



Walberswick Village News

May 2021 | Issue 294



Pamela Grace Haslegrave 1928-2021

Wayne and family would like to thank everyone for the many cards and messages of condolence received at this sad time. Your thoughtfulness and memories of Wayne's mother are very much appreciated.



*Pam ready to play for the
Walberswick Ladies
Football Team*

The *Walberswick Local History Group Newsletter*, February 2016, pp 4-5, has an interview with Pam, which was part of a project to record the life and times of long-term residents. tinyurl.com/5fjz9nrh **Editor**

World War II defences uncovered

Walkers on the beach and swimmers are reminded to be extremely careful of the dangerous World War II defences that were recently uncovered during bad weather. They lie about 100 metres south of the camp site and can disappear under the sand.

It is the first time in many decades that the defences have been revealed. The authorities have been informed. **Editor**

Photo courtesy of Jeremy Solnick

Village Fête cancelled

After much discussion, and with heavy hearts, the Fête Committee has recommended that the Fête should be cancelled again for 2021.

The government's roadmap does not guarantee a return to normality in time for the Fête. If there were any residual social distancing measures in place, or if there remained a duty of care on the village to manage Covid passports, or track and trace, then we would not have the resources to deliver a safe and compliant Fête.

The Committee is also mindful that many villagers would remain understandably concerned and fearful of large numbers of people being encouraged to come together on the Green and in the Village Hall.

The committee recognises the huge value of the Fête to Walberswick. It is a great event that brings us all together and it is really good fun. It also provides much needed funding to the Church and the Village Hall, so this decision has not been taken lightly. We have every hope that 2022 will make up for it.

Alex Godfrey, Fête Chairman



The Anchor

Thank you all for your ongoing support.
It is so very much appreciated.

Book online for lunch and dinner in our quite cold but heated marquee, and indoors when restrictions allow.

Orders for bread and takeaways by telephone only please.

info@anchoratwalberswick.com | 01502 722112
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Parish Council News

Latest on the Bailey Bridge

The Walberswick Parish Council (WPC) Chair, as delegated by the WPC, is continuing to work with Suffolk County Council (SCC), Suffolk Highways (SH) and others to do all we can to mitigate the impact of the bridge closure. The second opinion engineering report is expected at the end of April/early May. According to SH, there is some risk that this engineer may recommend immediate closure if the bridge is deemed unsafe, but we hope that this will not be the case. Local representatives continue to push for a September closure, while SH maintains that working in the summer months would be preferable.

Once the bridge is closed, mitigation will be around an expanded ferry service, including extended operating hours (early mornings to early evening), a bigger boat and more crossing points. The Ferry Operator has made significant progress by securing a larger boat, investigating additional crossing points, and assessing feasibility. An expanded service will require two crossing points. Initially, the working group looked at a second crossing further upriver, across from the Harbour Master. However, upon inspection of the proposed jetty and pontoon, it is not feasible due to unsuitable public access and a lack of space to queue on the Walberswick side. Therefore, we are now exploring the possibility of having two boats crossing at, or near to, the site of the existing ferry. The working group is also discussing the possibility of a late evening bus to transport diners and pub visitors after the ferry closes.

Assuming arrangements can be made for the expanded ferry service, the biggest issue is cost. In the view of the representatives, unless the crossing is very low cost, existing users of the Bailey Bridge will be deterred. To avoid this, SCC would need to subsidise the ferry service but this is still under consideration. The cost of a late evening bus shuttle would also have to be taken into consideration.

Finally, to deal with the likely increase in road traffic due to the closure of the bridge, as well as an increase in staycations due to Covid-19 restrictions, the WPC Chair is in discussion with, and meeting separately, SH to undertake limited emergency work to control parking and traffic gridlock using additional yellow lines on the Street. In particular, SH are expected to make use of the schematics done by the Walberswick Safe Space Team to consider proposals, on an emergency basis, to put in limited (single yellow) and no parking areas (double yellow) on the Street by the Church and on the approach to and around the Village Hall/Jubilee seat. The Council will continue to provide updates through the Village News and on the Walberswick Website.

Walberswick Annual Parish Meeting (APM)

This year the APM will be held on Thursday, 6 May, at 7.15pm, remotely via Zoom Video Conferencing. It is a legal requirement for the Parish to hold an APM before the end of May. This is proving difficult for Parish Councils as COVID-19 regulations make it impossible to have a meaningful face-to-face APM before the deadline, yet the Government has also ruled that no Parish Meetings can be held remotely after 6 May. Therefore, following a decision of Walberswick Parish Council and based on external advice, the intention of the Chair and the Clerk is to hold the APM on 6 May before the expiration of the ability to meet remotely. By doing so, the legal requirement for holding an APM can be met. It is the intention, however, to convene another Parish Meeting later in the year when COVID-19 restrictions are expected to have sufficiently eased. This will allow for an actual physical meeting, including presentations by Walberswick organisations, and can be held at the Village Hall as in previous years. Anyone interested in attending the remote meeting on Thursday, 6 May, should email andrew.wpcouncillor@gmail.com before 6pm on the day of the meeting for connection details.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Council which takes place in May each year and will be held remotely on Wednesday 5 May at 6pm. 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



In the News

Mark Dorber from The Anchor is interviewed on a possible summer closure of the Bailey Bridge.

Closing coastal footbridge will have 'devastating' impact, pub owner says. EADT, 9 April 2021

tinyurl.com/bj33hkza

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Planning applications

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

- Little Chapter, Church Field
- Creek Cottage, Hidden Lane
- Millfield House, Millfield Road (trees)
- Jove Cottage, Lodge Road
- 2 Anchor Cottages, The Street

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

Flowers and cleaning - St Andrews Church

Due to people moving away from the village, we are looking for volunteers to join our merry gang. No previous experience of either flower arranging or cleaning needed. If you want to know more about helping, please contact **Erica Donnellan** 01502 724845.

Heritage Hut caretaker wanted

The Heritage Hut has recently been refurbished to house the Walberswick Scroll, the Walberswick Local History Group archives, and other important village papers. It will be used for meetings and as an exhibition space for local artists and crafts people and will be headquarters to the Parish Council, the Walberswick Common Lands Charity, the Local History Group, and the Scroll Committee.

To ensure it is maintained in the best possible way, we are looking for a local flexible individual who can take on a caretaking role whose duties would include (but not be limited to):

- general cleaning including internal windows
- responsibility for handing over the key to hirers
- monitoring the condition of the Heritage Hut following hire
- identifying any maintenance issues or defects to equipment
- carrying out routine inspections and testing of emergency systems.

The caretaker will need to supply their own equipment and cleaning products. Expenses will be reimbursed. Ideally, the caretaker will be flexible as to when and how long they are needed. It is envisaged that this will be a minimum of one hour per week initially, but could increase during the summer months, depending on usage.

For any additional information, rate of pay, or to discuss this role further, please contact **Karen Lewis** either via email karen@webtework.com or mobile 07516 798094.

Visitor management in the Fifties

“Then as now, many visitors to Walberswick arrived by ferry. They were almost immediately subjected to a management process, as their first task on alighting was to find a way past the riverside geese, whose principal aim in life was to repel boarders at all costs. These fine birds belonged to Ernie Cross (Bob's uncle) and were the last survivors of a generations old Walberswick tradition of free-roaming geese.

Further up the village, visitor control was handled efficiently by Rastas, the Alsatian. This formidable animal belonged to Joan Midwood, who lived at Westons. A master of body language, Rastas would spend hours crouched in the middle of the street with his nose between his paws, as if preparing to pounce. Generally, he didn't care much for anything with wheels, and I remember vividly how much the sight of my bicycle could enrage him on a bad day. David Webb claims fond memories of Rastas, but all I can recall is abject terror. **Ray Easterbrook**

From the Village News Archive, Issue 2, February 1997

Community Services

Mobile Library: Friday, 28 May, 2.15-2.45pm in the Village Hall carpark

Post Office: The Post Office is open as usual on Thursdays, 10am-12 noon, Village Hall Annex

Church Matters

St Andrew's Church Walberswick

Team Rector
Rev Canon Simon Pitcher
01502 725424 revsimon63@gmail.com

May 2021 Services

Sunday, 2 May, 11.15 am - Eucharist
5th of Easter - Revd Judy Miller

Sunday, 9 May, 11.15am - Eucharist
at Blythburgh
6th of Easter - Canon Simon Pitcher

Sunday, 16 May, 11.15am - Eucharist
7th of Easter - Canon Simon Pitcher

Sunday, 23 May, 11.15am - Eucharist
Pentecost - Fr Stephen Abbott

Sunday, 30 May, 11.15am
Team Service
Trinity Sunday *at Blythburgh*
The Right Revd Bishop Martin

Every Wednesday, 10.00am
Holy Communion (said)

.....
As we return to worship in Church, the same restrictions apply before the latest lockdown (eg wearing of masks and social distancing)

.....
Annual Parochial Church meeting
Sunday, 30 May, 9.00 am
In Church - All welcome

Commemorative Flowers

7 May - Eric Bassett
14 May - John Atherton

Parish Register

Burial of ashes - Pamela Haslegrave
Date still to be announced



The yarn-bombed post box outside the Tuck Shop
Photo courtesy of Sue English

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 June 2021. The copy deadline is 25 May 2021 and submissions should be sent to the editor at walberswicknews@gmail.com

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