

Walberswick Village News

May 2025
Issue 342

A Moment in Time: Celebrating 25 years since the Millennium

The weather was kind for the two day exhibition on 5 and 6 April in the Heritage Hut. Visitors were plentiful - some curious, some interested and some reminiscing of days and people gone by. A common phrase throughout the day was "doesn't he/she look young". Donations and sales of items relating to both the History Group and the Scroll amounted to £340. The Millennium photographs of all the houses in the village were very popular and it is hoped that this can be repeated over the next 18 months. A leaflet was distributed providing information about the day and the celebratory breakfast, including the menu for 454 people. Thanks are due to all the helpers (mainly Mitchell Pocock) at the set up, during the two days, and the dismantling of the exhibits. I would also like to thank Margaret Atkinson who helped me with a lot of the names and The Halesworth Museum for the loan of two display boards. And finally, Claire Whittenbury for displaying the two panels depicting 'Boat Burning' by Bill Bowyer. Thank you all.

Pat Lancaster, Archivist, Walberswick Local History Group

Report from The Street

The village's trained volunteer Community Speed Watch team continues to turn up a couple of times a month, even in the freezing winter months, to remind motorists of the 20mph speed limit in the village. Obviously, this doesn't always work, despite the traffic signs and the Speed Indicator Devices.

The team records the registration numbers of vehicles breaking the speed limit, which are sent to the police for further action. In the first quarter of this year, the police sent out 32 letters to people exceeding the speed limit coming into and leaving the village, and a second letter to a further five people, who had already been sent a first letter. No action, other than the letter, is taken after a first incident. A warning is issued with a second letter. Persistent offenders have their vehicle details passed on to the relevant team at Suffolk Constabulary and may receive targeted intervention or a visit.

If anyone would like to know more about how this small and friendly community action group operates, or would like to join it, please contact **Jane Sutherland-Rogers** at jsutherlandrogers@mail.com.

Village Hall car parking

There are a limited number of parking permits still available at the Village Hall. This year's permit runs until 31 March 2026 and costs £100 for residents or £250 for those who rent out their houses on a commercial basis. Please contact **Martin Lovick** at martin.lovick@gmail.com.

The end of the prescription collection service

Sadly, the collection of prescriptions by village volunteers from the Sole Bay Health Centre for pick-up at the Tuck Shop has been discontinued by our medical practice. Unfortunately, the process does not conform to the Care Quality Commission's high standards relating to the storage of medication in a temperature-controlled setting. Patient confidentiality is also an issue under Data Protection rules.

However, family members or friends can be authorised to collect medication from the Health Centre upon completion of a consent form. This information will be entered on the patient's computer record and checked before any prescriptions are handed over. Another option is to ask the Health Centre to send a prescription to an online pharmacy, many of which will then send it, free of charge (unless a prescription fee is required), via the tracked postal service.

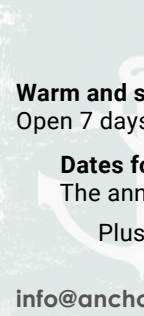
Our sincerest thanks to the many organisers and volunteers who made the collection service possible for so many years. It will be sorely missed. **Editor**

Join the Birdsong Walk

The annual Walberswick Birdsong Walk will take place on the morning of Sunday 18 May. It will be led by Matthew Denny, but stalwarts Pat Lancaster and Mandy Erlenbach will join us for some of the walk to share their abundant knowledge of the area's birds.

As per last year, the walk will be in aid of the WALL (Walberswick Against LionLink) campaign. Donations can either be taken on the day or via the donate page on the WALL website. So come and hear and see what we're all fighting for.

The walk starts at 5.30am at the Hoist Covert car park (what3words address: bubbles.thumbs.hospitals), or join us somewhere along our looped route through the marshes. Or at the Anchor for breakfast, around 9.30am (£10 per head). Kindly book your breakfast direct with them on 01502 722112. **Matthew Denny**



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Walberswick Common Lands Charity

Driving back into the village late at night, after a substantial absence, the moon picked out the key features of the landscape with remarkable clarity. What a welcome. The following morning the tranquility of birdsong in the fresh air warmed by April sun was stunning. The gorse on the Common is in full flower and the reeds, so recently cut, are showing green shoots. Last month, Walberswick Common Lands Charity worked with National Landscapes in Bennett's Drift and

the little copse created behind the 'dead hedge' is beginning to respond to the dappled light; there are now two stag beetle pyramids to ensure that there is a good supply of suitable dead wood for females to lay their eggs in.

Of course, it is bird nesting time so do please keep dogs on leads if you are walking any of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) lands. **Vanessa Tucker, Environmental Stewardship Trustee**

Walberswick Parish Council

Telephone Box on The Green

As previously reported, the telephone box on the Green has now been taken into Parish Council ownership. Last month the telephone itself was removed and a lock fitted to secure it until a future use is identified. All suggestions gratefully received.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting for Walberswick will take place this year on Wednesday, 7 May at 7pm in the Village Hall (doors open at 6.30pm). All are warmly invited to attend and it is an excellent opportunity to hear from the organisations in the village on their activities in the past year and upcoming plans, as well as to ask questions and express your views. All residents are very welcome to attend but only persons on the electoral register of the Parish are entitled to speak or vote at a Parish Meeting, except at the discretion of the Chair.

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

This is famously easy to confuse with the Annual Parish Meeting, but is actually a separate meeting of the Parish Council itself where a lot of legally required annual decisions are made, including the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair for the coming financial year. This meeting will take place on 12 May in the Heritage Hut. A detailed agenda will be available as usual on noticeboards and our website, six days before the meeting itself.

Southwold Half-Marathon 2026

After the successful running of the inaugural event in March this year, there is now a provisional date for it to be held again on 1 March 2026. If anyone has any comments to make on this proposal, please email the clerk at: clerk@walberswick-pc.gov.uk.

Walberswick Wildlife Survey Phase 2

As part of its ongoing campaign against LionLink, WALL (Walberswick Against LionLink) is about to embark on Phase 2 of the Walberswick Wildlife Watch survey. WALL has purchased six birdsong meters that WALL volunteers will be deploying at various key locations around the marshes adjacent to the landfill site, as well as the cable corridor to the west of the village, along with a number of bat detectors and wildlife cameras. If you see any of these, please do not interfere with them. In addition, WALL is considering commissioning professional surveyors to conduct specific surveys on birds and invertebrates. WALL continues to log pedestrian use of the footpaths around the proposed landfill site but sadly one of the pedestrian footfall counters that WALL had installed near Manor Field was again vandalised last month. However, it will be replaced shortly. WALL will not be deterred by wanton vandalism - whoever the culprit! The data from all these

detectors and surveys will be collated and used to argue against LionLink's suggestion that bringing the LionLink interconnector ashore in Walberswick will have no adverse impact on wildlife habitats or the community.

We would also urge all residents to improve their knowledge of local birdlife by downloading the Merlin bird identification app, merlin.allaboutbirds.org. When you are out and about, anywhere around Walberswick, and hear or see birds such as marsh harriers, bearded tits, nightjars, woodlarks, bitterns or others, you can easily log these sightings on another app called iRecord, irecord.org.uk. This database collates all wildlife sightings and we will be drawing on the data it contains in our campaign.

If you are interested in helping out in any capacity with any of our campaign work please email us at info@wall-update.org. Thank you for your ongoing help and support. **David Pelly, on behalf of WALL**

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Planning applications

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

Hérons, Church Field (new) | The Pink House, Seven Acres Lane | The Stables (tree) | Lorne Cottages, The Green | Saltmarshes, Lodge Road | 4 Moorside | The Pink House, Seven Acres Lane | May House, Lodge Rd | Seacroft, Millfield Rd | The Beeches, Millfield Road | Hérons, Church Field

The latest applications & Advisory Group Reports, can be found on the village website.

Community Cafe

After the successful start to this new initiative, we are delighted that the Walberswick Common Lands Charity has generously agreed to fund a further 12 months. It's a great place to catch up with friends and neighbours. We are going to start a jigsaw and paperback swap on 21 May. All welcome. **Christine, Shirley and Suzzie.**

Diary Dates

WI Monthly Meeting

Thursday, 1 May, 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Stephanie Simmonds will be demonstrating how to plant up a pot and a succulent trough. Visitors and new members welcome. **Muriel Wortley**



National Theatre Live: Dr Strangelove

Thursday, 1 May, 7pm in the Village Hall

Stanley Kubrick's Dr Strangelove starring Steve Coogan. Doors open at 6.30pm. Refreshments available. Tickets available on the door (cards only) or from www.ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-village-hall. £15 (£10 for under 21s). **Village Hall Committee**

Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday, 7 May, 7pm in the Village Hall (doors open at 6.30pm)

Hear from organisations in the village about their activities over the last year and their future plans. **Walberswick Parish Council**

Bird Song Walk

Sunday, 18 May, 5.30am at the Hoist Covert Car Park

The walk will be led by Matthew Denny, accompanied by Pat Lancaster and Mandy Erlenbach. Breakfast at the Anchor at around 9.30am to be booked direct. In aid of WALL. See notice on page one for full details. **Matthew Denny.**



Plant Bring & Buy sale

Saturday, 24 May, 10am-1pm outside the Village Hall

The Horticultural Committee is once again running its seedling stall, this time in aid of the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Please drop off donations from 9am. **Cash only. Betsy Lemmon**

Suffolk's Lost Cheeses

Saturday, 14 June, 7pm in the Village Hall

***Note the change of date*.** With names such as Bang, Thump and Trip, the story of cheese making in Suffolk encompasses social history, chemistry, ethics and fashion. Vivia Bamford will tell us her story of recreating the lost cheeses of Suffolk. Finish the evening with refreshments alongside some better known current cheeses from local producers. Those wishing to attend should email Edward Wright at ewright123@btinternet.com to reserve a place. Members free, places available for guests accompanying members at £5 each.

Walberswick Local History Group

National Theatre Live: A Streetcar Named Desire

Thursday, 10 July, 7pm in the Village Hall

Tennessee Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire starring Gillian Anderson. Doors open at 6.30pm. Tickets are £15 (£10 for under 21s) on the door (cards only) or in advance from www.ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-village-hall. **Village Hall Committee**

Horticultural & Culinary Show

Saturday, 19 July, 3pm-4.30pm in the Village Hall

Please see the insert in April's Village News for full details.

Betsy Lemmon



St Andrew's Church Walberswick

Team Rector

Revd Russ Gant

russ.gant@solebayteamministry.co.uk
solebayteamministry.co.uk

May 2025 Services

Sunday, 4 May 11.15am

Sung Eucharist

Sunday, 11 May 6pm

Choral Evensong

Sunday, 18 May 11.15am

Sung Eucharist

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held after the service

Sunday, 25 May 11.15am

Family Service

10.45am coffee and pastries

Every Wednesday 10am

Holy Communion

Coffee on first Wednesday

Commemorative Flowers

7 May Julia Sowerbutts for Joe Josephs

18 May Joanna Saunders for Robert

25 May Pat Atherton for John

Community Services

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

Mobile Library: Friday,
23 May 2.15pm - 2.45pm
in the Village Hall car park

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

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

Village: walberswick-pc.gov.uk

WALL: www.wall-update.org

Friends of St Andrew's:
friendsofstandrews.org.uk

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