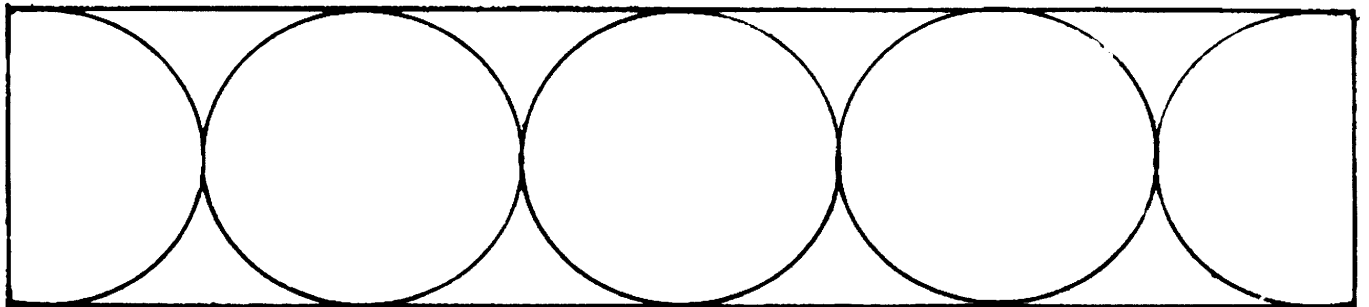
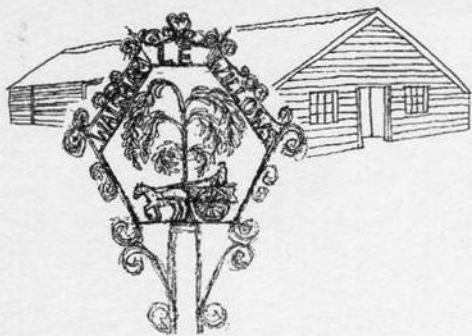


WALSHAM OBSERVER



FEBRUARY 2026



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



THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

FEBRUARY 2026

No 673

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THE MOBILE POST OFFICE

The Mobile Post Office will still be coming to the
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John Boulter 07908 010555 johnboulter@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL

If you have never heard of Grooks before I have to admit that I hadn't before walking into yet another charity bookshop, whilst visiting my sister in Canterbury, in my regular searches in such establishments for fillers for the Observer. I also managed to find another book of newspaper cartoons suitable for adjusting for Spot the Difference; so be warned.

The big problem with going away for the weekend, which should have been spent putting the Observer together is that before and after it is a bit of 'panic!', so I apologise if there are strange layouts to some pages, although I hope any will not ruin your enjoyment.

Walsham Wild Woods are holding their annual Fund Raiser with another **Pop Up Curry Evenings** on **Saturday 7th February, starting at 7.00pm**. Tickets are available from Rolfes and also on Thursdays at the Coffee Shop, between 10.30am and 1.00pm. You can even obtain them by using the QR Code in the advert on **page 22**. Not only will there be an excellent meal but there will also be a talk by **Kate Elliot** entitled 'A Garden Love Affair'. What more can you want and all for a cost of £17.50.

If you are looking for somewhere to celebrate **Valentine's Day** you could always do so in a slightly different way and go to the Sports Club which is holding another of their **Drag Night**. You can find further details on page 22.

For those planning just a little more in advance might wish to make a note of indulging in a little risk taking may like to make a note of the **Sports Clubs Poker Night** on **Saturday 7th March**, again details can be found on page 22.

If you are involved in organising any events in the village do let me know about them as soon as possible so that I can put the information in the Diary of Events and by so doing help to avoid clashes occurring which may reduce the success of your carefully organised event!!

Congratulations to those who organised the Epiphany Singers Concert. It was wonderful to see St Mary's so full and hear such wonderful singing. From my own *chagrin* I failed to attend the church service the following day to not only listen to more excellent music, but also the sermon which I understand was wonderfully entertaining!

For those organisations who have been considering making a bid for a grant from the Open Gardens Committee and have not done so as yet, you need to get your act together as the closing date is February 28th!



EDITOR'S POPPY MISTAKE

In last month's edition I published a request for helpers with the Poppy Collection.

Unfortunately I managed to lose the contact details for Fiona Glover which are:-

Phone 07519196396 and email figlover@btinternet.com

ADDITIONAL HOUSES IN WALSHAM

Results of December Survey

Although the meeting in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th November had been very well attended, the responses to the subsequent questionnaire which was included as a pull-out in the December edition of "The Observer" were quite limited. Twelve people returned the maps with most indicating two or three locations which they felt were suitable. Some eighteen different sites were put forward. The key points to be drawn from the contributions are:

- nobody favoured any further development along the Wattisfield Road
- the most favoured sites were along the Summer Road, particularly between the village and the Sports Club
- the second most identified area was that situated between the Finningham Road, Jolly's Way and Clay Street

Some suggestions were so far removed from the village and the existing Settlement Boundary as to be impractical, indeed one site was in a neighbouring parish. One **extremely important point** to remember is that the Parish Council is not the body that will decide where development takes place, and at this stage much depends on which sites, if any, have been put forward by landowners as a result of the District Council's recent "Call for Sites". The results of the Call for Sites should be published fairly soon.

On behalf of the Parish Council can I thank all those people who attended the meeting in November and those who also sent in their personal responses. As always, it is much easier for Councillors to carry out their duties if they are aware of the opinions of the parishioners they represent.

*Richard Belson
Chair of Parish Council*



MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

January tends to be a relatively quiet month in the Village Hall however all the various classes continue. After the excesses in and around the New Year maybe a little exercise is called for so please look at the classes available and get in touch.

After taking a couple of days off due to holidays our regular and successful Thursday coffee, cake and lunch mornings were fully up and running from 2nd January onwards. The first of the year Community lunch on Monday 12th January was attended by 32 and again was enjoyed by all who came along. The next one will be on Monday 9th February.

The Wild Wood will hold their Curry Night in the Hall on Saturday 7th February while a little later than usual our next Picturehouse film in the Village Hall will be on Friday 20th March with more details closer to the date.

Rob Matthews



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FOOTPATH PERMISSION REFUSED

It was with great disappointment that I must report, the planned footpath from the Sports Club to the Six Bells has foundered because of permission not being given for access through the small meadow owned by members of the Cayzer Trust and their adviser, Savills. The work on making this happen had intensified over the past year as it was thought that permission might be forthcoming, but that hope was dashed in an email just before Christmas from Savills. No reasons have been given despite requests, which makes understanding of why permission has been refused and is extremely hard to understand.

The meadow is tenanted by a parish resident and is occupied by a small number of sheep. The plans we put forward would have involved fencing off a 1.2 metre pathway at our expense, alongside the Summer Rd, and would have been, what is described as 'Permissible Path', i.e. one that the landowner can withdraw permission from at any time.

The Cayzer family were long time residents of the village with Lord Nicholas Cayzer occupying the Grove in the heart of the village until his death some thirty odd years ago. Since that time the Grove has been sold but varying plots of land have been retained by the family although managing the portfolio, is done by Savills. It might be thought that lands have been retained by the family with a view to future development but despite engagement being sought when the Neighbourhood Plan was put together, it was declined so we remain unsure.

Quite frankly, I am puzzled as to why a request that appears to pose little risk to the landowner should be rejected, when to agree would be of substantial benefit to the lives of Walsham residents. As so often when discussion take place about issues of road safety, it will probably require a death or serious injury before action is taken.

Ian Campbell MBE



WALSHAM OBSERVER SUDOKU

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



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WALSHAM –LE-WILLOWS CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

In the blink of an eye, we are into a new year with new plans and resolutions. We also faced challenges with poor weather and alarms but have overcome them all to continue what we love doing best – educating children.

Our theme for Collective Worship this half term is ‘Generosity’ and we have been looking at ways people can be generous without giving money or material things.

The children in Caterpillar class are getting ready to celebrate the Rio carnival and making masks, music and learning about the rainforests.

The children in Ladybirds are looking at Superheroes and are thinking about heroes and villains. In English, they are looking at onomatopoeia and will be writing about emergency services as real life heroes. In maths, they are adding and subtracting and are doing gymnastics in PE.

The children in Dragonflies are exploring the journey of a river - river formations, locations and the water cycle. They are finding out about different rocks and soil types in science and will be creating a non-chronological report in English and developing their multiplication and division skills in maths.

Those in Grasshopper class are looking at the way the digestive system works and will be writing explanation texts. In maths, they are working on fractions and in PE are learning yoga and how it can be used in everyday life to help the body to become strong and flexible.

The children in Cricket Class will be learning about how people lived in the Victorian era and the differences between those who were more affluent than others. They have developed their gymnastics skills in PE performing different jumps and balances and have started exploring the benefits of yoga.

Our theme for this half term in collective worship has been ‘Generosity’ and our theme next half term is ‘Hope.’

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

Maxine McGarr



SEARCHING FOR WORDS

L	I	B
R	O	E
T	A	R

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 should give you freedom.

Get 50 words and you are doing well.



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I bought a doll for my child recently. I thought it was manufactured by a well-known brand, but I suspect it might be counterfeit. How can I be sure and what are my rights?

You're right to seek advice about this issue, because counterfeit goods aren't only illegal, they can be dangerous.

Fake children's toys, including dolls, often don't meet safety standards and can pose choking hazards - poor manufacturing can mean small parts are easily detachable.

Counterfeit goods are fake products designed to mimic the authentic ones sold by genuine brands. Sometimes it's easy to spot a knock-off, other times it can be harder to tell.

It's not just toys and games - things like clothing, footwear, e-cigarettes, perfumes and media devices can also be counterfeit.

Things to watch out for include strangely low prices from well-known brands and signs of poor quality - like missing security seals, bad or non-existent packaging, blurry logos and poor stitching. You may also spot some spelling mistakes in the advert or on the packaging.

Looking at photos from official sellers can help when making comparisons, and it's important to only buy products from reputable sellers.

If you have purchased a counterfeit item, there are some steps you can take to try and get your money back. You're legally entitled to a full refund on fake goods within 30 days of your purchase.

If it's been over 30 days since you paid, but less than six months, the seller can provide you with a real version of the item first. If they can't, then they're legally required to give you a full refund. If you paid more than six months ago, you're only entitled to a part-refund based on how much you've used the item and how long you've had it.

Sometimes sellers might refuse to refund you, and argue the items were obviously fake because they were very cheap, but they're breaking the law by selling them and your legal rights still apply.

If this happens and you paid by debit card, contact your bank and ask to use the 'chargeback scheme'. If you paid by credit card and the item cost less than £100, you can ask to use the same scheme.

If you paid by credit card and the item cost between £100 and £30,000, tell your credit card company you want to make a 'section 75' claim to get your money back. To report counterfeit goods or get help getting your money back, contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Service. You can also report a seller to Trading Standards, which investigates criminal activity.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.



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Which initials appeared on the Roman standards?

10

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING

This month we thought that it would be useful to remind everyone who to contact in the event of any local emergency.

Firstly, if there is any threat to life, immediately call 999 and alert the emergency services (Police, Fire or Ambulance).

If there is no perceived threat to life but you have information that may help the emergency services, call 101 for Police or 111 for medical help.

A redacted version of our Community Emergency Plan can be accessed via the village website - walsham-le-willows.org/community-emergency-plan-updates/

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of community emergency planning then please contact one of the following

Ann Brookes – 01359 259206 - cllr.ann.brookes@walshamlewillows.gov.uk

Ian Bartholomew – 01359 258349 - cllr.ian.bartholomew@walshamlewillows.gov.uk

Walsham le Willows Parish Council



COMMUNITY LUNCH



The Memorial Village Hall will be open from 12.30pm on Monday 9th February 2026. Lunch will be Turkey, Ham and Mushroom pie with bubble 'n' squeak, carrots and green beans served at 1pm, followed by Raspberry Sherry Trifle. Tea and coffee to follow.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please book a place, at £9.00p, with Shirley on 01359 258532 by 5pm on Thursday 5th February 2026.

Shirley White



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND DISTRICT W.I.

January: Birthday Meal.

The members of the W.I. enjoyed a relaxing social evening with drinks and a chance to catch up with friends before a delicious meal prepared by Sarah Cousins, followed by games with much laughter.

Next meeting is on 11th February at 7.30pm

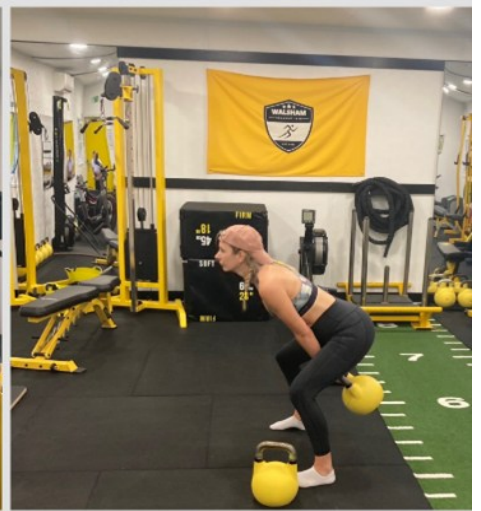
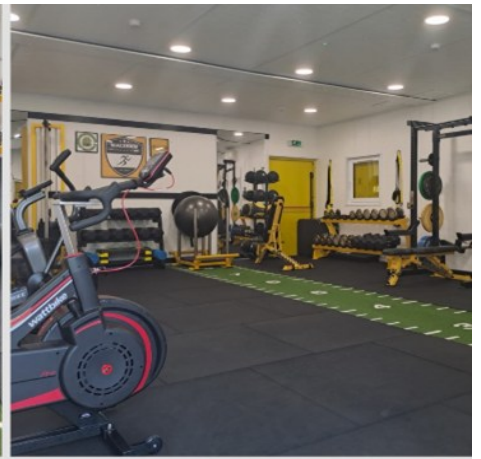
A Journey with Glass – Michelle Russell

Judith Harlow

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STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

As a result of the Festival of Remembrance held at the Apex last November, we have been able to donate £3947.59p to the Poppy Appeal. Every year our expenses increase, last November they totalled 4034.74p. This included Apex hire £1600. Equipment hire in the Apex £941.00. Commission paid to the Apex for selling the tickets on our behalf totalled £529.00. VAT totalled £642.46.

It is very important to support the Poppy Appeal. We plan to hold another festival of Remembrance in November 2026.

Thursday 15th January members from 6 local branches attended a “C” Group meeting held at Hopton Bowls club hosted by the Hopton branch.

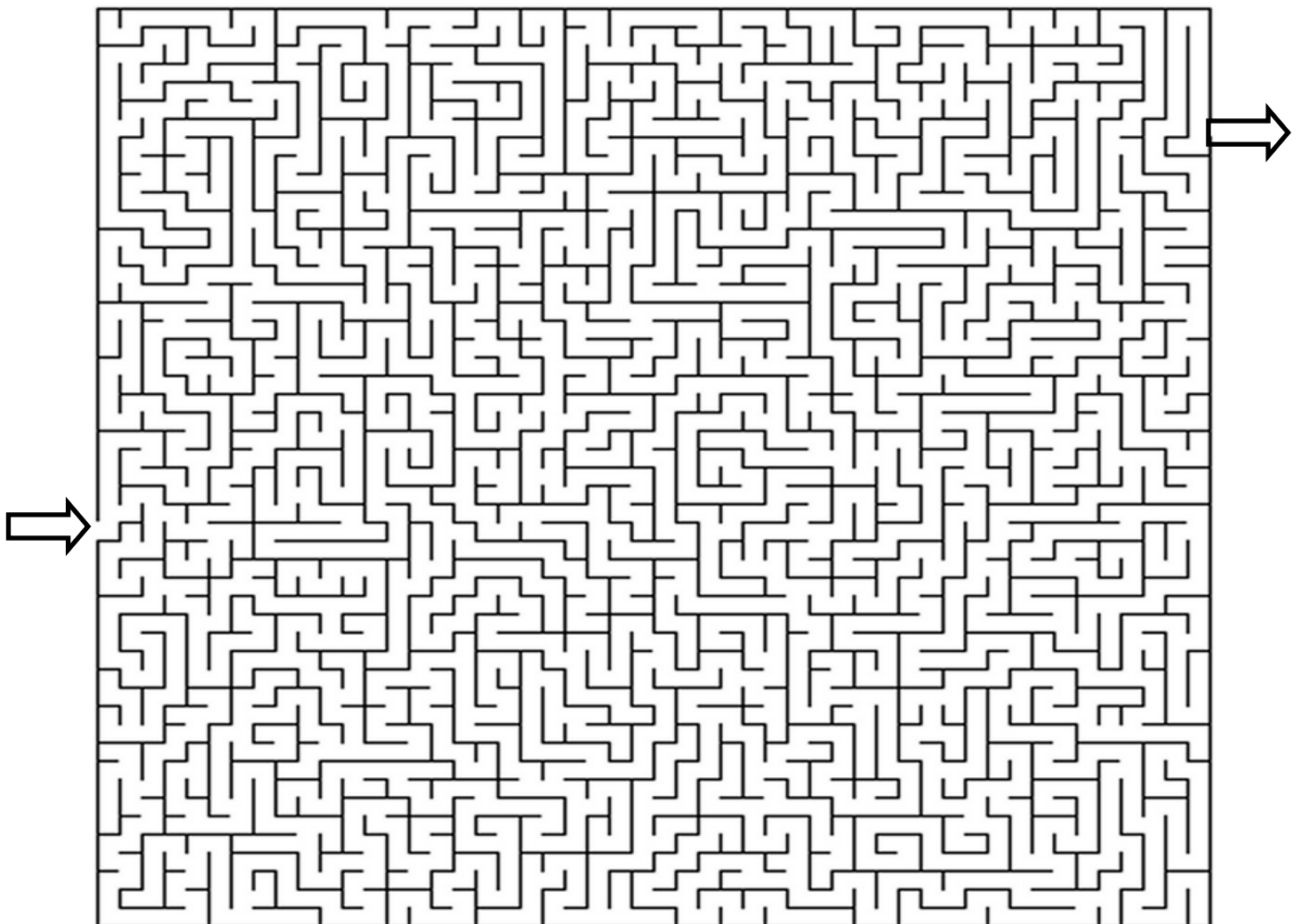
A report on the county AGM held in Needham Market on Saturday 31 January will be included in the March issue of the Observer.

We will be having a coffee morning on Saturday 21st February in the Church Rooms Stanton 10am-12 noon. Please come and support us and enjoy light refreshments. A raffle will be held for branch funds.

At the time of going to press branch funds totalled £1581.75p.

The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th February at the Cock Inn Stanton commencing at 8pm.

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HORTICULTURAL SHOW

The Horticultural Show will take place on Saturday 8th August 2026. The fruit and vegetable and floral classes are listed below. We have several new recipes for you to try in the domestic classes, they will all appear in the July Observer, but if you want to start practising, they will be on the Walsham website soon. NB Class 82 the chutney, has a set recipe and needs to be made at least 3 months in advance, the recipe is in this month's Observer, and will also be on the website.

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

Debbie Licata

BEETROOT & APPLE CHUTNEY

Horticultural Show Recipe Class 82

Ingredients (fills approximately 3-4 300g jars)

500g raw beetroot peeled and chopped into about ¼" pieces

1 large cooking apple chopped small

2 finely chopped red onions, 250ml red wine or malt vinegar

250g caster or light brown sugar, 7 peppercorns

1 teaspoon of mustard or fennel seeds

Have a large heavy bottomed pan and wooden spoon available

Method

First add the herbs and spices to the pan and gently warm on a low heat for about 5 minutes until you can smell them. Then add all the other ingredients and bring gently to the boil, stirring until the sugar has dissolved. Bring down the temperature and allow the mixture to cook until the beetroots are tender. Bring back to the boil and stir regularly. Reduce down until thickened and sticky. Pour into warm, sterile jars and seal. Leave for at least 2 to 3 weeks to mature.



GROOKS I

Circumscription

As Pastor X steps out of bed
He slips a neat disguise on:
That halo round his priestly head
Is really his horizon.

A Toast

The soul may be a mere pretence,
The mind makes very little sense.
So let's value the appeal
Of that which we can taste and feel.

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WALSHAM PICTURHOUSE

Presents Love Sarah

Friday 20th March 6.30pm for 7.00pm

Tickets £12.50 Supper Included



After her mother Sarah (Candice Brown) dies unexpectedly, Clarissa's (Shannon Tarbet) life is upended. Her boyfriend just broke up with her and kicked her out of his flat, and she has nowhere to go. Wanting to fulfil her late mother's dream of opening a bakery, Clarissa enlists the aid of her mom's best friend Isabella (Shelley Conn), who attended culinary school and plans to do some of the baking. Realizing they need more money to turn the dream into a reality, Clarissa approaches her estranged grandmother Mimi (Celia Imrie) for help. The three women put aside past differences and come together to honour the memory of Sarah.

It's a simple (and romanticized) story with a mostly predictable outcome, but much like a sunny spring afternoon, the film is easy to like. The characters are delightful and their relationships (including Sarah's ex-boyfriend Matthew (Rupert Penry-Jones), who joins the team as the lead baker) are well-developed. There's a sweet romance between Mimi and Felix (Bill Paterson), the eccentric inventor across the street, and the banter between all the characters is fun and pleasant. The performances are just as cheery as the story.

Writer Jake Brunger builds progressive themes into his screenplay that make politically-correct points in the gentlest way possible, so as not to offend staunchly conservative viewers. A pro-immigration story line manifests itself through the trio's multicultural bakery, as they create regional cakes and cookies from countries from all over the world. There are some facts and figures casually discussed about the number of London's citizens that are from other regions, too. When you think about it, a bakery that specializes in a taste of home is actually a great idea for a real business.

The film is a visual treat for foodies, as gourmands will delight in the lingering shots of gorgeous baked goods. From a picture-perfect French *mille feuille* and Scandinavian *kringles* to Tennessee bourbon pecan pies and Japanese matcha green crepe cake, the pastries shown here will make you wish you had a dessert on hand when watching this movie. (In fact, I'd strongly recommend it).

Just like a perfect little pastry shop, everything about "Love Sarah" is lovely. The quaint Notting Hill setting, the adorable pink-ribboned patisserie boxes, the candy-coloured baked goods themselves, and the sweet story combine to make this a comforting, big-hearted movie.

Full details next month

Mike Cousins





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EPIPHANY SINGERS

On Saturday 10th January St Mary's church once again reverberated to the soaring melodies and pitch perfect harmonies of the Epiphany Singers for their 55th performance. A bitterly cold and frosty evening did not deter people turning up to pack every pew to hear them.

This was conductor Simon Harrington's last year in charge and many considered it the finest performance to date. We were honoured to have composer Cecilia McDowell in the audience to hear the singers perform her 'The Magi.' Other highlights were 'The Three Kings' with Edward Caswell's majestic bass solo. Soprano Alice Beverley also excelled in 'In the bleak midwinter' by Harold Darke and Britten's 'Balulalow.' The organist David Hill entertained with a very witty piece 'Sortie in E flat' by Lefébure-Wélay as well as music from Hiawatha by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

The main joy of the evening was the melding and balance of the choral voices, and to marvel at their professionalism which enables them to pull this performance together with only a few hours' rehearsal.

Saturday was not the only delight as the singers returned on Sunday to sing Mozart's Coronation mass in C major at the Eucharist service led by Bishop Tim Stevens (retired Bishop of both Leicester and Dunwich) Here it was soprano soloist Georgie Malcolm's turn to shine along with Jonathan Baker, alto, Dominic Edwards, tenor, and Edward Caswell, bass.

We continue to be hugely indebted to all the musicians who give up their weekend to travel across England to be with us. We are also extremely grateful to all those in the village and beyond who work hard to look after and entertain the musicians. Last but certainly not least we thank numerous others who contribute their time and energy behind the scenes to make sure the weekend runs smoothly.

Gabrielle Hunt



MORE OR LESS

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

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

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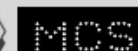
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DIARY OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- Sat 7th Pop Up Curry Night
Village Hall 7.00pm
Wed 11th W.I. A Journey with glass
Priory Room 7.30pm
Sat 14th Drag Night
Sports Club 8.00pm

MARCH

- Sat 7th Poker Night
Sports Club 7.00pm
Wed 11th W.I. History of Food
Priory Room 7.30pm
Fri 20th Love Sarah (Film)
Village Hall 6.30pm

APRIL

- Wed 8th W.I. Sign Language
Priory Room 7.30pm
Wed 13th W.I. Annual Meeting
Priory Room 7.30pm
Sat 21st Irish Night
Sports Club 7.00pm

AUGUST

- Sat 8th Horticultural Show
Village Hall 2.30pm
Sun 30th Open Gardens All
Mon 31st Weekend Day

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

WALSHAM & DISTRICT W.I.

A Journey With Glass

A talk by Michelle Reynolds

Priory Room

Wednesday 11th February at 7.30pm

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

Curry Night

£17.50 per Person

Tickets available from
Rolfes the Butcher
& online via Eequ

Saturday 7th February
7.00 pm

Join us at the Memorial Village Hall for our annual fundraising evening. Throughout the evening you will be served an Indian inspired tasting menu and dessert. We will be joined by our guest speaker, Suffolk Gardener Kate Elliot from Columbine Hall, Stowupland

use QR code to book your place..



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HORTICULTURAL SHOW

CLASSES 2026

FLORAL CLASS

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

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CLASS

30. BEANS Dwarf French – five on a plate.
31. BEANS Runner – five on a plate.

32. PEAS - Five pods on a plate
33. BEETROOT Red - three
34. CABBAGE Any variety -
35. CARROTS Three, (tops c
36. COURGETTES Long typ
- three on a plate.
37. CUCUMBER Outdoor Gr
38. CUCUMBER Grown und
- only.
39. LETTUCE Any variety –
40. MARROW Any variety –
41. SQUASH Any variety wi
42. ONIONS: LARGE (over
- tops tied.
43. ONIONS: SMALL (under
- tops tied.
44. SHALLOTS Any type –
45. GARLIC Any variety – t
- roots
46. POTATOES White – one
47. POTATOES Coloured – o
48. TOMATOES Red – any v
49. TOMATOES Other than r
50. TOMATOES Cherry - red
- plate.
51. PEPPERS Any variety – t
52. ANY OTHER VEGETAB
- vegetable not otherwise in
53. APPLES Eating – three c
54. APPLES Cooking – three
55. BERRIES Nine on a sma
- raspberries. One or more v
56. PLUMS or GAGES Any c
- plate.
57. RASPBERRIES Nine on
58. ANY OTHER FRUIT Any
- schedule, three on a plate
59. TRAY OF VEGETABLES
- arranged decoratively with
- selected from classes 30 –
- 59)

DECORATIVE CLASS *Flow*

60. EXHIBIT: Arrangement
- width).
61. EXHIBIT: Sunrise and S

ate.
round. (tops on and tied)
one cabbage 3" stalk.
ut to 4" and tied individually)
e, any colour less than 8" –
rown, any variety, one only
der protection, any variety, one
one on a plate.
– one only.
nter or summer – one only
8oz) Any variety – three only
r 8oz) Any variety – three only
six only – tops tied.
three only, 3" stem, remove
variety – five only.
ne variety – five only.
ariety, five on a plate.
ed, five on a plate.
l or coloured, seven on a small
three on a plate
BLE Matching pair of any
n schedule.
on a plate.
e on a plate.
all plate – other than
varieties.
one variety – five on a small
a small plate.
y fruit not otherwise on
or grapes one bunch.
S Four varieties of vegetables
hin an 18"x12" box or tea tray
- 51 (**Double points for class**
ers do not have to be grown
mits. Table depth 65cm.
in a child's wellie (up to 30cm
unset (up to 60cm width)

DOMESTIC CLASS

70. FRUIT SCONES - Six on plate - own recipe.
71. SWISS ROLL – own recipe.
72. SODA BREAD - own recipe.
73. SNICKERDOODLE BISCUITS - six on a plate -
Recipe given.
74. APPLE & ALMOND CAKE – **Recipe given.**
75. QUICHE LORRAINE 8"/20cm – own recipe.
76. MARBLE CAKE – own recipe.
77. SAVOURY CLASS – HAM & CHEESE MUFFINS – 6
on a plate – **Recipe given.**
78. EGGS - Six displayed in a plain egg carton.
79. FRUIT MARMALADE - One Jar.
80. FRUIT JELLY - One Jar.
81. FRUIT JAM - One Jar.
82. CHUTNEY – Beetroot & Apple - One Jar (minimum 3
months old). **Recipe given**
83. HONEY – One Jar.
84. LEMON CURD – One Jar.

No points awarded for the following classes

90. **SUNFLOWER CUP** For the tallest sunflower growing
in Walsham: measured *in situ* the week of the show.
Open to all ages.
 91. **HANGING BASKET / GARDEN TUB
COMPETITION** for the best display in a single
container viewed *in situ* the week of the show.
- PHOTOGRAPHIC CLASSES** - *No larger than 5"x 7", a
small mount is permitted; all photos must be taken in
the Walsham area.*

92. SPIDER'S WEB
93. CLOUDS
94. REFLECTIONS

CREATIVE CLASSES

96. KNITTING – Dog Coat. Pattern available from Debbie
Licata (259686) also on the
village website.
97. ART – Drawing or Watercolour of a building in
Walsham (A4 size)

NOVELTY CLASSES

99. Longest Carrot.
100. Children's class – a Lego garden.



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2026 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, Robert, and Winch.

ALSO PRESENT: County Cllr. Fleming; District Cllr. Winch

1. **OPENING STATEMENT** (if any required) & **MEMBER'S APOLOGIES**
 - a. Apologies from Cllr Nick Tuck. Cllr Janette Winch had advised she would join the meeting after 19:00
 - b. Consent was given.

Cllr Belson noted the passing of Averil Clancy who served the PC very effectively and diligently for many years before she retired and said that Averil will be missed by a large number of people in the village. Cllr Belson expressed the condolences of the Parish Council to all Averil's friends and family.
2. **DECLARATIONS of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests**
 - a. No declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda were received.
 - b. No dispensations were needed.
3. **MINUTES - To Receive and consider the minutes of the following meetings (as previously circulated)**
 - a. Minutes of meeting 10 December 2025 were approved as true and accurate record of the meeting for signature.
 - b. There were no outstanding actions from last meeting that were not in hand.
4. **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 the public was present (Ian Campbell).**
 - Discussion about the response of the landowner to the Summer Road footpath proposals which has left many in the village, the Parish Council included, very disappointed and surprised. The proposals are of substantive benefit to the village and having been under the impression, based on early discussions, that the proposals were being considered favourable, the Parish Council is perplexed as to the absence of any clear reason for the refusal and is keen to understand why the proposal has been rejected by the landowner. A plan was made as to how to proceed to understand the reasons for the decision.
 - Whilst at the meeting the Parish Council took the opportunity to ask about the application from the sports club (agenda item 7b). Ian Campbell gave reassurance on the height of the proposed mast, which because of the location, would not materially impact the amenity of village residents and will provide much needed income for the Sports Club.
5. **DISTRICT & COUNTY REPORTS FOR INFORMATION & QUESTIONS**

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a. County Councillor Fleming

- Cllr J Winch welcomed the recently announced change of policy on 20mph speed limits by Suffolk County Council and asked if this change would have any material impact on the decision to be made about the traffic measures that have already been proposed and submitted for decision. Cllr Fleming thought that this change could affect decisions with regard to the Wattisfield Road, probably not the main crossroads in the village. Cllr Fleming suggested that the Traffic Group write to Sophie Farrington, Community Liaison engineer for SCC highways to ask these questions and to cc Cllr Fleming.
- Cllr Bartholomew raised the reported red flag status for Suffolk County Council Highways (SCCH) with regard to the state of repair of Suffolk Roads. Cllr Fleming advised that SCCH are of the opinion that the report doesn't take account of investment by SCCH in the reporting period. The Department for Transport has apparently rejected this claim. SCCH are in dialogue with the Department for Transport about the contested investment.
- Cllr Fleming advised that it will be first week of February at the earliest before dates of next local elections will be held and on the local government reorganisation timetable.

b. District Councillor Winch

- Cllr Bartholomew asked about the planning enforcement action list and enquired as to the removal of one particular action with regard to Lime Tree Cottages. DC Winch explained that the remaining issue is not a planning enforcement issue.
- DC Winch was asked about the recent planning meeting for DC/25/01874 - Outline Planning Application. DC Winch explained the reasoning for the planning arguments that are being made by the agent and has asked for an on-site visit to include representatives of the Parish Council and a more detailed report from SCCH. The decision on this application was deferred for more consideration.

6. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS & ACTION LOG REVIEWS

a. **Traffic Group** - Report noted and proposals considered as follows:

- Proposal 1** - That Council move ahead with the measures on Summer Road proposed and costed by SCC. Approved.
- Proposal 2** – That Council link this to the new village gate if approval is gained. Approved.
- Proposal 3** - That Council seek funding from Cllr Fleming for the new financial year and from the grant funding source identified by Cllr Bartholomew to cover as much of the costs as possible for the measures listed by Sophie Farrington. Approved.
- Proposal 4** - That Council engage in discussion with the Sports Club on where we are with this project and see if there are any other sources of funding or options for highlighting the new entrances. This was approved and Council discussed the suggestion of a new entrance and lit signage on either side of the road. Approved.



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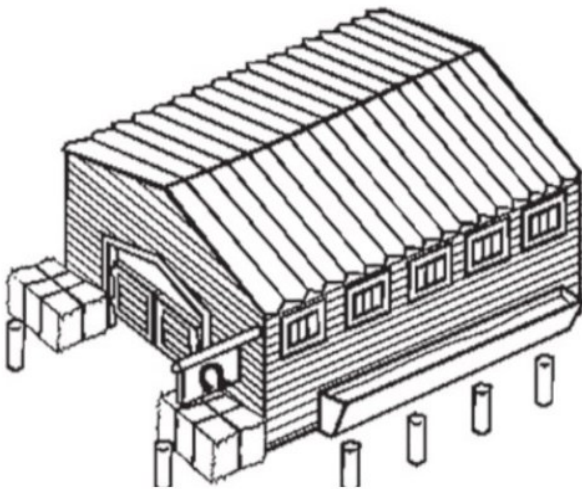


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joseph.light@sentry.co.uk

- v. Cllr. J Winch advised that traffic group were meeting next week. And it was decided that a publicity update on the work of the traffic group should be drafted, publication date to be decided.
- vi. Discussion of next steps with regard to negative response from the Cayzer Trust which effectively blocks the provision of the Footpath on Summer Road was covered under agenda item 4.

b. Community Emergency Plan Group (CEP)

- i. Cllr Brookes advised Ben Wilding has confirmed possible dates for tabletop emergency exercise.
- ii. Given hall availability it was agreed that the desktop exercise would take place on Friday 13th March from 14:00. Time to be confirmed.
- iii. It was noted that further clarification has been sent to insurers regarding cover for CEP activities.

c. Flood Mitigation Group – The correspondence between landowners and Environment Agency was noted – no action was required.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS, LICENCING, ENFORCEMENT & RELATED MATTERS

a. Neighbourhood Plan Review (NP) - standing item

- Cllr Belson fed back on the results he has been able to collate from the recent consultation on potential sites for development. It was stressed that although the public meeting was very well attended, only 12 forms were returned so this is a very small sample size from which to draw any conclusions at all, and there were a wide range of sites selected. But on the basis of that very small sample more development on Wattisfield Road is not wanted. And the most often selected location was the first available plot on Summer Road, which sits behind the houses on The Street. The next most selected sites were between the Finningham Road and Clay Street. Cllr Belson will draft something for publication in February Observer.
- The Clerk asked that Council consider the response from planning consultants on the greater than expected potential costs of the required review of the NP and suggested that more general reserve was earmarked for this. It was decided to earmark another £6,000 of general reserve for NP costs.

b. APPLICATION FOR PRIOR APPROVAL - TELECOMMUNICATIONS - DC/25/05405 Proposal: Application for determination of prior approval for additions to electronic communications code operator network under Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2 Part 6 Class A for Proposed ARQIVA Smart Metering 1No. OMNI at 21.3m mean mounted on 20m streetworks pole. Proposed ARQIVA Smart Metering 1No. GPS Antenna AT 4.15m mean mounted on streetworks pole. Proposed ARQIVA Smart Metering 1No. 3G OMNI Antenna AT 4.15m mean mounted on streetworks pole. Proposed ARQIVA Smart Metering Equipment Enclosure to be installed on a Root Foundation. Proposed ARQIVA V Mesh Fencing with 1.0m wide Access Gate. Proposed ARQIVA 1No. Concrete Bollard. Location: Walsham-le-Willows Sports Club, Summer Road, Walsham



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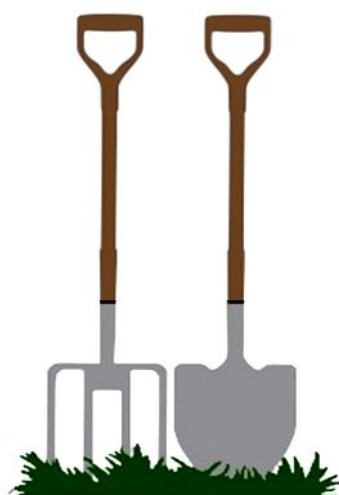
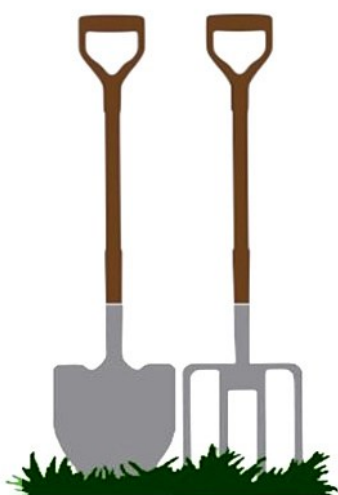
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Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AH - THE PARISH COUNCIL MADE NO COMMENT

- c. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/05632 Proposal: Notification of works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 1 No. Cherry (T1) Location: 4 Summer Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 3AH - THE PARISH COUNCIL MADE NO COMMENT
 - d. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/26/00010 Proposal: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce 2 low lateral limbs on 1 No. Beech (T1) by 2.5 - 3 metres Location: Beech Cottage, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AA - THE PARISH COUNCIL MADE NO COMMENT
8. PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning Authority – to be noted)
- a. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/05406 Proposal: Notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area - Sycamore - self planted – poor condition, many branches all coming from the one base, covered in ivy. Removal of the tree to replant hedge and extend fence on the boundary between this land and property known as The Chestnuts. tree marked on plan as '1' Location: Display Land, Clarkes of Walsham Ltd, The Street, Walsham Le Willows Suffolk MSDC RAISED NO OBJECTION
 - b. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/25/05284 Proposal: notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area - Acer tree in middle of garden. In need of crowning and pruning to reduce height of tree Yew tree close to house. In need of branches removed from side so they are not rubbing the roof Tortured willow in drive is damaging drive and boundary wall so in need of sufficient pollarding to control growth Location: Sideways, The Street Walsham Le Willows Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ MSDC RAISED NO OBJECTION
9. FINANCE & AUDIT & COUNCIL ADMIN
- a. The bank reconciliation for period ending 31st December 2025 was approved and signed.
 - b. The accounts awaiting payment summary and invoices were approved for payment. (Appendix 1).
 - c. Outstanding from Budget meeting:
 - i. It was noted that the clerk has contacted the insurance company again with regard to insurance for closed churchyard wall. A conclusive response from the insurance company is awaited but the early indication is that this would not be included without increased premium and would probably require an expensive survey to ascertain the value of the wall. It was noted that the last two occasions on which the wall required major work, had to be covered by a loan from the Public Works Loan Board and from Parish Council reserves respectively.
 - ii. The response from Nurture Landscapes re possibility of limiting the number cuts for the play area, stream, and closed churchyard could be limited to 14 if required. This is to be decided before April 2026.



WALSHAM SPORTSCLUB EVENTS FOR February & March

Valentine's Day Drag Night

Saturday 14th February.
For Details and Tickets see
The Sports Club website

Irish Night

Featuring **Paddy's Legs**
Saturday 21st March
Tickets
£8 (in advance) £10 (on the door)

Sunday Night Bingo

1st & 15th February
1st, 15th and 29th March
7pm start

Poker Night

Saturday 7th March

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



WHAT'S ON AT THE BLUE BOAR

£5 Thursday Nights

5th Enchilada 12th Stew 19th Pizza 26th Curry

Entertainment

Saturday 7th - Defiant band 8:30pm
Friday 13th Karaoke from 8.00pm

'Happy Hour'

from 4:30pm - 6.00pm
12th January - 27th February
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- iii. It was noted that the clerk had written to the PCC (8th January) about assistance with regard to closed churchyard maintenance costs. A response is awaited.
- iv. Cllr Bartholomew's research into the relationship between payroll costs and annual precept across a sample of Parish Councils in Mid Suffolk was noted, the outcome of which was that Walsham le Willows is very much in line with the average ratio of 42%. Cllr Bartholomew mentioned as an aside that he had found it much more difficult to find the required information on many Parish Council websites in comparison to the Walsham le Willows website.
- v. Cllr Belson reported back on his assessment of required tree works to closed churchyard with the proviso that it was a bit late to be able to see the extent of growth and its impact when trees are not in leaf. The Clerk brought forward the date on which this is flagged up for annual review. It was decided to take no action this year.
- vi. The clerk requested the signing of bank mandate to change correspondence email address on bank account which was incorrect. This was duly signed by two signatories.
- d. The position on the request for assistance with financing the repairs to footpath bridges and renewal of footpath signage was noted. The Parish Council awaits the estimate of costs for consideration.
- e. It was noted that required transparency notices have been published to website for period ending 31 December 2025 (and that these are relevant to annual internal control checks that are being complied for audit now).
- f. The Clerk flagged the distribution of internal control checks allocated for completion and return to Clerk asap and before February 5th.
- 10. CLERK ACTION LOG, COUNCILLOR REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE (if not dealt with elsewhere)
 - a. Clerk's action log – nothing outstanding that is not in hand.
 - b. The feasibility of CCTV in the village, as requested by parishioner at last meeting, was considered. It was decided that this would not be appropriate as a village-wide response by the Parish Council as a local authority because of the implied privacy issues, but that individual residents were free to make their own arrangements with regard to household security.
 - c. The clerk's reply PC Gedney (Community Police Officer) re the parking of an articulated lorry on The Street alongside St Mary's Church was noted. No further action at this time. Watching brief to see if this happens again.
 - d. The Bus Service Improvement Plan consultation proposals from 'Transport Made Simple' Operators of Simmonds buses were considered. Advice from DC Winch was that it was very important for the Parish Council to engage with this as residents may have forgotten but the existing timetable is due to expire at the end of 2026, early 2027. District Cllr Winch emphasised the importance of trying to maintain an appropriate timetable for Walsham le Willows. Clerk to place on next agenda.

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e. To decide on date for Annual Question Time meeting and prepare publicity for February Observer.

11 OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN/NOTE FOR NEXT AGENDA

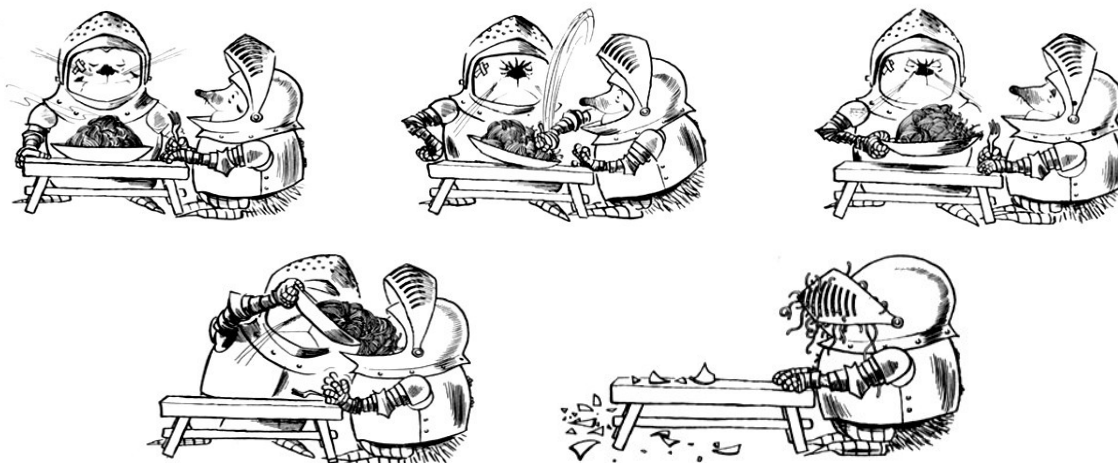
a. Cllr Bartholomew noted an unpleasant incident between resident and a Memorial Hall trustee that involved abusive behaviour and language. It has been reported to the police.

b. Next Parish Council monthly meeting - 11th February 2026 7pm – Memorial Hall Meeting Close @ 21:30

#	Payments OUT	Amount	Description
1	Memorial Hall	£27.00	Hall Hire (monthly meeting)
2	SM Parsons	£367.00	Design work on new footpaths map
3	Kevin Boardley	£49.19	Reimbursement for SSL certificate for website
4	HMRC Cumbernauld	£495.69	PAYE
5	Parish Council Employee	£630.98	Remuneration
6	Unity Trust Bank	£6.00	<i>Recurring monthly DDR Service Charge</i>
	TOTAL	£1,575.86	
#	Payments IN & Other Payments/Transfers	Amount	Description
1	District Cllr Winch - MSDC	£1,442.00	Locality grant - speed indicator device

APPENDIX 1

Payments for Authorisation JANUARY 2026



GROOKS II

More Haste

Here lies in, extinguished in his prime,
A victim of modernity:
But yesterday he hadn't time -
And now he has eternity.

Losing Face

The noble art of losing face
May one day save the human race
And turn into eternal merit
What weaker minds would call disgrace

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Hector: I have just been completing the my group's bid for an Open Gardens grant!!

Oscar: When does such an application have to be in?

Hector: 28th February and get it to that nice Mr John Stebbing!!

FROM ST MARY'S

Not so long ago, we were still enjoying the brightness and music of Epiphany, celebrating with the Epiphany Singers and sharing a real sense of joy. Now, almost before the year has properly settled, we find ourselves turning our thoughts towards Lent, which begins on 18th February with our Ash Wednesday services.

The changing seasons of the church year mirror the pace of life itself, moving steadily onward, yet always connected. From the hope of Christmas through quieter, more reflective weeks, the journey leads us towards Easter and the promise of new life. This time of year offers an opportunity to slow down a little and notice where we are, both individually and together.

There are also plenty of chances to come together socially over the coming weeks. On Valentine's Day, we are hosting our first Women's Brunch an informal gathering centred on food, conversation, and companionship. It is open to all, and I am very happy to share further details with anyone who would like to know more please just get in touch.

We will be running our Mother's Day craft sessions again on the 14th March, when children can create thoughtful gifts for the important people in their lives. If you would like more information or would like to book in just send me a message.

As Lent continues, our churches will be offering a variety of services and activities, including a peaceful Evening Prayer each Friday and weekly Lent groups meeting at different locations across all our churches. On 11th March, everyone is warmly invited to our Lent Lunch in the Priory Room from 12pm, a simple meal and a chance to enjoy good company.

Looking further ahead, you are very welcome to join us for our Easter services, when we will celebrate light overcoming darkness, hope renewed, and love at the heart of all things.

With every blessing,

Revd Catriona



ST MARY'S CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Tue 10th March
9am till 10.30am

TEA AND TOAST TUESDAYS

IN THE PRIORY ROOM

Roots and Shoots

**Sun 1st February &
Sun 1st March**
10am till 11am

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

FEBRUARY CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Service	Church	18th Feb	Ash Wednesday	
25th Jan	3rd of Epiphany		11:00am	Ash Wed Service	Walsham
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham	6:00pm	Ash Wed Service	Westhorpe
9:30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash	20th Feb	Lent Evening Prayer	Walsham
3:00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe	6:00pm		
1st Feb	Candlemas		22nd Feb	1st of Lent	
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham	9:30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
10:00am	Roots & Shoots	Walsham	11:00am	Holy Communion	Wattisfield
11:00am	Family Service	Walsham	3:00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
8th Feb	2nd before Lent		25th Feb		
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham	2:00pm	Lent Group	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe	27th Feb		
11:00am	Songs of Praise	Walsham	6:00pm	Lent Evening Prayer	Walsham
15th Feb	Sunday before Lent		1st Mar	2nd of Lent	
8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham	8:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Finningham	10:00am	Roots & Shoots	Walsham
			11:00am	Holy Communion	Walsham



GROOKS III

Mankind

Men, said the devil,
Are good to their brothers:
They don't want to mend
Their own ways, but each other's.

An Ode to Modesty

Talking of successful rackets
Modesty deserves a mention,
Exclamation marks in brackets
Never fail to draw attention.



SUZANNE CROSS

A sincere thankyou to all the people who have sent us some lovely condolence cards, text messages and responses to the Walsham Forum on Facebook. We have received many messages from within the village and beyond expressing your sorrow and support at this difficult time. Whilst it does not mend our broken hearts, it brings considerable comfort to myself and my family to know so many people, thought a great deal of my lovely wife Suzanne and are thinking of us all at this time. While I would like to thank each and every one individually, the response has been so overwhelming that it would be quite a task to complete, so please all accept this as our heartfelt gratitude.

*Steve Cross, Daughter Sarah, Son in law Chris
and of course granddaughter Ruby-Mae*



GREEN DILEMMAS

Food Waste



The size of the problem

It is estimated that globally we waste about a third of all food produced. This food could feed about three billion people annually. If food waste was a country it would be the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases roughly on a par with India or the whole of the EU.

The value of the edible food wasted in the UK is estimated to be well over £20 billion annually. This is equivalent to several hundred pounds per person each year.

Where does food waste happen?

Food waste occurs throughout the food chain - farming, manufacturing, restaurants and hospitality, retail with the largest wastage being by households.

The percentage of wastage by the retail sector appears relatively low. However, the operational practices of the supermarkets cause wastage at either end of the food chain.

For example, there is pressure on farming to meet strict supermarket specifications (cosmetic standards), cope with market fluctuations and order cancellations leading to perfectly edible food left unharvested or discarded.

At the other end of the food chain surveys suggest that there is widespread confusion about the use of dates on products. "Sell by" dates are about controlling store inventory and are not a safety deadline for consumers. "Best before by" labelling is about quality and you can use common sense to determine whether the food is ok to consume. It is really only "Use by" that is a safety issue and the advice should always be adhered to.

What can be done?

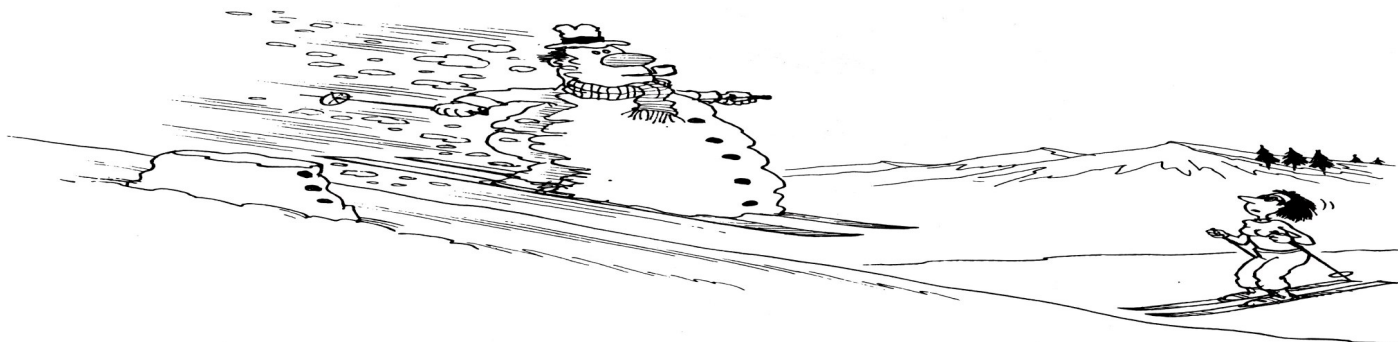
In England (as opposed to Scotland and Wales) there are currently no mandatory targets for reducing food waste. This would involve every point of the supply chain having to report on – and reduce – food waste.

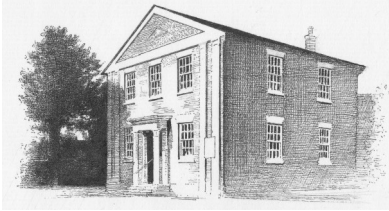
Some of the other actions suggested by campaigners are:

- A public education programme around food waste.
- Ensuring that all edible surplus food can be offered via an enhanced food redistribution network
- Supporting measures to treat farmers more fairly – avoiding deals that lead to food waste.

Although the primary focus should be to reduce waste in the first place, we also need to reduce the amount of waste that we incinerate which causes pollution. From June this year all households will have weekly food waste collections which will take the food waste to an anaerobic digester to produce biogas and fertiliser which will significantly reduce the amount of waste that is currently incinerated.

richard@winchmail.net





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.

Gold Rush

Many years ago, a ship set sail from California during the time of the Gold Rush of the mid-nineteenth century when, suddenly, there was a cry onboard ship of, "Fire, Fire!" The captain immediately steered the ship toward the nearest shore, but soon it became apparent that the vessel would sink before reaching safety.

There was a man on deck fastening gold bars around him by way of a belt, just ready to jump, along with his valuable treasure, into the threatening sea; just then a little girl approached him and asked, "Sir, can you swim?" He saw that it was a question of whether he should save his gold bars or this little girl. He answered her, "Yes, my dear, I can swim", and he loosened his belt and dropped his fortune to the deck. Then he said to the child, "Put your arms around my neck, and hold on to me tightly." He plunged into the perilous sea with the little girl clinging to him, and, exerting all of his strength and determination, he made for the distant beach. A short while later, a huge wave swept over them both, flinging them high into the air and crashing them down again, tired and disorientated, they were in great danger: was all hope lost?

Some time passed and the man regained consciousness; laid upon the sand, he opened his eyes and was surprised to see the little girl bending over him, with anxious but smiling face. He had desired to save her; they were both safe. and she was now caring for him. This may appear just a sentimental story with a happy ending, but truths can be seen from the picture of the fellow, stood upon the deck of that stricken vessel.

First, there stands a man, hindered by the burdensome weight of the belt that he had made for himself from those things which he held most dear, that he thought would ensure him a prosperous future, but were the very things that would drag him to destruction in the depths of the sea. Human nature can be like this, in that, without the light and knowledge of God's Word, we are inclined to look to ourselves and the things of this life for our future, not realizing that these very treasures are keeping us from being saved. This man's burden was bars of gold, but ours can be, self-reliance, self-righteousness, status, achievement, and sin, not realizing that our only hope for time and eternity is the person and saving work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Second, in that unnamed man, is a reminder of one far greater and more wonderful – the Lord Jesus Christ himself who, knowing the plight of lost sinners and at great cost to himself, showed compassion and pity, exposing himself to great danger. He, being eternal God, laid aside not mere gold bars, but the very Glory of Heaven to enter into his creation, into time, and as a real man to live a perfect life in this sinful and fallen world; to be taken by wicked hands and crucified to bear the righteous judgement of God upon all the sins of all his people – of all those who will love and trust him, of those who will come to him in repentance and faith, knowing him to be the only Saviour of lost and perishing mankind.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth...but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...for where your treasure is there will be your heart also. (Matthew 6:19 - 21)

BOWLS REPORT

Since the last edition I can now confirm entry into the various Stowmarket Leagues played on Monday Evenings, Tuesday Afternoons and Wednesday Evenings with a further team entered into the Thursday Evening Bury League, we also have individual members signed up for various Suffolk Area D competitions.

We intend to open up the Clubhouse on Saturday February 21st from 10am to 12 for any existing or new members who wish to come down and register in person for the 2026 season - Tea and Coffee will be available with a chance to also have a first look at the Kitchen area improvements.

At the time of writing the kitchen area improvements are progressing well with installation 85% complete with hopefully the floor and wall tiling and final decoration completed by the end of February which then leaves plenty of time to put any finishing touches in place before the start of the season.

For those who can't make it to the Clubhouse on the date above we can send Membership forms to you so please contact either of the following if you require one:

Adie Cole - Treasurer email adiecole35@gmail.com Mobile: 07908 170238

Angela Whiting - Secretary email angelawhiting5@gmail.com Mobile: 07498 283503

A reminder that the Bowls Section are sponsoring the Walsham v Fakenham football match on Saturday 7th February 2026 with a large contingent having already confirmed their attendance so if you wish to be included please contact either of the above or Chairman Trevor Pollard so that numbers can be finalised with the Sports Club.

Carpet Bowls has restarted and is on Wednesdays at the Sports Club with a 2pm start.

Finally, I can confirm that our presentation evening will be held on March 5th at Thornham Horseshoes where we will acknowledge the various club competitions winners from a very successful and well attended Finals Day which was expertly organised by Gordon.

The trophies themselves will be presented by Keith (Kipper) Crabbe who is well known within the bowls world, both locally and at County level and is currently Secretary of the Stowmarket Bowls League and a Suffolk Area D Committee member as well as being a former player at Walsham.

Adie Cole



SPORTS CLUB REPORT

Football

The last game played at Walsham between Walsham and Harleston Town ended in a 0-0 draw. Since then the weather has played havoc with the fixtures and no Walsham team has played a match in 2026.

Forthcoming Home Fixtures for February

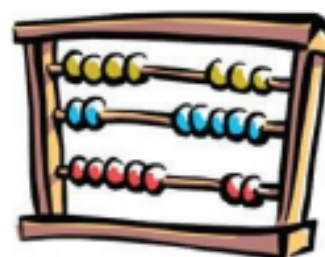
Sat 7th First Team v Fakenham Town 3pm

Sat 14th under 23s v Debenham 3pm

Sat 21st under 23s v Thetford Town 3pm

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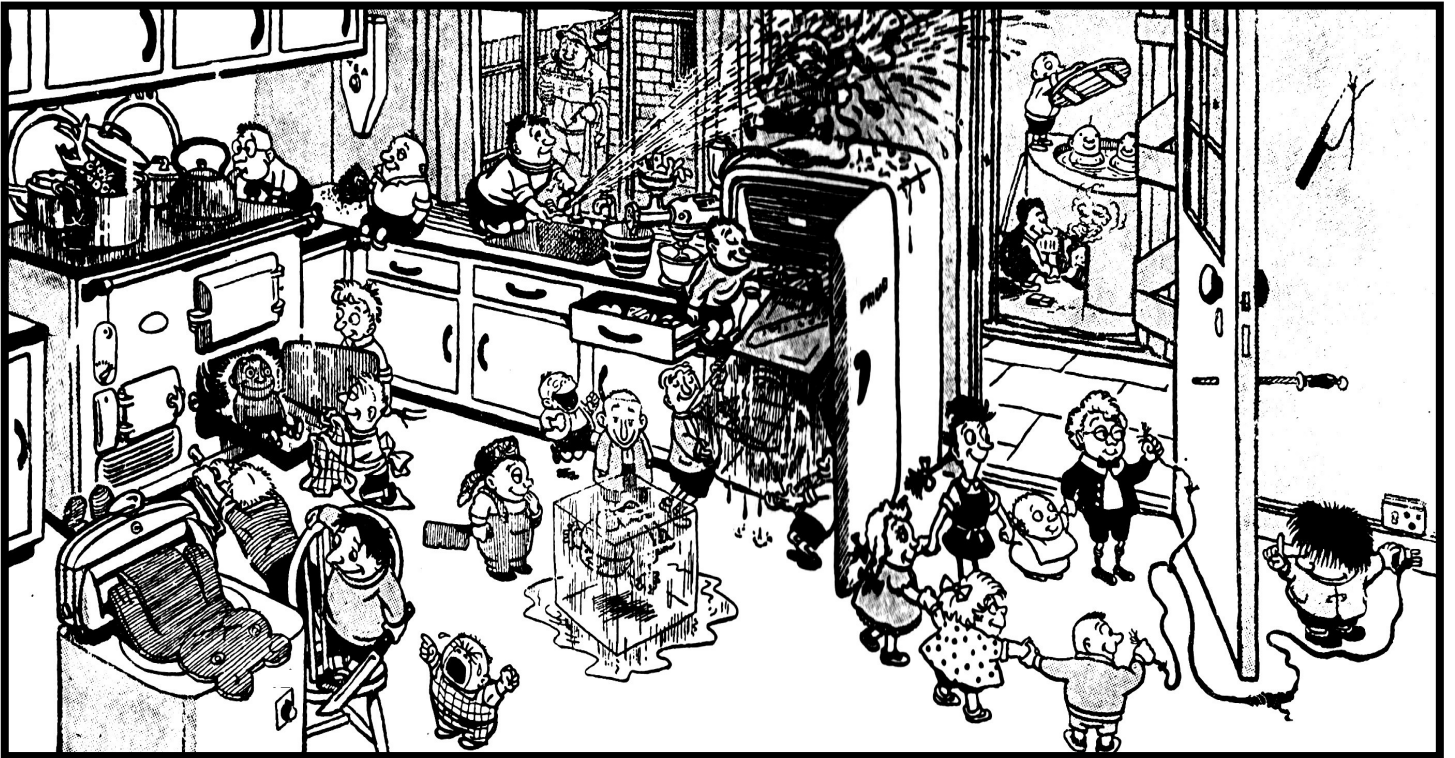
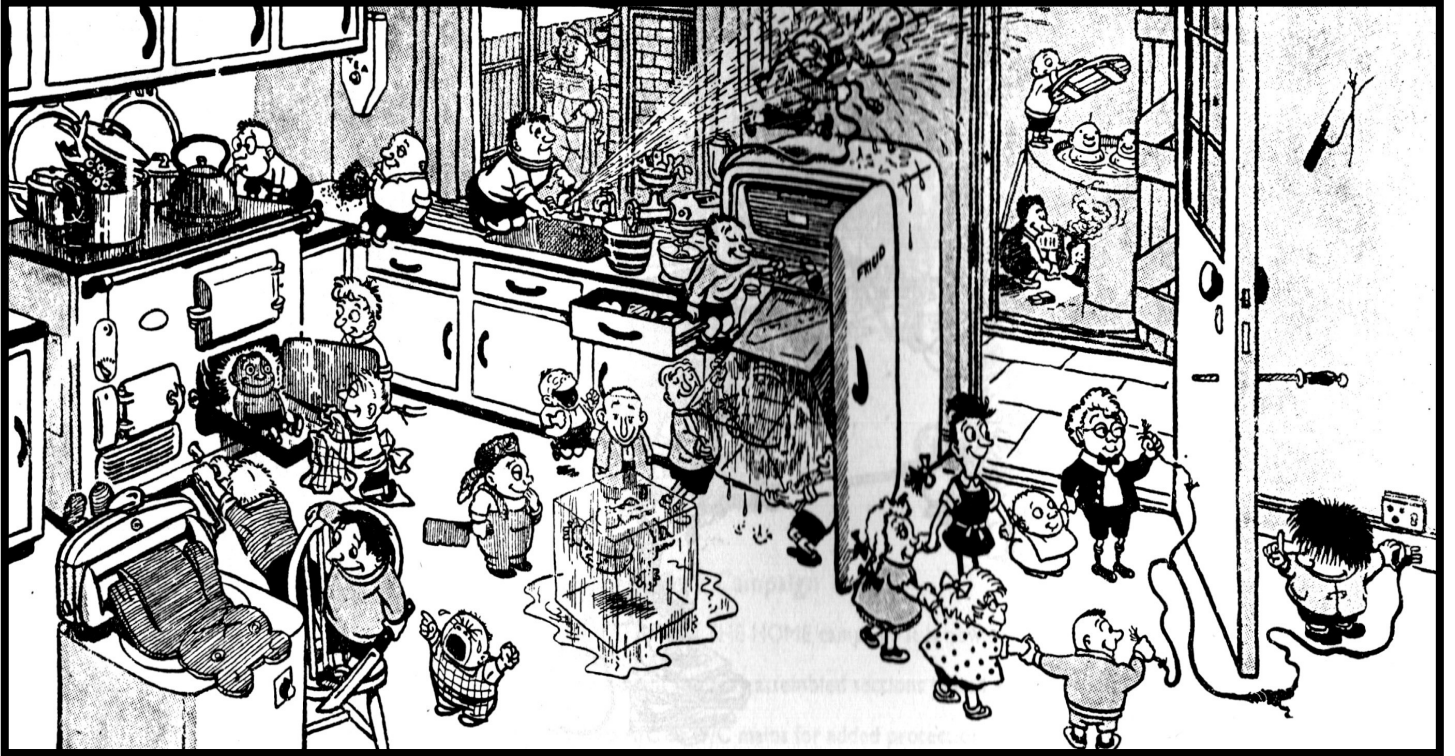
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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



There are ten differences between these two pictures, see if you can find them all before the kitchen is completely wrecked.



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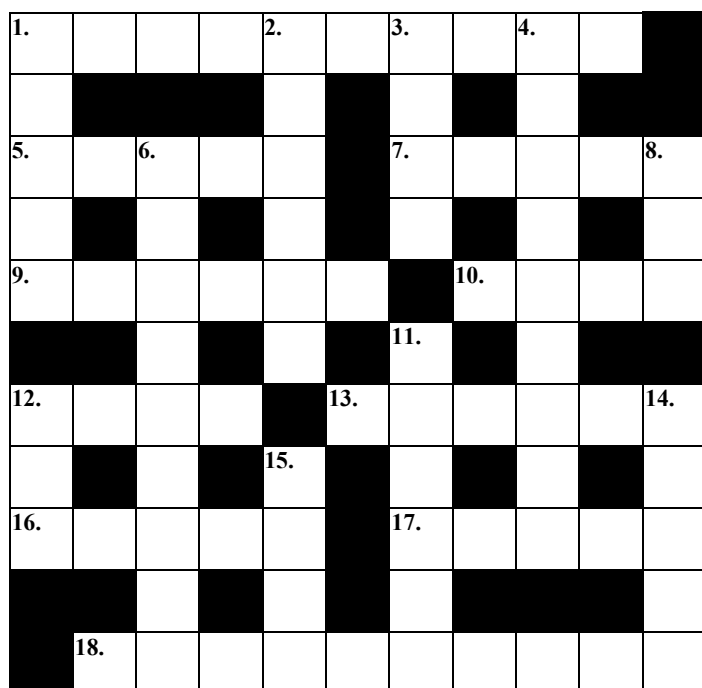
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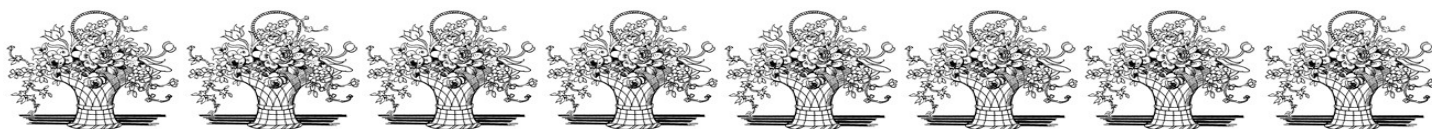
12. The others take a breather. (4)
 13. Provisions for the punishment. (6)
 16. It's an excellent way to prepare to start. (5)
 17. Please don't find yourself relaxed. (5)
 18. The time centre is made to measure. (10)

Down

1. It's the course for a northerner. (5)
 2. It's only the small fish who cut grass round the pub. (6)
 3. Insects that might be found in a sliced tart. (4)
 4. Reduces the agreements. (9)
 6. Some say it is a crime to organise a truce. (9)
 8. But possibly find the monster has lost an eye! (3)
 11. A flower for the unruly mater. (6)
 12. Tear into a stripper. (3)
 14. Walk about shiftily and idles about. (6)
 15. The team will arrange to get the stakes somehow. (4)

Across

1. An assistant arranges to compile a double hundred. (10)
 5. Don't try to make one out of china. (5)
 7. It's dandy, but liquor's quicker. (5)
 9. She's not quite the same sex. (6)
 10. Worry about a bar on the guitar. (4)



ABSENTMINDED

Rusty keys found in a flowerpot.
 Wet spectacles left on the lawn
 by the chair where I was reading -
 and found when I went out at dawn.

A mug of tea left by the fuchsias.
 A glass of wine, now full of ants.
 A line of washing I'd forgotten -
 a row of sodden bras and pants.

A hand fork, one not seen for ages,
 and found half buried in the earth.
 A mobile found inside a trug.
 I hate to think what that was worth.

A newspaper, a horrid sight -
 its pages hanging in a tree,
 blown up there by the wind last night.
 Can't get them down. Too high for me.

A watch I must have taken off
 some years ago, and left to rust.
 So absent-minded, that is me.
 And get more organised, I must!

*By Liz Cowley
 From Gardening in Slippers
 Published by Gibson Square
 ISBN 978-1-78334-075-0*

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



From which animal do you get alpaca wool?

ALL THE ANSWERS

Page Bottom Quiz

1. 1971, 2. An otter, 3. Ho Chi Minh City, 4. Murphy's, 5. Zambia, 6. 24,
7. Mussolini, 8. Sir Walter Scott, 9. An owlet, 10. SPQR, 11. Georges Simenon,
12. Three, 13. 5, 14. The Prime Minister, 15. Yes, 16. Paris, 17. A sword,
18. Fiddler on the Roof, 19. Use Centigrade, 20. Greece,
21. Robert Louis Stevenson, 22. Charterhouse, 23. The Danish Navy, 24. Fourteen,
25. Four weeks, 26. Brussels, 27. Manhattan, 28. Waterloo, 29. French border,
30. Hannibal, 31. He was a Disk Jockey, 32. 1952, 33. Washington, 34. E,
35. Germany, 36. Laika, 37. Doctors, 38. Lake District, 39. Butterflies & Moths,
40. Paul Revere, 41. John Constable, 42. Wales, 43. Cleopatra, 44. Ceefax,
45. When making a bet, 46. Llama, 47. France, 48. Mardi Gras, 49. Three miles,
50. Rugby

Sudoku

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

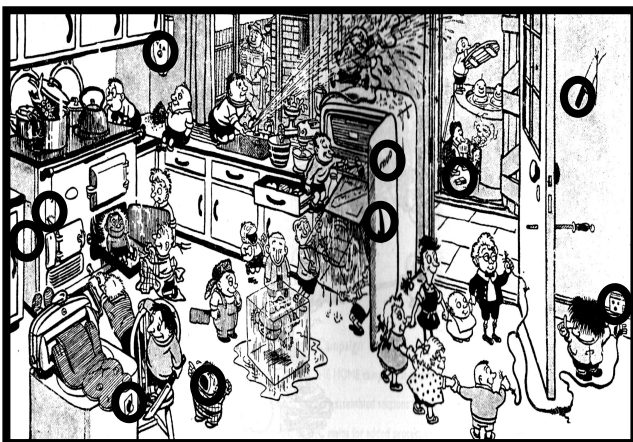
Crossword

A	C	C	O	M	P	L	I	C	E
S				I		I	O		
C	H	A	I	N		C	A	N	D
O		R		N		E		T	E
T	O	M	B	O	Y		F	R	E
		I		W		S		A	
R	E	S	T		S	T	O	C	K
I		T		M		R		T	I
P	R	I	M	E		E	A	S	E
		C		A		A			L
		C	E	N	T	I	M	E	T

More or Less

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

Spot the Difference



Searching for Words

Are	Art	Bear	Beat	Bier
Bio	Biro	Boa	Boar	Boat
Boil	Bore	Ear	Eat	Era
Iota	Lib	Lie	Lier	Lira
Lob	Lobe	Loe	Lore	Lot
Oar	Oat	Oil	Ore	Rare
Rat	Rear	Rear	Rib	Riot
Roar	Rob	Robe	Roe	Roil
Rot	Rota	Tao	Tar	Tare
Toe	Toil	Tor	Tore	Tribe
Trio	Liberator (51)			

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
The Steering Group
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
Rachel Robinson (Chair)
walshamwildwoods@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.’**

In the 19th century, how far was a league?