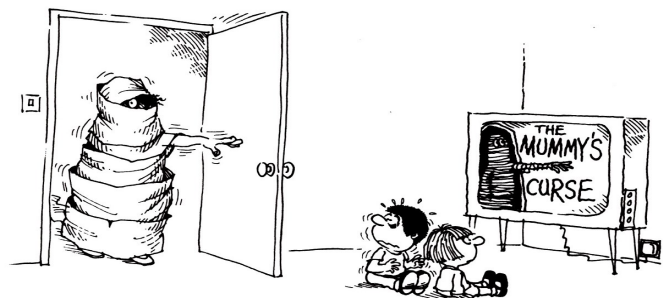
Where has the year gone? It seems to go faster every year, with seasons flying past faster than Santa's Reindeer! We are in the festive season now, and what could be more of a festive sight then that of the Holly. The Holly is a genus of over 570 family species of flowering plants, and the lineage can be traced all the way back to the Cretaceous period. This species is evergreen and is in the form of trees, shrubs or climbers. The Holly produces berries that can range from red, to brown, to black. Very rarely seen are yellow or green berries. The fruits ripen in the Winter and are festively used in Christmas decorations. For us the berries are slightly toxic, but for birds in particular are a great food source when food is most scarce.

Among the fields of Central to Eastern UK if you are walking or travelling you may spot a Grey Partridge or two (do not waste your time searching for them in a pear tree!). The Grey Partridge is a plump bird, smaller than a Pheasant, the face is orange in colour, but overall the main colour is grey/brown with a chestnut marking on the breast which is larger in the male. You will often see the male standing with his Hen, and they will mate for life. When it is outside of breeding season you will see small groups of them with numbers of around 6-15 individuals. The Grey Partridge will eat leaves and seeds, but will also eat Spiders, Insects and Worms. Unfortunately, their numbers are in decline as to loss of habitat, hedgerows, field margins and also pesticides.

It is not just outside that can look festive at this time of year many households will have a Poinsettia. The Poinsettia is well known for its green and bright red foliage and is wildly used for Christmas displays. Wild Poinsettias occur in Mexico to Southern Guatemala, they were even cultivated by the Aztecs for use in traditional medicine. This plant is either male or female, and very little to nothing is known about the pollination of wild Poinsettias.

A little bird associated with Christmas and also being on many a Christmas card is the Robin. These little birds made it onto our Christmas cards back in the Victorian times. The Robin has also been a symbol of good luck, happiness, rebirth and even a messenger for lost loved ones. They are one of our most spotted birds in the garden during Winter, and will quite contently sit and watch you in the garden, some even become tame enough to almost touch your hand as you put food on the bird table. Robins like to eat berries and fruit, seeds such as Sunflower, insects such as Beetles and Earthworms, and they also love fatty foods such as suet balls. Although seeming a lot more placid out of breeding season, Males will still be singing and defending their territories during Winter.

*Merry Christmas!
Angie Bennington.*





M A Heating Services

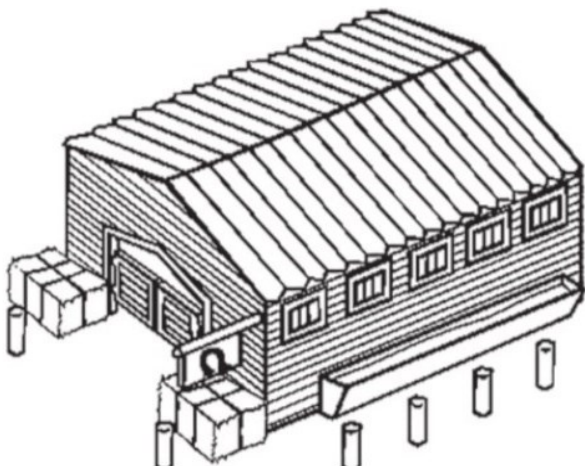


- * Oil, Gas and LPG boiler servicing, replacements and repairs
- * Repairs to central heating system faults i.e. pumps, programmers and cylinders
- * Servicing and repairs to Rayburn, Aga Stanley and Esse
- * Landlord's Certificates

Telephone: 01379 783427

Wickham Gate, High Street, Gislegham, Suffolk, IP23 8JD

CHURCH FARM Walsham-le-Willows SELF STORAGE



Local family owned and operated.



Secure units from just £100 per month.



State-of-the art 24hr CCTV surveillance.



Easy access with on-site parking.



Convenient location, in the village centre.

Interested? Please contact:
George Thomas, 07970 549011,
georget@sentry.co.uk,
or Joseph Light, 07970 549019,
joseph.light@sentry.co.uk

THE WALSHAM WOOD'S YEAR

The Walsham Wood-Persons year came to its end on the 31st October and now we start again and by the time you read this more planting will have been done.

There is a lot goes into our community woodlands and so we decided to try and keep a record of the effort. In the 23/24 Wood-Persons year we have recorded a staggering 870 person hours.... that's 108 working days.... or almost 22 working weeks for a one person equivalent... We think this is remarkable. What did the 23/24 Wood-Persons year involve I hear you ask..?:

- Regular meetings of course, ten or eleven of us sitting together to agree on stuff. We met formally seven times, sometimes in the wood and on one of those occasions we sat quietly and marvelled as a barn owl quartered the wood in the gloom. Another time we were joined by a muntjac, love them or hate them they are rather fascinating.
- November... planting more young whips in the new wood, all staked with spirals to encourage them.
- December... minor tasks, tidying up, checking for damage and waiting for the ground to dry up after the rains.
- January... hedge trimming and pruning in the Wild Wood ahead of the nesting season... controlling the spear thistle which despite its 'weed status' the birds just love.
- February... our first pop up curry event and towards the end of the month the first batch of fruit trees planted by the 'tree buddies' AND they all seem to have survived.
- March... nature starting to 'wake up and take notice', trees bursting into leaf and the birds starting to build their new homes... another lovely event in the wood as the Easter Egg Hunt brought the month to a close.
- April... orchids and the fritillaries added their own joy to the world joining the daffodils and snowdrops in bringing cheer and a sign that winter was over.
- May... the blossom was terrific and the grass and wild flowers in the meadow and the rides started to grow in earnest... the paths were cut to encourage the walkers to enjoy and explore each area of the woods.
- June... the annual RAGWORT pulling event was surprisingly, rather good fun
- July... the woods at their most magnificent, the wild flowers an absolute joy to behold and a fitting backdrop for our AGM and the weather was kind.
- August... watering of the new fruit trees continued... the Big Butterfly count and sadly and in common with the rest of the country numbers were down in the worst year on record all very worrying... towards the end of the month the woods presented a lovely added attraction for our Open Gardens visitors to marvel at.
- September... a big month in the Wood-Persons year. We mowed and we raked and a lovely community event it was. One of the key times when we appreciated volunteer help as we endeavour to create a balance of woodland and meadowlands.
- October...the end of the Wood-Persons year, symbolically a wonderful sunset opened the pumpkin trail event as loads of people turned up to explore the wonders that the woods provide, carved pumpkin lanterns, pizza's, mulled cider, storytelling and much more. A memorable end to another amazing Wood-Persons year.

We hope you have enjoyed this little record of what we get up to. If you want to join in the fun look out for the adverts and social media stuff and come and join us.... seasons greetings and lets hope for peace and positivity in 2025.

John Stebbing for Walsham Wild Woods Steering Group



J W Amps Ltd



Offering service and repairs to all types and makes of garden machinery, ATV's, compact tractors etc.

Machinery bought and sold

Over 15 years experience – factory trained by Briggs & Stratton, Stihl, Westwood and Countax.

Collection and delivery service available.



Contact Simon

Mobile 07974 430366



E-mail: simonamps@btinternet.com

POLLARD & CO



Builders of Integrity

TREVOR POLLARD

Millfield
Wattisfield Road
Walsham Le Willows
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP31 3BD

Tel & Fax : 01359 258339
Mobile : 07768 124715

- New Houses • Extensions • Renovations
- Barn Conversions • Refurbishments

Email: enquiries@pollardandco.co.uk

HOME THOUGHTS FROM A BED

It is Sunday morning and this ward of old men clean, tidy and quiet, with nothing to spoil the joy of looking out on several beautifully exotic trees - Lebanese Cedars I believe - which help to create the very special landscape of Hardwick Heath, in which the 20th century crumbling concrete of this hospital building now stands, although my stay of a few days is nothing to the hundreds of years the cedars have been here. Not only are the trees quite captivating to look at, but they contribute to the clean freshness of the air. I know because Jon and Tara took me out on the heath in a wheelchair the other day, part of my training for returning to The Old Bakery, where Eileen Mortlock has been brilliant in looking after Alfie the ginger cat who has had as equally bad time as me. In the last twelve months his 'Mum' Maggie died so suddenly. Then his sister the black cat, who spent lots of time running across The Street to hunt mice in Nunn's Yard, got hit by a car, then the old man makes thing even worse. Yet in some ways it has been a wonderful time for the cards and messages have revealed such a deep well of good will of warm wishes and love around us such that my eyes well up in tears and I feel a stupid emotional wreck.

But although I've had a bit of a battering, I'm not a wreck. I want to fulfil lots of good wishes, like Ken Stockton's "Get better. You" and I'm not giving Jill Scarfe any bad news for she is The Mother Hen to all of us in Walsham and we love her for it. But I'm determined to get home soon because I've got a good deal more living to do - just believe me.

Rachel and Frank having a rare few days in Western Ireland sent a card with a quote, I believe from W. B. Yeats.

"The world is full of beautiful things waiting for us to grow and sharpen our senses"

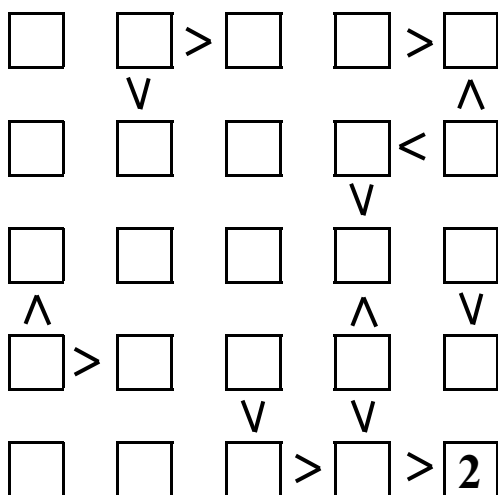
Or "*The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper.*"

So join in my resolve to be more aware of the honest, the true, the good and the beautiful things of this world. I've already started because I'm not sure how long I've got.

With good wishes and love to all of you.

Rob Barber

MORE OR LESS



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

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

CLARKES

COUNTRY STORES

YOUR LOCAL COUNTRY CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND GUN SHOP



SCHÖFFEL . BARBOUR . CREW . JOULES . SEASALT . DUBARRY
AIGLE . LE CHAMEAU



GUN ROOM . SHOOTING ACCESSORIES
CLOTHING BY RIDGELINE, PERCUSSION, HOGGS



LARGE SELECTION OF CARTRIDGES & AMMUNITION



Find us at:

The Street
Walsham-le-Willows
Bury St. Edmunds
Suffolk, IP31 3BA



01359 259 555



info@clarkescountrystores.co.uk



www.clarkescountrystores.co.uk

Main Store
Opening Hours

Mon - Fri : 7:30am - 5:00pm

Sat : 8:00am - 4:00pm



Pawfect Moments Dog Services

Committed to ensuring your animals always look and feel their best

For over 6 years I have provided a fully insured, fully qualified, experienced, compassionate and professional service.

As an owner of 3 dogs, I recognise how special your pets are. I care and look after my clients' pets as if they were my own. I cover all of your animals needs if you are unable to be around.

I am also a fully qualified Dog Groomer with a Level 3 Diploma in Dog Grooming, offering appointments at evenings and weekends.

Supervision services:

- Dog walking
- Pop-in services for puppies, dogs, cats, chickens and ducks at their homes
- Drop-in service to administer medication

Professional Dog Grooming:

- Bathing & drying
- Nail clipping
- Deshedding
- Full grooms using clippers and scissors
- Hand Stripping



References and Testimonials available on request

Caroline Morris: 07843 248 411

cdv_11@hotmail.com

SPORTS CLUB MEMBERSHIP

and Tennis Court usage

The recent award to Walsham le Willows of Most Active Village in Suffolk was an accolade that gave us in the Sports Club and other village organisations, great pleasure and was some acknowledgment of the work that past and present members have put in to provide the community with some of the facilities that urban dwellers take for granted. As a charity we do our best to be profitable, as that is the only way better facilities can evolve, so perhaps a reminder on how low the cost of annual club membership is, is an appropriate point to make for all parishioners.

Adult 1 year	£20	Adult 5 year	£65
Family/Couple 1 year	£30	Family/Couple 5 year	£110
Senior 1 year	£15	Senior 5 year	£50
Junior 1 Year	£5		

Club membership also opens the door to discounted prices at the bar which, although mainly open only when matches or events are happening, is significant; however, increasingly, requested bookings for family celebrations will also mean the Club is open for members.

Tennis Court

Members can also join the tennis club for annual use which for an additional cost of £37 gives free access to the court via the Club booking system which can be found on the Club Website www.walshamsportsclub.co.uk

The floodlights are operated by a token but as the artificial grass court is normally in use by junior footballers from Sept – April with floodlighting switched on, these are not often required.

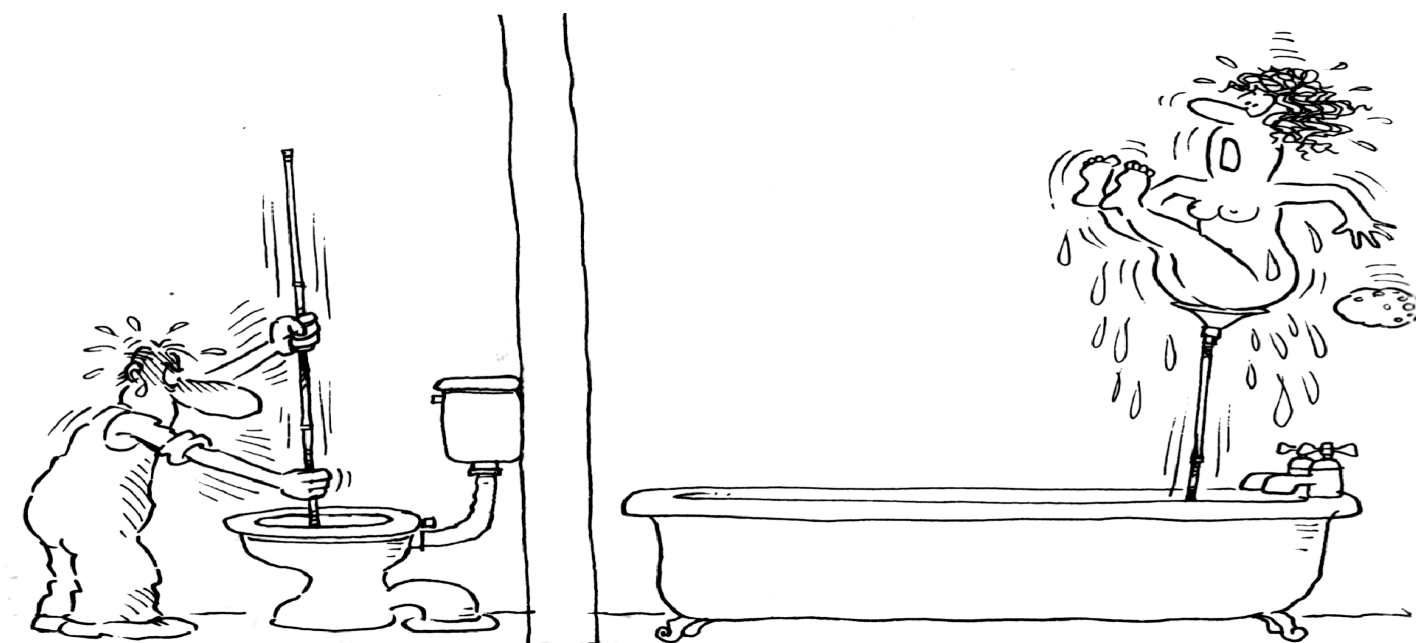
Single tennis membership is £57 (£20 sports club membership and £37 tennis)

Family tennis membership is £67 (£30 sports club membership and £37 tennis)

Senior tennis membership is £52 (£15 sports club membership and £37 tennis)

A casual game is £6.00 per hour or £3 per 30 mins

Ian Campbell
Treasurer



Elite Fencing and Landscaping

JUST 10 MINUTES AWAY FROM YOU.
FENCING, GATES, DECKING, PATIOS,
PERGOLAS, PATHS, BASES,
TURFING, DEMOLITION,
REGRAVELING DRIVEWAYS,
GARDEN CLEARANCE,
GARDEN PROJECTS & RESTORATION,
REPAIRS, ODD JOBS & MORE!

ALL TYPES OF OUTDOOR WORK
UNDERTAKEN - SMALL OR LARGE
FOR FREE ESTIMATES CALL TREVOR
ON 01359 221128 OR 07761651567

EMAIL

TREVOR@ELITE-FENCING.CO.UK
WEB: WWW.ELITE-FENCING.CO.UK

FLP Motors

*Your One Stop
Friendly Garage*

- * MOT's (Class 4 & 7 Up to 3500kg)
- * MOT Repairs
- * Diagnostics
- * Servicing (Inc under 3 years old)
- * Cambelts
- * Brakes, Tyres & Exhausts
- * 4 Wheel Laser Alignment (tracking)
- * Clutches
- * Air Conditioning Servicing
- * All Repairs Carried Out

**Free Collection and return
or courtesy car available**

Call Vic: 01359 250671

Flpmotors.com

MOT's £40 with this advert (Class4)

**Unit 23a, Shepherds Grove Ind Est
Stanton IP31 2AR**

ONLY ONE WAY OUT!!



What is the second-largest living fish?

SPORTS CLUB REPORT

Football.

The First Team have had a very mixed month results wise. They drew 0-0 at Brantham in the league despite dominating the match from first whistle to last. Then we lost 3-2 Away to Kirkley and Pakefield in the League Cup having been 2-1 ahead at half time. We then went to Mulbarton Wanderers in the league and won 3-2. An own goal and strikes from Kieran Twinn and Sub Reon Huckvale accounted for our goals. Our best performance came at home to Potton United in the second round of the FA Vase. We won 3-0 and fully deserved our win. A Sam Nunn header, a George Bugg penalty and a Cameron Nicholls strike accounted for our goals. We now face a home tie with Brantham Athletic on Saturday 7th December. Our latest league match saw us lose 1-0 at home to Woodbridge Town.

The Under 23s had their best league win of the season so far beating Diss Town 9-1 at home. They then lost 3-2 at home to Stowmarket Town in the Suffolk Senior Reserves Cup and away to the same team, losing 4-3 in the Chell Trophy.

The Under 18s thrashed bottom club Thetford Town 15-1 at home and then travelled to Personal Best Soccer in Dereham and won 5-0. Taylor Bunnage scored 7 against Thetford and a brace against PBS whilst Jayden Nunn scored a hat-trick against Thetford.

The Vets drew 2-2 away to Woolverstone, which was good enough to put them top of the League. They then beat the higher league team Lowestoft Casuals 4-3 in the League Cup.

Forthcoming Home fixtures for December

Sat 7th v Brantham Athletic. FA Vase.3pm

Sat 21st v Dereham Town 3pm

Sat 28th Under 23s v Whitton United under 23s. 3pm

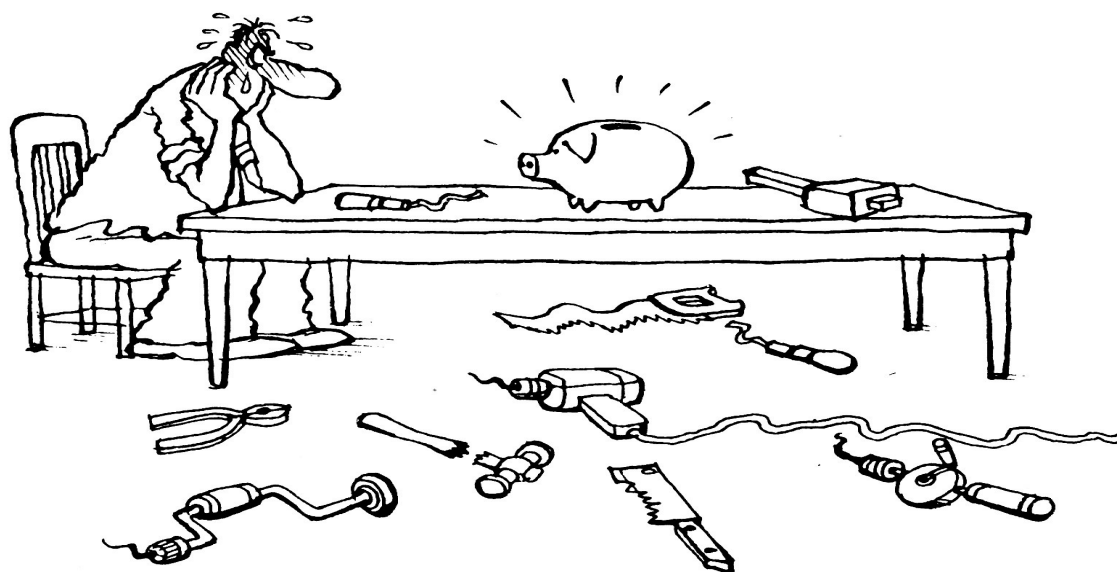
Thurs 5th Under 18s v Sporting 87 under 18s 7.45pm

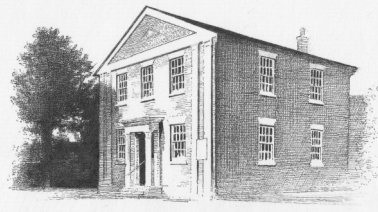
Thurs 12th Under 18s v Swaffham Town under 18s..7.45pm.

Sun 1st Vets v Old Newton Vets. 2pm

Walsham Sports club would like to wish all readers of the Observer a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New year

Gordon Ross





Walsham Congregational Church

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

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.

You are warmly invited to join us for worship this Christmas

December 15th CAROL SERVICE at 6.30pm Mr David Cordle (Chelmondiston)
CHRISTMAS DAY at 10.00 - 10.45am Dr David Allen (Walsham-le-Willows)

The kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared.

I have loved thee with an everlasting love.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herin is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

When the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. – The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. – Great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh.

As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.

Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us... Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. – For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all. – Having yet therefore one son, his wellbeloved, he sent him.

Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! – Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

My soul doth magnify the LORD, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

*(The whole of this passage is God's Word, taken from the following Bible verses:
Titus 3:4, Jeremiah 31:3, 1 John 4:9-10, Galatians 4:4-5, John 1:14, 1 Timothy 3:16,
Hebrews 2:14, 2 Corinthians 9:15, Psalm 100:1-2+4, Isaiah 9:6-7, Romans 8:32,
Mark 12:6, Psalm 107:21, Psalm 103:1, Luke 1:46-47, 1 Timothy 1:15)*

WALSHAM HISTORY GROUP

Tales of Supernatural Suffolk

In November Stephen Poulter introduced us to the types of ghouls and bogies, witches and spectres that we could expect if we find ourselves in the wrong place at the wrong time. A Headless horseman and hooves clattering down the drive are an annual occurrence every Christmas eve at Roos Hall, Beccles. One of the most haunted houses in England, it can also boast the hanging tree in its front garden. This is an old oak tree that was used as a gibbet centuries ago. Roos Hall is also known for the pale, wane face of child at a window above the front door. Not bad for one house. Apparently, you can now rent it and go and stay there.

Black dogs doing the work of the devil abound, and it's said to be an omen of death if you see Black Shuck roaming the coastline.

Strangely enough, one of the more unlikely tales about a fire breathing dragon which had a crested head, serrated teeth and a long tail that ate sheep and shepherds alike could actually have a logical explanation. It was said to create havoc in the marshes around Bures in 1405. Some 200 years earlier Richard the Lionheart was known to have received the gift of a crocodile. It was kept at the Tower of London but it escaped. It wouldn't have been impossible for the crocodile to make its way down the Thames, around the coast as far as the Stour estuary and then up river to cause mayhem among the flocks. Perhaps the legend of the dragon was very much alive 200 years later when unknown assailants were once again attacking the sheep.

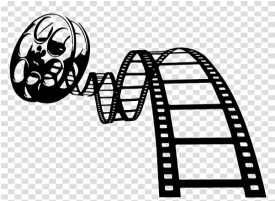
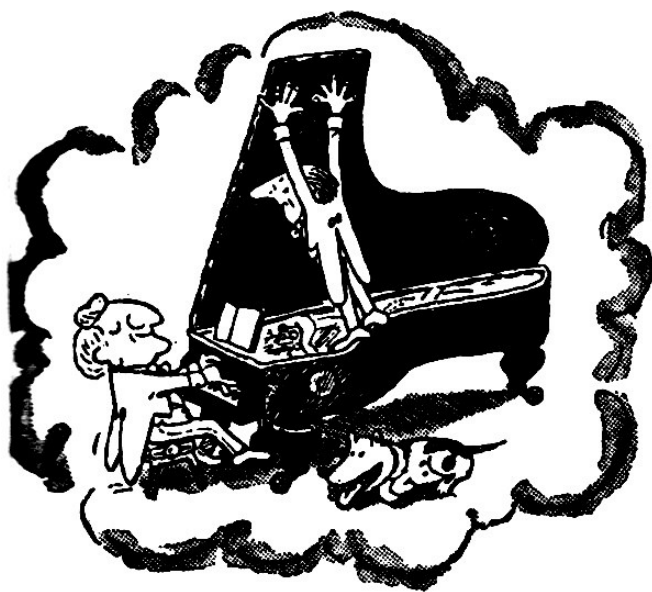
Alison Martin



SEARCHING FOR WORDS

R	A	D
T	E	V
I	S	E

Starting with any letter and moving horizontally, vertically or diagonally, see how many words of three letters or more you can find, using each letter only once in each word. There should be one nine letter word which might be a good way to start the day. Get 60 words and you are doing well.



STANTON VILLAGE CINEMA

Friday 6th December at 7:30pm

WHITE CHRISTMAS (U)



Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, and Vera-Ellen.
Having left the Army following W.W.II, Bob Wallace and Phil Davis team up to become a top song-and-dance act. Davis plays matchmaker and introduces Wallace to a pair of beautiful sisters (Betty and Judy) who also have a song-and-dance act. When Betty and Judy travel to a Vermont lodge to perform a Christmas show, Wallace and Davis follow, only to find their former commander, General Waverly, as the lodge owner. A series of romantic mix-ups ensue as the performers try to help the General.

Tickets on the door, adults £5.00—under 17's: £3.00

Tea/coffee and refreshments

Future films will be shown on the second Friday of each month.

Next film is SWEDE CAROLINE (15) Friday 10th January

SOME CHRISTMAS VERSES

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Christmas time is here, by golly
Disapproval would be folly
Deck the halls with hunks of holly
Fill the cup and don't say when

Kill the turkeys, ducks and chickens
Mix the punch, drag out the Dickens
Even though the prospect sickens
Brother, here we go again

On Christmas Day you can't get sore
Your fellow man you must adore
There's time to rob him all the more
The other three hundred and sixty-four

Relations, sparing no expense, 'll
Send some useless old utensil
Or a matching pen and pencil
("Just the thing I need, how nice!")

It doesn't matter how sincere it is
Nor how heart felt the spirit
Sentiment will not endear it
What's important is the price

Hark, the Herald Tribune sings
Advertising wondrous things
God rest ye merry merchants
May ye make the Yuletide pay
Angels we have heard on high
Tell us to go out and – buy!

Tom Lehrer

CHRISTMAS

I've wrapped all the gifts,
I've put up the tree,
I've hung up the cards –
He's on the first tee.

I've made the mince pies,
I've done the bread sauce –
He's off playing golf,
It's par for the course.

I've mended the lights,
I've basted the duck –
He's now in a bunker
Bemoaning his luck.

I've worked out the table,
We're having fourteen.
I've polished the silver –
Now he's on the green.

I've hung up the wreath,
It's on the front door –
He's on the sixteenth,
He'll do it in four.

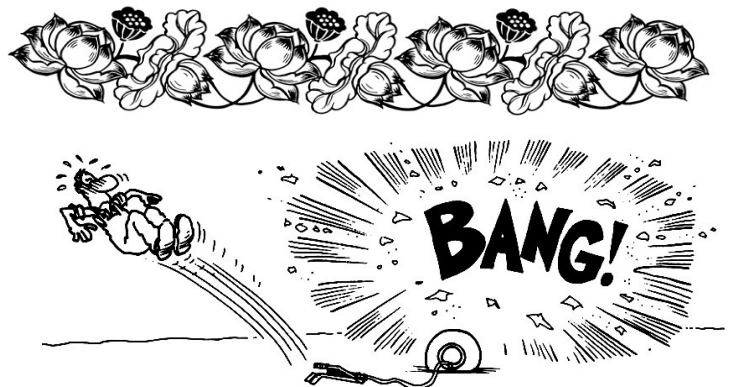
At six, he'll be back,
Poor over-tired soul,
And I'll have to listen
To hole after hole.

I'll smile when he says,
'The day was quite fun.'
But not when he asks,
'And what have you done?'

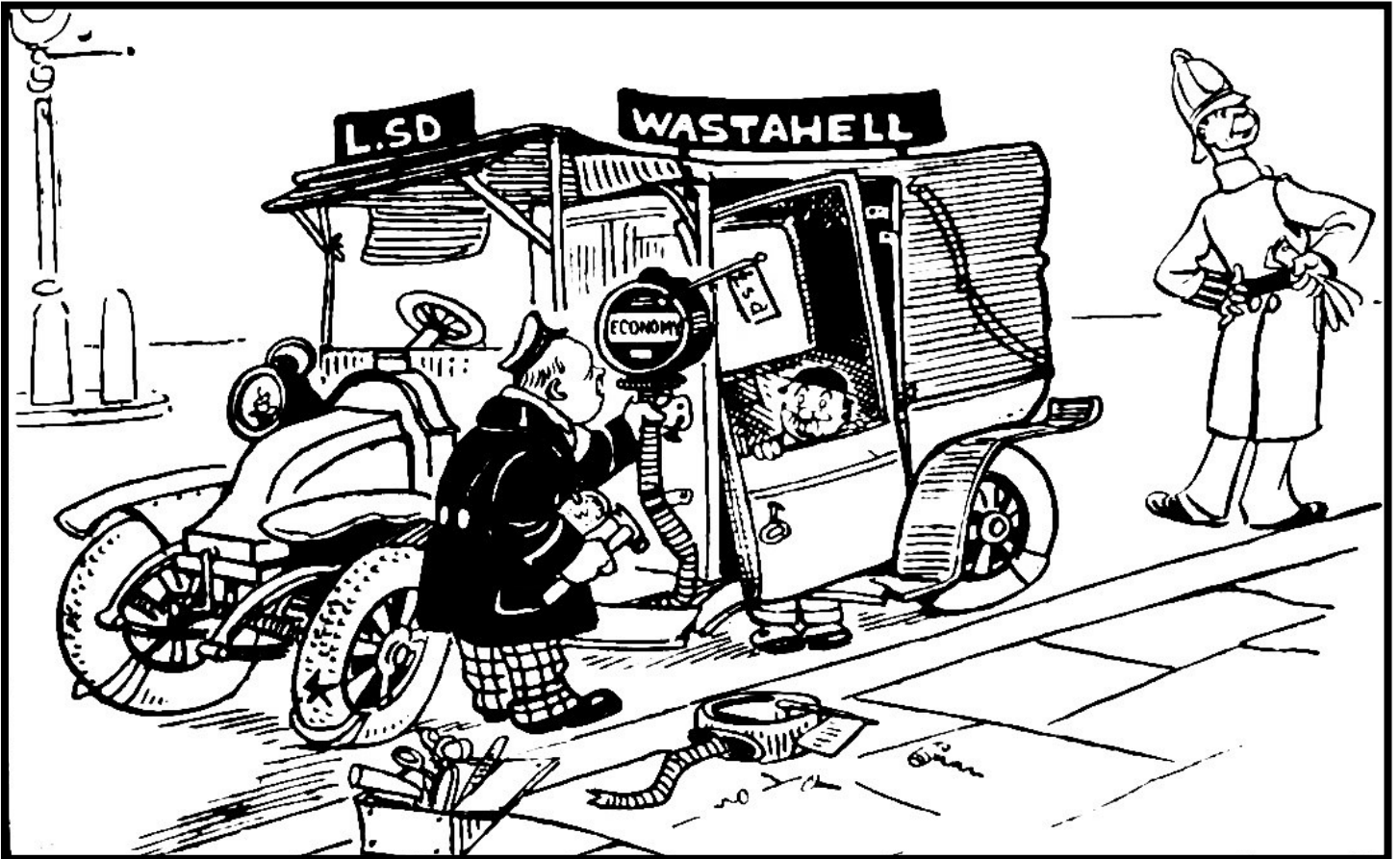
Liz Cowley

From: A Red Dress

SBN 978-1-84529-854-8



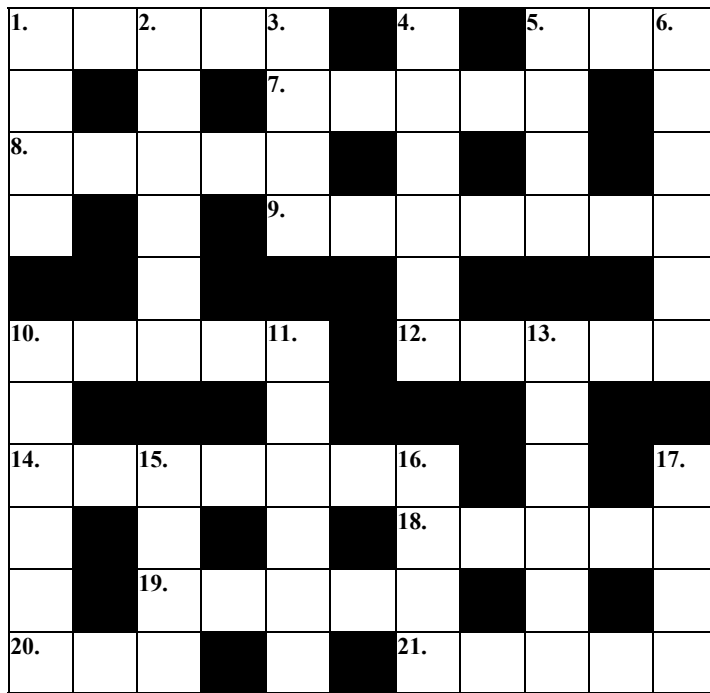
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



There are ten differences between these two pictures, see if you can find them all before the taxi is ready for hire again!

Who had the female lead in the film Dr Zhivago?

WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



12. Comes close to making a saner arrangement. (5)
 14. Stays for the leftovers. (7)
 18. Step into the trade organisation. (5)
 19. Sloppy gauge in college. (5)
 20. The first lady arrives the day before. (3)
 21. Purposeless to get in such a sweat. (5)

DOWN

1. Take four into the museum for an oral. (4)
 2. So stupid pasta. (6)
 3. Bad mark for making cartoons about an endless fright. (4)
 4. Run of the mill open land. (6)
 5. The tsar becomes a leading light. (4)
 6. I left the servants taken at the spa. (6)
 10. Such a heart for the Rose of Cairo. (6)
 11. Tar for the ship's man. (6)
 13. Angles become heavenly bodies. (6)
 15. This one falls apart and goes lame. (4)
 16. Such a dish for Thatcher's limp returnees (4)
 17. Lied about being unemployed. (4)

ACROSS

1. Such a heavenly body. (5)
 5. I was backward in seeing the cutter. (3)
 7. Never shed one till after May! (4)
 8. An instrument played in Shakespeare. (5)
 9. Feel bad about the dots and dashes. (7)
 10. Push down on the papers. (5)

TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the first day it was frankly absurd,
 When the postie arrived with a bird.
 A very small partridge
 Wrapped up like a cartridge;
 But a pear tree was being deferred.

On day two, a postman wore gloves
 To deliver two sweet turtle doves.
 Oh thank God', I did say,
 'Had there been a delay,
 They might just have died, the poor loves!'

On the third day a crate from Belle France
 When opened we were led quite a dance,
 For the three hens within
 Could be evil as sin,
 If one gave them just half a chance!

On day four I was quite lost for words
 At the arrival of another four birds;
 What was really appalling
 Was the sound of their calling,
 And the size of their numerous turds!

On day five was the strangest of things,
 Through the post there came five golden rings!
 Which set me to wonder
 If 'twas illegal plunder;
 The result of a handful of stings!

Day six saw the livestock increase,
 Being landed with six laying geese.
 'What does one do with the eggs?'
 One solemnly begs
 And their squawking will give us no peace!

On the day when the swans numbered seven,
 You could tell that their thoughts were of heaven;
 O'er the water they'd glide
 Heads held high with some pride
 Teaching wayward intruders a lesson.

When the milk maids queued up at my gate;
 Like the day their number was eight -
 With their pails and their stools,
 They were nobodies fools -
 Up early and finishing late!

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
9:00am till 10:00am
10.15am till 11.15am

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

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

Parish Council Village Hall

EVENTS

(Public Meeting)

7.00pm Second Wed of the Month

THURSDAY

Coffee Shop Village Hall
10:30am till 12.30pm

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

Pétanque Sports Club
2.00pm till Bouled Out

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

FRIDAY

Cardio Tennis Sports Club
12noon till 1:00pm

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



On day nine with those fine ladies dancing
The vision was really entrancing.
All their twisting and turning
Had my poor heart whirling,
When I joined them I was really just prancing!

On day ten I awoke from my sleeping,
To find some ten wild lords a leaping.
Their outrageous whoops
And stamping of boots,
Resulted in my gently weeping!

The pipes of the pipers eleven
Were remarkably all made in Devon;
They could have bought them for less
If they'd shopped in Totnes;
Where the price was reduced to pounds seven!

On day twelve was I going or coming?
Driven mad by some incessant drumming,
As twelve men flailed with sticks
Beating out rapid licks.
When they stopped my ears were still humming!
Torban Ruben-Ash

'If music be the food of love' are the opening words of which play?

ALL THE ANSWERS

Page Bottom Quiz

1. Australia, 2. Rembrandt, 3. Three, 4. Asteroid, 5. Oxford,
6. Hans Christian Anderson, 7. Ounce, 8. The dingo, 9. Kleptomania,
10. Mary Rose, 11. Businessmen, 12. Donkeys, 13. Seated, 14. Billy Bunter,
15. The coelacanth, 16. The Pyramids, 17. Central heating, 18. Thomas 'A Beckett,
19. Nothing, 20. Montreal, 21. Guy Fawkes, 22. The Dodo (Dead as),
23. Birmingham, 24. Russia, 25. The White House, 26. It was a horse,
27. The Danube, 28. Like a lamb, 29. An elephant, 30. Eight, 31. Colouring foods,
32. In Notre Dame, 33. The Rhine, 34. The King of Diamonds,
35. A horse yet to win, 36. Julius Caesar, 37. Beech, 38. Rabbit, 39. The Desert Fox,
40. George IV, 41. 150 yards, 42. The Basking shark, 43. Paper,
44. Anne of Cleves, 45. One (£1), 46. Monaco, 47. A Bull Market,
48. Julie Christie, 49. Solomon Grundy, 50. Twelfth Night

Sudoku

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

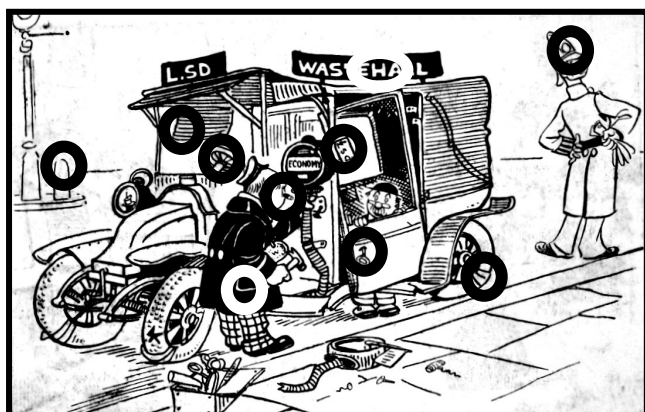
Crossword

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

More or Less

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

Spot the Difference



Searching for Words

Advert	Adverts	Are	Art	Arts
Avert	Averts	Ate	Dare	Dares
Dart	Darts	Date	Dates	Dear
Ear	Eat	Eats	Evade	Evades
Eve	Ever	Rat	Rate	Rated
Rates	Rats	Rave	Raved	Raves
Read	Red	Resit	Rest	Ret
Rets	Sea	Sear	Seed	Sieve
Sitar	Site	Sited	Star	Stave
Staved	Stead	Tar	Tare	Tares
Tear	Ted	Tee	Tees	Tie
Tied	Ties	Tier	Trade	Trades
Vee	Veas	Vest	Vet	Vets

Advertise (66)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Community Council Secretary Rob Matthews	07564 906848	Ixworth Stanton Botesdale Woolpit	01359-230252 01359-251192 01379-898295 01359-240298
Police Suffolk Police Stowmarket	01473-613500 01473-383400	Parish Council Chair Richard Belson	01359-258868 richardbelson@ btinternet.com parishclerk@ walsham-le- willows.org
Neighbourhood Watch		Parish Council Clerk Kevin Boardley	
Anglian Water Emergencies (24hr) Accounts	08457-145145 0800-919155	District Councillor Richard Winch	07931709486
UK Power Networks	0800-0294285	County Councillor Mrs Jessica Flemming	01449-711065
British Telecom Customer Service Line Faults Surgeries	150 151	Member of Parliament Adrian Ramsey adrian@waveneyvalley.greenparty.org.uk	017534 933356

VILLAGE ORGANISATION CONTACTS

Allotments Group
Mel Wasley / Debbie Licata
walshamallotments@gmail.com

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

Horticultural Show
Debbie Licata 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
Fern Wakenham 01359 252153
f.wakeham@eyeprimary.org.uk

Pétanque
Graham Portlock
graham.portlock@pm.me



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS VILLAGE HALL

The Community Council committee
welcome you to the

MVH Coffee Shop In the Garden and the Hall Open every Thursday

From a time of 10.30am to 12.30pm
The Post Office van is there
From 11:00am till 12:00pm

**Come and enjoy a chat and
A cuppa and a bite
Just for 'a couple of quid.'**