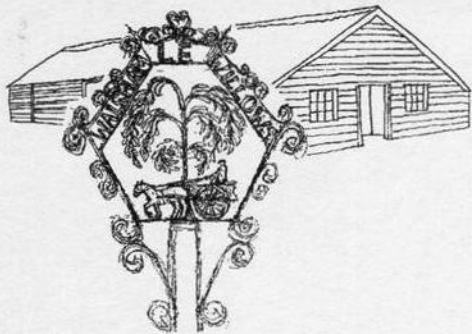


# WALSHAM OBSERVER

*We wish you a very  
Happy and Peaceful Christmas*



**DECEMBER 2025**



# **Walsham-le-Willows**

## **Memorial Village Hall**

### **Hire Charges for 2025**

**All Day £135**  
**Hourly £13.50**

**For Bookings and Enquiries**  
**Contact Number 01359 258349**  
**(answerphone available)**  
**or email**  
**walshammemorialhall@gmail.com**



### **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 2025**

**No 671**

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 12 DECEMBER** into the box provided in Rolfe's or emailed to the editor.

Advertisements should reach the  
Advertising Manager by **MONDAY 8 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

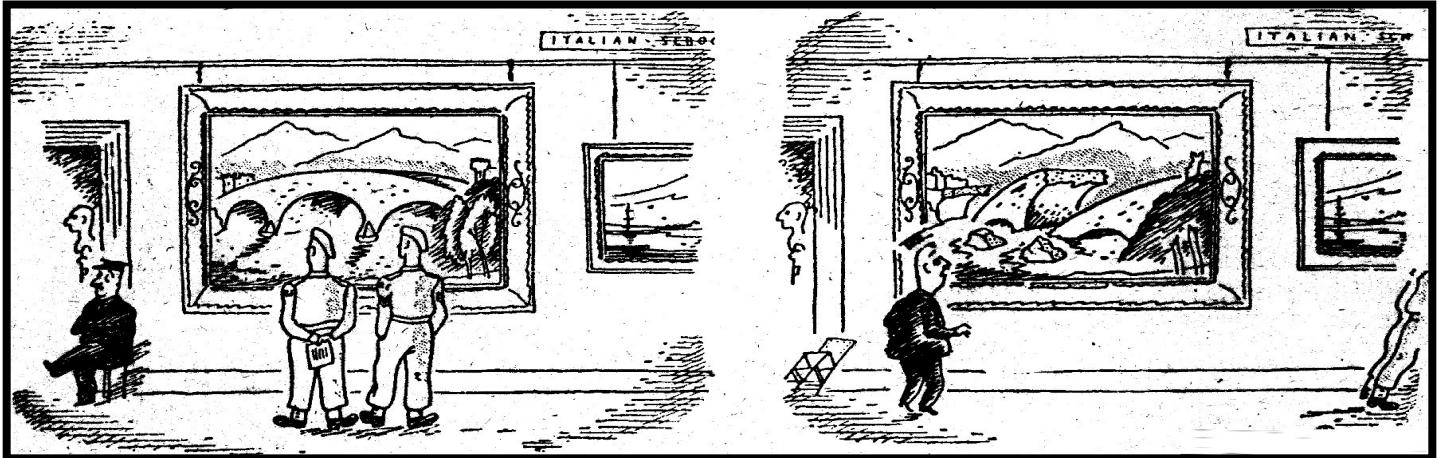
**www.walsham-le-willocks.org**

Contact telephone number: 01359 258698  
(answerphone available)

Contact email: sarah@octopusadmin.co.uk

# CONTENTS

|                             |    |                          |    |
|-----------------------------|----|--------------------------|----|
| Editorial                   | 2  | Remembering Paddy        | 29 |
| Have Your Say In The Future | 3  | From St Mary's           | 31 |
| Memorial Village Hall       | 3  | December Church Services | 32 |
| Village Primary School      | 5  | Green Dilemmas           | 33 |
| Getting Ready for Winter    | 7  | Wildlife in December     | 35 |
| Open Gardens Funding Bids   | 7  | Billie Moffat            | 37 |
| Citizens Advice             | 9  | Searching for Words      | 37 |
| Royal British Legion        | 11 | Congregational Church    | 38 |
| Women's Institute           | 13 | Bowls Club Report        | 39 |
| Community Lunch             | 13 | More or Less             | 39 |
| Walsham History Group       | 15 | Sports Club Report       | 41 |
| History of Epiphany Singers | 15 | Spot the Difference      | 41 |
| Memorial Hall Car Paark     | 17 | Observer Crossword       | 43 |
| Diary of Events             | 19 | Observer Sudoku          | 43 |
| Parish Council Minutes      | 21 | All The Answers          | 47 |



## 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.

## The Priory Room

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

For booking or further information, please contact  
John Boulter 07908 010555 [johnboulter@yahoo.com](mailto:johnboulter@yahoo.com)

# EDITORIAL

Before sitting down to write this editorial I spent time clearing the gutters of the house and then checking on the ditches, after the strong winds and recent heavy rain, hoping that we won't be troubled by 'flood' waters! If we are unlucky you can bet that you will be 'entertained' again by our domestic travails.

But I'll park that for the time being and look to the immediate future of the village. You will possibly have noted, from the November edition, that the village is likely to be faced with an increase of an estimated 190 additional house in the years up to 2044. There is a pullout section in this edition, which the Parish Council will be only too delighted for you to respond to. It might be useful, to do this really effectively, to dust off that copy of the Village Plan, which was delivered to each house. Don't just leave it to others as it is your village and hopefully you care how it develops.

You will see a number of small ads at the bottom pages. Two concern the **73 bus, to Bury St Edmunds**. Do consider using it, especially if you have that 'magic plastic'. It is a very valuable facility and it would be extremely sad to lose it through lack of use.

So now on to the events of the month.

If the magazine has been delivered swiftly you will note that the **Village Quiz** is taking place on **Friday 28th November** on the same evening that the **Walsham Art Group** start their exhibition in the Priory Room. This event runs from the **Friday (evening) to Monday 1st December from 10am till 5pm each day**. In this cluster of events there is the annual **Christmas Fair and Tree Lighting at St Mary's on Saturday 29th from 2.00pm**. Unfortunately the talk on Viking East Anglia had to make way for the housing meeting, but the **History Group** is holding their **Christmas themed** meeting on **Tuesday 9th at 7.30pm in The Priory Room**. This year concerns **Cakes, Ale & Partying**. Seems like it's too good to miss! To round off the 'entertainments' there is the **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in St Mary's at 4.00pm on Sunday 21st**. If you have not already made a note of the **Epiphany Singers Concert**, it is on **Saturday 10th January at 7.30pm**. The next day they will taking part in a sung **Eucharist in St Mary's at 11.00am**.

One of the delightful churches in the Benefice is Langham's St Mary's. set away from the road and approached across open parkland. I have been there only twice; the first time was to celebrate the marriage of Margaret and Richard, and, sadly, the second was recently for the funeral of Margaret. The simplicity and location of the church was ideal for both occasions, both of which ended appropriately, in relationship to the setting, with folk music being played by Liz and Karl Hort, both members of Bury Fair. It was a lovely farewell to a dear friend.

Finally, as has been the custom for the past few years the picture on the front cover has been supplied by the winner of the Art Competition at the Primary School. This year the winner is Esther Bryant aged 4.

It only remains for me to wish readers a Very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and to thank both deliverers and contributors for helping to make the magazine what it is.



# HAVE YOUR SAY IN THE FUTURE

## Of Our Wonderful Village!

*Are you concerned that local opinion is too often ignored by planners and developers? Are you worried that future development might adversely affect our local community? How would you like to see Walsham grow in the next 15 years? For many, the planning system is something that does things 'to' and not 'for' local people.*

I plucked this paragraph from an Observer article published during the construction of the current Neighbourhood Plan, as this is what the Parish Council was facilitating in the well-attended meeting on future housing at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 19th November. The statement is equally valid now. Realistically those of us living in Walsham don't want 100+ houses foisted on us by government decree. It doesn't matter if you were born here, have lived here for 55 years like me or moved in last week, we are here because we love it as it is and we are all NIMBYS at heart.

The reality is that unless something changes, housing development is going to happen and our best chance of shaping any development is to utilise what was painstakingly constructed in the Neighbourhood Plan because it is the vehicle that gives us the best chance of preserving the features we love about the village.

Landowners in the village will, like all parishioners, value what we have here and do not want change but if they are farmers faced with climate change impacting on crop production or perhaps inheritance tax, they must consider the sale of land for substantial sums of money. For my part as a trustee of the Old Town Trust, that is the custodian of some 50 acres of village land, I have no doubt we will be taking a careful look at what our responsibilities are and what, if any, land should be put forward in January as a candidate for development.

*Ian Campbell  
Drone participant  
in the Neighbourhood Plan*

## MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

After a very hectic November where we saw an evening of song with Pop Chorus enjoyed by all. The following week we had nearly 40 attending our latest Picturehouse presentation; another great evening. Now we enter December; the first half of the month also looks fairly busy.

On 3rd December we will be holding a pre-Christmas reception to thank the many volunteers who contribute to the ongoing success of the Walsham Observer each month whether they be our army of distributors or regular contributors of articles.

The following Monday 8th December we have our Community Christmas Lunch which has already been fully booked.

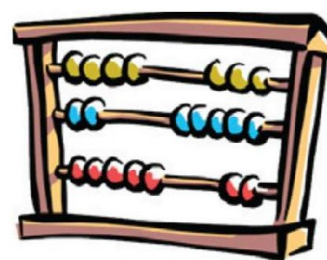
Our regular Thursday coffee mornings continue in the run up to Christmas but will be closed on both the 25th December and the 1st January 2026, reopening on the 8th January. Likewise, all our usual fitness activities are ongoing during December except during the holiday period.

Meantime, have a happy Christmas from all of us at the Memorial Village Hall.

*Rob Matthews*

# TWINN ACCOUNTANTS LTD

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



- ✓ Accounts and tax returns for Sole Traders, Partnerships and Limited Companies.
- ✓ Self-Assessment
- ✓ VAT returns including MTD
- ✓ Payroll Services

- ✓ Construction Industry Scheme
- ✓ Bookkeeping and Management Accounts
- ✓ Tax Planning
- ✓ Company Secretarial Services
- ✓ Training on Xero and QuickBooks

Tel: **01284 787616**

Email: **info@twinnaccountants.co.uk**

**www.twinnaccountants.co.uk**

**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**



# WALSHAM –LE-WILLOWS CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Children in Need Day saw us dressing up as someone inspirational or choosing spots/non uniform and we had a great day taking part in various sporting activities as well.

We have also celebrated Odd Socks Day raising awareness of anti-bullying and celebrating that we are all unique and special.

This half term has seen us celebrate Black History Month with us learning about different famous people and how they helped shaped the world. Our year 6 children visited St Mary's Church as part of the Remembrance Services and we also completed this in school with the remaining children. These events all demonstrate our values as we show respect, courage and service.

The children in Caterpillar and Ladybirds have begun learning their songs for the Nativity performance they will be putting on next month.

Caterpillars will be writing letters to the North Pole, looking at seasonal changes in plants and taking part in invasion games in PE.

Ladybirds have been looking at the story of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot and in maths, are exploring addition and subtraction to 100 as well as looking at multiplication and division.

Children in Dragonfly Class are looking at different myths and legends as part of their Ancient Greece topic. They are working on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division in maths and will be exploring the differences between ancient and modern-day Greece in geography.

Grasshoppers are learning about Everest and the Himalayas and their fascinating facts; they will then be writing information texts about these. In DT they are creating a clay model of Everest and evaluating their work and looking at states of matter in science.

Cricket Class have designed and made Anderson shelters using different materials. They have created some lovely Remembrance poems as part of their WW" learning and some children have taken part in Bikeability, to ensure they are able to stay safe whilst out on their bikes.

Our theme for this half term in collective worship has been 'Respect' and our theme next half term is 'Generosity.'

Mrs Gorzelak has just completed her final assessment for the forest schools award she has been working so hard for over the year. Well done on all her hard work during all kinds of weathers!

A big thank you to everyone who has helped to contribute to her being able to attend this course and helping to play a part in her being able to help children benefit from connecting with nature, building confidence and independence as well as enhancing practical skills.

*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](mailto:admin@walsham-le-willows.suffolk.sch.uk) We would love to hear from you!*

*Maxine McGarr*





# ***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](mailto: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

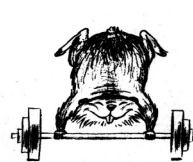
Email: [enquiries@pollardandco.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@pollardandco.co.uk)

# GETTING READY FOR WINTER

## 10 things you should do now to prepare for winter

1. **Stay connected** - Consider a separate battery charging pack for your mobile phone to keep you connected in the event of a power cut. Store the power cut helpline number (105) on your mobile phone.
2. **Cold weather** – Ensure your heating is serviced before the cold weather arrives. Keep your home heated to at least 18°C. Keep your windows closed at night to avoid heat loss.
3. **Adverse weather** - Beware the dangers of strong winds or flooding e.g. falling trees, guttering and roof tiles. Secure garden furniture, fences, children's toys and trampolines.
4. **Insulate pipes** – Retains heat, reduces risk of frozen pipes and subsequent bursts. Ensure that your mains water stopcock is working.
5. **Travel** – Check local news for the condition of both roads and the rail network before venturing out.
6. **Grab Bag** – Keep a 'grab bag' ready at home containing bottled water, medicines, a torch, radio and batteries, copies of important documents and a change of clothes.
7. **Check your car** – Regularly check your tyres and screen wash and take your Grab Bag with you.
8. **Think about others** - Help your neighbours, friends, or relatives , or they may be able to help you.
9. **Health matters** – Consider annual vaccinations for flu and maintain a good supply of regular medication.
10. **Community** - Help your community, particularly if severe weather hits. Ask a Parish Councillor about getting involved.

*Walsham le Willows Parish Council*



## OPEN GARDENS TRUST FUNDING BIDS

This is a reminder that we are now open to bids for funding. We are inviting any properly constituted group, club or organisation to contact us with their costed ideas and projects.

We will carefully consider each application and the more detail you can provide the better. Please call us if you want to discuss your ideas beforehand.

Bids should be submitted by **28<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. You can email them to our Treasurer at [garthharlow@outlook.com](mailto:garthharlow@outlook.com) or drop hard copies through my letter box. The Trustees will be taking decisions in early March 2026.

*Collen Baker. Chair, The Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust  
collen@cool-tech.co.uk 07831 560450*

# 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 £18 per hour

[www.timeforyousuffolk.co.uk](http://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](mailto:ecosweep@live.com)**



**LECTEC LTD**

## FIND YOUR LOCAL RELIABLE INSTALLER

LECTEC LTD with over 25 years Industry experience. We offer all Renewable & Electrical Installations from Solar PV, Battery Storage, Air Conditioning, EV Chargers, Rewires to Security Lights, Extra Sockets and more, including Certification.

### Services include:

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| ✓ Air Conditioning | ✓ EV Chargers      |
| ✓ Solar Panels     | ✓ Heat Pumps       |
| ✓ Battery Storage  | ✓ Electric Heating |
| ✓ Electrical work  | ✓ EICR's           |

**[WWW.LECTECLTD.COM](http://WWW.LECTECLTD.COM)**

Contact Us

**01359 342 538**

**07377 153 954**



What is the Australian wild-dog called?

**With it coming up to Christmas, I want to do more shopping online, but there's been things in the news about delivery problems. I'm worried about not receiving things on time or packages being lost. What should I do if my parcel goes missing?** When you're online shopping, it's not always clear whom to contact if things go wrong. As a customer your contract is with the seller that you bought the item from. It's the seller's responsibility to make sure the item is delivered to you. They should chase the courier to find out what happened to your order if there's a problem.

If your parcel hasn't arrived:

- Check the delivery address you gave the seller, to make sure it's correct.
- Then contact the seller and ask where your order is.
- If the seller claims they've delivered it or doesn't know where it is, you can ask for a redelivery. You might be able to get a refund in some circumstances where the delivery time was essential, and you let the seller know ahead of time.

Under the Consumer Rights Act 2015, you can ask the seller to deliver the item to you again if the item wasn't delivered either by an agreed date, or within a reasonable time - usually within 30 days. If the new delivery fails to come within a reasonable time, you can ask the seller for a refund.

Another problem people face is when parcels get left in different places, for example outside or with a neighbour.

If your item was delivered by Royal Mail:

- And they left your package with a neighbour or in a certain place because you told them to, it's not the seller or Royal Mail's responsibility if it gets lost.
- If they leave it somewhere you hadn't instructed, it's the seller's responsibility if it gets lost. You should contact the seller to ask for a redelivery or a refund.

If the item was delivered by a courier:

- Check your terms and conditions or account details - they might include other places for delivery, like your porch or a neighbour's house. If you agreed to them, it's not the seller's or courier's responsibility if your order has gone missing. However, if you did not agree to this, then it's the seller's responsibility if your order goes missing.

If you ordered something from a private seller or you're still having trouble after trying the tips above, you can find out more via the Citizens Advice website at <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/>

*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](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us). Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.*





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.



**“Volunteering at Citizens Advice has given me a chance to help others”**

[midsuffolkcab.org.uk/volunteer](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/volunteer)



# STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November members were at St Ethelbert's church East Wretham for a service to remember Czechoslovakian and Polish air crew who were buried in the Commonwealth war cemetery plot in the local church yard who died during WWII. The service was led by the Rev. Joshua Whitnall with the music being provided by a pipe band.

Town Mayors from Thetford, Watton and Swaffham. Members of the Czech and Polish Air Force and RAF Honington were also in attendance. Nine standards were paraded and sixteen wreaths were placed on the memorial.

On the evening of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November, we held our Festival of Remembrance at the Apex Bury St Edmunds. We would like to thank Wing Commander Mark Hinde RAF Honington Station Commander for granting permission to the Honington Voluntary Band who performed during the evening. The Honington Military Wives Choir also performed.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November branch members paraded at the Stanton memorial followed by a church service. The service here in Walsham was taken by the Rev. Jill Walker.

A special Thank you to the children from the Little Willows pre-school who had made a wreath which was earlier placed at our memorial. This has now been placed in front of the church font to protect it from the weather.

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November we were joined at our memorial service by the older school children who placed a wreath and crosses on the memorial. The service was led by Rev Catriona Brinkley.

Our Standard Bearer, Ivor Bowden paraded the standard on four occasions during the Remembrance services.

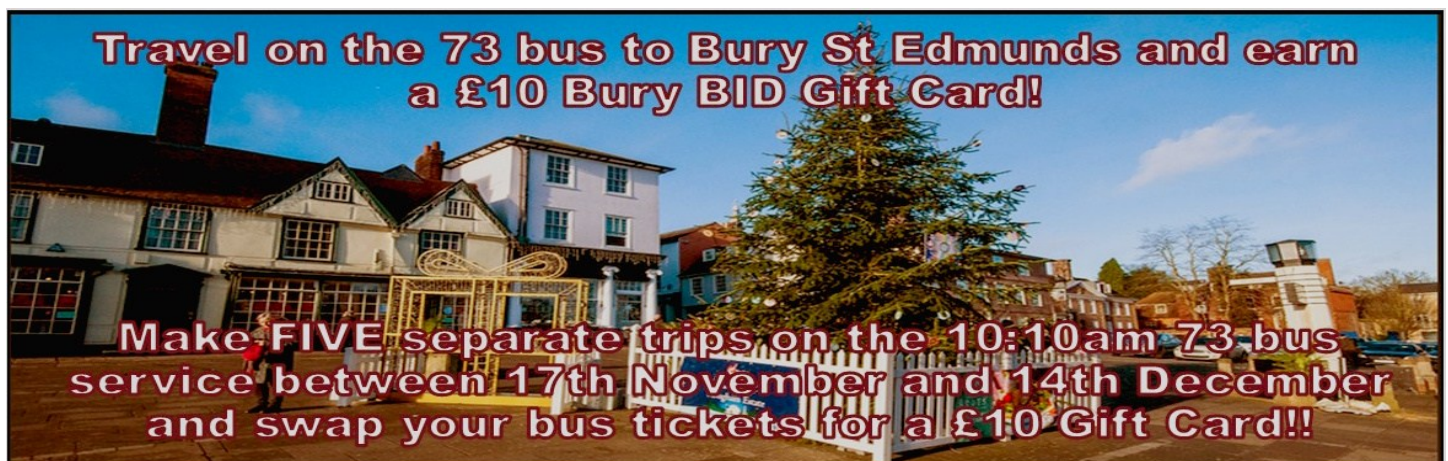
A thank you must be extended to Diana Turner and her helpers for placing the poppy display on the Walsham memorial.

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

The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at the Cock Inn Stanton commencing at 8pm.

I would like to send you all Best Wishes for Christmas and the year ahead.

*Hubby Frost*





## **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**



## **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, Gislingham, Suffolk, IP23 8JD**



# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND DISTRICT W.I.



## *November: The Life of Leonard Cheshire VC.*

Members were delighted to welcome back Barbara McElroy to talk about Leonard Cheshire, husband of Sue Ryder (the subject of last year's talk). He graduated from Oxford in 1939 and went straight into the RAF. After surviving an incredible 4 tours of duty (100 missions) and receiving multiple decorations including the VC, he was chosen as one of the Observers on the plane that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki.

When the war ended, he wanted to spend the rest of his life focusing on peace, he converted to Catholicism and set up a residential home for ex-servicemen. The first home was in a dilapidated rambling house where everyone was expected to pitch in and help. By the time he died in 1992 he had set up 270 homes in 23 countries.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm at the Priory Room: **A talk on Bell Ringing, by Neal Dodge.**

*Judith Harlow*

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



## COMMUNITY LUNCH



Where has this year gone! Nearly Christmas already!

Bookings for **Christmas Lunch on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December** are now completed as Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November was the cut-off date. We look forward to seeing you all then.

The Memorial Village Hall will be open from 12.30pm on **Monday 11th January 2026.**

Lunch will be Hunters Chicken with potato wedges and vegetables served at 1pm, followed by Lemon Cheesecake. 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 8th January 2026.

*Shirley White*





# 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](mailto:shinenclean@mail.com)

  
**botesdaledental**  
PRACTICE & IMPLANT CLINIC

Your local,  
family run  
**Dental  
Practice**



Find us on  
[www.botesdaledental.co.uk](http://www.botesdaledental.co.uk)



Tel: 01379897176  
Email: [reception@botesdaledental.co.uk](mailto:reception@botesdaledental.co.uk)  
Botesdale Dental Practice, Holly Close,  
The Drift, Botesdale, Suffolk IP22 1DH

 **Denplan**  
Part of Simplyhealth



5-STAR DELIVERY TO WALSHAM

**PREMIUM  
KILN  
DRIED  
FIREFWOOD**



**£15** DISCOUNT  
on first order

USE CODE: **WALSHAM1**

**01359 241030**



**ANGLIA  
FIREFWOOD.co.uk**

# WALSHAM HISTORY GROUP

## Christmas talk and celebration

Our December talk is all about 'Cakes, ale and partying: Feasting and Fundraising in Medieval Suffolk'. Our speaker on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm is Kate Jewell, who is a medieval historian. Please note this meeting is on a Tuesday and a week earlier than our usual meetings.

It is a very apt title for the evening as we hope to do a little Walsham partying and feasting of our own after the talk, so please join us for our festive tradition of mulled wine and mince pies. We may even do a little fundraising as well with a Christmas Raffle. So please do join us for our Christmas celebration in the Priory Room.

For those of you who were looking forward to hearing about 'Viking Age East Anglia' in November we do apologise for having to cancel the talk. It coincided with the meeting called by the Parish Council to discuss the proposed 190 houses to be built in Walsham. We felt this meeting was of paramount importance within the community and so took the decision to cancel our meeting. However, good news! Dr Richard Hoggett has kindly agreed to deliver his talk on the Vikings on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026 so we will not miss out.

We look forward to seeing you on the 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Members: Free Visitors: £5.00

*Enquiries to Frances Jenner 01359 259242  
frances.jenner@hotmail.com*



## HISTORY OF THE EPIPHANY SINGERS

The concert has been held in the area for over 50 years. It was the brain-child of a Badwell Ash resident whose two sons were choristers at King's College, Cambridge. In 1971, when Badwell Ash church was recruiting a choir and needed money for robes and such, it was suggested that the sons might gather a few King's choral scholar friends together to give a concert in the church. This they did, and the concert took place over the Epiphany weekend in January 1971, with six singers and an organist/conductor, and included a choral Eucharist on the Sunday. The singers have returned every Epiphany and, from 1977 onwards, both events have taken place in Walsham-le-Willows. The choir has since trebled in size.

The men are drawn from various generations of King's choral scholars or from cathedral or college choirs, while the women tend to sing with professional choirs such as the Bach Choir, Tallis Scholars and the Monteverdi Choir.

David Hill, director of the Bach Choir, has played the organ for the Singers for most of the last 30 years; and their current conductor, Simon Carrington, a professor emeritus at Yale University, was also one of the original King's Singers.

This year's Epiphany concert will be held on Saturday 10th January 2026 at 7.30pm. The Choral Eucharist is at 11am on Sunday 11th January and everyone is warmly invited to join us.

*Gabrielle Hunt*



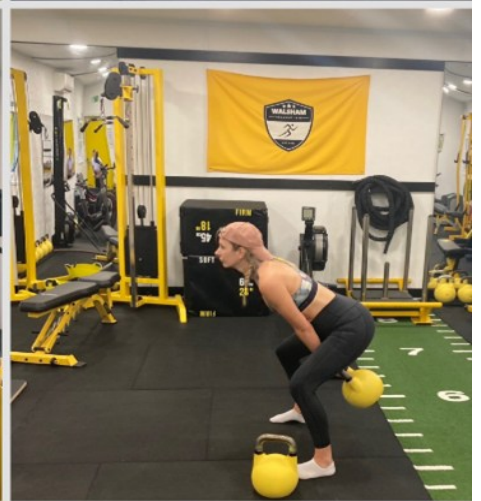
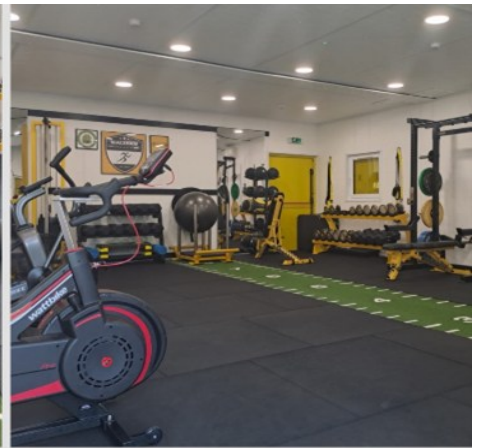
-monthly  
membership

-personal  
Training

-bootcamps

-open 6am  
to 10pm everyday

-walshamgym@gmail.com



# 1StopBlinds

Your Local Blind Maker

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

- |                                                                               |                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hassle-Free Measuring and Fitting Service | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blinds Made Locally in Bury St Edmunds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bury St Edmunds Factory Showroom          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local, Family Run Business             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home and Workplace Blinds                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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](mailto:info@1stopblinds.co.uk)

Web: [www.1stopblinds.co.uk](http://www.1stopblinds.co.uk)

# MEMORIAL HALL CAR PARK

## Rules & Regulations

This car park is owned and managed by the Memorial Hall, Walsham le Willows (Registered Charity no. 304950).

### 1. Permitted Vehicles Only

- Only roadworthy, taxed, and insured vehicles are permitted to park in this car park.
- Vehicles that are declared SORN (Statutory Off Road Notification) or untaxed are strictly prohibited.

### 2. Purpose of Use

- This car park is for the use of Memorial Hall users, visitors, and authorised persons only.
- Long-term storage of vehicles is not allowed.

### 3. Prohibited Vehicles

- No untaxed, uninsured, or unroadworthy vehicles.
- No trailers, caravans, or commercial vehicles without prior written permission.
- No abandoned or immobilised vehicles.

### 4. Vehicle Checks

- The Trustees reserves the right to carry out checks (including via DVLA database) to ensure vehicles are taxed and road legal.
- Any vehicle found in breach may at the discretion of the Trustees be reported to the DVLA or will be instructed to be removed at the owner's expense.

### 5. Enforcement & Penalties

Offending vehicles may be:

- Clamped or towed without further notice.
- Reported to the DVLA or local authorities.
- Subject to a parking charge notice (PCN) or fine, if applicable.

### 6. Abandoned Vehicles

Any vehicle left for more than [e.g., 48 hours] without authorisation may be considered abandoned and dealt with accordingly, see Rule 5

### 7. Liability

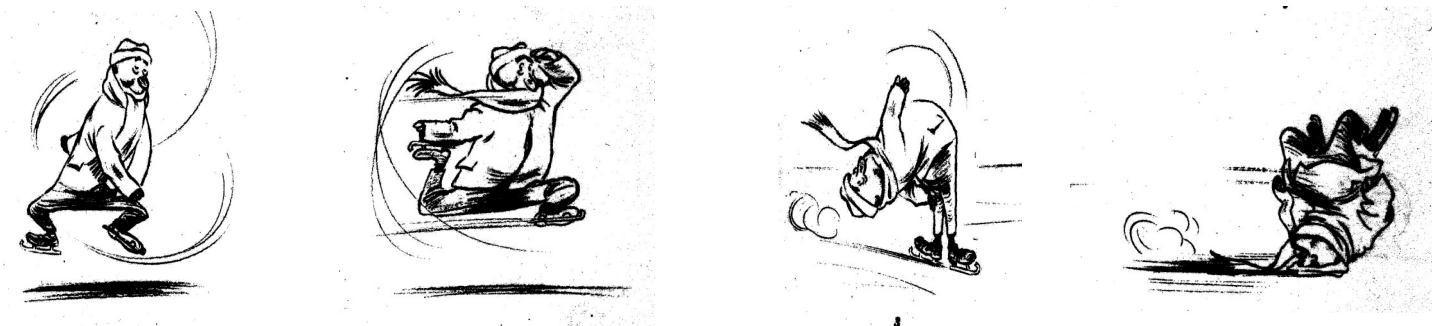
The Memorial Hall Trustees accept no responsibility for loss, theft, or damage to vehicles or contents while parked.

### 8. Surveillance

This car park is monitored. Vehicle registration numbers may be recorded.

### WARNING

**Untaxed or SORN vehicles are not permitted.  
Offenders will be reported and vehicles may be removed.**



## 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



***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

Courtesy car available

**Call: 01359 250671**

**Flpmotors.com**

**MOT's £42.50 with this advert (Class 4)**

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



**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**

# DIARY OF EVENTS

| DECEMBER |                           |        | APRIL    |                     |        |
|----------|---------------------------|--------|----------|---------------------|--------|
| Tue 9th  | History Group             |        | Wed 8th  | W.I. Sign Language  |        |
|          | Priory Room               | 7.30pm |          | Priory Room         | 7.30pm |
| Wed 10th | W.I. Bell Ringing talk    |        | Wed 13th | W.I. Annual Meeting |        |
|          | Priory Room               | 7.30pm |          | 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 |          |                     |        |

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



## MUSIC AT ST MARY'S

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 4.00pm**

### **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**

Enjoy a traditional Christmas celebration  
accompanied by *Brass by Candlelight*.





WALSHAM *History Group*



## CAKES, ALE & PARTYING

*feasting and fundraising  
in Medieval Suffolk.  
A talk by Kate Jewell.*

**TUESDAY 9TH DEC AT 7.30PM**

**PRIORY ROOM, WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS**

*Members Free Visitors £5.00 Refreshments*

## THE EPIPHANY SINGERS CONCERT



**SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY 2026, 7:30 PM**

**ST MARY'S CHURCH, WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS**

**CONDUCTOR - SIMON CARRINGTON    ORGANIST - DAVID HILL**

*An unmissable evening. No tickets required. There will be a retiring collection.*

<https://www.walsham-le-willows.org/annual-events/epiphany-singers>

[walshamepiphany@gmail.com](mailto:walshamepiphany@gmail.com)



# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 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, Mecrow, Roberts and Winch.

**ALSO PRESENT:** District Cllr. Winch

## 1. OPENING STATEMENT MEMBERS APOLOGIES

No opening statement

## 2. MEMBERS APOLOGIES

- a. Apologies received from the Clerk and Cllr Nick Tuck (and Cllr Fleming)
- b. Apologies were accepted.

## 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 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and for signature.

## 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.

- John Stebbing attended to raise issues relating to unresolved reported Highways issues. The large dying willow tree on the roadside verge of the stream opposite Vine Cottage is overhanging the road with potential for damage and/or injury. The stream timbers washed away during Storm Babet in 2023 have not been reinstated. Cllr Winch stated that the last communication she had received was in July when SCC explained that they were negotiating the quote for this work. Cllr Mecrow reminded everyone that this repair item formed part of the S19 action plan and was reviewed as an outstanding item. It was decided to ask the Clerk to chase both issues and to contact County Councillor Fleming to ask her to pursue.

## 6. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPORTS FOR INFORMATION & QUESTIONS

- a. County Councillor Fleming was not present, and no report was circulated prior to the meeting.
- b. District Councillor Winch raised two issues:
  - Highlighted the EV charging point scheme whereby funds from central government are available to provide suitable public charging points. These would be provided, installed and maintained by a private company who would receive the proceeds and pay a £100 rental to the community. The contract would be in place for 15 years. The Memorial Village Hall Committee had discussed this and were not keen to use a parking space for this purpose.

**YOU NEED IT?**

**CLARKES HAVE IT!**

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



**CLARKES**  
OF WALSHAM LIMITED

01359 259 259

[www.clarkesofwalsham.co.uk](http://www.clarkesofwalsham.co.uk)

- > **TIMBER SUPPLIES**
- > **BUILDING MATERIALS**
- > **GARDENING & LANDSCAPING**
- > **BESPOKE JOINERY SERVICES**
- > **TOOLS & HARDWARE**
- > **AGGREGATES**
- > **GATES & FENCING**



*Oil Fired Pressure Jet Boiler  
Servicing & Plumbing*



**ANDY'S**  
**OIL BOILER**  
**SERVICES**

**ANDY BACOS**



07775 751303



[andy.bacos@ntlworld.com](mailto:andy.bacos@ntlworld.com)



Andy's Oil Boiler Services



Several Cllrs. noted that a public charging point was an important amenity for the community. District Cllr. Winch explained that the idea was to provide on street parking although this could be difficult in a rural environment. Several possible locations were discussed with issues of accessibility and safety for lone female users discussed. It was agreed to delegate this to the Traffic Group for further consideration of a suitable location. In the meantime, D. Cllr Winch to register our interest in the scheme.

- District Cllr Winch has received confirmation that Walsham would qualify for funding and support from SCC to provide a bus shelter by the church on the new bus route. A wooden design provided in a similar location was agreed as a suitable design in principle. A site meeting will be set up and attended by 2 parish councillors and 1 or 2 bus users to further the discussion. AB and IB to attend. RW to arrange.

## 7. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS & ACTION LOG REVIEWS

### a. Traffic Group

- i. Update from Cllr. Janette Winch was noted.
- ii. Results of recent speed limit surveys were noted.
- iii. The draft response to our Speed Limit Proposal Report from SCC Highways was agreed in principle with JW to make one or two minor adjustments as agreed. (Cllr Bartholomew noted need to give context to data re relative size of village. Cllr Mecrow agreed to provide a summary at the start of comments for clarity). Cllr. Winch will submit and explained that these comments will form part of the SCC report.

It was agreed that a meeting be set up with our new engineer Sophie Farrington to discuss her recommendations for Summer Road in situ. Cllr Mecrow volunteered to attend with Cllr Winch. Clerk to request. It was also agreed to ask for costings for her suggestions to bring back to council. Finally, it was agreed to look at the issue of additional and or replacement SIDs as part of the budget meeting later in the month. It was confirmed that police advice needs to be sought on location of any additional SID detectors and that one post is available on Summer Road.

### b. Community Emergency Plan (CEP) Group

- i. Update report was noted.
- ii. The possibility of a desktop exercise to test the Community Emergency Plan to be led by Ben Wilding, CEP Officer. Some Cllrs felt it would be best to focus on our own plan before involving other Parish Councils. District Cllr Winch noted that Walsham was well ahead of many other parish councils and that we might benefit more from holding our own event. Cllr Brookes to clarify with Ben Wilding.

### c. Flood Mitigation Group

Report was noted. It was welcomed that several local landowners have already been seeking advice from agencies concerning Natural Flood Management and communicating with the Clerk to update the PC. Tony Salton was thanked for his recent alerts about the Acorns attenuation pond and a watching brief has been agreed.

# **ADDITIONAL HOUSES IN WALSHAM**

## **Where would you put them ?**

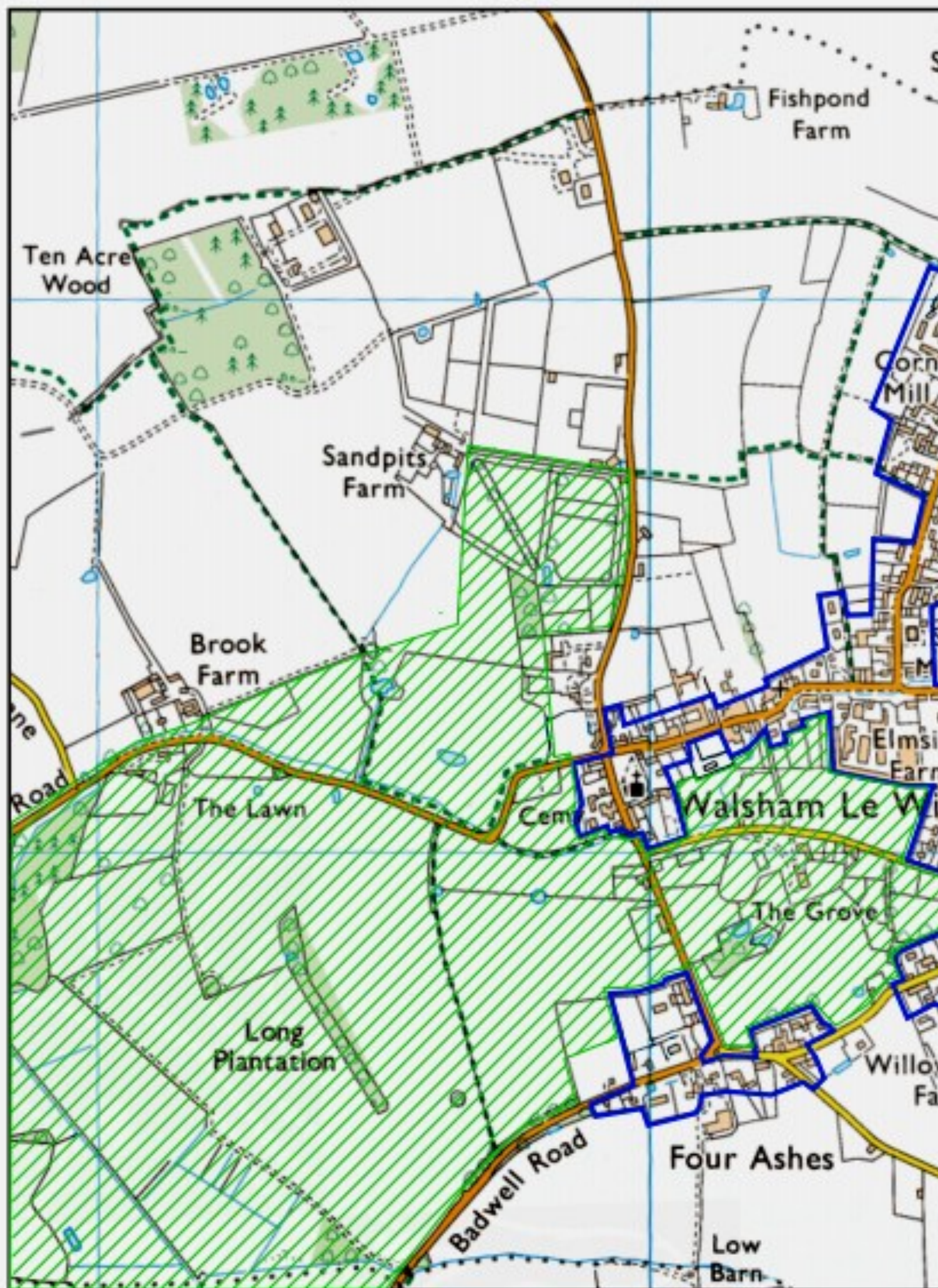
On Wednesday 19th November we had an extremely useful and very well attended meeting in the Village Hall to start looking at the challenge of accomodating quite a large number of additional houses in Walsham. At first sight the idea of 190 more houses looks pretty daunting, but when various factors are taken into account, such as the number of sites and units that are already in the pipeline, the task becomes more approachable. At this stage imagining that we need additional sites for, say 120 houses is probably more realistic, and this is spread over 20 years. This is very similar to the rate of growth that Walsham has experienced over the last 20 years.

But where would you put the extra housing? It was suggested at the meeting that it would be helpful if this question could be posed through the pages of the Observer, so that people could study maps of the village, mark on a site or sites that they feel would be suitable, and then return their thoughts to the Parish Council. This is what we would now like people to do. This questionnaire is intended for those who attended the meeting in the Village Hall, but we are equally keen to get responses from all those who could not attend.

There are some factors that need to be considered:

- normally new sites should join on to the existing Settlement Boundary so that they can be more easily integrated into the rest of the village.
- there is a large area to the west of the village which is designated as an Area of Local Lanscape Sensitivity and is seen as valuable both as a landscape area, but also as a wildlife corridor - this area should be avoided.
- we have a number of open spaces such as the allotments, the play area, the Wild Woods and the Sports Club which are defined as Local Green Spaces and should be seen as sacrosanct.
- building will not be permitted in a Flood Zone as shown in Fig 23 page 68 of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- as part of the Neighbourhood Plan it was agreed that we did not want the two settlements -(Walsham and Four Ashes)- to coalesce.
- in the past the majority of people have said that they would prefer 2 or 3 smaller sites rather than one big one; this would also make it easier to spread construction over the 20 year period rather than have it all at one time, although with one site it would still be feasible to stagger building over several phases.

*Richard Belson*  
*Chair of Parish Council*





## LEGEND



Settlement Boundary



Landscape sensitivity area

Please write comments here .....

# **ADDITIONAL HOUSES IN WALSHAM**

## **Where would you put them ?**

When you have looked at the map and read the introductory notes could you:

- a) use an **cross-hatching** or **shading** to indicate one (or two) sites on the main map which you think would be suitable for housing in the future
- b) briefly explain the reasons behind your choice.

### **Notes:**

it is important to adhere to the 6 bullet points on the first page of this 4 page pull-out

- if there are additional members of your household who would like to submit a response to this, please feel free to photocopy this sheet.
- when you have completed the sheet, please return it to the Parish Council by leaving it at Rolfe's or at the Thursday morning Coffee Shop.
- you may be tempted to use the map to indicate areas where you feel development should not take place, but please resist the temptation as it won't really help us.
- you may be tempted to use the map to indicate areas where you feel development should not take place, but please resist the temptation as it won't really help us.
- for more information you can access the full version of our Neighbourhood Plan by going to [walshamlewillows.org/parish-council/neighbourhood-plan](http://walshamlewillows.org/parish-council/neighbourhood-plan)
- Could you please give your responses by **Tuesday 9th December**.

### **Remember:**

The Parish Council cannot decide where new housing goes. Much depends upon which areas are put forward by landowners in response to MSDC's "call for sites", but collectively we can influence what happens after that.

COTTRELLS  
PROPERTY

# Independent Chartered Surveyors and Estate Agents.

01379 771190

[alexander@cottrellsproperty.co.uk](mailto:alexander@cottrellsproperty.co.uk)



## POTTERY LESSONS ON THE WHEEL



### & the Art of Decoration

£20/hr (+ firing costs)

2 wheels available-bring a friend!

Tea & biscuits inc.

**Shazart Studio at Sunnybank**

Call Shaz 07826 658218



## D Moss Lime Plastering

Specialist in

Traditional Lime Plastering

Interior & Exterior

Call for a  
Free no obligation quote

All work guaranteed

07972245188

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

- a. Standing item to consider changes to the Neighbourhood Plan to be documented for next review: Cllrs Belson and Mecrow have prepared a series of slides for the Neighbourhood Plan public meeting to be held on the 19th of November. These deal with the context of call for sites and the constraints that will determine the sites that might be accepted.

District Cllr Winch stated that having a strong Neighbourhood Plan in place was important. Cllr Bartholomew queried whether the outline permission for the second phase of Elmside had expired – D. Cllr Winch to check. Will also check if the status of villages still forms part of the planning process as Walsham's current designation presumes more facilities than we actually have.

- b. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/04523 Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 5 No. Lawson Cypress (T29, T30, T32, T33, T37), Remove low branches of 4 No. Yew (T39,T40,T44,T45) and lift crown to provide 3m clearance for public footpath , Remove laurel hedging (T41/ T72), Reduce Crown of 1no Yew (T24) by 1m, Prune 1 No. Yew (T25), Fell 1 No. Crab Apple (T7), Remove stems of 1 No. Norwegian Maple (T9), Reduce crown of 1 No.Laurel (T 19/T23) remove overhanging branches, Re -coppice 3 No. Hazel (T20/T21/T22) back to previous points Location: Maltings House, 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/25/04690 Proposal: Notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area - Please see application form. Location: Willows House, Summer Road, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3A **The Parish Council Made No Comment**

- d. APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/25/04531 Proposal: Planning Application. Erection of single storey extension to an existing office building Location: The Stables, Summer Road, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP313AH **The Parish Council Supported This Application**

## 9. PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning Authority) for noting only -

- a. DC/25/00609 Planning Application - Demolition of existing detached dwelling and replacement with 1no self-build two storey dwelling Walsham Town Farm, West Hall Road, Walsham Le Willows, IP22 1LY **MSDC Granted Permission**

- b. 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 **MSDC Granted Permission**

- 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

# SAVE £7,500

on your New Heating System with the **Boiler Upgrade Scheme**

## Act Now!

The government's £7,500 Boiler Upgrade Scheme grant makes switching to a heat pump more affordable than ever. But funding is limited, so don't miss out!

### Why choose Finn Geotherm for your Heat Pump?

**Multi-Award Winning Installers:** Two-time Renewable Heat Installer of the Year (East of England) and winners of multiple national awards.

**Unrivalled Expertise:** Trusted since 2006, we've installed systems for homes of all shapes and sizes, from cosy cottages to large country homes.

**Peace of Mind:** Every system comes with a 7 year guarantee on the heat pump, 2 year parts and labour guarantee and ongoing service and maintenance support for its lifetime.



### Award-Winning Heat Pump Specialists for Norfolk & Suffolk

Looking for a greener, cost-effective heating solution for your home?

At Finn Geotherm, we've been designing and installing heat pump systems since 2006, helping hundreds of homeowners reduce their energy bills and carbon footprint.

### FREE Initial Assessment and Estimate

Contact us

01953 453240

[enquiries@finn-geotherm.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@finn-geotherm.co.uk)

Visit us at [www.finn-geotherm.co.uk](http://www.finn-geotherm.co.uk)



## 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](mailto:wshorseboxservices@gmail.com)**

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 **MSDC Raised No Objection**

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  
**MSDC Raised No Objection**

e. APPLICATION DC/25/03998 FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT Re-render  
main house, reroof barn, replace bargeboards and fascias to barn. LOCATION:  
Green Farmhouse, Finningham Road, Walsham le Willows, IP31 3BJ. **MSDC  
Granted Permission**

f. 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 **MSDC Raised No Objection**

#### 10. FINANCE, AUDIT & COUNCIL ADMIN

- a. Bank reconciliation for period ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 was approved and signed.
- b. Accounts awaiting payment summary and invoices for payment. (Appendix 1)  
were approved and signed.
- c. It was noted that that a Pride in Your Place application has been submitted for  
£500 to cover signage for (bus shelter) info point and Memorial Hall. This was  
based on quotes from the graphic designer and Multi-Signs in Thetford.
- d. Annual Asset Maintenance Review – Cllrs to follow up on outstanding items (as  
sent out to individual members) for updating of record after December meeting

#### 11. CLERK ACTION LOG, COUNCILLOR REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE (if not dealt with elsewhere)

- a. Cllr Bartholomew's summarised actions from this year's RoSPA report for the  
play area were considered and it was decided that:
  - Small tasks to be referred to local handyman by Clerk and cargo net anchor to  
be reinstated.
  - Clerk to investigate provision of new safety matting at the end of slide and as  
noted in ROSPA report for further consideration.
  - A watching brief is maintained on large timbers to be maintained.
- b. It was noted that notice has been served for closed churchyard maintenance and  
the new contractor will start from 1st December.
- c. It was decided to let the new contract run for 6 months and then review the need  
to retain equipment.
- d. It was noted that the 2BorderPestControl been contacted about the appearance if  
mole hills in the gravel paths at the closed churchyard. Initial visit to set traps  
should already have taken place.

#### 12. OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN/NOTE FOR NEXT AGENDA

- a. Cllr Winch requested that the Clerk write on behalf of the PC to thank the Coffee  
Morning volunteers for the great job they are doing in providing a warm and

**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**

# 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**  
**willowserve\_ltd@hotmail.com**



welcoming meeting place for the community on Thursdays. It is well attended and appreciated by the community. This was agreed.

b. Next Parish Council Meetings

- **Budget meeting** 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025 7pm – Memorial Hall
- Monthly meeting 12th December 2025 7pm – Memorial Hall

Meeting Close 20:23

**Payments for Authorisation NOVEMBER 2025**

| # | Payments OUT            | Amount          | Description                                                                                                                          |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Nurture Landscapes      | £223.25         | Play Area/Stream grass cutting x1                                                                                                    |
| 2 | Kevin Boardley          | £75.79          | Screwfix – external solar powered lamp for shed                                                                                      |
| 3 | Memorial Hall           | £54.00          | Hall Hire (monthly & CEP volunteers)                                                                                                 |
| 4 | Playsafety Limited      | £153.60         | Annual RoSPA report                                                                                                                  |
| 5 | Parish Council Employee | £530.94         | Remuneration                                                                                                                         |
| 6 | Unity Trust Bank        | £6.00           | Recurring monthly DDR Service Charge                                                                                                 |
| 7 | C.A.S.                  | [£997.97]       | Annual insurance premium (Ansvar)<br><i>For information only - Paid last month – signed outside meeting following prior approval</i> |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>£1043.58</b> |                                                                                                                                      |

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



## REMEMBERING Paddy Hamilton

Many of you will remember Patricia Hamilton, better known to us all as 'Paddy'. For twenty years Paddy lived in Walsham at Clematis House in The Street. She was a familiar figure seen daily scurrying along to see her friend Gill Grimes or popping to Rolfes. She was always pleased to stop for a chat and a catch-up on news.

Sadly, Paddy died peacefully in her sleep on the 14<sup>th</sup> November at Stowlangtoft Hall. She was 91 years old.

From the moment she moved to Walsham Paddy became part of our community, always opening her garden for Open Gardens. She made many friends and was always happy to support or help out at various village events. She was part of our community and will be fondly remembered by many.

*Frances Jenner*



## 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

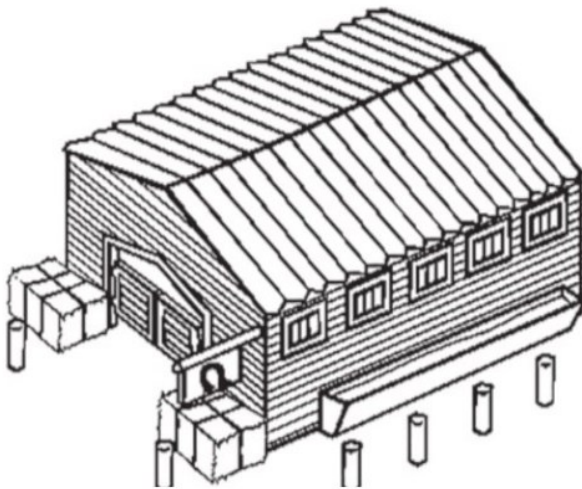


\*References and Testimonials available on request\*

Caroline Morris: 07843 248 411

cdv\_11@hotmail.com

## 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](mailto:georget@sentry.co.uk),  
or Joseph Light, 07970 549019,  
[joseph.light@sentry.co.uk](mailto:joseph.light@sentry.co.uk)

# FROM ST MARY'S

As December settles gently over our village with frosty mornings, glowing windows, and the soft sparkle of the Christmas tree in the churchyard we find ourselves entering a season shaped by joy. Not the noisy or hurried kind that so easily follows the pressures of the holidays, but a deeper, quieter joy that takes us by surprise: in a moment of stillness, a shared smile, a familiar carol, or the warmth of gathering together. Advent gently invites us to pause, to watch, to wait, and to welcome Jesus who comes to us as both our light and our hope.

Here at St Mary's, we warmly invite you to join us in celebrating that light throughout the month. Whether you have worshipped with us for many years or are stepping into church for the very first time, you are truly welcome, just as you are, at any of our services and gatherings. We hope you will find space to breathe, to reflect, and to rediscover the joy of the season.

We begin our Advent journey with our children's group, Roots and Shoots, along with our Family Service. In these early December weeks, we are reminded that joy often begins in small, unexpected ways. The story of Christmas itself begins in simplicity: a quiet stable, a humble family, a child whose birth changed the world forever.

As the month unfolds, we look forward to one of our most cherished traditions: Nine Lessons and Carols. This beautiful service draws us into the great sweep of the Christmas story. Through Scripture and song, we travel from the ancient longing of the prophets to the humble birth in Bethlehem. Each reading and each carol helps us remember that the joy of Christmas is not simply a feeling it is rooted in a promise fulfilled, a light shining in darkness, and a love that reaches out to all.

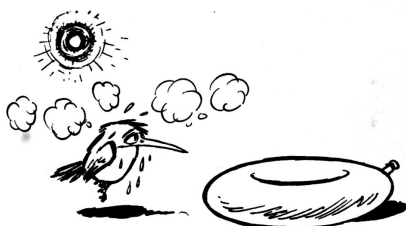
On Christmas Eve, our much-loved Crib Service brings the nativity to life in all its wonder and simplicity. This year, we invite everyone, children, families, and adults alike, to come dressed as angels, shepherds, as together we recreate the story that has captured hearts for generations. It is always a moment of delight, full of laughter, awe, and the kind of joy that only Christmas Eve can bring.

As night deepens, we gather for Midnight Mass, a service filled with quiet beauty and mystery. It is a time to pause amid the busyness, to reflect, and to cross together into the stillness of Christmas Day. Then, on Christmas morning itself, we gather once more for Christmas Communion, celebrating with gratitude and joy the light that has come into the world.

Just as the twinkle of the village Christmas tree lifts our spirits on even the chilliest winter nights, so the light of Christ brings warmth, hope, and joy to our lives. My prayer is that this light will shine brightly for you and your loved ones in the weeks ahead. And we hope that, this December, you will find yourself at home among us as we share in the wonder, joy, and peace of the season together.

With every blessing,

*Revd Catriona*



# DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES

| Date            | Service                        | Church      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>7th Dec</b>  | <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>    |             |
| 8:00am          | BCP Holy Communion             | Walsham     |
| 10:00am         | Roots and Shoots               | Walsham     |
| 11:00am         | Family Service                 | Walsham     |
| 3:00pm          | Carol Service                  | Wattisfield |
| <b>14th Dec</b> | <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>    |             |
| 8:00am          | BCP Holy Communion             | Walsham     |
| 9:30am          | Holy Communion                 | Badwell Ash |
| 2:00pm          | Carol Service                  | Langham     |
| 3:30pm          | Christingle Service            | Finningham  |
| <b>17th Dec</b> |                                |             |
| 2:00pm          | School Christmas Service       | Walsham     |
| <b>18th Dec</b> |                                |             |
| 6:00pm          | Carol Service                  | Westhorpe   |
| <b>21st Dec</b> | <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>    |             |
| 8:00am          | BCP Holy Communion             | Walsham     |
| 9:30am          | Holy Communion                 | Westhorpe   |
| 4:00pm          | Nine Lessons and Carols        | Walsham     |
| <b>24th Dec</b> | <b>Christmas Eve</b>           |             |
| 3:00pm          | Crib Service                   | Walsham     |
| 5:00pm          | Carol Service                  | Badwell Ash |
| 11:15pm         | Midnight Mass                  | Walsham     |
| <b>25th Dec</b> | <b>Christmas Day</b>           |             |
| 9:30am          | Christmas Communion            | Finningham  |
| 11:00am         | Christmas Communion            | Walsham     |
| <b>28th Dec</b> | <b>1st Sunday of Christmas</b> |             |
| 8:00am          | BCP Holy Communion             | Walsham     |
| <b>4th Jan</b>  | <b>2nd Sunday of Christmas</b> |             |
| 8:00am          | BCP Holy Communion             | Walsham     |
| 9:30am          | Holy Communion                 | Finningham  |
| 10:00am         | Roots and Shoots               | Walsham     |

## ST MARY'S CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Not happening  
this month

**TEA AND TOAST TUESDAYS**  
IN THE PRIORY ROOM

# Roots and Shoots

Sun 7th December  
10am till 11am

For more information please contact Revd Catriona on 07525920307  
or [revcatrionabrinkley@outlook.com](mailto:revcatrionabrinkley@outlook.com)



# GREEN DILEMMAS

## Biodiversity Net Gain



In the UK there has been a significant decline in biodiversity over the last few decades with England becoming one of the most nature depleted nations in Europe. In February 2024 the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) legislation was introduced to try and address the impact of development on wildlife.

The idea is to try to ensure an overall improvement to habitats for wildlife when a new development takes place. Developers are legally required to achieve a minimum 110% BNG (120% in Mid Suffolk).

Ecologists have come up with a way of 'scoring' land where development is being planned as follows:

- Size - the land area in hectares
- Distinctiveness - the area is categorised into one or more habitat types from a possible list of about 130 types (based on the geology and flora) and each habitat type has a score according to its rarity.
- Condition - a score is assigned based on whether the condition of the land is poor, moderate or good.
- Strategic significance - if the land is part of the local area nature recovery strategy the score is uplifted.

In addition, there is a separate scoring process for hedgerows and water courses.

The land is given an overall 'biodiversity units' score by multiplying all these factors together. Arable land has a relatively low distinctiveness score and will tend to attract a low biodiversity units score. This type of land is some of the most nature-depleted non brownfield land.

The developer now must show how they will produce an increase of 120% in this score. The simplest way for developers to fulfil their BNG requirements is by creating habitat onsite within the boundary of the proposed development. Where this is not possible the main alternative is to buy units from registered offsite habitat banks.

Most wildlife organisations like Suffolk Wildlife Trust believe that, done well, BNG should help to mitigate the impact of development on wildlife. There are however concerns about how the process may work in practice.

One concern is that we may lose unique elements of on-site habitats such as a toad migration site only to be replaced by lower quality habitats elsewhere. Another concern is that whilst larger offsite habitats might be beneficial there is a danger that certain areas become built up without any local biodiversity provision.

There are also worries about the government wanting to water down the legislation. A recent consultation proposes removing BNG requirements for smaller sites which could mean the vast majority of new developments. There is also new planning legislation currently going through parliament which will weaken protection for nature.

BNG is potentially an important tool for protecting wildlife. Like a lot of well-meaning legislation, the devil is in the detail and citizens will need to play their part in making sure the process is monitored and effective.

*Richard Winch*

# TRADITIONALLY REARED FARM TURKEYS AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS



## CONTACT

**J M FARROW 01359259221**

**PRIORY FARM RICKINGHALL IP221LY**



- Email: [Benhbarry1@gmail.com](mailto:Benhbarry1@gmail.com)
- Phone: 07884 443280
- Website: [Trainwithben.co.uk](http://Trainwithben.co.uk)

**Yoga – Moat House Studio, Bardwell**

- Thursday 6.30 – 7.45pm  
Yoga Alchemy – Suitable for all levels
- Saturday 09.30 – 10.45am  
Men's Resilience Yoga – Suitable for all levels

*All Yoga classes are £15, first class is half price*

**Qi Gong – Bardwell Community Fields**

- Like Tai Chi, Qi Gong involves slow, flowing movements derived from Chinese Medicine to bring harmony and prevent illness in the body
- Class is free of cost
- Every Saturday: 11 – 11.45am

## WILDLIFE IN DECEMBER

Our gardens are becoming quieter now, and flowers have either faded or are looking past their best. One plant that has stayed hidden during the summer months is the Wild Clematis, also known as old man's beard, Grandfather's Whiskas or bedwine, it has many names given to it by us. It is a climbing plant with long twinning stems that will ramble through hedges. You can find this plant on bushes, motorway verges, along the edges of woodland and railways. You may not see it during the summer months as it is hidden by the foliage of other plants/bushes but you may catch its sweet scent. The abundant seedheads which are greyish-white in colour, and look like wispy cobwebs which will cover the hedges, hence the names that reference facial hair.

We had a dry summer this year which meant a lot of watering was needed for our gardens, on the plus side of that there were not so many Slugs and Snails eating away at our plants, especially our Hosta's. Where do these Slugs and Snails go for the Winter? As Molluscs they belong to one of the most successful groups of animals, with far more species described than Vertebrates. However, these terrestrial species have a big problem, dry air and cold frosts, which are a killer for soft bodied creatures. This means extra evasive action is required. Snails will stay above ground and seal themselves up into their shells with a thick layer of slime, you will often find them grouped together under flower pots and cracks in walls, where they will wait out the colder weather. Slugs cannot do this so they head underground for the colder months, which can sometimes mean bulbs getting munched on.

Whilst many Robins remain with us throughout the year, there are a small number that venture to warmer climates during the winter. This includes short hops across the channel to France and Spain. However, our Winter population can increase with visiting Robins from Europe, particularly Scandinavia. With their vibrant red breasts, cheeky and bold personality, no wonder this dear little bird is on our Christmas cards every year. Yet they are the most 'at risk' bird species, with an average age of two years old, with only 40% surviving one year to the next. With the threat of predators, extreme weather conditions and lack of natural food sources, our little birds need a helping hand. Although we see them on our Christmas cards surrounded by snow and icy scenes, the cold Winter weather can prove fatal for them. During a chilly night a Robin can use up to 10% of its body weight trying to keep warm, so they need to replenish their fat reserves. You can help by providing high fat foods such as, suet balls, peanuts, mealworms and sunflower hearts. Robins are ground feeding birds and may like to have a little tray of food on the ground, but most will very happily visit the bird table too.

*Merry Christmas Everyone*

### **STANTON WI CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

**All Saints Church Stanton**

**Saturday 13th December 10am—4.30pm**

**Sunday 14th December 12noon—4pm**

**Followed by The Christingle Service**

**At 4pm on Sunday 14th December**

**Refreshments available and raffle**

**All proceeds to All Saints, Stanton WI and local charities**



# Professional Chimney Sweeping

## Chimney Matters

Town and Country

Mobile : 07767 864127

Phone: 01284 789663

[www.chimneymatters.co.uk](http://www.chimneymatters.co.uk)

email: [chimneymatters@hotmail.com](mailto:chimneymatters@hotmail.com)

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



## POTTER'S

### ALL SEASONS GARDEN SERVICES

Lawn Mowing & Edging

Strimming & Hedge Cutting

Planting, Pruning & Weeding

Border Maintenance

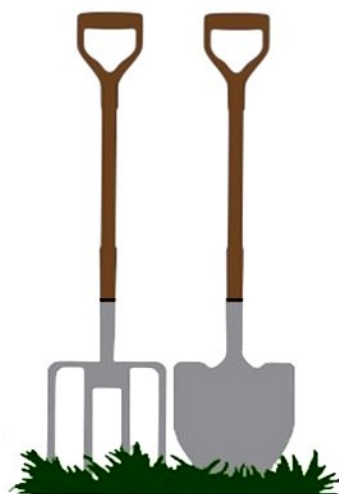
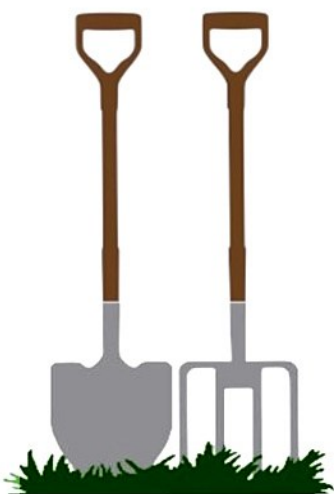
Graveside Maintenance

Vegetable Tending

Leaf Clearing

Contact: Gary 07519 890179

Public Liability Insured



## 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](mailto:stuma1@hotmail.co.uk)



# BILLIE MOFFAT

## A Vanden Plas Original

Bill Moffat has died; perhaps the last of the original Vanden Plas cricketers to forge the links with the Sports Club that have endured over the past 60+ years. Hubby Frost's memory is better than most and he casts his mind back to the first game at Walsham in 1957 when the Club was selected as a venue for the firm's annual cricket outing. Walsham fielded Albert Largent and Bryan Garrard, both still going strong today. A return match in 1958 was agreed down to London and Hubby remembers their surprise in being shown round the works to find only six cars being worked on. The Vanden Plas marque, itself goes back to 1870 in Brussels when the company was founded: in 1946 it was bought by the Austin company so it is clear that the workshop Hubby remembers was a speciality offshoot of the main company.

Billie was born in 1936 and apart from being a good cricketer, clearly had something about him as before Ann became his wife, she was one of the famous Tiller Girls. The Sports Club recognised just how valuable the relationship with Billie and his team was, that they invited him to open the extension to the Clubhouse in 1989: a wall plaque on the bar, whilst not quite like the Blue marque, will be there for future generations to see. I didn't come on the scene until 1971 and by then the fixture had become a key game in the year; it had a sufficient aura about it that one of the best players Walsham has ever had, Dave Foster, complained to me about never being picked due to the competition for places in the team.

Until 1977 their trip to Walsham was by coach with the day ending around midnight as the poor coach driver did his best to extract the last remnants, still enthusiastically singing their heads off, from the Six Bells. The next few years turned into long weekends with Billie and Ann staying with Ted and Audrey Hubbard, The Whites with Ruth and Hubby and the rest scattered round the village as well as the Six Bells.

Eventually the task of playing cricket became too much and the game changed to golf with an annual challenge match at courses in this country before the lure of Spain became too much and the remnants, generally a dozen, would head off for a week of alcohol misuse and the challenge of playing on courses up and down mountains with little strips of fairway to strike your ball on to. Not surprisingly, it was normal to find sellers of golf balls at varying places on the course and a competition between us for most lost balls.

Happy days for those of us still here to remember

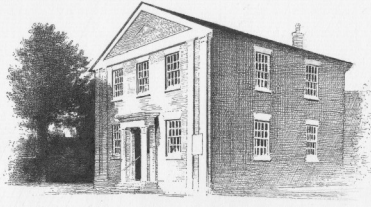
## SEARCHING FOR WORDS

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| F | A | R |
| T | E | L |
| E | F | I |

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 is not for the living.

Get 50 words and you are doing well.



## 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.

### **Great Gifts**

The fact that December is so closely associated with Christmas, and Christmas with gifts, hardly needs stating, but sadly in this day and age, the connection between Christmas and the gift of the Lord Jesus Christ is not so frequently made, ***“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).*** Another great gift from God is his Holy Word, The Bible, which answers all the important questions of life, shows the true nature of man, the true nature of God and points us to the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**So important is the Bible that we would like to offer a free copy to anyone who would like one: they will be found in our new ‘Bible Box’ that is to be installed outside the chapel. Please do look out for the ‘Bible Box’, which looks like a miniature, traditional red telephone kiosk, and avail yourselves of a copy of God’s Word, as a gift from us.**

Our friend Graham Chewter, who works for the Trinitarian Bible Society, (and will be preaching here at Walsham on 4<sup>th</sup> January) wrote the following for their quarterly magazine:

*“Over recent years many believers have made Bibles and New Testaments available outside their homes and churches. TBS supporters will be encouraged to know that this prayerful endeavour is bearing fruit.*

*One young man, living in the Midlands, and from a non-Christian background, became concerned to know the meaning and purpose of life. The pertinent questions, ‘Why am I here?’ and ‘Where did everything come from?’ kept passing through his mind. Having failed to find answers from the major world religions he began to consider reading the Bible and was amazed to find a free Bible outside a church near to his home. The Holy Spirit illuminated his understanding and led him into the truth. It was awhile before he could pluck up courage to attend a place of worship, but, upon receiving a warm welcome, he continued to attend, and came to the point where he could say, “I finally realised that I am a sinner who needed Jesus ... and through His grace, I have been given the new heart that I need to repent and turn away from sin”.*

*Another encouragement came from the West Country, where a pastor was able to report, “Two years ago, a young atheist woman took a Bible from our Bible Box – she read it, came to church, and last Lord’s Day, she professed faith in Jesus Christ through baptism. Keep sharing the Gospel and giving out God’s Word, for it never returns void.”*

***“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I shall please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it” (Isaiah 55:11)***

Also, John Wesley, the 18<sup>th</sup> century evangelist, could testify of the wonder, and glory of owning a copy of God’s word: *“To candid, reasonable men, I am not afraid to lay open what has been the inmost thoughts of my heart. I am a creature of a day, passing through life as an arrow through the air. I am a spirit that came from God, and returning to God: just hovering over the great gulf; till, a few moments hence, I am no more seen; I drop into an unchangeable eternity! I want to know one thing - the way to heaven; how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O give me that book! At any price, give me the book of God! I have it: here is knowledge enough for me. Let me be ‘homo unaus libre’ (a man of one book). Here then I am, far from the busy ways of men. I sit down alone: only God is here. In His presence I open, I read His book; for this end, to find my way to heaven”*

**Thy word is truth (John 17:17)**

# BOWLS CLUB REPORT

We can now confirm the full Committee of Walsham Bowls Club:

Chairman: Trevor Pollard

Vice Chairperson: Jan Murton

Secretary: Angela Whiting

Treasurer: Adi Cole

Committee Members: Gordon Ross, Brian Randall and we welcome Dianne Hughes to the committee.

Our first committee meeting will be on Thursday 4th December 2025.

We are at present looking at ways to improve our kitchen layout and make it more user friendly.

Carpet Bowls is being well attended on Wednesday afternoons.

The Bowls Section will be sponsoring the Walsham v Fakenham football match on Saturday 7th February 2026, several members have already shown an interest to attend, please let any of the committee know if you would like to also.

Our Presentation Evening is again being held at Thornham Four Horseshoes on Thursday 5th March 2026m we are limited to 30 places and we are nearly to capacity, please contact us ASAP if you are interested.

Our Secretary is being kept busy with the Stowmarket League AGM on Monday 1st December and the Stowmarket League AGM on Tuesday 9th December.

Although the season has finished, we still have plenty going on.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas, and all the best for 2026 (hopefully happy bowling)!



## MORE OR LESS

|                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <                    | 4                    | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> | 4                    | >                    | <input type="text"/> | <                    | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> | <                    | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> | >                    | 2                    | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | >                    | <input type="text"/> | >                    | <input type="text"/> |

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

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



## WALSHAM SPORTSCLUB EVENTS FOR

**December  
& January**

### **Sunday Night Bingo**

14th and 21st December  
4th and 18th January  
7pm start

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



**Horace:** I don't know all about these 190 houses, or what I can do!

**Algernon:** Well, for a start, you might look at the Neighbourhood Plan on the village website and respond to the pullout section in the December edition of the Observer.



10% off when spending  
over £25 on food.

This voucher can be  
redeemed from  
1st to 30th December

## **WHAT'S ON AT THE BLUE BOAR**

- 1st till 24th-Christmas Party Menu (**Prebook**)
- 4th £5 Stew Night (**Prebook**)
- 11th £5pizza night (**Prebook**)
- 13th Fickle pickle band from 8:30pm
- 18th £5 curry night (**Prebook**)
- 24th Christmas dinner takeaway available (**Prebook**)
- 24th Xmas Eve disco from 7:30
- 25th Christmas Day dinners (**Prebook**) also open for drinks from 12pm
- New Year's Eve Disco and massive fireworks (at midnight) Free Entry

**To prebook see website/facebook for detail or ring**

**To contact us please call on 01359 256944**

# SPORTS CLUB REPORT

## Football

It has been a difficult period for the First Team recently. In the league they lost 2-0 at home to Great Yarmouth; then they lost 1-0 away to Haverhill Rovers, despite having several chances of their own. They then went out of The Vase losing 2-1 at home to Benfleet. Recently they have returned to winning ways beating Cornard United 3-0 in the league.

The Under 18s lost their latest matches at home to AFC Sudbury then away to Ipswich Wanderers.

The Under 23s lost heavily at home to Haverhill Rovers in the Suffolk Senior Reserves Cup.

Finally the Veterans lost their first league game of the season 4-1 away to Ipswich Wanderers.

## Home fixtures for December

### First Team

Sat 6th v Soham Town Rangers 3pm

Sat 27th v Harleston Town 3pm

### Under 18s

Thur 11th v Felixstowe 7.45pm

Finally from all at Walsham Sports Club have a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New year

### Under 23s

Sat 13th v Needham Market 3pm

Sat 20th v FC Parson Drove 3pm

### Veterans

Sun 14th Veterans v Old Newton 2pm

# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



*There are ten differences between these two pictures, see if you can find them all before breakfast and needlework are both finished.*

 The  
**Old Tea Room**  
Veterinary Surgery 

For a professional caring service

**Tel: 01359 241761**

**www.elmswellvets.co.uk**

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

A member of  
Stowe Veterinary Group

**www.stovevetgroup.co.uk**



**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



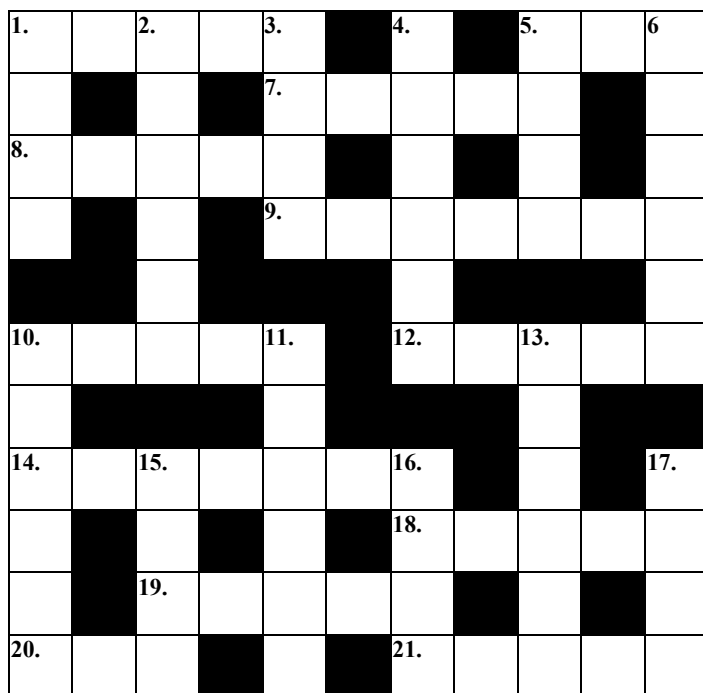
www.clarkescountrystores.co.uk

**Main Store  
Opening Hours**

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

Sat : 8:00am - 4:00pm

# WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1. A sign to go into temporary accommodation. (5)
5. Worthy of being such a healthy condition. (3)
7. Mothers have an alternative. (5)
8. First in letters for the top man. (5)
9. Does one trap vowels for the circus flyer? (7)

10. The trickster is able to teach somehow. (5)
12. Tear up a little piece. (5)
14. Give up singing the chorus. (7)
18. Pass a bill included ten acts. (5)
19. Sinners have it near the bull. (5)
20. See old sailor in startling fashion. (3)
21. Material returns in determined fashion. (5)

## DOWN

1. Could be an XI or an XV. (4)
2. Let pop organise the downfall. (6)
3. I leave ma to work out the defence. (4)
4. The way he acts is designed to beguile. (6)
5. No payment needed for release. (4)
6. Tend to find he is inside at last. (3,3)
10. Such an instrument for an ice cream. (6)
11. From first to last let them take the strain. (6)
13. Keep it near in other ways. (6)
15. Just an amusement. (4)
16. This enthusiast is involved in finer design work. (4)
17. Such a small particle for a cat? (4)



# WALSHAM OBSERVER SUDOKU

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

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!

## 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](http://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](mailto:kevindunstan@hotmail.co.uk)

**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](mailto:graemegreenelectrical@gmail.com)

📍 Suffolk • Norfolk • Essex



**Special cakes  
for  
special celebrations**

*Jean Barker* 01359 241135

[www.amazingcakesbyjean.co.uk](http://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](mailto:servicing@letserve.co.uk)**

## REGULAR

### MONDAY

Community Lunch Village Hall  
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

## WALSHAM & DISTRICT W.I.

Bell Ringing  
A talk by Neal Dodge  
Priory Room

Wednesday 10th November at 7.30pm

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

# 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

## Sudoku

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

## Crossword

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | O | T | E | M |   | C |   | F | I | T |
| E |   | O |   | O | T | H | E | R |   | H |
| A | L | P | H | A |   | E |   | E |   | E |
| M |   | P |   | T | R | A | P | E | Z | E |
|   |   | L |   |   | T |   |   |   |   | N |
| C | H | E | A | T |   | S | H | R | E | D |
| O |   |   |   | R |   |   | E |   |   |   |
| R | E | F | R | A | I | N |   | T |   | A |
| N |   | A |   | I |   | E | N | A | C | T |
| E |   | I | N | N | E | R |   | I |   | O |
| T | A | R |   | S |   | D | E | N | I | M |

## More or Less

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 |

## Spot the Difference



## Searching for Words

|       |       |        |       |      |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|------|
| Aft   | After | Ale    | Are   | Ate  |
| Ear   | Earl  | Eat    | Eel   | Era  |
| Eta   | Far   | Fare   | Fat   | Fate |
| Fear  | Feat  | Fee    | Feel  | Feet |
| Fie   | File  | Filer  | Flare | Flat |
| Flea  | Flee  | Fleet  | Flier | Late |
| Later | Lea   | Leaf   | Lee   | Leet |
| Left  | Let   | Lie    | Lier  | Life |
| Lifer | Lift  | Lifter | Raft  | Rat  |
| Rate  | Real  | Reef   | Ref   | Tale |
| Tar   | Tare  | Tea    | Teal  | Tear |

Afterlife (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.'**