



Walberswick Village News

November 2020 | Issue 288

Farewell to Walberswick

It is with a heavy heart that we announce that we are leaving the village after 26 happy and fulfilling years to make a new life at Holt in North Norfolk.

It took a lot of soul searching to come to the decision that we must now seek a small town environment with support facilities to suit our later life.

We wish to thank our friends and all those that have supported us and our work in fundraising for the NSPCC over the years as we recall many happy and successful events. Also, we are sad to have to leave our service to the Church, but feel heartened that our short tenure, in its 500 year history, leaves it in good shape to face the future. Our love and best wishes to you all.

John & Cathryn Simpson

Thank you Cathryn

The Village News Committee would like to express their thanks to Cathryn Simpson for delivering the *Village News* to those on her route. She has been a dedicated distributor for many years and has contributed greatly to the life of the village in so many ways.

We wish both Cathryn and John every happiness in this new chapter of their lives. **Edward Wright, on behalf of the Village News Committee.**

Jon & Lee complete cycle ride in aid of the Heritage Hut and Prostate Cancer UK

Congratulations to Jon Winyard and Lee Sutton for completing their wet and windy 500-mile bike ride from the most easterly point in England, Lowestoft Ness, to the most westerly point, Lands End. There is still time to donate to their charities - Jon's for the Heritage Hut at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jon-winyard and Lee's for

Prostate Cancer UK at

uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LeeSutton8. **Editor**



Back in the day – Jimmy & Joan Johnson

Thank you everyone who gave me more insight into this interesting family who lived in the village. I was fortunate to receive an address for their son, George, but sadly my letter to him was returned marked "not at this address". I shall put a more informative piece in the next History Group Newsletter with pictures. My thanks to you all for your help and I shall hold on to the box of photographs for the time being. **Pat Lancaster**

Polly's debut novel now available



Back in May, we heard from Polly Crosby's parents, Kate and Toby Robinson who live in the village. Due to the pandemic, the launch of Polly's debut novel, set in Suffolk, had been delayed. But it is all now happening for Polly, who grew up in Walberswick. *The Illustrated Child* is available from 29 October and Polly is involved in an online

launch, TV and other interviews, and the reviews in various print and online publications are stacking up. You'll find a special window display and plenty of signed copies of the book at the bookshop in Southwold. **Editor**

Cancer Research mini fete cancelled

Unfortunately, the Cancer Research mini fete has been cancelled this year due to Covid-19. However, I do have the Cancer Research Christmas cards for sale. If you would like to see the selection, I would be happy to bring them around to you, or you can come to me if that works better for you.

Walberswick has always been terrifically supportive of this cause. In lieu of attending the event, if you would like to make a donation, we would be most grateful. Cheques should be made out to Cancer Research UK. Thanks for your support and see you next year!

Betsy Lemmon 01502 722384

Walberswick Community Support Group

Now that autumn and winter are upon us, just to advise that the support group is still operating should anyone in the village need assistance or a friendly voice at the end of the phone. Our local volunteers are available at any time. Contact **Elizabeth Wagstaff Green** who will coordinate: Tel: (home) 01502 724889 or (mobile) 07710 031503 email: liz.green@mac.com.

The Anchor

Table reservations now available indoors

Wrap up well as the doors and windows are open for improved ventilation

Lunch midday - 3pm, slightly restricted menu 3.30pm - 5.30pm, dinner 5.45pm to last orders at 9pm

Wood-fired pizzas Friday to Sunday midday to 7pm

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Parish Council News

Speeding in the village

For all those fed up with speeding in the village, now is your chance to make a difference. Following a successful walk about with Halesworth Police, the Parish Council has decided to launch a Community Speed Watch for the Village. These programmes, along with Speed Indicator Displays, have proved to be good deterrents to speeding in many villages and towns in our area.

This programme trains local volunteers to use a police-style radar gun in designated areas to clock speeding cars and report them to the local police. The police have identified five potential locations in the village where the Speed Watch volunteers can be safely deployed and will be in position to catch speeders either entering or leaving the village. All volunteers will be given high visibility vests as well as training in the use of the radar gun and road safety. Volunteers normally work in teams of two to three. In order to implement this programme, we need at least six villagers to volunteer, including one that is willing to be the lead coordinator.

If we don't get volunteers, then the scheme CANNOT operate so we hope that people will be willing to step forward and put in a relatively small time commitment for a large safety impact. Anyone interested should please email the Parish Clerk and/or Parish Council Chairman at walberswickclerk@gmail.com

Tenders invited for work on the Village Green

Following concerns raised by villagers with regard to increasing numbers of holes on the Green and an inspection by the safety committee of Walberswick Parish Council, the matter was discussed at the most recent Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to invite tenders from any interested party for the provision of topsoil, filling the holes and re-seeding of all parts of the Green as required to bring it back to a good standard. There are also some holes on the playing field requiring attention and that should also form part of the same tender. After the initial work it was envisaged that the successful tender would also involve a regular re-inspection of both the Green and the Playing Field with remedial works proposed to the Council as required. Anyone interested in doing such work should contact the Walberswick Parish Clerk at walberswickclerk@gmail.com

Next Parish Council meeting

The next remote meeting of the Walberswick Parish Council will be held on Monday, 9 November 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

Planning applications

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

- Westons, The Street
- Commonside, Palmers Lane
- Saltlick, Leveretts Lane
- Longwood, Church Field

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

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE
WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK

Safe Space – Second SID

Thank you to everyone who responded to the survey on a second Speed Indicator Device (SID) in last month's Village News. Eighty-six responses were received, of which 90% were in favour of a second SID. We are pleased to report that the Walberswick Common Lands Charity has very kindly agreed to fund the SID and it is now on order. Thank you also to those people who provided additional feedback and ideas on traffic in the Village. It will be added to the team's overall review. **Safe Space Team**

Donations needed for Lowestoft Food Bank

Thank you everyone who has kindly donated food to the food bank basket in our village Co-op. You have given just over 300kg of food items in the past year, which has fed about 15 families. We still need your support especially in these difficult times.

Right now we are really short on tinned fruit, tinned custard, tinned rice pudding and sponge puddings. These are all basic items that go into each food box.

Suzzie Godfrey

Birding news – Walberswick and surrounding areas

On Monday, 28 September 2020, the first big news of the Autumn was the sighting of an adult Black-Browed Albatross that flew south down our coastline. The bird was tracked from Lowestoft at 15.47hrs, Southwold, Sizewell and Thorpeness. Although I was alerted by 'Bird Guides' within minutes of the sighting, by the time I got to Walberswick beach, it had passed us by. It would have been quite something to see.

I did have some consolation bird sightings since I last reported to you. I had two very lovely Lapland Buntings on the beach on 1 October and another one on 4 October. I ventured across the estuary (in the pouring rain) and saw the Radde's Warbler which spent some time at the SE corner of the campsite in Southwold. Firecrests were in evidence there at the same time. I also went to Benacre and saw the Steppe Grey Shrike – a lovely bird to see albeit, again, in the pouring rain. I was pleased to see Swallows up to and including 21 October. One lucky birder reported a Pallid Swift over Walberswick on 8 October – not me.

Since writing the above, another "mega" bird arrived. This time in Stiffkey – a Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin (or Rufous Bush Chat). Even though it was in Norfolk, I had to go and see it, of course. An excellent bird which normally breeds around the Mediterranean east to Pakistan and it would have been heading for a more tropical climate but went the wrong way. I believe this species was last seen in the UK in Devon in 1980. **Pat Lancaster**

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Message from Simon

The restoration of the Church porch finally began on 9 October when the scaffolding was erected. The PCC has been preparing the scheme for a number of years, raising the necessary £80k to facilitate stonework, plaster work, drainage and decoration repairs. We are very grateful for grant support that has been received from the Walberswick Common Lands Charity, the Wolfson Foundation, the All Churches Trust, and the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, as well as to Stephanie and John Anderson, who have worked hard to bring the project to this point.

The architect for the scheme is Nick Jacob of Ipswich and the contractors are R & J Hogg of Bury St Edmunds, who are specialists in historic building repairs. The work is expected to last until early December 2020. For safety reasons, the church will be closed to visitors until the project is complete. Acts of public worship at 10.00am on Wednesdays and 11.15am on Sundays will be possible, but access to the church will be via the door into the choir vestry, located within the ruins.

We welcomed 45 people to celebrate our harvest festival, this being the maximum we can safely accommodate under current restrictions. At present, the rules do not permit congregational singing in acts of public worship, so we were delighted to welcome, for the first time since March, six members of the Evensong Choir socially distanced, who are allowed to sing on behalf of the congregation. The choir were accompanied by the Flack family on trumpet and trombone and Julia Josephs on the organ. We hope to celebrate Christmas in a similar way.

Following the service, the annual parochial church meeting was held, delayed from last March. Churchwarden, John Simpson, announced his resignation as he and Cathryn are shortly to move home and will be living in Norfolk, in Holt. John has contributed so much to St Andrew's, supporting, encouraging and working hard in so many ways. He will be greatly missed, but departs with our thanks and best wishes. At the meeting the church officers were all re-elected. We were pleased to welcome new PCC members, Inger Edwards and Joanna Saunders. **Rev Canon Simon Pitcher**

Service of Remembrance - 8 November Prebooking required



This year at Blythburgh, we have to be careful about numbers and social distancing, so to avoid disappointment we need you to book in advance. If you'd like to attend please contact Jenny Allen by email at jennyanddick@aol.com or text 07710 254665. She will need to know the name and contact details of all parties. The booking deadline is 5pm on Saturday, 7 November. The service will be led by Malcolm Doney, our evensong choir, and brass players John & Nigel Flack. Please be in your seats, wearing face coverings, by 10.50am. **Julia Josephs**

Churches Cycle Ride

Thank you everyone who took part in the churches cycle ride and made this a most successful year. We had 14 cyclists who visited 125 churches in total, a phenomenal achievement. And thank you everyone who generously sponsored them. **Suzzie Godfrey**

URGENT APPEAL: Operation Christmas Child

As in recent years, St Andrew's is involved in the Operation Christmas Child appeal organised by Samaritan's Purse (an international Christian relief organisation), whereby shoe boxes containing small gifts are sent to needy children around the world, regardless of their background or religious belief. If you are interested in taking part in this venture, which has in the past brought great joy to recipients and those creating the gifts, please contact **Christine or Brian Fisher** on the numbers below. Ready printed boxes & leaflets about the project are available in St Andrew's (when open for services) or from Christine and Brian. Please ring first on 01502 723023 or 07876 453965. **Please could the boxes be returned to St Andrew's or to Christine by Sunday, 8 November.**

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

November 2020 Services

Sunday, 1 November, 11.15am
All Saints Day - Holy Communion

Sunday, 8 November, 10.50am
Remembrance Sunday at Blythburgh

Sunday, 15 November 11.15am
2nd Sunday before Advent
Holy Communion

Every Wednesday, 10.00am
Eucharist

Zoom Services

Every Sunday, 11.15am
Holy Communion

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

Online Alpha course

An opportunity to explore the basics of the Christian faith from the comfort of your own home. The Alpha course is a widely respected and trusted introduction to the Christian faith. It has been used around the world by many thousands of people. **Julie Winyard** would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in joining her via Zoom on Thursday, 14 January 2021 for 12 weeks, 7.30m-8.30m. Contact Julie at juliewin@btopenworld.com or on 07753 980427.

Community Services

Mobile Library: Friday,
13 November, 2.15m - 2.45m,
Outside the Village Hall

Post Office: Thursdays, 10am-
12 noon. Village Hall Annex

**Norwich, Halesworth and
Lowestoft buses:** suspended
until further notice.

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

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