Walberswick Village News

October 2026
Issue 359

Kay Ungless: retirement from the village website team

Walberswick Parish Council wishes to share that Kay Ungless, after 17 years of exceptional service, has retired from her role as chief editor of the village website.

Kay created the website in 2009 and has been its guiding hand ever since. Through her vision, hard work and steady leadership, she grew it from a basic requirement of the Parish Council into a vibrant, trusted and much-used village-wide resource for residents and visitors. Kay's commitment, attention to detail and deep pride in the village have shaped the website into something that truly reflects Walberswick's character and community spirit.

We are pleased to confirm that Claire Whittenbury and Andrew Lewis will continue to administer the site. Claire will oversee tone and content while Andrew will be webmaster and provide technical support for all 11 editors, to whom we are also very grateful. Together Claire and Andrew will provide website policy support to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council extends its heartfelt thanks and warmest good wishes for the future to Kay. Her legacy will remain woven through the website for many years to come. **Walberswick Parish Council**

WATS – Walberswick Amateur Theatrical Society

When we bought our house in Walberswick in 2020, I thought I'd died and gone to thespian heaven. Lurking behind every hollyhock is some theatrical happening. From the nationally (internationally) renowned INK theatre to our very own Walberswick Players. And stretching back as far as the 1960s, WATS. Set up by Caroline Wright's grandfather, Percy Carter, and some like-minded friends, WATS created an opportunity for people who love theatre to read and share plays, both classics and new writing. Over the years, as the group grew, WATS gatherings moved from members' homes to the Village Hall.

We meet monthly from September to April to read a play, occasionally semi-staged. We are keen to do poetry as well, and writing pieces for people less inclined to prance about; we are open to ideas. Additionally we arrange outings, such as the trip in August to the Red Rose Chain production of *Twelfth Night* at Sutton Hoo, and *The Go Between* at Thorington. WATS is open to anyone, any age – you don't have to read or perform – just enjoy the theatrical ambience.

A big thank you to our outgoing chair, Judy Morton, and the committee, Clive & Doris Brynley-Jones and Bill & Jill Willison, for their committed stewardship over many years.

Our first meeting for the new season is 12 October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Doors open at 7.10pm – join us for a glass of wine, and a special treat produced by Peter Austin and Rosi Gerrell. Any questions please message me, **Karen Maxwell,** at karenmaxwell207@gmail.com

Village Hall annexe cupboards

If you have, or know anyone who might have, a locked cupboard in the annexe, please come and identify it (stickers provided). At the end of October we will be unlocking any cupboard that hasn't been claimed, liberating anything in there, and enabling other frequent users of the hall to have space. Thank you.
Village Hall Committee



Walberswick's annual cricket match 2026: played every Sunday on the August Bank Holiday weekend. Photo: Glynis Porter.

THE ANCHOR

The tastes and aromas of autumn.
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Compiled and edited by Sheila Parry - news@walberswicknews.co.uk
Published by the Walberswick Village News Committee | Printed by Southwold Press

Walberswick Common Lands Charity (WCLC)

Environmental Stewardship Update

September brought some welcome rain and what pleasure that brings after the long dry and very hot summer. Here in Walberswick, a lot of people worked diligently to keep land, property and people safe both in the village and further afield. However, the lack of rain means that Cliff Field has not been cut yet and neither has much of the bracken on the dry heath. Hopefully there will be catch up in early autumn if the contractor can squeeze us in.

By next month, WCLC will have agreed a winter management plan which will include an awareness, and response to, the predicted local impact of El Nino. For example, fire breaks will be enhanced by more rotavation to create bare soil; a bonus is that bare ground is a key habitat of heathland. It allows heather germination from seed and also provides nesting habitat for many insects, reptiles and birds such as the nightjar. A number of insects use open areas for nesting, chasing after prey and basking. Sand lizards use bare sandy ground for egg laying. Annual plants growing on disturbed ground provide some pollen and nectar for insects when heather is not in flower. Local to global and global to local, the relationships and interdependencies are clear. **Vanessa Tucker**



Chestnut palings protect the marram grass



Wild carrot thriving on the King Charles III footpath



The wet heath almost dried up

Walberswick Parish Council

External Audit and Publication of Account

The audit of accounts for the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2026 has been completed and the accounts have been published. We have some comments which relate to a new assertion included for all councils this year. For full details and to see the council's action plan please see the website or write to the clerk.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 12 October at 7pm in the Heritage Hut and is open to members of the public. Full details will be published on the village website or contact **clerk@walberswick-pc-gov.uk.**



Planning Applications

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

The Anchor (trees)
Long Meadow, Seven Acres
Greyroof, Millfield Road
Harbour House, Manor Close
Greenways, The Green
Herons, Church Field
Tinkers House, Walberswick Rd
Green Gates, The Street.

The latest applications can be found on the village **website**.

Team Vicar

The Right Rev'd Dr Joanne Woolway Grenfell, the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, is delighted to announce that The Rev'd Dr Sarah West has been appointed as Team Vicar in the Sole Bay Team Ministry. Sarah is currently serving as Assistant Curate of Great Shelford in the Diocese of Ely. Sarah will be licensed on Sunday 18 October at 3pm at St Peter & St Paul's Church Wangford. **Archdeacon Rich**

Shoebox Appeal

St Andrew's is once again supporting the Link to Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal, which delivers gifts to families and the elderly in Eastern Europe, regardless of their background or religious belief, and brings great joy to those who have very little. If you would like to participate, a normal sized adult shoebox is required. Leaflets (one per shoebox) with specific and easy to follow instructions are available in St Andrew's. Please return your shoebox to the church by Sunday, 1 November. For more information or assistance, contact **Christine Fisher** on 07876 453965 or visit the Link to Hope website at **linktohope.co.uk/shoebox-appeal-2026**.

Diary Dates

WI Monthly Meeting

Thursday 1 October 2.30pm in the Village Hall.

Our speaker is Mary Newton, Forensic Scientist, on how to catch a serial rapist. Guests welcome. Contact **Sheilagh Murray**, Secretary, on 07903 353753 for more information.

Harvest Festival Service

Sunday 4 October 11.15am in St Andrew's Church

Please join us for our all-age harvest thanksgiving service, themed Jesus as the Vine. Refreshments served at 10.45am. Please bring your harvest gifts for the food bank; tins, tea, coffee, sugar, toiletries and non-perishable items can be donated any time until 9 October. We look forward to seeing you and singing some favourite harvest hymns. **Stephanie Ranouf**

Walberswick Village Hall

New date for National Theatre Live: Les Liaisons Dangereuses

Thursday 15 October 7pm in Walberswick Village Hall

Doors open at 6.30pm. Tickets £15 (under 21s £10), also available in advance from **www.ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-village-hall**

Bar, snacks and soft drinks available. **Village Hall Committee**

Walberswick Local History Group
The Lighthouses of East Anglia

Saturday 24 October, 7pm in the Village Hall

Paul Heiney will be telling us about the rich and compelling history of the lighthouses, from the days when they were no more than bonfires, to the sophistication of the modern lighthouse. No need to RSVP, members attend free and a member's guest pays £5 on the door. We can reserve seats near the front for those who need them; please email **Edward Wright** at **ewright123@btinternet.com**.

The Walberswick Scroll

Sunday 25 October from 10am in the Heritage Hut

Walberswick's own Bayeux Tapestry aka The Walberswick Scroll. A painting, not a tapestry, and not quite 1066, but see that cold, wet summer of 1931 captured between the rain. **John English**

RNLI Spooktacular Halloween Family Bingo

Friday 30 October, 6pm in the Village Hall

Doors open at 5.30pm. Eyes down at 6pm. Bar available. **Karen Lewis**



St Andrew's Church Walberswick

admin@solebayteamministry.co.uk
solebayteamministry.co.uk

October 2026 Services

Sunday 4 October 11.15am
Harvest Festival
Refreshments at 10.45am

Sunday 11 October 6pm
Harvest Festival - Choral Evensong

Wednesday 14 October 10am
Holy Communion
Coffee served after the service

Sunday 18 October 11.15am
Holy Communion

Saturday 18 October 3pm
Appointment of a new Team Vicar to the Sole Bay Ministry
Rev'd Sarah West will be licensed at St Peter & St Paul's Church Wangford. All welcome

Wednesday 28 October 10am
Holy Communion

Parish Register

Wedding 5 September
Sam Stocks & Olivia Shepherd

Wedding 12 September
Peter Harclerode &
Carolyn Melville-Smith

Community Services

Community Cafe: Wednesday 21 October 2pm - 4.30pm in the Village Hall

Mobile Library: Friday 9 October 2.15pm - 2.45pm in the Village Hall car park

Mobile Post Office: Wednesdays 12 noon - 1pm in the Village Hall car park

Norwich Bus: Thursday 15 October. To book a place, please contact Mandy Erlenbach on 07590 697575

Village: walberswick-pc.gov.uk
WALL: www.wall-update.org
news@walberswicknews.co.uk

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