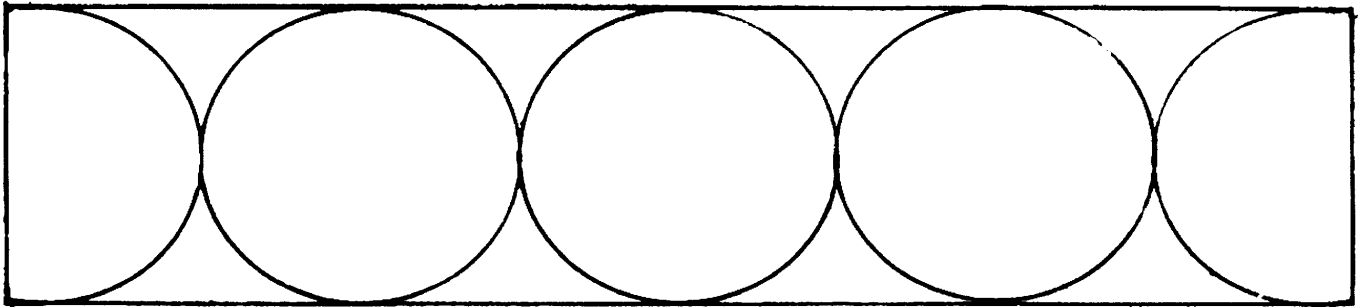
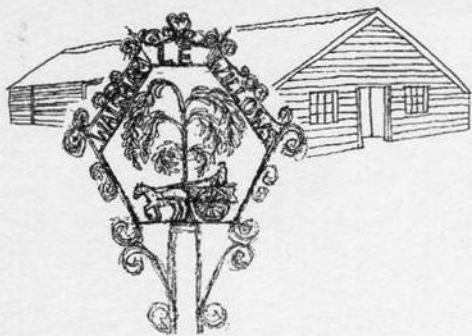


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**OCTOBER 2026**



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# THE WALSHAM OBSERVER

**OCTOBER 2026**

**No 681**

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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  
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# EDITORIAL

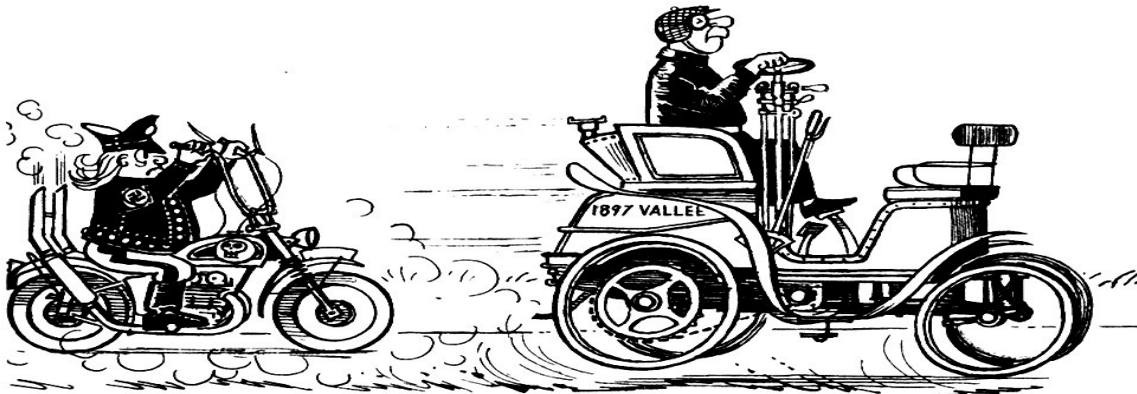
Just when we were getting ready to say 'Is it never going to stop raining!' the forecast appears to be suggesting 'Dry till the end of September!'. Let's hope that the forecaster's seaweed has got it wrong. Other forecasts that one might hope are incorrect are, A.I. takeover!, No peace in Gaza. Iran or Ukraine! And Global Climate Change is speeding up!

But, here in Walsham there are things worth looking forward to in the near future. On **Wednesday 14th** there is a double bill of **Music in St Mary's** with 'Cathedral' 'a drama by Sue Heaser with music for the piano and organ by Peter Cresswell' at **12.30pm**, and later in the day the **W.I.** have a talk about **Burlesque!** At **7.30pm in the Priory Room**. On Friday 16th at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, **Walsham Wild Woods** are showing in the **Village Hall**, a film entitled "**Peoples Emergency Briefing**", a short film about the climate and nature crisis in the UK. The following week on **Wednesday 21st, at 7.30pm**, the **History Group** have a talk on **Kett's Rebellion**.

As you will see at the bottom of this page the Wild Woods are holding their annual Pumpkin Trail!

I have to apologise to those who get their information about social activities and some fixtures at the Sports Club from the Observer, but information did not come through to me and, as an elderly primate, I failed to even start to extract the information from the website. Maybe my retirement from the editorship is coming none too early!!

As Hertz Rent A Car assured the public in the past; 'We Will Try Harder!'







**PUMPKIN TRAIL IN THE WILD WOOD**  
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# OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

## *Another Brilliant Weekend*



In the weeks leading up to our 44th Open Gardens Weekend, we had real concerns that the heat, the parched gardens and the hosepipe ban would take the shine off the event. We needn't have worried. Garden owners backed us as they always do, visitors poured into the car park, and we even had rain overnight – the grass at the Memorial Hall was green again by morning, which felt like a small miracle. It wasn't quite as busy as in 2025, but every one of us agreed: this was another brilliant weekend.

Bells rang out as visitors arrived, eager to see what was on offer, and they weren't disappointed – 38 gardens and spaces opened their gates, alongside a full programme of extras. The Village Market and the Flower Power Project greeted guests as they planned their day, and in St Mary's a lovely floral display on the theme of "A Night at the Movies" was joined by artwork and music from visiting performers. There was music in some of the gardens too, the Stowmarket Pop Chorus sang their hearts out, and the VIP Chorus wandered the village singing to anyone who'd listen. Our Morris dancing friends returned, along with traditional brass bands, birds of prey, and another tradition of its own now, the tortoises.

The Rolls-Royce Owners' Club brought their cars along too, and told us afterwards how struck they were by the community spirit on display – they're already keen to come back next year.

The refreshments, as ever, drew high praise for quality, variety and value: the Memorial Hall and Priory Room served their famous lunches and teas, there was Pimm's and bruschetta in one of the gardens, and pizza, barbecue and a bar at the Elms kept everyone well fed.

None of this happens without the hundreds of Walsham residents who give their time to support the committee's efforts, and I hope you enjoyed the weekend as much as we did. Thank you to the garden owners, the car park volunteers, the flower arrangers, the raffle ticket sellers, the helpers at the refreshment venues, the cake makers, the bell ringers, the musicians, the tent erectors (and dismantlers), the traffic cone providers, our sponsors who advertised in the programme – and everyone else besides. Your warm welcome, your smiles and your generosity shone through, and our visitors noticed. I'm confident many will be back next year.

We're still paying bills and finalising the accounts, but I can already tell you we'll be able to give the village substantial financial support. As always, 50% will go to the Church fabric fund, with the rest supporting local causes – so look out for the call for bids in the Observer once everything is collected and accounted for.

Once again, a big thank you to you all. Whatever you were involved with, I hope you got fully immersed, enjoyed the experience, and came away with a well-charged community spirit – and that warm feeling of belonging that comes with being part of Walsham le Willows, in the beautiful county of Suffolk.

*Collen Baker*

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

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# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING

## Rest Centre Volunteering

Are you interested in joining our team of local rest centre volunteers?

We currently have twenty trained volunteers and plan to expand our team by hosting a rest centre training session in November led by Suffolk County Council Emergency Planning Officers.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact:

*Parish Councillor Ann Brookes-*

*cllr.ann.brookes@walshamlewillowsparish.gov.uk*

*Parish Councillor Ian Bartholomew-*

*cllr.ian.bartholomew@walshamlewillowsparish.gov.uk*

Rest centres are set up to provide safe, temporary shelter for people affected by an emergency event, such as flooding or major fire. They are intended to provide basic care for a short period while the incident is dealt with.

If we need to open a rest centre in the village our designated safe space is the Memorial Village Hall. Local volunteers will initially help set up and run the rest centre until trained council staff arrive. We will offer support, hot drinks and food, washing facilities and overnight accommodation if required.

Your time and support can make a real difference in helping our community become more resilient during an emergency.

*Walsham le Willows Parish Council*



## MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

Yet another outstanding Community Lunch in September with over 30 attending and some new people joining in. The next one scheduled for Monday 12th October is already filling up with bookings. Our regular Thursday coffee mornings continue to be enjoyed by all who attend and the new winter menu will start in October. The Hall has a couple of parties and two weddings booked along with all our regular October activities so another busy time ahead.

*Rob Matthews*



## AUDREY KENNY

Audrey Kenny died 21st July 2026 Buried in St Marys Church 18th August 2026. The family would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral for the kind donations received totalling £975 which has been donated to Cancer Research UK who helped her have an extra 12 years after her Cancer scare.

Audrey lived all her 94 years in Walsham le Willows and will be missed by many. Huge thank you to Catriona for the lovely service and kind words.

*Pauline Gooch*



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# WALSHAM –LE-WILLOWS

## CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL



We have had a very busy term so far with all of the children settling back in well to the school routines. We have chosen our Captains for each of the house teams, picked Reading Ambassadors and our DIG Team for the year ahead. We are looking forward to seeing the children grow and develop in these roles and helping us to make improvements in these areas.

Caterpillars are starting the new year off with a topic based on themselves and other people in their community. They are making maps and finding out about the local area. They will also be exploring different kinds of materials in science.

Ladybirds are learning about School Days and comparing ours to those of the Victorians. They are also finding out about the area of the school and exploring seasonal changes in science.

Dragonfly Class will be looking at urban pioneers and exploring villages, towns and cities, as well as different urban artists. In science, they are exploring light and continuing place value in maths.

Grasshoppers will be exploring the Egyptians and Pharaohs and finding out about the life of Tutankhamun and looking at the human and physical features of Egypt in geography.

Cricketers are discovering what life was like during World War Two and will be writing diaries and newspaper articles to enhance their learning.

Our theme for this half term in collective worship is 'Compassion' – we have been looking at ways we can show compassion and have empathy in action. Vicar Cat visits regularly on a Wednesday for Collective Worship and has blessed all our bookbags/rucksacks. We are looking forward to having our Harvest celebrations in the church.

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

*Maxine McGarr*

## WALSHAM OBSERVER SUDOKU

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

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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# **SPEED REDUCTION DECISION**

In last month's Observer you may have read that we had finally received a response to our Traffic Speed Reduction Report. This had given permission for 20mph in a significant part of the village but had rejected any extension of 30mph limits and the much wished for 40 mph on the Ixworth Road from West Street into the village. This was a change the Parish Council was extremely keen to see through in response to community and residents wishes.

## **Community wishes or policy?**

The Parish Council with the support of our County Councillor sought a review of the decision. However, the decision was upheld by Suffolk County Council Highways who acknowledged the strong views of the community and the efforts that had gone into the process but concluded that the 30 and 40 mph changes applied for would contravene their policy.

## **What led up to the decision?**

Initially we proposed more extensive speed limit changes but were advised that these would definitely not be approved. In April 2025 we therefore settled on a compromise proposal which we were led to believe could meet the policy. This modified the community wishes significantly but was taken forward as a pragmatic way to achieve some improvements as overwhelmingly desired by residents. The application process cost approximately £1000 which was paid more than 12 months ago by the Parish Council and followed a series of speed surveys around the village.

In July 2026 we eventually received a reply approving all 20mph for The Street, Wattisfield Road, Townhouse Road, Palmer Street and Grove Road where there is residential development. We were delighted with this outcome but very disappointed by the refusal to allow permission for any alterations to 30mph or to introduce 40mph on the Ixworth Road through West Street. We were particularly disappointed by this response which appears to have rigidly prioritised elements of policy over community wishes.

## **What more can be done?**

Members of the Parish Council and Community Traffic Group must now pursue other measures which may help to reduce traffic speeds for Finningham Road and West Street. Individual measures such as additional Speed Indicator Device, road markings and signage are all relatively expensive and the costs of all measures including implementing speed limit changes must be met locally.

We remain very grateful to local businesses, Clarkes and Ashwells, as well as Gardens Weekend who have already funded village gate entrances for Summer Road and Badwell Road which are ready for installation as well as new village signage. Mid Suffolk District Council, who have no responsibility for Highways, have also contributed financially to buying an additional SID for the village and for an extra village gate for Finningham Road to be created over the coming months.

Finally, the Parish Council and the Community Traffic Group intend to continue to campaign for changes to the Speed Limit policies with regard to 30 and 40mph so that in future this can be revisited.

## **Where can I see the full response from the County Council?**

The full response to our request for a review of the decision by the Head of Transport Strategy can be found on the village website: <https://www.walsham-le-willows.org/news/>

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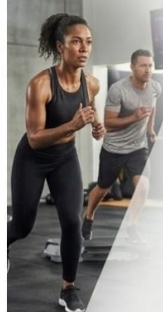
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**I finished school in the summer and since then I've applied for countless jobs, but I'm not having any luck - most companies don't even bother getting back to me. It's really getting me down - what can I do to be more successful?**

Navigating your first steps into the world of work can be really daunting. If you're struggling to find a job, you're not alone. Nearly one million young people aged 16 to 24 in the UK are not in education, employment or training. Clearly, there are some big structural and economic issues that are making it hard for young people to find work, but there are still things you can do.

When you're applying for a job, it's vital to do your homework. Make sure you've done your research about both the role and the employer and adjust your CV to fit the position you're applying for. Employers will usually want to know why you're interested in working for them specifically, so take some time to look into who they are and their values as an organisation. Then discuss how they align with what you're looking for in a role in your application.

Be cautious about using AI. When you're feeling the pressure to get out as many applications as possible, it can be tempting to turn to AI to help you write your CV, cover letter or application form. But employers can usually tell when you've used AI, and some may use AI detection tools when screening your application. It might put them off wanting to progress your application, so it's best to always use your own words.

If you're worried about your lack of experience, one way to make your CV stand out from the crowd is to try volunteering. Not only will you gain vital skills and work experience but also make a positive difference to people's lives. For example, volunteering in your local Citizens Advice service can give you office experience and customer service skills - you can find out more about opportunities in your area on our website.

If you're struggling financially, you should check what benefits you're able to get. If you're over 18 (or in some cases 16 or 17), not in education or training, and you have less than £16,000 in savings or other investments, you may be eligible for Universal Credit. You might also be able to get 'new style' Jobseeker's Allowance for up to six months while you look for a job. You can check what benefits you can get on the Citizens Advice website.

And lastly, job hunting can take a real toll on your mental wellbeing. Endless applications, back-to-back rejections or being ghosted entirely can all chip away at your self-esteem and affect your mental health. If you're finding it tough, there's help and support available. You can reach out to organisations like StudentMinds, try YoungMinds or get in touch with Mind - you don't have to face it alone.

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

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# STANTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



The branch will be holding a quiz evening on Saturday 3rd October in Stanton Community Centre. A raffle will take place during the evening.

The CO-OP in Stanton has kindly given permission for the branch to have a table inside the store to support the Poppy Appeal. This will be manned by members from 17th October to 7th November 2026.

RAF Honington have offered the branch a choice of three dates when members can visit the station History Rooms.

This year it will be the turn of our members to parade in Walsham le Willows at our memorial at the Remembrance service on Sunday 8th November. This will be followed by a service in St Mary's church.

A reminder that tickets for the Festival of Remembrance to be held at the Apex Bury St Edmunds on Friday 6th November are now on sale at £15.00 each.

At the time of going to press branch funds totalled £2594.33p.

The next branch meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th October at the Cock Inn Stanton commencing at 8pm.

*Hubby Frost*



## WALSHAM LE WILLOWS AND DISTRICT W.I.



### *September: Charles Garland on Dad's Army*

Members and many visitors were entertained by Charles Garland who had been assistant to David Croft. We learned about the life of Jimmy Perry whose experience in the Home Guard, the British Army and as a Butlin's Redcoat had given him the ideas for Dad's Army, It Ain't Half Hot Mum and Hi Di Hi. Jimmy Perry gave the script for one episode of Dad's Army to David Croft; and as Jimmy's agent was Mrs Croft, he read it; the two joined forces and 80 episodes of 'The Nation's Favourite Comedy' were made.

Although Charles Garland had only joined David Croft after filming for Dad's Army had ended, there were many anecdotes about members of the cast, and how the cast had been gathered.

Next month we shall be meeting in the Priory Room on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October**. A talk on **Burlesque, Me and the W.I. – by Ms Cherry Bombe.**

There will be a sales table of home produce.

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

*Judith Harlow*



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## **Un-attended Appointments**

In the last 3 months 4% of the 4,440 face to face GP appointments were un-attended and not cancelled.

This wastes 35 hours of time dedicated to patients, equating to 175 appointments that would have been available over the 3-month period.

## **Reminder to Patients**

*Please remember to contact the health centre if you need to cancel your appointment. You can do this over the phone or via the NHS app.* Every appointment missed and not cancelled is an appointment that could be used by someone you know who needs our help.



# WALSHAM HISTORY GROUP

## **Shardlake's Norwich and Kett's Rebellion**

**A talk by Paul Dickson**

**21<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30pm in the Priory Room**

First of all, I owe you all an apology as at the end of our last talk I announced the wrong talk for October. I think senility has set in.

Our October talk is actually 'Sharlake's Norwich and Kett's Rebellion'. This talk by Paul Dickson celebrates C J Sansom's best-selling novel 'Tombland' which follows the investigation by Matthew Shardlake into a murder in the medieval area of Norwich known as Tombland. During his investigation Shardlake gets caught up in Kett's Rebellion. Whist Shardlake is a fictional character, the medieval area known as 'Tombland' which Paul will explore in his talk is steeped in history. If you don't know this area, then on your next visit I would advise you take a look. It's my favourite part of Norwich and is fascinating.

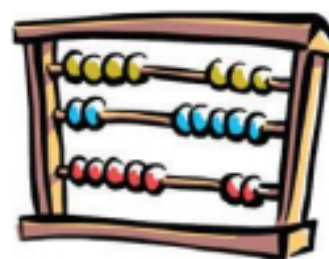
Kett's Rebellion, however, is not fictional and occurred 1549 during the reign of Edward VI, when England was experiencing social and economic upheaval. The main grievance of the rebels was enclosure, the practice of wealthy landowners fencing off common land for private use, particularly for sheep grazing, which deprived poorer people of its use and their livelihood. This resulted in rebellion. To find out what happened come along to our talk. We hope to see you there.

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# HISTORY GROUP MEETING

## Poor Victorian Rural Women.

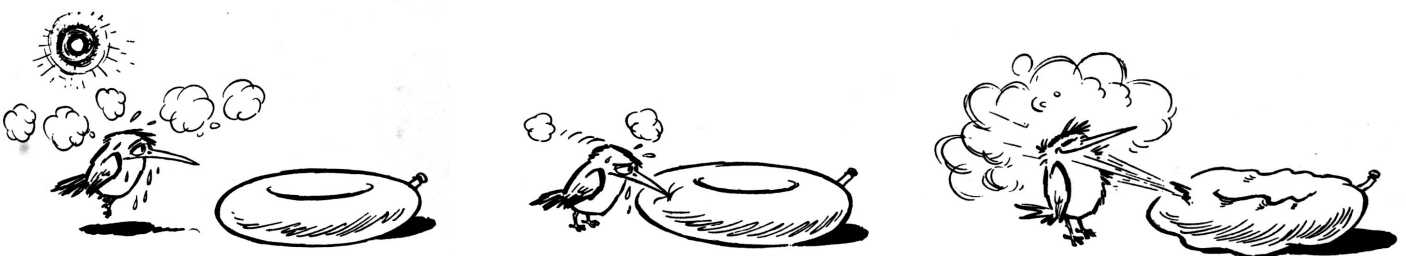
At our September meeting Charlotte Paton delved into the lives of ordinary women living in rural Suffolk during the Victorian era. The most notable consequence of their lives is how little was actually documented about them. Whereas their men folk would have been recorded as tenants, labourers, shopholders etc, their wives, once married were hidden from official view behind their husbands. There is little surviving documentary evidence of who they were and what they did within their communities.

What we can glean from those times is that life was incredibly tough. The paintings of the time depict a charming, relaxed country life, timber framed cottages with roses around the door and elegant maidens leaning by the gates. But this belied the grinding poverty of the agricultural depression and agricultural revolution that left many without enough food, few with fulltime jobs, houses/homes becoming dilapidated and whole families uprooting and moving to industrial heartlands for the sake of earning a living. Those left behind in the villages were those who couldn't earn a living, the elderly, the very young and the infirm. It was a woman's job to scratch around and find enough food to put on the table, and to suffer the cries of their children when they remained hungry. Women used laudanum (opium) to quell the cries of their children and some of the children died. It was perhaps an understanding of the pain and impossible situations that these women went through that no jury convicted these mothers of murder. The workhouse was a last resort, but still used by some and once inside it was up to the husband to find work and pay for their keep. Until he could do that and pay for new accommodation (if ever!) the women were forced to remain inside, sometimes for years. It's as if all the laws and mores were against the poor being able to make a better life for themselves.

Some will have worked in service when young, dealing with fine fabrics and furniture. At home there would be little washing because they had few clothes. The young were sown into their clothes as winter came and not washed until the next spring. It must have been dirty and smelly. Women were not expected to have fun. There were no creative outlets or opportunities for the ambitious. Just the daily grind, hunger and drudgery.

By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century things started to change. Dickleburgh Waifs and Strays Home for girls started to teach their girls skills, such as dressmaking. A skill like this would enable a young girl to take in work, earn a living and start to make choices about their life. For some a new life dawned, for those bold enough to take up a free ticket to the colonies. Chaperoned groups of young women were shipped over to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada to become servants or other members of the workforce. It was risky, but an opportunity for those who dared to dream of a better life.

*Alison Martin*





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# OPEN GARDENS MEMORIAL HALL

## A Big Thank You

I would like to say a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way or contributed to the catering in the Memorial Hall for the Open Gardens 44<sup>th</sup> celebration, The event was a great success, thanks to all of you.

It was particularly heartening to have some newcomers to the village volunteering along with our regular stalwart helpers. It did not go unnoticed that many of you stayed for longer than your allocated rota slots and some all day or returning to help clear up, when we are exhausted. There is always such a lovely atmosphere at this event with everybody so cheerful and smiling. This was commented on by our visitors in feedback forms, along with positive comments on the quality of the food and the whole event, My heartfelt thanks go to all who gave their time and effort so generously and cheerfully to make the event a success.

You are all wonderful. Thank you

*Frances Jenner*

*On behalf of Walsham le Willows Open Gardens Trust*



## HAUGHLEY HOOFERS

North West Morris

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Find us on Facebook Haughley Hoofers official page



## COMMUNITY LUNCH



What a wonderful summer we've had this year, I could get used to this!

The Memorial Village Hall will be open from 12.30pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2026.

Lunch will be Normandy Pork, sage & garlic parmentier potatoes, red cabbage, carrots and peas followed by Sticky toffee pudding and cream.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please book a place, at £9.00p, **this month only** with Cheryl or Ian Bartholomew on 01359 258349 by 5pm on Thursday 8th October 2026.

*Shirley White*



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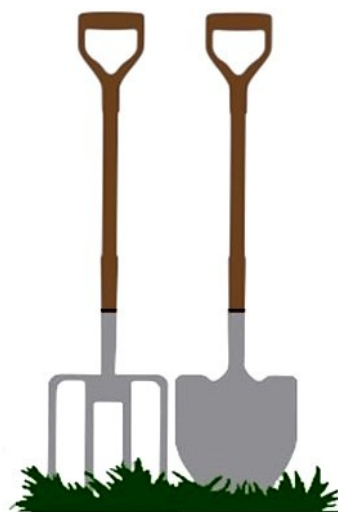
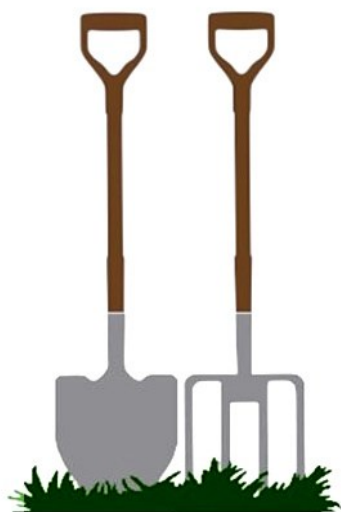
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## OCTOBER

Wed 14th Peter Creswell Concert  
 St Mary's 12.30pm  
 W.I. Burlesque Talk  
 Priory Room 7.30pm  
 Fri 16th Wildwoods Film Night  
 Village Hall 7.00pm  
 Wed 21st History Group  
 Priory Group 7.30pm  
 Fri 30th Pumpkin Trail  
 Wildwoods 5.30pm  
**NOVEMBER**  
 Sat 7th Craft & Gift Fair  
 Village Hall 11.00am  
 Kirbye Voices  
 St Mary's 7.30pm  
 Wed 1th W.I. Jigsaw Challenge  
 Priory Room 7.30pm  
 Fri 13th Ladies Fashion Show  
 Village Hall 7.30pm

Wed 18th History Group  
 Priory Room 7.30pm  
**DECEMBER**  
 Tue 8th History Group  
 Priory Room 7.30pm  
 Wed 9th W.I. Wreath Making  
 Priory Room 7.30pm  
 Sun 20th Nine Lessons & Carols  
 St Mary's 4.00pm  
**FEBRUARY**  
 Sat 6th Wildwood Curry Night  
 Village Hall TBA

# Ladies Fashion Show

## Used Clothing & Accessories Sale

on ***Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2026***

at ***The Memorial Hall, Walsham le Willows***

Doors open at 7pm, show starts at **7.30pm**

Tickets **£5/person** and include a free raffle

In aid of **Cancer Research UK**

Donate or sell any unwanted items as a 50/50 money back share.

All items must be in good condition, clean and received prior to  
**6 November 2026.**



Cash and card payments will be accepted for any purchases. Cash Bar.

For more details or to reserve a seat contact **Tina** on **07887 37118**

**W**ALSHAM *History Group* presents



## SHARDLAKE'S NORWICH & KETT'S REBELLION

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**WED 21ST OCTOBER AT 7.30PM**

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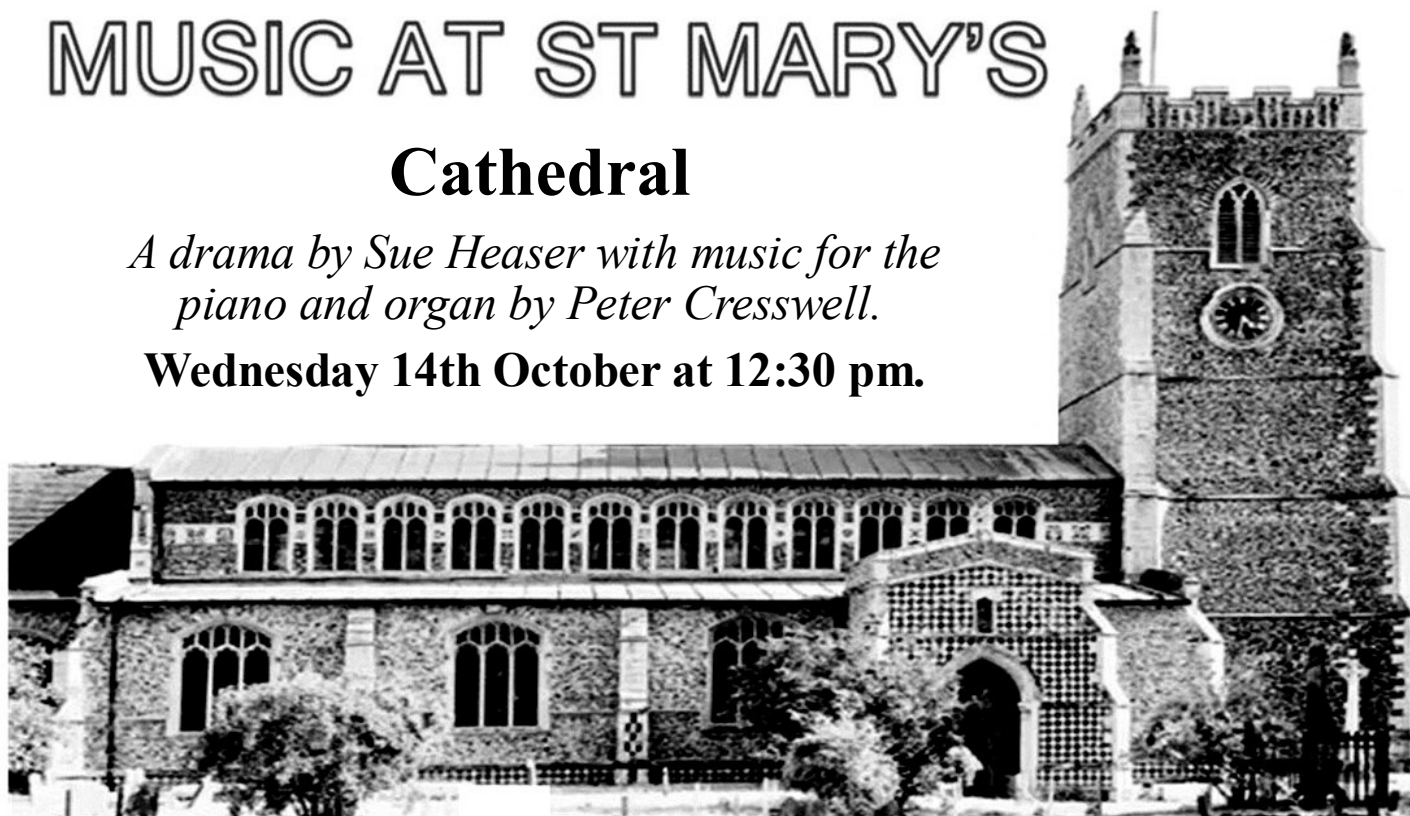
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## MUSIC AT ST MARY'S

### Cathedral

*A drama by Sue Heaser with music for the  
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**Wednesday 14th October at 12:30 pm.**



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## DATES

FRIDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER

FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY (THIS IS THE 2<sup>ND</sup>  
FRIDAY)

FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

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# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 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. Bartholomew, Belson, Brookes, Mecrow, Roberts, Winch.

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

1. OPENING STATEMENT (if any required) & MEMBER'S APOLOGIES
  - a. From Cllr Tuck.
  - b. Consent was granted.
2. DECLARATIONS of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests
  - a. None received.
  - b. No dispensations were required.
3. MINUTES - To Receive and consider the minutes of the following meetings (as previously circulated)
  - a. Minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2026 were approved as true and accurate record of the meeting.
  - b. Outstanding actions from last meeting
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. Three members of the public were present.
  - One resident raised the issue of prospect of high rainfall and the stream clearance. Cllr Belson confirmed that for the past three or four years the Parish Council has had the stream cleared in October or November. The Clerk is due to meet with the contractor about this soon and will try to get it done as early as possible. However, Cllr Belson also explained that if the water flowing into the stream exceeds a certain volume then the limited capacity of the gaps underneath the bridges are the issue rather than the vegetation in the stream which last time was cleared by the flood water itself.
  - The two other member of the public did not wish to speak but remained as observers.
5. DISTRICT & COUNTY REPORTS FOR INFORMATION & QUESTIONS
  - a. County Councillor Bains
    - Roadworks signage/closures management (note more correspondence) - Cllr Bains was informed by Highways that the issues with road closure signage inadequately informing road users, as discussed at last meeting, were often caused by the erection of signage by other agencies (e.g. Anglian Water) which were for some inexplicable reason, not required to adhere to the same standards as Highways. Cllr Bain said he would ask the Question as to why the Highways standards cannot be aligned across all agencies who put up signage for road closures. Cllr Belson took the opportunity to note the excellent closure signage for Crownland Road which worked very well. This



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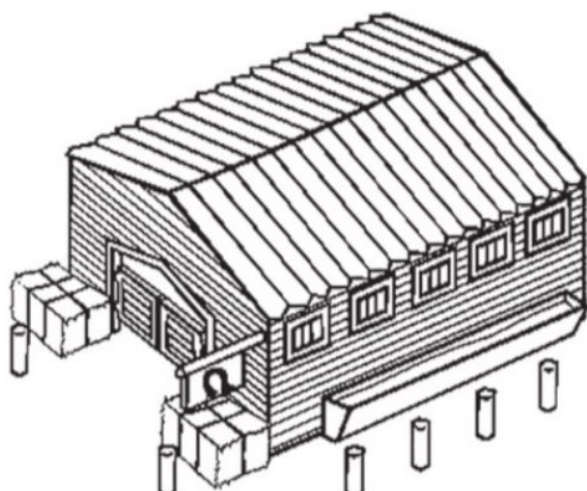
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was Highways signage. Picking up on another point raised at last meeting Cllr Bain advised that emergency services are advised of all road closures in advance.

- School solar panels switch off – costs & progress – Cllr Bain advised outcome of further enquiries reiterated the figures he quoted at the last meeting with regard to the impact on school budgets and that there was no contingency fund to cover these costs. Any ‘compensation’ would have to be found from another budget. Cllr. Bain was also able to advise that schools are invoiced by the county council for amounts generated by the feed in tariffs, so it is the county council budget that is affected by the shutdown, not the school budgets. Cllr Bartholomew insisted though that this measure still deprives schools of the free solar generated power they would ordinarily use, instead having to pay standard rates for power during the solar panel shutdown.
- Staffing of fire services – Cllr. Bain advised that he had spoken with the relevant cabinet member who had advised that this was funded by central government as a statutory service. There was a £1.4 million deficit on the SCC budget last year for this service and the same is expected again this year. SCC is looking for additional sources of funding. Cllr Janette Winch clarified that the original enquiry was about adequate staffing levels in the face of increasing naturally occurring climate events. Cllr Bain advised that the service will continue to respond to emergency calls and that he would forward the most recent audit report on the service to Cllr J Winch.
- Review of decision on 20mph zones – this was to be addressed under agenda item 6.

b. District Councillor Winch

- Cllr Bartholomew asked about the progress of the bus shelter. DC Winch advised that he had been advised that it was likely that it would be completed before the end of this year now that tree roots had been eliminated as a constraint and that routing around the BT cables had been confirmed as possible. However, an actual start date had not been forthcoming.
- Cllr Brookes asked about the possibility of Pink Recycling bins for the villages (electrical items etc). Cllr Bartholomew noted that the Community Council are keen to have the existing recycling bins removed now that the new household collection arrangements are established, not least because of the amount of ‘tipping’ that happens around the bins. The Memorial Hall is also hoping to get permission for an extension which would require the use of the space. This matter was deferred until it is determined if there will actually be enough space on the Memorial Hall car park.
- Cllr Bartholomew asked about the bus service review and if this would be subject to consultation. Cllr. Bains said he would expect a consultation in the usual way and that he would advocate for rural service funding as needed.

6. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS & ACTION LOG REVIEWS

a. **Traffic Group** -. – To note report and consider proposals as follows:

- i. **P1** – that the Parish Council requests an update on review of Speed Report –

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This response had been received following publication of the agenda. Counter proposal to request a final cost for the approved changes to speed limits.

**P2** – that the Parish Council asks for community design suggestions to be brought back to the PC for village sign for Finningham Road – this was deferred subject to the details of possible options (and constraints) that will arise from Proposal 3.

**P3** – that the Parish Council approved a request for an engineer visit to confirm siting of village welcome (or other possible measures) sign on Finningham Road

- ii. The response from Highways re existing 30mph roundels was noted. It was decided to wait until the village gates have been installed. This has been advised to the Clerk as imminent. Cllrs raised the question as to why Highways do not install stainless steel posts to increase longevity by preventing rusting, especially given that funds are tight and are limiting the replacement of slowly decaying and falling posts. Cllr Bains said he would ask the question.

**b. Community Emergency Plan Group** – To note any update/report.

- i. The reviewed and redacted CEP report for approval and publication was noted. Cllr Brookes advised that there was still one more amendment to be made before it was forwarded to the Clerk for publication. It was approved for publication subject to that last amendment.

- ii. **Flood Mitigation Group** – To note any update/report and consider any proposals. Cllr Mecrow proposed an exercise to identify the worst performing culverts, whether they were on public or private land, in order that repairs could be pursued to improve utility in any further extreme weather. Cllrs. Belson, Mecrow and Winch will work on this.

**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 published ‘Call for sites’ consultation. No change. The Parish Council could not proceed until more information is received from MSDC on sites preferred sites and intended build density appropriate to each.
- b. The report from Cllr Belson re meeting of impacted Parishes about the consultation on Jaynic development proposals for Shepherds Grove site was noted. A follow up meeting is planned for September 16<sup>th</sup> at 19:30 in Stanton (lead Parish) to determine a co-ordinated approach to the consultation. Parish Cllrs. Belson, Roberts and Winch will attend. District Cllr Winch raised the point about involving the relevant people from West Suffolk in the process.
- c. **APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - DC/26/03703**  
Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent - Conservation and repair to front entrance portico Location: Maltings House, The Street, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3AZ **The Parish Council Made No Comment**
- d. **APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE(S) IN A CONSERVATION AREA - DC/26/03517** Proposal: Notification of works to Trees in a Conservation Area -



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Removal of a single yew tree closest to road Location: The Coach House, Four Ashes, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3BS **The Parish Council Made No Comment**

- e. APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/26/03861 Proposal: Planning Application. Erection of single storey extension, and relocation of 2no.disabled parking spaces Location: Walsham le Willows Memorial Village Hall, The Street, Walsham Le Willows, IP31 3AA **The Parish Council Supported**

8. PLANNING OUTCOMES (decided by Mid Suffolk District Council, Planning Authority) for noting only (additional notices TBA by email before the meeting)

- a. The decision of MSDC with regard to enforcement request Greenside, Finningham Road was noted.
- 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 MSDC Granted Permission

9. FINANCE & AUDIT & COUNCIL ADMIN

- a. Bank statements & reconciliation for period ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026 were approved for signature.
- b. Accounts awaiting payment summary and invoices for payment. (Appendix 1) were approved for authorisation.
- c. The NJS national salary award for 2026/27, was noted and approved for authorisation to payroll backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026.
- d. Clerk has reviewed insurance cover, made very minor adjustments to statement of facts, and proposes approval of insurance renewal in sum of £996.54 (incl. 12% IPT) under new long-term agreement that expires in September 2028. Clerk to raise payment for authorisation at the next meeting.

- e. Cllr Bartholomew proposed as follows:

**P1** – That rather than considering disposal, the ride on mower be relocated to the new PC shed at the Memorial Hall and,

**P2** - That the Memorial Hall Committee is permitted access and use of the mower in the grounds of the hall in exchange for keeping it in working order and installing a ramp to allow it to be stored in the PC shed. Both proposals one and two were approved. Clerk to follow up for next meeting.

- f. The submission of NIL CIL return to end of financial year 2025-26 was noted. Clerk had not been aware that NIL returns were required.
- g. Cllr Winch proposed at last meeting a review of budget to see what other budgeted items may be funded by grant applications. The budget set for 2026/27 was reviewed. It was decided to defer a decision until the actual costs for speed limit changes were known.

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

- a. Council considered information received by the Clerk by telephone from Gordon Lawrence re the Botesdale and Rickinghall Community Bus service. It was decided to defer any decision until next meeting when this should have been received in writing.

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How many were the plagues of Egypt?

- b. Council noted that the SCC footpath cutting roster for payment of grant already included the paths along which new surfacing had been installed by MSDC. This had been confirmed by Cllr Belson from the current list of paths that are cut.
  - c. Note email correspondence from Parishioner plus representation made directly to Clerk re the accumulation of debris along the pavement on The Causeway. There are concerns again that this is building to a level that narrows the pavement for pedestrians. It was decided to seek a quote again from the contractor who cleared this before.
11. OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN/NOTE FOR NEXT AGENDA
- a. Next Parish Council meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2026 @ 7pm – Memorial Hall
  - b. Correspondence from resident re closed churchyard trees was noted and discussed. Cllr Belson will respond. Clerk to look into costs for next meeting.

Meeting Close @ 20:36

*Proper Officer, Clerk to Walsham-le-Willows Parish Council*

## APPENDIX 1

### Payments for Approval SEPTEMBER 2026

| # | Payments & Transfers OUT              | Amount         | Description                          |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Starboard Systems t/a Scribe Accounts | £37.20         | Accounting software subscription     |
| 2 | Parish Council Employee               | £332.34        | Salaries                             |
| 3 | Memorial Village Hall                 | £27.00         | Hall hire for meetings               |
| 4 | Freemius Inc. TablePress              | £80.89         | Website plugin for tables – to Clerk |
| 5 | TeamBlue Internet Services            | £33.59         | Website domain name – to Clerk       |
| 6 | Unity Trust Bank                      | £7.00          | Service charges by DDR               |
| 7 | Old Town Trust                        | £300.00        | Rent for Play Area Lease             |
| 8 | Nurture Landscapes                    | £499.25        | No payment made (inv 385849)         |
| 9 | Nurture Landscapes                    | -£499.25       | Credit note (inv 385849)             |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>£818.02</b> |                                      |

| # | Payments & Transfers IN | Amount            | Description                                       |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | MSDC                    | £13,361.00        | Precept 2 <sup>nd</sup> tranche                   |
| 2 | MSDC (Due)              | £2,389.89         | Locality Award for additional SID                 |
| 3 | SCC                     | £556.70           | Footpaths cutting grant (2 <sup>nd</sup> tranche) |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>£16,307.59</b> |                                                   |

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# FROM ST MARY'S

As autumn settles in and the colours of our countryside begin to change, October brings with it an opportunity to pause, give thanks and notice the beauty of the season around us.

October is, for us this year, the season of Harvest. Living in our rural communities, we are especially aware of the changing seasons and the work going on around us. Harvest is a time to thank God for the gifts of creation and to give thanks for our farmers and all those who work so hard to bring food from field to table. As the Psalmist writes, "*The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, has blessed us.*" (Psalm 67:6)

Everyone is welcome to join us at our Harvest Festival Service on Sunday 4th October at 11am, as we come together to give thanks for the year and for all that we have received. Harvest also reminds us that what we have is not simply ours to keep, but something to be shared. It encourages us to notice the needs of others and to be generous with what we have, whether that is our time, our gifts or simply our care for one another.

I also want to thank everyone who played a part in this year's annual Ride and Stride event: those who organised it, those who cycled, those who kindly sponsored them, and those who gave their time to welcome visitors into our churches. Your efforts not only raised vital funds but also celebrated the beauty, history and community of our local places of worship.

October can be a beautiful month in our villages. The changing colours, shortening days and signs of autumn all around us remind us to notice and appreciate what can so easily be taken for granted. Perhaps Harvest offers us that same invitation: to stop for a moment and recognise the good things around us and the people who make our communities what they are.

As the seasons change, may we make time to be thankful, to look out for one another and to appreciate the communities we share. There is something very special about coming together, and I hope that throughout this autumn we can continue to find reasons to be grateful, to care for one another and to look forward with hope.

*With every blessing,  
Revd Catriona*

## ST MARY'S CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Tue 13th October**  
**9am till 10.30am**

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

**Roots and Shoots**

**Sun 4th October**  
**10am till 11am**

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

# OCTOBER CHURCH SERVICES

| Date             | Service                   | Church      | 3:00pm          | Harvest Service           | Westhorpe   |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| <b>27th Sept</b> | <b>17th after Trinity</b> |             | <b>18th Oct</b> | <b>20th after Trinity</b> |             |
| 9:30am           | Holy Communion            | Badwell Ash | 8:00am          | Holy Communion            | Walsham     |
| 11:00am          | Holy Communion            | Wattisfield | 9:30am          | Harvest Service           | Finningham  |
| 6:00pm           | Evensong                  | Westhorpe   | 3:00pm          | Evensong*                 | Walsham     |
| <b>4th Oct</b>   | <b>18th after Trinity</b> |             | <b>25th Oct</b> | <b>Last after Trinity</b> |             |
| 8:00am           | Holy Communion            | Walsham     | 9:30am          | Harvest Service           | Badwell Ash |
| 9:30am           | Harvest Service           | Langham     | 11:00am         | Harvest Service           | Wattisfield |
| 10:00am          | Roots & Shoots            | Walsham     | <b>1st Nov</b>  | <b>All Saints Day</b>     |             |
| 11:00am          | Harvest Service           | Walsham     | 8:00am          | Holy Communion            | Walsham     |
| <b>11th Oct</b>  | <b>19th after Trinity</b> |             | 10:00am         | Roots & Shoots            | Walsham     |
| 8:00am           | Holy Communion            | Walsham     | 11:00am         | Family Service            | Walsham     |
| 11:00am          | Songs of Praise           | Walsham     |                 | *Cathedral Choir          |             |

## JIGSAW SALE

Thank you to everyone who donated jigsaw puzzles, made cakes and helped on the day at the Jigsaw sale on 12 September. A total of £515 was raised for The Brain Tumour Society UK. Special thanks to everyone who supported the event. I have 150 jigsaws left, if you would like any free of charge for a fundraising event please contact me on 01359 259686.

*Debbie Licata*



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# GREEN DILEMMAS



## Rural Housing Development

There is a huge amount of housing development currently taking place. This article discusses what is going on. A future article will discuss the reasons why so much housing is required at all.

### **What's driving the number of houses being built?**

The government has increased its mandatory housing targets. For Mid Suffolk, this means a nationally imposed target of 734 homes per year. Over a 20-year period this represents about a 30% increase in the housing stock in Mid Suffolk.

At the same time the planning laws are being changed to make it easier for housing developments to get planning permission.

Most residents are concerned about the impact of this housing development on our rural villages and the implications for associated infrastructure (the water and sewage system, traffic, the provision of healthcare and schools). Residents are also concerned that new housing meets the needs of local residents.

### **What control do we have locally?**

You can't just ignore these targets. Each local authority must be able to demonstrate that they have at least 5 years' worth of deliverable planning permissions (for Mid Suffolk this means over 3500 permissions). If you can't demonstrate this, then any local planning policies are considered out of date and this leads to speculative planning applications which if turned down will likely be appealed and won by the developer.

The main way that you can have some degree of control locally over the development process is to have a Local Plan for the Planning Authority and Neighbourhood Plans for towns and larger villages. These plans don't prevent the scale of housing development but do give some control over where houses are built and the type of houses that are being built.

### **Differing strategies for delivering housing development in rural areas**

If you take the overall target for Mid Suffolk and spread this across our communities based on their population you can get a theoretical target for each community. This would mean for example that we need to build about 200 houses in Walsham Le Willows over the next 20 years.

The argument in favour of this sort of approach is that it spreads the problem fairly over all our communities, is relatively easy to execute and if planned carefully could be acceptable to communities.

The alternative argument is that we should be concentrating development in certain locations and or looking at new towns. It is argued this would reduce development sprawl and allow greater planning of infrastructure. Or course, wherever new towns are proposed there is always very fierce opposition.

Probably the most significant example in our region is the proposal to build a city of over 1 million people, Forest City, to the east of Cambridge.

### **Neighbourhood Plans**

The best way of having an influence in the planning process is for a local community to have an up to date Neighbourhood Plan. This defines where housing would be acceptable as well as specifying any detailed requirements for those sites. Walsham le Willows' Neighbourhood Plan is due to be revised in the near future.

*Richard Winch - richard@winchmail.net*

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# IN MY END IS MY BEGINNING

Jimmy Gray, Walsham's Poet Laureate, reminded me that T.S. Eliot opens *East Coker* with a thought and closes it with the same thought turned upside down. The trick has never made more sense at the end of September. The scorehut is shut, the goalposts are wheeled back in place, and every cricketer in the village is announcing, with the conviction of the truly deluded, that this is definitely their last season. It is nothing of the sort. The end of a season is just a beginning of another.

Nowhere is that clearer than in the 2nd XI, where Monty Bailey closed the campaign with his maiden century and then added a fifty in a pair of wins. It seems only a few summers since he was an Under 11 smashing sixes at more than a run a ball. The junior section, whose fixtures wrapped up earlier, is not a waiting room but a runway. The Seconds finished third in Division Eight B on 290 points, five clear of Kirby, with wins over Worlingworth, Woolpit, Ipswich & East Suffolk and, on the final day, Stradbroke. Only the Woodbridge match escaped, abandoned after the only rain in months. Even the weather, it seems, likes a full stop.

If the young are busy beginning, the old hands are in no hurry to end. On that last day at Summer Road, Chris Dale took six wickets as Stradbroke were bowled out for 144. Across the parish at Bardwell, Finn Daly's 49 set up Liam Bryant to take six as the hosts were dismissed for 79. It is the same Bryant who, as skipper in 2021, hit a hundred to keep the First XI up. One end of the Club's age range is proving it has a future, and the other is proving it has no intention of a past.

The First XI's last month was a study in symmetry. Woolpit knocked off 130 with eight wickets in hand, and Kesgrave chased down Walsham's 257 for 9 with six to spare, the sort of defeat that stings twice. Then came the turn. At Great Bromley, skipper Steve Moulton saw Walsham home in a tense finish, 202 for 8 chasing 199, with two wickets to spare and, one suspects, no fingernails. A week later came the 89-run win at Bardwell to close. The final table has Walsham tenth and fate in the hands of a much higher outcome down the road in Woolpit.

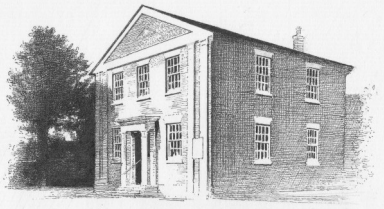
The Sunday XI signed off in the manner of Sunday sides everywhere: a win at a canter at Horringer then a week later a heavy defeat to Shotley Peninsula. They finish fifth in Division 3, a table settled by points average, that most Sunday of sums. Nobody on the bench will remember the arithmetic. They'll remember the tea.

And then there are the beginnings that need no scorer. September has seen three of the Club's own (Connor and Larissa, Moose and Kate, Oli and Amy) walk out to open a partnership rather than an innings. The rules are the same as ever: call early, run hard, and never take the quick single without warning. Moose, who confessed to knowing little of Love Island, has evidently found the real thing. We wish all three couples every happiness, and a long stand with no run-outs.

Eliot's poem ends where it began, only wiser, and so does the cricketer. On Friday 2 October the Club gathers for the presentation evening, to hand out the season's silverware and, one suspects, to argue about next year's. The roller goes back into the shed, the tea urn is put to rest, and somewhere in Suffolk a 15-year-old is oiling a bat that has just made its first hundred, unable to wait for April. That is the thing about endings. They never quite finish.

*'Of the petrel and the porpoise. In my end is my beginning...'*

*James French*



## 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.

### **Back to the Bible.**

Born in Oraibi, Arizona on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1907, Dr Theodore Epp was a committed Christian who became a pastor, preacher, writer, and evangelist. Living in 1930's America, Theodore Epp grew very concerned with the state of his nation and particularly with the attacks that were being made upon both the Bible, and the importance of the Word of God. It is for this reason that, in the city of Lincon, Nebraska, he founded a Christian Radio Ministry, and it is for this work he is best remembered. This Bible teaching ministry started in a small way, with the first broadcast on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1939 from the local radio station KFOR (AM) but quickly grew so, that by the mid-50's, it was said that at any given moment a broadcast could be heard somewhere around the world. The work founded by Theodore Epp continues to this day and broadcasts in 17 countries and 25 languages.

Seeing the decline in his country, and a departure from the Word of God, Epp named his radio ministry, 'Back to the Bible', discerning that what the nation needed most was a return to the truth, authority, and principles of Holy Scripture. We live in a different county, and at a different point in time but, could it not be argued that the same message of 'Back to the Bible' would also serve us well?

When Josiah became King in Judah, things were in a very poor state, and he inherited a kingdom steeped in idolatry, superstition, corruption, and moral decay. Such was the neglect of the worship of God, spiritual apathy, and the influence of unrighteous leaders that the actual written scrolls of God's Word had been physically lost! It is hard to imagine that something so valuable could be so little regarded as to be lost, however, our own nation seems to show a lesser regard for what God has to say, and the laws of the land are departing from the Law of God to the extent that England can hardly now be called 'The Land of the Book' as once it was. Josiah was a good king whose rule demonstrated a true zeal for God's honour. In the eighteenth year of his reign, when Josiah was about 26 years old, a turning point occurred: while repairing the temple, the 'Book of the Law of the Lord' was found and, as it was read before the king, he immediately grasped the depth of Judah's rebellion and understood that God's judgements were hanging over the nation. The return of God's Word brought a time of revival and renewal to the land, and the same can hold true today for a nation, church, or individual that returns to the Lord and turns 'Back to the Bible'- as God himself puts it, ***"Return unto me, and I will return unto you saith the LORD of hosts"*** (Malachi 3:7)

The Bible is like no other book, for it is the very Word of God; it is the word of the Creator to his creation and shows us how we are to live and how we should love, worship, and serve him with our whole heart. The Bible reveals the true nature of God and the true nature of mankind so, perhaps we should encourage ourselves to read our Bibles more, or even pick one up for the very first time. If you do not have a Bible of your own, and would like one, you would be most welcome to choose a copy from the Bible Box on the front of the chapel – they are free of charge.

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.  
(Psalm 119:105)**

# BOWLS CLUB REPORT

Well that just flew by, another season has come and gone in what seems like no time at all!

It has been an extremely enjoyable few months, but it couldn't happen without all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes so many thanks to all those who have made this possible.

Final league standings saw both the Monday Evening and Tuesday afternoon sides finish runners-up in their respective divisions, Thursday Evenings saw a mid-table finish with the Wednesday Evening side finishing bottom but with a fair number of new players taking part the experience they have gained will stand them in good stead for next season.

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August saw a very successful Club Finals Day organised by Gordon before his well-earned break in Spain with results as follows:

| Comp          | Winner                               | Runner up                                 |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Men's 2 Wood  | Neil Basset                          | Trevor Pollard                            |
| Men's 4 Wood  | Trevor Pollard                       | Rob Matthews                              |
| Ladies 2 Wood | Angela Whiting                       | Margaret Hawes                            |
| Ladies 4 Wood | Angela Whiting                       | Margaret Hawes                            |
| Open Pairs    | Neil Basset, Brian Randall           | Angela Whiting & Rob Matthews             |
| Triples       | Neil Basset, Adie Cole & Ian Simpson | Margaret Hawes/Carol Cross & Diane Hughes |
| Mace Handicap | Adie Cole                            | Diane Hughes                              |

On Bank Holiday Monday we played our annual Challenge match vs Wortham BC with all 6 rinks in use and it was a great way to end our matches for the season with several spectators along with many popping in while on their Open Gardens tour.

Many thanks to all those involved in providing the food, manning the bar and selling draw tickets, all of which contributed to the day being a great success.

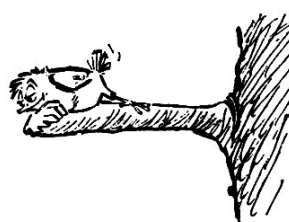
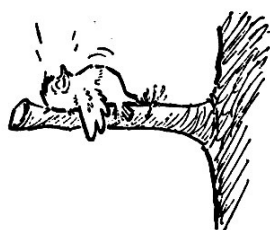
Roll on next season!

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

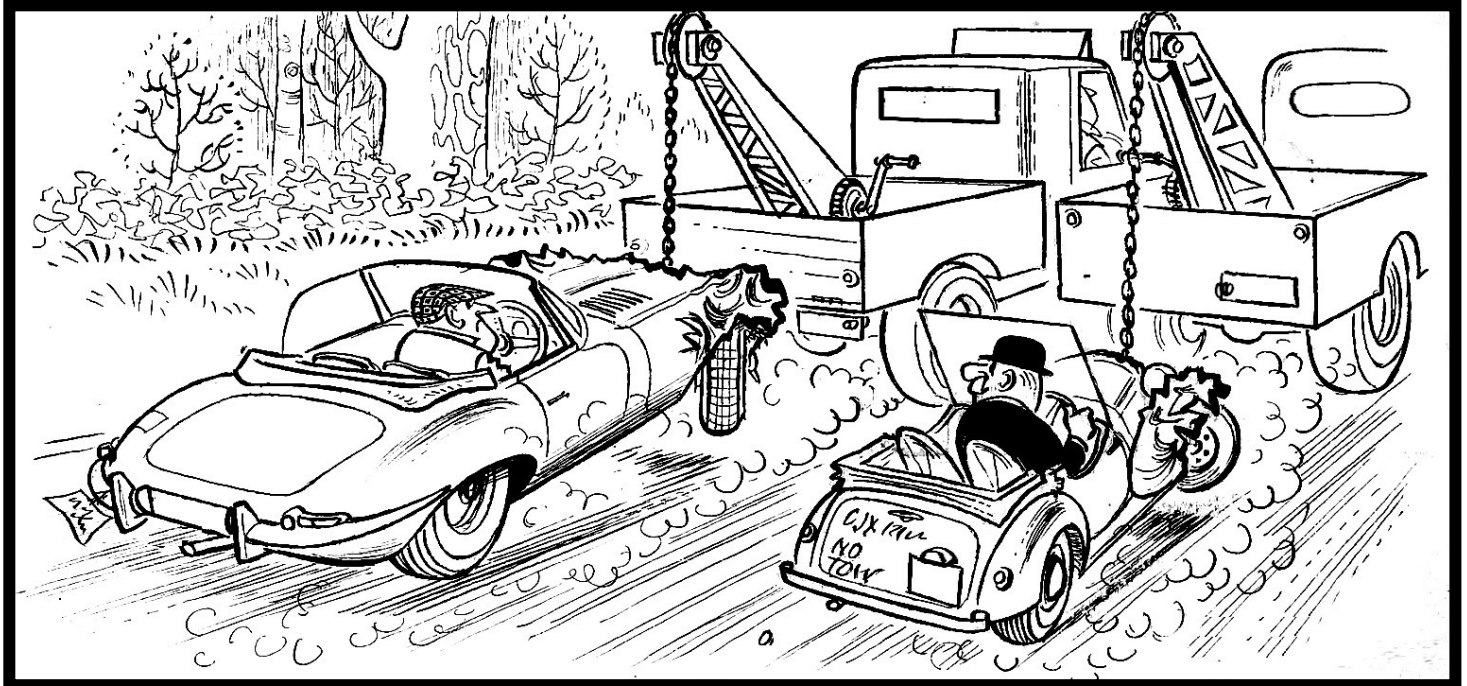
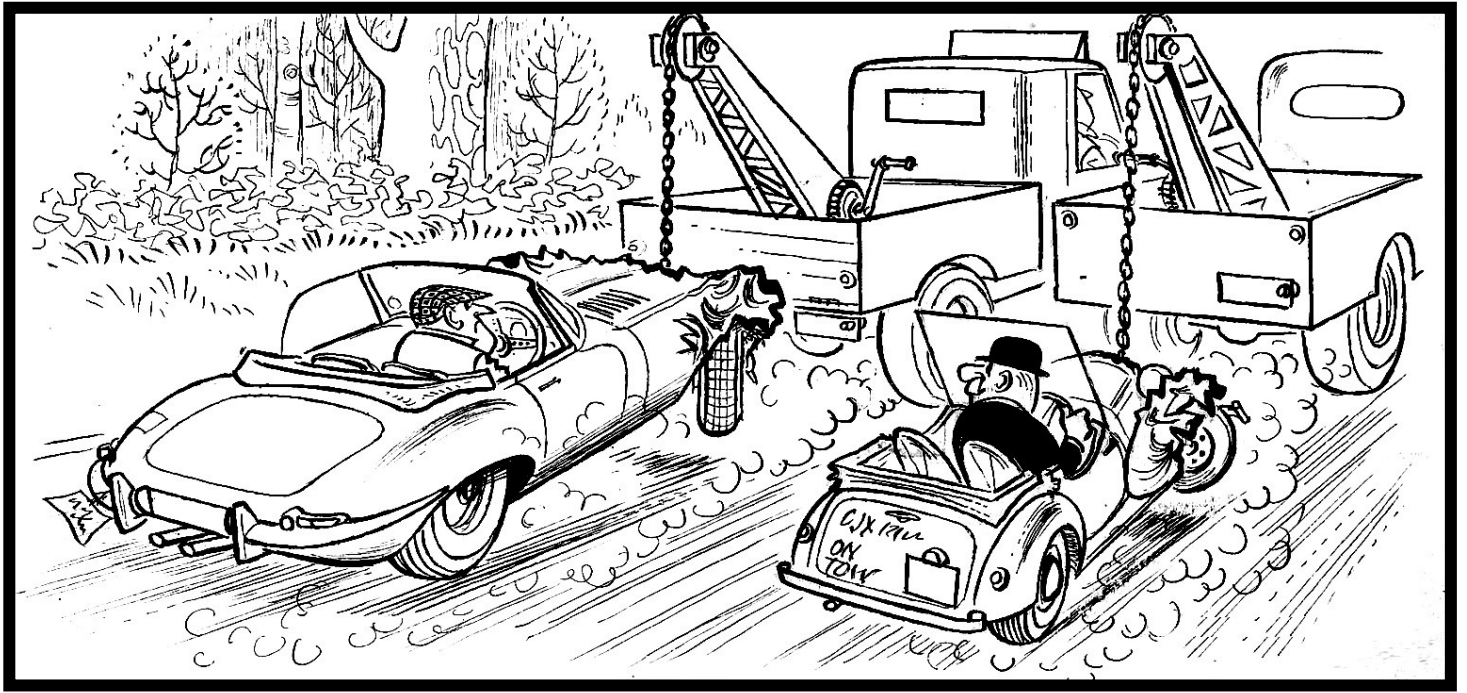
Adie Cole - Treasurer email [adiecole35@gmail.com](mailto:adiecole35@gmail.com) Mobile: 07908 170238

Angela Whiting - Secretary email [angelawhiting5@gmail.com](mailto:angelawhiting5@gmail.com) Mobile: 07498 283503

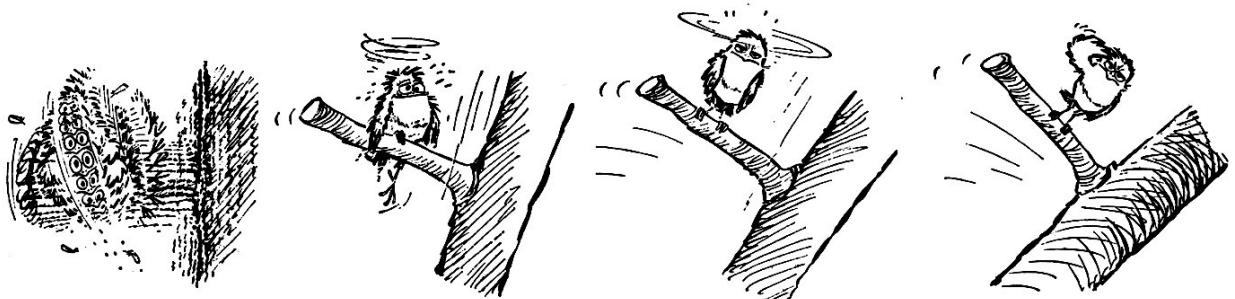
*Adie Cole*



# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



*There are ten differences between these two pictures, see if you can find them all before the drivers start exchanging insults!*



Which arm of the Mediterranean Sea lies between Greece and Turkey?

# FOOTBALL CLUB REPORT

The First Team have lost three League games in recent times away to Soham and March and at home to Haverhill Rovers. They did manage to win away to Heacham and are in the First Round proper of the FA Vase, having beaten Dussindale Rovers 2-0 in the previous Round.

The Under 23s have lost their first three League games but two of them were by a single goal.

The Under 18s have only lost one league game to date and have beaten Ipswich Wanderers 3-1 away in the FA Youth Cup. The newly formed Development Team lost their first three League games but then beat Whitton United 6-0 in the League Cup.

Finally, the Vets won their opening league match 3-1 at home to Mendlesham.

*Gordon Ross*



## WILD WOODS BAT WALK

It was rather wet at 7.30 pm when we gathered for our Annual Bat Walk on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September at the Walsham Wild Woods.

Nick, our expert, advised us to wait a bit for the rain to lessen otherwise there would be no insects flying and consequently no bats out hunting for them.

We eventually set off holding our bat monitors which could pick up other sounds as well and were rather fun to play with as the children found out – lots of noise to start off with.

We had a good group of regulars and, most welcome, some new people. We did hear some bats on the monitors and very occasionally saw a bat dart past. Obviously, because of the weather, there were less bats than usual but it was good to be outside in nature and to be hopeful that nature can hold its own in spite of the changing weather patterns.

Thank you to everyone who came.

Lorna

walshamwildwoods@gmail.com

## MORE OR LESS

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| <input type="text"/>           | <input type="text"/>           | >                    | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>           |

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

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

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- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
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Contact Us

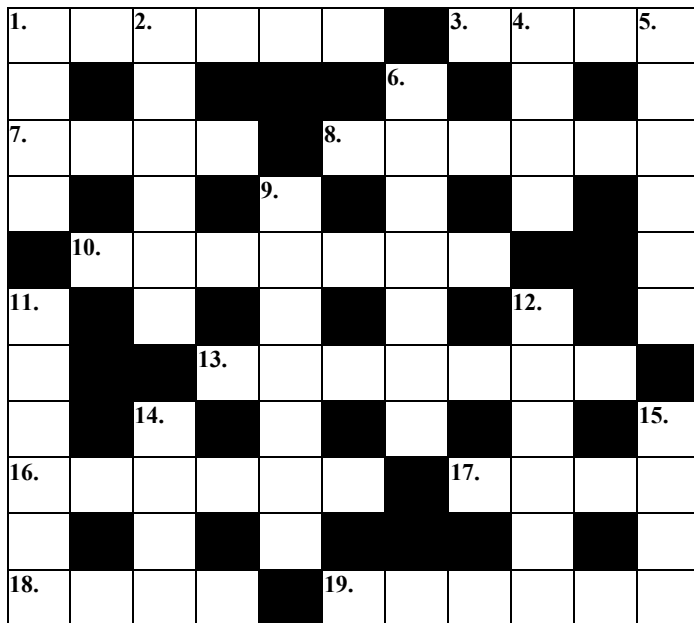
**01359 342 538**

**07377 153 954**



What was the name of the first space station?

# WALSHAM OBSERVER CROSSWORD



10. Show regret about this code. (7)  
 13. Could a band on the run have to leave quickly. (7)  
 16. The bench one leaves to go to Carlisle. (6)  
 17. Get really upset about the ruined gear. (4)  
 18. She's made to become a lady. (4)  
 19. It's the best if sent round. (6)

## Down

1. A real change for the king. (4)  
 2. Just an arm or a leg. (6)  
 4. Left in mind or body. (4)  
 5. Just the wear for a smoker. (6)  
 6. Be there for the gift. (7)  
 9. Clanger for the milker. (7)  
 11. Employed again for environmental protection. (6)  
 12. Give a date with no return asked for. (6)  
 14. Such a small thing in that omelette. (4)  
 15. Find an opening in preventative medicine. (4)

## Across

1. Mister arranges to have responsibilities. (6)  
 3. Can this jelly be found in a gardener's shed? (4)  
 7. The mayor has nothing left to make the force. (4)  
 8. Just a third for the statue. (6)



"All those in favour of the takeover say 'AI'"

## Can A.I. Be . . . .

Can A.I. be  
 The wonder of the age?  
 Or be to us  
 A cause of helpless rage?

There will be those  
 Who'd make a better life,  
 But sadly some  
 Who seek eternal strife.

Our questing brains  
 May drive us just too far  
 Till humans find  
 They have a cyber tsar.

It's far too late  
 To put the cork back in -  
 The genie's flown,  
 And we must strive to win!

*Torban Ruben Ash*

## REGULAR

### MONDAY

Fit Steps Village Hall  
9:30am till 10:30am  
Community Lunch Village Hall  
2nd Monday 12:45pm  
Simply Hatha Yoga Priory Room  
7:30pm till 8:45pm  
Walking Football Sports Club  
8:00pm till 9:00pm

### TUESDAY

Walking Netball Sports Club  
10:00am till 11:00am  
Pilates Class Village Hall  
1:30pm till 2:30pm  
Walking Football Sports Club  
2:00pm till 3:00pm

### WEDNESDAY

Pilates Classes Village Hall  
9:00am till 10:00am  
10.15am till 11.15am  
Yoga Sports Club  
10:00am till 11:30am  
Positive Steps Sports Club  
11:30am till 12:30pm  
Wednesday Wanders Sports Club  
11:30am till 12:30pm

## EVENTS

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

### 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

## Searching For Words

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| P | A | T |
| Y | E | R |
| T | I | N |

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 might have you being responsible for a bundle of joy...

Get 55 words and you are doing well

# ALL THE ANSWERS

## Page Bottom Quiz

1. Van Gogh, 2. Somalia, 3. Kelvin (K), 4. Aaron Copland, 5. A knot,
6. Ingemar Johansson, 7. Arthur Miller, 8. A vixen, 9. Chattanooga Choo Choo,
10. Saturnalia, 11. Stonewall, 12. Sicily, 13. Frank Herbert, 14. India,
15. Alexander Fleming, 16. Dallas, 17. Cain, 18. Julius Caesar, 19. Olympiad,
20. Ontario, 21. Violins, 22. Stephen Hawking, 23. Sir John Tenniel,
24. Django Reinhardt, 25. Sarajevo, 26. Chimaera, 27. Richard Nixon,
28. Poland, 29. Petrouchka, 30. Albatross, 31. The Nile, 32. Ten,
33. Electronic computer, 34. Charles, 35. Fiat, 36. Mumps, 37. Odyssey, 38. Orange,
39. Puck, 40. The swastika, 41. Silverstone, 42. Aegean Sea, 43. Alaska,
44. Skylab, 45. Howard Hughes, 46. Sea Fever, 47. A bird, 48. Zoology, 49. Earth,
50. Maya Angelo

## Sudoku

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

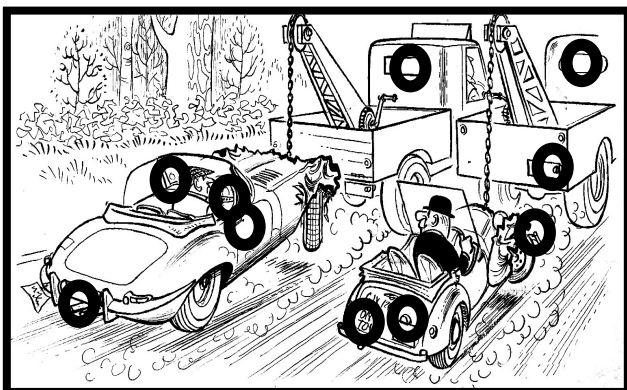
## Crossword

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | E | M | I | T | S |   | A | G | A | R |
| E |   | E |   |   |   | P |   | O |   | E |
| A | R | M | Y |   | B | R | O | N | Z | E |
| L |   | B |   | C |   | E |   | E |   | F |
|   | R | E | M | O | R | S | E |   |   | E |
| R |   | R |   | W |   | E |   | D |   | R |
| E |   |   | A | B | A | N | D | O | N |   |
| U |   | A |   | E |   | T |   | N |   | V |
| S | E | T | T | L | E |   | R | A | G | E |
| E |   | O |   | L |   |   | T |   | N |   |
| D | A | M | E |   | F | I | N | E | S | T |

## More or Less

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

## Spot the Difference



## Searching for Words

|       |      |                       |       |       |
|-------|------|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| Ape   | Are  | Art                   | Ate   | Aye   |
| Ear   | Eat  | Era                   | Ire   | Near  |
| Neat  | Net  | Nit                   | Par   | Pare  |
| Part  | Pat  | Pate                  | Pater | Pay   |
| Payer | Pea  | Pear                  | Peat  | Pen   |
| Pert  | Pet  | Rap                   | Rape  | Rat   |
| Rate  | Ray  | Reap                  | Rein  | Rep   |
| Ret   | Rite | Tap                   | Tape  | Taper |
| Tar   | Tare | Tarn                  | Tea   | Tear  |
| Teat  | Ten  | Tern                  | Tie   | Tin   |
| Tine  | Tire | Trap                  | Tray  | Trite |
| Yap   | Year | Yearn                 | Yen   | Yet   |
| Yeti  | Yin  | <b>Paternity (63)</b> |       |       |

## 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.’**