



# Walberswick Village News

March 2020 - Issue 278 - Coronavirus Update 1

**I**t is a difficult time for everyone in our lovely village, but Walberswick is a special place and part of what makes it so special is that its residents are always there to help each other. Through the Village News and the **Village Website** we will attempt to provide up-to-date information on what is happening in the village, local services, how to get help, and generally provide a bit of support to help get us through this safely.

## Get help from the Community Support Group

Liz Green has set up a group that will help with shopping, collecting prescriptions, walking dogs, running errands, and so on. If you need any help at all, contact Liz, who will coordinate with her group of more than 30 volunteers to help you.

**telephone: 01502 724889**

**email [liz.green@mac.com](mailto:liz.green@mac.com)**

**text or WhatsApp on 07710 031503**

## Visitors from higher risk areas

Our village has a particularly vulnerable demographic and many are concerned that visitors from higher risk areas will spread the virus here. If you see anyone behaving selfishly or irresponsibly, please have a polite word with them, pointing out that our residents have been scrupulously careful not to spread the virus and have been avoiding contact with each other, cancelling events, etc. Please tell them we are relying on our visitors to help us protect our older and vulnerable villagers.

It is a sensitive issue, but reasonable people should not take offence at being reminded that they cannot expect the carefree atmosphere they normally enjoy.

## Walberswick Common Lands Charity can offer assistance

Anyone In Walberswick suffering hardship or in need as a result of the crisis can contact the WCLC for assistance. Contact any Trustee or their Clerk at [clerkwclc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwclc@gmail.com)

## Social distancing

Please follow the government advice on social distancing. This applies to **everyone** and is absolutely essential for:

- the over 70s
- anyone with an underlying health condition
- pregnant women.

It means you must:

- avoid contact with anyone displaying symptoms of coronavirus
- avoid non-essential travel
- avoid gatherings in pubs, restaurants, theatres, etc
- avoid gatherings with friends and family, except for essential care
- contact essential services, such as the doctor, by phone if you feel unwell.

The full and most up-to-date government advice can be found at [tinyurl.com/t6ssvqa](https://tinyurl.com/t6ssvqa)

## The WI is on hand

The WI is on hand to help members, past and present, and anyone else in the village who might need assistance. Or perhaps you would just like to hear a friendly voice at the end of the phone.

Contact **Muriel on 01502 724443** or **Sheila on 07500 292148**

## Doctor's appointments

All routine appointments at Sole Bay Health Centre will be conducted with a doctor or a nurse by telephone. If it is decided that you need to be seen in person, arrangements will be made for you to do so.

**Sole Bay Health Centre**  
**01502 722326**

## Dental appointments

Most dental appointments are currently going ahead as scheduled with extra hygiene measures being put in place. This may well change, so check with your dental practice before attending an appointment.

## Vets & pets

As far as we are aware, most vets are still open. However, they may ask you to leave your pet in your car, check in at Reception, and then wait in your car until you are called. Only one person should attend the appointment.

Check with your vet if pet prescriptions need to be ordered earlier than normal.

At present, there is no evidence that cats or dogs can be infected with this strain of coronavirus, but you are advised to wash your hands after handling pets.

## Payment cards & cash

Some shops are no longer accepting cash as coins and notes may carry the virus, so please make sure you have your payment cards handy.

However, you will need cash if you ask The Tuck Shop to deliver your groceries.

## Grocery & food supplies

- **The Tuck Shop** will be limiting purchases to stop panic buying. If you are self-isolating or feeling vulnerable, phone the shop before 11am and they will attempt to deliver your order the same day. **Tuck Shop 01502 723025**
- Contact the **Community Support Group** if you need someone to pick up supplies for you at one of the larger supermarkets.
- **Online ordering:** Delivery slots are currently running about three weeks out, so reserve a slot asap. If you already have a slot reserved and don't mind adding extras for other people in the village, please contact the Community Support Group.
- **Click & Collect** is an alternative way of ordering groceries online. By collecting your groceries, you can get them much more quickly than waiting for them to be delivered.

## Meals delivered to your doorstep

- **The Black Dog Deli** have a selection of takeaway & frozen meals, as well as its usual fare. Andy will deliver in the village. **01502 723925**
- **The Anchor** can deliver freshly cooked meals to anyone in the village. They are also baking bread daily, which is for sale. **01502 722112**
- **Sue Flack** has a selection of home-cooked meals that she can deliver hot, cold or frozen. **07982 906371**

## Post Office services continue

Despite the Village Hall being closed, Post Office services will continue as usual in the Village Hall Annexe.  
**Tuesdays 1pm-3pm and Thursdays 10am-midday.**

## The Bell is closed

The Bell pub will be closing on 20 March until further notice.

## **Village Hall Closed**

The Village Hall will be closed from Monday, 23 March. All activities and pre-booked events have been cancelled. WI meetings, History Group meetings, Children's Club, RNLI meetings, bridge, keep fit, art classes, etc are all cancelled until further notice.

Note that the Post Office service will continue in the annexe.

## **Village Hall AGM cancelled**

The Village Hall AGM and Committee meeting on Tuesday 24 March has been cancelled and will be re-arranged in due course when Govt advice permits.

## **From Walberswick Parish Council**

We are taking advice from the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) about how, or if we can hold Parish Council meetings and the Annual Parish Meeting during this time of social distancing. This guidance is being developed at the national level as it obviously impacts all the thousands of smaller authorities across the nation. Please watch this space and the Village Website for updates.

## **Mobile Library suspended**

The mobile library service scheduled to visit the village on Friday, 3 April, has been suspended until further notice.

## **INK Festival cancelled**

This year's INK Festival and Tour have been cancelled.

## **Church Services cancelled**

Church services have been cancelled until further notice. This includes all Sunday and midweek services.

Simon will meet parishioners to pray every Wednesday morning at 0930.

Printed orders of service will be delivered to team churches for use in church or to take home.

The APCM on 26 April will not now take place.

St Edmundsbury Cathedral livestream times: Mon-Fri Evensong/Evening Prayer 5.30. Sat & Sun 3.30 also Sunday at 10am.

## **Walberswick Ferry still operating**

At the moment, the ferry continues to operate as usual. Passengers are being asked to bring the correct money for their fares to avoid ferry staff from handling too much change. People queueing will be kept at a safe distance from each other. The motor boat might be used instead of the row boat as it has more space.

Current operating times:

- 28 & 29 March: 10am-5pm
- 14 April until 19 April: daily 10am-5pm
- 19 April until 23 May: weekends only 10am-5pm

## **Buses cancelled**

The bus services to Halesworth, Norwich and Lowestoft have been cancelled until further notice.

**During the Coronavirus crisis, the Village News will bring you updates on what is happening in the village, as well as information that you might find useful at this difficult time. This mini version of the newsletter does not replace the normal Village News, which should be delivered as normal.**

Some of our London families have arrived a week early for the Easter break. They very much want to reassure residents that they understand our concerns about families coming here from London at this time. They are taking these concerns very seriously and will follow the best official advice on what to do.

Each family is planning to be self-contained for at least a week and has brought sufficient provisions along for that period. If anyone develops symptoms, they will self-isolate for a further two weeks. If they run out of basic supplies or need medicines, a system of door-step delivery has been put in place.

The families will not be frequenting the local shops and pubs during the first week, but you may see them walking on the beach or the Common.

The families wish everyone well and hope this reassures you in these difficult and uncertain times.

## Plant Sale

My idea for a plant sale, as outlined in the last Village News, in the form I intended seems unlikely now I'm afraid. An alternative might be for me to have a 'Swap' or 'Free to a Good Home' stand outside my house in Millfield Road. I will keep you posted. **Diana Wright**  
[dianawright26@btinternet.com](mailto:dianawright26@btinternet.com)

## Sign up for an electronic version of the Village News

We have been warned by our printer that they may have to shut and we may not be able to deliver printed copies of the Village News to you. This is the worst case scenario. If we cannot find a printer open for business, we may resort to asking villagers to help print off copies on their home printers

In the meantime, we would urge you sign up to receive a copy by email. You can do this via the **Village Website**. Go to the **Local Information** page and scroll down to the bit near the bottom on the Village News. Alternatively, email the editor at  
[walberswicknews@gmail.com](mailto:walberswicknews@gmail.com)

## Quick quiz

1. Who famously appeared in more than 30 Alfred Hitchcock Films?
2. Who was the mother of Elizabeth I's successor, James I?
3. Which British singer was born Farrokh Bulsara in Tanzania in 1946?
4. King Zog was king of which Balkan nation from 1928-1939?
5. Who is the only politician to have held all four of the Great Offices of State (Prime Minister, Chancellor, Foreign Secretary and Home Secretary)?

Answers at the bottom of the page.

## Check the Village Website for updates

Please remember that the most up-to-date news will always be found on the **Village Website**.

**Quick quiz answers**  
1. Alfred Hitchcock  
2. Mary, Queen of Scots  
3. Freddie Mercury  
4. Albania  
5. James Callaghan

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

[WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK](http://WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK)