



Walberswick Village News

February 2023 | Issue 315

Mary Nuttall 1925-2023

Our Aunt, Mary Nuttall, died on 10 January 2023 in her own bed, in her own home. She had reached a good age (97 and a half). Mary was born in Madras where her father was a Major, later Lt Colonel in the Indian Medical Service, and she had many memories of her early life in India. She came to England as a schoolgirl. At the outbreak of the war she joined the Wrens (as she liked the hats). Initially told there were no vacancies, Mary managed to persuade them to take her on, explaining a relative was a paymaster on one of Nelson's ships. She worked at Stanmore, an outpost of Bletchley Park, but was unable to tell anyone, not even her parents, what her work entailed. After the war, Mary became a personal secretary for a construction company in London.

Mary had a long association with Walberswick, her parents bought Dudley Cottage in 1946. Her Uncle Laurie also moved to the village and Mary eventually inherited his house. She was involved in many groups in the village including WATS, writing short plays for their January performance, as well as the History Group and the WI. Mary enjoyed services at the church, especially the carol service and the evensongs.

We would like to say a special thank you to the Walberswick Community Support Group, which helped Mary during lockdown and after. They continued to deliver her Friday night fish and chips treat right until the end. Our thanks to Margaret her housekeeper, Reg her gardener of 30 years, and all her carers. Our thanks also to the many wonderful friends and neighbours, whose support, kindness, and food offerings were so much appreciated by Mary.

We would also like to invite you all to a 'Tea Party' to celebrate Mary's Life on Friday, 17 March, at 3.30pm at the Anchor. You will be welcome to tell us any stories or your memories of Mary, if you so wish. We would love to see you there. **Hannah Isherwood and Tessa Newcomb.**



Sadly, Mary had to leave the WI due to ill-health but we all considered her one of our special members. We will miss her. **Muriel Wortley, Walberswick WI**

Elisabeth Robertson

We were all saddened to learn of the death of our much loved member, Elisabeth, who had been a member for 20 years. She will be greatly missed.

Muriel Wortly, Walberswick WI

The boy who became a train and his grandma

Ollie was the grandson of Brian and Jayne Tibbles. You may have seen the memorial bench at the playing field with the inscription 'Ollie Tibbles ♥ Forever 7'. Ollie died of brain cancer in 2004, which was diagnosed when he was just five years old.

During his short life, Ollie was completely and utterly fascinated by trains. At four years old he declared that he wanted to become a train, not a train driver but an actual train. During his illness, the Make a Wish Foundation in the US, where the family lives, arranged for Ollie to take a very special train ride. And a year after his death, locomotive No. 401 out of Chicago was named after him. So in the end his wish was granted. He became a train.

Walberswick has always been a special place for Ollie's family. They have spent numerous holidays in the village but it just won't be the same without their grandma, Jayne. In her memory and in memory of his brother, George Tibbles is running the London Marathon in April.



Please do support him by making a donation in aid of the UK Make a Wish Foundation, Jayne's favourite charity, at his Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/fundraising/georgetibbles.

Editor

Thank you from Lorry

I've never felt so loved. Thank you to everybody for their kind wishes and gifts after my unfortunate muddy prang. Hopefully, I am now well on the mend. It is always lovely to see people as I do like a chat. Also a special thank you to my family to have treated me like a queen and have been amazing. **Lorry Haslegrave**

Congratulations on the Oscar Nomination Charlie

Huge congratulations to Charlie Mackesy, whose beautifully animated film based on his book, *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*, has been nominated for an Oscar in the Best Animated Short Film category. **Editor**

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The People of Millfield Road: The Edwardians The Rupert Brooke connection

On the 6th September 1910 a seventeen-year-old girl wrote to her fiancé from Rooftree, a house in the Street overlooking Mill Field. He was Rupert Brooke and she was Noel Olivier and their secret engagement was only a few weeks old. Noel would go on to become a doctor but in 1910 she was at Bedales School and visiting the Newbery family in Walberswick. Francis Newbery was an artist and president of Glasgow School of Art. His wife Jessie was an embroiderer and their daughter Mary was at Bedales with Noel.

From Rooftree, Noel would have had a good view of the recently completed houses in Mill Field, most of them owned or occupied by artists, writers or architects. Rooftree is next to Millside, a guest house used by many visiting artists including CR Mackintosh, a protégée of Newbery.

Noel wrote: *There is a strange new atmosphere here, Walberswick has been famous for many years as a resort for landscape and other painters, they come down in quantities every summer and stay in lodgings and villas. I get taken round to teas and tennis and into lovely drawing rooms after supper to see exquisite furniture and hear music, also I am introduced to picture shows and elegant studios.*

Wright, Edward. 2020. *The People of Millfield Road*. p7.

Walberswick Parish Council Precept

A precept of £20,000 has been approved by the Walberswick Parish Council for the year 2023/24. The Council is pleased that, in this period of rising costs and increasing council taxes, it has managed to avoid any increase in the precept for the past two years (since 2021/22).

Next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 13 February at 7pm in the Heritage Hut. It will be open to members of the public, who may choose to attend in person or join remotely (via Zoom). The agenda and how to join remotely will be published, as usual, on the Walberswick Village Website. For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk at walberswickclerk@gmail.com.

Walberswick Common Lands Charity

Many of you will have been involved in winter maintenance of outside spaces over the last month or so and, with climate change bringing nesting birds early, any pruning or bird box maintenance is hopefully well under way.

February is very busy for the Charity as it too tries to get core work completed. In 2021, it commissioned a Health and Safety survey of its trees. It was recommended that a range of remedial work should be carried out on a number of trees mainly, but not exclusively, on the Common and in Bennett's Copse. By removing branches either because they are dead or because the tree needs re-balancing, and removing dead or diseased trees, the Charity aims to keep its lands safe. A specialist tree surgeon will carry out this work in the first week of February. As always, thank you for taking care around our contractors. **Vanessa Tucker, Environmental Stewardship Trustee**

Planning applications

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

1 Valley Farm, Ferry Road | **The Village Hall** (trees) | **Shorelands (Shortlands)**, Palmers Lane | **Admiral House**, The Street | **Rosemary Cottage**, The Street | **Byways**, Stocks Lane | **Garland**, Lodge Road

For the latest applications and Advisory Group Reports, go to the Planning page on the [Village Website](#).

Help needed delivering the Village News

We're urgently looking for a volunteer to join our team to deliver the Village News once a month. Delivery is to approximately 25 houses in Adams Lane and Nightingale Close. If you can help, please contact me on 07926 178560 or at elaineannah@icloud.com. **Elaine Heeler**

Meet Notter, the Walberswick Otter

If you haven't yet been introduced to the otter that took up residence under the bridge at the Cliff Field Car Park in the autumn, watch the amazing video by Sara Solnick on Instagram at [tinyurl.com/bdh7pau3](https://www.instagram.com/tinyurl.com/bdh7pau3). The otter is affectionately named Notter because this is not an otter that is easy to spot.



Photo courtesy of Sara Solnick

Editor

Gorse on East Hill

Gorse has showered East Hill with gold.
Floret upon floret mould gleaming coronets
and diadems onto the tawny boughs and drape
the densely spiked leaves with golden fleece.
Their heady scent hangs in the evening air
cheerily inviting me to brew flagons of mead
for some vernal revel. I startle a muntjac
which scurries away through a gilded postern.
This is no crypto-currency. No corrupt
autocrat or greedy oligarch can boast
such wealth. No mining, no algorithm,
no blockchain needed to transfer these coins.
They are new-minted bullion from nature's vault.
Blossom, the fungible token of Spring.

Jeremy Solnick

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Message from Simon

Dear Friends

It has been announced that I am moving on from the Sole Bay Team to become Rector of Lavenham with Preston. My last Sunday in the Sole Bay Team will be 26 February.

After twelve and a half years in Sole Bay it is not easy to move on. During my time here, I have been enormously grateful to the many people in Walberswick who have supported and encouraged the life of the Church. I will remember some very happy lunches and harvest suppers in the village hall, the wonderful Christmas carol services and other celebrations of the Christian year, baptisms, weddings and also funerals of faithful people. The church ruins have been conserved, creating a safe environment for outdoor worship and theatre. Much has been accomplished and there is much to be thankful for.

It has been a real blessing to have been part of Walberswick life and I will treasure many happy memories. Wishing everyone many blessings for 2023.

Simon



Diary Dates



WI monthly meeting

Thursday, 2 February, 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Cathy Ryan MBE RN DN ANP MEd Queens Nurse from Sole Bay Care Fund will talk about the work of the team, which offers extra care when it is most needed, at home or as near to home as possible. Visitors and new members welcome. **Muriel Wortley**

RNLI Quiz Night with auction and raffle

Saturday, 11 February, from 6.30pm in the Village Hall

Registration from 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start. Entry £5 per person. Maximum of six per team. Bar and snacks available. To secure your table email rnliquiz2023@gmail.com. **Jon Winyard**

St Andrew's Fizz and Farewell

Sunday, 12 February at 5pm in St Andrew's Church

Join us for a farewell choral evensong, which we are dedicating to Simon Pitcher as, after 12 years as Sole Bay Team Rector, he is leaving us in March to take up his appointment as Rector of Lavenham with Preston. **Julia Josephs**

Parish Council allotments drop-in session

Saturday, 25 February, 10am-12noon in the Heritage Hut

Andrew Lewis, Walberswick Parish Council Chair, will hold a drop-in session for anyone with an interest in Walberswick allotments. This includes both existing allotment holders and anyone interested in renting one. The aim will be to exchange ideas on the best way forward for managing the allotments, ahead of a formal review by the Parish Council of the existing Allotment Policy. walberswickclerk@gmail.com

Local History Group exhibitions

Saturday & Sunday, 11 & 12 March, 10am-12 noon & 2pm-4pm in the Heritage Hut

An exhibition of 13 charcoal sketches by **George Charles Haite** (1885-1924), designer, painter, illustrator and writer. Famous for the iconic cover design of the Strand Magazine.

Saturday & Sunday, 25 & 26 March, 10am-12noon & 2pm-4pm in the Heritage Hut

An exhibition of 49 high quality copies of sketches and watercolours of Walberswick from 1930s-1950s by **Jessie M Browton** (1882-1971). She lived at Blythwyc Cottage and left a major legacy of events during her time here. **Pat Lancaster, Archivist**

Local History Group Open Morning

Sunday, 23 April 10am - 12 noon in the Heritage Hut

The History Group will hold an Open Morning. All welcome. **Pat Lancaster, Archivist**

Church Matters

St Andrew's Church Walberswick

Team Rector

Rev Canon Simon Pitcher
01502 725424
revsimon63@gmail.com
solebayteamministry.co.uk

February 2023 Services

Sunday, 5 February, 11.15am

Sung Eucharist with Blythburgh
Revd Canon Simon Pitcher

Sunday, 12 February, 5pm

Choral Evensong
Revd Canon Simon Pitcher

Sunday, 19 February, 11.15am

Sung Eucharist
Revd Canon Simon Pitcher

Sunday, 26 February, 11am

Team Eucharist
Farewell to Simon Pitcher
St Edmund's Southwold

~ ~ ~

Every Wednesday, 10.00am

Holy Communion
Coffee on first Wednesdays

~ ~ ~

Commemorative Flowers

12 February - Pat Lancaster for Tony

Community Services

Mobile Library: Friday
3 February. 2.15-2.45pm,
Village Hall car park

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

Norwich Bus: Thursday,
16 February. Please contact
Mandy Erlenbach on
07590 697575 to book a place.

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 March 2023. The copy deadline is noon on 25 February 2023 and submissions should be sent to the editor at walberswicknews@gmail.com.

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