



Walberswick Village News

August 2020 | Issue 285

Working together to address anti-social behaviour

The easing of lockdown brought relief as families and friends reunited and life began to feel more 'normal'. At the same time, Walberswick has suffered from a spate of anti-social behaviour including wide-scale littering, burning the beach grass and fences, illegal camping, and the like. The only 'comfort' we can take is knowing that we are not alone. Having reached out to Walberswick's neighbouring towns and villages, we have learnt that we are all wrestling with similar issues. At the village level, we lack the power to address the causes of what has become a nationwide problem caused by a small minority of people. Nevertheless, the Walberswick Car Parks, the Charity and the Parish Council are working together with many people in the village to do what we can to improve our situation.

At the car parks, with the Covid restrictions lifted, there is now full summer staffing. This has helped provide a positive presence during working hours and the wonderful team there works every morning to clean up the **litter** left from the night before. Private rubbish and recycling collection at Ferry Road has been added to that of East Suffolk Council and this has allowed us to have collection up to 4 times a week. While the village has long benefitted from a few special people who have picked litter off the beach and roadway for years, new volunteers including adults, students and children have also been organised by the Community Support Group, with support from the Charity, to collect litter from the beach and dunes over the summer. They would be happy to have additional volunteers and continue into the colder months. While it is still very challenging, the situation is improving. We hope that with pubs and restaurants open, there will be less picnicking and drinking on the beach and therefore less opportunity for people to leave rubbish behind.

For visitors with camper vans, they are being reminded that **overnight stays** in the car parks are not allowed. With campgrounds in our area and across the country now open, hopefully there is less reason for people to flout the rules. Signs are also going up in the carparks to let people know that there are public loos behind the Village Hall.

The Charity has a new project to **regenerate marram grass** and thereby protect the dunes. An area of the dunes has been fenced off as a trial to reduce trampling

by visitors, with replanting being investigated for the Spring. When the lockdown was first relaxed, some ill-meaning people removed parts of the fence and burnt it. This has been replaced and temporary signs explaining the purpose of protecting the grasses have been added. Permanent signs are being designed to explain to visitors why this fragile environment needs protection. The Car Parks will soon have new banners to encourage kind behaviour towards our beaches.

In terms of **illegal parking** in the village, East Suffolk Council has now taken over responsibility for civil enforcement and is sending parking patrols into Walberswick on a fairly regular basis. They have been issuing parking fines here that should serve as a deterrent. But everyone can help – ESC Parking is encouraging the public to make use of their dedicated online tool where illegal parking can be reported my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/parking_contravention

Finally, Suffolk police has confirmed to the Council that the best course of action if you witness **criminal behaviour**, is to report this directly to them either through 101, 999 (if its urgent and ongoing) or through their dedicated form on their website.

Unfortunately, there are no fool proof solutions but hopefully the village organisations, working together with all our residents and visitors, can help protect and preserve our special and beautiful environment

Josie Bassinette, Parish Council Chairman

Highway code & social distancing for pedestrians

Due to the lack of pavements in the village, it is essential both for road safety and social distancing that pedestrians keep to the right-hand side of the road, facing the traffic. Please politely remind visitors and strays. **Editor**



THE ANCHOR

A huge thank you to everyone for your support during lockdown

Table reservations are now available inside and on the back terrace, subject to social distancing restrictions

Takeaway wood-fired pizza and fish & chips available
Thursday to Sunday 12 noon - 7pm

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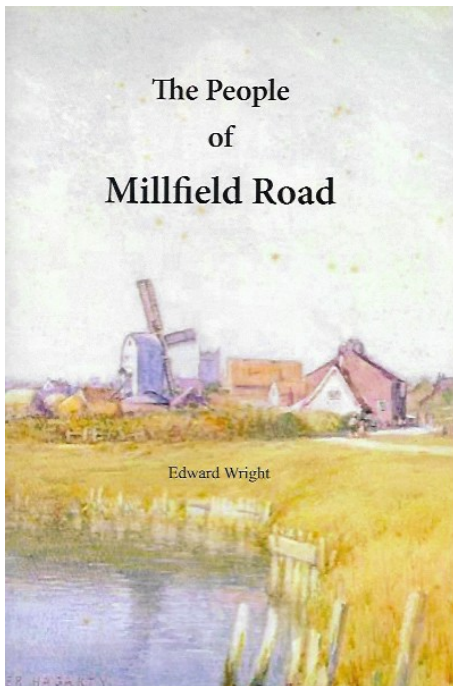
August is usually fête month

Kay Ungless' fascinating article, which appears in the History Group's recent [newsletter](#) and which highlights the signs and posters illustrated in the Walberswick Scroll, the watercolour study of every house in the village painted in 1931/32 by John Doman Turner, reminds one that this year we will be missing the fun and excitement of the village fête due to the pandemic. While there is little in the village archives on the history of the fête, it seems fête day has always been lively, as Kay uncovers from deciphering the various posters:

"There is going to be a Fête on August Bank Holiday (31st August 1931) in aid of the Church Restoration Fund and quite a few notices remind residents. It is remarkable that Walberswick is still keeping up this tradition, yet in 1931 it wasn't held on The Green as it is today. It was held in The Stackyard field. It is the poster at the station, copied in meticulous detail by the artist, which gives us a clue "Westons adjoins the Fete Ground" and next to the Tower House we find "Entrance to Stackyard Field". We are told there will be numerous amusements, versions of which we would recognise, prizes, the Wrentham Town Band, children's sports and a tennis tournament at Westons. Westons will also give concerts with well-known London Artistes and the whole day will finish with a grand carnival dance in the Gannon Reading Room."

Extract from: K. Ungless, The Wettest Summer for 100 Years, *Walberswick Local History Group Newsletter*, no. 60, July 2020, pp. 2-5.

Editor



The People of Millfield Road

This is a book about the people who built and lived in Millfield Road, Walberswick in the first half of the 20th Century.

At Threeways for example, Cecilia Morgan described herself as married but was single, the father of her son Henry having married another woman soon after the boy was born. The writer George Orwell was Henry's tutor. After the Second World War, the arrival of Iris Birtwhistle and her chicken shed art gallery caused trouble because she encouraged her visitors to park in her neighbours' drives. Iris is reputed to have sold early David Hockney drawings for £5 each. Each of the early houses has a story to tell.

The illustrated book is seventy-six pages long and all proceeds will go to Sole Bay Care Fund. If you would like one, please send a cheque for £10 payable to Sole Bay Care Fund (or a ten pound note) and your address to: **Edward Wright**, Millcroft, Millfield Road, Walberswick IP18 6UD. Email at ewright123@btinternet.com

Planning applications

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

- Seaspray, Millfield Road
- Commonsides, Palmers Lane
- 1 Valley Farm, Ferry Road
- Westwood, Lodge Road
- Brisbane House, Ferry Road
- Saltlick, Leveretts Lane
- Parish Lantern, The Green

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/planning-pag

The **VIRTUAL THEATRE ON THE COAST**
comes to **YOU!**
Summer Theatre from Southwold is **ONLINE** in 2020
6 shows, over 4 weekends from AUGUST 22-SEPT 12
Walberswickians featured include composer, **Denis King**
(with Robert Powell), a new play by **Jan Etherington & Gavin Petrie**, **Astrid King's 'Peg Lynch Players'**
and highlights from the **INK Festival**.
Just one payment of **£44** for the season!
Details and booking on **totc.co.uk**.
Queries: **01502 722572**

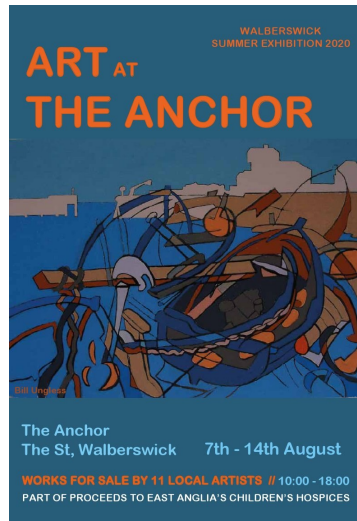
Nine Walberswick artists exhibiting at The Anchor

Continuing the long relationship between Walberswick and its painters, 11 local artists are exhibiting their work at The Anchor from 7-14 August, 10am - 6pm. All but two of them live in the village and have a strong connection with the area, some going back to the 1960s.

Like others before them, they are constantly inspired by the haunting atmosphere, created by light and water which surrounds them.

Part of the proceeds will be donated to the East Anglia's Children's Hospices.

Jackie Almond



Other Parish Council news

Playgrounds update

The playgrounds on the Green and on the Common have reopened in line with the lifting of government restrictions. On the Green, one of the swings has been removed since it was no longer safe due to corrosion. The Council, with generous financial support from our District Councillor, David Beavan, has ordered a new swing set. Due to Covid-19 delays at the manufacturer, replacement will take place in September/October.

Approval of accounts and reports

The Council continues to meet using Zoom. At its meeting on 13 July, the Council approved its internal audit report, financial accounts and the Annual Governance and Audit Report (AGAR) for 2018/19. All Notices of Meetings and documents are publicly available, as usual, on the [Village website](#).

No cycling signs for the estuary footpath

'No Cycling' discs have now been added by Suffolk Highways to the signposts at the Bailey Bridge and ferry ends of the public footpath that runs parallel to the estuary.

Overgrown footpaths

The Council is aware that many of the footpaths around the village are very overgrown. We have alerted the responsible team at Suffolk Highways and are awaiting confirmation of when they will clear the undergrowth.

Next meeting

The next remote meeting of the WPC will be held on Monday, 14 September at 7.15pm. Details of the agenda and remote participation can be found on the Walberswick Village website. For any other information please contact the Parish Clerk at walberswickclerk@gmail.com

Parish Clerk

To report:

Illegal parking: Take a photo and report online at my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/parking_contravention

Criminal and anti-social behaviour: phone 101, 999 if it is urgent and ongoing, or report [online](#) to Suffolk Police

Life at risk at sea (RNLI): phone 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

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

August 2020 Services

Sunday, 2 August - 11.15am

8th Sunday after Trinity
Holy Communion

Sunday, 16 August - 11.15am

10th Sunday after Trinity
Holy Communion

Every Wednesday - 10.00am

Eucharist

Zoom Services

Every Sunday - 11.15am

Holy Communion

Sunday, 16 August - 11.15am

Blessing of Animals

Zoom 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, or check the Sole Bay Churches website solebayteamministry.co.uk

Horticultural Show 2020

Don't forget to have a look at the [online gallery](#) on the village website. Just follow the link from the home page. **Editor**

Community Services

Mobile Library: Friday, 21 August, 2.15pm - 2.45pm,
Outside the Village Hall

Post Office: Open on Thursdays, 10am-12 noon. There will be no opening on Tuesdays. Village Hall Annex

Norwich, Halesworth and Lowestoft buses: As there is currently no demand for these services, they will remain suspended until further notice.

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 September 2020. The copy deadline is 25 August 2020 and submissions should be sent to the editor at walberswicknews@gmail.com

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