



# Walberswick Village News

March 2025 | Issue 340



Thank you to all of those from the village and beyond who attended the performances of *The Real Inspector Hound* in the Village Hall between 6 and 9 February. Without your fantastic support we could not produce the annual play or panto, and it was encouraging to see you turn out in such numbers. We always welcome new members, so if you're new to the village or don't live here full time, why not give it a go? It's a great way to engage with village life. Just drop me a line at [lynchrod@hotmail.com](mailto:lynchrod@hotmail.com). Next year, we hope to return to panto, so age is no barrier.  
**Rod Lynch**

## Fete Update

Last month, we said we would provide an update regarding the third charity to be supported by the fete this year. To confirm, we will be giving 40 percent of the proceeds to St Andrew's Church, 40 percent to the Village Hall, and 20 percent to the third chosen charity. After much discussion and research, we are delighted to announce that this year we will be supporting the Sole Bay Care Fund, the small charity that provides health and social care in the local area, and which is financially challenged.

Regarding volunteers for the fete, we are seeking someone to take on and manage the Cafe. Lorry, who has put a huge amount of work into the Cafe for many years, has decided to take a well earned step back. Thank you Lorry for all your hard work.

If anyone is interested in volunteering to manage the Cafe or has any thoughts regarding the fete's Sole Bay Care Fund decision, please feel free to contact Mitchell on 07745391711. Thank you.

**Mitchell Pocock, Fete Chair**

### Walberswick Against LionLink (WALL) public meeting

**Saturday 8 March at 10am in the Village Hall**

National Grid Ventures Ltd (NGV) has chosen Walberswick as the landfall site for LionLink.

**What happens next?** Come to our public meeting. Find out what is happening and help us to stop NGV's plans.

**WALL Committee**

(Note: NGV's drop-in session is on 15 March, 10am - 4pm in the Village Hall).

## Ferry operating times

The Walberswick Ferry will be operating on weekends only between 11am and 3pm from 1 March. Full time service will resume on 5 April with the ferry running between 10am and 5pm daily. After 26 October, it will be back to weekends only until the new year.

The website [www.walberswickferry.com](http://www.walberswickferry.com) is updated daily if there is any change to the schedule due to extreme weather or if the ferry is operating because the weather is beautiful.

Prices remain unchanged: Adults £2, under 18 year olds £1, under 5 year olds free, bikes £2, dogs, buggies and pushchairs welcome. **Cash only please. Dani Church**

## National Theatre Live

Walberswick Village Hall Committee is pleased to announce a programme of National Theatre Live screenings in the main hall. We will start with *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde at 7pm on Thursday 6 March. If this is successful, we will proceed with showing National Theatre Live's programme of about six screenings per year. Refreshments will be available for sale. Doors open at 6.30pm - first come, first served. £15 - cards only please. **Martin Lovick**

## The Anchor

### Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 9 March** – Games and Pudding Night from 6pm, a fun evening. £10

**Monday 17 March** – St. Patrick's Day Specials

**Friday 21 March** – Curry Night with all your favourites and more.

**AND**

We're recruiting enthusiastic members for our summer team. Email us for more details.

[info@anchoratwalberswick.com](mailto:info@anchoratwalberswick.com) | 01502 722112  
[www.anchoratwalberswick.com](http://www.anchoratwalberswick.com)

## Walberswick Common Lands Charity

Winter works on the heathland have commenced. To the north of the heath is a rare transition zone of wet heath before the fen, which is where the vegetation (reed and scrub) is currently being cut by hand. Heathlands are intrinsically dry landscapes, based on sandy and acid soils. They support specialist species that can tolerate the acid conditions. Because sand is so permeable, it also means that the small amount of wetland that does occur on heathlands, is rarer, and has proportionately even more value than it would have in an otherwise 'wet' landscape.

A key species to look out for in this transition zone is *Erica tetralix*, cross-leaved heath, a type of heather that likes bogs, heathland and moorland. It has distinctive pink, bell-shaped flowers that attract all kinds of nectar-loving insects. Stewardship in this area is focused on scrub management and reed cutting to increase species diversity. It is the first time for many years that the reeds in the fen have been cut.

**Vanessa Tucker, Environmental Stewardship Trustee**



## Walberswick Parish Council

### LionLink

It was with great dismay that we learnt on 17 February of National Grid Ventures Ltd's (NGV) decision to name Walberswick's Manor Field as its "preferred location" for LionLink. This decision was taken despite the thousands of objections and evidence shared by the Walberswick community along with the County, District, and Parish Councils that pointed out the serious environmental and human health impacts, as well as the economic harm associated with the Manor Field location. The fact that NGV's "alternative" was a Southwold location, which would also suffer from these impacts, further supports the overwhelming public response to LionLink that an off-shore grid, with a brownfield landing site nearer to where the power is needed, would be the proper alternative.

This decision by NGV brings us to a new point in the overall process, but in no way makes this ill-conceived development a certainty. NGV's preferred timeline is set out in the flyer recently delivered to homes in the village. It will be holding a drop-in session in the Village Hall on 15 March. We strongly encourage all residents to attend, ask questions, and express your views. During this next phase, Walberswick Parish Council (WPC) will be working closely with Walberswick Against LionLink (WALL), the County and District Councils, and other partners, to highlight how inappropriate LionLink is in this location, and what mitigation (if such a thing is possible) would be required to address the myriad associated environmental, human health, and economic impacts. WPC will also endeavour to keep people informed of the process and what they can do to express their views. Towards this end, WPC will look to have a public meeting a few weeks after the 15 March drop-in, to update on timelines, the processes involved, and hopefully provide an opportunity for our community to exchange views with our government representatives. More on this to come.

### Devolution

Many of you will already be aware that Suffolk has been put into the 'fast track' for devolution, meaning that many responsibilities for delivery of District/County services will change hands and a new mayoral area covering both Norfolk and Suffolk is likely to be introduced. There are scant details at present, and WPC will keep you updated as we find out more.

### Southwold Half Marathon

A reminder that the Southwold Half Marathon will be running through Walberswick on Sunday 2 March with road disruptions/closures in the village between 9am and 11.30am. Please plan any journeys in and out of the village accordingly. Full details can be found at [tinyurl.com/3uuk8jwr](http://tinyurl.com/3uuk8jwr).

### Stolen Street Signs

It is distressing to have to report the recent theft of two street signs from the village – the 'numerous turnings' sign at the entrance to the village and 'The Street' sign from outside The Stables. The thefts have been reported to both the police and Suffolk Highways for investigation and replacement.

### Next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 10 March at 7pm in the Heritage Hut and is open to members of the public. Full details will be published on the village website, or for further information contact the Parish Clerk at [clerk@walberswick-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@walberswick-pc.gov.uk).

### Planning applications

At the time of publication, the following properties were awaiting a decision:

**2 Manor Close** | **Seacroft**, Millfield Rd | **Nightingales**, Church Field | **Admiral House**, The Street (trees) | **Te Awahou**, Millfield Rd (trees) | **Winton**, The Street (trees) | **Southwold Harbour**, Ferry Road | **The Beeches**, Millfield Road | **Herons**, Church Field

The latest applications & Advisory Group Reports, can be found on the Walberswick [website](#).

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## Village Hall parking permits

There are a limited number of parking permits available for the Village Hall car park this year. The permits run for a year from 1 April and cost £100 for residents or £250 for those who rent out their houses on a commercial basis and offer the permits to their guests. Please contact **Martin Lovick** at [martin.lovick@gmail.com](mailto:martin.lovick@gmail.com) for further details.

## Reduced winter rates for the Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee is always keen to encourage greater use of the village hall, especially during the quieter winter months. Details of the reduced winter rates can be found on the village website at [tinyurl.com/3nn893h4](http://tinyurl.com/3nn893h4) and are valid until the end of March.

**Village Hall Committee**



## Diary Dates



### WI monthly meeting

**Thursday 6 March, 2.30pm in the Village Hall**

Dani Church will be talking about the Walberswick Ferry and the Rowers of Walberswick. **Muriel Wortley**

### National Theatre Live

**Thursday 6 March, 6.30pm in the Village Hall**

From the National Theatre Live, the screening of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* starts at 7pm, doors open at 6.30pm. £15 per ticket, cards only. **Martin Lovick**

### Walberswick Against LionLink (WALL) public meeting

**Saturday 8 March, 10am in the Village Hall**

National Grid Ventures Ltd has chosen Walberswick as the landfall site for LionLink. Find out what is happening and help stop National Grid Ventures Ltd's plans. **WALL Committee**

### Beach Clean

**Sunday 9 March, 10am at Cliff Field Car Park**

Organised by the Walberswick Wildfowlers and Natural England, please join us for the spring beach clean. Bring stout bags, gloves and shoes. All welcome. **Mark Waller**

### National Grid Ventures Ltd: LionLink drop-in

**Saturday 15 March, 10am - 4pm in the Village Hall**

National Grid Ventures is holding a drop-in event regarding its decision to make Walberswick its preferred landfall site for LionLink. **Editor**

### Walberswick Local History Group AGM and talk

**Saturday 15 March, AGM at 6.30pm & talk at 7pm in the Village Hall**

Following the AGM, Libby Purves will talk about her childhood growing up in Walberswick. Those wishing to attend should email **Edward Wright** at [ewright123@btinternet.com](mailto:ewright123@btinternet.com) to reserve a place. Please indicate if you wish to bring a guest (guest ticket £5).

### A Moment in Time: Millennium exhibition

**Saturday & Sunday 5-6 April, 10am - 4pm in the Heritage Hut**

An exhibition to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Millennium in the village organised by the Walberswick Local History Group. If you are lucky enough to own any memorabilia or have photographs of the event and are willing to loan them, please contact **Pat Lancaster** at [patlancaster@btinternet.com](mailto:patlancaster@btinternet.com).

### Family Bingo

**Wednesday, 16 April, 5.30pm**

Doors open at 5.30pm and play starts at 6pm sharp. Entrance: adults £1, children 50p. Bingo cards to be purchased separately.

**Village Hall Committee**

### INK Festival

**Thursday, 24 April to Monday, 28 April in Halesworth**

This year's programme is the most ambitious to date, featuring over 70 original short plays, a selection of performance poetry, radio plays, stand-up comedy, short film screenings, industry Q&As, writers' workshops and a host of activities for children. For full ticket and programme information, visit the INK website at [www.inkfestival.org](http://www.inkfestival.org). **Editor**

## Church Matters

### St Andrew's Church Walberswick

**Team Rector**

**Revd Russ Gant**

[russ.gant@solebayteamministry.co.uk](mailto:russ.gant@solebayteamministry.co.uk)  
[solebayteamministry.co.uk](http://solebayteamministry.co.uk)

### March 2025 Services

**Sunday, 2 March 11.15am**  
Holy Communion

**Sunday, 9 March 6pm**  
Choral Evensong

**Sunday, 16 March 11.15am**  
Holy Communion

**Sunday, 23 March 11.15am**  
Family Service  
10.45am coffee and pastries

**Sunday, 30 March 9.30am**  
Southwold Team Service  
Mothering Sunday

**Every Wednesday 10am**  
Holy Communion  
Coffee on first Wednesday

### Community Services

**Community Cafe:** Wednesday,  
19 March, 2pm-4.30pm in the  
Village Hall.

**Mobile Library:** Friday,  
28 March 2.15pm-2.45pm,  
Village Hall car park.

**Norwich Bus:** Thursday,  
20 March. Please contact Mandy  
Erlenbach on 07590 697575 to  
book a place.

**Mobile Post Office:** Wednesdays  
12 noon to 1pm in the Village Hall  
car park.

### WEBSITES

Village: [walberswick-pc.gov.uk](http://walberswick-pc.gov.uk)  
WALL: [www.wall-update.org](http://www.wall-update.org)

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 April 2025 The copy deadline is noon on 25 March 2025 and submissions should be sent to the editor at [walberswicknews@gmail.com](mailto:walberswicknews@gmail.com).

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