



Walberswick Village News

15 May 2020 | Issue 282

Vera Smith 1917-2020

Vera died on 30 April at her nursing home, gently and without pain. She was 102. There will be a small family cremation. Obituary to follow.

Horticultural Show cancelled

The Horticultural Committee has, unfortunately, decided that, the show this year will be cancelled due to the Coronavirus. We feel it will be too soon for an event where social distancing will be impossible.

We are all disappointed to make this announcement, especially since we have all had more time to spend growing and baking things. We will keep the same schedule for next year, so that gives us all a whole year of practice.

In lieu of the show, we will have a virtual exhibition. So if you have grown or baked something you are extremely chuffed with, please do send a photo of it to walberswickhortshow@gmail.com. Include your name and a brief description or comment. Kay has kindly agreed to post them on the village website in a photo gallery for the Horticultural Show. This year we will all be winners! Keep growing and baking.

Betsy Lemmon

To All In Our Lovely Village

Many in the village helped commemorate VE day in a socially distanced way. Mark 'broached' a barrel of beer, both young and older bakers delivered goodies to The Anchor, where we raised an amazing £800 for NHS Charities. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon and everyone behaved impeccably. Thank you all so much.

Sophie at The Anchor

Local Heroes

Without them, life in lockdown would be a lot less interesting. **The Anchor**, with Sophie in the galley, you are our latest local hero. Tasty and interesting takeaway meals, fish and chips, pizza, donuts, soup, bread straight out the oven, and much more, has made cooking meals less tedious for some and provided variety for many. Sophie and all at The Anchor, thank you. You are all local heroes.

A Special Walberswick

ThankYOU



We can be heroes everyday

The Anchor

You have joined the Tuck Shop, the Black Dog Deli and Little Gems as one of our local heroes

Green bin collections to restart & recycling centres to reopen



Green bin collections in our area will recommence on Monday, 25 May. That means the first green bin collection for Walberswick will be on **Monday, 1 June**.

Suffolk's recycling centres have reopened, but you will need to book a slot. For full details, go to tinyurl.com/ycmf9xt9 or the Suffolk County Council website. **Editor**

Message from Carol

Thank you to everyone for your many kindnesses during my recent illness. I have received dozens of lovely messages and cards, gorgeous flowers, and enough tasty morsels to keep our fridge full to overflowing. I am now well on the road to recovery and enjoying cooking and gardening again. John and I are looking forward to the time when we can get out and about a bit more so that we can thank you all in person. **Carol Wardell**



If you need help during the pandemic

If you need assistance with daily tasks food collections, or would just like to hear a friendly voice on the phone, the **Walberswick Community Support Group** has discreet volunteers on standby. Contact Liz Wagstaff Green on 01502 724889 or email liz.green@mac.com.

If you need charitable assistance or help with banking, the **Walberswick Common Lands Charity's** Covid-19 team is available. Contact Hannah Sutton at hannahsutton2013@hotmail.com or James Darkins on 01502 722110.

The next edition of the Village News will be published on Monday, 1 June 2020. The copy deadline is Friday, 29 May 2020 and submissions should be sent to the editor at walberswicknews@gmail.com

Walberswick's birds

Sadly, the Bird Song Walk had to be cancelled and The Hide has had to be closed. However, to maintain my exercise routine, I did the International Bird Song Walk on Sunday 3 May, covering the local area, and have been doing various walks during lockdown. I have kept a spreadsheet (as you do.....) from 29 March and this report covers all walks in and around the village – Bird Song Walk Route, Marsh, Shore, Common, Gardens and The Hide.

I do check The Hide on a regular basis noting the various common Geese and Corvids and have seen good numbers of Curlew, together with at least three Whimbrels, plus the ever-present female Marsh Harrier with orange wing tags, though I still haven't managed to record the tag number.

The Marsh is home to at least five Bitterns (one even photographed standing on the edge of the reeds) and varying numbers of birds giving excellent fly-pasts on Thursday and Friday 7 and 8 May – very scarce and special sightings. There are eight (or more) Marsh Harriers together with Common Buzzards, a Red Kite and a Western Osprey (both seen on two separate occasions). A very special Short Eared Owl has also been seen twice.

The reeds have Reed Buntings (more than I've seen in a while), Stonechats, Sedge and Reed Warblers, beautiful Bearded Tits and a Grasshopper Warbler has been heard. Incidentally, the heady scent of the gorse has been so wonderful, I wish I could bottle it up and take it home.

The shore pools have varying numbers of Avocets, Bar Tailed Godwits, Sanderlings, Ringed Plovers, Dunlin, Oystercatchers, Common Sandpipers, Grey Herons, Snipes, Little Egrets and one Great Egret (over the Dingles), together with varying and bachelor parties of gulls.

The Common continues to have Dartford Warblers, Mistle Thrushes, Linnets, and a lovely Woodlark - very interesting to compare them with the Skylarks.

The garden feeders have Goldfinches, Chaffinches, Robins, Greenfinches, Hedge Sparrows (Dunnocks) Wrens, Long-tailed, Great and Blue Tits. The ubiquitous



Reed Bunting photographed by Viv Hunt in the marshes on 9 May 2020

Chiffchaffs, Willow Warblers, Whitethroats (good numbers this year), Swallows, House and Sand Martins, Yellowhammers and Blackcaps are seen all throughout the village and Nightingales are present in many of the usual places. It is also particularly good to note that Cettis Warblers, with their explosive song, are back in good numbers. I first heard the Cuckoo on 3 May and it has been very vocal since. The Swifts are here and at least three to four Hobbies were seen on one day.

On a walk towards Dunwich, I recorded a Hooded Crow which is an unusual bird for the county of Suffolk, and two Wheatears. My 'Bird Guides' tells me that Common Cranes have been seen over the village but sadly not by me and despite searching virtually daily. I have only managed to see a Ring Ouzel on 27 April (thank you Mandy) even though they are apparently plentiful all round us – Southwold, Leiston, Aldringham etc.

Peacock butterflies abound and I have also seen Brimstone, Red Admiral, Orange Tip, Comma and Little Tortoiseshell – I am sure there are lots of others, but these are the only ones I have been able to identify. Adders have also been seen enjoying the April sunshine.

Pat Lancaster



Village Car Parks reopened

In line with Government's new guidance on the phased reopening of our economy, the Car Parks in Walberswick reopened on 13 May. This is aligned with the ability of people to travel to parks and beaches to take advantage of the outdoors, whilst maintaining social distancing rules. Because every penny of the car parks' operating profit goes to support the good works of the Walberswick Common Lands Charity, it has been difficult for us to have lost the revenue that we would have expected from this year's amazing spring weather.

With households now encouraged to enjoy the coasts, we expect an uptick in people using the car parks, although we do not anticipate the numbers to be anywhere near normal since the pubs, shops, and holiday lets all must remain closed. We will not be staffing the car parks as of now, but will collect parking fees through the pay and display machines. We have posted signs to encourage people to take their rubbish home with them as we expect more picnicking with the shops and pubs closed.

Village residents who use the car parks, of course, can still do so for free and should display their 2020 resident permits. **Josie Bassinette, for the Directors of the Walberswick Car Parks Limited**

Planning applications

At the time of going to print, the following properties were still awaiting a decision on their planning applications:

- Saltlick, Leveretts Lane
- Parish Lantern, The Green
- Commonsides, Palmers Lane

For the latest applications and full details on the above, go to the Planning page on the [Village Website](#). For the Planning Advisory Group reports, go to tinyurl.com/tdbvulf

Remembering VE Day 1945

I cannot describe the euphoria that overcame me on that day when 'Peace in Europe' was declared. This first thing that struck me was the lifting of the blackout. Streetlights lit up. People could fling back their curtains and let the light stream out, and they did. We were still finding our way around with a small torch with a layer of tissue paper over the bulb, to lessen the glow.

I was in the WRNS and, on that night with some of my friends, we made our way to outside Buckingham Palace, where we cheered and cheered, especially when the King, Queen, Princesses and Churchill came out onto the balcony. Huge crowds, many in uniform, all so joyous, dancing and cheering.

The throng carried us along, down the Mall, to Trafalgar Square and Whitehall. Churchill came out onto the balcony of one of the buildings and made the famous speech "This is Your Victory". There must have been tannoys erected, as his words echoed everywhere and the cheering went on, drowning anything else he might have added.

At some stage we reached Piccadilly Circus and gazed at the lights and advertisements. Among them I remember Johnny Walker with lights making him walk along. Now we might think 'how tawdry' but nothing like this had we seen for five or six years.

It was a wonderful feeling to realise that no longer would we hear of ships being sunk (no survivors was the norm), of aircraft that never returned, or of the high casualty rate of fighting in Europe (Japan was yet to surrender).



And on the home front, the blitz, the bombing of towns and cities, doodle bugs, the threat of 'A' bombs or other deadly missiles that the Nazis might send over, they were not going to happen anymore, and our lives would be safe.

Of course, there was the realisation that war was still being waged in the Far East. Many men, women and children's lives had been cut short. I had lost three of my childhood friends; two drowned at sea, one a prisoner of the Japanese. My brother had survived and was in the Middle East and thankfully would be returning to England sometime soon.

But any gloomy thoughts were banished. This day was one of rejoicing and jubilation. **Mary Nuttall**

Walberswick in 1841

The first comprehensive census of the village was taken on the night of 6 June 1841. The Walberswick population of 314 was not so different from today but some of the statistics are striking. Only five people were aged over seventy and nearly half of the population was under sixteen. There were 172 females and 142 males. Less than a third of the population was classified as having an occupation. The work undertaken by women and children in the home and on a casual basis outside was not recorded on the census form.

Thirty-five of the men were agricultural labourers and there were six farmers. Also working on the land were two shepherds, two lime burners and one gamekeeper. On the water, five men were fishermen and there were five mariners. **Edward Wright**

Back to the 1950s ?

How quiet has Walberswick been during lockdown? For the 'anoraks' amongst you, data is captured in two ways; the people counter on the Bailey Bridge footpath by the Ferry Hut and the 'smiley-face' Speed Indicating Device (SID).

Over the first 46 days of lock-down 3,854 people used the Bailey Bridge footpath, 83 per day. This compares to an average over the same period in 2018/19 of 15,945, or 346 people per day. A reduction of 12,091, or 76%.

What about traffic? Comparing SID data over the same 24 day period in 2019 and 2020 shows that inbound traffic has dropped by 73% from 20,467 to 5,473 vehicles. Or 852 vehicles per day down to 228. As far as speeding is concerned, there's been no change, 60% of motorists are still over 20mph as they first come into the village, doing on average 26mph.

In summary, the village is about three-quarters quieter for this time of the year. However before you speculate on what Walberswick must have been like in the 1950s, here's an extract from the Charity's 1953 minutes: '*131 cars were parked from the Anchor to the beach, there being 33 on the Green*'. After much discussion over many years, this led to car parks being created similar to today's, then operated on a profit share by the British Legion. **James Darkins**

Quiz

1. What colour is a polar bear's skin?
2. Which five EU countries' flags have three vertical stripes?
3. What is the collective noun for Emus?
(a) gang (b) mob (c) rabble (d) delinquency
4. What colour is caffeine?
5. Who was the second person to walk on the moon?

Parking not a problem on The Green on 31 January 1953

Photo courtesy of the Local History Group



VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK

Church Matters

St Andrew's Church Walberswick

Team Rector

Rev Canon Simon Pitcher
01502 725424 revsimon63@gmail.com

Ordained Local Minister

Rev Brian Fisher 01502 723023

Church Warden

John Simpson 01502 723384
johnsimpson1109@gmail.com

The Church is closed until further notice and there will be no weddings, baptisms or funerals inside the Church until further notice.

If there is an emergency, or if you need to speak to someone, please contact one of the above.

Zoom church services are held every Sunday at 8.00am and 9.30am. Access codes change each week, so if you wish to join in, please contact either Simon Pitcher at revsimon63@gmail.com or Alan Perry at adperry64@gmail.com for details.

Evensong chorister Katie Urry

Evensong chorister, Katie Urry, will be celebrating her 80th birthday on Sunday, 24 May. She has sung with us for twenty years and has rarely missed an Evensong, and never missed The Carol Service. Her regular place in the choir stalls is on the front row, nearest the congregation, where she replaced Pru Ford-Crush after Pru left the village.

Katie, who recently lost her beloved husband David, lives in Reydon. I hope she will cycle over to Walberswick to celebrate her birthday, keeping the correct social distancing of course! **Julia Josephs**

Quiz Answers

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Black | 3. (b) mob |
| 2. France, Italy, Belgium, Ireland and Romania | 4. White |
| | 5. Buzz Aldrin |

Update on the Walberswick Wadd

No one seems to know the origin of the Walberswick Wadd, the recipe that appeared in the last edition of the Village News. However, Jen Cardwell suspects it is a variation of the Southwold Crunch, which used dried mixed fruit and nuts instead of sultanas, grated carrot and grated apple. The Southwold Crunch was named by the owner of Nutters, the now-closed deli in Southwold. Her husband saw the recipe on Blue Peter and suggested she make it to sell in the shop. It was extremely popular and apparently sold like the proverbial hot cake. **Editor**

Jigsaw conundrum

Do you enjoy jigsaws? Do you find that the box lid keeps falling on the floor or flopping over? I have fashioned a 'stand' to hold the lid – just let me know if you want one. Donations to Sole Bay Health Centre. Contact me on 01502 724268 or at patlancaster@btinternet.com. **Pat Lancaster**



Quick & easy lockdown recipe - Pimble

Another delicious recipe from **Suzzie Godfrey** using ingredients that are easy to find.

A pie base with a crumble topping. Using the left over jar of mincemeat and those apples abandoned at the bottom of the fruit bowl. The crumble topping can use up the few oats or granola along with any flour. Use up what you've got in the larder.

Ingredients

1/2 packet of puff pastry
Jar of mincemeat

Couple of apples, eating or cooker

Demerara sugar

Flour/oats/granola

1. roll out pastry to line the bottom of a pie dish
2. peel and cube the apples and mix with jar of mincemeat
3. make a crumble mixture with the butter, sugar and flour, and sprinkle on top
4. bake at 200°C or 180°C fan for about 20 minutes or until golden brown.

