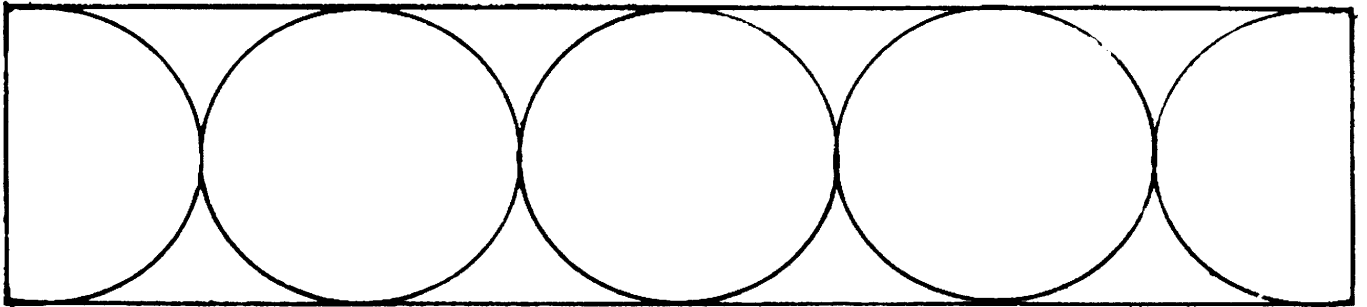
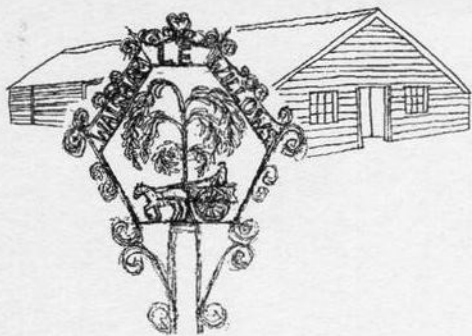


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NOVEMBER 2025



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



THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

NOVEMBER 2025

No 670

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

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These should be dropped by **FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER** into the box provided in Rolfe's or emailed to the editor.

Advertisements should reach the
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THE MOBILE POST OFFICE

The Mobile Post Office will still be coming to the
Village Hall Car Park on Thursday mornings
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The Priory Room

The Priory Room in Walsham
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EDITORIAL

Just when I thought that the magazine was compete, apart from the Editorial, which always comes last, I found an extra piece which should have gone in! So I found myself again forcing more than a pint into a pint pot. Change the font size to 14.6pt. Alter the line spacing, and just hope that no one notices how things have been slightly altered. All I can hope is that the resulting magazine is enjoyed by people and not disposed of in the circular filing tray by the front door!

This month, if you thumb through carefully, you will notice that there are a couple of personal adverts. I am quite happy to take such adverts, if space allows, but in the case of Items for Sale the seller is responsible for the accuracy of detail and multiple item adverts will not be accepted.

With the lack of any meaningful amounts of rain during the past weeks, it ay seem strange that an article appears detailing how one can prepare, as well as surviving, flooding. However, in these days of Climate Change it pays to prepare for the 'unexpected'. Let's hope that the flooding of 2023 does not become a regular occurrence, but if it does then we are prepared.

It seems that there is a rash of entertainment at the end of the month with another **Picturehouse entertainment on Friday 21st, see pages 15 & 23. The Annual Village Quiz on Friday 28th at 7.30pm.** If you look 'sharp about it' you will also be able to fit in the **Walsham Art Group's exhibition** which starts at 5.00pm on the same Friday. But don't forget the annual **Christmas Fair**, the following day, in **St Mary's Church, starting .at 2.00pm.**

However there are some items nearer the beginning of the month. A talk about **Leonard Cheshire** at the Women's Institute meeting on **Wednesday 12th**, in the Priory Room and a talk about the **Vikings in East Anglia** at the **History Group** meeting on **Wednesday 19th**, in the Priory Room.

For those enjoying a good sin-song, don't miss the **Suffolk Pop Chorus** in the Village Hall on **Thursday 13th at 7.30pm, see page 22 for details.**



OFFICE & ACCOUNTS ADMINISTRATOR REQUIRED

Agrostis Sports Surface Consulting (www.agrostis.co.uk) are seeking a part-time (flexible @ 20 hours per month (4 hours per week) office and accounts administrator based in Walsham le Willows.

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Contact Tim (07725 629492) or info@agrostis.co.uk

AN ADDITIONAL 190 HOUSES!

Where in Walsham should we put them?

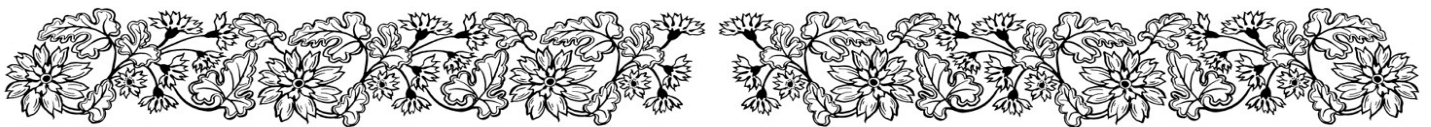
In December 2024 the Government announced ambitious plans for the building of houses in the UK during the lifespan of the current government. This was reflected in major changes to the National Planning Policy Framework and increases in the housing requirements for virtually every Local Authority (LA) in the country. The Indicative Requirement for Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC) had increased by 37% and meant that the LA needed to identify a supply of land to accommodate 15,414 residential units to be built between 2024 and 2044.

MSDC's immediate response was to take this total figure and distribute it amongst all the parishes - if your parish contained 1% of MSDC's total population then your parish was expected to accommodate 1% of the proposed growth. On this basis Walsham is expected to provide space for an additional 190 houses over the twenty year period up to 2044. This, of course, is a very crude approach to the problem, and does not take into account the location of parishes, their existing facilities, their accessibility or any of the many other factors, such as the reorganisation of Local Government, that are likely to be relevant. "These are only indicative figures and are subject to many caveats". The figures will almost certainly be refined in the future, but at the moment we are advised to "be prepared for the worst and hope for the best".

Having an up-to-date Neighbourhood Plan (NP) in place is now a major advantage, and hopefully makes all the time and effort put into producing it worthwhile. The principal use of NPs was always to influence and guide development – this is the task we are now facing. In our NP we have a clearly stated Vision for the village and an established and agreed set of Policies. The NP also contains a large amount of information and data which will be extremely useful in responding to this challenge. Our immediate task is therefore to update our Neighbourhood Plan.

In order to get this process underway, the Parish Council is calling an open meeting to discuss the whole issue of updating the NP and the additional housing in the parish. The meeting is to be held on Wednesday 19th November in the Memorial Village Hall starting at 7.00. We are hoping that as many parishioners as possible will take advantage of this opportunity, but are particularly keen that landowners and those involved with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan will be able to attend.

Richard Belson
Chair of Parish Council



100 MILES FOR DELILAH.

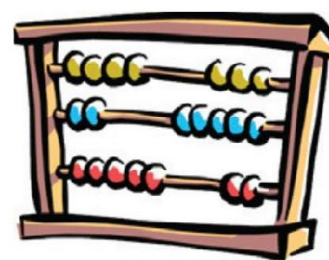
On Friday 19th September at Walsham le Willows Sports Club we set off to raise £1000 by collectively running 100 miles for Delilah. In May Delilah was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a rare and aggressive childhood cancer.

Thanks to the outstanding support from friends old and new we raised £3165 and ran over 300 miles together. We can't thank you enough for your generous donations and to all the wonderful people who helped run the miles.

Paddy Bailey

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WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS

CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

This half term has seen us singing a variety of songs for the harvest Assembly at St Mary's where we were blessed with an assortment of donations for the foodbank at Stowmarket. Our Reading Ambassadors have successfully engaged with many of the children in the lower school and have really enjoyed getting to know them and reading to them.

Caterpillars have been learning about the environment around them and have settled in well. They have painted pictures of combine harvesters and are looking forward to creating self-portraits based on the artist Rob Biddulph.

Ladybirds have made landmarks of famous London buildings and have found out about The Great Fire of London. In maths they have been working with numbers to 100 and have been finding out about Judaism in RE.

Dragonfly and Grasshopper Classes had a combined trip to Norwich castle where they discovered what life was like for someone living as an Anglo-Saxons. They have made shields and found out about runes and sung It's Harvest Time at the church.

Cricket Class visited Gressenhall where they had a great time and enjoyed digging for potatoes, taking cover in an air raid shelter and making 'rationed truffles' from mashed potatoes. They enjoyed dressing up as an evacuee and it really helped to make the experience more real.

Our theme for this half term in collective worship has been 'Friendship' and we have also looked at famous people to celebrate Black History month. Our theme next half term is 'Respect' and we will also start looking forward to Christmas.

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

Maxine McGarr

MORE OR LESS

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

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



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WALSHAM SPEED REDUCTION



And Traffic Calming Update

Although progress is frustratingly slow, the Parish Council assisted by the Community Traffic Group remains committed to improving traffic and road safety in and around the village. The Parish Council and local community have very limited powers but we are working within Suffolk County Council Highways and local stakeholders to make a difference. Although limited by the confines set by the local authority we are working towards consensus and gaining practical support.

So where are we now?

- The Parish Council formally applied to SCC Highways in July to approve a modified speed reduction proposal. This proposal was designed by a Highways Engineer who was able to advise on a scheme which might gain approval from the local authority. The scheme, if approved, would create 20mph limits in the core residential areas of the village, extend 30mph on Wattisfield Road and create a 40mph limit on the Ixworth Road including West Street.
- SCC have confirmed two more speed surveys to go ahead on Summer Road at the speed limit sign and the potential new crossing outside the Sports Club. The data will inform which additional measures would be appropriate to slow speed on Summer Road.
- The Parish Council working with Clarke's of Walsham and Ashwell Construction are looking to build and install 2 sets of village gates on two approaches to the village; one of these will be on the Summer Road. We are extremely grateful to these two local businesses for their practical support.
- The Parish Council are also actively investigating the purchase of additional up to date Speed Indicator Devices and are liaising with the Police on the targeted use of number plate recognition.

Finally, the Parish Council were very disappointed that the church crossroads were to be outside the 20mph limits allowed by Suffolk County Council policy. We recognise that this remains an accident black spot in the centre of the village. We are in discussions to see what other solutions can be found.

An updated map of the Speed Reduction Proposal can be found on the village website.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

This year's Macmillan coffee morning was held on the 25th of September in the Memorial Hall Coffee Shop. Our thanks go to all those who donated some amazing cakes, the volunteers who ran the event and all those who attended.

Thanks to their combined efforts and the donations received for ice creams at the Picturehouse film night on the 3rd October we have made a total donation of £227.20 to MacMillan Cancer Support.

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Which ghost is also a type of alcoholic drink?



STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



As a result of our recent quiz evening £428.60 was raised. Thankyou to everyone who supported us and donated raffle prizes.

Members from 5 local branches attended the "C" Group AGM held in Felsham Six Bells. After 15 years as the group's chairman, Bernard Millard decided to stand down. The new chairman is now Ben Lord from the Ixworth branch.

Wednesday, 5th November members will be at Wretham for the Memorial service in memory of Czechoslovakian and Polish air crew buried in the local church yard.

Our Festival of Remembrance will take place in the Apex Bury St Edmunds on Friday 7th November 7.30pm.

Sunday, 9th November a service will be held at the village war memorial at 10.54am, this will be followed by a church service. Any individual or local organisation wishing to place either a poppy cross or wreath on the memorial during the Sunday commemorative service please contact me on the following number 01359 259 724. However, it will be the turn of branch members to parade at the Stanton memorial this year.

Tuesday 11th November a short service will commence at 10.55am at Walsham war memorial. This will be attended by the older school children who will lay a wreath and poppy crosses at the memorial.

We will be holding our branch Christmas lunch on Tuesday 2 December at the Cock Inn Stanton 12.30 for 1pm.

At the time of going to press branch funds totalled £1603.75.

The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th November at the Cock Inn Stanton at 8pm.

Hubby Frost



COMMUNITY LUNCH



The Memorial Hall will be open for lunch from 12.30pm on Monday 10th November 2025.

The menu will be Chicken Casserole with herb dumplings, mashed potatoes, green vegetable medley served at 1pm, followed by Steamed Golden Syrup pudding with custard. Tea and coffee to follow.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please book a place with Shirley on 01359 258532 by 5pm on Thursday 6th November 2025.

Bookings for Christmas Lunch on Monday 8th December will continue to be taken together with a £5 deposit to secure your place. Please note the cut-off date for booking your Christmas Lunch is the 28th November.

Shirley White



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WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND DISTRICT W.I.



October: Heart of Suffolk, Gin Tasting.

Members enjoyed a very interesting talk by the Heart of Suffolk Gin Distillery about the making of their products. We all learned a great deal about botanicals and the difference between London Dry Gin and Bathtub Gin! There was a tasting of Rosie's, Ivy's and Betty's Gin, all very different. Small batches mean much variety is possible and The Heart of Suffolk also make bespoke gin for several local venues soon to include a Bacchus variety for Wyken.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 12th November at 7.30pm at the Priory Room: **'The Life of Leonard Cheshire'**. Barbara McElroy, who gave a fascinating talk about Sue Ryder last year, returns to tell us about Leonard Cheshire.

Judith Harlow



PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

**Capture the Magic of the Wild Woods
Join Our Photography Competition!**



Calling all shutterbugs, nature lovers, and creative souls! The Wild Woods is thrilled to launch its **Amateur Photography Competition**, and we want *you* to be part of it!

Each month, we're on the lookout for a winning photo that celebrates the charm, character, and changing seasons of our beloved woods. Whether it's a misty morning walk, a burst of autumn colour, wildlife in action, or a quiet moment of reflection – if it features the Wild Woods, it's eligible!

This competition is open to **all ages and abilities** – no fancy equipment needed, just a keen eye and a love for the outdoors. Winning entries will be proudly featured in our **2027 Wild Woods Calendar**, which will be sold across the village and beyond to raise funds for the Woodlands.

So grab your camera or phone, head into the woods, and start snapping! Just remember: if your photo includes people, make sure they've given their **consent** to be featured, and that they're happy for the image to be used in our calendar and promotional materials.

Let's celebrate the beauty of the Wild Woods together – one photo at a time. Submit your entries via email to Walshamwildwoods@gmail.com with the subject 'Photo Comp and the month you are entering for' and help us create something truly special.

Ready, set, snap!"

Rachel Robinson





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WALSHAM HISTORY GROUP

Viking Age East Anglia

Walsham History Group takes great care in curating its annual programme of talks, aiming to include topics that will interest everyone, regardless of their preferred historical era.

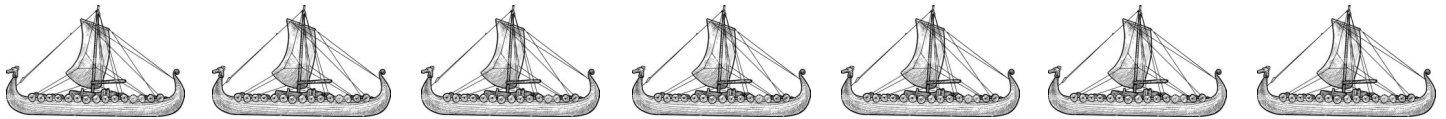
This year's schedule has offered a diverse journey through history from the early dramatic period of the Viking invasion almost to the present day, culminating with insights into special covert operations within the police force, with a brief sojourn to explore the beautiful homes of William Morris. not to mention the opportunity to sing hearty sea shanties.

Our next talk explores the initial campaign of the 'Great heathen army of Vikings' which invaded Britain in the 9th century along with the martyrdom of St Edmund. Prior to this invasion Viking raids had been relatively small and aimed at sacking the priories and monasteries to gain riches, take captives and make mayhem. However, when the great heathen army of 3000 men landed at Thanet they meant business, their intention being to seize England and the wealth its land could provide for themselves.

If you would like to know what happened next and find out more about this turbulent time in the history of Britain then come along and listen to Dr Richard Hoggett, Heritage Consultant and writer on Wednesday 19th November 2025 at 7.30pm in The Priory Room.

Members Free Visitors £5.00 Refreshments provided.

*Contact: Frances Jenner
01359 259242*

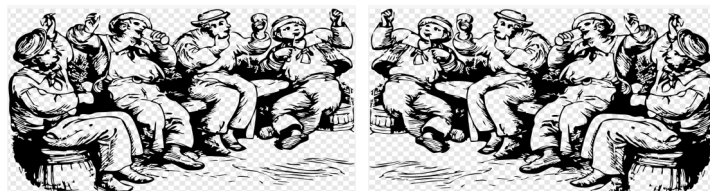


SONGS OF THE SEA

The Orwellermenand women

On Wednesday 15th Oct we were treated to a rip-roaring rendition of sea shanties and folk songs by The Orwellermen. Hailing from Ipswich, the group of men and women neither sail nor fish but they filled the Priory Room with an uplifting performance of rhythm and song. Shanties arose out of the work on the boats. The work of pulling ropes over and over again by teams of men to raise sails and haul up anchors, led to the rhythmical tunes and bawdy songs. They made the work more fun and alleviated boredom at other times. Sea shanties were a particularly English tradition on merchant vessels where alcohol was banned. They were the 18th and 19th century versions of team building and motivating workers in a confined space where life could be by turns boring and terrifying. We all came away recharged and energised.

Alison Martin





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WALSHAM MEMORIAL HALL PICTUREHOUSE

Presents A Cinema Evening
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Friday 21st November at 6.30 pm
No Reservations (PG)



No Reservations is a 2007 romantic comedy-drama film directed by Scott Hicks and starring Catherine Zeta-Jones, Aaron Eckhart, and Abigail Breslin. The screenplay by Carol Fuchs is an adaptation of an original script by Sandra Nettelbeck, which served as the basis for the 2001 German film *Mostly Martha*, and revolves around master chef Kate Armstrong (Catherine Zeta-Jones) who lives her life like she runs her kitchen at a trendy Manhattan eatery—with a no-nonsense intensity that both captivates and intimidates everyone around her. Kate's perfectionist nature is put to the test when she "inherits" her nine-year-old niece Zoe (Abigail Breslin), while contending with a brash new sous-chef who joins her staff. High-spirited and freewheeling, Nick Palmer (Aaron Eckhart) couldn't be more different from Kate, yet the chemistry between them is undeniable. Rivalry becomes romance, but Kate will have to learn to express herself beyond the realm of her kitchen if she wants to connect with Zoe and find true happiness with Nick.

Tickets at £12.50 are available in advance from the Coffee Shop on a Thursday morning or by emailing walshammemorialhall@gmail.com.



ANNUAL VILLAGE QUIZ Friday 28th November



This is an open invitation to enter a team in this year's Village Quiz which is to be held on **Friday 28th November at the Memorial Hall, starting at 8.00pm.**

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

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

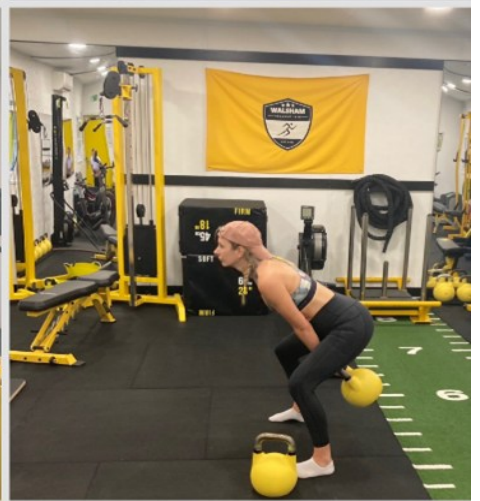
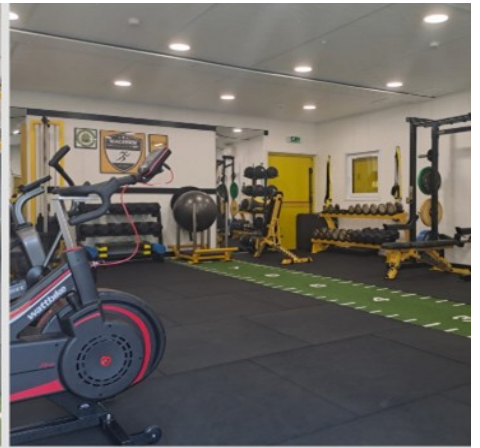
Doors open at **7.30pm** and the quiz will begin at **8.00pm**.

If you are interested in entering a team, please email walshammemorialhall@gmail.com by close on **Friday 21st November**.





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COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN

Preparing for flooding

Flooding can be dangerous and often happens very quickly, giving you little time to respond. The effects can be devastating, ranging from the loss of life and personal possessions to severe damage to properties and infrastructure.

The more resilient a community is, the more prepared and efficient it will be in responding to and recovering from the impact of flooding.

There are steps you can take to be prepared and minimise the risks, keeping you and your family as safe as possible during a flood event.

1. Check for flooding

(www.gov.uk/check-flooding) Access this service for the latest information, including current flood warnings or alerts, and the flood forecast for the next 5 days.

2. Sign up for flood warnings service

(www.gov.uk) Sign up for warnings if your home or business is at risk of flooding. The service is free.

Please note: This autumn, the service will be replaced by the **Get flood warnings service**.

3. Check the long-term flood risk

(www.gov.uk) This service informs you of the flood risk for an area, not for a specific property. It covers flood risk from rivers, surface water, reservoirs and groundwater (where data is available).

4. Contact Floodline for advice

(**0345 988 1188**) Floodline provides information, advice and guidance on how to prepare for and cope with the impacts of flooding. This service is free.

5. Check the Met Office

(www.gov.uk) The Met office issues official weather warnings detailing the potential impacts of severe weather. Stay informed by signing up for email alerts or by downloading the official Weather App.

6. Prepare a flood plan

An up-to-date personal flood plan is vital for an effective response. It also ensures all necessary information and contacts numbers are kept securely in one place.

7. Prepare an emergency flood kit

An emergency flood kit should contain essential items that will help you cope during a flood event. Ensure everyone in the household knows where to find this kit and what actions to take if flooding occurs.

8. Protect your property

If your home is at risk of flooding, it's important to plan and put measures in place to improve your home's flood resilience.

9. Join the Community Emergency Plan volunteers group

Volunteers play a vital role in building community resilience and responding to the challenges of flooding. An integral part of the Community Emergency Plan has been the development of the Community Flood Plan. By preparing in advance, the community can respond to and recover from a flood more effectively.

Walsham le Willows Parish Council

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THE END OF THE WOODLAND YEAR

Our Woodland Year, perhaps strangely, ends on the 31st of October, so by the time that you read this we will be starting our 25/26 year and on the 10th of December we will celebrate the 15th anniversary of us coming together as a group, to create green and wild spaces that can be enjoyed by everyone., an amazing testament to the efforts of so many over the years. The woods are used by lots of people on a day to day basis and this year, despite the weirdness of the weather, we have really enjoyed what nature has had to offer. On my early morning walks in September I saw, a hovering kestrel, a silent barn owl, screeching buzzards, lots of other smaller birds, muntjac of course, a grass snake, three fallow deer, field mice scurrying through the grass and butterflies and moths still active in the mild weather. Then in October we had berry's and fruits in profusion as the leaves turned their glorious autumnal colours... a total joy to behold.

Lots of activities and events have been held in and around the woods to emphasise their importance to village life... more planting in the orchard supported by tree buddies who watered during the dry spells, a brilliant Curry Night in the dark of February, the now traditional Easter Egg Hunt, the Pre School used the woods on a weekly basis, now the Forest Schools Wild Things event is on a monthly basis, another successful Bat Safari, Yoga and Self Defence lessons, the more adventurous of our Open Gardens visitors marvelled, guests from other community woodland groups came to see what we had done and we visited some of them to see what we could learn, the ragwort was pulled and we ended with another successful Pumpkin event. Regular maintenance continued but this year's mowing and raking week in September deserves a special mention. Paul Hubbard, ably assisted by his Dad, mowed the meadow and the rides and Tony Salton manfully fought with the large hired mower on the narrower paths and spaces in truly dreadful weather. The sun came out and enabled the Saturday raking and stacking gathering with 22 hardy volunteers who then sat down to a lovely 'plough persons lunch' washed down with local cider. That's what it's all about and it's what makes the Walsham Wild Woods so special. A big thank you to all who contributed to the success of our lovely community venture over the last 'Woodland Year' and a 'Happy New Woodland Year' to everyone.

John Stebbing, Secretary to the Walsham Wild Woods Steering Group
john@architectatwork.co.uk 07831 325610



SPORTING LIMERICKS I

There was a stand-off from Neath,
Who habitually played in false teeth.
When dropping a goal
He swallowed them whole;
His opponents are sending the wreath.

In rugby the rules of decorum
Reap results - and you mustn't ignore 'em!
For though drop-kicks and tries
Gain the points that we prize,
It's the penalty kicks that outscore 'em!

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DIARY OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Wed 12th W. I. Leonard Cheshire
Priory Room 7.30pm
Thur 13th Suffolk Pop Chorus
Village Hall 7.30pm
Wed 19th History Group
Priory Room 7.30pm
Fri 21st Walsham Picturehouse
Village Hall 6.30pm
Fri 28th Annual Village Quiz
Village Hall 6.30pm
Fri 28th Walsham Art Group
Priory Room 5.00pm
Till Mon 1st December
Sat 29th Christmas Fair
St Mary's 2.00pm
DECEMBER
Tue 9th History Group
Priory Room 7.30pm
Wed 10th W.I. Bell Ringing talk
Priory Room 7.30pm
Sun 21st Nine Lessons & Carols
St Mary's 4.00pm

JANUARY

Sat 10th Epiphany Sigers
St Mary's 7.30pm

FEBRUARY

Wed 11th W.I. A Journey with glass
Priory Room 7.30pm

MARCH

Wed 11th W.I. History of Food
Priory Room 7.30pm

APRIL

Wed 8th W.I. Sign Language
Priory Room 7.30pm
Wed 13th W.I. Annual Meeting
Priory Room 7.30pm

**Get your dates in the
Diary early to avoid
clashes!!**



WALSHAM & DISTRICT W.I.

The Life of Leonard Cheshire

A Talk by Barbara McElroy

Priory Room

Wednesday 12th November at 7.30pm

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



Walsham Arts & Crafts Exhibition

29th November - 1st December 2025

10.00am till 5.00pm

The Priory Room (next to the church)

Walsham le Willows IP31 3AB

Gillian Crossley-Holland,
Alison Dane, Helen Dougall,
Joff Duck, Chris and Hilary Evans,
Mandy Jaggard, Sharon Laslett,
Jenny Portlock, Phil Stearn,
Mary Jane Toulson, Rob Wheeler,

Open evening Friday November 28th 5pm - 8pm

for further information:

Mary Jane Toulson 01359 259 646

Or Helen Dougall, helen@hdbatik.co.uk

WALSHAM LE WILLOWS MEMORIAL HALL & WILD WOOD

Present an evening of songs and singing with



Thursday 13th November 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Tickets £7.50 in advance

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WALSHAM *History Group*
presents



VIKING EAST ANGLIA

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WEDNESDAY 19TH NOV AT 7.30PM

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Colleen Baker (07831 560450)





WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th October 2025 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, Roberts, Tuck and Winch.

ALSO PRESENT: District Cllr. Winch & County Cllr Fleming

1. OPENING STATEMENT (if any required)
 - a. None
2. MEMBER'S APOLOGIES
 - a. None received
 - b. None required
3. DECLARATIONS of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests
 - a. To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda – none received.
 - b. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate – none needed
4. MINUTES - To receive and consider the minutes of the following meetings (as previously circulated)
 - a. Minutes of 10th September 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and for signature.
 - b. The Clerk confirmed that there were no actions outstanding from the last meeting that were not in hand.
5. 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. One member of public was present.
 - Ian Campbell (IC) attended representing the sports club with regard to the communication required with the Cayzer Trust about the proposals for Summer Way footpath. It was agreed that the Parish Council would send a letter with a hard copy of the Summer Way proposal direct to Mrs Gilmour of the Cayzer Trust.
 - IC gave an update on the footpath work. The contractor has completed some of the works with assistance from the Sports Club. One part still requires top dressing. IC is trying to ascertain date/time for completion and will forward correspondence to Cllr Fleming who will follow up.
6. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPORTS FOR INFORMATION & QUESTIONS
 - a. Report from County Councillor Fleming. No questions were noted.
 - In relation to the item on 70/70b bus running time issues, District Cllr Winch advised that the 73 bus seems to be running on time.
 - b. Report from District Councillor Winch. (questions were delayed until DC Winch arrived)

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- DC Winch addressed issue re SERCO having been hired to buy or lease housing units in the East of England for asylum seekers (11 in whole of Mid-Suffolk at the moment). Cllr Winch wished to highlight the fact that neither the District or County Council were consulted on potential issues and neither council has a veto. County Cllr Fleming advised that from a county perspective very limited information was given and that SCC has protested right up to Home Office. SCC feels that more information is needed in advance along with consultation to ensure that locations are suitable with regard to statutory support that has to be provided. SCC are trying to ensure that Parish Councils are informed in advance.
- Cllr Mecrow asked of both County and District how much officer time is being taken up with work on the proposed changes to local council structure. Cllr Fleming estimated that this was somewhere in region of 20/30% of total officer time available and that some senior officer time has also been diverted to lead the response. DC Winch advised that the impact on District council was a lot less but that there is not a lot to do at the moment.
- Cllr J Winch gave thanks to Cllr Fleming for following up with SCC highways on traffic proposals. Cllr Fleming said that she would follow up again on current position with regard to these.
- Cllr J Winch thanked Cllr. Fleming for her chairing of the meeting with key local landowners, SCC Flood Investigations team and Environment Agency, that took place yesterday and was very useful in providing clear ways forward that will hopefully lead to some mitigation measures being put in place.

7. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS & ACTION LOG REVIEWS

a. Traffic Group

- i. Update from Cllr. Janette Winch was noted including the kind agreement of Ashwell Construction to measure up for and install village gates to be kindly fabricated by Clerks.

- ii. To consider:

Proposal 1: Council supported the establishment of a Community Speed Watch team offered by the community and parish council members of the Traffic Group but did not agree to publicity for this until more information has been gathered.

Proposal 2: Council agreed that Cllr Nick Tuck, as part of the traffic group, liaise with SCC Highways, SCC Police to determine options for additional SIDs and the efficacy of the use of APNR with these devices.

- b. Cllr Tuck has joined the traffic working group and proposed:

Proposal 1: Council agreed that it made sense for the management of SID data collection and analysis to be handed over to the traffic group as Cllr Tuck's area of responsibility.

Proposal 2: Council was open to more proactive use of the collected data if this proves to be helpful although noted that this had been considered previously and that enforcement cannot be based on the data the current SIDs collect.

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Proposal 3: To consider the compatibility of current data analysis tool with any new SIDs that may be procured. This was covered under approval of proposal 2 under 7 a ii.

- c. Cllr Tuck proposes the following in the light of the most recent accident at the Six Bells crossroads, reported to him by a resident:

Proposal 1: That the parish council publishes a notice that advises that it is actively looking at ways to improve the safety at this junction and reduce the number of accidents. This was not approved. It was felt that this was covered under the terms and work of the traffic working group and that it would probably not be wise to raise expectations at this stage.

Proposal 2: That the parish council should monitor and log traffic incidents. Council did not approve any further specific actions and Cllrs Winch and Brookes advised that there is already a log maintained by the traffic working group. However, any log is always dependent on the PC becoming aware, or being advised, of any such incidents.

It was clarified by Cllr Winch that as would be expected, all work of the traffic group is always brought to full council for approval in the form of specific proposals.

d. **CEP Group**

- i. Cllr Brookes proposed that Council adopt and publish a redacted version of the Community Emergency Plan [to protect sensitive, confidential and personal data]. This was agreed and a redacted version will be supplied to the Clerk for publication.

e. **Flood Group**

- i. No report this month.
- ii. It was noted that the meeting that took place with key local landowners, representatives of the parish council, SCC flood investigations team and the Environment Agency, chaired by County Cllr. Jessica Fleming, on 7th October. It was a very useful meeting and provided ways forward that could lead to some realistic natural flood mitigation measures being put in place. The Clerk was asked to respond to all attendees thanking them for their attendance and advising that the Parish Council looks forward to working with landowners to facilitate in whatever ways possible. It was also decided that the Flood group will now be known as the flood mitigation group to reflect this focus.

8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS, LICENCING, ENFORCEMENT & RELATED MATTERS**

- a. Standing item to consider changes to the Neighbourhood Plan to be documented for next review. Cllr Belson proposed a public meeting to raise awareness about forthcoming housing allocation requirements for the village and solicit opinions on potential sites so that the village has some say in where this development takes place rather than having it imposed as has happened in the past. Meeting to be on 17th November in the Memorial Hall at 7pm. Cllrs Belson and Mecrow agreed to gather the necessary information in preparation. Clerk to send out invitations to former NP group members ahead of wider publicity.

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- b. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/04282 Proposal: Notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area - T1 Indian Bean- reduce canopy by 2.5 meters to keep away from thatch roof T2 mountain ash- reduce by 2.5 so the canopy doesn't interfere with thatched roof Location: Clive Cottage, The Street, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **The Parish Council Made No Comment**
 - c. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/04207 Proposal: Notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area - T12 white horse chestnut remove T17 self set goat willow remove T31 lawson cypress remove T13 red horse chestnut side crown reduction and minor pruning works whilst power line shutdown in place for T12 and T17 works T14 red maple minor pruning works whilst power line shutdown in place for T12 and T17 works Location: Maltings House, The Street, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **The Parish Council Made No Comment**
 - d. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/04166 Proposal: Notification of works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce crown of 2 No. Beech (T3 and T4) by 30% Location: Fernside, Finningham Road, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BQ **The Parish Council Made No Comment**
 - e. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/04092 Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Leyland Cypress (T1) Fell Location: Clarkes of Walsham Ltd, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BA **The Parish Council Made No Comment**
9. PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning Authority) for noting only -
- a. Application Reference: DC/25/03144 Proposal & Location of Development: Application for Listed Building Consent - Restore 3 dormer windows to attic rooms. The Woodlands, Finningham Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BQ MSDC GRANTED PERMISSION
 - b. Application Reference: DC/25/04000 Proposal: Notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area - 3 x Conifer on left hand side of the garden, cut the conifers down to ground level. Location of Development Willows House, Summer Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AH MSDC GRANTED PERMISSION [not notified to parish council for comment]
10. FINANCE, AUDIT & COUNCIL ADMIN
- a. Bank reconciliation for period ending 30th September 2025 was approved and signed.
 - b. Accounts awaiting payment summary and invoices for payment. (Appendix 1) were approved and signed.
 - c. Annual Asset Maintenance Review - Follow up on outstanding items was deferred to next meeting.
 - d. It was noted that annual insurance renewal premium increased slightly with addition of flood equipment and that the Clerk has indicated acceptance (payment for approval – omitted from appendix 1, so will be reported there next month).



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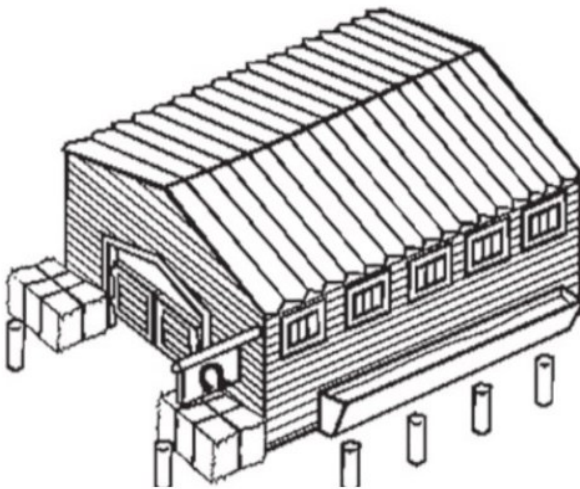
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- e. The quote for annual stream clearance was approved at £1,041.17 plus vat. Clerk to instruct contractor.
 - f. It was noted that the request for statement of account from Nurture Landscapes had elicited invoices to date for the play area and stream maintenance (payment scheduled in appendix 1). The clarification on number of visits quoted was also noted.
 - g. The quote from Nurture Landscapes which includes the maintenance of the closed churchyard in contract for play area and stream, and Clerk's analysis was noted and Council re-approved. Clerk to follow up.
 - h. It was noted that the quarterly transparency notices have been published on the website.
11. CLERK ACTION LOG, COUNCILLOR REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE (if not dealt with elsewhere)
- a. Clerk's action log – nothing outstanding that is not in hand.
 - b. Council considered the next steps with regard to the proposals for the footpath from sports centre to village down Summer Road and Cllr Belson's proposal that the Parish Council write the required letter to the Cayzer Trust. It was agreed that the Clerk send the letter prepared by Ian Campbell, to Mrs Gilmour of the Cayzer Trust.
 - c. Cllr Winch proposed that council commission map for repurposed bus shelter from John Martineau, costs when known to be covered by Locality Grant. Cllr Winch will obtain quote of any costs and advise the Clerk before going ahead.
12. OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN/NOTE FOR NEXT AGENDA
- a. Next Parish Council Meetings
 - Regular monthly meeting 12th November 2025 7pm – Memorial Hall.
 - **Budget meeting** 26th November 2025 7pm – Memorial Hall

Meeting Close 21:06

Payments for Authorisation OCTOBER 2025

#	Payments OUT	Amount	Description
1	Unity Trust Bank	£6.00	Recurring monthly DDR Service Charge
2	Memorial Hall	£27.00	Hall Hire
3	SALC	£54.00	6 Months Payroll Charge
4	Nurture Landscapes	£2,902.23	Play Area/Stream grass cutting backdated invoices 370559-370564
5	Old Town Trust	£250.00	Play Area Annual Rent
7	PKF Littlejohn	£252.00	External Audit
8	Kevin Boardley	£24.01	Expenses Reimbursement
9	HMRC Cumbernauld	£164.58	PAYE
10	Parish Council Employee	£530.40	Remuneration
	TOTAL	£4,210.22	

Each invoice is scrutinised and signed in the meeting by two bank signatories before approval for online authorisation.

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- Like Tai Chi, Qi Gong involves slow, flowing movements derived from Chinese Medicine to bring harmony and prevent illness in the body
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FROM ST MARY'S

As we enter November and the season of Remembrance, our hearts are heavy with the conflicts and struggles that persist in across the world. We are prompted to reflect on the sacrifices made by countless individuals in the past and to hold onto the hope for a more peaceful and just future.

The act of remembrance is a powerful and enduring tradition that binds us together as a community. It reminds us of the bravery and selflessness of those who have served and continue to serve in the armed forces, often in far-off and dangerous lands. We honour their dedication to preserving peace and safeguarding our freedoms, and we recognize the hardships they endure.

Remembrance is not just about the past; it's also about the present and the future. In our prayers and reflections, we consider the men, women and children whose lives are shaped by war, whether as victims, displaced people, humanitarian workers or armed forces. Their sacrifices, their physical and emotional burdens, and the toll that war takes on them and their families weigh heavily on our hearts.

In these times of uncertainty and conflict, it is essential for us to maintain hope. We hope for an end to violence and division, for the safe return of those who are far from home, and for the healing of wounds, both seen and unseen. We hope for a world where the lessons of the past guide us towards lasting peace.

As people of faith, we know that hope is not a passive act but an active one. We are called to work towards peace, justice, and reconciliation in our own lives and within our community. Our faith teaches us that even in the face of despair, hope can be a powerful force for change.

Everyone is welcome to join us at St Mary's on Sunday the 9th of November at 10:50am and again on Tuesday 11th at 10:40am to pay our respects, to spend time reflecting on the past and the future and to pray for peace.

Together, as a parish community, we can be a beacon of light and a source of inspiration for a world in need of peace.

With every blessing,

Revd Catriona



ST MARY'S CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Tue 4th November
9am till 10.30am

TEA AND TOAST TUESDAYS
IN THE PRIORY ROOM

Roots and Shoots

Sun 16th November
10am till 11am

**For more information please contact Revd Catriona on 07525920307
or revcatrionabrinkley@outlook.com**

NOVEMBER CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Service	Church
2nd Nov	4th Before Advent	
8.00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Finningham
11:00am	Family Communion	Walsham
3:00pm	All Souls Service	Wattisfield
9th Nov	3rd Before Advent	
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Walsham
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Wattisfield
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Badwell Ash
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Westhorpe
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Finningham
11th Nov	Armistice Day	
10:50am	Armistice Service	Walsham
16th Nov	2nd Before Advent	
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
10:00am	Roots and Shoots	Walsham
23rd Nov	Sunday before Advent	
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
11:00am	Benefice Stir Up Sunday Service	Finningham
11:00am	Songs of Praise	Walsham
30th Nov	1st Sunday of Advent	
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
3:00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
7th Dec	2nd Sunday of Advent	
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
11:00am	Family Communion	Walsham
3:00pm	Carol Service	Wattisfield



Maintenance Morning
 St Mary's Extended Churchyard, Ixworth Road
 on Saturday 8th November from 9.00 am.
 Please bring gloves and hand tools.
 All help appreciated. Refreshments provided.



GREEN DILEMMAS

Should The Natural World Have Legal Rights?

Robert MacFarlane's latest book is entitled "Is a River Alive?" and it asks what happens if we take seriously the idea of a river being alive in terms of our perception, law and politics.

Many indigenous peoples see the living world as an integrated whole both from a practical and spiritual point of view. They believe in an essence or soul in all things, not just living creatures

The modern view of the natural world is that it is something quite separate from us. It is a resource to be exploited based on the belief that this will benefit humans.

It has been suggested that if you had a global parliament and all the species could vote then they would probably decide to eject humans from the planet!

There is a growing international movement called the "Rights of Nature" which argues that ecosystems and natural entities like rivers should have their own legal rights to exist and thrive. This would mean, for example, that a river would have the right not to be polluted or have its flow stopped.

You might find the idea that a river should have rights a bit strange. The UK government's official position is that it rejects the idea of granting rights to nature itself. However, when you think about it, if non-human entities such as companies can have the legal rights of personhood then why shouldn't rivers and other eco systems?

Another argument often put forward is that nature doesn't have agency so who would represent the river in a court of law? Typically, a river would be represented by 'River Guardians' who would speak for the river. The same situation effectively already exists for children and for some vulnerable adults where there is legal representation on their behalf.

There are already quite a few countries where rights of nature have been established. One of the earliest examples was in 2008 in Ecuador when a new constitution was ratified by referendum which granted rights to nature. Other well-known examples are the Whanganui River in New Zealand ("I am the River, the River is me.") and the Yarra River in Victoria, Australia. In 2020 voters in Orange County, Florida approved a state law to recognise the rights of rivers and other waterways to "exist, flow, to be protected against pollution and to maintain a healthy eco system".

In England we are starting to see more interest in establishing the rights of rivers. At present there are no rivers at all with a good overall status.

The following website is a good place to start getting a better understanding of the Rights of Nature: *Center for Democratic and Environmental Rights*.

Richard Winch

SPORTING LIMERICKS II

There was a young lady called Carling,
At Wimbledon was such a darling.
With her partner named Mable
She quaffed her Black Label
And flew over the net like a starling.

A Wimbledon star of ability,
Used a certain crude verbal facility,
To broadcast his grudges
Against the line judges
And speak of the umpire's senility.

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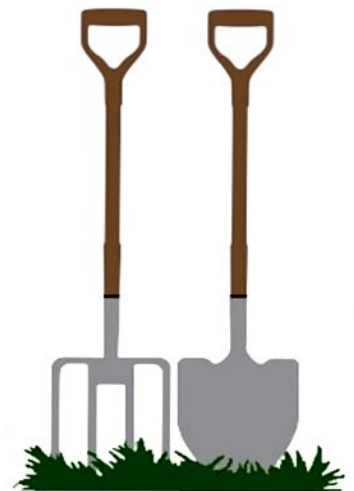
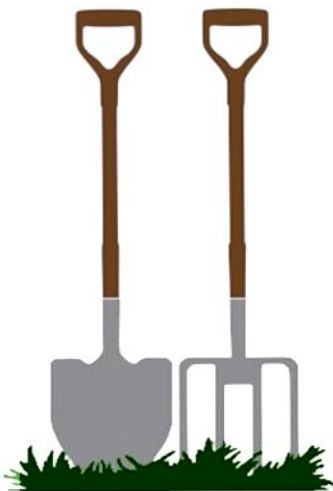
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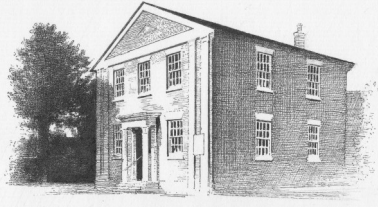
WILDLIFE IN NOVEMBER

This is the month of Remembrance Day, where we remember all who fought and sacrificed their lives for us. There are animals that also helped in the war, and one of them is a bird that gets overlooked on a daily basis, whether it be in our gardens, urban areas and the cities, this bird is the Pigeon. They played a very important part in World War one and World War two, by helping to deliver messages due to their incredible homing instinct. These birds were absolutely vital to deliver messages when technology was not as advanced/available as it is now, or if the technology failed. Pigeons were transported to the front lines, to then be released with messages where they would then fly back home to their loft. The messages were then relayed to the Command. The Pigeons would navigate complex battlefields where the terrain would have been difficult for soldiers to travel. Aircraft crew especially in World War two would have had a Pigeon travel with them on the aircraft, and if shot down would release the Pigeon with a message providing the location of where they were shot down and wait for rescue. There are a few examples of how vital Pigeons were, one called GI Joe in World War two sent a message back to base preventing an unnecessary bombing raid. A pigeon called Winkie flew 120 miles to deliver a message that would save 4 crewmen in freezing cold waters. Their aircraft was shot down and they released Winkie, she was not wearing a message but the RAF worked out where the downed bomber was by calculating the time difference of the aircraft ditching to the arrival time of Winkie. The men were saved very shortly after, and it earned Winkie, the first Pigeon, to receive the Dickins medal. A statue was also made of her in her honour. Another Pigeon named Cher Ami who was involved in World War One sent a message that saved 194 American soldiers, he flew 25 miles in 25 minutes which was extremely impressive as he was shot, blinded in one eye and lost a leg. For his bravery he was awarded the French Croix de Guerre medal and very lovingly given a wooden leg!

As November the 5th is traditionally Guy Fawkes night or Bonfire night, try to spare a little of your time to think about wildlife. In particular our spiky friend, the Hedgehog. Unfortunately, every year we see a number of Hedgehogs being admitted into a hedgehog hospital with burns of varying degrees. Bonfires are fun for us but a readymade wood pile in the eyes of a Hedgehog looks like a cosy bed for a night or two. On the day on the bonfire, move the wood pile to a different spot which will make any visitors leave but if the wood pile is too big, as I have seen several of these around which are unable to be moved, these can be lit from one end, which will give time for any animals to hopefully escape from the other side. Just simple thoughtful things can make a massive difference.

It has been a good month or two for spotting Fungi, one in particular that catches everyone's eye is Amanita Muscaria or also known as the Fly Agaric Fungi. It has a very pretty appearance, a bright red cap covered in white warty spots and white gills underneath. People like to admire and photograph this Fungi because of its appearance, but be sure that is all you do as it is toxic. Its name traditionally comes from being used as an insect repellent, and this little Fungus has been used in many illustrations, art, literature and becoming iconic in fairy tales.

Angie Bennington.



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.

Sin Enters In

¹Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? ²And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. ⁴And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: ⁵For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. ⁶And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. ⁷And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. ⁸And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. ⁹And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? ¹⁰And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. ¹¹And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? ¹²And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. ¹³And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. ¹⁴And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: ¹⁵And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. ¹⁶Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. ¹⁷And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; ¹⁸Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; ¹⁹In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. ²⁰And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. ²¹Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them. ²²And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: ²³Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. ²⁴So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

(Genesis, chapter 3)

ALL IN THE CLUB

With Ian Campbell

My saga of seeking to remedy flooding across Summer Rd in heavy winter rain is coming to a good conclusion as the pond in the corner of our land has been cleaned out by Ashwell Construction which should enable the water to flow south via ditches rather than the road. Richard Pratt of Ashwell stepped up the plate having seen me get in trouble with my first effort which saw the digger sink in some 5 meters of silt probably built up over the past 70 years. No bodies have been recovered, I am pleased to say, only a large water pump which once cleaned up, might make an interesting feature beside the new pond.

It has made me again grateful for local business men who put themselves out to help the Sports Club achieve what it has achieved (and for which it often gets praise) but the support we get from people like Richard doesn't get recognised.

Richard is not alone; companies like Clarkes, Pollard, Rolfes, Ian Hubbard electrical, etc. all provide unseen support far in excess of the services we pay them for and it is my hope that there are reciprocal benefits to the companies that support us, in picking up customers from within the community to enable them to thrive.

Conversations the other day highlighted how the many different business interests, brought together by sport, results in doors opening, to the benefit of both supplier and customer. It is amazing how just how many skills are represented within a Club that can ensure that money spent can remain in circulation within a rural community rather than further afield.

Ian Campbell

SPORTING LIMERICKS III

A talented sportsman named Hugh,
Remarked - 'Of course the games I pursue,
I find it is snooker
That's loaded with lucre.
If your needing advice, take my cue!'

A snooker professional of rank,
After fluking the black, was quite frank;
He said, 'I'm distraught
At the fame it has brought'
And he cried all the way t the bank.

WALSHAM OBSERVER SUDOKU

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

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!

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BOWLS CLUB AGM

We held the AGM on Thursday 11th September with 23 members in attendance along with 2 Trustees, we received 8 apologies.

The Chairman and Secretary's reports were both very positive, a very enjoyable and progressive season. Our Treasurer has had a very challenging 12 months but managed to keep our finances in good order, we done Adi.

Shirley had taken the Secretary job for the 2025 season only, and she was thanked for all her efforts and hard work and was presented with flowers.

Election of Officers as follows:-

Chairperson – Trevor Pollard Vice Chairperson – Jan Murton

Secretary – Angela Whiting Treasurer – Adi Cole

We will be holding our officers meeting very shortly to nominate committee members.

We will be holding our Presentation Evening during February or March 2026, please contact any of the above officers if you would like to attend.

The green has had a lot of work carried out during the week commencing 6th October and the final push on Saturday 11th October when 14 members rolled their sleeves up and grafted away, seeding, fertiliser and spreading 6 ton of dressing, I thank everyone of you for your hard work, and to Margaret for the cakes.

So, the green has been put to bed for winter, hopefully we can now get some work done to the Clubhouse.

The Carpet Bowls at The Sports Club started on 15th October, if you need further information, please contact any of the officers.

Trevor Pollard

SPORTS CLUB REPORT

Football

The First Team went out of the Suffolk Premier Cup losing 3-0 at home to Leiston who play two steps above us and, considering we played a very young side, it wasn't a bad result.

In the league we beat Ipswich Wanderers 5-1 and Lakenheath 3-0 both at home and drew 2-2 away to Thetford Town having been 2-0 down.

The Under 23s were lying in third place but then lost 2-0 at Brantham and 1-0 at home to Stowmarket.

The Under 18s beat Hadleigh United away before drawing 1-1 at home to Ipswich Wanderers and then 3-3 with Stowmarket Town and then also 2-2 with Framlingham Town both away.

The Veterans comfortably beat Ipswich Exiles 7-2 at home and, having just been promoted, find themselves in second place in the league having won both games to date in Division One South.

Home fixtures for November

First Team

Sat 15th v Cornard United 3pm

Sat 22nd v Stowmarket Town. 3pm

Under 23s

Sat 1st v Haverhill Rovers 3pm

Sat 8th v Woodbridge Town 3pm

Sat 29th v Thetford Town 3pm

Under 18s

Thurs 6th v AFC Sudbury. 7.45pm

Thurs 20th v Leiston. 7.45pm

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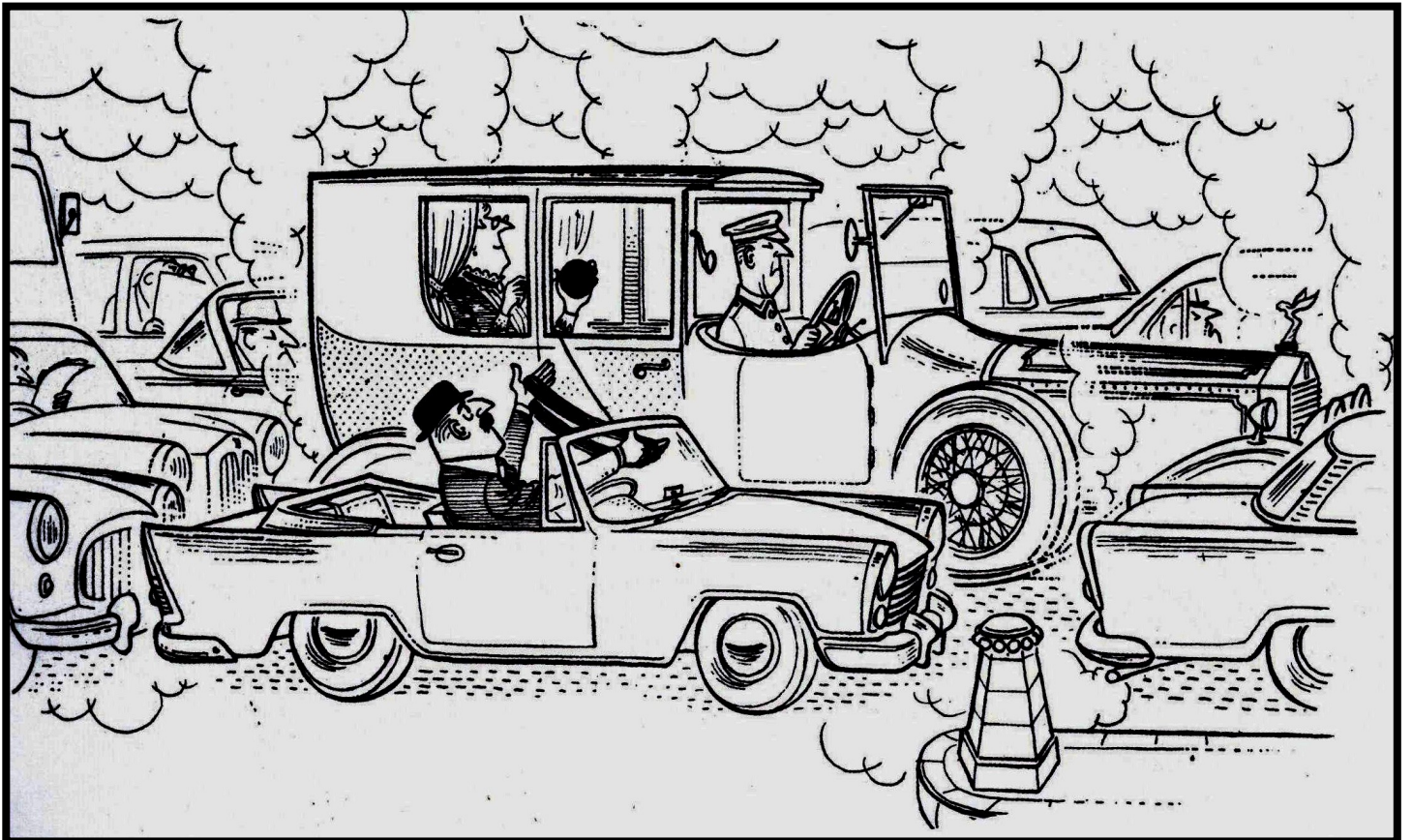
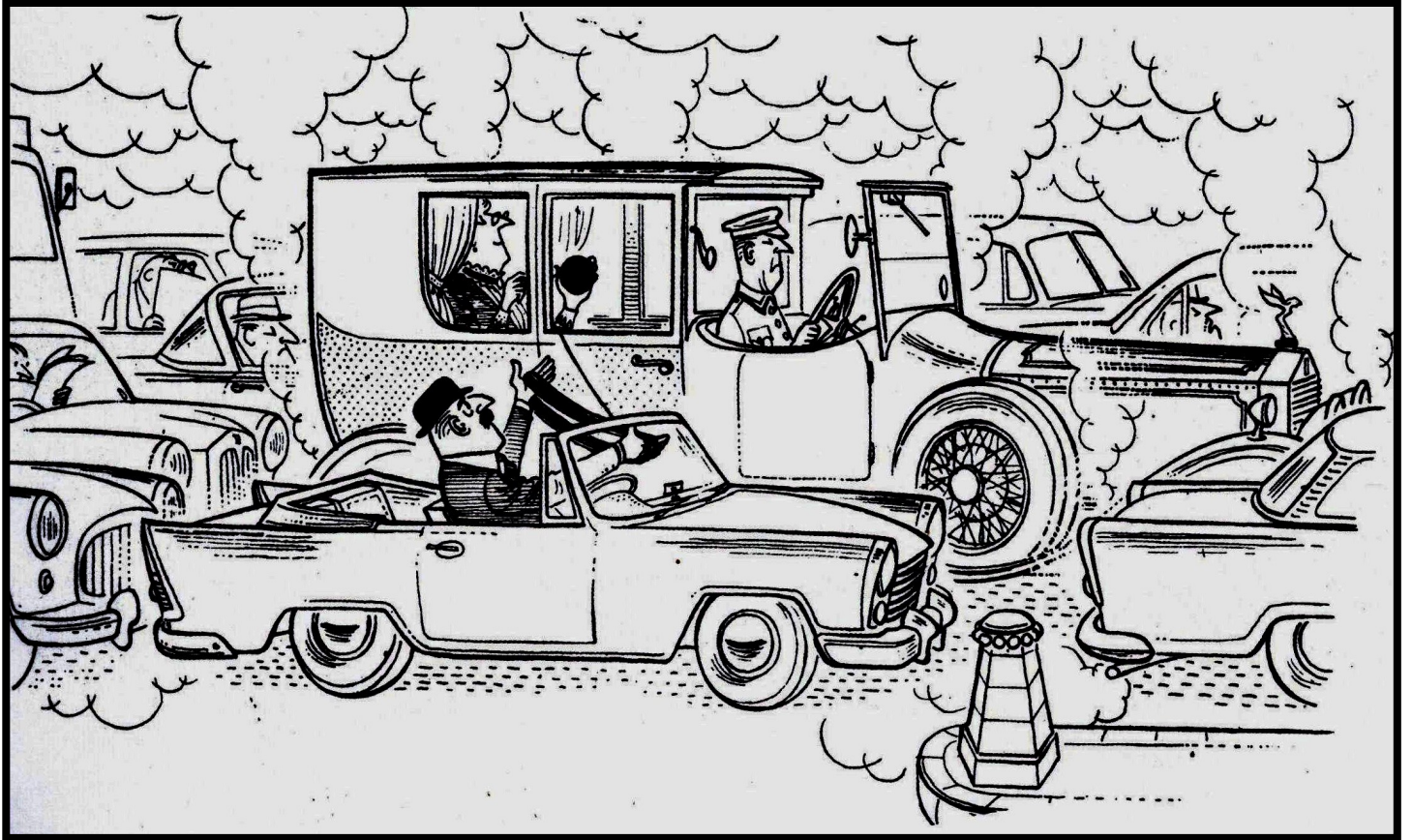
Call Kevin

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07881 800750

Home
01359 259946

Email
kevindunstan@hotmail.co.uk

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



There are ten differences between these two pictures, see if you can find them before the blockage stops and wool-winding has to stop!



WALSHAM SPORTS CLUB EVENTS FOR

**November
& December**

Sunday Night Bingo

2nd, 16th and 30th November.
14th and 21st December

**For further information phone
Tara on 07972 607843 or look
at the Sports Club Website**



Horace: Do you know, I got all the answers to the Page Bottom Quiz wrong in the September edition of the Observer!

Algernon: So did I! The editor seems to have had lapse of concentration when producing that edition!



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WHAT'S ON AT THE BLUE BOAR

Free room hire is available

**Burger, chips and a pint for
£15 every Thursday**

15th Nov-Oasis tribute from 8:30

28th Nov-karaoke from 8pm

13th Dec- Fickle Pickle from 8:30

24th Dec- Xmas Eve from 7:30

31st Dec- NYE disco and fireworks from 7:30

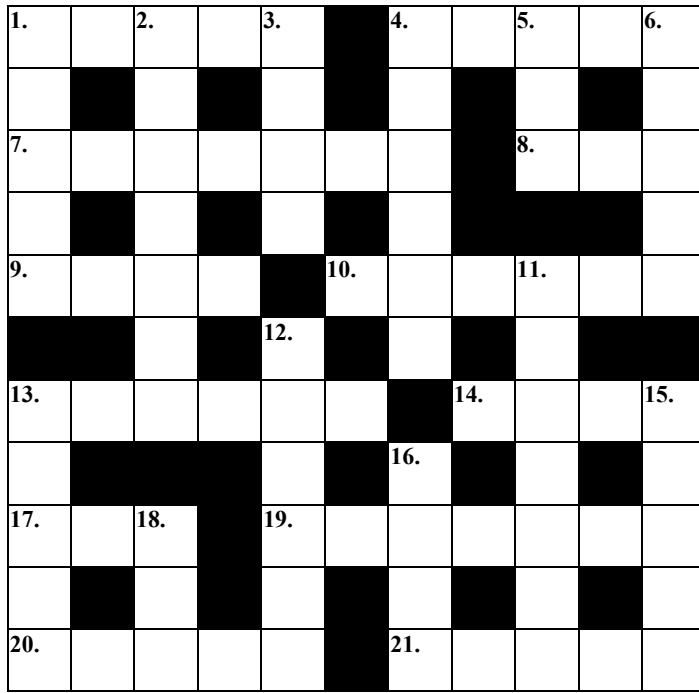
Every Thursday you can enjoy a meal for £5

24th December- takeaway Christmas dinners for only £25

**For more details of both the above
you can check our website or Facebook**

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WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Move leisurely by the sea. (5)
4. Express displeasure as we arrive inside (5)
7. A responsible schoolboy becomes perfect. (7)
8. He bounces up and down. (3)
9. Such a vile change is just as bad. (4)

10. Stared in confusion as the trade organisation makes steps. (6)
13. The beast takes nothing from a soldier. (6)
14. I see much changes in my friend. (4)
17. A sign of assent from the retreating academic. (3)
19. Just a gift for now. (7)
20. Is he really an older member of the church? (5)
21. Curse the way the letters come out. (5)

DOWN

1. Copes with a change for the woodland. (5)
2. Such care I am organising for the country. (7)
3. Afterwards in the nursery. (4)
4. God sat on a boiler. (6)
5. It just flows out of Lloyd Webber. (3)
6. It's a puzzle about the bus. (5)
11. Gain I've had in each change. (7)
12. Is this a boiler for the policeman. (6)
13. Lead a merry one for the ball. (5)
- 15.. Material for such heavy music. (5)
16. Is it an untidy dining area? (4)
18. Either way it was done. (3)

SPORTING LIMERICKS IV

A talented sportsman named Hugh,
 Remarked - 'Of course the games I pursue,
 I find it is snooker
 That's loaded with lucre.
 If your needing advice, take my cue!'

A snooker professional of rank,
 After fluking the black, was quite frank;
 He said, 'I'm distraught
 At the fame it has brought'
 And he cried all the way t the bank.

EPIPHANY CONCERT

Saturday 10th January

Walsham le Willows is once again very honoured to host the Epiphany Singers from Friday 9th January to Sunday 11th January. They will as usual give a concert on the Saturday evening 7.30pm followed by sung mass on Sunday morning at 11am.

I would be very grateful to hear from anyone in the village who would be able to host a singer with bed & breakfast. It's a lovely opportunity to get to know the singers and join in the social events that we provide for them over the weekend.

For further information please call, message or email me:

07568 580882 Gabriellehunt@btinternet.com

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SPORTING LIMERICKS V

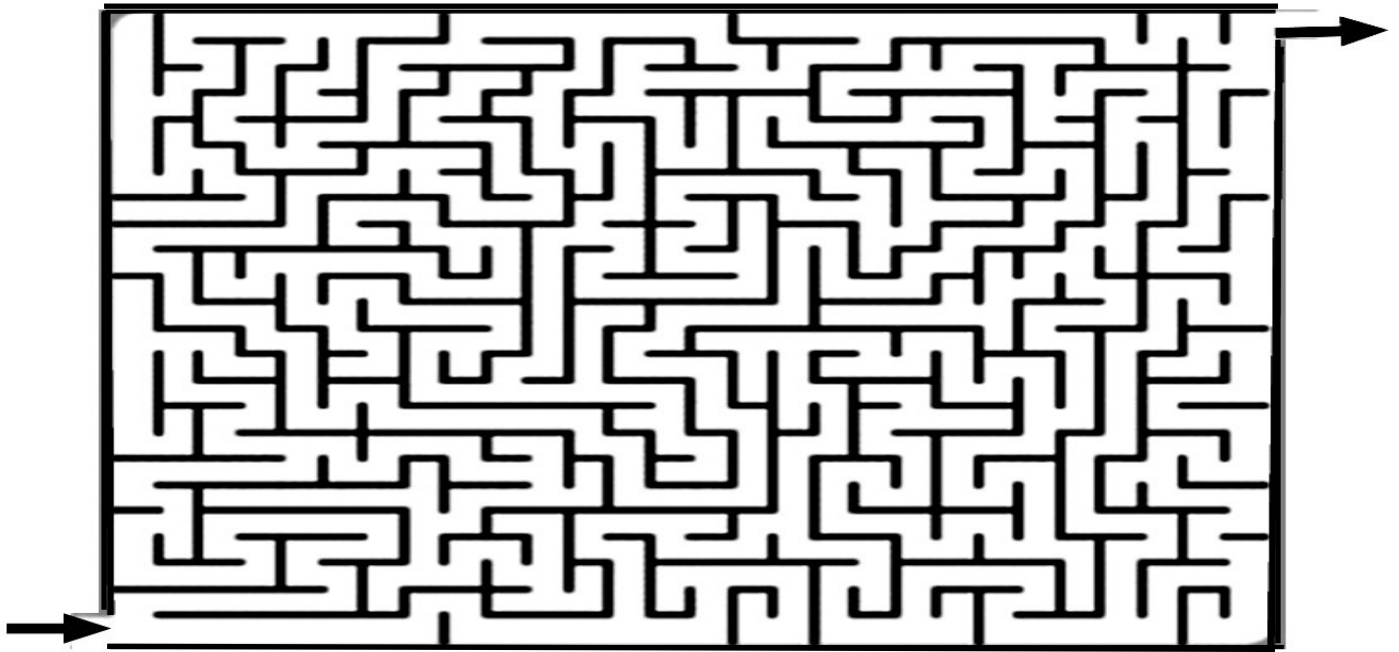
A trendy young golfer called Deans
Had a bad case of 'yips' on the greens.

But wasn't his putter
That caused him to stutter,
But the tees in his ultra tight jeans.

There was a young golfer from Sheen,
Who found when she got to the green,

That a renegade mole
Had dug a large hole
On the line where her putt would have been.

CAN YOU GET THROUGH?



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REGULAR

MONDAY

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2nd Monday 12:45pm
Simply Hatha Yoga Priory Room
7:30pm till 8:45pm
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
7:30pm Second Wed of the Month
Parish Council Village Hall
(Public Meeting)
7.00pm Second Wed of the Month

EVENTS

THURSDAY

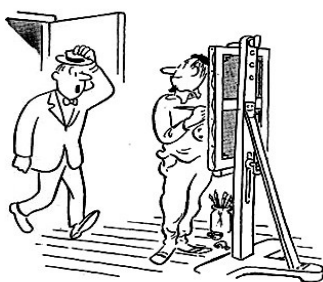
Coffee Shop Village Hall
10:30am till 12.30pm
Post Office Van Village Hall
11:00am till Noon
Yoga Sports Club
1:15 pm till 2:15pm
Walking Football Sports Club
2:00pm till 3:00pm
Pétanque Sports Club
2.00pm till Bouled Out
Walking Netball Sports Club
6:00pm till 7:00pm

FRIDAY

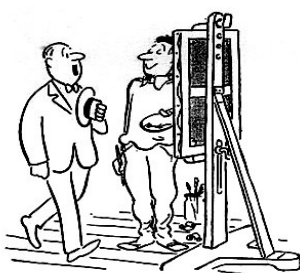
Cardio Tennis Sports Club
12noon till 1:00pm

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



"Wonderful ..



Marvellous ...



How about dinner tonight?"

What is the literal translation of 'Ouija' as in Ouija Board?

ALL THE ANSWERS

Page Bottom Quiz

1. Eight feet, 2. Canaries, 3. Cornwall, 4. Panama, 5. T E Lawrence (of Arabia), 6. Sheepdog Trials, 7. About 4,000 years, 8. A spirit, 9. Wonder Woman?, 10. A Jackdaw, 11. In the land of Oz, 12. Biennial, 13. First woman in space, 14. 102 or CII, 15. A troop, 16. A dance, 17. He doesn't have any, 18. Plant sap and nectar, 19. Devon, 20. A watch, 21. The Bishop, 22. Retract them, 23. Mount Ararat, 24. BA, 25. Hens, 26. Italy, 27. Vice-Admiral, 28. Twelve, 29. Golden hamster, 30. A pencil, 31. Patrick McGoogan, 32. Napoleon, 33. Opus, 34. Bronx, 35. Boxing, 36. Poet Laureate, 37. Three, 38. A paddling, 39. Hawaii, 40. The Three Musketeers, 41. Mumbai, 42. Airline Pilots, 43. Tiger Tiger, 44. Philadelphia, 45. Helen of Troy, 46. Pittsburgh, 47. Knitting, 48. A wasp's nest, 49. Ireland, 50. Yes, yes

Sudoku

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

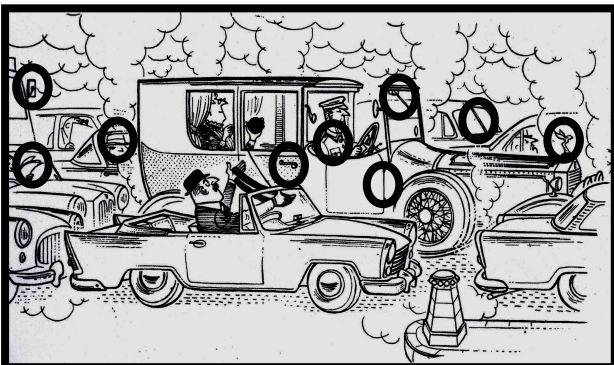
Crossword

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

More or Less

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

Spot the Difference



Searching for Words

Act	Acted	Ain	And	Ante
Anted	Ate	Atone	Atoned	Can
Caned	Cant	Canted	Canton	Cat
Coat	Coated	Coed	Con	Cone
Coned	Contain	Contend	Cot	Cote
Den	Dent	Detain	Enact	End
Eon	Eta	Into	Intone	Intoned
Neon	Net	Nit	Noe	Not
Note	Noted	Oat	One	Tan
Ten	Tend	Tin	Tine	Tined
Toe	Toed	Ton	Tone	Toned

Contained (56)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Community Council Secretary
Rob Matthews 07564 906848

Police
Suffolk Police 01473-613500
Stowmarket 01473-383400

Neighbourhood Watch

Rev. Catriona Brinkley 07525920307

Anglian Water
Emergencies (24hr) 08457-145145
Accounts 0800-919155

UK Power Networks 0800-0294285

British Telecom
Customer Service 150
Line Faults 151

Surgeries
Ixworth 01359-230252
Stanton 01359-251192
Botesdale 01379-898295
Woolpit 01359-240298

Parish Council Chair
Richard Belson 01359-258868
richardbelson@btinternet.com

Parish Council Clerk
Kevin Boardley
clerk@walshamlewillowsparish.gov.uk

District Councillor
Richard Winch 07931709486

County Councillor
Mrs Jessica Flemming 01449-711065

Suffolk County Council 03456-066067

Member of Parliament
Adrian Ramsey 017534 933356
adrian@waveneyvalley.greenparty.org.uk

VILLAGE ORGANISATION CONTACTS

Allotments Group
Gillian Phillips
walshamallotments@gmail.com

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

Horticultural Show
Debbie Licata 01359 259686
debbielicata33@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 Wakeham 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.’**