



# Walberswick Village News

July 2022 | Issue 308

## Congratulations on the OBE, Clare

Warmest congratulations to Clare Thomas, who received an OBE in the Queen's Jubilee Birthday Honours for services to British Foreign Policy. It is a very well-deserved recognition for many years of high-level public service working on Africa at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Clare, as Senior Principal Research Analyst, led the Africa Research desk for many years and travelled and worked in over 14 countries on the continent, including stints in Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Eritrea and Sudan. She also spent four years in Washington DC liaising with the US Government on African policy.

Now retired, Clare and her husband, Martin, moved permanently to the village just over a year ago. **Editor**

## £6,814 raised for the East Anglian Air Ambulance

Congratulations to our village walkers on the tremendous effort they made in raising funds, recently completing the Trek 24 challenge in aid of the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Together they raised just under the average cost of two air ambulance missions.

Our thanks to the walkers: the Trekkers team comprising Angie Power, Karen Searson, Gary Kingshott, Esther Smith and Guy Parry, who walked 24 kilometres, and Martin Lovick, Julia Sowerbutts and Penny Wenham (honorary villager, regular early morning swimmer and member of the walking group), who completed the 24-mile route. Between them, they raised £5,808, which together with gift aid came to around £6,814. This amount contributed to 28% of the total amount raised by the event.

They have asked that their immense appreciation and thanks be passed on to everyone who so kindly and generously supported them, including those who cheered them on as they came through the village. **Editor**



Photos courtesy of Chris Arnold, Trek 24

## Plants for Ukraine sale raises over £814

Thanks to all who donated plants for our sale in aid of Ukrainian Refugees. We had an amazing variety of flower and vegetable plants on offer. Despite the intermittent rain, we had a good turnout of generous buyers. We are sending a cheque for £814.60 to the Red Cross Ukrainian Refugee fund. What an amazing result. Some of the leftover flower plants found a home outside the village Tuck Shop. Leftover vegetable plants were gratefully received by an organisation in Lowestoft that has provided allotments for the refugees. The Horticulture Group committee is thrilled with the result and is planning to repeat the event next year. **Betsy Lemmon**

## The return of the Walberswick Horticultural Show

After a two-year break due to the pandemic, the Horticultural Show is back. A reminder to competitors that exhibits must be handed in at the Village Hall on Saturday, 23 July between 9.30am and 10.45am. Full details of categories and trophies can be found on the village website at [tinyurl.com/scefn4h5](http://tinyurl.com/scefn4h5).

Between 3pm and 4.30pm, everyone is welcome to view the exhibits, partake of refreshments, support the raffle, and attend the prize giving. **Betsy Lemmon**

## The Anchor Beer & Oyster Festival

Saturday 6 August & Sunday 7 August  
From 12 noon

20 Cask Ales - West Mersea Oysters - Live Music  
Plus keg beers from local (and other) heroes, and the regular line-up of 40 classic international bottled beers.

Jami's wonderful wood-fired pizzas available every weekend - also available for takeaway

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### Property Trustee vacancy

The Charity has one final vacancy to fill by the end of the year. This is for a Co-Optative Trustee (appointed by the Trustees themselves) to succeed me. The Trustees would like to make an appointment sooner rather than later, to enable a smooth transition.

We are seeking a Trustee skilled and experienced in property-related matters. The principal source of the Charity's unrestricted income (circa £120,000 p.a.) is from over 100 property-related agreements. It is also our principal area of financial and reputational risk. The experience we require could have been gained as a Chartered Surveyor, an investment professional, or a legal specialist.

Aside from property and commercial skills, we are looking for a team player who will positively contribute to the culture of the Charity. Also, we strive to be inclusive by recruiting a diverse group of Trustees, drawn from all sectors of the community.

If you'd like to learn more about this very worthwhile opportunity, there is more detail on the Charity section of the Village web site. I'm available to talk to prospective candidates about this role and the work of the Charity. Applications close on 26 August and should be made to our Clerk at: [clerkwclc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwclc@gmail.com). **James Darkins, Chairman**

### Valmai Sharman

Many people will remember Valmai, who lived at Fair View in the Street and who was a keen allotmenteer. Her father, Arthur Sharman, co-authored *Suffolk Memories*, an anthology of local wartime recollections, and also volunteered for the Charity. Valmai passed away last year, and we have recently learned that she very kindly remembered the Charity in her will. The Trustees are extremely grateful for this gift and will use it towards a long-term initiative.

**James Darkins, Chairman**

### Drop-in morning

The Common Lands Charity is holding a drop-in morning at the Heritage Hut between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday, 23 July. Trustees will be present to talk about the work of the Charity, listen to suggestions or concerns, and answer your questions. Trustees are especially keen to talk to beach and fishing hut licensees about the pros and cons of hut sharing. **Matthew Wetmore, Clerk to the Trustees**

### Bracken spraying on the Common

Please look out for signage on the Common during the last two weeks of July and into the beginning of August. The signage is to alert everyone that bracken spraying is being undertaken. It is difficult to give precise dates at present, as it is very weather dependant. **Vanessa Tucker, Environmental Stewardship Trustee**



### Housing Needs survey

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to help with the Neighbourhood Development Plan by filling out the Housing Needs survey in June. In the coming months, there will be many other opportunities to have input to different aspects of the plan as it develops. The email address [walberswickNDP@gmail.com](mailto:walberswickNDP@gmail.com) will remain open for questions and comments. Once the survey has been analysed by Community Action Suffolk, a summary will be shared with everyone, probably in late autumn.

### Next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7pm on Monday, 11 July in the Heritage Hut. It is open to members of the public, who may either choose to attend in person or join remotely (via Zoom). The agenda and how to join remotely will be published on the Walberswick Village website. For further information please contact the Parish Clerk at [walberswickclerk@gmail.com](mailto:walberswickclerk@gmail.com)

### Planning applications

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

**Hedgeley**, The Green | **Valley Farm**, Ferry Road | **Longwood**, Church Field | **Wayland** Cottage, The Street

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

### The Little Wooden Hut

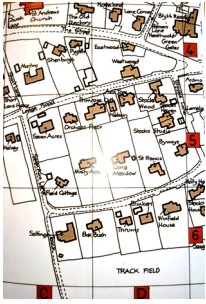
We've got a passion for crabbing  
Buckets, nets, lines and baits are for grabbing  
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Kites, windbreaks, buckets & spades,  
and other beach goodies!

Open every day from 1st July, 9.30am - 5pm  
The Quay, Ferry Road, Walberswick



VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK

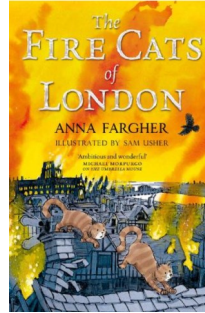


## Walberswick A-W

We are a village without house numbers, which is a constant problem for deliveries and residents alike. For £5 your problems are solved. We now have *Walberswick A-W*, a booklet showing a map with every house in Walberswick, together with an index. All proceeds will go to the maintenance of the Walberswick Scroll. *Walberswick A-W* was compiled by, and is available from **Bill and Kay Ungless** at Winton. Email [kungless@btinternet.com](mailto:kungless@btinternet.com) to obtain a copy.

## The Fire Cats of London by Anna Fargher

Tune in to BBC Radio Suffolk on Monday, 4 July, at 2.20pm when Anna will be discussing her latest children's novel, *The Fire Cats of London*, which is being released on 7 July. Written in Walberswick during lockdown, the book follows the adventures of two young wildcats caught in the Great Fire: a story of daring, courage and loyalty. Anna's debut book, *The Umbrella Mouse*, won the Sainsbury Award and was also Waterstones Book of the Month. **Editor**



## Walberswick Remembered: Iris Birtwhistle

Iris Birtwhistle ran an art gallery from Millfield House in the 1950s. Gallery is perhaps too grand a term for the converted chicken sheds that once stood on the site of the modern house called The Gables. Iris Birtwhistle had studied art as a young woman but enlisted in the Wrens in

1939 and settled in Suffolk when the war ended, concentrating on writing poetry and running her gallery. Her poetry was widely published, and praised by TS Eliot, Robert Graves and Muriel Spark. Amongst the artists she promoted in her gallery were Mary Potter, Mary Newcomb, Peggy Somerville, and Chris and Wendy Sinclair. She is reputed to have been one of David Hockney's first sponsors, selling his drawings for £5 each.

Wright, E. 2020. *The People of Millfield Road*. p64.



## Diary Dates



Details of Parish Council & Common Lands Charity events are on page 2

### Exhibition of sculptures and paintings by Bill Ungless

Thursday, 16 June to Saturday, 16 July at The Cut, Halesworth  
The opening hours for the Gallery and Café are Tuesday to Saturday 11am to 4pm. All are very welcome. **Bill Ungless**

### WI Meeting: Annual garden outing

Thursday, 7 July, pick-up at 1.30pm  
This year's visit is to Gable House. More information from **Muriel Wortley**

### Horticultural Show

Saturday, 23 July in the Village Hall, 3pm - 4.30pm  
Raffle and teas. Free admission. Exhibits to be handed in between 9.30am and 10.45 am. All welcome. **Betsy Lemmon**

### Village Fete

Saturday, 27 August  
Full details in the August edition of the *Village News*. **Editor**

## Church Matters St Andrew's Church Walberswick

### Team Rector

Revd Canon Simon Pitcher  
01502 725424  
[revsimon63@gmail.com](mailto:revsimon63@gmail.com)

**July 2022 Services**  
**Sunday, 3 July, 11.15am**  
Sung Eucharist  
Joined with Blythburgh  
Celebrant Revd Margaret King

**Sunday, 10 July, 6pm**  
Choral Evensong  
Sea Sunday  
Celebrant Revd Judy Miller

**Sunday, 17 July, 11.15am**  
Sung Eucharist  
Revd Canon Simon Pitcher

**Sunday, 24 July, 11.15am**  
Family Service  
Revd Canon Simon Pitcher  
Refreshments at 11am

**Sunday, 31 July, 11.15 am**  
Team Eucharist  
At Reydon  
Revd Alan Perry

**Every Wednesday, 10.00am**  
Holy Communion  
Coffee on first Wednesdays

### Commemorative Flowers

10 July - Julia Josephs for her sister,  
Dorothy Dekany

17 July - Pat Lancaster for Tony

### Parish Registers

#### Burial of ashes

15 June - Robin Buncombe  
21 June - Mary King

## Community Services

**Mobile Library:** Friday  
22 July, 2.15-2.45pm,  
Village Hall car park

**Post Office:** Tuesdays,  
1pm-3pm, Thursdays,  
10am-12 noon,  
Village Hall Annex

**Norwich Bus:** Thursday,  
21 July. Departs at 9am & returns  
at 1.30pm. Booking essential.  
Phone or text Mandy Erlenbach on  
07590 697575.

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 August 2022. The copy deadline is noon on 25 July 2022 and submissions should be sent to the editor at [walberswicknews@gmail.com](mailto:walberswicknews@gmail.com)

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