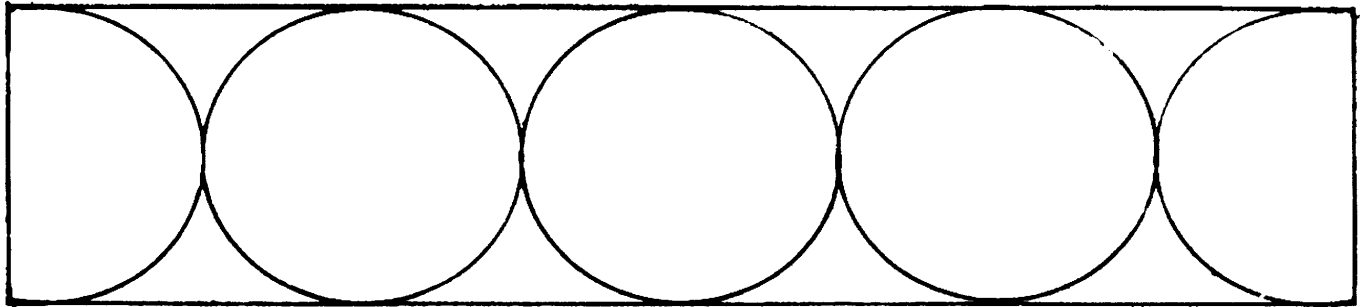
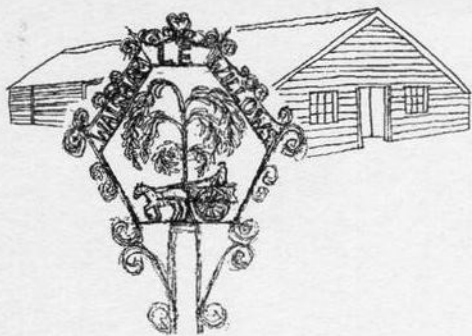


WALSHAM OBSERVER



MAY 2026



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Memorial Village Hall

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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

MAY 2026

No 676

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THE MOBILE POST OFFICE

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

The Priory Room

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

For booking or further information, please contact
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EDITORIAL

Once again the 'rule of four' has reared its head, resulting in a couple of page fillers at the end of this edition; but I hope that at least one of the fillers will be of 'interest' to the reader.

In these troubled times I feel, along with others, lucky to live in such a peaceful and friendly village, with a great sense of community which is wonderfully exemplified by the annual **Open Gardens Weekend**. With this in mind, there is a meeting in the **Village Hall on Thursday 21st May**, to which people are invited to put forward ideas about this year's event. If for some reason you can not attend the meeting but would be interested in opening your garden for the first time do get in contact with Alison Finlay via the email opengardens@walsham-le-willows.org

At this time of year the sound of mowers can be heard in the middle of the village and along the Summer Road as grass is shortened to allow for the playing of the summer games of Bowls and Cricket. Both seasons have now started and should you wish to participate or just spectate your presence would be much appreciated.

The Sports Club will be the place to be on **Sunday 24th May** when the Club is holding, what is becoming, their **Funday**, which starts at 1.00pm and goes on till Late!! Almost a fortnight later (**Friday 5th & Saturday 6th June**) they are holding a **Beer, Gin and Cider Festival**. Clearly an event designed for both the inquisitive and serious toppers!

A few summers ago I at the Long Shed in Woodbridge watching a group of people shaping the long keel of what was to become part of the replica of the **Sutton Hoo Burial Ship**. As they seemed to be using 'replica' tools to carry out the process, progress was somewhat slow. Slow or not they are sure enough of completion of the project to come and talk to the **History Group on Wednesday 20th in the Priory Room**.

I have not been informed as to how the **Wild Woods Easter Trail** went; I suspect that it was great fun for all involved. I have received word that the **St Mary's Easter Egg Trail** went well, having attracted 30 families and 70 children. The answer to the puzzle was highly appropriate '*He is risen*'.

My meanderings through secondhand and charity bookshops continues and has provided me with a selection of limericks. I trust that a few of those included in this month's publication do not offend!

I sign off this month's offering with the hope that we get a little more rain, but in the right quantities and at the right time! I know; it's asking a lot of the British weather, but I can live in hope!



WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The children from Caterpillar and Ladybird Classes have visited Banham Zoo to support their learning of animals this term. They had great fun with the learning session and met Stacey the giant stick insect and found out about colours in nature and how some animals want to stand out. They also saw Arlo the baby sloth.

The children in Dragonflies are discovering life 'Through the Ages' and are reading the book 'Stonehenge Boy' and finding out about how life was during this period of time. In maths they are learning about fractions and developing their tennis skills in PE.

Grasshoppers will be finding out about 'Groundbreaking Greeks' and will be looking at playscripts and non-chronological reports in English. They will be designing a Greek temple in DT and doing observational drawings in art.

For Cricket Class this half term, the children will be continuing with their revision for the SATs and we are all so proud of how hard they are working. They will also be finding out about Mexico and exploring what life was like in the ancient Mayan civilisation.

Our theme for Collective Worship this half term is Truthfulness and we will be finding out how important it is to be sincere and not hide the truth.

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



MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

So far it looks as if May, like April, will be fairly quiet apart from a couple birthday parties. All our regular fitness activities continue throughout the month of May and new members are always welcome.

Yet again the monthly Community Lunch on Monday 13th April proved a great success with nearly 40 guests and we are already taking bookings for the next one on Monday 11th May.

Our regular Thursday coffee mornings remain very well attended and we now have a new 'summer' menu. Hopefully if the weather holds many will have the chance to use our lovely garden. One important matter is that the coffee morning is cancelled for Thursday 7th May due to the Hall being used for local elections.

Rob Matthews



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I've found myself in a really difficult financial situation and I don't know where to turn. I was made redundant recently and now I'm finding it hard to keep up with my bills and am getting into debt - what can I do?

Money problems can feel overwhelming, but the most important thing to remember is that you don't have to face this alone. We know that times are incredibly tough for lots of people right now, and Citizens Advice is here to help you find a way forward.

Make sure you've been paid everything you're entitled to by your former employer. You can check what your rights are on the Citizens Advice website.

If you're finding it difficult to stay on top of bills, free budgeting tools like the one on the MoneyHelper website can help you understand what money you have coming in and going out each month, and where you might be able to cut costs.

Before you start, try to find your most recent bank statements, payslips, debit and credit card statements or bills, and receipts for things you usually pay for in cash. Make sure you include all your expenses, for example money you spend on your partner or family.

If your budget just doesn't add up and you need help to afford essentials like bills and food, you can find out how to get help with your bills as well as what cost of living support is available on the Citizens Advice website.

Please don't ignore bills or letters about money that you owe. You should collect and organise all debt-related documents to create a comprehensive list of all your debts. It might feel overwhelming when you see everything written down - but try not to worry, the important thing is that you're taking action to sort things out.

If you're behind on household bills, prioritise paying your rent or mortgage, plus energy bills and Council Tax first. Not paying these bills has the most serious consequences. Take a look at the Citizens Advice website for more information about what bills to prioritise and how to manage debts. You can then speak to the organisations you owe money to – they might let you pay smaller amounts or take a break from payments.

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

Lots of people miss out on benefits they're entitled to, so it's worth checking what you can get on the Citizens Advice website. Claiming benefits might also let you get access to other financial help like cost-of-living payments and discounts on energy and transport.

Whatever your situation, you don't have to face this alone - get in touch with a free support service like us at Citizens Advice. Our advisers can help to check if you're eligible for any benefits or financial support and explore all the options for dealing with your debts.

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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STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



At the county AGM members were informed that those in charge at Headquarters had asked all counties to donate £26,000.00 from their Benevolent fund towards the next Invictus Games. This was discussed at our recent 'C' Group meeting, that is made up of 7 local branches. Members voted not to support this request as funds should be used to help those in need of financial support.

On 23rd March I was invited to a talk At RAF Honington to hear all about Bertram Arthur 'Jimmy' James MC RAF. He was a pilot with No 9 Wellington Bomber Squadron. RAF Honington. His aircraft was shot down over Holland on 5th June 1940. Jimmy along with 2 others bailed out but Jimmy was captured and taken to Stalag -Luft 111 prison camp in Poland famous for the Great Escape, 24 March 1944. 76 men escaped that night, only 3 made it home. 73 were recaptured and on Hitlers orders 50 were shot. For his part in this event Jimmy, after re capture was sent to another camp. He was involved in a further 2 escapes from other prisoner of war camps after helping to dig tunnels. He remained a prisoner until the end of the war.

At the end of the war he was awarded the Military Cross for his part in the Great Escape. He left the RAF and joined the Regiment, where he was promoted to Squadron Leader and for a time posted back to RAF Honington.

Jimmy died 18th January 2008 aged 92. He was buried in his RAF uniform. A friend went to see him in the chapel of rest and placed a knife in his pocket.

Do not forget our branch fish and chip evening to be held at the Cock inn on Tuesday 26th May 7pm for 7.30pm start. A raffle will be held during the evening.

At the time of going to press branch funds totalled £2087.47p.

The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th May at the Cock Inn Stanton commencing at 8pm.

Hubby Frost

WALSHAM OBSERVER SUDOKU

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

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 AND DISTRICT W.I.



April: Introduction to Deaf Awareness and British Sign Language, with Michelle Attrill

Michelle has been working with the deaf community for over 30 years and gave us a most illuminating talk about the causes of deafness and the best ways to communicate. After making us aware of how difficult a noisy environment is to anyone suffering from deafness; she introduced us to Makatan, Sign Supported English, British sign language and finger spelling. (NB there are regional differences, much like a spoken accent, in the sign language used by people across the UK!) Hopefully we shall all be more aware and more considerate next time we are speaking to someone with hearing loss. The sales table was popular and raised over £40.

May meeting: AGM 7.30pm in the Priory Room.

All Members are encouraged to come to the AGM this year, we need as many people as possible to discuss and help decide on the future of our W.I.

Judith Harlow



WALSHAM HISTORY GROUP

The Sutton Hoo Burial Ship Reconstruction

A talk by 'The Ship's Company'

Wednesday 20th May 2026 at 7.30pm in The Priory Room.

Long ago an Anglo-Saxon noble was buried within a 90ft ship in a mound at Sutton Hoo, just across the river from Woodbridge. He was, almost certainly, King Raedwald, who died c.624. The ship was discovered in 1939 by Basil Brown, but not much remained of the original ship, just the impressive imprint of a ghost in the sand.

The Sutton Hoo Ship's Company, formed in 2016, is a group of people with a strong desire and collective will to create a permanent, authentic and working replica of the Anglo-Saxon Burial Ship.

This project is currently housed in a boatyard in Woodbridge and on viewing is completely awe-inspiring, due to its immense size and quality of workmanship. It will be a truly amazing sight to behold when it is at last rowed on the waters of the River Deben.

If you would like to find out more about this iconic project then come along to our next meeting.

Members free Visitors £5.00

*For more information please contact
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A player of games known as Ringo,
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He’ll holler out Lotto!!
But now the winning call’s Bingo!!

Sometimes this drunken louse
Will clearly call out House!!
Then watch the reaction
To his past times action,
Just staying as quiet as a mouse.

Note: *Sunday Bingo dates at The Sports Club are:-
10th, 17th & 31st May and 14th & 28th June
All sessions start at 7pm start.*

In which city might you find Juliet's balcony?

UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM AND DEVOLUTION

The way forward for local government reform is now a lot clearer though it's not exactly straightforward and no one would be shocked if further changes were still to come.

Reorganisation of Councils

From May 2028, the government is replacing our current 'two-tier' council system with new 'unitary' councils.

Three new unitary councils will be created for Suffolk:

Ipswich and Southern Suffolk
Eastern Suffolk
Western Suffolk

These will replace Suffolk County Council and the five district and borough councils: Babergh, East Suffolk, Ipswich, Mid Suffolk and West Suffolk. This will provide a single tier of local government.

Walsham Le Willows will be part of the new Western Suffolk unitary council.

There will now be County Council elections in May 2026. These elections are to elect County Councillors for two years until the new unitary authorities take control.

The current District Councils will stay in place until May 2028 and there will be no further District Council elections.

Elections for the new unitary Councils will take place next year in May 2027 with a year of working alongside existing councils as a handover.

The government believes reorganising and simplifying councils can drive economic growth while delivering better public services. Clearly there may be cost and disruption associated with this reorganisation.

Devolution and an elected mayor

The second big change is devolution, which will involve the creation of a new strategic authority and the election of a mayor for Suffolk and Norfolk in 2028. This was originally intended to be in May 2026, but the government has now delayed this until May 2028.

The key role of the strategic authority will be to make decisions spanning multiple councils covering areas such as transport and driving economic growth.

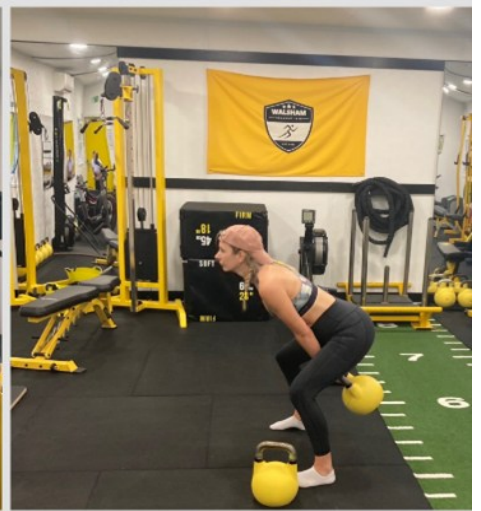
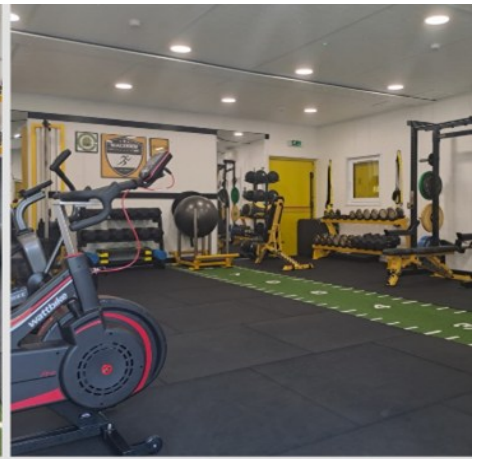
The Mayor will be directly elected by the people of Norfolk and Suffolk via the supplementary voting system. This means that if a candidate hasn't got 50% of the vote in the first round then second preference votes will be taken into account. The idea is to ensure anyone elected has broader community support.

Richard Winch
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They work in the general practice team, supporting patients with long-term conditions and undertaking structured medication reviews with patients on multiple medications and complex health needs.

Pharmacy Technicians

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Social Prescribing Link Worker

Our Social Prescribing Link Worker helps with non-clinical needs, helping people improve their wellbeing. They connect people to community groups and services for practical and emotional support.



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SUFFOLK OPEN STUDIOS

A Creative Force in Suffolk's Arts Scene

Suffolk Open Studios (SOS) is a vibrant, artist-led network celebrating the wealth of creative talent across Suffolk. Each June, artists open their studios to the public, offering free entry and a rare opportunity to meet makers, explore their processes, and enjoy a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere — with no obligation to buy.

Taking place over weekends in June, SOS connects visitors with artists, artisans and makers across the county, including communities such as Walsham le Willows. It's an inspiring way to discover art and the people behind it, right on your doorstep.

In addition to Open Studios, SOS members take part in three annual group exhibitions at venues across Suffolk. In 2026, these will be held at Holton Lodge, Halesworth (May), Framlingham Town Hall (August), and Bury St Edmunds Guildhall (October). Exhibition locations rotate each year to ensure a broad geographic reach and to support SOS's core value of inclusivity.

Membership is open to all artists and makers living or working in Suffolk, with no selection process. This creates a diverse and supportive creative community, welcoming both emerging and established practitioners.

Visitors can explore SOS through the printed Art Directory 2026, available from galleries, cafés, libraries and local venues, or via the mobile app, which allows users to plan personalised studio visits across the county.

The SOS Art Directory and app will be available from the end of March. For more information, visit www.suffolkopenstudios.org or follow @suffolkopenstudios on Instagram

Avenue Studio will be open for the first two weekends from 10.00am - 5.00pm.

Cate Hadley



COMMUNITY LUNCH



I hope you are all enjoying the wonderful weather as much as I am.

The Memorial Village Hall will be open from 12.30pm on Monday 11th May 2026. Lunch will be Admirals Pie, green beans, carrots and peas served at 1pm, followed by St Clements pie.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please book a place, at £9.00p, with Shirley on 01359 258532 by 5pm on Thursday 7th May 2026.

Shirley White



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WALSHAM OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

30TH and 31ST August 2026

A Celebration Meeting in St Mary's Church
on the 21ST May starting at 7pm

We are having a get together in this 44th anniversary year, a few nibbles and a glass of wine, to celebrate what we have achieved and to look forward to this year's event despite the troubled times we live in.

A chance for everyone, those who have always been involved with the Gardens Weekend and newcomers as well, to discuss the weekend, raise concerns, suggest new ideas and feel a part of an event that has been such a big part of Walsham life since the early 1980's. During that time hundreds of thousands of pounds has been raised for the village, half of which has been spent on the upkeep of St Mary's and the rest has supported lots of the organisations, clubs and societies that go towards making Walsham the wonderful place that it is.

Please come along and contribute to the meeting, and for newcomers, it really will be a great introduction to the village and to this annual event, which is such an important part of the Walsham year to so many local people and to the many hundreds of visitors that we expect to come here over the 2026 August Bank Holiday weekend.

In the meantime, don't hesitate to get in touch if I can be of help.

John Stebbing john@architectatwork.co.uk 07831 325610

Secretary to the Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust



HISTORY GROUP MEETING

The Wardrobe of Mr Darcy and Miss Bennett.

Fashion In the Age of Jane Austen

At our April meeting Sarah and James Deering gave a very engaging talk on the fashions for men and women from the late 18th to early 19th centuries. It was illustrated with a range of beautiful examples which illustrated how the clothes were made and the types of fabrics used.

The decades spanned a considerable change in fashions from the fabulous silks of the Georgian era to the far more practical and easily constructed and washed cottons and wools of the Regency period. Being well dressed was both costly – it might take up half of your income, and time consuming, requiring visits to the draper, dressmaker, milliner, hosier, cobbler, or tailor and warehouse for men. Jane Austen longed to be able to buy a ready-made dress off the peg! For men with money and lots of spare time this was the time of the understated elegance of Beau Brummell and fellow dandies. Close, neat fitting coats, high leather boots (wellingtons) and large top hats.

Alison Martin



Stuart Walker

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OBSERVATIONS ON FUTURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The trustees of the Old Town Trust, have a responsibility to manage the assets of the trust (land and property) to meet the purposes of the charity. The purposes of the charity can be summarised as “offering of benefit to the inhabitants of Walsham le Willows”. The purpose has both a short- and long-term view.

In recent years the trust has held passive assets whilst demonstrating the Charity’s purpose through leasing amenity land to community groups including the Allotments Society, The Wild Woods community group and the Parish Council for the Children’s Play Area on Townhouse Road.

The agricultural land held has retained its value but generating sufficient income to offer immediate benefit to the residents of Walsham has not been easy as income from small plots of farmed land is generally poor. At the same time, the charity’s property we are entrusted with, The Guildhall, requires ongoing maintenance. This has been brought into sharp focus by recent and pending Government legislation regarding energy efficiency. This leaves little income for use elsewhere.

Have times changed?

The recent Westminster Government house building targets and subsequent Mid Suffolk District Council potential housing development proposals for the village raised some difficult questions for the trust.

Is offering a site for housing development in the best long-term interest of the village? OR is preserving the status quo where we have assets which generate a small financial yield the way forward?

The Trust made the choice to put forward land on Finningham road as a potential housing development site. The planners will assess the site against their overall district plan and the other potential sites put forward for the village.

The Old Town Trust, having offered some of its land, will eventually hear the outcome and at that stage will fully engage with the wider community in determining the best way forward.

Housing development on Old Town Trust land could bring the village significant funds and wider opportunities. These funds could be invested and used to better meet the charity’s purpose and support the myriads of voluntary groups who do so much to make Walsham the fantastic place to live that it is.

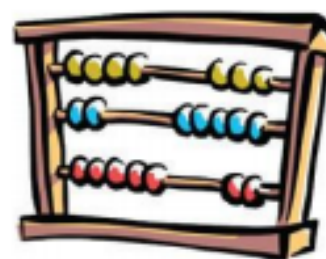
If you would like to know more about the trust and share your thoughts on the way forward, we hope you will make use of the Trust’s Summer meeting. Keep an eye on the Observer for the date and venue.

Ian Campbell MBE



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DIARY OF EVENTS

MAY			AUGUST		
Wed 13th	WI Annual Meeting		Sat 8th	Horticultural Show	
	Priory Room	7.30pm		Village Hall	2.30pm
Wed 20th	History Group		Sun 30th	Open Gardens	All
	Priory Room	7.30pm	Mon 31st	Weekend	Day
Sun 24th	Family Funday		SEPTEMBER		
	Sports Club	1.00pm	Wed 16th	History Group	
JUNE				Priory Room	7.30pm
Fri 5th &	Beer, Gin & Cider Fest		OCTOBER		
Sat 6th	Sports Club		Wed 21st	History Group	
Wed 10th	WI Pakenham Water			Priory Group	7.30pm
	Mill Visit	Time TBC	NOVEMBER		
Wed 17th	History Group		Wed 18th	History Group	
	St Mary's	7.30pm		Priory Room	7.30pm
JULY			DECEMBER		
Wed 15th	History Group		Tue 8th	History Group	
	Priory Room	7.30pm		Priory Room	7.30pm

FREE ENTRY

**SUNDAY 24TH MAY
1PM TILL LATE**

**JOIN US FOR OUR 2026
BANK HOLIDAY
FAMILY FUNDAY**

**WALSHAM LE WILLOWS
SPORTS CLUB**

**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
INFLATABLES FROM 1PM -5PM • FOOD • BAR
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**LIVE MUSIC FROM ADAM
THOMAS AT 5PM**



Beer, Gin & Cider FESTIVAL

5TH JUNE - 4PM TILL LATE - 6TH JUNE - 12PM TILL LATE

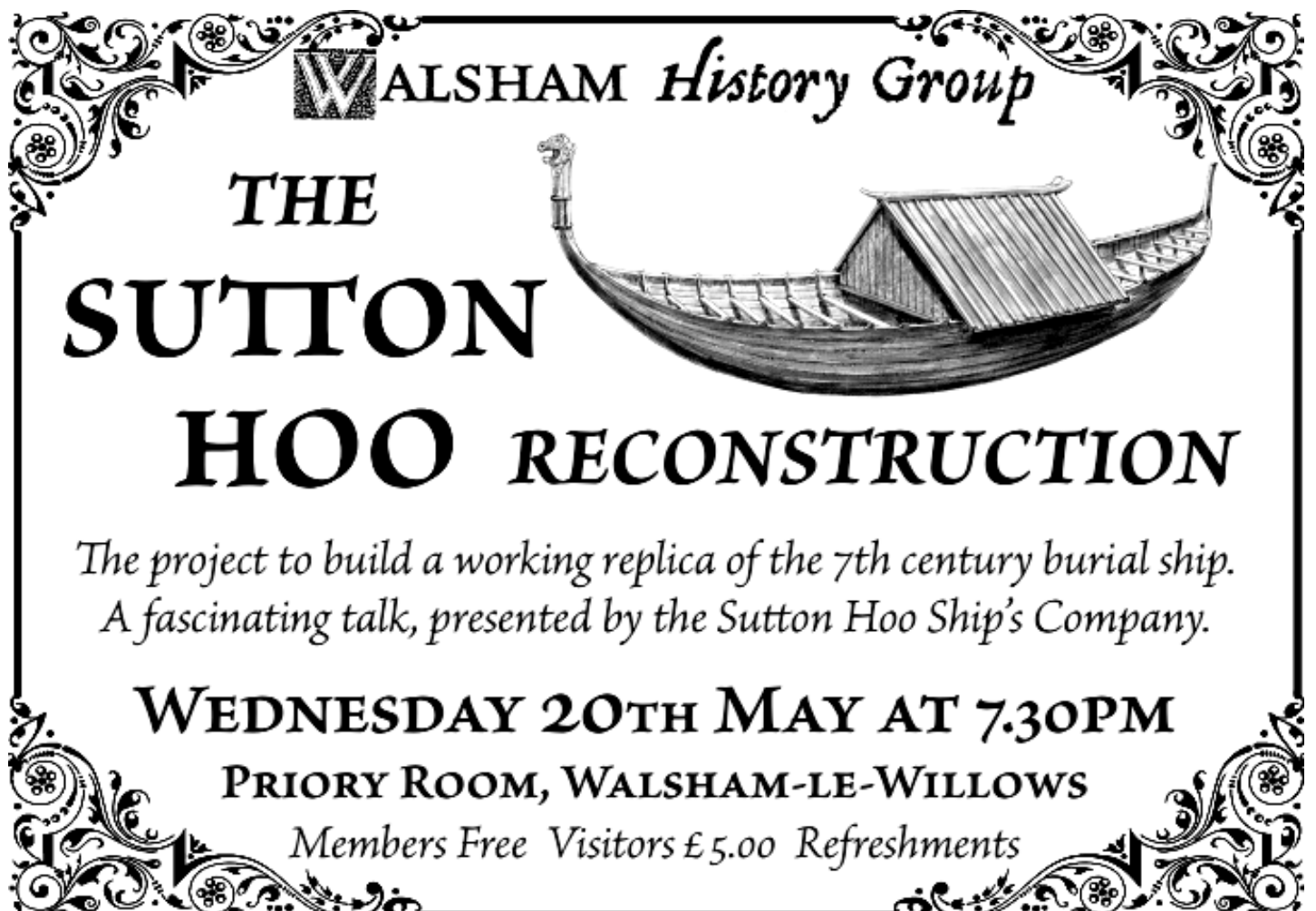
WALSHAM SPORTS CLUB
Summer Road, Walsham, IP31 3AH

LIVE MUSIC ALL WEEKEND
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BEER, GIN & CIDER BAR
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WALSHAM History Group

THE SUTTON HOO RECONSTRUCTION

*The project to build a working replica of the 7th century burial ship.
A fascinating talk, presented by the Sutton Hoo Ship's Company.*

WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY AT 7.30PM
PRIORY ROOM, WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS
Members Free Visitors £5.00 Refreshments



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th April 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, Roberts and Tuck.

ALSO PRESENT: County Cllr. Fleming

1. OPENING STATEMENT (if any required) & MEMBER'S APOLOGIES
 - a. Apologies received from Cllr Janette Winch & District Cllr. Richard Winch.
 - b. Consents were given.
 - c. The Chair determined that agenda item 5 (County Cllr Report) would be taken before agenda item 4 (Public Open Forum), in that order to allow Cllr Fleming to leave in time to attend another Parish Council meeting. Agenda items minuted in usual order below.
2. DECLARATIONS of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests
Cllr. Tuck agenda item 7b.
Dispensations approved to allow Cllr Tuck to elaborate on the application.
3. MINUTES - To Receive and consider the minutes of the following meetings (as previously circulated)
 - a. Minutes of meeting 11th March 2026 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. **Two** members of the public were present.
 - One member of the public raised concerns of a number of residents about the increasing amounts of litter in The Street, thought to be related to the use of the Premier shop which had provided no litter bin for its customers. This has since been provided but may be inadequate. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the shop owner to ask that a more permanent refuse bin is provided, but affixed to the right of the front door, so that it is visible to customers but not on the footpath, and also to prevent litter being spread if the current bin is overturned, not least by the wind. The Clerk was asked to point out that this would support the efforts of the Parish Council with regular litter pick initiatives.
 - The same member of the public raised concerns about shopkeepers residing at the address not only because the planning permissions granted were not for residential accommodation and the fact that 'waste smells' have been detected along with grey water output from the rear of the shop into the stream, although this has reduced. There were also concerns about living conditions and working hours of the shopkeepers. The resident has already spoken to District Cllr. Winch who has advised that he will follow up. The Clerk was asked to report to MSDC Planning and Environmental Health.

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- A second resident raised the ongoing concerns with regard to the resumption of harassment and intimidation from a neighbour. Another resident has contacted DC Winch about aggressive behaviour from this individual. The resident has spoken further with our community police officer about this situation who is also aware of incidents involving other residents. The Clerk was asked to invite PC Colin Gedney to attend a Parish Council meeting.
5. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPORTS FOR INFORMATION & QUESTIONS
- a. County Councillor Fleming
- Was asked about the response from Joanna Spicer with regard to the future of bus the 73 bus service. Cllr Fleming had received no response to date and will chase again
 - Cllr Fleming noted that she will not be standing for election again and offered her personal email so that she could assist with continuity, during the local government transition.
- b. District Councillor Winch was not present
Cllr Mecrow asked for thanks to be noted DC Winch to be noted for the MSDC initiative to clear litter from the A14.
6. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS & ACTION LOG REVIEWS
- a. **Traffic Group**
- i. Report was noted. The Clerk requested the landscape images required for SID location applications. Cllr Tuck to provide.
 - ii. It was noted that the Summer Road works have been ordered and are for completion by 25/06/2026. Cllr Mecrow asked if the repainting of the roundel on the road near the 30mph limit could be included, as it had been partly obliterated by road 'repairs'! Clerk to request.
 - iii. The Parish Council noted its thanks to Richard Pratt of Ashwell Construction for so efficiently preparing hedge boundary to Summer Road in preparation for the installation of village gates.
- b. **CEP Group** – Report was noted and Cllr Brookes informed of the opportunity to host Rest Centre training for outlying villages in the Memorial Hall and the group are keen that this is taken up. The Parish Council agreed that this would be a good move.
- c. **Flood Mitigation Group**
No report received but Cllr Mecrow noted that Council needed to revisit the conclusions from flood group work prior to the S19 report as he felt there were some loose ends. It was agreed that this was a good idea. Cllr Belson will arrange.
- The appointment of Martin Hassall as our representative for flood groups on the Anglian Great Ouse Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) was noted.
7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS, LICENCING, ENFORCEMENT & RELATED MATTERS
- a. Standing item to consider changes to neighbourhood plan to be documented for next review in light of recently published 'Call for sites' consultation. Cllr Belson noted that the Parish Council could not proceed until more information



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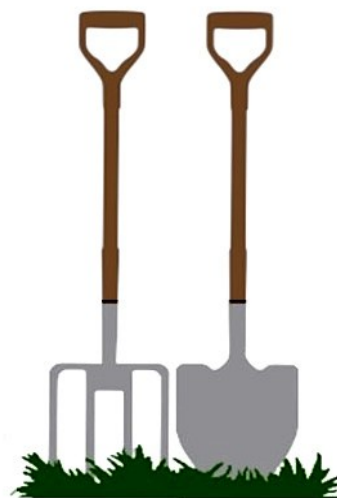
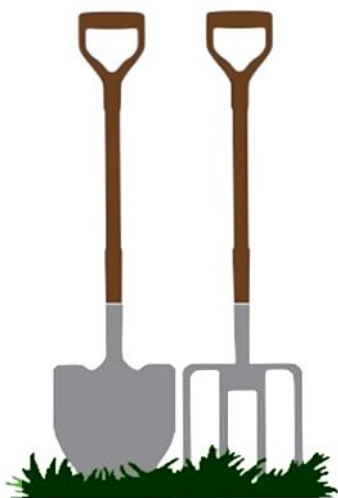
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was received from MSDC on sites that would be preferred and information relating to intended build density appropriate to each.

- b. APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT (SECTION 19) - DC/26/01029** Proposal: Application under Section 19 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for Listed Building Consent DC/22/01898 - Erection of a single storey side extension to store and conversion of hayloft to form annex, installation of stairs leading to hayloft, replacement of garage door with French windows, closing up of wall between garage and proposed sitting room, extension of garden wall to form courtyard, and erection of a new garden store. To Vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) changes from a glazed roof on kitchen extension to a fully insulated slate tiled roof with Conservation rooflight due to concerns raised by Building Control. Location: The Priory, The Causeway, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AB **The Parish Council Made No Comment**
- c. APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - DC/26/00779** Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent - internal alterations to bathroom and bedroom at first floor Location: Maltings House, The Street, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **The Parish Council Supported This Application**

8. PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning Authority – to be noted)

- APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/26/00710** Proposal: Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area -
1. Dismantle eucalyptus which is in danger of collapse due to rotting stump.
 2. Reduce height of plum tree, ensuring health and continued harvest
 3. Trim Yew Tree into a topiary ball
 4. Reduce self-set Pussy Willow
- Location: Hillcrest, The Causeway, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AB **MSDC Raised No Objection**

9. FINANCE & AUDIT & COUNCIL ADMIN

- a. The bank reconciliation for period ending 31st March 2026 was approved and signed.
- b. Accounts awaiting payment summary and invoices for payment were approved for authorisation. (Appendix 1).
- c. The review of the Risk register was postponed to next meeting of the Council. Clerk to circulate again.
- d. The issue of fallen tree near The Pound, was discussed and the quote obtained by Ian Campbell noted. Cllrs Roberts and Mecrow will take another look and report back.
- e. The grant of £600 from gardens weekend committee towards signage for the new village gates was noted. Clerk advised that this would be ordered once the gates were in place.
- f. The proposal to request removal of hedge on Summer Road and in-principle funding of this by the Parish Council pending a quote, was discussed. The Clerk was asked to clarify that the email from Sophie Farrington at Highways had been properly understood and that there were no crossed wires with regard to feasibility of this and to request the required investigations into boundaries by



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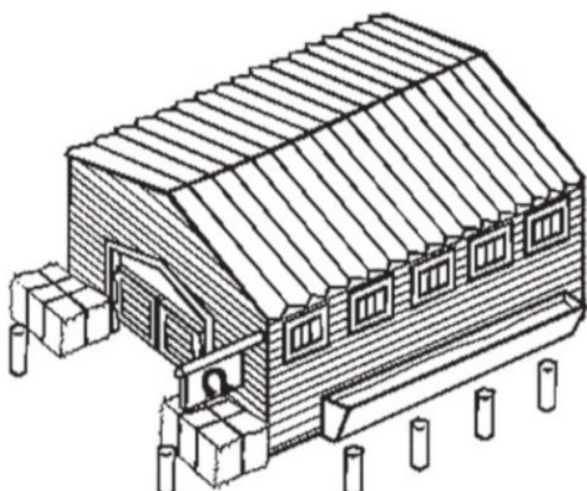


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joseph.light@sentry.co.uk

SCC Highways, if this is a feasible proposal.

- g. The VAT reclaim submitted in sum of £1,905.81, was noted.
 - h. The publication of transparency notices to 31st March 2026 on the website was noted.
 - i. The Clerk's briefing (by email) of the position on Nurture Landscape invoicing was discussed. The Clerk asked for instruction on how to proceed in this negotiation which should be resolved next week. A proposal to the PCC can then be drafted to the PCC re maintenance.
 - j. The financial year end report (to 31/03/2026), signed by Clerk, was approved and signed by the Chair.
10. CLERK ACTION LOG, COUNCILLOR REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE (if not dealt with elsewhere)
 - a. Clerk's action log – nothing of note that is not already in hand.
 - b. No matters arising from the Annual Meeting of the Parish (Annual Question Time) that need to be followed up.
 - c. Correspondence from resident regarding litter and wastewater alleged to be from shop activity.
 - d. Duplication of agenda item 9j
11. OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN/NOTE FOR NEXT AGENDA
 - a. Next Parish Council meeting is the ANNUAL meeting on 13th May 2026 7pm – Memorial Hall
 - b. The Clerk raised the issue of feedback from volunteer re the condition of the boardwalk in the Play Area who cautioned against more repairs. Lengthy discussion on need for/merit of the boardwalk. Clerk was asked to start to make enquiries as to alternative path solutions.

Meeting Close @ 20:42



MORE OR LESS

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

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

APPENDIX 1

Payments for Authorisation APRIL 2026

#	Payments & Transfers OUT	Amount	Description
1	Parish Council Employee	£840.85	Remuneration
2	HMRC Cumbernauld	£699.58	PAYE
3	Suffolk County Council	£1,634.80	Streetlighting energy and maintenance
4	SALC	£54.00	6 months payroll charge
5	Memorial Village Hall	£87.75	Monthly, CEP and AQT meetings
6	Suffolk County Council	£2,390.00	Payment for calming measures – summer road
7	Unity Trust Bank - DDR	£7.00	Monthly Service Charge
8	Scribe Accounts - DDR	£37.20	Monthly Subscription (April)
	TOTAL	£5,751.18	
#	Payments & Transfers IN	Amount	Description
1	Gardens Weekend Committee	£600.00	Grant towards village gate signage
2	Transfer to cover payments out	£1000.00	Tfr deposit > current 16/03/2026
3	Transfer to cover payments out	£1000.00	Tfr deposit > current 19/03/2026
4	Transfer to cover payments out	£5000.00	Tfr deposit > current 01/04/2026
	TOTAL	£7,600.00	

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

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FROM ST MARY'S

May is a month when the countryside around us seems to breathe again hedgerows fresh with green, blossom lingering in the air, and a renewed sense of life all around us. It is fitting, then, that in the Church calendar we celebrate Pentecost, the great festival of the Holy Spirit, often described as the Church's "birthday."

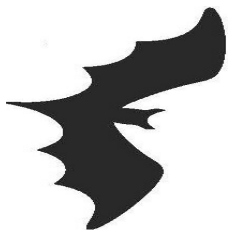
At Pentecost, we remember how the disciples, once uncertain and afraid, were filled with courage and joy through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Tongues of fire, a rushing wind, and the ability to speak so all could understand, these vivid images remind us that God's Spirit brings energy, unity, and new life. It is not just a story of long ago, but an invitation to us today: to be people who carry hope, speak kindness, and share God's love in our community.

There is much happening across the benefice this month, but two things in our communities to draw your attention to are the Flower Festival in Finningham and our Songs of Praise service. The 60th Flower Festival, taking place over the weekend of the first Bank Holiday, is a wonderful milestone and a real celebration of creativity and community spirit. I do encourage you to visit and enjoy the displays in church, the marque filled with stalls and the wonderful tearoom it is a superb way to spend the weekend.

Our Songs of Praise service on the 12th in St Mary's offers something rather different but equally special. If you love singing, it is a wonderful opportunity to join together and raise the roof! You are invited to choose your favourite hymns, helping to shape a joyful and relaxed time of worship that truly belongs to everyone. Everyone is welcome! As we move through this lovely month, may we be open to the quiet (and sometimes surprising) ways the Holy Spirit is at work among us in our homes, our village, and our hearts.

With every blessing,

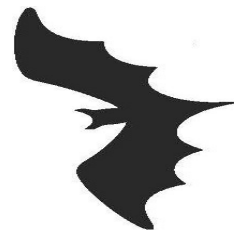
Revd Catriona



'BRANCHING OUT' YOUTH GROUP

Sunday 17th May at 3pm

St Margarets Church, Westhorpe



We invite our younger friends to join us for an afternoon discovering the bats that live in our church.

Learn about the different bat species.

Find out why our churches make perfect bat homes.

Meet local bat experts from Suffolk Bat Group and ask questions.

Everyone welcome - whether you're curious, concerned, or just love wildlife!

For more information contact:

Rev'd Catriona on 07525920307

or revcatrionabrinkley@outlook.com

MAY CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Service	Church
26th April	4th Sunday of Easter	
9:30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
11:00am	Holy Communion	Wattisfield
6:00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
3rd May	5th Sunday of Easter	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Langham
10:00am	Roots & Shoots	Walsham
11:00am	Family Service	Walsham
5:00pm	Songs of Praise	Finningham
10th May	Rogation Sunday	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
11:00am	Songs of Praise	Walsham
17th May	7th Sunday of Easter	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Finningham
24th May	Pentecost Sunday	
9:30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
11:00am	Holy Communion	Wattisfield
6:00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
31st May	Trinity Sunday	
9:30am	Benefice Service	Westhorpe
7th June	1st Sunday after Trinity	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Langham
10:00am	Roots & Shoots	Walsham
11:00am	Family Service	Walsham

ST MARY'S CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Tue 12th May
9am till 10.30am

TEA AND TOAST TUESDAYS
IN THE PRIORY ROOM

Roots and Shoots

Sun 3rd May
10am till 11am

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



GREEN DILEMMAS

Global Biodiversity Loss And Ecosystem Collapse A National Security Issue?



The evidence that climate change and biodiversity loss are occurring on a significant scale is overwhelming. The argument has shifted from claiming that it's not happening to arguing that it's all just too expensive to combat.

The Joint Intelligence Committee report on national security and ecosystem collapse published in January 2026 is interesting as it is not written from an environmentalist perspective. The report was produced by intelligence officials and is a hard nosed look at security threats.

According to the report, ecosystem degradation is occurring across all regions and ecosystems. The average size of monitored wildlife populations declined by 73% between 1970-2020. Populations of vertebrate species have declined by an average of 68% since 1970. Freshwater ecosystem species populations have shown the largest losses, falling 84% in the same period. The rate of extinction is tens to hundreds of times higher than the average over the past 10 million years and there is a realistic possibility that some ecosystems start to collapse by 2030. There are several main areas of risk highlighted. Conflict and military escalation will become more likely, both within and between states, as groups compete for arable land, food and water. They will therefore take action directly or indirectly which could threaten UK interests. We have seen an example of the sort of thing that might happen in relation to oil and fertiliser as a result of the war in the Middle East.

If political and economic instability grows in areas where food and water is scarce or if there are increased natural disasters linked to climate breakdown this will likely lead to significant increases in migration compared to what we are seeing currently. This growth is also likely to be associated with a rise in organised crime.

The UK relies on global markets for its food and for fertiliser and imports 40% of its food from overseas. Full self sufficiency would require very substantial investment in farming and the food system. Without significant increases in UK food system resilience, it is unlikely the UK would be able to feed itself if ecosystem collapse drives geopolitical competition for food. The publication of the Joint Intelligence Committee report was delayed by the government as it was felt to be too negative and politically sensitive. The report was only published as a result of a freedom of information request.

To find the report Google 'national security ecosystem report'

Also, Google 'Professor Tim Lang' to see how serious our food security issues are

Richard Winch
richard@winchmail.net



SEX LIMERICKS!

The limerick form is complex,
It's contents run chiefly to sex
It burgeons with virgeons
And masculine urgeons,
And swarms with erotic effex.

The limerick packs laughs anatomical
Into space that is quite economical;
But the good ones I've seen
So seldom are clean
And the clean ones are seldom comical.



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WILDLIFE IN MAY

We are busy once again in our gardens and allotments producing feasts for our bellies and feasts for our eyes. The weather is lovely and warm for going for a wander or a drive, and you will come across a white frothy haze as you go past the banks and verges. This is the Cow Parsley plant. It will be the earliest to bloom and is also a member of the carrot family. Look closely and they will have small white delicate flowers in a cluster form, giving them an umbrella appearance. Their flowers are a magnet for the insects such as Hoverflies and Bees.

If you have a pond or even come across a water filled ditch, and you stay long and still enough you may see something fly past you. This is the month where Hairy Dragonflies make an appearance. They are the smaller of the Hawker Dragonflies in the UK. To tell them apart you have to wait until one settles and look at the thorax to make out the hirsute (shaggy or bristly) hair. The Norfolk Broads are a hotspot to see them.

The no-mow May is here once again which enormously helps with insects and other wildlife. Councils have cut back on how early grass is mown and they have seen an increase in the amount of insects. You can help too with not cutting the grass too early. If you are lucky enough you will see Clover growing in the garden. Clover often appears with the Daisy's and Buttercups from May-June, and the Bee's absolutely love it. Remember if you are mowing or especially strimming, please take 5 minutes to look in the long grass for our beloved Hedgehogs. We have a number come in each year to Hedgehog hospitals that have been strimmed which results in sometimes catastrophic injuries which could have been avoided. If you can put out wet/dry cat/dog food and a shallow bowl of water for the Hedgehogs that will be great, it can be a real lifesaver for them.

In May you can hear a call at dusk and can be at dawn as well, this will be the call of the Woodcock. It can be found and heard across the UK, in mature woodland areas. The Eurasian Woodcock is one of our resident species, other species of Woodcock will have Wintered here and now left. For our resident population it is now time for their breeding season which is from May-July. Males will be heard performing Roding displays (fight calls). This will sound like a high nasal whistle and low grunts while flying over woodland.

Angie Bennington



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BOWLS CLUB REPORT



With the new season now upon us we are now entering an extremely busy period for the club with league matches and competitions coming thick and fast.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work carried out in getting the Green match ready, the Kitchen refurb finished and a host of other tasks needed to make sure everything was in place prior to the start of the season so a big thankyou to all involved in getting us to this point.

As a club we are proud to announce that this season our teams be wearing new club shirts all made possible by the Bowls section new main sponsor Clarkes of Walsham.

We also are extremely pleased to have several local businesses sponsoring the club for the forthcoming season so many thanks to the following who will all have sponsors boards on display around the green.

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This kind of support is invaluable to us so a massive thankyou to all concerned as it is very much appreciated.

In addition to the numerous league and cup fixtures we will also be holding social roll ups (weather permitting) on Friday nights starting at 6pm and Saturday mornings 11am to 1pm with members new and old or those wishing to have a go for the first time all welcome.

For any newcomers we have plenty of spare sets of bowls that we can provide if you don't have your own, the only thing we ask is that you wear flat shoes.

For those who might fancy coming down to the Green to watch the action we have the following home fixtures coming up:

In April

Monday 27th v Great Barton 6.15pm

Tuesday 28th v Wortham 2.00pm

Wednesday 29th v Old Newton 6.15pm

In May

Thursday 7th v Hopton 6.30pm

Monday 11th v Needham Mkt 6.30pm

Wednes 13th v Gipping 6.45pm

Tuesday 19th v Thorndon 2.00pm

Thursday 21st v West Row 6.45pm

Wednesday 27th v Needham Mkt 6.45pm

You can look out for further announcements via our Facebook page or contact either of the below with any queries you may have:

Adie Cole - Treasurer

email adiecole35@gmail.com

Mobile: 07908 170238

Angela Whiting - Secretary

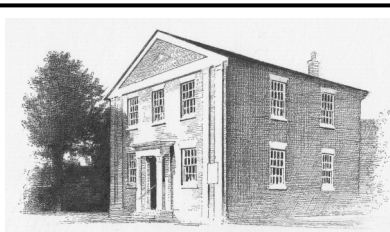
email angelawhiting5@gmail.com

Mobile: 07498 283503

Good luck to everyone representing the club this season and hope that there is plenty of enjoyment both on and off the Green.

Adie Cole





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.

A Life Changed in a Snowstorm

Charles Haddon Spurgeon was born in Kelvedon, Essex in 1834 and, for his first five years, lived with his grandfather, James, who was a pastor. Spurgeon was never outwardly rebellious, but he knew the sinfulness of his heart: his pride, envy, selfishness, impatience. As he grew older, he wrestled with doubts about the gospel and the existence of God. Amid all this, he wasn't sure what it meant to be a Christian. He regularly sat under preaching, but these sermons emphasized more what he had to do, rather than what Christ had done. As the years passed, Spurgeon found himself growing discouraged and helpless in his sin. His answer finally came on a cold winter morning, January 6, 1850, having decided to visit every chapel in town, in the hope that someone might tell him the way of salvation.

This is the account, in his own words: *I sometimes think I might have been in darkness and despair now, had it not been for the goodness of God in sending a snowstorm one Sunday morning, when I was going to a place of worship. When I could go no further, I turned down a court and came to a little Methodist Chapel. In that chapel there might be a dozen or fifteen people. The minister did not come that morning: snowed up, I suppose. A poor man, a shoemaker, a tailor, or something of that sort, went up into the pulpit to preach. He was obliged to stick to his text, for the simple reason that he had nothing else to say. The text was, 'Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth' [Isa 45:22]. He did not even pronounce the words rightly, but that did not matter. There was, I thought, a glimpse of hope for me in the text. He began thus: 'My dear friends, this is a very simple text indeed. It says, "Look." Now, that does not take a deal of effort. It ain't lifting your foot or your finger; it is just "look." Well, a man need not go to college to learn to look. You may be the biggest fool, and yet you can look. A man need not be worth a thousand a year to look. Anyone can look; a child can look. But this is what the text says. "Look unto Me." 'Ay,' said he, in broad Essex, 'many of ye are looking to yourselves. No use looking there. You'll never find comfort in yourselves.' Then the good man followed up his text in this way: 'Look unto Me: I am sweating great drops of blood. Look unto Me; I am hanging on the Cross. Look: I am dead and buried. Look unto Me; I rise again. Look unto Me; I ascend; I am sitting at the Father's right hand. O, look to Me! Look to Me!'*

When he had got about that length, and managed to spin out ten minutes, he was at the length of his tether. Then he looked at me under the gallery, and I daresay, with so few present, he knew me to be a stranger. He then said, 'Young man, you look very miserable. 'Well, I did; but I had not been accustomed to have remarks made on my personal appearance from the pulpit before. However, it was a good blow struck.

He continued: 'And you will always be miserable—miserable in life and miserable in death—if you do not obey my text. But if you obey now, this moment, you will be saved.'

Then he shouted, 'Young man, look to Jesus Christ.' There and then the cloud was gone, the darkness had rolled away, and that moment I saw the sun; and I could have risen that moment and sung with the most enthusiastic of them of the Precious Blood of Christ."

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31)

EUCLIDEAN GEOMETRY

Readers, as the first hints of spring begin to nudge the saturated ground into something resembling cricketing possibility, there is once again the sense that a new season is upon us. The covers are coming off, the nets are assembled, the kit bags are out of their winter exile, and the square is being looked at with a sort of 'hopeful affection' and an exploratory 'prod'.

At Walsham le Willows Cricket Club, early season preparation is a ritual of faith as much as labour. Howard and Rick measure, mark, roll, mow and roll again, all in the knowledge that the first ball of the season will still probably leap unevenly off a patch of the square that has chosen, for reasons of its own, to remain in winter.

Long time readers will also observe that the cricketers have curious affinity with antiquity; reference Warwick Izzard's entreaties on the importance of the Battle of Thermopylae on the development of modern Western civilization. And so, it will come as little surprise that Rick eschewed the intervention of geostationary satellites in favour of an ancient craft of laying out a square; three units one way, four the other, and five across the diagonal: the old 3:4:5 method, reliable as ever, and still capable of producing a right angle without the intervention of a laptop, a tablet, or a man in a branded gilet telling you he has "optimised the workflow". On the square we still trust Euclid; beyond it, once the ball begins skidding toward a square boundary and a fielder starts chasing shadows, the geometry of cricket becomes distinctly non-Euclidean.

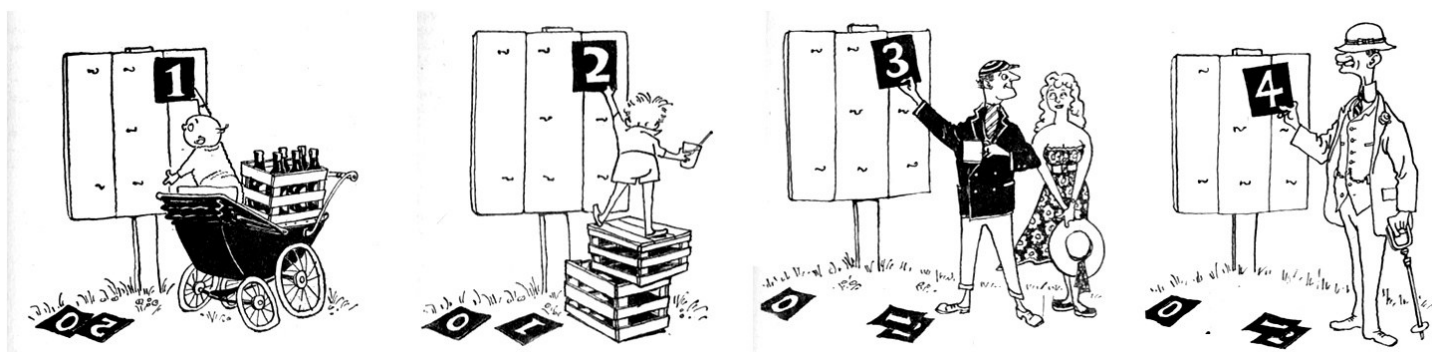
As for the next generation, Young Elodie Brown deserves a special mention as she makes her senior debut for Woolpit in the Premier Division for women's cricket, a fine and well-earned step for a player of real promise. It is a pleasing sign that the game is being laid out properly for the future too, with Luke Ridding starting a girls' team this year - proof that the club is not only marking out the square, but also marking out a path for the future.

So as the season begins, let us be grateful for the groundsman's rope, the roll of the square, and the old wisdom of Pythagoras, while keeping an open mind about the occasional machine that may, in its own awkward way, lend a hand. Cricket may borrow from the modern world, but at heart it remains a wonderfully human game.

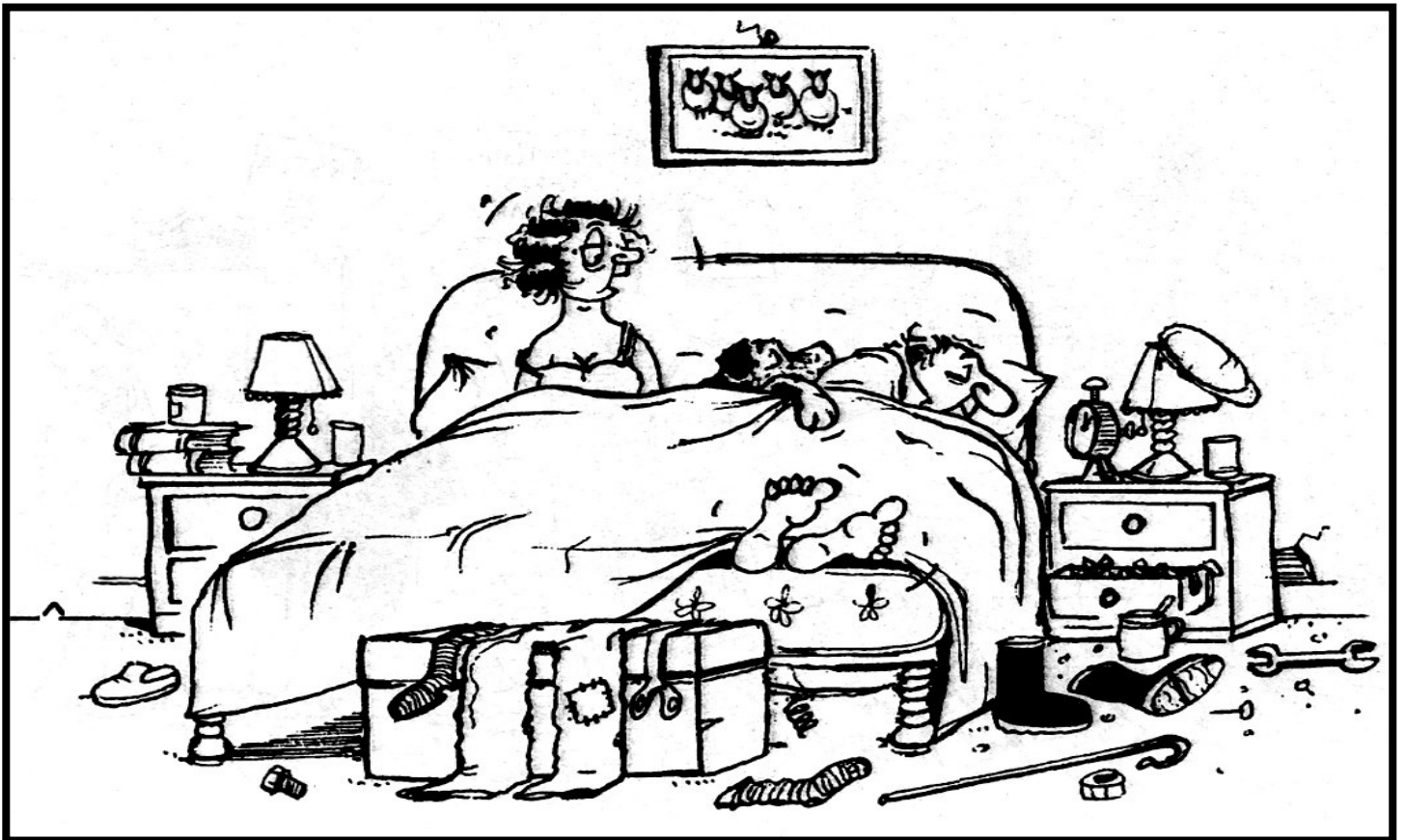
James French



For those who are interested, the picture on the front cover of this month's issue is of the 1978 (Silver Jubilee) team drawn by Hillyard (Hilly) Armstrong.



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



*There are ten differences between these two pictures,
see if you can find them all before the farmer is awoken!!*

Which is the most northern town in the British Isles?

FOOTBALL REPORT

The First Team have suffered a poor run of form in 2026 but this finally came to an end on the final home game when they defeated Haverhill Rovers, who were second in the league at the start of the game, by four goals to one. At least we had a performance to be proud of. Ryan Clark scored a brace whilst Ethan Deeks and George Bugg also scored. At half time Ollie McKenzie Vince was given the supporters player of the year award.

The Under 23s latest game saw a much-improved performance, losing 2-1 to Brantham Athletic, a team who are being tipped to win the league.

The Under 18s also had a close match with Needham Market losing 1-0.

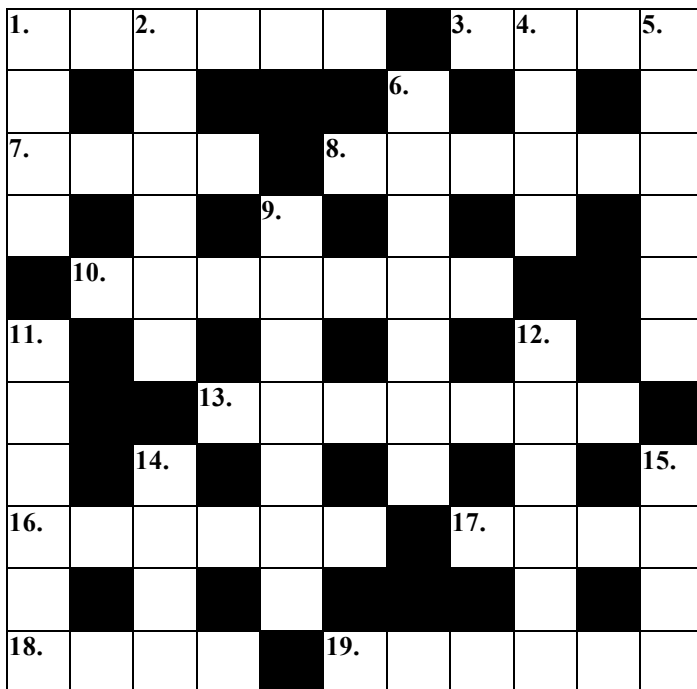
On a recurring theme, the Vets lost 2-1 to Old Newton who were promoted following the game.

The Football Presentation takes place on the afternoon of 6th June, and coincides with our beer festival. Tickets are £15 each.

Gordon Ross



WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



13. Put up a defence for the shop's serving area. (7)

16. Reduced to dust on the earth. (6)

17. Were you born in one with a door open? (4)

18. There is a law governing the construction of a lure. (4)

19. Nonets are composed to be in poetic form. (6)

Down

1. Be certain you are in the Home Counties. (4)

2. Alarm call for a holiday. (6)

4. Is the pier ready to be changed. (4)

5. It's not good to copy the corsair. (6)

6. Sounds like a warning about the camping equipment. (7)

9. Surprise with the starter in a sound composition. (7)

11. Old car in the fireworks. (6)

12. Stay with the upset marine. (6)

14. It could only be a form of music. (4)

15. Is it a group or just one? (4)

Across

1. Have a piece to taste. (6)

3. Stumble on a journey. (4)

7. Could lift up the beams. (4)

8. The right metal for a boiler. (6)

10. Make it sit and vary a place of learning. (7)

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TWO TO MAKE ONE THINK!!

Fine Romance

What joy, we'll soon be married You'll
be my lifelong mate,
But first of all, my darling,
Let's get a few things straight.

In order that we can achieve
Domestic harmony,
There are a few small matters
On which we should agree.

Of course it stands to reason
We'll share the household chores, Ex-
cept for ironing your shirts ... That
job, my sweet, is yours!

Our lives will soon be intertwined Oh,
roll on happy day!
But first you'll have to promise me
That you'll bath every day.

And though I love you as you are,
You've got some weight to lose; You'll
have to give up junk food
And cut down on the booze.

I know this might seem awfully harsh
But feel that you should know
I can't stand stale tobacco -
Your pipe will have to go.

And knowing that I can't stand sport
I'm sure you'll understand
That football's out on Saturday And
Test Matches are banned.

When I think of our future
My heart feels fit to burst
But just a few more details
Need clarifying first.

Yes, one more thing, my darling,
Before you can be mine.
This prenuptial agreement
Just read it through
AND SIGN!

*By Judy Rose
From Mummy Said the 'B' Word
Published by Headline Book Publishing
ISBN 0 74725831*



Widows

Soothing sounds of daytime telly,
Ticking clocks and hourly chimes
Haunt ten thousand golfing widows
Thumbling through their *Radio Times*.

Everything is done and dusted,
Dinner wrapped in cellophane,
Dishcloths washed and flowery cushions
Plumped up on the counterpane.

'Sure you'll be okay, then, darling?'
Why they bother no one knows.
'I could cancel if you'd rather.'
I could punch you on the nose.

Novels by Joanna Trollope,
Bubble baths at half past three,
Gins and tonics sipped, abandoned,
Cupsa soup and mugs tea.

Phone calls halfway through Eastenders;
'Be bit late, don't wait dins.'
Cheese on toast and wooly slippers,
Unwrapped dinners dumped in bins.

*By Christopher Matthew
From Summoned by Balls
Published by John Murray
ISBN 0 7195 6819 6*



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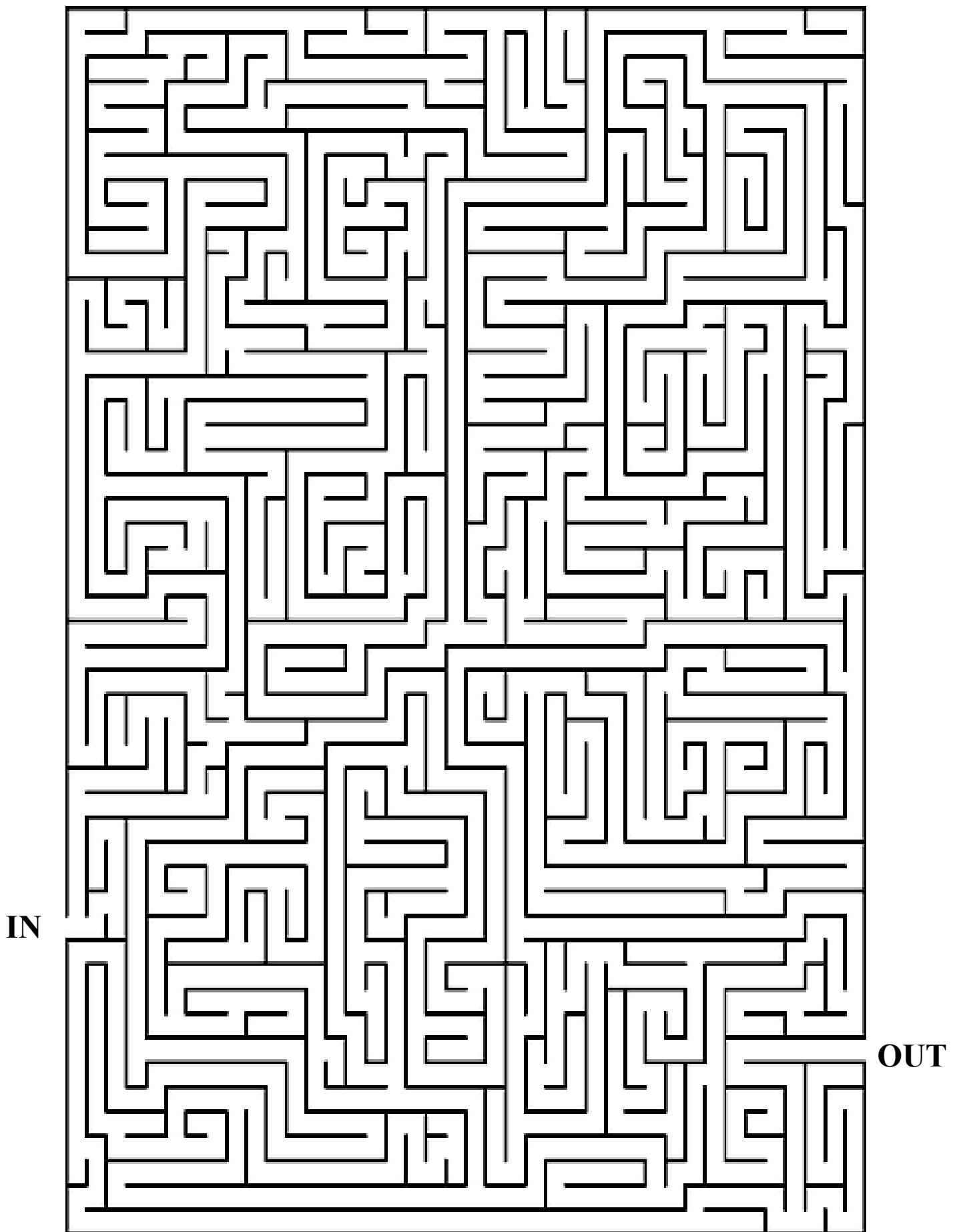
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REGULAR

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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

SEX LIMERICKS!!

The limerick is furtive and mean.
You must keep her in close quarantine,
Or she sneaks to the slums
And quickly becomes
Disorderly, drunk and obscene.

Said a printer pretending to wit,
"There are certain bad words we omit.
It would sully our art
To print the word ####,
And we never, but never, say ####!"

ALL THE ANSWERS

Page Bottom Quiz

1. Northumberland, 2. Whitehall, 3. Old Bailey, 4. The Dead Sea, 5. The lips, 6. Helena, 7. Issac, 8. Alice in Wonderland, 9. Zaire, 10. Verona, 11. A turnip, 12. Queen Anne, 13. Wren, 14. It doesn't have one, 15. The nose, 16. Palm Sunday, 17. Sea sickness, 18. Queen Victoria's, 19. Ash Wednesday, 20. Colombia, 21. Cape of Good Hope, 22. India, 23. Eat them, 24. Citizen Kane, 25. Wapping, 26. It sinks, 27. Always Faithful, 28. The Inquisition, 29. A wall, 30. Loretta Lynn, 31. Three, 32. Table tennis, 33. Siberia, 34. John Fowles, 35. Ten pin bowling, 36. A giraffe, 37. Barrels, 38. None, 39. Four, 40. Lerwick, 41. Purple, 42. Belize, 43. The Woolsack, 44. Derbyshire, 45. Helston, 46. Torquay, 47. Calvary, 48. A dart, 49. A whale,

Sudoku

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

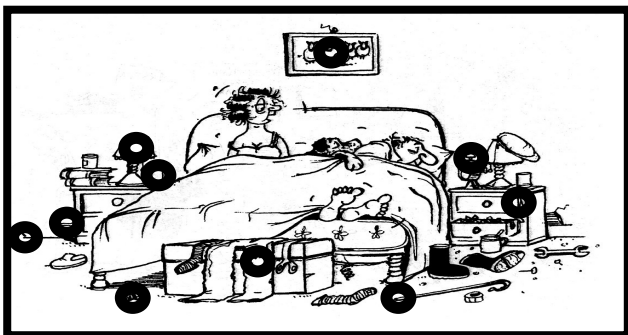
Crossword

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

More or Less

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

Spot the Difference



Searching for Words

Aero	And	Are	Bead	Bean
Bear	Bed	Bee	Been	Beer
Ben	Bend	Bended	Bender	Bra
Brad	Bran	Branded	Bread	Breed
Broad	Broaden	Dan	Dare	Dared
Dead	Dean	Dear	Deb	Deer
Den	Ear	Eared	End	Endear
Ended	Era	Near	Neared	Need
Oar	Oared	Orb	Ore	Rad
Ran	Rand	Read	Red	Reed
Rend	Road	Roan	Roe	

Broadened (55)

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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.’