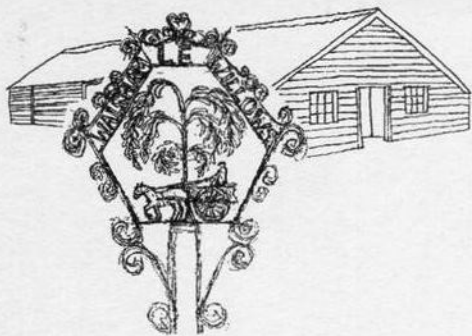


WALSHAM OBSERVER



AUGUST 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

AUGUST 2026

No 679

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

Advertisements should reach the
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THE MOBILE POST OFFICE

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John Boulter 07908 010555 johnboulter@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL

Early this morning I had my leisurely start to the day being interrupted by rain, the long awaited precipitation, even if brief, was finding out the fact that the gutters were blocked by air born seeds, thus stopping such 'manna from heaven' to fail to cascade into the water butt below. How wonderful to feel the rain dampening my clothes - not something one normally says. Alas, all to brief, and we are promised another heatwave!

My discomfort was minute compared to the disasters, caused by Global Warming, being suffered, most recently, by those in France and Spain, as well as others, to a slightly less extent, in other European countries. One can only hope that those naysayers will be awakened to the threat caused by our lifestyle.

One way to assist in reducing the likelihood of wildfires is avoid littering the countryside with empty bottles and other rubbish, much of which 'decorates' our road verges, and also resist the temptation to have fires in the open, especially in lengthy periods of drought. Do wildfires really start by spontaneous combustion or are they totally caused by laziness, or worse?

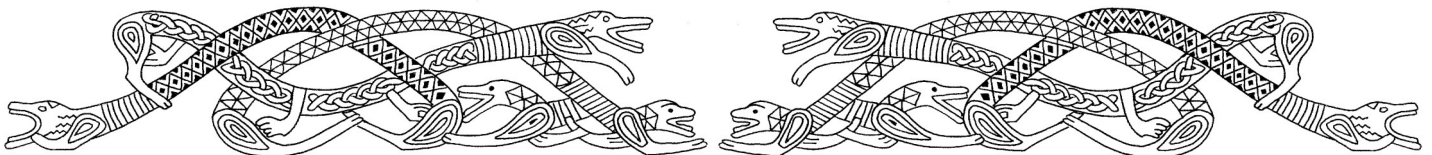
But enough of such a rant and get down to dealing with what good things are happening in the village.

This month sees the annual focus on gardening with the **Horticultural Show, in the Village Hall on Saturday 8th**, where you can wonder at the exhibits, despite the adverse conditions for growing, and also at the fierce competition amongst the men, especially those who have taken part in the Domestic Categories.

Hopefully the '**Call to Arms**' will produce a good response to assist in helping to make the **Open Gardens Weekend**, on Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday, another resounding success.

I was somewhat surprised to see the advert for the **Sports Club's Race Night on Friday 28th August** was being trumpeted as '**Gordon's farewell bash**'. Thankfully, he is just having a long 'away in Spain', before returning to these shores.

It appears that no one has put their name forward to take over the editorial chair after Christmas. I hope that one or two people are trying to work out how they could produce a monthly magazine together, to entertain and inform the village. I fear that I will not be 'holding the fort' just for 'a little longer'.



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN

Wildfires

As the UK experiences its third heatwave of the summer, prolonged dry weather combined with high temperatures and high winds have significantly increased the risk of wildfires across the country.

Wildfires are very dangerous, developing quickly and rapidly spreading across large areas. They are unpredictable, changing direction quickly and jumping across roads and rivers.

Most wildfires are caused either accidentally or deliberately by everyday human activity, with devastating consequences for wildlife, agriculture, ecosystems, property and people.

How can we prevent wildfires?

- Take your litter home with you. Never leave glass bottles in direct sunlight, as they can ignite fires.
- Dispose of cigarettes safely. Never throw them out of car windows as they can easily ignite dry grass.
- Always set up barbecues in designated safe areas, never leave them unattended and ensure they are completely extinguished before disposal.
- Sky lanterns pose a serious fire risk to property, crops, livestock and the environment.
- Avoid having bonfires during hot, dry weather and never leave them unattended.
- Sparks from fireworks can easily ignite wildfires especially when launched near dry fields, grassy areas or thatched buildings.
- Farm machinery and vehicles require regular maintenance to reduce the risk of fires. During harvesting machinery striking flints or stones can ignite dry crops.

If you discover a fire, do not attempt to tackle it yourself.

Move to a safe location and immediately call **999**.

Do not assume someone else has reported it.

Early detection can prevent small flames from developing into large destructive wildfires.

Walsham le Willows Parish Council



ARTIST LIMERICKS I

Some say that the art world is cursed
By that artist called Damien Hurst.
For his Mother and Child
And skull, gem defiled.
Do we know which one is the worst?

John Constable by Flatford Mill
Paints the cottage belonging to Will
But best it is plain
Is the one called Hay Wain
But Salisbury still gives me a thrill.



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SCC'S DECISION ON SPEED REDUCTION REPORT

- 20mph locations all approved - the 20mph win is a major step forward which will reduce the speed limit in most residential areas of the village from 30mph to 20mph including an additional stretch on Wattisfield Road past the allotment track out to Postmill Gardens
- 30 and 40 mph locations not approved - although a massive disappointment, this was something which was known to be pushing what may be possible within the constraints of SCC 's policies. The decision leaves the national speed limit of 60mph in place on West Street and Ixworth Road at the sharp bends by the crossroads.

Although officers had been very sympathetic to our full application, the final decision rested with the elected cabinet member and SCC.

FORMAL DECISION OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER AND THE HEAD OF TRANSPORT POLICY

Councillor Christopher Hudson and Graeme Mateer reviewed the report and made the decision set out below: Decision made: The 20mph aspect of this proposal is approved. Average speeds are below 28mph, and therefore meets the new 20mph policy. However, the 30 and 40mph proposals are not supported. It is not clear there are sufficient criteria met to enable to make drivers aware of the reasons for a lower limit, and would therefore introduce inconsistencies in setting speed limits in Suffolk. Drivers should be able to drive within the conditions without relying on excessive signing, road markings or other measures to explain the speed limit. Drivers should be able to understand the appropriate speed for the road from its character, function and surrounding environment, and comply with the posted limit accordingly. The proposed 30mph and 40mph reductions do not appear to be supported by sufficient evidence of collisions, vehicle speeds, frontage development or road environment changes that would justify a lower limit. Approving these reductions would therefore risk introducing inconsistency in the application of Suffolk's speed limit policy. Speed limits should only be reduced where the nature of the road and supporting evidence demonstrate that drivers are unable to travel safely at the existing limit and that a lower limit is likely to improve compliance and road safety outcomes.

DATE 14/07/2026

The PC will now consider this outcome and its implications.

ARTIST LIMERICKS II

Some are scared by Hieronymus Bosch
Others see his work simply as tosh.
His Garden of Delights
Can give sleepless nights.
Did Mad Meg give him oodles of dosh?

The Dutch painter Vincent Van Gogh
In a fight he cut his ear off.
His sunflower, bed and chairs
Sell to millionaires,
But he only sold one! Not enough!



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WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our Key Stage 2 pupils gave a fantastic performance of *The Keymaster*, showcasing their confidence, talent and teamwork. They captivated the audience with their expressive acting, wonderful singing and infectious enthusiasm, bringing the story of history to life with energy and humour. Every child should be incredibly proud of the dedication and hard work they put into rehearsals, which shone through in a truly memorable production. Well done to all our amazing performers and to the staff who supported them every step of the way.

A huge thank you to two parents for donating their air conditioning units so we could go ahead with all performances, and for coming in and setting them up. We are so very grateful to them. Thank you to everyone who supported our £1 in the bucket raffle—we were delighted to raise a fantastic £172.00 to support our school.

Our transition afternoons took place across the school and were a great success, with children enjoying the opportunity to meet their new teachers, classmates and become familiar with their new learning environments.

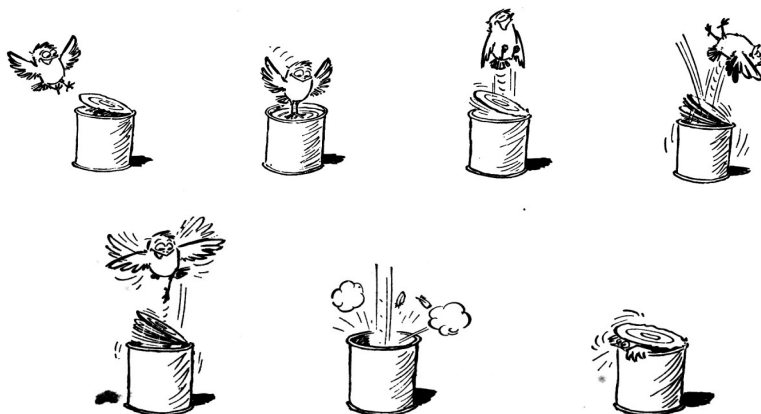
We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils for the fantastic attitude, resilience and determination they showed throughout the SATs period. Their hard work and commitment over the year has been rewarded with an excellent set of results, reflecting not only their academic achievement but also the dedication of our staff and the support of their families.

As another school year comes to a close, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on all that has been achieved. From exciting learning opportunities and memorable trips to sporting successes, performances and community events, our children have embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and determination. We are incredibly proud of their achievements, grateful for the continued support of our families and the wider village community, and thankful for the dedication of our staff. We wish everyone a happy, restful summer and look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Our theme for Collective Worship for this half term has been Forgiveness and Vicar Cat continues to visit us weekly, which the children look forward to.

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

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STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

A late reminder to members that our Annual Dinner is fast approaching to be held at the Stanton Cock on 18th August.

The branch held a promotional stand at Stanton primary school summer fete in July, the stand raised £71.00 for branch funds.

On 23rd August members will visit the Guildhall in Bury St Edmunds to see the Royal Observer Corps room that has been left as it was at the end of WW11.

The RBL Headquarters in London have decided to provide new recruits from all 3 services with a washbag and toiletries as it has come to their attention that some recruits from impoverished backgrounds arrive at their training stations not having these items or the means to purchase them.

The provision of these wash kits is seen as a form of engagement with the armed forces that will put the legion in a good light and hopefully, eventually lead to increased legion membership.

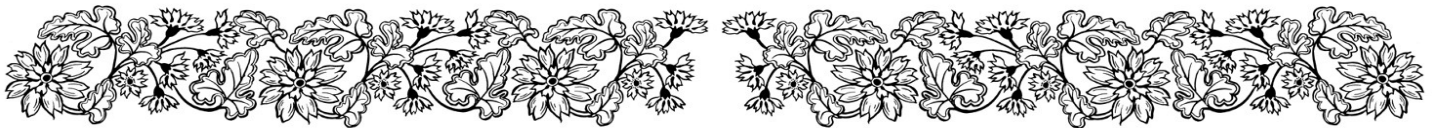
Congratulations to Peter Palmer who along with Jim Thorndyke have been awarded a Stanton Community Award for the many years they have spent working on the Stanton Steamer, the monthly parish magazine.

We will be holding a coffee morning Saturday 26th September 2026 in the church room Stanton; there will be a raffle held during the morning.

At the time of going to press branch funds totalled £2339.83p

The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th September 2026 in the Cock Inn Stanton at 8pm.

Hubby Frost



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND DISTRICT W.I.

July: Garden Supper and Croquet

After a baking hot day, 13 members gathered for a bring-and-share supper in the garden of The Rookery and to learn the intricacies of croquet. A more fiendish game than many expected. A most enjoyable evening was had by all with members enjoying the cool of the later evening.

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 11th August**. A Pétanque taster session at the Sports Club. NB change of usual day.

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

Judith Harlow



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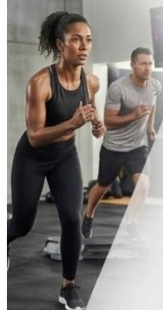
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CALL TO ARMS...!!

Walsham Open Gardens - 44th Year

Bank Holiday Sunday 30th and Monday 31st August

Who will step up to the plate to ensure it continues?

Elsewhere in the Observer you'll have seen our general call to arms ahead of the weekend, along with an invitation to all the many Walsham residents who contribute to the event to join us at the traditional Friday night party at the Memorial Village Hall. I hope to see you there please don't forget:

6.30pm and 8.00pm on Friday 28th August

I have a brilliant, dedicated band of people on the committee who work tirelessly for most of the year to organise this remarkable event, which attracts hundreds and hundreds of visitors from near and far. Not only does it provide a weekend to remember for everyone, but it also allows us to fund numerous projects within the village and contribute to the upkeep of our precious St Mary's Church. Over the years, hundreds of thousands of pounds have been raised for the benefit of us all.

The problem is that, as the years have rolled by, this dedicated band has got older and while some of them may have got wiser, they can't carry on forever. Hence this special call to arms. We are looking for a few younger souls to join the committee and take on some of the work over the next year or so. It's a lot of work, but I can guarantee you'll have fun, make lasting friendships, and get a real sense of satisfaction from a job well done.

If this weekend is to continue, we need young blood to get involved and help drive it forward. Please get in touch, and if you'd like to have a chat about it, I'm always available.

Collen Baker
Chair, Open Gardens Trust
collen@cool-tech.co.uk
07831 560450



COMMUNITY LUNCH

I'm really enjoying this wonderful weather, I hope you are too.

The Memorial Village Hall will be open from 12.30pm on Monday 10th August 2026. Lunch will be Lasagne/beef (vegetable one if needs) – garlic bread and salad served at 1pm, followed by Tiramisu.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please book a place, at £9.00p, with Shirley on 01359 258532 by 5pm on Thursday 6th August 2026.

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OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

An urgent call for helpers and bakers!

On Sunday 30th and Monday 31st August Walsham will once again welcome visitors to the village for our 44th Open Gardens event and I am as usual asking for help over the weekend and for cakes. For the last two years we have run out of cake and some wonderful people have saved the day by going home and baking. So we need lots and lots of cake!

Refreshments will be served in the MVH and Priory Room as usual, but we desperately need people to come forward to help make and serve the refreshments. Rota sessions are for two hours but we welcome whatever time you are able to give. However, if you can't help on the Sunday or Monday then maybe you could come along and help set up the MVH on the Friday or Saturday or give a hand clearing up on Monday evening or Tuesday morning, when we are all exhausted! There's always lots to do and all offers of help are much appreciated.

If you are new to the village or area or have not helped before, please get involved this year by helping for an hour or two or baking a cake. We work hard but have fun as well and it's a good place to make new friends and find out more about the village. If you would like to help at the same time as a friend, we can arrange this too! It's a tremendous event when the whole village pulls together, so please come and be part of it.

Cakes can be brought to the Memorial Hall on the Saturday up until 2pm or on the Sunday or Monday morning from 8am. For those of you who are going to be away for the event, we have facilities for freezing cakes, again, please let me know.

If you are baking a cake for the event we would be very grateful if you could label it clearly saying what it is, for example: Carrot Cake or Victoria Sandwich, so that we know what cakes we are offering to our visitors. We also offer gluten free items on our menu, so if you are someone who is gluten intolerant and bake for yourself, maybe you would like to consider baking something for us as well.

Please also remember to put a name and address on your cake container as every year we are left with a pile of unnamed containers

The Open Gardens Trust is a charity, who uses its funds to support village organisations, St Mary's Church and to improve our village environment for everyone's enjoyment. (Four Ashes Triangle, the daffodils, the Christmas Tree). It is the village's largest event, so please help to make it a success. We can't do this without all of you to support us.

Please contact Frances Jenner on 01359 259242 or e.mail me at frances.jenner@hotmail.com.

BAR STAFF REQUIRED

The World Cup, weather and other sports on the big screen at the Sports Club have meant a busy time, so we are looking for more help behind the bar and although experience is a real bonus, we can be patient and train if we can get the right people. It is mostly evening work, but hours are flexible and wages attractive.

Please contact Mick Jones or Ian Campbell

*mick.jones@walshamsportsclub.co.uk
Ian.campbell@walshamsportsclub.co.uk*

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MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

The external decoration of the Hall is now completed and it has certainly brightened up the place and the Telephone kiosk which houses the Defibrillator has also been given a make-over. It's worth mentioning that the Defibrillator was recently used and the upkeep of this is solely paid out of the Hall funds.

August will be a busy time for the Hall as we have both the Horticultural Show scheduled for Saturday 8th August as well as Open Gardens weekend on Sunday 30th and Monday 31st August. Much time and effort goes into both these events and we are thankful to the band of volunteers who give their time to make such events a great success.

Our regular Thursday coffee mornings continue to be a great meeting venue for all and the monthly Community lunch continues to attract over 30 diners most months. The next lunch is scheduled for Monday 10th August and all are welcome so please book early. All our regular activities continue and the Hall remains busy but as we said before the hall is usually free to hire on a Tuesday and also a Friday morning so if there is any interest please let us know.

Rob Matthews



SEARCHING FOR WORDS

E	H	T
R	A	L
T	F	E

Starting with any letter and moving horizontally, vertically or diagonally, see how many words of three letters or more you can find, using each letter only once in each word.

There should be one nine letter word which is totally sincere.

Get 45 words and you are doing well.



STUART NIELSEN

As many of you will know we recently lost my brother Stuart Nielsen and many of you will have sent messages of sympathy to our Mum and attended the memorials held following his passing.

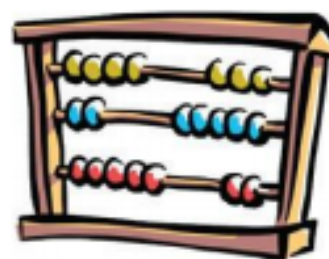
Stuart wished and was able to spend his final days in Walsham with his Mum's help. In turn, Mum was, and is, supported practically and emotionally by vast numbers of friends, neighbours and colleagues.

Our family would like to publicly express our profound gratitude to all of you for this vital support at this difficult time. You are all a credit to your community.

Alastair & Jean Nielsen

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WALSHAM HISTORY GROUP

Suffolk On the Home Front.

Suffolk During World War 1

At our July meeting local historian Sarah Doig dived into the wartime changes that were meted out upon the Suffolk population. Whether to recruit fighting men, or produce food or ordnance, the changes were felt by all walks of life and by all ages.

Lord Kitchener's posters first went up enticing men to join the New Army in August 1914. Recruitment offices sprang up, often in large local houses and young men were asked to sign up with their mates for 3 years or the duration of the war and travel the world on full pay. As the young men departed it left Britain depleted of its workforce, especially agricultural workers which were down by 7% in 1915. Women were employed to work on the farms. But they still needed more people so School Exemption Certificates were awarded to boys as young as 13 so that they could join the agricultural workforce. These young boys lost out on 4 or more years of schooling and many never returned to education. Later in the war these school exemption certificates were awarded to girls, who were expected to stay at home and look after their siblings, freeing up their mothers who could then go to work, whether on the land or in factories.

In 1917 the **Women's Land Army** was formed to boost food production. A resource of mobile recruits of women who would go anywhere that farm workers were required. They were paid 18 shilling per week and 23,000 women joined up. The women drove tractors, wore breeches, cut their hair short and did all the jobs that a man would have done. They caused shock, suspicion and hostility in the countryside but it helped change the life of women for ever.

Military camps sprang up around the countryside, some housing new recruits and soldiers, others holding prisoners of war and foreigners. Hospitals sprang up and offered more employment for women who also found work as bus drivers and on the railways. East Anglia was one of the few parts of Britain to suffer war damage. Both Great Yarmouth and Kings Lynn were attacked by Zeppelins. The peace that was declared on Nov 11th 1918 was celebrated by every town and village. A bitter sweet celebration that was followed by the erection of memorials to the dead in almost every parish in the country. These memorials are still with us. Carved in stone, they remain, a constant reminder of the young men lost in a life now gone.

Alison Martin



ARTIST LIMERICKS III

In the paintings of one Francis Bacon,
Liberties are so frequently taken,
With the shape and the form,
Which are far from the norm -
But the sitters can not be mistaken.

The enigmatic smile of Mona Lisa
Is as well known as the Tower of Pisa.
Since Leonardo's big plan
To become Renaissance Man,
His Last Supper is really no teaser.

Stuart Walker

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AUGUST		St Mary's 12.30pm	
Sat 8th	Horticultural Show	OCTOBER	
	Village Hall 2.30pm	Wed 14th	Peter Creswell Concert
Tue 11th	W.I. Petanque Taster		St Mary's 12.30pm
	Sports Club 7.30pm	Wed 14th	W.I. Burlesque Talk
Sun 30th	Open Gardens All		Priory Room 7.30pm
Mon 31st	Weekend Day	Wed 21st	History Group
SEPTEMBER			Priory Group 7.30pm
Wed 9th	W.I. Dad's Army Talk	NOVEMBER	
	Priory Room 7.30pm	Sat 7th	Kirbye Voices
Sat 12th	Historic Churches Ride		St Mary's 7.30pm
	All over 9am to 5pm	Wed 1th	W.I. Jigsaw Challenge
	Jigsaw Sale		Priory Room 7.30pm
	Village Hall 10.00am	Wed 18th	History Group
Wed 16th	History Group		Priory Room 7.30pm
	Priory Room 7.30pm	DECEMBER	
Sun 20th	Alistair Bleay Pupils	Tue 8th	History Group
	St Mary's 2.00pm		Priory Room 7.30pm
Wed 23rd	The Shantu Folk	Wed 9th	W.I. Wreath Making

FUNDAY

WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS SPORTS CLUB

SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST

12-4PM

In aid for

Colleen Almond Potter

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CAR BOOT

AND MUCH MORE!

RAFFLE

REFRESHMENTS

CRAFT STALLS

CAR BOOT

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

JIGSAW SALE

Saturday 12th September 2026
at Walsham le Willows
Memorial Hall

10am – 12.30pm

Jigsaws for any age, re-cycled,
up to 1000 pieces

Tea, coffee, cakes and savouries
will be on sale

(Cash only event)

All proceeds in aid of The Brain
Tumour Charity UK

*If you have any jigsaws to donate
please call Debbie Licata
on 01359 259686*

— Back by Popular Demand —

Sunday 16 August 2026

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12 noon - 4pm
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WALSHAM LE WILLOWS
SPORTS CLUB

RACE NIGHT



HOSTED BY
Gordon!

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST
7PM ON THE BIG SCREEN

Come and join us for Gordon's farewell bash!



WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

★ AT WALSHAM LE WILLOWS SPORTS CLUB ★

 **CRICKET** |
  **LIVE FOOTBALL** |
  **SOCIAL EVENTS**

GREAT SPORT • COLD DRINKS • GOOD COMPANY

BINGO With Cash Prizes Sundays 2nd & 16th	THE HUNDRED On Sky Sports Sunday 2nd (1pm), Friday 7th (5pm), Saturday 8th (1pm)
ENGLAND v PAKISTAN Saturday 22nd, Sunday 23rd & Saturday 29th	FOOTBALL On Sky Sports Wolves v Blackburn Friday 14th (8pm) Arsenal v Coventry City Friday 21st (8pm) Manchester Utd v Ipswich Town Sunday 30th (4.30pm)



LIVE SPORT

Shown live in the clubhouse & on the big screen!

BAR OPENING TIMES

 **FRIDAY**
FROM 5PM

 **SATURDAY**
FROM 3PM

 **SUNDAY**
FROM 1PM

SOCIAL EVENTS

 **BINGO**
 **BINGO**
 **80**

BINGO - CASH PRIZES TO BE WON
Most Sundays from 6pm
DARTS NIGHTS
Check the dates!
RACE NIGHT
28 AUGUST from 7pm

Your Club. Your Community. Your Home for Sport.

*** SUPPORTING SPORT • BUILDING COMMUNITY • MAKING MEMORIES ***

What was the name of the first penal colony established in Australia?



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2026 commencing at 7.00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall.

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

PRESENT: Parish Cllrs. Batholomew, Belson, Brookes, Mecrow, Roberts and Winch.

ALSO PRESENT: District Cllr. Winch & County Cllr. Bains

1. OPENING STATEMENT (if any required) & MEMBER'S APOLOGIES
 - a. Cllr Tuck.
 - b. Consents were granted.
2. DECLARATIONS of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests
 - a. Cllrs. Belson, Mecrow, Winch re 10b – Wild Wood. Cllrs Bartholomew & Roberts re 10 b - Community Council donation. Cllr Mecrow Sports Club
 - b. No dispensations were needed.
3. MINUTES - To Receive and consider the minutes of the following meetings (as previously circulated)
 - a. Minutes of the meeting on 10th June 2026 were approved as true and accurate record of the meeting.
 - b. There were no outstanding actions from last meeting that were not in hand. Cllr. Mecrow will follow up with Sport Club re the availability of on-site toilets.
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.
 - Spoke passionately about the increasing traffic volumes, speed, driver behaviour towards other road users and pedestrians on the Finningham Road. Cllr. Janette Winch spoke at length and gave a detailed summary of all aspects of the traffic calming proposals and the current status. The point was made that the Parish Council has to work within Highways guidelines and seeks to implement what can be achieved within those guidelines rather than holding out for more at this stage and potentially jeopardising the whole project. Both members of the public were encouraged to respond to the call for Community Speedwatch Group members to collect data which may then lead to more police involvement. Cllr Belson made it clear that the Council as a body shares all the concerns raised which is why the traffic working group has spent the last couple of years laboriously gathering evidence in support of calming measures. In light of the recent diversions in place, Cllr. Mecrow asked the Clerk if SID data for Summer Road could be downloaded for analysis. Clerk will refer to Cllr Tuck who now deals with this as a member of the traffic group.
5. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPORTS FOR INFORMATION & QUESTIONS
 - a. County Councillor Bains
 - Cllr Bartholomew raised the question of the financial impact that the solar panel



WALSHAM LE WILLOWS HORTICULTURAL SHOW

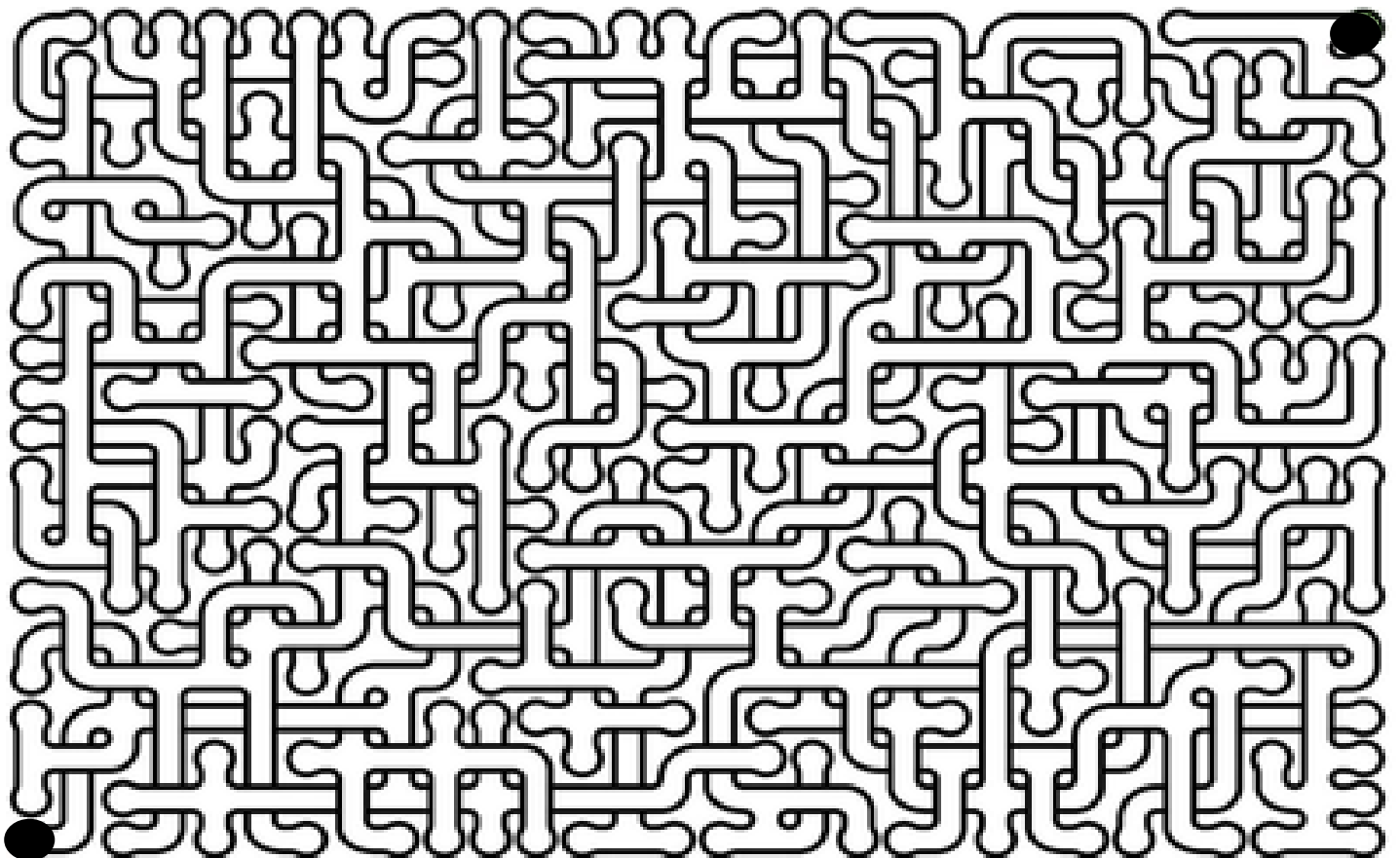
SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST 2026

WALSHAM MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

Show Open from 2 till 4 pm

Entrance Fee 50p Children Free
Refreshments & Raffle

‘BLOB TO BLOB’ MAZE



In which Shaw play does the heroine say 'Not bloody likely'?

switch off on school premises (due to a fire in which these may have been implicated), will have on school budgets as they will receive less income from feeding back into the grid and paying more for the extra power taken from the grid. Cllr Bains said he would feed this back.

b. District Councillor Winch

- DC Winch asked if there were any issues with the new recycling/refuse arrangements. Cllr Bartholomew noted that the revised schedules for business premises did not now align with residential and this was not communicated well.

6. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS & ACTION LOG REVIEWS

a. **Traffic Group** - To note any update/report and consider any proposals. *Cllr Belson suggested a iii was taken first.*

- i. Cllr Winch proposed that, subject to relevant budgetary information about the other project costs having been confirmed, that the Parish Council comes to a decision on the number of speed indicator devices to be purchased, whilst also noting that in the meantime, funding for an additional SID on Summer Road could be sought from the walking and cycling infrastructure project. This was all deferred in the light of discussion of agenda item 6a iii. But County Cllr Bains did say that at the appropriate time he could consider a grant from his locality budget. Cllr J Winch suggested that a budget review to ensure that the Council is making best use of available grant funding to relieve budget pressures. Clerk to put on next agenda. Cllr J Winch also advised that two business people in the village are prepared to front a village fundraiser and suggested that this should be pursued. Cllr J Winch to follow up.
- ii. Cllr Winch noted the village gates are in production, delivery date yet to be advised. Clerk advised these would be delivered direct to Ashwells. Clerk to advise this is imminent.
- iii. Council received an update from County Cllr Bains about authorisation of speed reduction proposals and associated costs. A discussion with Highways contact was still only able to give a ballpark minimum figure of £15k (the top end of the range originally given as estimate). In addition, there were further delays due to the induction of a new cabinet member who will be making the decision. It is hoped that this is imminent. He will follow this up and will also make enquiries re the possibility of tweaking the proposals to push the 30mph limit out on the Finningham Road which may in turn allow for an extension of the 20mph limit as originally requested by the Parish Council. He agreed that the 30-20-30 flow did not make any sense, particularly having been out on site this evening with Cllr J Winch so as to understand the proposals put forward and their reasoning. Cllr Mecrow did make the point that the Parish Council had paid SCC in advance some months ago now for the calming works on Summer Road which were started and have not yet been finished. Cllr Bains said he will follow up but he knew that first the heavy rain then the extreme heat had caused backlogs. District Cllr Winch made the point that if any changes were likely to hold things up then he would advise against making these given the local government reorganisation that is about to commence and which will be another bottleneck until things settle down.



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b. CEP Group

The updated Community Emergency Plan was approved for publication. Clerk to await receipt of the redacted copy for publication to website.

c. Flood Mitigation Group – Nothing to note. No report.

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. No information yet received so no action required.

b. APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/26/01944 Proposal: Householder Application - Installation of solar panels Location: Clive Cottage, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ THE PARISH COUNCIL MADE NO COMMENT

c. Information about the structure of the West Suffolk local plan consultation was considered and Cllr Mecrow was asked to respond.

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

a. APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/26/01743 Proposal: Householder Application - Retention of a log cabin annexe, A replacement pump house and a gazebo Location: Botany Farm, Crownland Road, Walsham Le Willows, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4TB MSDC GRANTED PERMISSION

b. APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/26/01879 Proposal: Householder Application - Extension and alteration of dwellinghouse and demolition of outbuildings replaced with new double garage, and associated works. Location: Crownland House, Crownland Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BU MSDC GRANTED PERMISSION

c. APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/26/02407 Proposal: Notification of works to trees in a Conservation Area - (T1) American Oak - To remove 2 low hanging limbs Location: The Beeches, Grove Road, Walsham Le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AD MSDC RAISED NO OBJECTION

10. FINANCE & AUDIT & COUNCIL ADMIN

a. Bank statements & reconciliation for period ending 30th June 2026 were approved for signature.

b. Accounts awaiting payment summary and invoices for payment were approved for authorisation. (Appendix 1).

c. It was noted that transparency notices and variance report have been published to end June.

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

a. Work that should have been done to rear of closed churchyard winter 2025/26 was considered after Cllr Tuck’s query in previous meeting. It was decided to wait until Cllr Tuck is back and ask him to report back. In meantime Clerk will ask contractors to confirm that this has indeed been done with the May or June visits.

b. The response from PCC to proposal from Parish Council re assistance with close churchyard maintenance was considered. It was decided not to pursue any further



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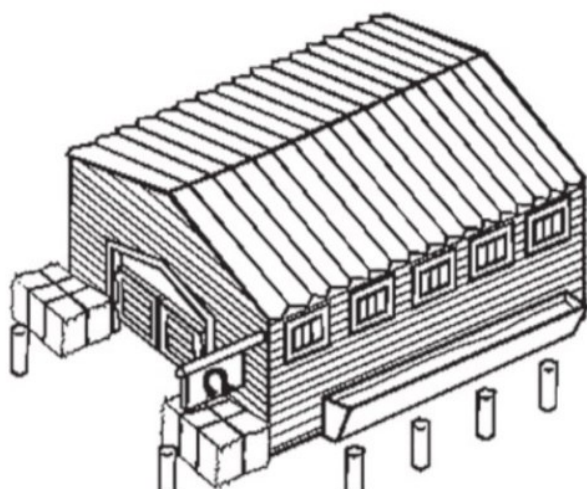
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and continue with grounds maintenance contract on reduced number of visits per annum and to review next spring.

- c. Cllr Belson did note that the changes to the surfacing of the footpaths from Sport Club (Wattisfield Road) to entrance opposite Clerks on The Street had thrown up some potential maintenance issues. It was agreed that Cllr Mecrow would discuss with the tenant to work out what is practical and possible.

12. OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN/NOTE FOR NEXT AGENDA

- a. Next Parish Council meeting - 12th August 2026 7pm – Memorial Hall
- b. Clerk noted a number of things that did not make it onto agenda.

- Locality Award for bridge repairs delayed as more information required. Clerk suggested maybe going back to MSDC to explain situation to see if the proposal as submitted could be accepted without further evidence. DC Winch agreed to follow up.
- Correspondence from resident re Premier Store. No action needed. Clerk to acknowledge.
- Streetlighting repairs required and notified by SCC. Clerk to follow up to ask of probable cause and when these posts were installed.
- Play area benches very well repaired by volunteer Gareth Rees. The Parish Council were very appreciative. The Clerk had already thanked Gareth for his excellent work.
- Correspondence from caseworker to Adrian Ramsey MP re any issue with bus services. Clerk had replied and DC Winch had also confirmed position with some additional information. This was noted.
- Cllr Bartholomew noted correspondence from resident asking why the Parish Council does not support the Rickingham and District Community Bus. To be added to next agenda for discussion and consideration.

- c. Meeting Closed at 20:26



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.

APPENDIX 1

Payments for Approval JULY 2026

#	Payments & Transfers OUT	Amount	Description
1	Starboard Systems t/a Scribe Accounts	37.20	Accounting software subscription
2	Parish Council employee	904.09	Salaries
3	Memorial Village Hall	27.00	Hall hire for meetings
4	Unity Trust Bank	553.51	PAYE/NI
5	Nurture Landscapes	499.25	Grounds Maintenance
6	Suffolk Accident & Rescue Service	100.00	Annual Donation s137
7	Headway Suffolk	100.00	Annual Donation s137
8	East Anglian Air Ambulance	100.00	Annual Donation s137
9	East Anglia Children's Hospice	100.00	Annual Donation s137
10	Walsham Wild Wood	750.00	Annual Donation s137
11	Community Council	200.00	Annual Donation s137
12	MidSuffolk CAB	100.00	Annual Donations Other powers
13	Suffolk West CAB	100.00	Annual Donations Other powers
14	Unity Trust Bank	7.00	Bank Service Charges
15	GB Pollard	46.50	1st Footpaths Cut
16	P Dryden	48.06	1st Footpaths Cut
17	M Hawes	74.88	1st Footpaths Cut
18	Martineau Farms LLP	185.04	1st Footpaths Cut
19	Hugh Reeve	202.22	1st Footpaths Cut
20	Team Blue Internet Services	26.38	1 month extension of hosting and backup
	TOTAL	4,161.13	

#	Payments & Transfers IN	Amount	Description
1	MSDC	556.70	Footpaths Grant 1 st Cut
2	MSDC	822.50	MSDC Locality Grant – footpath and no cycling signage
	TOTAL	1,379.20	

FROM ST MARY'S

August is here, and although this summer has brought some long spells of very warm weather and challenging temperatures, it has also given us many opportunities to enjoy the beauty of God's creation. As the month unfolds, we can look forward to enjoying the longer days and beautiful sunsets and a chance for many to rest, spend time with family and friends, or simply enjoy a slower pace of life.

Summer invites us to pause, appreciate the world around us, and perhaps make space for something new. Whether it's spending time outdoors, enjoying the company of loved ones, tending the garden, or finding a quiet moment for reflection, this season offers us opportunities to reconnect with nature, with one another, and with our faith.

Everyone is welcome to join us at our services this month especially our Songs of Praise service on the 9th. We'd love you to join us as we gather to sing many of our favourite hymns in our beautiful church. Music has a remarkable way of lifting our spirits, bringing people together, and helping to lift our spirits.

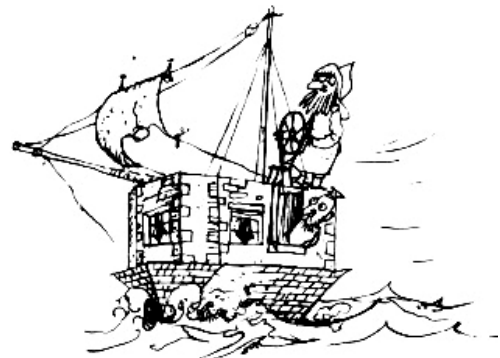
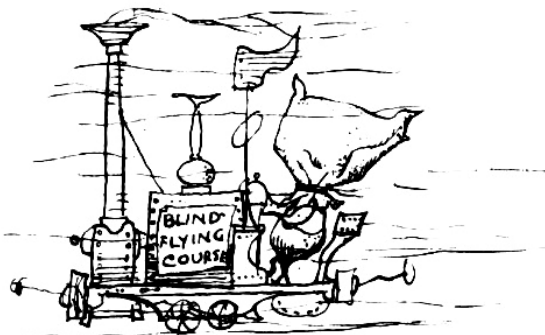
August also brings two of our village's most cherished traditions: the Horticultural Show at the beginning and Open Gardens event at the end of the month. These much-loved occasions celebrate the dedication, creativity and generosity of so many people in our community. Whether you've spent months nurturing prize-winning vegetables, carefully tending colourful flower beds, or simply enjoy wandering through beautiful gardens, these events remind us of the joy that comes from sharing our gifts with one another and we appreciate all your hard work!

Throughout August, our church services will be exploring the theme of listening. Together we'll be thinking about listening to God through Scripture and prayer, listening to one another with kindness and compassion, listening to creation and what it teaches us, listening honestly to ourselves, and listening to the needs and hopes of our communities. In a world that is often busy and noisy, learning to listen well is both a gift and a spiritual discipline.

Whether you join us for worship or simply find yourself passing by during the week, please remember that our church is always open for a quiet moment of peace between services. It is a place to pause, pray, reflect, or simply sit in stillness for a while. Everyone is welcome, whether you come with great faith, many questions, or simply a need for a few moments of calm.

As we continue through the summer, may we make time to notice the blessings that surround us, to care for one another, and to listen for God's gentle voice in the everyday moments of life.

*With every blessing,
Revd. Catriona*



AUGUST CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Service	Church
2nd Aug	9th after Trinity	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Langham
11:00am	Family Service	Walsham
9th Aug	10th after Trinity	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
11:00am	Songs of Praise	Walsham
16th Aug	11th after Trinity	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Finningham
23rd Aug	12th after Trinity	
9:30am	Holy Communion	Badwell Ash
6:00pm	Evensong	Westhorpe
25th Aug	Bible Study	Finningham
2:00pm	Bible Study	Finningham
30th Aug	13th after Trinity	
9:30am	Benefice Service	Wattisfield
6th Sept	14th after Trinity	
8:00am	BCP Holy Communion	Walsham
9:30am	Holy Communion	Langham
10:00am	Roots & Shoots	Walsham
11:00am	Family Service	Walsham



HISTORIC CHURCHES RIDE

Now known as Ride & Stride

Saturday 12th September 9.00am till 5.00pm



You don't actually have to ride a bike on this event. These days you can almost choose your form of transport, ride a bike or a horse, just walk, or even ride in a car - 'classic' for preference.

It is an excellent event, enjoying a trip round a number of our excellent churches, and, with luck, being provided with some excellent cake and coffee, or even better, by the people signing you in, when you visit their church. Some will even give you a guided tour.

Sponsor forms can be found at the back of St Mary's, as well as list of churches open throughout the county. For the really adventurous you could cross the county boundary since many other counties have similar rides on the day.

If you would prefer to assist on the day by signing riders into the church do contact Catriona'

Whatever you decide to do, 'ride' or sit behind a table, your assistance in helping to raise money to help to preserve, not only St Mary's, but other churches as well will be much appreciated.

Ian Toulson



GREEN DILEMMAS



Community Energy

A missing piece of the energy puzzle?

Community energy refers to green energy projects that are owned, managed, and controlled by local communities. Instead of electricity profits flowing to large companies, at present the financial benefits stay within the local area to fund community facilities. Ideally in the near future, this benefit could be widened to lower prices for households by locally producing and consuming electricity.

These projects often involve the installation of a solar farm or wind turbines on land near the local community for example on a field near Walsham.

The community energy company normally a Community Benefit Society typically raises the initial capital by launching a Community Share Offer, allowing local residents to buy shares. Shareholders then get paid interest on their shares and the profits generated after interest payments are used for the local community. At the moment, the Community Energy Company typically makes its money by selling electricity to the large suppliers at a relatively low rate per unit of electricity.

The largest community-owned solar installation in the country is the Ray Valley Solar Park in Oxfordshire which generates enough clean electricity to power over 7,000 homes.

Another notable pioneering example is Westmill Wind Farm Co-operative (Oxfordshire/Wiltshire border) which has five turbines completely funded by local community share allocations.

Setting up a community energy organisation is not simple. It involves purchasing the land, getting the energy infrastructure installed, negotiating a connection to the grid and then trading the electricity. Community projects frequently face long waits and high costs in obtaining a grid connection. There is also no dedicated pricing mechanism for smaller renewable assets (under 5 megawatts).

The biggest issue, however, is that currently small generators are not allowed to sell their electricity directly to local people. There is proposed legislation supported by over 300 MPs (the Local Electricity Bill) which aims to enable community renewable energy schemes to sell their clean electricity directly to local households and businesses, breaking the monopoly of large, centralised utility companies.

This legislation would transform the sector: communities could then build a renewable energy facility that would guarantee low-cost electricity to local residents.

The UK domestic energy market is dominated by six major suppliers. Less than 0.5% of electricity generation in the UK is from community energy compared to around 30% in Germany.

There is huge potential for smaller-scale community renewable energy schemes that could be owned and run by local people. This could bring clean, cheap and secure energy to local homes and businesses and ensure profits are kept within local areas.

richard@winchmail.net

Note: for more info checkout Community Energy England communityenergyengland.org
Richard Winch



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Influencers and Gurus are currently touting their wares to persuade you that they have the one perfect answer for your health. I really feel the emphasis needs to shift to “What does Wellness mean to you?” We search for practices that allow us to return to our natural sense of balance and ease, the homeostatic state of equilibrium.

Physical, Mental. Energetic and Spiritual health/wellbeing is influenced by many things, different people are affected in varying ways. Food we eat, drinks we drink, movements or exercise we do, environment we live in, how we breathe, who we spend time with, work we do, our relationship to nature, what we put on our skin, remedies or medication we take, mindful, creative practices we have etc

What works for one person, doesn't necessarily work for another. When we remember to tune into our Intuition or “inner knowledge” something our ancestors knew only too well how to do, that changes

If we re-learn how to listen to the messages our body and mind gives us, we can pretty soon work out what it needs to rebalance and return to the state of equilibrium, that illusive state we are all longing for.

Listening within is hard work, it means stepping away from all the distractions of the social media world and finding a place to be quiet and relax

This August I have created a Wellness Summer Pop Up a month long event in the Nature Reserve at Wyken Vineyards :**Wellness At Wyken**

Classes and Workshop will be held mornings, afternoons/evenings Wednesdays-Sundays throughout August. Teachers are local and there are donations to local nature and wellbeing charities. A vast range on offer for you to try from £5 from mind body movements to breath work, meditation, art, crafting, natural remedies and more.

I do hope to see you there.

Please check out www.wykenvineyards.co.uk/wellness for more details or msg me. Bookings are **Live** on the website and also via the Mind Body App

Carole Baker

www.carolebaker.co.uk

WALSHAM OBSERVER SUDOKU

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

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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Which city has an underground railway system called the Metropolitana?

MACERATION, MORALITY AND MACRAE

There is a moment — a sudden pang of dread — when a machine begins to make a noise it was never designed to make. Such was the fate of one Walsham cohort, whose weekend away introduced the wider party to the macerating toilet, a device that will, if you let it, pulverise almost anything you feed it into a fine slurry and send it merrily on its way. The operative phrase being "almost anything." What followed needn't be catalogued in a family circular, save to say that just because a thing can technically be forced through the system does not mean it should be. The machine groaned, the weekend paused, and a valuable lesson in restraint was learned by all, at some expense to general dignity and the AirBnB deposit.

We have explored, in these pages before, the curious parallels between cricket and human morality. This month the lesson arrived again, in more concrete form, on a straw-coloured field at Cavendish. The Laws of the game are permissive on the question of where a captain may place his fielders: nine men on the boundary and a bowler operating what amounts to a solo exhibition is entirely legal, however grim a spectacle it makes. Young Tobias found himself weighing the same quandary as Brearley in '79 — ring the rope, save every boundary, and let the batters strangle themselves on singles. Or keep an attacking field and back his bowling to do the more romantic work of taking wickets. Tobias, to his credit, resisted the full macerator treatment. He kept an aggressive field and placed his faith in bowling straight, on the entirely sound Walsham principle that a game won ugly is worth less than one played right, whatever the scoreboard eventually decided.

It is, happily, a summer light on such dilemmas and heavy on results. The 1st XI, occupying a respectable mid-table berth in Division Three, made home advantage count against Nowton, chasing down 164 for the loss of just two wickets to bring up a comfortable win — a proper batting performance, not a boundary-ringing one, and a timely one ahead of a home meeting with Long Melford.

The 2nd XI continue to hold their own in Division Eight B, sitting a creditable fifth in a tightly-packed table where a handful of points separates half the division. Ned Campbell, who in no way should be associated with the incident of the toilet, notched up a hundred in the win against BT Waldringfield — a game in which the Walsham scorecard looked fiercely similar to a binary number.

And the Sunday XI, for whom this has been a season of scraps rather than canters, banked much-needed wins against Cavendish and Long Melford to keep their survival hopes very much alive in Division 3.

Down the age groups, the story has been exultant. The Under 13s, unbeaten across four fixtures against Stowmarket, Mellis, East Bergholt and Copdock, had Albie Bryant-Howe and Rupert Gleeson strike matching retired-not-out forties in successive matches — twice, which starts to look less like coincidence and more like an arrangement. The Under 15s leaned on Kasper Howling, who strung together three innings in the thirties and twenties without ever quite letting the side down. And the Under 11s were sublime — 192 without loss at home to Battisford, an example of their joie de vivre and camaraderie.

So here's to a Club that, like the offending macerator, occasionally strains under the weight of what's asked of it — but keeps, for the most part, doing things properly rather than merely legally. There's a moral in there somewhere about doing things the right way even when the wrong way is quicker. We shall leave you to find it, ideally before your next weekend away.

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BOWLS CLUB REPORT

Another busy month has passed by since the last edition with recent League results as

Day	Date	Opponent	H/A		F	A
Tuesday	23rd June	Mendlesham	A	L	16	35
Wednesday	24th June	St Botolphs	H	W	73	55
Thursday	25th June	Brandon B	A	W	80	70
Monday	29th June	Woodfield	A	D	73	73
Tuesday	30th June	Wortham	A	W	32	31
Wednesday	1st July	Old Newton	A	L	44	93
Thursday	2nd July	Great Barton	H	L	56	94
Monday	6th July	Needham	A	W	70	68
Tuesday	7th July	St Botolphs	H	W	32	31
Wednesday	8th July	Wortham	H	L	59	83
Tuesday	14th July	Haughley	H	D	30	30
Tuesday**	14th July	St Eds	H	W	78	70
Thursday	16th July	Hopton	A	W	76	66
Monday	20th July	Thornham	H	L	75	75
Tuesday	21st July	Thorndon	A	L	21	52
Wednesday	22nd July	Bildeston	H	L	45	87

**Rearranged from Thursday 11.06

It is great to see all the new members bedding in well and performing regularly in the various leagues and competitions.

Also, must give a big shout to those involved in the Green maintenance as many visiting teams have complemented the playing surface this season although some of our visitors have enjoyed it a bit too much at times!!

Forthcoming August home fixtures are as follows:

Wednesday 5th	Combs	Thursday 6th	Hengrave
Tuesday 11th	Needham	Thursday 20th	Brandon B
Tuesday 25th	Mendlesham	Wednesday 26th	Thornham
Thursday 27th	Brandon A		

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

Adie Cole - Treasurer *email adiecole35@gmail.com* Mobile: 07908 170238
 Angela Whiting - Secretary *email angelawhiting5@gmail.com* Mobile: 07498 283503

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FOOTBALL REORT

The First team have now started their pre season Friendly matches. To date they have played two winning one and losing one. They lost 2-0 at home to Mulbarton Wanderers who are a step above them in the league ladder but it was a good game with Walsham holding their own for much of the game. We then travelled to Diss Town and won 2-0 with goals from Tommy Robinson and Jesse Wyatt. In truth it was a really easy victory for the lads. We look sharp under the new management team of Andy Reynolds and Dave Coyle. We have a new faces who look useful and the return of a familiar face from the not too distant past. Why not come on down and give the lads a look this season. I don't think you will be disappointed.

Home Fixtures for August

Mon 3rd U18s v Ipswich Wanderers Kick Off 7.45pm

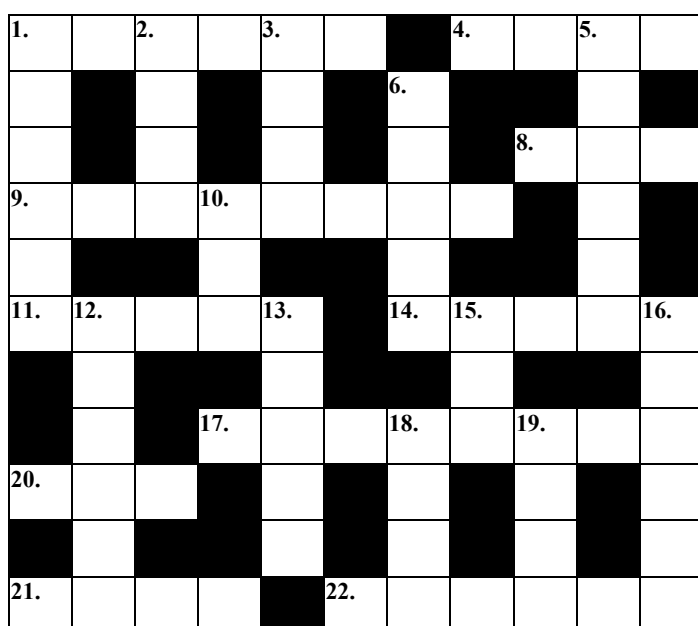
Tues 4th First Team v Kirkley Kick Off 7.45pm

Tues 18th First Team v Great Yarmouth Kick Off 7.45pm

Regards Gordon



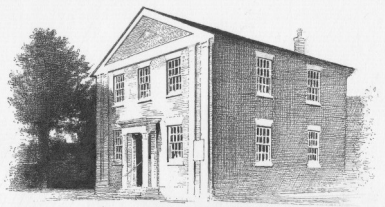
WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



17. The trio took part in producing a picture. (8)
 20. They appear in commendable shows. (3)
 21. A poor sucker must get their skates on. (4)
 22. In brief, burn it at both ends. (6)
- Down**
1. The reader charged and rose up. (6)
 2. Fearless in the fridge. (4)
 3. The trio go wild. (4)
 5. He will guide the animals right into the port. (6)
 6. A ship involved in the Oslo operation. (5)
 10. Also found in the High Andes. (3)
 12. In brief XS is just too much. (6)
 13. Just wear it for a game. (5)
 15. Just a song for endless pairs. (3)
 16. Leave the seat to go to Carlisle. (6)
 18. Goodbye to the sauce possibly. (4)
 19. Very keen to see David lose his head. (4)

Across

1. Make a note of the best achievement. (6)
 4. The bird will perform repeatedly. (4)
 8. Maybe it's the way to pay for fish. (3)
 9. My cousin is a mixed up oriental. (8)
 11. Actions which speak louder than words. (5)
 14. The couples arranged to go to the French capital. (5)



Walsham Congregational Church

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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.

Precious in the Sight of The Lord.

Each year, we organise an open-air gathering, as an act of remembrance, at two of the county's Martyrs' Memorials. The first is always on the Saturday of the second bank holiday weekend in May and held at the monument in the Great Churchyard of the Abbey Precincts, Bury St. Edmunds; the second takes place in Ipswich during July.

The Ipswich Martyrs' Memorial is prominently situated near to the mansion in Christchurch Park, standing 27 feet tall with a shaft of polished red granite, and is dedicated to the memory of nine of the number of Suffolk Christians who, during the reign of Queen Mary I, suffered death rather than compromise their faith: a testament to them appears on the front, and their names are recorded on the remaining three sides. The memorial was paid for from private donations to a fund established in 1902 following a series of articles about the Suffolk Martyrs that appeared in the East Anglian Daily Times and which had attracted great interest. The original articles by Nina Frances Lanyard were reprinted in 1902, as a book entitled "Seventeen Suffolk Martyrs" which is still widely available today and makes for an interesting, if challenging read.

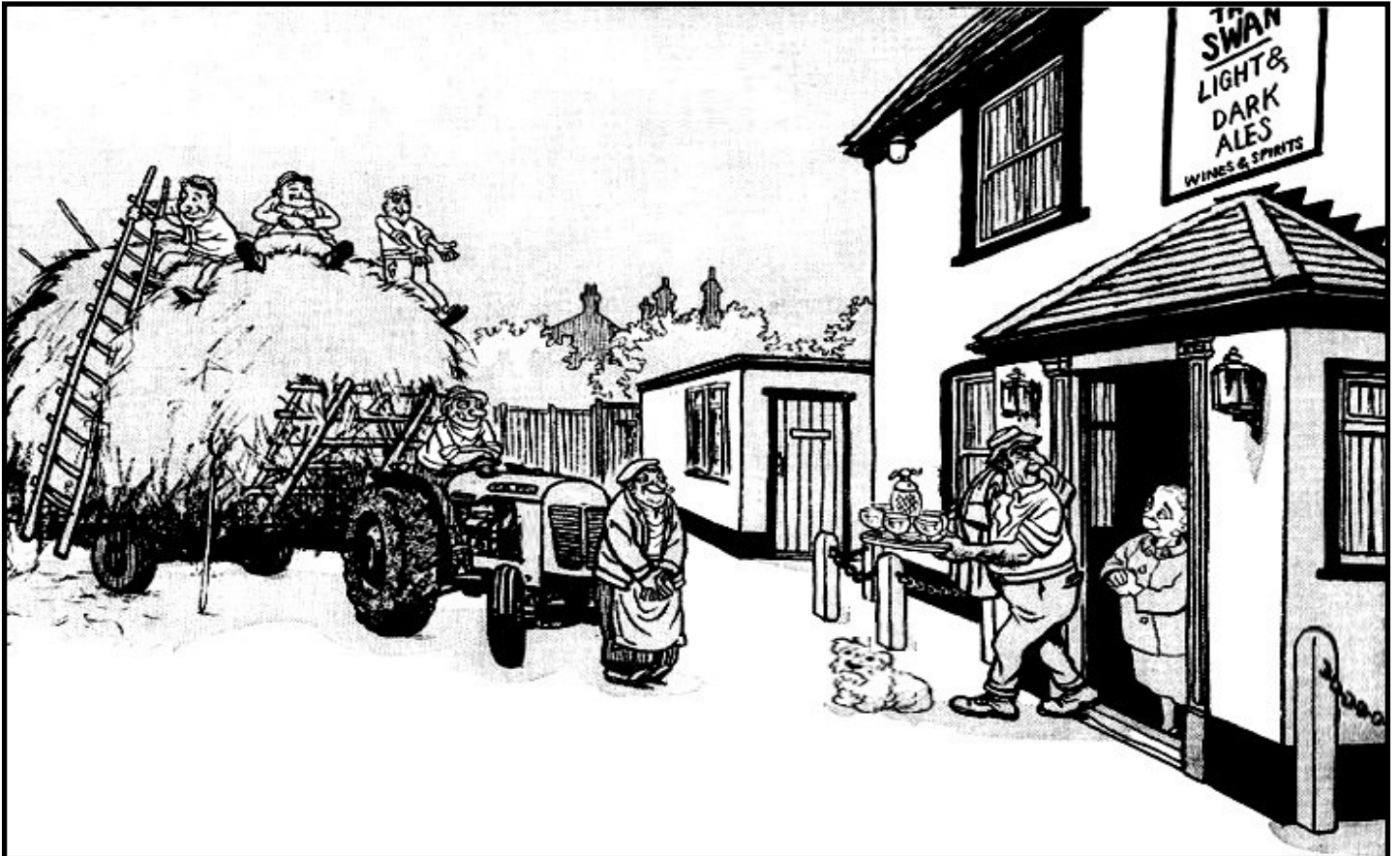
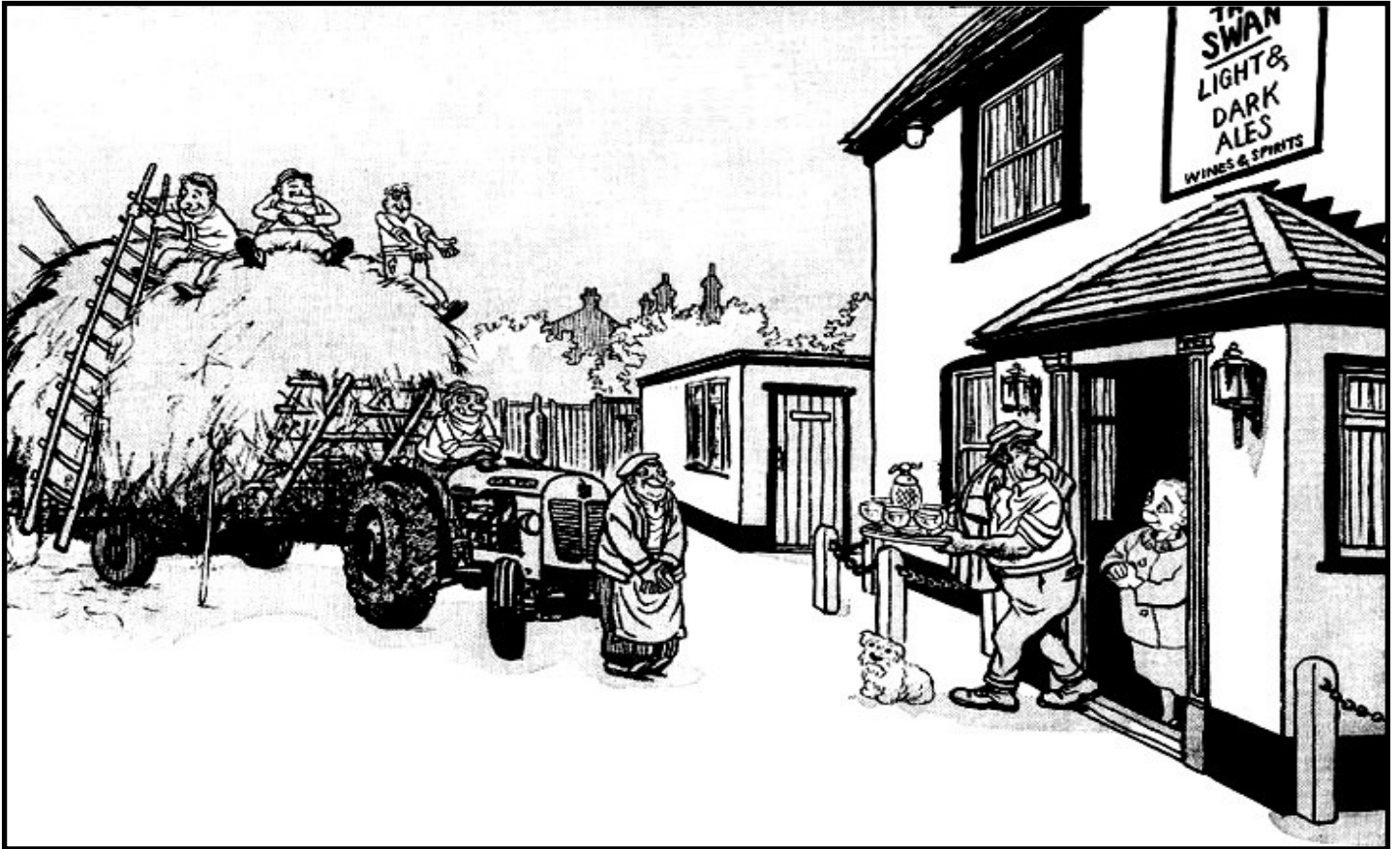
On Wednesday 16th December 1903, a crowd of local people and dignitaries gathered in Christchurch Park; in attendance were the Deputy Mayor, Norfolk M.P. Sir William Brampton Gurdon, and The Very Revd Henry Wace, Dean of Canterbury, who was appointed to officially unveil the newly commissioned memorial. During his address, Revd Wace understandably spoke of the great sacrifice made by the individual martyrs for the sake of their conscience, but also elaborated upon the issues upon which they were unprepared to compromise; a principal issue being 'Justification by Faith'. These Martyrs, ranging from clergy to peasants, had this in common that they loved God, studied his word, and took seriously what the Bible taught: they understood that for sinners to be reconciled to a Holy God, and have a right relationship with him, is by 'Faith Alone in Jesus Christ Alone' and is not dependant upon any ritual, religious system, religious individual, or good works. For them, the true worship of Almighty God, and love for the Lord Jesus Christ, was the most important thing in life, to the extent that they were burned at the stake rather than deny the Christ, who had died on the cross for them. It is therefore a question well worth addressing: what is the most important and dearest thing in our life, is it Jesus Christ?

It is hard to imagine that any in this country in 2026 will face anything like the persecution endured by our ancestors of the sixteenth century but there are many across the world who are daily confronted by loss of family, income, or their very lives for naming the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and being a Christian. Even so, those recorded on that memorial in Ipswich thought it no more than their reasonable service to live for Jesus Christ, their Saviour and their Lord.

Perhaps the final words attributed to Joan Trunchfield remain sound advice to our generation. On the morning of February 19th, 1556, as she stood on the Cornhill in Ipswich, before the stake at which she would be put to death, she urged the bystanders, *"to lay hold upon the Word of God, and not upon man's devices and inventions."*

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.
(Psalm 116:15)

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But could
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And stay alive
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On factories and stores;
And if your home has got a roof
You could put some on yours.
Developers should have to
Include them in their bids
Not leave them of much later
To save ten thousand quid!

Refrain

And now we come to housing
It's everybody's need.
We only need one place to live,
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Should be without a doubt!

Refrain

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your slightest movement kept in sight

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but seconds later he is back.
You're once again a working pair,
and everything is back on track

He's seen a grub, he's eating it
while keeping half an eye on you.
No fool is he, the opposite,
he knows he's clever, robins do.

You rest, he rests upon your spade
while singing you his gorgeous song.
A very pleasant friend you've made
by bringing all those meals along.

He sings, you do not say a word.
He does not like the human voice.
You know your silence is preferred.
You're quiet, you respect that choice.

You'll never, ever, dig alone.
You'll always have your robin there.
You'll never garden on your own.
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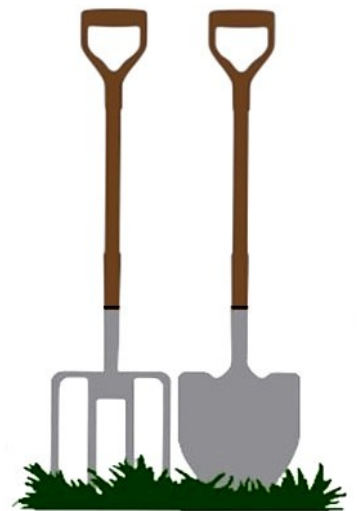
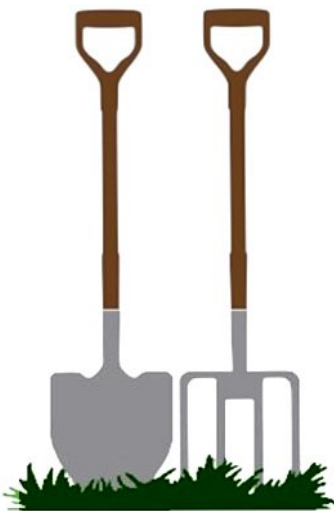
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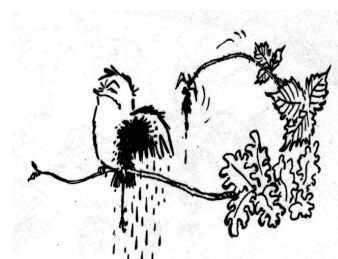
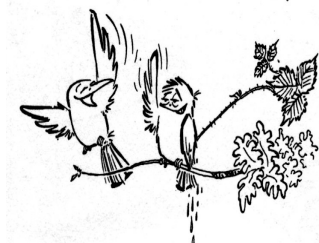
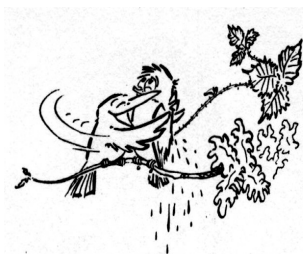
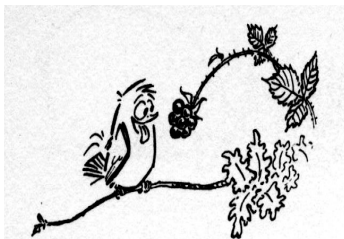
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TUESDAY

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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

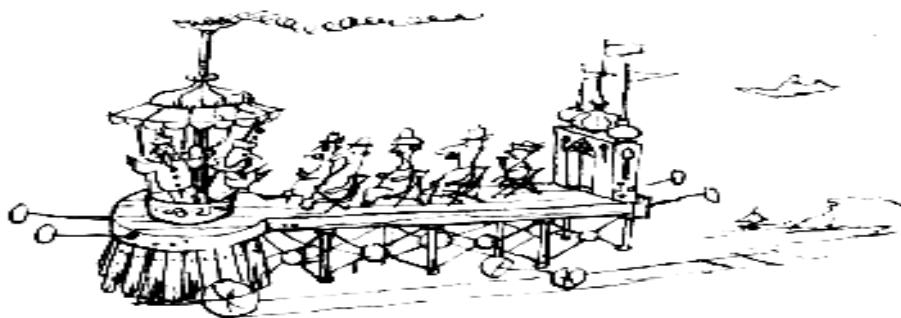
Coffee Shop Village Hall
10:30am till 12.30pm
Post Office Van Village Hall
11:00am till Noon
Yoga Sports Club
1:15 pm till 2:15pm
Walking Football Sports Club
2:00pm till 3:00pm
Pétanque Sports Club
2.00pm till Bouled Out
Walking Netball Sports Club
6:00pm till 7:00pm

FRIDAY

Cardio Tennis Sports Club
12noon till 1:00pm

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



Which Scandinavian city is found in Czechoslovakia?

ALL THE ANSWERS

Page Bottom Quiz

1. Karl Marx, 2. Swiss, 3. Brazil, 4. Watershed, 5. Dominoes, 6. Robert E Lee, 7. Maud, 8. Rider Haggard, 9. King Farouk, 10. The Lambeth Walk, 11. Rome, 12. Pill-box, 13. A fish, 14. Superior, 15. John Lennon, 16. Lancasters, 17. £20, 18. Brazil, 19. The Winter's Tale, 20. Botany Bay, 21. Solar eclipse, 22. Pygmalion, 23. York, 24. Rumania, 25. Thirty, 26. Bit his head off, 27. Mandarin, 28. Louisiana, 29. Lord Cardigan, 30. Nebuchadnezzar, 31. T S Eliot, 32. Joseph McCarthy, 33. First cousins, 34. Rome, 35. Brown, 36. Mary Queen of Scots, 37. Tits, 38. Wales, 39. Jethro Tull, 40. Jesus wept, 41. Queen Anne, 42. Thomas Hardy, 43. Daffodil, 44. Lie Detector, 45. Johnny Cash, 46. Oslo, 47. Winston Churchill, 48. Pounds, 49. Tick, 50. Hills

Sudoku

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

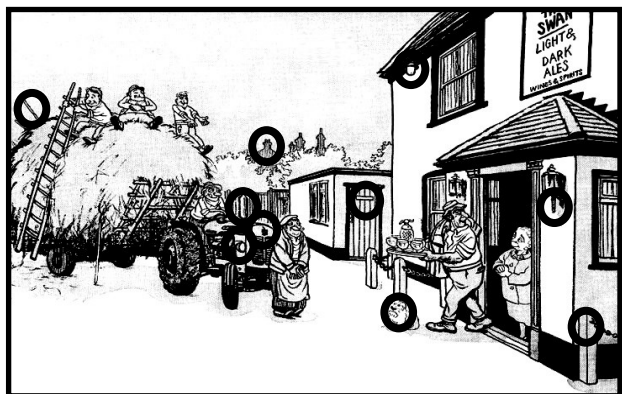
Crossword

R	E	C	O	R	D	D	O	D	O
E		O		I	S			R	
A		O		O	L		C	O	D
R	E	L	A	T	I	O	N	V	
E			N		O			E	
D	E	E	D	S	P	A	I	R	S
	X			P		I			E
	C		P	O	R	T	R	A	I
M	E	N		R	A		V		T
	S			T	T		I		L
A	S	A	P		C	A	D	D	I

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

Aft	Ale	Are	Art	Ear
Eat	Elf	Era	Far	Fare
Fart	Fat	Father	Fear	Feat
Feather	Felt	Flare	Flat	Flea
Haft	Hale	Half	Halt	Hare
Hart	Hat	Heal	Hear	Heart
Heat	Her	Lare	Lat	Lath
Lathe	Lather	Lea	Leaf	Left
Raft	Rat	Real	Tale	Tar
Tare	Tart	Tat	That	The
Threat	Treat	Heartfelt (53)		

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 01379 830200
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
fernwakeham385@gmail.com

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.’