

Walberswick's official website contains a wealth of information and it continues to attract readers from as far afield as Asia, the USA and New Zealand. The website is constantly updating as we are contacted by locals, friends of Walberswick, visitors and organisations. We are able to respond quickly to requests to post non-commercial information, news images and dates. Our space is infinite.

Those of you who use it or just look occasionally, will have noticed that we have again revamped the home page in an effort to keep it fresh. The administrative team undertake the overall look and content of the general pages, whilst with a little support, the Walberswick Common Lands Charity, the Parish Council, the Village Hall, the Local History Group, the Parish Plan and the Blyth Estuary Group all maintain and update their own pages.

As part of this ongoing development, we have replaced the various photos or sketches of Walberswick on the home page, with appropriate paintings taken from the Village Scroll - the station, the ferry, the kissing bridge and so on. Over time, we have received many queries about J Doman Turner, and a few weeks ago, a father and son wrote to us that they had all but completed their researches into Turner, and now had a website dedicated to him. Their website tells of three other scrolls by Doman Turner and gives a brief history of the artist. You'll find a link to this website at the foot of the home page. Also, following requests for information, we have added a brief history of Charles Rennie Macintosh's time in Walberswick and the tale of his infamous arrest.

A major event has been the digitisation of the Walberswick archives by the History Group with the added intention of publishing them on the website. Unfortunately, the data protection act has meant many archives which contain personal information cannot be published. However, Pat Lancaster, who has now taken on editing their pages, has published several items from the archives and I know hopes to do more. Watch this space!

Following Graham Godsmark's death, we published a couple of his wonderful poems in his memory. This gave us the idea to offer space to other would-be wordsmiths who write about Walberswick - either in prose or poetry. You will find this section included in The Galleries and is simply called Walberswick Words. If you would like to see your thoughts in print, do submit them via the dedicated "Contact Us" form.

The Galleries continue to expand. We have recently added a section for Walberswick Wildlife and have received and published some wonderful photographs of amazing birds and insects seen in and around Walberswick. If you have photos of Walberswick, its surroundings or its wildlife, we'd love to publish them. If you are an artist and would like to submit a few pictures, please get in touch.

Links to every Walberswick planning application have been available on the Parish Council website since the last Interim Council. When we were told that people were finding these difficult to locate, we put a link on the home page in the left-hand menu. All you have to do is click "Planning applications" then choose whether you wish to find those still pending consideration or those already determined. The individual link will take you straight to the East Suffolk site and the appropriate application. There you can see closing dates, determination dates, maps and plans, together with comments from neighbours and consultees, indeed, all the documents submitted to SCDC.

We receive correspondence from all over the world on a variety of subjects. Last year I read a few out to you. Perhaps the strangest this year has been: "Could you please put me in touch with a company who could safely transport a painting to Wiltshire?" Then in December we received this message "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to website staff and village people, from Santo, Genova, Italy".

Finally, I should like to thank Claire Whittenbury, our news and galleries editor, for her professional expertise and sound advice.